



**SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.**

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The Council of the Society for Psychical Research have given their approval to the establishment of a Journal in connection with the Society, to be issued as far as possible Monthly, for gratuitous circulation among the Members and Associates.

The object of this Journal is to give information of the business transacted at the Meetings of the Council, and of the work going on in the various Committees; and to ensure to our Members and friends a speedier knowledge of matters of interest which might otherwise have to wait for the next publication of "Proceedings." Reports of Committees and other papers of importance which will subsequently appear *in extenso* in the "Proceedings" (to be issued as usual), will only be given in abstract in the Journal, but communications of minor importance will appear in the Journal exclusively. The Circular letters of the Council, which have hitherto appeared in loose sheets, will here also find a place, together with correspondence, as far as space permits.

In fine, the Journal will embrace the occasional publications of the Society, and will be printed in a size uniform with the "Proceedings," so that, if desired, it can be bound along with the latter.

It is hoped that by the establishment of this Journal the conduct and progress of the S.P.R. may become better known to its friends, and that thus a livelier interest and more widespread co-operation may be secured.

The Council have asked me to undertake the Editorship of the Journal, and in presenting the first number to our Members and Associates I should be glad to receive any suggestions they may feel disposed to offer.

W. F. BARRETT.

*De Vesce Terrace,  
Kingstown, Co. Dublin.*

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

The annual business meeting of the members of the Society was held at 11, Chandos-street, Cavendish-square, London, on the 18th of January.

The President, Professor H. Sidgwick, in introducing the business, which was of a purely formal character, said that the Council had not thought it needful on this occasion to present any special report. The published Proceedings, and the circular letters which had been issued by the Council, indicated the work in which they had been engaged.

A balance-sheet was placed before the meeting, giving the receipts and expenditure of the Society during the year 1883. This balance-sheet showed that although the receipts from subscriptions had greatly increased since the preceding year, they had, even with the amount received from the sale of the Proceedings, fallen short of the expenditure by over £300. The President pointed out that the largest item of expenditure was for printing, which had been materially augmented by the cost of the drawings in Parts II. and III. of the Proceedings. This expenditure had, however, in his opinion been a wise one, as the drawings had been found specially interesting by many readers. The deficiency he spoke of had been fully met by the donations which had been given to aid the Society's work.

Looking at the fact of the rapid growth of the Society, which had increased its numbers from 150 at the commencement of last year to over 300 at the present time, and was still steadily increasing, he thought that this discrepancy between the income proper of the Society and its expenditure need not cause the members any concern. He thought that, at this early stage in the development of the Society, it was far more important to make the work effective than to balance subscriptions and expenditure. Accordingly he contemplated with perfect equanimity the prospect that, although there would be a further large increase in the amount received from subscriptions, the Society would again this year have partially to subsist upon "charity." Indeed, he had the pleasure of announcing three or four additions to the Research Fund since the beginning of the year.

The following alterations in the constitution and rules which had been agreed to by the Council during the past year, were submitted to the meeting and adopted:—

That in Rule 3 the words—"Provided that no President shall hold the office for more than three years consecutively"—be omitted.

That a new Rule, to follow Rule 8, be adopted as follows:—"The Council shall have power to elect as Corresponding Members, who shall be on the

same footing as Honorary Members, persons able and willing to forward the objects of the Society."

That the following clause be introduced as the second sentence in Rule 17 :— "The names of persons for the first time proposed to be co-opted on the Council shall be brought forward at one Meeting of the Council, and shall be sent round to all Members of Council previous to its next Meeting, when the voting shall be by ballot, and a unanimous vote of those present shall be requisite to carry the election."

That in Rule 22 the third clause stand thus :—"In all Meetings of the Council four shall be a quorum"—instead of as at present—"In all Meetings of the Council five shall be a quorum."

The following were nominated by the Council to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of two members during the year, and by the retirement of four others under Rule 18 :—

EDMUND GURNEY,	FRANK PODMORE,	HENRY A. SMITH,
EDWARD R. PEASE,	E. DAWSON ROGERS,	PROF. BALFOUR STEWART.

No notice having been given of any other nominations, these were elected by the meeting.

On the motion of the Hon. Percy Wyndham, M.P., Mr. Morell Theobald, F.C.A., was elected, in accordance with Rule 28, as auditor, on behalf of the members.

### GENERAL MEETING.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, a general meeting was held for the reading of reports and papers. Professor Sidgwick presided.

