

THE  
PHRENO-MAGNET,  
AND  
MIRROR OF NATURE.

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RETROSPECT.

A flood of light is bursting o'er the land; nor can it be stemmed by all the puny obstacles that envy, jealousy, prejudice, or superstition may throw in its course. It had long shone in darkness without being comprehended. Many of those who did comprehend it, were too fearful of that persecution which is too often the result of scholastic dogmatism on the one hand, or of unenlightened popular opinion on the other, to bring it from under the bushel of private knowledge and let it shine in the face of the people. Others there have been who stimulated by avarice, or bent on personal aggrandisement, have endeavoured to appropriate its influences to their own selfish uses. And a third party, whose minds have been so moulded to the forms of past ages and become petrified by habit that it is impossible to impress or imbue them with any new development of natural truth, decreed that Phreno-Magnetism could neither be rational or beneficial because it was not revealed to themselves or their forefathers. But the time came when it could no longer be smothered by one interest or monopolised by another; and though Dr. Elliotson and his co-philanthropists were thwarted in their attempts to infuse its principles into the scholastic learning of the age, (by which, had they succeeded, the amount of human knowledge might even thus have been at once quietly and efficaciously leavened,) out it would burst, and that in quarters least expected—among the humble and

unconventional masses of the country—those whose only facilities for receiving or dispensing information were the passive faculties with which Nature herself had furnished them for the purpose.

Many extraordinary magnetic phenomena, having no especial connection with Phrenology, had been publicly exhibited in various parts of this country, and some phrenological experiments had been tried in private in the presence of select societies, but little was earned by the operators, except suspicion, contempt, and scorn; and it remained for a Mechanics' Institution to be the first large conventional body that would dare to have its name identified with Phreno-Magnetism. The result is astounding. Our own discoveries, not only corroborating but amplifying, as they did in a remarkable manner, the principles laid down by elder Phreno-Magnetists, attracted the attention of several of the Sheffield Mechanics' Institution Committee, and led to our first public experiments there, about six months ago. The largest theatre in the town was too small for the audience on the second evening; and a similar interest having been excited in other places, we have now innumerable fellow-labourers, both as writers and experimentalists in all parts of the country, and thousands are weekly added to those who believe in one of the grandest truths of our nature that it has ever been the lot of the philanthropist to advocate, the bigot to resist, or the envious to sneer at.

That such a conquest over darkness and prejudice should draw upon us from various quarters a storm of abuse, in a world so characterised by conflicting interests, is only what might very rationally have been anticipated. And though we love not contention, but believe that the peace-maker is blessed, we are not unprepared for the lightnings of hate continually assailing us on the up-tending path we have chosen. Our reward is only a verification of what has been so aptly sung by the bard that

“ He who ascends to mountain tops shall find  
The loftiest peaks most wrapt in clouds and snow;  
He who surpasses or subdues mankind,  
Must look down on the hate of those below :—  
Tho' high above the sun of glory glow,  
And far beneath him earth and ocean spread,  
Round him are icy rocks, and loudly blow  
Contending tempests on his naked head,  
And thus reward the toils which to those summits led !”

Such has ever been, and such for the present must be the lot of all who, for the purpose of taking in a more wide and lofty

view of the destinies of man, leave the gin-horse track in which dull learning goes jog-trotting round. From the days of Noah to our own such has invariably been the consequence to those who have been led on by the lights of Nature and Truth beyond the scope of established opinion; until, while looking back through the vista of long ages, we cannot fail to see that the proudest monuments of all great improvements are the records of scepticism and persecution opposed to their development.

With this conviction, then, on we proceed "in gladness and deep joy." We know there are those who will be deeply wounded in the organs of Self-Esteem and Love of Approbation by the fact, that a principle which has been operative ever since the creation—a principle affecting most powerfully the physical and mental condition of man—though never understood or even recognised by them, should be revealed to the "babes and sucklings" of science, and become instantaneously the property of the whole people instead of being monopolised by exclusive institutions. We know also that others will curse the truth, and shrink from it lest it should let too much light in upon imperfect character. Nor is it less true that many mercenary men will come covertly as they have done, for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of details from those who, having received freely, are free to give, and then not only make a trade of what they have thus obtained, but turn round and villify the givers. Of all these, and much similar we are well aware. But, whilst to the first we offer the consolation that the progress of Great Humanity can no more be stayed by the personal opinions and interests of individuals than the ocean could be enslaved by a royal Canute; and to the second that their children, to the last generation, will be all the better in proportion to the boldness and candour with which they themselves investigate the subject; to the third class we say, once and for all, be open and honest, and if you are wishful of superseding others, let it be in charity and ingenuousness—not by selfishness, dissimulation, and arrogance. Have full faith in the maxim that "whenever we perform an act of kindness to another, it is the benevolence of heaven directing us to achieve some good for ourselves." Learn the difference between true wisdom and craftiness—intelligence and impudence. On any occasion confess want of knowledge and ability rather than resort to trickery; and then the more of you there are in this important field of labour the better, and the more power you will have of inducing a belief in the validity of your principles, and and the greater, in every respect, will be your reward.

## THE "BARRISTER ON THE NORTHERN CIRCUIT," AND MAGNETIC EXPERIMENTS AT YORK.

In reply to several more inquiries respecting the authorship of the false and scurrilous attack upon us, signed, "A Barrister on the Northern Circuit," which appeared a short time ago in the *Provincial Medical Journal*, and was copied with so much avidity by different country papers, we have, once and for all, to state our firm conviction that it was not from the pen of Mr. Wilkins, as by many has been supposed. We know, or believe we know, the author—a mean braggart, who dare not meet us publicly, or confess his name. To give him an opportunity of doing so, we visited York during the late assize week, and publicly challenged him to meet us, and prove the charges he had made of collusion with our patients, or afford us the means of showing by experiment, before his face, how deficient he was both in conscientiousness and common sense. There, we were willingly subjected to the most subtle tests, in the presence of many persons distinguished for rank, intelligence, and moral worth; and we refer with confidence and pride, for testimonials of our candour and fairness, to the members of the Magnetic section of the York Philosophical Society, before whom, without contact, whilst our patients were somnolent, and had their eyes double-bandaged, the most striking Phrenological manifestations were educed, not only by us, but by the members themselves.

From the report of our public experiments, given in the *York Herald*, we make the following extracts, which we believe will not be uninteresting to our readers:—

TUESDAY, MARCH 7.

This evening, there was a numerous and respectable audience to witness Mr. Hall's experiments. The lecturer referred to the article on Phreno-Magnetism which appeared in the *Provincial Medical Journal*, and repeating his challenge to the writer, again invited him to come forward and submit his accusations to an experimental test, amid the cheers of the audience.

A youthful patient was then introduced, when language was manifested, in combination with a variety of faculties. These experiments were accompanied with interesting and judicious remarks from Mr. Hall, on the treatment of criminals and other subjects. He said the audience must either believe that the manifestations which this youth exhibited were those of nature, or they must believe what was far more wonderful, that he

possessed a power of simulation surpassing that of our best actors, and a knowledge of Phrenology equal to that of a Combe.

The next patient was Robert Jennings, a boy about ten years of age, a native of this city, and errand boy to Mr. Crummack, of Castlegate. This child had been magnetised in a joke in Mr. Crummack's shop the same afternoon, and Mr. Hall being immediately informed of the circumstance, called at Mr. Crummack's and ascertained the truth of what he had been told. The arms of this boy were extended and magnetised with a few passes, after which a shilling was thrown upon the platform for him if he could pick it up, which he tried hard to accomplish, but ineffectually. Similar experiments were then performed upon the boy's legs, whilst seated on a chair. Afterwards, Mr. Hall placed his toe opposite the toe of the boy, and gradually drew him, by the power of attraction alone, from his seat. The boy was then placed on his back upon the platform, with his arms at his sides, and, by magnetic attraction, drawn gradually erect, until he stood on his feet. When the magnetic power was removed by Mr. Hall withdrawing his arm, the boy suddenly fell down. The boy was next placed a few yards from a large board, behind which Mr. Hall took his station, and, after making a few passes, the boy was gradually drawn to the board, the magnetic influence appearing to have passed through it. In short, Mr. Hall seemed to possess an influence over this boy almost supernatural, and these experiments with him excited the astonishment of all who were present.

