



Naturalism and Agnosticism; The Gifford Lectures Delivered Before the University of Aberdeen in the Years 1896-1898 Volume 1

By James Ward

Theclassics.us, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1903 edition. Excerpt: . LECTURE X BIOLOGICAL EVOLUTION The Lamarckian, Darwinian, and ultra-Darwinian theories generally compared. Natural selection by itself non-teleological. Attempts to assimilate the biological with the physical. Two difficulties in the way. These lead to the question: Is there not a teleological factor operative throughout biological evolution? Teleological and non-teleological factors distinguished. Darwin recognised both. Only so far as both are present has struggle for existence any meaning. The question raised equivalent to inquiring how far mind is concomitant with life. Naturalism confident that life is the wider conception, and appeals to the facts of plant-life. Continuity seems to help it, but really works both ways. The case argued. The levelling-up method the simpler. Objections to this considered: (1) Reflexes; (2) The character of plants again. Recent views on this point. Restatement of the position reached. Antagonism of organism and environment: the latter, then, not...



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