The first paper was "The Second Report of the Literary Committee," read by Mr. F. W. H. Myers. The previous report of this Committee, published in Part II. of the Proceedings, contained upwards of 30 well-attested narratives of transferred impressions, apparitions at the moment of death, &c., which were given as samples of the large collection already made by this Committee. The present report gives an account of the work of the Committee during the past year. This work has consisted mainly in the collection and arrangement of an immense mass of recent evidence bearing on the various departments of the Society's research; but the part with which Mr. Myers particularly dealt was the evidence bearing on "Phantasms of the Living," which he announced as the subject of a forthcoming work on which the Literary Committee are busily engaged. He described the mode in which the Committee conduct their examination of the testimony submitted to them; and insisted on the value of personal interviews with informants, and on the great importance of obtaining permission to publish their names. A large collection of narratives of death-wraiths, hauntings, premoni-

tory dreams, &c., has been printed on slips (the cost of which is defrayed by a member of the Society), and most of these slips are offered for the inspection of members at the Society's offices. More such narratives are earnestly desired. The author then went on to explain the purpose of the questions which have recently been widely circulated on the subject of hallucinations and dreams. He pointed out that before we can fairly attribute to anything more than chance the recorded cases of "veridical" dreams or hallucinations—where the death of a person at a distance has coincided in time with a vivid and haunting *dream* of him, or with an *hallucination* of the senses which suggested his presence—we must discover how frequent similar dreams and hallucinations are which coincide with nothing at all. He expressed a hope that statistics on this point might be drawn from a sufficiently wide area to give a fair idea as to the proportion of the population who have experienced exceptionally haunting dreams of death, or distinct illusory hallucinations; and there would then be grounds for judging whether or not the "veridical" cases—that is, the truth-telling impressions—were too numerous to be ascribed to accidental coincidence. Members of the Society were specially urged to do their share in collecting twenty-five or fifty answers to the questions. In an eloquent peroration, Mr. Myers suggested the far-reaching scope of the investigation; and while paying a tribute of respect and admiration to those scientific and Positivist thinkers who courageously face the worst, and to whom the facts of the Universe, as known to them, have taught the narrow limits of human life and aspiration, he said it was not the fault of other inquirers if further facts—which the scientific world has so far neglected to examine and test, but which are no less amenable to scientific treatment—teach a different and more hopeful lesson.

Mr. Edmund Gurney followed with a paper on "The Stages of Hypnotism." After pointing out the looseness of the common mode of distinguishing hypnotic states, he stated that there were really two, and only two, well-marked conditions, which he defined as the "*alert*" and the "*deep*" stages. He pointed out how the former might be easily confused with normal waking, and the latter with sleep; and showed where the essential differences lay. He then proceeded to inquire how the two stages were to be distinguished from one another; and showed that none of the ordinary characteristics could be considered constant or safe marks of distinction. He then said that the facts which really served to separate the two stages must be sought in the domain of *memory*; and recounted the results of some recent experiments, where a thing told to a "subject" in the alert state was forgotten in the deep, and remembered again when the alert state reappeared; or, in the same way, if told in the deep state, was forgotten in the alert, and remembered

again in the deep. These alternations, he said, had been observed with a large number of subjects, and with four different operators in different parts of England, and were singularly constant. He also pointed out that the common *forgetfulness* on waking of what has happened in hypnotism, and the *memory* in hypnotism of the events of the waking life, are interesting as precisely repeating the conditions of memory in cases of *double consciousness*, where one person lives alternately a normal and an abnormal existence—in the latter of which the events of the former are remembered, but not *vice versa*.

A Note on "The Sensory Effects of Magnetism" was read by Professor Barrett. The author stated that the result of recent experiments which he had made, pointed in the direction of a peculiar sensation being produced by a powerful magnet upon certain organisations. As this is opposed to the general opinion of scientific men, and the experience of those who are in the habit of working daily with large magnets, much more evidence is required.