Mr. H. operated afterwards, without contact, upon another patient, who had first attended one of his lectures a sceptic, but who was phreno-magnetised on going home, by his master, who was also an unbeliever. On making a pass or two at the fingers of this young man, they were magnetised, and became extremely rigid; his intellectual organs were also excited by passes, and without actual contact. Some of the experiments with this youth were very singular, and extremely interesting. On a pencil being placed at one side of his head, the faculties on the opposite side were manifested. This, the lecturer said, could only be accounted for upon magnetic principles. In another experiment, Mr. Hall placed the toe of his boot against the toe of his patient, when the latter was thus gradually drawn from the chair upon which he was sitting to the floor, the patient's leg, at the same time being extremely rigid. In another experiment the young man was blindfolded, after being thrown into the magnetic sleep. Several manifestations were afterwards produced by mere attraction, Mr. Hall's fingers never coming in contact with the organs. In these experiments, it was impos-

sible that the young man should either see Mr. Hall's movements or know his intentions, as the faculties excited were those which the audience wrote upon slips of paper, and handed up to the platform.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

After some introductory allusions to the science, a boy of sixteen years old was called to the platform and magnetised. His arms and legs were extended, and on being examined, they were found to be in a state of complete rigidity.—A chair was placed upon each of his arms, and a very heavy form across his legs, all of which were supported without the least apparent difficulty. It was questioned by several persons present whether the strongest man in the room could bear the chairs so long on their extended wrists—to say nothing of the very heavy form across the legs thus borne by the boy whilst under magnetic influence. A number of satisfactory phreno-magnetic manifestations were then produced upon the young man, at the desire of the audience.

Robert Jennings, errand boy to Mr. Crummack, was next operated upon in a variety of ways. The phenomena exhibited by this young boy produced a most startling effect upon all present, and appeared to carry conviction to the most sceptical.

In the first experiment the boy held his hands above his head, his palms being together. A few passes were then made to his fingers, and the boy, on being told to separate his hands, could not do so. A gentleman near the platform wished a handkerchief to be tied to one of the arms, in order that he might try to separate them. The request was complied with by Mr. Hall, but the gentleman's attempt was unsuccessful. Several other tests were applied, but all ended decidedly in favour of the lecturer.

In the next experiment, the boy was seated upon a chair, from which he was drawn upon the ground by the attraction of Mr. Hall's foot.

The boy's legs were afterwards magnetised with two or three passes, whilst he was standing, so that he could not separate them; and his limbs were rigidly placed in a most curious variety of positions, and frequently tested with the greatest nicety.

In another experiment, the boy laid himself on his back upon the platform, with the palms of his hands together, and elevated. The hands were then opened and shut by Mr. Hall, at pleasure, from a distance, according as he directed the magnetic influence. In order to test this experiment the boy was blindfolded, in accordance with the wish of the audience, but the results were

the same. (This experiment was followed with great applause, and cries of "There can be no deception there.") In the next experiment, as the boy lay upon his back, his feet were drawn above his body by magnetic passes, until they extended over his head.

The boy was then blindfolded and placed in a chair in the centre of the platform, with his face fronting a large board. The palms of his hands were placed together, and extended towards the board, and his eyes were covered with a handkerchief, so as to prevent him from seeing what was going to be done. Mr Hall then went noiselessly on the opposite side of the board, and by means of magnetic passes drew the boy towards it. (This experiment was followed by great applause.)

Mr. GLEN, a resident in this city, then stepped upon the platform together with a youth who also belongs to the city, and is employed at the railway station. This youth was magnetised, and successfully operated upon by Mr. Glen.

Mr. HALL.—Surely the objection to a lecturer bringing subjects with him, so far as the citizens of York are concerned, should now be done away with. (Hear, hear, and cheers.)

-- FORD, Esq., said, in justice to the lecturer as well as his subject, that the medical committee of this city had examined the boy, and seen Mr. Glen operate upon him. The boy had only been subject to this influence four times—the present was the fifth time. He thought the present experiments were a complete answer to those who wished to see a York person operated upon. (Applause.)

FRIDAY, MARCH 10.

This evening, Mr. Hall exhibited his experiments for the last time in this city. After operating upon the boy Jennings.

H. S. THOMPSON, Esq., of Fairfield Lodge, ascended the platform, and defended Mr. Hall against the attacks which had been made upon him by those who did not believe the Phreno-magnetic phenomena. His object in appearing before the audience was to serve the cause of truth, and if Mr. Hall would leave the room he (Mr. Thompson) would perform some experiments: and there were few persons present who would believe that he would lend himself to anything deceptive.

Mr. HALL then left the room, and Mr. Thompson successfully operated upon a youth who was blindfolded, producing manifestations without actual contact—simply by pointing the finger at the organs that were wished to be excited. (Applause.)

Mr THOMPSON—These few experiments are quite sufficient to convince you that the science of Phreno-Magnetism is not all humbug and nonsense as has been stated by some persons. I

will now leave Mr. Hall to proceed with his experiments in his own way.

A GENTLEMAN--How long is it since you first magnetised the youth you have now experimented upon?

Mr. THOMPSON--I only tried him for the first time this afternoon, merely for my own satisfaction. (Applause.)

MR. HALL then resumed his experiments, and at their termination he briefly addressed the audience, again alluding to the article in the *Provincial Medical Journal*, calling upon the writer or his friends to come forward and defend or deny it, and concluded with thanking the audience for the patience, attention, and impartiality they had displayed, with one exception, during his experiments in York. (Loud applause.)

In the above necessarily brief account of the interesting phenomena which Mr. Hall has again exhibited in this city, we have abstained from comment. It is due from us, however, to state, that during the experiments we have narrated, we perceived nothing approaching to collusion or deception. In many of them, and those, too, which appeared to excite the greatest astonishment, collusion was impossible. During the entire proceedings, Mr. Hall constantly courted inquiry, and so far as was in his power cheerfully answered every question put to him, and promptly offered to others all the information he himself possesses. A regard for truth appears to be the only object which he has in view in investigating the phenomena he produces, and we know of no better mode by which he can attain that object, than by calling men of science and intelligence together, and promoting discussion relative to a discovery which, if founded on truth, will yield to no other in the benefits it will bestow upon the family of man. "Let truth and falsehood grapple, and we fear not the result!"—*York Herald*.

To the above, we may add that we are continually hearing of experiments upon fresh subjects, in York, all tending to place the *Medical Journal* and its swaggering correspondent, in a light equally ridiculous and unenviable.

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## WHAT WILL BE THE BENEFITS OF MAGNETIC KNOWLEDGE?

The above is a question often asked by those who, forced by incontrovertible evidence into a belief of a magnetic agency in nature, are astonished that since it may be useful at all, man should have been six thousand years so ignorant of its workings. Many, who have distinguished themselves by a violent opposi-



tion to our views, disappointed on finding themselves overcome at last, turn surlily round and denounce both the principle and its advocates because once, perchance it was, and therefore may be again, devoted by some evil mind to an injurious purpose. But, to doubt its efficacy because it was not understood by our forefathers from the first, would be as wrong as to doubt the value of Christian truth because so many ages had elapsed before it was manifested in Jesus; and to prohibit its recognition lest it should be misapplied, would be not less absurd than to prohibit the general use of fire because it has been an occasional agent in the hands of the incendiary.

Our own belief is that, when rightly understood, its efficacy will be found fully equal to its power; and though the Rev. Hugh M'Neale and others have not hesitated to hint at its satanic origin, we must suppose the devil a much better being than he is generally described, before we can attribute to him all the wonderful yet beneficent results of its judicious application which have come under our knowledge. Such objections to Magnetism as that of Mr. M'Neale's remind us of a national council who, on meeting to consider the propriety of rendering navigable two of their rivers, which might easily have been accomplished, came to the following sapient resolution—"That had God ever intended those rivers to have been navigable, being himself more wise and powerful than man, he would have made them so naturally; therefore such an improvement would be sinful in his sight"—never thinking for a moment that the sciences and arts themselves are all only nature developed through human agency!

Like all other subtle and powerful elements, Magnetism will be good or bad according to the motive for its appliance; and we think it argues little faith in God, or in his image, which man is said to be, if we must shut our eyes lest the light should only show us evil. But such with some people is just the way. They talk about putting their trust in Providence; yet dare not trust its workings even in themselves. They pray to Heaven for its blessings on their fellow-creatures, and then are afraid such blessings should be enjoyed, because it may be they have not the exclusive administration thereof. They seem to have forgotten, or never known, that much which they themselves have abused till it became a curse might, if rightly understood, have been a blessing; whilst on the other hand, with the pure all things are pure, and with the righteous all things right.

Our object then must be not to discard, but to use an influence so potent properly; and since it has not been invented by ourselves, but placed by the great Creator in our hands, let us not

return to him, unused or misused, so valuable a talent. Of its capabilities we probably know but little, compared with what we may, as we fit ourselves more for receiving such knowledge; but one thing is certain, that many of its curative, to say nothing of its educative qualities, are, in their development, almost as astounding as miracles. In Sheffield, it has been used with success by medical men, in various cases which have come to our knowledge. It has been our own privilege to be instrumental in the cure not only of monomania, but general derangement, by its agency on several occasions. In our last, we mentioned the restoration of hearing and speech under its influence, by Mr. Braid, and have since, in an operation of our own, observed a young man, totally deaf and dumb from his infancy, made so decidedly sensible of various sounds, as to give considerable hope of all but perfect restoration.

