

Light:

A Journal of Psychological, Occult, and Mystical Research.

'LIGHT MORE LIGHT!'—*Goethe.*

'WHATEVER DOETH MAKE MANIFEST IS LIGHT.'—*Paul.*

No. 1,254.—VOL. XXV. [Registered as] SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1905. [a Newspaper.] PRICE TWOPENCE.

Mr. B. O. Flower contributes to 'The Light of Truth' an admirable Paper on Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace, as 'an apostle of Physical Science, of Spiritual Advancement, and of Social Righteousness.' Dr. Wallace's fine work on 'Miracles and Modern Spiritualism' is largely used, and is led up to by the following passage:—

The true scientist should ever be receptive to the light. The kingdom of Truth, like the kingdom of God, demands the open-minded candour of the child-nature of those who would explore her domain and possess her treasures in the fullest measure. Unfortunately for human progress, the scientists have usually been only second to the theologians in intolerant dogmatism and unreasoning scepticism toward all things that transcended their concepts or ran counter to accepted dicta. The slow progress of the world has been largely due to ignorance on the part of those assuming to be learned, and to their unwillingness to divest their minds of prejudice, bigotry and intolerance, and accord to new claims that degree of fairness, hospitality and candour that true science ever demands of her votaries in the presence of the ever-unfolding revelations of truth.

Now among the great scientists of the nineteenth century Dr. Wallace has proved an exception to the rule, being pre-eminent as an open-minded and candid seeker after truth, even though her footprints led over strange and unfamiliar paths.

Even though ranking among the first physical scientists and apostles of the evolutionary theory, he refused to close his eyes to other manifestations of truth. It is much to know that we are living in a universe of law and order and that life is rising, ever rising ; but it is even more important to know that 'the grave is not a blind alley.' Most of his co-labourers were either materialists or agnostics. They all held that nature, after labouring and travailing for millions of years, had reached her culmination in the production of man ; yet for the most part they seemed to hold the idea that man, after a few years on earth, died and was no more. Dr. Wallace was not content to rest satisfied with so lame and impotent a conclusion in the presence of much that seemed to point to a possible solution to the great question of the ages that would justify creation and ennoble life.