The next paper, on "The Divining Rod," prepared by Mr. E. R. Pease, was read by Mr. Podmore. The following is an abstract:—

The Divining Rod is a V-shaped twig, commonly of hazelwood, but sometimes of steel watch-spring, whalebone, and other substances. It first came into use about three centuries ago, and during the seventeenth century it was the subject of much controversy and of numerous experiments by the learned men of the time. Many theories were proposed to explain its action, but none of them would now be regarded as plausible, and various test experiments which were made uniformly failed. In 1701, the Inquisition condemned the use of the rod, and after this date the popularity of divining greatly diminished. In the seventeenth century it was used to discover murderers and thieves, buried treasures, lost boundaries, and other hidden objects, as well as metals and water-springs. At present it appears to be chiefly used in the West of England for the discovery of water-springs, and in America for oil-wells and mines. Mr. E. Vaughan Jenkins, of Cheltenham, has made, and presented to the S. P. R., a very valuable collection of evidence of its use in England, for locating wells. He has communicated with various well-known "diviners," and has received direct from landowners, architects, builders, commercial firms, and others, careful records of the successful choosing of well-sites by diviners in places where professional geologists, or local experts, were hopeless of success. It seems also that diviners travel about the country, and "dowse" in localities new and strange to them. Some experiments were made by the writer in December, 1882, with Mr. John Lawrence, of Bristol, and also with Mrs. B., a lady in Clifton who is well-known as an amateur diviner. These were not conclusive, except in so far as they demonstrated that

the rod (in these cases a steel watch-spring) is sometimes moved solely by the unconscious muscular action of the diviner. Further, it would seem that metals purposely hidden can often be discovered by the diviner when other persons are present who know the place; but when no one present knows it, the diviner is generally at fault. This result would seem to point to Thought-transference as a possible explanation of cases of this class.

In the summer of last year an experiment was tried at Locking, in Somersetshire. Two spots were selected in a flat field, some few yards apart, one of which, according to a local diviner, would yield water, whilst in the other none would be discovered. Two wells were dug, and in each a certain amount of water was found. Professor Sollas, now Professor of Geology at Trinity College, Dublin, watched the experiment, and has presented a valuable report on it to the Society. He considers that it is conclusive against the diviner, but other observers are inclined to take a less decided view of the case.

The divining rod is always held in a position of extreme tension, and at the same time of unstable equilibrium. Slight muscular contractions produce violent and startling effects. It would seem, therefore, that the action of the rod may be caused by unconscious movements of the diviner's hands, due possibly to a sensation of chill on reaching water-bearing spots, or perhaps, merely to an unwritten practical science of the surface signs of hidden water.

At the close of this paper, the Hon. Percy Wyndham, M.P., gave a very interesting account of the remarkable success of a "dowser" in striking water in a park in Lincolnshire, and thus saving the owner of the property from a heavy outlay.

The Meeting then adjourned.

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#### MEETINGS OF COUNCIL.

A Council Meeting was held on January 17th, Professor Sidgwick in the chair, when Professor Barrett, the Rev. W. Stainton Moses, and Messrs. Walter R. Browne, Alexander Calder, Edmund Gurney, F. W. H. Myers, and H. A. Smith were present. A number of new members and associates were elected; various donations to the Research Fund, and presentations to the Library were announced; and arrangements were completed for the Annual Business, and for the General Meetings. It was also agreed that a monthly JOURNAL should be issued for distribution amongst the members and associates of the Society.

The Council met again on the 19th, when Professor Sidgwick was re-elected as President for the year 1884, and the various committees were re-appointed.

# SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

*RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1883.*

Fr. 1883.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Jan. 1.—To Balance in hands of Treasurer ...	16 0 8	
Do. Secretary ...	5 0 0	
Dec. 31.—, Subscriptions:—		21 0 8
From 138 Members ... ..	289 16 0	
,, 1 Member (two years) ...	4 4 0	
,, 88 Associates ... ..	92 8 0	
,, 1 Associate (three years) ...	3 3 0	
	389 11 0	
,, Donations ... ..	347 12 0	
,, Sale of Proceedings:—		
Per Trübner & Co. (Jan. to June)	28 0 11	
,, Secretary ... ..	8 7 3	
	36 8 2	