One case of the most horrid delirium was cured under our direction, two months back, at Nottingham, in presence of several police officers, and not less than ten or twelve other inhabitants, at a public house, into which we were called about the middle of the night. On arriving in an upstairs room, we found a poor man (who had previously smashed nearly all the furniture, glasses, and crockery around him) tearing his hair, and beating his head on a table, and raving all the while in the most miserable tones. The whole (as we believe to be the case with innumerable similar fits of suffering) was the result of a magnetic sleep, during which the patient had been cross-magnetised by several persons who had for some time been drinking. On the commencement of the next paroxysm of destruction, we directed one of the party who had previously handled him, and who appeared to have the greatest influence, to soothe his feelings by touching the organ of Benevolence. Sceptics may sneer at such a suggestion, but thus they would not have done had they witnessed the almost instantaneous and favourable result. The maniac immediately became as docile as a lamb, and in that state was thrown into a deep magnetic sleep, and carried to a sofa in a more convenient room. We then directed passes to be made without contact from the head to the feet, whenever the patient began to dream; and in turn the legs, the body, and the arms became much convulsed. At last, the whole influence, so mixed and foreign to the man's ordinary nature, seemed to have settled about the extremities, and at this juncture we directed the manipulator suddenly to nip the hands at the roots of his fingers, as hard as possible. The effect appeared electrical. The patient bounded up as if a demon was bursting from his body; his senses were recovered, and he could reason on his

condition. Still he was far from well. His brain was whirling, and he felt somewhat sick; but on taking him entirely under our own control, and pouring a few gallons of water on the principal magnetic poles of his body and head, we brought him into a calm and painless, though, of course, exhausted state; and the following day he came, quite restored, to thank us, as he said, for saving his life.

In another case we prevented a patient from committing suicide. Suicidal monomania had been imbibed from a source which, in the present state of popular prejudice and scepticism, we scarcely deem it prudent to mention, though the time may come when, as we have done in other matters, we may feel that all restraint of Truth is criminal, and so tell the world much that at present it little wots of. Suffice it, however, that we can give reference to evidence of the fact that we prevented suicide, and recalled the patient from a most violent fever, by magnetic influence (or what we call magnetic influence) alone, by passes and pressure over certain parts of the body and limbs, after applications of a more common and "approved" character had failed. The cure of the insane by magnetic means is already become a "profession" in the United States; and we are favoured with intelligence, well corroborated, of the possibility of clairvoyant patients detecting the internal physical complaints in the persons they sympathise with. Nor is the latter at all new. Thirty years ago, a medical gentleman, at Lutterworth, in Leicestershire, discovered the diseases of his patients through the medium of his daughter, whom he was in the habit of rendering clairvoyant, but was compelled at last by prejudice to desist. But the truth is, the time has now arrived, not only for staggering scepticism but disarming superstition—two of the greatest foes to human happiness; and if Magnetism could accomplish no more than this, it might be deemed one of Heaven's most welcome dispensations to man. Far greater than these, however, are its capabilities; and we are not amongst those who would hide them from the gaze of an inquiring world.

*(To be Continued.)*

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## REMARKABLE CASES OF SUPERSENTIENCE, AT GLASGOW.

### A VISIT TO A CLAIRVOYANT PATIENT.

By the kindness of a medical friend, the writer of the following statement was one evening last week admitted to visit and examine a case of mesmeric influence; as the phenomena attending it were of a truly

singular nature, and as the case itself can be very well authenticated, some account of what was witnessed may perhaps lead to a more careful attention being paid by scientific men to mesmerism.

The patient, who is a lively intelligent girl of apparently about twenty years of age, has been in delicate health for a long period, and having been latterly subject to fits of a cataleptic nature, was considered by her medical attendants to be a fit subject for the magnetic influence. On entering the apartment on the evening referred to, she was already in the state of trance, but was awakened (by the operator rubbing her forehead with both his hands) in order that we might see and converse with her in her usual state. She was again thrown into the sleep by the operator holding her hands and looking steadfastly in her face for about a minute, when a deep drawn sigh announced that the change was effected. Her head sank back upon a pillow placed for its reception, while the expression of the face and the position of the whole body became all at once highly characteristic of the most perfect repose. The eyes remained slightly open as in somnambulism, but this is said to be only the case when the patient is mesmerised more than once at a sitting. A few passes down the head and face closed the eyes; and in this condition a hand or limb placed in any position, however awkward in her usual condition, remained immoveable, which state was described as that of pliant catalepsy. A few passes down any particular limb produced what the operator styled a rigid catalepsy, in which the muscles appeared distended by some powerful nervous influence. On inquiry, we were informed that her pulse, which, in ordinary cases, beats quickly, falls regularly about twenty beats while in this condition. Her eyes were now bandaged so as to prevent the semblance of collusion or conspiracy, and a loud noise having been unexpectedly made by striking two books together, showed that she continued insensible to external influence of such a nature. At the same time a cord fifteen yards long having been fastened to her right hand, and carried to an adjoining apartment, and from thence down a stair to the court below, the doors being all shut, served as a means of communication between the patient and one of the medical gentlemen. Orders or commands, written by spectators in the apartment on a slip of paper, and handed to the latter, were whispered by him upon his end of the cord, and promptly replied to by her in the performance of the commands. Conversations held with her, by means of the operator whispering upon the back or palm of her hand, elicited the facts that she was possessed of a double consciousness, answering to a different name from that given in her usual condition, describing her situation as one of great mental quietude and happiness, and looking upon herself as a totally different individual from what she really is. The operator continuing to hold her hands, one of the spectators slipped behind him and pulled his hair, upon which the patient called out that some one pulled her hair; when he was pinched, she complained of being pinched in the same place, although she was in her own person quite insensible to pain. When the operator held her hands, and imitated the motion of swallowing, the muscles of her throat and mouth assumed the appearance of the same action. The effect of such experiments impressed upon our minds the fact of a community of sensation.

The room was now completely darkened, and the fire covered up with a large board, the interstices being filled with cloths, to prevent a single ray of light. In this state she was asked to describe the appearance of the room, and the position of the different parties present, which she did

very minutely; and one gentleman present described his sensation as almost overpowering, when, in a whisper (with her eyes still bandaged), she described the altered position in which he placed himself to test her powers.

It appears that this power of clairvoyance is greater in proportion to the absence of light.

One of the strangers present having been requested to place himself in communication with the patient by holding her hands, she described accurately and anatomically the appearance of his system—asserting, in answer to the questions of the mesmeriser, that the stranger was in perfect health; and, on being pressed by a physician present to examine the stomach minutely, declared, after a few seconds, that it was affected in a very slight degree, and had been so affected for about two days.

This gentleman afterwards assured the company that such was literally the fact, but that the indisposition was so trifling that he did not consider it necessary to be mentioned previously. What renders this incident the more striking is, that when the physician pressed the inquiry, he imagined that a different spectator (the room being dark) was under examination, and for whom he had prescribed for indigestion and bilious headache only a short time before.

In short, the experiments, of which only the leading ones can be detailed in a paper of this kind, were of such a nature and so conducted as to leave us no alternative—unless we were inclined to doubt the evidence of our senses—but to believe that the science is entitled at the least to a proper share of attention. Experiments were tried to show that it might be possible to lead the patient to visit in imagination, and to describe places and persons whom she had not previously seen or conversed with—for instance, houses, streets, and even the interior of public buildings; which we were assured, by the father, mother, and brother of the girl, she was in her usual state utter ignorant of. Whatever explanation the scientific may offer of these phenomena, enough has been seen by the writer to satisfy him that mesmerism presents many features well worthy of investigation. The able portion of the medical faculty are unfortunately, for the most part, so busily engaged with the active duties of their profession as to be unable to find leisure to prosecute such studies; while such an investigation carried on by non-professional parties is exceedingly likely to bring down upon their heads the imputation of tampering with the credulity of mankind.

Since the commencement of the mesmeric treatment, the patient's symptoms have gradually and steadily abated, and, what is very curious, they have done so exactly in the reverse order of their accession. She has now been for three weeks entirely free from any return of the fits, while her health and spirits daily improve. The patient declares herself to be better than she has been for many years, and her medical attendants feel assured she will be ultimately and permanently cured.

It is to be hoped that a complete account of the case, in a more scientific form, will by-and-by, be laid before the public.—*Glasgow Argus*, March 6th.

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## A SECOND VISIT.

Having been afforded a second opportunity of visiting the same patient, whose case was described in the *Argus* of Monday week, I proceed to notice some of the occurrences which made the greatest impression on the gentlemen present.

