We renew our invitation to the champions, <u>pro</u> and <u>con</u>, to join in this discussion. We want to know what THE TIMES'S readers think of HERBERT SPENCER. We desire particularly that theologians who have studied his works shall give us and our readers the benefit of their reflections and conclusions, and inasmuch as many clergymen do not read Sunday newspapers, and might be unwilling to write for publication on that day, we will publish upon some other day than Sunday any communications whose writers may express that preference. We trust that the opponents of SPENCER will not leave "Outsider" single-handed to battle against the synthetic hosts. He is likely to be overwhelmed by numbers at least, if not in argument.

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SPENCER ABLY DEFENDED

THE PHILOSOPHER'S FRIENDS
ACCEPT "OUTSIDER'S"
CHALLENGE.

THE SYNTHETIC PHILOSOPHY A SOUND
AND WORKABLE SYSTEM -- WHAT
HERBERT SPENCER DOES, AND WHAT
HE DOES NOT, CLAIM TO BE -- THE
KNOWABLE AND THE UNKNOWABLE.

The attack upon the Synthetic Philosophy of Herbert Spencer in an
article signed "Outsider" published in THE TIMES of last Sunday has caused
an extraordinary awakening among the students of Evolution and cognate
theories as set forth in Mr. Spencer's works. We have received many
communications in reply to "Outsider's" article, and we publish below as
many as we can make room for in this issue of THE TIMES. The discussion
will be continued next Sunday. The contention of "Outsider" was that
Herbert Spencer's pretensions as a scientist and a philosopher were not
solidly based, that he was not a specialist of recognized authority in
many of the branches of human knowledge on which he has much to say in
his books, and that his system of philosophy is not entitled to take rank
as a discovery worthy to be compared, for instance, with Newton's law of
gravitation; but evolutionists and others who were so unfortunate as to
have missed reading "Outsider's" attack will find its main ideas presented
in the replies printed below: