

CUS417/100.89

THE LIVING AGE

(Founded by E. Littell in 1844).

Boston, Dec 3

13% BROMFIELD ST.

It is easy to understand, upon reading Dr. William Osler's lecture on "Science and Immortality" (Houghton, Miffin & Co.) why the lecturer hesitated to speak upon the Ingersoll foundation at Harvard, which was established with a view to strengthening faith in immortality; for his own faith, if it may be called that, is but dim. He divides the world into three classes, the Laodiceans, who are indifferent to the idea of immortality, the Gallionians, who ignore the whole question and like their prototype "care for none of these things": and the Teresians,-the idealists who walk by faith, and know themselves to be immortal. If Dr. Osler belongs to either of these classes, it is to the second, for his own confession of faith, reached after all his speculations, is that he "would rather be mistaken with Plato than be in the right with those who deny altogether the life after death." However the reader may regret Dr. Osler's conclusions, or perhaps we should say the absence of any, he cannot fail to be held by the singuiar charm of his literary style.