Upon entering the house on this occasion, the patient was in her natural state, and we were therefore enabled to converse with her for some time before she was thrown into the mesmeric sleep. She described her health as continuing to improve daily, and she had on that day been able, for the first time within the last twelve months, to take a walk of some length out of doors. The operator having proceeded to throw the patient into the mesmeric trance, this was effected in about a minute and a half. He next proposed to awaken her, in order to show the rapidity with which she might be thrown into sleep, after having been once mesmerised. This was accomplished by rubbing the thumbs upon the forehead, immediately above the eyes, and the patient was again able to enter into conversation in her usual state. In half a minute she was once more put asleep, and, after a second awakening, the effect was almost instantaneous, the sleep having been produced in less than a quarter of a minute. A deep drawn sigh invariably announced that the patient had passed into the trance, and a similar sign, with an instantaneous cessation of the cataleptic state, attended her awakening. This cessation of the catalepsy was especially remarkable when the arm had been previously extended.

A bandage of the most perfect description was now placed upon the eyes of the patient, after which several experiments, similar to those formerly detailed, were repeated. Into these I need not again enter; but in order to test what may be termed the community of sensation between the operator and the patient, some others were performed which I shall briefly describe. The operator being seated in a chair in front of the patient, and holding her hand in his, a small quantity of tartaric acid was put by one of the gentlemen present into the operator's mouth. By a whisper on the hand the patient was asked whether she had anything in her mouth? Yes. What was it? Could not tell, but it had a nasty taste. Being pressed to describe the taste, said it was a nasty saltish sort of taste, but was not salt. Some common salt was then administered, and in reply to questions similarly put, she said that she had salt in her mouth. Was it the same kind of salt she had a little ago? No, the other was a sour kind of salt, but this was real salt. With a like accuracy she replied, upon a little sugar being soon after applied. At a subsequent period, when some other experiments were in progress, one of the gentlemen observed that the operator had put into his mouth a portion of an oaten cake which was lying on a table in the room, and it occurred to him to have the question put—Have you anything in your mouth now? The immediate response from the patient was—Yes, a piece of cake. A little sugar was added by the same gentleman, and the reply then was, that she was eating cake and sugar. The operator's hands were also pricked with a pin, which immediately called forth an expression of dissatisfaction from the patient, who said that she felt pain in the same place. Similar experiments were made on the head, neck, and shoulders, with a like result. During the whole of this time the patient was kept closely bandaged, and, although repeated attempts were made, it seemed plain that she was insensible to pain in her own person.

In the mesmeric state, the patient describes light as darkness, and darkness as light. Thus, a candle wafted rapidly across the face was described by her as a "terrible darkness like black stones," from which she exhibited great anxiety to escape. On the other hand, as noticed in the account of my first visit, she could distinguish outward objects only in total darkness, and in such circumstances she declared that

there was a brilliant light centred in her body. The loudest noise made in the apartment, no matter how near, or how unexpectedly produced, failed to excite the slightest attention; but a gentle whisper upon her hand, or at the ear of the operator while grasping it, was immediately replied to. As has been already stated, she was quite insensible to pain in her own person, but when *any individual* grasped her hand, upon whom experiments such as those already mentioned were performed, she immediately displayed the most acute sensibility to pain, or other disagreeable sensations. In short, many of the sensations common to man in his ordinary state seemed to be reversed or inverted during the mesmeric vigil.

In the previous paper on this subject, it was stated that it was possible to lead the patient to visit, in imagination, and to describe places and persons she had not previously seen or conversed with. What degree of reality may be connected with this the operator confessed that he was unable to say, but that, at all events, if partaking only of the character of a dream, it was exceedingly curious. Perfect reliance could not, it was evident, be placed in the statements made by the patient while on an excursion of this description, as she evinced a disposition to move about from place to place with a rapidity which it was impossible to follow, thus necessarily creating confusion in the minds of the listeners. The manner in which these dreamy excursions are performed is as follows:—The operator, sitting by the side of the patient, whispers the question upon her hand whether she knows a certain place. On this occasion, it was a house in the west end of the city, that she had before visited in the same manner which was indicated, and the reply was, that she knew the spot. She was told to go there, and accordingly, in a few minutes, said she had arrived at the door. She was requested not to enter, but to proceed further along the same street, and turn up the next street she came to. In this manner she was, in imagination, led to a particular residence, the external appearance of which she accurately described, and into which she was requested to enter. Arrived within the portal, she found her way into one of the rooms, in which, she stated, four gentlemen were sitting. One of these she described as an elderly gentleman, with white or grey hair, and after some further questions declared that he had a bodily peculiarity of a somewhat striking description. At first she stated that she had never seen the gentleman before, but on being asked to look at him more carefully, said that he had been at her father's house about three weeks previously, with a well-known physician in town, whom she named. When at her father's, the gentleman, she said, had on a blue cloak; but she could not recal his name. Strange to say, the house to which the patient was led was that of a gentleman who had visited her with the physician referred to; the statement regarding the bodily peculiarity was also strictly accurate, although the defect is so well concealed as to be unnoticed by a merely casual observer. The coincidence was certainly curious, and the phenomena connected with these imaginary excursions seem altogether calculated to repay investigation. To dogmatise upon them, in our present imperfect knowledge of the science with which they are connected, would lead to no useful result; and perhaps the best thing that inquirers can do is to confine themselves to an investigation of facts, without, in the meantime, making any attempt at explanation.

The experiments witnessed on the second visit were to the full as satisfactory as those previously detailed, and it was also gratifying to



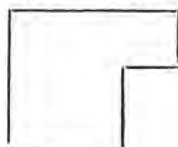
learn that, under the mesmeric treatment, the patient was continuing to improve, with every prospect of soon being restored to perfect health.

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### A THIRD VISIT, AND EXPERIMENTS ON A SECOND PATIENT, BY A NEW OBSERVER.

Since the two foregoing articles were put in type, we have been favoured with another, containing a corroboration of the experiments by a second operator, as well as the following account of a fresh patient. We give them with the greatest pleasure, feeling much obligated to our friends in Glasgow who have forwarded us the slips:—

The other subject of the experiments of this evening, was a remarkably pretty interesting looking young woman, of about 20 years of age, who had remained in the room the whole time that the above experiments were in progress. She was thrown into the mesmeric sleep or state in about two minutes, by a different operator. Her face became pale and the features severe in expression—more markedly so, I thought, throughout than in the other case. It may be remarked here, that we were informed that phenomena similar to those already detailed might have been exhibited in this case also, but, for want of time, it was thought better to proceed with others of a different description. The room was completely darkened, in order that the *clairvoyance* might be more distinctly impressed on her. In reply to queries put to her in a low voice, she answered also in a low but distinct voice, “that she was in a state of perfect happiness and quiet, walking in light—that her own body was filled with light—that all around her was light,” &c. She answered a vast number of questions in regard to the houses of different individuals, and the personal appearance of individuals—some of these with most extraordinary precision. She was desired to describe the parlour of one of the friends who accompanied me. She replied immediately that it was “a square compact room, with some pictures on the walls—some large, some small, and pretty far apart. A high case at one side, like a bookcase, with glass doors. The light hung from the roof. A lady was sitting at a table in the room knitting or sewing.” “Was there only one lady in the room?” “Only one.” “And in the house?” “In another apartment, which seemed a kitchen, there was another lady speaking to a servant girl.” “Were there any animals in the house?” “Yes, a cat was near the lady in the kitchen.” This was an exact account of my friend’s parlour and domestic establishment. She was desired to go to my house, and up stairs to the front room, then to describe the room. “It was a pretty room—not the ordinary shape—not with four sides, and there was a kind of *cut in*.” She drew the plan of the room on the palm of her hand with her fore finger—“it is this shape”—





which it is. She was asked to go to Mr. J. B.'s house in St. Mungo-street, Barony Glebe. She went at once. "It is round the corner, up stairs." "How many stairs up?" "As high as you can go—the top of land." This last query was put by my friend, who had told Mr. J. B. in the forenoon where he was going that night. Mr. J. B. said to him, hal' in jest, "take her to my house in St. Mungo-street, as I shall be at home all night." The situation of the house was described with perfect correctness, but an interruption at this moment took place as follows:—

At this time, the other patient, who was still under the magnetic influence, was brought into the room, when a most extraordinary scene was presented. It may be interesting, however, to observe, in the first place, that the two individuals alluded to are said to be still almost entire strangers, and quite indifferent to each other, in their ordinary state—having only seen each other three or four times, and indeed having been placed in the trance together only twice before; while the circumstance of their ever meeting at all arose merely from the fact of the second having been lately mesmerised for the first time by a gentleman who had, on a previous occasion, witnessed the singular phenomena developed in the first case, and who, having at a former period attempted some experiments in mesmerism, was desirous of renewing his acquaintance with the subject. In his very first attempt with this patient, it so happened that he was not a little astonished and disconcerted to find himself all of a sudden in the presence of a *clairvoyant*, of at least an extraordinary description as the one he had previously seen. The first operator, on entering the kitchen, in order to lead his patient to the curious interview now to be described, and on desiring her to go with him to see her "sister," as she called her, was told that it was unnecessary, as she had already been in close converse with her, and did not require to do so, if we would only let her sister alone, and not tease her with questions. He found her with her hands locked into each other in a very peculiar manner, and quite rigid, yet quickly and frequently changed into other curious postures—sometimes across the breast, sometimes clasped together &c. ; and he could not persuade her to rise until he assured her we would go on teasing her "sister" till she came into her presence herself. Instantly she rose and walked, with convulsive rapidity, or rather ran, into the adjoining apartment. The two then hastily embraced each other with apparent rapture, folded their arms round each other, and clung together with a rigid and tenacious grasp that would have caused pain to any one in a natural state. I endeavoured to lift the hand of one of them from the shoulder of the other, and with all my force could hardly move it. The attraction seemed irresistible and mutual. The impression left on my mind, when I attempted to separate them, was that it was a violence to both. We remained about a quarter of an hour after this meeting, during which time their hold of each other never relaxed. The operator told us that it was with the greatest difficulty that the two could be separated, and that nothing but strong persuasion, and the promise that they should be allowed soon to meet again, induced them to part.