Cr. 1883.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31.—By Research Committees:—		
Literary Committee ... ..	74 10 4	
Mesmeric Committee ... ..	88 0 0	
Haunted House Committee ...	4 15 0	
Reichenbach Committee ... ..	17 2 9	
Physical Phenomena Committee	5 11 10	
Salary of Copyist ... ..	63 0 0	
Travelling Expenses of Copyist	6 0 0	
	258 19 11	
,, Library ... ..		19 16 9
,, Printing:—		
Proceedings, Part I., Ed. 2 ...	15 8 0	
,, II., Eds. 1 & 2 ... ..	95 13 0	
,, III. ... ..	81 7 6	
General ... ..	38 13 8	
	231 2 2	
,, Special Issue of Parts II. & III. to the Press ... ..		14 10 1
,, Advertising ... ..		23 15 0
,, Furnishing (Rooms at Dean's Yard) ... ..		27 6 4
,, Salary to Secretary (Jan. to June)		30 0 0
,, Rent and Service (nine months to Michaelmas) ... ..		67 10 0
,, Hire of Rooms for Meetings ...		13 13 0
,, Gas (nine months to Michaelmas)		2 15 1
,, Stationery and Reading Room		8 5 6
,, Postages (Secretary's) ... ..		25 4 6
,, General Expenses ... ..		29 10 11
,, Balance in hands of Treasurer ...	39 5 1	
Do. Secretary ... ..	2 17 6	
	42 2 7	
		£794 11 10

Audited and found correct—

WALTER R. BROWNE.  
MORELL THEOBALD, F.C.A.

January, 1884.

£794 11 10

£794 11 10

## LECTURES.

On Monday, January 28th, a lecture was given by Professor Sidgwick, in the theatre of the London Institution, on the results obtained by the Society for Psychological Research. The room was well filled, and the interest of the audience appeared to be well sustained throughout. The lecturer began by distinguishing the subjects—such as spiritualistic manifestations—into which the Society was still merely inquiring, from those in which it had attained results. He explained further that when he spoke of results he meant no more than the ascertainment of certain facts hitherto unrecognised; the more difficult task of providing an adequate explanation of these facts still remained to be performed. But the facts themselves were so unusual, so alien to the analogy of common experience—as far, at least, as such experience had been systematised by the industry of modern science—that they could only be established by a great accumulation of evidence very carefully collected and sifted. If only one or two cases, however well attested, were taken by themselves, the sceptic—not personally acquainted with the witnesses—might plausibly say that it was less improbable that the testimony was false than that the facts testified to were true. Hence the fundamental importance of increasing the former improbability, by repeating experiments and accumulating records of experiences by trustworthy persons. The lecturer then proceeded to give a summary of the evidence for the most important positive conclusion at which the Society had arrived: viz., that “feelings and ideas, under certain exceptional and as yet unknown conditions, are transmitted from one living human being to another, otherwise than through the recognised organs of sense.” It must be borne in mind, he said, that this conclusion did not rest on one series only of experiences, or even on the experiences of but one set of investigators, or even upon one kind of experiences. It depended on the convergence of three fundamentally distinct lines of inquiry. In one of these the Society’s work was only of a subordinate and subsidiary kind, and in each of them they had the mutually corroborative testimony of a number of independent witnesses. Two of these lines of research were strictly experimental, dealing with facts repeatable to a considerable extent at will; although it must be owned that attempts to repeat them may very easily fail, the phenomena being of a delicate nature, and the capacity for exhibiting them rare, transient, fitful, and easily disturbed. The third line of proof dealt with phenomena not thus capable of being repeated. It consisted of the recorded exceptional experiences of others, which the Society collected from sources as trustworthy and accurate as possible. The whole body of proof consisted, in short, of (1) experiments on Thought-transference between persons in a normal condition; (2) experiments on Thought-transference, when the transferee is in the abnormal state called mesmeric or hypnotic; (3) records of telepathic experiences, including what are commonly called apparitions before or at death—“telepathy” being a word formed, like “telegraphy” or “telephone,” to express sympathy between human beings at a distance. Of these branches of evidence the first was the most novel, and might be called the special work of

the Society. Professor Barrett, who first initiated the systematic investigation of these phenomena, described the earlier stages of the work in his London Institution lecture last year. As might be remembered by some present at that earlier lecture, the Dublin Professor's attention was first drawn to remarkable cases of success in the so-called "willing game," in which some person places his hand on some part of the body of another, and while so touched the latter finds objects or performs movements according to the silent will of the other. Professor Barrett soon came to the conclusion that these effects, in the great majority of cases, were produced by muscular pressure on the one hand and muscular sensibility on the other, both pressure and sensibility being usually unconscious. It was wonderful, Mr. Sidgwick said, how much guidance can be given in this way to a person of delicate muscular sensibility, even when the persons willing are quite unaware of giving it. But in the experiments on which the Society mainly relied as evidence, this mode of suggestion had been carefully excluded; as no contact was allowed between operator and percipient. A summary was then given of the experiments on Thought-transference, recorded in the Proceedings of the Society: in connection with which a number of drawings were exhibited, showing how unseen figures had been reproduced in a series of experiments conducted by Mr. Guthrie, of Liverpool. These experiments were especially interesting, from the fact that several different persons had succeeded—without contact and when alone with the percipient—in transferring the idea of a figure drawn. As regards the third line of investigation, Mr. Sidgwick explained "telepathic experiences" to include what are ordinarily called "apparitions" of living persons, together with cases of more indefinite gloom and depression felt coincidentally either with the death of a distant friend or relative, or with some other crisis or accidental shock. He gave one or two instances, not before published, where the coincidence between the apparition or sympathetic pain of A, and the death or other crisis in the life of B, had been ascertained to be exact, on first-hand evidence.