The above is a very imperfect sketch of what took place in the course of a series of experiments, which lasted upwards of three hours. I went to the house where these were conducted with a strong feeling that there must be collusion betwixt the operators and the patients, but this, at all events, I am fully convinced, there was not, and could not be. I offer no opinion on the extraordinary phenomena presented in both the cases which I have endeavoured to describe. If these phenomena be not

referable to any known principles of medical or physiological science, they are sufficiently interesting and curious to render them worthy of fuller and more candid investigation than they have yet received. C.

### MAGNETISM AT CHATHAM.

Lectures were recently given by Mr. Hart, and the experiments by Messrs. Summers and Merralls, at the Sun Hotel, Chatham. A great sensation prevailed, in consequence of bills having been circulated, stating that Mr. Summers would bring forward a clairvoyant patient; who should examine the internal organization of any individual from among the audience, and accurately describe the nature and seat of any disease in the party so examined. The evening was a very unfavourable one for a meeting, yet the room was well filled with a respectable and attentive audience. Mr. Hart delivered an able discourse, and met with much applause throughout the lecture. He confined himself closely to the subject; which gave increased satisfaction. Mr. Summers then appeared with his patient; produced the coma, and commenced his experiments by showing lock jaw, and the mode of destroying it, by making passes over the great toe and thumb; at the same time observing the probability of a natural lock jaw being removed by the mesmeric passes. At the close of this experiment a medical gentleman came forward; and asked if he might be allowed to make a slight incision upon the hand of the patient with a lancet, and whether he might apply some ammonia to the nostrils during a few inspirations. Upon Mr. Summers giving his consent, the gentleman drew an instrument from his case, and performed the operation upon a muscle of the hand between the thumb and finger. The blood was seen running from the wound, which was wiped away by the operator; and the medical gentleman acknowledged that no symptom of feeling had been evinced. A bottle containing ammonia was then brought forward and placed directly under the nose; but although the time was long enough for many inspirations to have been made, yet it was declared that no sensibility was visible.

Mr. Summers then excited many of the cerebral organs; standing behind his patient. The organs were excited without contact; much to the satisfaction of the parties assembled. After these sympathies had been developed, Mr. Hart stated that Mr. Summers' patient would then examine any one who felt a desire to come forward; but it would be required of them to state upon paper the disease they believed they were suffering from, which paper should be placed in the hands of some person in the room. A young man by the name of Gilbert, a resident of Brompton, then offered himself, and after the examination, which lasted several minutes; and during which time, the greatest possible interest seemed to be excited, the patient turned from the young man Gilbert, much affected; but after being restored by the operator, who was seen to rub the palms of the hands, together with cold water being applied to the temples, &c., Mr. Summers asked his patient to describe what she had seen. She said the heart, lungs, and liver were affected; the former appearing to grow to the side. The paper was then read, and the contents were an enlarged heart. A medical gentleman of Strood then rose and said it was his opinion that the lungs were not affected; but in reply to this, a person from the audience, assured them that he had lived under the same roof with Mr. Gilbert, and that he had always found him complain of shortness of breath, when the weather was at all damp, or if

he had walked any distance; which left a strong proof that the result of the examination was a correct one. After considerable discussion which appeared to terminate much in favour of the operator, the clairvoyant was awoke by Mr. Summers's method, viz., that of the passes being given by the patient to the operator; and the young lady retired amid much cheering. Mr. Merralls then appeared with his son, who was a lad about twelve or thirteen years of age; observing that it was not his intention to offer anything like a cheat, and if it were he had himself been most grossly cheated, even by his own son—(cheers). The lad was then put to sleep. A wish having been expressed by many persons that it should be ascertained whether the patient could read from the print being simply presented to the extremities of the fingers, forehead, &c., a book was handed to him, from which he read several lines distinctly. To prevent the possibility of the patient seeing the print with his eyes, pieces of wadding were placed over them, and in addition to these thick pads were bound over the lids. Mr. Hart, in conclusion, returned thanks for the attentive manner in which the lecture and experiments had been received; and, with an evident degree of satisfaction, the audience retired.

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## INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS AT LIVERPOOL.

The interest excited by the recent lecture and experiments of Mr. Spencer T. Hall, in this town, induced a gentleman in Liverpool to test their truth by experiments on several of his friends. With the first four whom he tried he was very successful, but with others he succeeded only partially, and with some not at all. The following is a detailed account of some experiments performed a few evenings back by the same gentleman, on two patients with whom he had succeeded on the first trial. The respectability of the gentleman who performed the experiments, and his being actuated only by sincere desire to arrive at the truth, remove all doubts, to which the extraordinary nature of the results obtained would naturally give rise, of the reality of the phenomena, and of there being no delusion practised. This report is written by one who was present, and who has simply narrated the events which occurred without giving them a bias either one way or the other.

The first patient was a young unmarried lady, of a nervous-sanguine temperament, and nearly nineteen years of age. After being seated on the sofa, and the magnetiser having gone through the usual process, she fell into the magnetic sleep in about six minutes. After having passed his hands around her face and head, the magnetiser touched Wit and Language. It may be stated here, in order to prevent repetition afterwards, that Language was always touched in conjunction with the other organs operated on, as, unless this was done, the patient was unable to speak. On being asked what she was thinking of, the patient said, "That is it. Oh! it is so funny. That man has such a funny coat on. It is all patches." On being asked what colour the coat was of, she said that it was all patches, and being asked again, she replied, but not until the organ of Colour was touched, that it was red. The same inquiry was again repeated, and she said she could tell the colour; and on the question being again put, she said, "Oh! yes, I know it. Why, it is red. Can't you see it yourself." She then said that the man in this strange coat was laughing very much. On being asked if she had seen anything

like this man, or if she could tell what he was like, she answered that he was "like himself." Veneration was then touched, and on the patient being asked what she was thinking of, she said, "These people want me to go down on my knees." "Way do they wish you to go down on your knees?" said the magnetiser. "They want me to respect them," she said, "and I think that I feel determined I will do it. Well, I will do it, but I will have my own way." The magnetiser then asked her if she would respect these ladies. "What ladies," said she, "I don't see them." The magnetiser's hand was then moved a little forward, and she said, "I will respect them a little." This is a very weak manifestation of the organ of Veneration, but it is sufficiently accounted for by the fact that in the head of this patient it is very small. Benevolence was then touched, and she said, "Don't you see these poor creatures," and then began to weep. The magnetiser then placed his hand on Philoprogenitiveness, and she said, "Oh! what a sweet little child." "Whose child is it?" said the magnetiser. "It is that lady's. See, it is laughing at me. What a sweet little baby! Oh! I could love that child." Cautiousness was then touched, and she said, "I'll mind that place. I'll not go. I'll be very cautious not to go yet." Locality was then touched in conjunction with Cautiousness, and she was asked where the place was, and she answered, "It is there at the water side." Self-Esteem, Love of Approbation, and Hope were next touched, but no distinct manifestations were produced. Hope and Wit were then touched, when she said, "Can't you see it?—that lady has got something pinned up behind her so funny." The magnetiser then removed one of his fingers from Wit to Benevolence, still touching Hope, but the patient appeared to remain under the influence of Wit, for she said, "How funny that picture is." Secretiveness was next touched, and the patient was asked what she was thinking of. She replied, "I wont tell." The magnetiser still wished her to tell him, but she constantly repeated in the most emphatic tone, "I wont tell. No, no! I'll not tell it at all. Acquisitiveness was next touched, and she said, "I should like to have that." On being asked what it was, she said, "Don't you see that nice thing. I should like to have it. Here it is," she said, seizing a part of her dress, and squeezing it hard in one hand. She was asked if she would give it to the magnetiser, and she said, "No." A gentleman who was present took up a flute and played a few notes on it, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the patient could hear any noise except that produced by the magnetiser. After the music had ceased she was asked if she heard that? She asked what it was, and on being told that it was a flute, she said she had not heard it. The magnetiser then took the instrument and played a few notes of "Auld Langsyne." While he was playing she smiled and seemed highly pleased with the music. She said, "Oh, it is so nice," and on being asked what it was, she replied that it was a flute. On being asked what it was about, she said it was something about "We'll take a cup." Those who know the words of this Scotch song will at once perceive that the words she mentioned occur in one of the lines of the song. The same air was then played by the gentleman who had done it formerly, but the patient said she did not like it so well as the other. Imitation and Tune were then touched, and the patient sang the first two lines of a song she had heard an old man sing lately in one of the Seacombe ferry boats. She then sang a song beginning, "The morning was fair." Veneration in conjunction with Tune was next touched, and she said, "I wont sing you any more songs," and she then sang two hymns. Imitation and Tune were then touched and she was