Professor Barrett has also by request delivered lectures during January at Hanley, Bowdon, Huddersfield, Saltaire, and Dublin, on the results obtained by the Society in the direction of Thought-transference.

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### THE WEM CASE.

Our members will probably recollect the newspaper accounts of curious, and seemingly inexplicable disturbances occurring in a farmer's house in Shropshire during November last. Subsequently some of the London papers gave an amusing account of how the disturbances were manufactured by the trickery of Emma Davies, the servant-maid. But as the object of a newspaper reporter is not scientific research, it was thought desirable to make further inquiries. Accordingly the Hon. Sec. of the "Physical Phenomena" Committee, Mr. F. S. Hughes, was requested to visit the scene of the disturbances; he did so, and has drawn up a careful and lengthy report, which will appear in the next number of the Journal.

## PSEUDO THOUGHT-READING.

Nothing has more forcibly illustrated the rapid progress of an epidemic delusion than the singular spectacle presented in the Scotch and Irish capitals during the early part of the present year. Mr. Stuart Cumberland in Edinburgh, and Mr. Irving Bishop in Dublin, have been nightly attracting crowds to their performances. Their mode of advertising themselves is ingenious. Well-known Church dignitaries and University professors, eminent physicians and lawyers, colonels and Queen's counsel, sheriffs, and members of Parliament, have gravely allowed themselves to be called on to the platform of these enterprising exhibitors, by way of becoming "committees of investigation," but really to have their names paraded as friends and patrons of the performer. Sedate and distinguished citizens, clutched by the arm of the so-called Thought-reader, have been dragged hither and thither, indoors and out of doors, amid breathless throngs of sight-seers, in a heroic and successful search for a hidden pin. Column after column of the leading journals in Dublin and Edinburgh have been filled with minute records of these achievements, followed by scores of letters from correspondents who protest that, although they have hitherto refused to believe in Thought-reading, they are now convinced it is a fact—which they forthwith proceed to explain, on the basis either of animal magnetism, terrestrial magnetism, vibratory action, brain-waves, or more generally, electricity!

Now, as we admit Thought-transference to be a reality, we do not deny the possession of this faculty, to a greater or less extent, to any individual. But nothing that we have seen done, either by Mr. Cumberland or Mr. Bishop, would compel us to resort to so novel an hypothesis as Thought-reading to explain their performances. And in the case of Mr. Bishop, his experiments are accompanied with such an excited and wriggling pantomime that whatever scientific value they possessed is destroyed, the investigator's amazement and distraction upon witnessing so grotesque a display being only equalled by his astonishment, when told of the many worthy and intelligent people who have been satisfied by what seems so very like a farce.

Moreover, the antecedent improbability of Thought-reading or Thought-transference is so great that no experiments made upon a public platform can have any weight from a scientific point of view, however successful and conclusive those experiments may seem to be. We do not assert the experiments to be necessarily fraudulent, because the performer is pecuniarily interested in their success; but the calmness and privacy needful for scientific investigation are absent. Furthermore, the experiments are made under conditions calculated to lead to erroneous inferences. For, whenever contact is permitted between the person who knows what has to be done and the so-called Thought-reader, it is simply impossible to exclude involuntary and often quite unconscious muscular guidance.

In fact, cases have come under our investigation where far more remarkable things have been done than anything accomplished by Mr.

Cumberland or Mr. Bishop. Thus, gentle contact being permitted, selected words have been rightly formed by picking out letters from a confused heap, a hidden pin has been quickly and repeatedly found, the numbers of bank-notes have been correctly written down, and simple diagrams have been accurately reproduced, the subject in all cases being blindfolded. Success has even been secured when a walking-stick intervened. When, however, no contact between the investigator and the subject was allowed, or when a slack thread intervened, or cotton-wool was placed under the fingers of the "thinker," or when the investigator and not the subject was blindfolded, or when the figures or words had to be expressed in speech and not in writing, then failure with these 'subjects' was as conspicuous as the previous success.