asked to sing a hymn, but she said, "Oh! no, not a hymn, but I'll sing the Emigrant's song;" and she then sang a few lines of this song, which she had lately heard in the theatre. The magnetiser then tried whether the same phenomena would be manifested by touching the head with a glass tube as with his fingers, and the same results were produced. The patient was then awakened up, by waving a handkerchief before her face. When she was in the magnetised state, a gentleman present, in order to ascertain if she heard any noise, clapped his hands very loudly before her face. It was observed at the time that she started and shrunk back, and, after having been awakened, she remembered only something like a cold wind blowing at one time against her face.

The second patient was a married lady, a sister to the first, of the same temperament, and about two years older. This patient was cast into the magnetic sleep in about two and a half minutes, by the same gentleman who magnetised the first. Benevolence was the first organ touched. She called for her purse, said "they are very poor, very ill," and began to weep very copiously. Veneration was next touched, and the patient proceeded to state something which she had heard in a sermon preached on the previous Sunday. Cautionness was next touched, and she said, "I dare not cross that bridge." The magnetiser then removed his hands, and a gentleman present put his hands on her head and proceeded to question her. She would not, however, answer him; but when the magnetiser's hands touched those of the other gentleman, and the question was asked by the magnetiser, then she answered. Gradually she answered questions which were put by the magnetiser while he was in contact with the other gentleman, and by a still more gradual process, in which the influence of the magnetiser appeared to be slowly transferred to the other, she at last was completely under the influence of the other gentleman, by whom the remaining experiments were performed. Self-esteem was then touched, and the patient said, "They have hurt my feelings. I have been very kind to them. They have called me names. They say that I am proud and that I think too much of myself. I do not think a great deal of myself, only I have been very kind to them. I like to keep myself respectable. It is pride to be above speaking to a person, but I am not above doing them a good turn." These disjointed sentences were, of course, elicited in answer to the questions of the operator. Veneration was next touched. She said, "Oh! it is a glorious sight. It is a splendid place. All the people are happy. I think it is heaven. (The patient here sighed very heavily.) I see my aunt there. I would like to be there myself." Wit was next touched, and the patient described a ludicrous scene of a man going past with some bread and butter in his hand. She did not know his name, but when Individuality was touched she remembered the name immediately. Order was next touched, and she said, "Well, I never saw such an untidy house. Everything is out of its place. I must put it to rights. The sand is two or three inches thick." A handkerchief was then put into her hands, and she commenced to dust some imaginary object with it. Imitation was then touched, and she said, "I don't feel so well." Secretiveness was then touched, and she emphatically declared that she would not tell something to the operator. She could not. She had promised not to tell, and she would not break her word. On being asked if she would tell her husband, she said, "I may, but I am not sure. I may tell him, but I will not name the individuals." Hope was next touched, and she was asked what she thought of the state of the country.

She said, "There is a great deal of distress in the country, but still things will mend in the course of time." On being asked what she thought of the corn-laws, she said, "I don't understand the corn-laws. I never trouble my head about them." She was quite satisfied with her own condition, she could not complain, but she would like if her husband's health was to improve. Acquisitiveness was then touched, and she began to say something about a transaction which she had with her mother, by which she exultingly said that she had made two shillings. She then said that she had given a shilling to a poor man; and on being further questioned, she said that when she had money to spare she gave it, but when she had it not to spare she could not give it. Locality was then touched, and she said, "It is to be hoped these days will come again. I used to have such happy days when I went to school." Philo-progenitiveness was next touched, and she said, "Poor little thing! Oh! I wish it had lived; it was a lovely baby;" and she then burst passionately into tears. Combativeness was then touched, and she said, "If you speak that way to me, I'll knock you down. I'll forgive you if you wont say it again." Conscientiousness was then touched, and she said, "It is a great shame to allow them to steal and take things in that way. I would sooner give you something to buy them with. Why there is a girl who is taking the ribbons off these bonnets." The patient was then awoke in the same manner as in the former case. On awaking, she complained of a slight pain in the head, at the organ of Imitation. She did not appear to know that two persons had been operating on her.

### MR. CATLOW "AT HOME."

The following extract of a letter from a highly respectable gentleman in Manchester, will show that Mr. Catlow makes himself as ridiculous at home as abroad. The same picture would serve, with very slight modifications, for almost all his exhibitions. And we give it, not in consequence of any personal dislike of Mr. C., but in self-defence, because he has so frequently abused us without the slightest provocation in the course of his crusade against Truth and Common Sense.

"We had the redoubtable Catlow here last week, heralded in by a pompous poster, in which he proclaimed to the people of Manchester his intention of proving the 'extraordinary unphilosophical fallacy' of Phreno-Magnetism. I attended, but never listened to such blackguard declamation in my life—his whole theory—that of 'suggestive dreaming'—as destructive of the principles and laws of Phreno Magnetism, was the most bare-faced insult ever offered to the common sense of an audience. The old maxim of Locke's that no idea (by the way, was ever word so mangled and torn by the philosophers of old as that mysterious one?) could originate in the mind unless from external or internal impressions, was the first, nay the only brick in the foundation on which was raised a superstructure so flimsy and unsubstantial, that it tottered as he erected it; and, by the statement of one fact, a gentleman present brought the edifice about his ears. His experiments, granting them to be true, only exhibited the docility of his patients, and the deceptive powers of their master. By teaching them whilst in their normal as

well as abnormal state, to associate certain speeches and acts with the excitement of certain parts of the body, as the nose, the ear, the knee-joint, &c., he succeeded in making them manifest some of the most ridiculous appearances ever witnessed, and argued, from these premises, that the patients of Mr. Hall and other phreno-magnetisers, were subjected to a similar course of training. Under the influence of bruised truth, I arose, and defied him to prove one instance in which either whispering or preconcerted arrangements had been carried on with your patients, and asked him this simple question, whether, by producing phrenological manifestations in a boy totally unacquainted with the science, and whom I should never see before magnetising him, and with whom not a word should be exchanged whilst under the operation, I should not demolish the hollow theory which he had propounded. Forced to reply in the affirmative, he clenched his hands, and thus addressed me : ' Sir, if all the most honourable men that ever lived, from Moses downwards, were to rise from their graves, and if all the most honourable men *now* living, were to join them, and proclaim in one voice that such had been done, I would not believe them !' In reply, I told him, after that avowal I could hold no further argument with him, and addressing myself to the audience, informed them that such a case had come under my observation, and that the question therefore resolved itself into the consideration whether my statements or those of Mr. Catlow were the more worthy of credence. A hubbub ensued. Calls for ' money back,' followed, and after a brief and angry discussion, the valliant Mr. Catlow was left alone in the room."

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## MAGNETISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

Sir,—As many of the phenomena produced by Mr. Braid and Mr. Catlow bear resemblance to some of the effects of Animal Magnetism, they stoutly affirm that there is no such influence or power as Animal Magnetism in existence. The former of these gentlemen sends his patients to sleep by directing their gaze to a fixed object; and the latter operates by continued and uniform action on *any* of the senses: both can produce catalepsy, and both can exercise certain controlments over those who are subject to their agency. Without at all attempting to explain the *cause* of Animal Magnetism, I will, with your leave, briefly state one or two facts which will, in my opinion, prove the existence of an influence different and distinct from that sort of "Mesmerism" which may be produced by the systems of Mr. Braid and Mr. Catlow.