Hence to discriminate between *Muscular interpretation*, which is nothing new and by no means uncommon, and *Thought-transference*, which is both new to science and as yet uncommon, the following conditions should always be attended to:—

1. If a drawing has to be made, or a word written down, or an action performed, forbid any contact between the operator and the subject—the *agent* and the *percipient* as we have termed them.

2. If it be urged that even a slight distance might enormously diminish any mental or nervous influence, then tentatively permit contact, but insist that if it be a word or number it shall be *spoken* and not written; or if it be a diagram that the eyes of the agent (the thinker) be securely blindfolded, or so averted that he cannot see what drawing the percipient is making. There is a danger, however, in this latter case that muscular and not mental transference may be at play, or the two may be intermingled.

W. F. B.

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### OCCASIONAL MEETINGS.

"OCCASIONAL MEETINGS" will be held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, February the 20th, and on Wednesday, March the 19th, at the Garden Mansions, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W., for the purpose of informal discussion and conversation on any matters connected with the Society's researches.

The meetings are open to Members and Associates, who are at liberty to introduce friends.

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### CONVERSAZIONE.

On the evening of January 18th the President of the Society gave a *conversazione* in the Garden Mansions, Queen Anne's Gate, to the members and friends of the Society. There was a large gathering. Enlarged diagrams of Mr. M. Guthrie's valuable experiments in Thought-transference were hung round the walls, and the Rev. E. H. Sugden gave some successful illustrations of "muscle-reading," precisely analogous to the so-called "thought-reading" experiments of Mr. Bishop and Mr. Cumberland.

## MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES.

*(Elected January, 1884.)*

## MEMBERS.

- BEATTY, OCTAVIUS, Mount Pleasant, Co. Louth, Ireland.  
 GRUBBE, HUBERT H., 29, Holland Park, London, W.  
 HOLLAND, SYDNEY G., 21, Queen-street, Mayfair, London, W.  
 RENNELAER, MRS. P. L. VAN, 9, Half Moon-street, Piccadilly, London, W.  
 RUSSELL, THE EARL, Pembroke Lodge, Richmond, Surrey.  
 RUSSELL, JOHN, B.A., Fern Cottage, Eastleigh, Southampton.  
 SCHUSTER, PROF. ARTHUR, Ph.D., F.R.S., The Owens College, Manchester.  
 SIDGWICK, MRS. H., Hill-side, Chesterton-road, Cambridge.  
 SMITH, MARTIN RIDLEY, 13, Upper Belgrave-street, London, S.W.  
 TRAVERS, JOHN AMORY, St. Ives House, Ringwood, Hants.

## ASSOCIATES.

- BAILEY, WALTER, 13, Albemarle-crescent, Scarborough.  
 CARLETON, HON. MRS. FIGOTT, Greyhill, Winchfield.  
 CHANDLER, REV. H. C. D., B.A., Waterbeach Vicarage, Cambridge.  
 CUNNINGHAM, GEORGE, D.M.D. (Harvard, U.S.A.), Downing College, Cambridge.  
 GREGG, MRS., Temple Grafton Court, Alcester.  
 GUNTON, REV. W., Magdalene College, Cambridge.  
 LODGE, PROFESSOR O. J., D. Sc., University College, Liverpool.  
 MURRAY, R. MILNE, M.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. (Edin.), 10, Hope-street, Edinburgh.  
 ROBINS, MRS. ELIZABETH, 8, Marlborough-road, St. John's Wood, London, N.W.  
 STANLEY, MISS SARA, 16, Marlborough-place, St. John's Wood, London, N.W.  
 WORSLEY, MRS., Bromley College, Kent.

N.B.—Members and Associates are requested to send information of any change of address to the Assistant-Secretary, 14, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.

## DONATIONS TO RESEARCH FUND.

*(January, 1884.)*

The following Donations have been received during January :—

Arthur J. Balfour, Esq., M.P. ... ..	£25 0 0
Alexander Calder, Esq. ... ..	25 0 0
Hon. Percy Wyndham, M.P. (Second Donation) ... ..	25 0 0
Titus Salt, Esq. ... ..	10 0 0

## COMMITTEES.

(APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL, 19TH JANUARY, 1884.)

*Committee on Thought-Transference.*

PROF. W. F. BARRETT, <i>Hon. Sec.</i>	MALCOLM GUTHRIE, J.P.
EDMUND GURNEY, M.A.	F. W. H. MYERS, M.A.

*Committee on Mesmerism.*

W. F. BARRETT, M.R.I.A.	F. PODMORE, M.A., <i>Hon. Sec.</i>
EDMUND GURNEY, M.A.	H. N. RIDLEY, M.A., F.L.S.
RICHARD HODGSON, B.A.	C. LOCKHART ROBERTSON, M.D.,
CAPTAIN JAMES.	<i>Hon. Sec.</i>
A. T. MYERS, M.D.	W. H. STONE, M.A., M.B.
F. W. H. MYERS, M.A.	G. WYLD, M.D.

*Committee on Reichenbach's Experiments.*

W. F. BARRETT.	EDWARD R. PEASE.
WALTER R. BROWNE, M.A.	H. N. RIDLEY, M.A.
WALTER H. COFFIN, <i>Hon. Sec.</i>	W. H. STONE, M.B.
ST. GEORGE LANE FOX, M.S.T.E.	

*Committee on Haunted Houses.*

MAJOR T. B. HAMILTON, R.A.	EDWARD R. PEASE, <i>Hon. Sec.</i>
REV. W. D. BUSHELL, M.A.	F. PODMORE, M.A.
F. S. HUGHES, B.A.	RENNELL RODD, B.A.
A. P. PERCEVAL KEEP.	HENSLIGH WEDGWOOD, J.P.

*Committee on Physical Phenomena.*

WALTER R. BROWNE, M.A.	F. S. HUGHES, B.A., <i>Hon. Sec.</i>
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With the view of aiding the general work of the Society in obtaining and preserving evidence, a class of "Local Correspondents" has been instituted in connection with the various Committees.

It is hoped that Members and Associates in different parts of the country, who are willing to take an active part in the Society's researches, will put themselves in communication with any of the Committees in whose work they take special interest, in order that they may in this way officially represent, and contribute to, the work of the Society.

Any well attested information, bearing on the various subjects which are being investigated by the Society, will be gratefully received by the Honorary Secretaries of the respective Committees. Communications are invited from any persons, whether intending to join the Society or not.

## HALLUCINATIONS AND DREAMS.

The Literary Committee of the Society for Psychical Research have special reasons for desiring a very large number of replies to the following two questions:—

I. **HALLUCINATIONS.**—*Have you ever, when in good health and completely awake, had a vivid impression of seeing, or being touched by, a human being, or of hearing a voice or sound which suggested a human presence, when no one was there?*

II. **DREAMS.**—*Can you recall that you have ever, in the course of the last ten years, had a dream of the death of some person known to you (about whom you were not anxious at the time), which dream you marked as an exceptionally vivid one, and of which the distressing impression lasted for as long as an hour after you rose in the morning?*

It will be observed that the words contain no reference whatever to "coincidences" or "fulfilments"—the object of the census being to ascertain the frequency of hallucinations and dreams (of the sort described) where there has been *no* coincidence or fulfilment, and *no* basis of external fact. For such cases, the only answer required is a simple "yes" or "no." If any reader will, in the course of the next six months, repeat the two questions *verbatim* to 25, 50, 100, or more trustworthy persons, *from whom he does not know which answer to expect*, and who have not been already interrogated on the subject, and if he will communicate the results, these will be most gratefully received and acknowledged; and he would render further aid by inducing others to do the same. *Batches of less than 25 answers are not invited.* In any case where the answer "yes" is given, I should desire to have (not for publication) the name of the person who answers "yes," as well as of the collector. In case of *negative* answers, it will be enough if the collector will send me (not for publication) his own name and address, with the words "*Hallucinations, 25 noes,*" "*Dreams, 100 noes,*" or whatever it may be, on a postcard.

N.B. In a certain number of cases, a vivid impression or dream of the sort described *has corresponded* with the occurrence of the actual event which it suggested. Any person who has had experience of such a case is specially requested to send me an *independent* account of it.

EDMUND GURNEY.

14, Dean's Yard, S.W.  
January 1st, 1884.

(Hon. Sec. of the S.P.R.)

\*.\* Any number of copies of this circular will be sent to those willing to aid in its distribution, on their applying to the Assistant-Secretary of the S.P.R., at the above address.

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

*(Additions during January, 1884.)*

[R] indicates that the book is for reference only.