Immediately after M. Lafontaine's visit to Sheffield, a physician of eminence performed many experiments with a view to the application of magnetism as a curative agent. He produced many curious and note-worthy results, and I have little doubt that he has already found magnetism practically useful. He could operate upon his subjects when they were at a considerable



distance from him: when they were in other rooms, and with the intervention of several stone or brick walls. When the eyes of the patients were closely bandaged, he could make the limbs perfectly rigid by merely pointing his fingers towards them—the same effect took place whether he stood near or otherwise. I had many times an opportunity of witnessing these experiments, and have known the influence pass through the persons of many ladies and gentlemen, who formed a line, of which the operator was at one end and the subject at the other. I never observed the obstruction of the influence, except when one individual, a lady, was in the line just mentioned; and she *invariably* proved a complete barrier to it. The medical gentleman in question also showed the power of *attraction*. By gently moving his hand, he could *attract* or *repel* the patient at pleasure; and on his leaving the room the patient was drawn after him with great force, and all attempts to prevent it were of no avail. When the operator was in one room and the patient in another room, the head of the latter would adhere to the intervening wall with a tenacity that required all the exertion of a strong man to remove it. These experiments were tested, by professional men, so often and so closely as to remove all thoughts of the possibility of collusion.

Animal Magnetism being the common theme of conversation in Sheffield, two young men, a painter and an apprentice, were induced to experiment, in joke as they thought, one day during "dinner hour." The elder of them passed his hands over the back of the head of the younger—Joseph Flower, afterwards one of your subjects, Sir, and in a few minutes he (the younger) was fast asleep. Subsequent experiments proved that, in this case, the operator had very great power over his subject; he could magnetise him at a distance of several hundred yards; and it was supposed that the force of attraction increased with the distance.

On Friday, May 20th, 1842, a party of gentlemen went from Sheffield to Brightside—as a place convenient for their purpose—to ascertain whether it was possible to magnetise an individual at the distance of several miles. Joseph Flower was selected as the most likely subject for the trial, and he was placed in a room near the Brightside Railway Station: the operator going forward in the train to Rotherham—a distance of about three miles. It was agreed that, at a given time, the manipulations should commence: Flower knew that an attempt would be made to magnetise him, but he did not know when. Within a minute of the agreed time, the subject was



asleep, and was at once attracted by a tremendous force towards Rotherham. The gentlemen present (six or seven in number) were anxious to take him out into the open air; but for some minutes their united strength was unable to accomplish that object. They at length, however, succeeded in carrying him out and restoring him to partial consciousness. In the mean time the train from Rotherham was bringing the operator back; as it neared, the subject became more calm, and on being touched by him was instantly restored. This experiment was performed by one of the most influential merchants in Sheffield, and was witnessed by a surgeon of great skill and experience, and several gentlemen of the highest respectability. I was present myself during the whole time, and can bear testimony to the perfect fairness of the proceedings: indeed, the very character of the operator and spectators precluded the possibility of deception. But for the danger attending it, the experiment might easily be repeated under such circumstances, and before such numbers, as would gain almost universal belief. The medical gentleman present was of opinion, after seeing the effects, that the probability of bodily injury taking place during the operation, ought to be sufficient reason for never again trying a similar experiment. I believe, that with prudence, men of ordinary intelligence may safely try experiments in Animal Magnetism; but my firm conviction is that *there is great danger when the operator and patient cannot be brought into immediate contact; and that the danger is increased with the distance they are from each other.*

Many persons are able to magnetise any particular parts of the bodies of persons subject to their influence. I have on many occasions seen you, Sir, magnetise at will any one of the fingers or toes of your patients (when their eyes were banded) and leave the other parts entirely at liberty.

The beating of the pulse may be regulated at will by means of Animal Magnetism, without the operator coming in contact with his patient.

These, then, are some of the facts which, in my opinion, prove the existence of Animal Magnetism. They were produced without the eyes of the patients being "directed to a fixed object," and without "continued and uniform action on any of the senses;" and they clearly show the power of attraction. I am altogether unable to give the *rationale* of Animal Magnetism; but hope at no distant day to see it discussed in the spirit of true philosophy. The present age possesses many great physiologists—men whose science and whose philanthropy do

honour to humanity—and I trust they will soon investigate the subject with a candour and patience worthy of themselves and their profession.

Mr. Catlow explains mesmeric attractions thus:—After being asleep a short time, the limbs of the patient are colder than those of the operator, and the former follows the latter because warmth is an agreeable sensation to persons thus circumstanced. This he illustrated by experiment; bringing a hot iron and placing it before his subject, who is asleep, and whose eyes are bandaged, and who is drawn about after the iron. To make this at all bear resemblance to Animal Magnetism, Mr. Catlow should, at great distances, and by means of a heated poker, be able to send his patients to sleep, and attract them with considerable force towards himself.

I have heard Mr. Braid and Mr. Catlow lecture, and have seen their experiments. They both deserve credit for their exertions and discoveries; but I do not think they have made Animal Magnetism better understood by the practice of what they call “rational mesmerism.”

I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,  
JOHN FOWLER.

Sheffield, March 21st, 1843.

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## PHRENOLOGY AND INSANITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

Sir,—In your last number, you have inserted a paragraph from the London Literary Gazette, which it seems was contained in a editorial article of that Journal, to the effect that I had tried the remedial effects of Animal Magnetism, in the treatment of the insane under my care; inmates of the Institution to which I have the honour to be officially connected.

I beg leave to add that such is not the case. I have never performed a single experiment on any one, who has been at any time a patient of the Hanwell Asylum; and, *for reasons the most obvious*. No “*excellent results*,” then, can have been experienced; as the the Editor of the Journal before-mentioned has it.

Will you allow me to subjoin the quotation from my paper, “*On Phrenology and Insanity*,” read last year, before the Association; in which must have originated the conclusion so prematurely arrived at? It is thus —“Now that I am speaking of monomania, I am reminded of a series of very beautiful experiments I had the pleasure of witnessing some ten days

since at the house of Dr. Elliotson. I allude to the magnetic excitation of cerebation, during which I was no less astonished than gratified in having the opportunity of witnessing, in one individual, more forms of monomania than I have ever seen even within the walls of Hanwell, or elsewhere; and each individual form of the disease was so splendidly illustrated, that I very much doubt, if even the reality could under any circumstances, have excelled it. The pencil of no artist could have surpassed the original; and not even a Siddons, a Raphael, a Kean, or a Macready, could have wished to do more than copy it. No art, ancient or modern, could give better expression to the natural language of *intense feeling*. I am strongly disposed to think that Animal Magnetism will be found ere long indispensable as a remedial agent in the treatment of the insane."

An early insertion of the above will oblige,

Your obedient servant,  
JAS. GEO. DAVEY, M.D.

Hanwell, March 22nd, 1843.

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## PHRENO-MAGNETIC NOTES.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—As my opportunities for conducting Magnetic experiments are very limited, I am afraid the results will be found to possess the less interest. The following however have been carefully tried, and for the most part often repeated, on different individuals; in fact, I am cautious of receiving or embracing new opinions in any department of science on slight grounds, and have, in my Phreno-Magnetic investigations, proceeded in a steady, cool, and deliberate manner, not daring to hazard an opinion, or state as matter of fact, any circumstance, without having good ground for the former, and demonstrative evidence of the latter; therefore I can vouch for my own integrity and honesty of purpose, and have as little hesitation in stating that the different manifestations produced are real, genuine, and natural, since imposture, or any attempt at acting or deceiving, on the part of the operator could not have escaped detection.

It is maintained by some, that both the operator and the operated may be deceived, as for instance—conversation carried on in the presence of the person magnetised, in reference to the results of certain organs, may make impressions on the brain which both parties might be unconscious of, and as a natural consequence shew themselves during the experiments without any intention to deceive. I admit that the brain is

susceptible of receiving and retaining impressions without the person being conscious of them, but such conversations or impressions are quite unnecessary, as the manifestations can be equally well produced by the finger being placed on the respective organs, without the possibility of receiving any idea or impulse through the senses;—however, those who admit the effects being produced by such means, at once confess their belief in Phreno-Magnetism, and that in a much higher and more refined degree than ordinary defenders of the science contend for. Likewise those who ascribe the magnetic effects to high excitement, or an heated imagination, prove themselves believers in the science, the only difference between parties being in reference to their causes.

Others even deny the effects because persons producing them cannot explain the phenomena. As well might they deny atmospheric pressure in the action of a common pump, or assert that water cannot be obtained unless the person pumping can explain the principles of its action, when experience proves that any individual, entirely ignorant of the science of pneumatics or hydrostatics, can procure water by the pump as well as the most talented professor. So in the case of Phreno-Magnetism, effects are produced by persons equally unacquainted with their causes. As good demonstrative evidence can be obtained for establishing the general truths of Mesmerism, or Phreno-Magnetism, as for establishing the truth of any problem in Euclid, Impositions may have been practised—persons may have been deceived—wrong inferences may have been drawn—but such will apply to every department of philosophy, and if they are to be regarded as sufficient to prove the fallacy of this science, they cannot but prove the fallacy of every other science, as it is an axiom acknowledged in the scientific world, that similar causes produce similar effects, and *vice versa*.

The following are some of the results of numerous experiments on male and female patients.

*Colour.*—"These flowers are certainly not of English production; they are most brilliant, splendid, elegant; oh, what beautiful colours!" &c.