- CARPENTER (W. B., C.B., M.D., &c.) Principles of Mental Physiology, 6th edit. .... London, 1881
- [R] CRY FROM THE DESERT (A); or, Testimonies of Miraculous Things lately come to pass in the Cevennes (Translation), 2nd edit. .... London, 1707
- DELITZSCH (Franz, D.D.) A System of Biblical Psychology. From the German, by the Rev. R. E. Wallis, Ph.D., 2nd English edit. .... Edinburgh, 1879
- [R] DE LOIRE (Peter) A Treatise of Specters or Strange Sights. From the French..... London, 1605
- DE MORGAN (Sophia Elizabeth) Memoir of Augustus De Morgan London, 1882
- DIVINE VISIONS OF JOHN ENGELBRECHT (The). From the German, by Francis Okely ..... Northampton, 1780
- ENNEMOSER (Joseph) The History of Magic. From the German, by William Howitt. With an Appendix by Mary Howitt. 2 vol. .... London, 1854
- ESDAILE (James, M.D.) Mesmerism in India ..... London, 1846
- [R] HALE (Lord Chief Justice) Matter of Fact Concerning Witches and Witchcraft. Part I..... London, 1693
- HOWITT (William) The History of the Supernatural, 2 vol..... London, 1863
- [R] JACOB'S ROD. From the French, by Thomas Welton ..... London, N.D.
- LACH-SZYRMA (Rev. W. S., M.A.) Aleriel; or, A Voyage to Other Worlds. A Tale ..... London, 1883
- MAUDSLEY (Henry, M.D.) The Pathology of Mind ..... London, 1879
- Body and Will..... London, 1883
- SPOTTISWOODE MISCELLANY (The), 2 vol. .... Edinburgh, 1844-5
- SULLY (James) Illusions : A Psychological Study, 2nd edit..... London, 1882
- TREGORHA (John) News from the Invisible World..... Burslem, 1814
- WALLACE (Alfred Russel) On Miracles and Modern Spiritualism, 2nd edit. .... London, 1881
- WATTS (Anna Mary Howitt) Pioneers of the Spiritual Reformation. Justinus Kerner. William Howitt ..... London, 1883
- WORLD OF WONDERS (A) With Anecdotes and Opinions concerning Popular Superstitions ..... London, 1853
- CANET (Docteur) La Vérité aux Médecins et aux Gens du Monde, Paris, 1861
- GAUTHIER (L. P. Auguste) Recherches Historiques sur l'Exercice de la Médecine ..... Paris, 1844

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIBRARY CATALOGUE—Continued.

- BURDACH (Karl Friedrich) Blicke ins Leben, (2 vol. bound in one) *Leipzig*, 1842
- HORNUNG (D.) Neueste Spiritualistische Mittheilungen.....*Berlin*, 1862
- HORST (Georg Conrad) Deuteroskopie. Zweites Bändchen, *Frankfort-am-Main*, 1830
- STAHMANN (Friedrich) Seherblicke in die Geisterwelt, *Neuhaldensleben*, 1839
- STILLING (Professor W.) Das Geheimnisvolle Jenseits  
*Sechste Auflage, Stuttgart*, 1864
- WÖTZEL (D., Johann Karl) Nähere Erklärung und Aufschisse über  
seine Schrift: *Meiner Gattinn Wirkliche Erscheinung nach  
ihrem Tode*.....*Leipzig*, 1805
- DEL PILASTRO (Mario) I Fenomeni Spiritici..... *Livorno*, 1883
- [R] COMPENDIUM MALEFICARUM ..... *Mediolani*, 1626

[Also, Duplicate Copies of a few works of special interest or value.]

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## PRESENTATIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

(January, 1884.)

- Mr. W. F. Barrett ..... Several vols. of the *Spiritual Magazine*.
- Mrs. De Morgan ..... *Memoir of Professor De Morgan*.
- Rev. W. S. Lach-Szyrma ..... *Aleriel; or, a Voyage to other Worlds*.
- Mr. F. W. H. Myers ..... *Isis Unveiled*. 2 vol.  
*Body and Will*. By Dr. Maudsley.
- Mrs. Howitt Watts ..... *The History of the Supernatural*. By  
*William Howitt*. 2 vol.  
*Pioneers of the Spiritual Reformation*.  
*Some Beliefs of the Australians*. By  
*Alfred W. Howitt*. (A Pamphlet.)
- The Author ..... *I Fenomeni Spiritici*.

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