*Weight.*—Pulling the dress as lifting, with great fatigue, some heavy weight, but on getting hold of a chair, or other heavy article, they seem satisfied by raising it as high as the arms permit.

*Form.*—Comparing different articles as regards their shapes and symmetrical proportions.

*Locality.*—Preparing for or commencing a journey, sometimes asking if it is likely to rain, snow, &c. "Oh, I am afraid I shall get a cold with my light shoes on, but I must go," &c.

*Near the front of Ideality.*—Making a shirt—washing the floor—rolling cards—and numerous other employments suited to their respective occupations, with sometimes—"Oh, give me some work—I want something to do—give me something to do," &c.

*Causality.*—Persons enter deep into cause and effect in reference to trade, politics, religion, &c., if they are intelligent. "I wish I was a Queen, I would make better trade," &c. "By what means?" "That is difficult to determine, the subject requires deep consideration, still I think it may be effected," &c.

*Imitation.*—Arranging the dress, and mimicking the affected walk of an old prude. Pinning a handkerchief over the head, tucking up the sleeves, scolding, fighting, and bustling about in a great hurry, being the habits of an old washerwoman—at least ten years ago. Putting the hand across the loins, stooping, coughing, and scarcely able to walk, &c., in imitation of a man who sometimes passes the house, with various other oddities. On sounds being made, they are invariably imitated, even to foreign languages.

*Wonder.*—"Wonder what will be our condition in a future state." "Wonder what we shall have for dinner to-morrow." "Wonder if it is fair weather, rain, snow, time of day," and innumerable other things.

*Hope.*—"Thinks all will end well; does not fear; feels happy and comfortable; has no cause for despair either in this life or at the hour of death, why should she fear?" &c.

*Comparison.*—"This gown (shawl, bonnet, &c.) is vastly superior to the other, it is so becoming; it is fit for any lady." On preferring the other, "wonders at the bad taste of her sister," &c. "Trinity church is a fine building, it is so elegant and well-proportioned." On being told a person preferred Snenton church, "wondered at his low taste; he might think so, but Trinity church was by far the most splendid church in the town," &c.

*Ideality,* towards the back of it.—Queen Catherine's defence with great dignity, in the style of Mrs. Siddons; Juliett's soliloquy; Alvira's address to Pizarro, &c.

*Self-Esteem.*—Strutting about, shewing various consequential airs, treating the company with disdain or contempt, &c. A female folded her arms after rising, and then delivered a long original address, inviting "sinners to forsake their evil ways

and to come unto Jesus, who is ever ready, with open arms, to receive all penitent sinners," &c., in the true animated ranters' style, being a member of that body.

*Acquisitiveness and Secretiveness.*—Picking the pockets; taking articles from the table, always preferring silver or other valuables. The effect on the countenance, and the irresolution often observed, show the workings within the mind; or should any article drop, or noise be heard, the misgivings are finely pourtrayed. After removing the finger, and touching *Conscientiousness*, restitution is made, the articles are restored to their wonted places, and pardon solicited, often accompanied with falling on the knees and crying bitterly, when it is advisable to discontinue the experiment.

A faculty in the neighbourhood of *Concentrativeness*.—A long electioneering speech, offering himself as a candidate for Nottingham—"Should he have the honour of being returned to Parliament, he would use his best endeavours to promote the welfare of society, so that at his return among them, he might find them well clothed and fed, and enjoy the proud satisfaction of being instrumental in bringing about so desirable a condition," &c. A female delivered a long animated speech in favour of Chartist principles and the rights of man, in a style which would have done credit to a second Joan of Arc.

By placing the open hand upon the stomach of a female, on the outside of her dress, and eleven persons taking hold of hands, on the last person whispering on the back of his hand, words or short sentences became repeated in a low tone of voice. A female of my own family having whispered in her ear, when in the magnetic state, that she was to read a chapter in the Testament the next day, at half-past one o'clock, it being then eight in the evening, was de-magnetised, and the subject not mentioned to her afterwards; but in about three minutes beyond the required period, she left the work she was engaged in, and deliberately took the Testament from off a side table, from among other books, drew a chair, sat down and read a chapter. On being asked the reason, she could not tell, but all in a moment she felt a very powerful impulse to do so, and should not have felt comfortable without. This was done without any degree of levity, she being at the time, and for a short period afterwards, very grave and sedate.

I have had different persons follow me about the room without touching them, merely holding the fingers five or six inches from the eyes.

In the above experiments, where addresses, recitations, &c., have been given, language has always been touched; and I

would advise young experimentalists to allow, after every manifestation, a little time for it to subside, otherwise confusion will sometimes ensue, or the former manifestation show itself, which may give the appearance of a failure.

I remain, yours, respectfully,

JOHN POTCHETT.

Snenton, near Nottingham, March 17, 1843.

P.S.—Phreno-Magnetism is becoming very general here, and I have been the means, partly through conducting experiments, and partly through my standing in society, of making many converts, even amongst some of the most violent and sceptical.—J. P.

### EXPERIMENTS BY A PARENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHRENO-MAGNET.

Dear Sir,—I have been reading the numbers of a new work, entitled the "People's Phrenological Journal," in which I find extracts from some nameless author calculated to do you great injury with the public. There is likewise a daring assertion, made by a Mr. Rumball, who says that that the Phrenological Organs *cannot* be excited, and that somnambulism *cannot* be produced, and that he will undertake to prove the operators are deceived by their patients. He challenges Dr. Elliotson or any other Magnetiser to the test. I have written a defiance to this gentleman, but the letter is not inserted at present in the work alluded to. You will probably recollect that I wrote to you some time since respecting my little daughter—having discovered her susceptibility to the magnetic influence—when you were kind enough to give your opinion respecting the movements of the fingers, &c. I have just succeeded in exciting the Phrenological Organs, and I wish those gentlemen could see the effect on this child, and dare tell me it is untrue, or that I am deceived. Since writing to you I have discovered the motion was not confined to the fingers, but extended to the left foot also. The Phrenological Organs having been brought into perfect action, the effect is just as described by Mr. Potchett, with both hands as if playing on a piano. The following are the results of the first and only phrenological experiments.

*Philoprogenitiveness*, being very large, was acted upon instantly—the movement of the head and body as if rocking—the arms in motion as if nursing, with a characteristic expression of features, and an effort to sing or speak.

*Adhesiveness*—I placed my fingers within hers and she clung to me with the most affectionate grasp. On touching *Self-*

*Esteem* she turned from me to the opposite side of the chair and repulsed my hand.

*Secretiveness*—she covered her fingers up with her pinafore and hid them in the most artful manner. *Number*—motion of the fingers as if counting. *Comparison*—arranging the fingers and crossing in various ways. *Veneration* with *Melody*—a psalm tune. *Melody* with *Time* and *Wit*—song Rory O'More. She does not speak words, but makes an effort. On awaking her she said, "oh! give me that pretty thing." I asked her what she remembered, she said, "nothing but a beautiful thing as large as half-a-crown, coloured like an harlequin's dress. This must have been caused by touching colour.

*Form*—I observed her point her finger as at something in a particular direction, I have not tried the effect of any more organs, as I am very careful, and exactly follow your counsel. Although, Sir, I have been a staunch believer in Phrenology for seven years, these facts further convince me, coming from a quarter I so little expected. They are impressed so indelibly on my mind that all the enemies to Phreno-Magnetism can never erase them while I have my senses; as I may as well believe I have no head at all as, after what I have witnessed, say the brain is only one organ. I leave you to make use of this information in whatever way you may think fit, or arrange any part suitable for the Phreno-Magnet, to assist in proving the truth of this much, as you term it, scorned science.

I remain, Sir, yours very respectfully,

CHARLES PEMBROOK.

Birmingham, March 6th, 1843.

## LITERARY NOTICES.

DR. CRYER'S LECTURE.—We have great pleasure in recommending to our readers "*A Lecture on the Origin and Reception of several Important Discoveries,*" delivered to the Bradford Mechanics' Institute, in January last, by WILLSON CRYER, M.D., a gentleman well known as a fearless and candid scientific investigator. The Lecture contains a fund of information peculiarly adapted to the times, and is important not only to the Phreno-Magnetist, but to every man who marches, or would march, in the van of improvement. We should be sorry that our limits compelled us shorten a notice more worthy, into one so brief, though sincere, as this, to but that the cheapness of the work brings it within the reach of almost every reader, who can communicate with the Librarian of the Institute.

THE PEOPLE'S PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL.—Say on, friend: we will answer you presently. You are already useful—do not be prejudiced.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.—We have to thank many courteous and unobtrusive writers for their notices of our labours. Whilst smiling at envy, we will endeavour to merit friendship on the part of all except little Micklethwaite and Co., whose penny-trumpet-squeak of praise would be the most unfortunate compliment that could be paid us.