



since the last meeting, he had delivered a lecture at Manchester and at Liverpool, on "A Theory of Apparitions," the lecture being in the main the third Report of the Literary Committee.

It was agreed that a General Meeting of the Society be held on Wednesday, the 28th of May, at 4 p.m., at Queen Anne's Mansions; at which it is intended that the programme shall be as follows:—

Remarks by the President.

Fourth Report of the Literary Committee.

First Report on Contemporary Evidence of "Phantasms of the Living in India."

It was agreed that the following paragraphs should be printed on a slip and inserted in Proceedings, Part V., by way of explanation, and that the slip should be enclosed in the next number of the Journal, for the benefit of Members to whom copies had been already sent out.

#### ERRATA :

*In Part V. of the Proceedings.*

In page 10, lines 14, 15, for "experiments performed under this last condition—a condition which precludes any unconscious guidance from the 'agent'"—read "experiments performed under conditions which preclude the possibility of unconscious guidance from the 'agent.'" And add the following note to the word "contact," in the eighth line from the bottom of the same page.—

It should be borne in mind that indications may be unconsciously given otherwise than through contact. Cf. Proceedings, Part I., pp. 18, 19, &c.

In page 55, line 15, omit the figure 1 before 657,000. And in line 25 of the same page, for 1,657,000ths  $\times 10$ , read  $\frac{1}{657,000} \times 10$ .

The next Meeting of the Council will take place on Wednesday, May 28th, at 2.45 p.m. There will be another Meeting of the Council on Friday, June 6th, at 4.45 p.m.

#### OCCASIONAL MEETING.

An occasional meeting of Members and Associates was held at Queen Anne's Mansions, on Wednesday, April 30th, at 4 p.m. The meeting was addressed by Colonel Olcott, President of the Theosophical Society, and Mr. Mohini Chatterji, a Brahmin Theosophist. These latter gentlemen gave an account of some experiences of their own, with the view of demonstrating that certain persons known as "adepts" possess the power of producing apparitions of themselves at a distance, especially to persons with whom they are in some way *en rapport*. These narratives, though of a different order from those which the Society has so far collected, possess sufficient points of analogy to suggest many interesting questions. They were listened to with marked interest and attention, and a general wish was expressed that further opportunities might be afforded of hearing and questioning the bearers of a message so extraordinary. A small Committee has subsequently been appointed to take the evidence which Colonel Olcott, Mr. Mohini, and Mr. Sinnett have kindly volunteered to give, as regards these Oriental apparitions; and it is hoped that a first Report from this Committee may be laid before the General Meeting on May 28th.

## ELECTIONS, MAY 2ND, 1884.

## HONORARY MEMBERS.

GRUBB, EDWARD,\* 8, Holly Terrace, York.

MACDONALD, REV. J. A.,\* 19, Heywood Street, Cheetham, Manchester.

## MEMBERS.

CARPENTER, MAJOR GEO. W. WALLACE, 28, Ashley Place, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

HOGG, MISS A. M. M., Berry Head House, Brixham.

THORPE, MRS. MARY, Lenton House, Lenton, Nottingham.

## ASSOCIATES.

BONUS, ARTHUR R., Clifton College, Clifton, Bristol.

BOSTOCK, MISS E. A., Penmaen Gower, Swansea.

NICHOLSON, SIR CHARLES, BART., D.C.L., LL.D., M.D., The Grange, Totteridge, Herts.

SHADWELL, MISS BLANCHE, 21, Nottingham Place, London, W.

SHARPE, MRS. REGINALD, 11, Victoria Road, Kensington, London, W.

WILLSON, REV. T. B., M.A., 11, Canterbury Villas, Thornton Heath, Croydon.

WOODS, MISS ALICE, 8, Bath Road, Bedford Park, Chiswick, W.

WOODS, ARTHUR, A.I.C.E., Mickleham, Surrey.

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.

## NOTICES OF WORK DONE BY COMMITTEES.

The Literary Committee held no formal meetings during April, but the secretaries were employed in drawing up a Fourth Report, dealing with a Theory of Apparitions, and intended to be read at the General Meeting on May 28th.

A classification of about 500 narratives of impressions or apparitions perceived coincidentally with the death or danger of the agent, has also been prepared, and will, it is hoped, prove a considerable convenience to students of the slips to which it serves as an index. A printed copy of this classified index will be placed in the Society's rooms in a few weeks' time, and other copies will be sent to local branches of the S.P.R.

## HAUNTED HOUSE COMMITTEE.

A few weeks ago the Committee received a report of unaccountable footsteps heard, and an apparition seen, in a small house near Hyde Park, which their informant was then quitting, and which, consequently, was to let, furnished. They satisfied themselves that the report was

\* Elected for services rendered to the Society.

perfectly *bona fide*; and decided to take the house for a short time, and entered into possession about a week after it was vacated.

Several of the Haunted House Committee and other members of the Society in turn occupied the haunted room; but they are unable to record any evidence of abnormal phenomena.

They have, however, gained some experience in a rather difficult art, the negotiation of leases for "haunted houses."

#### THOUGHT-TRANSFERENCE COMMITTEE.

No experimental work has been engaged in during the past month. Our friends would greatly assist the work of this Committee if they would kindly inform the Hon. Sec. of any successful experiments that they may have made. The remarkable success obtained by Mr. Malcolm Guthrie, with the two lady percipients at Liverpool, illustrates what can be achieved by patient, persistent trials.

#### MESMERIC COMMITTEE.

This Committee has been engaged in the investigation of the reported clairvoyance of a young man mesmerised by a Mr. Ogle, and some interesting experiments have been made by one member of the Committee, which show conclusively that, under conditions of blindfolding that appear from outside to be satisfactory, objects can nevertheless be fitfully seen by natural vision. A fuller account of these experiments will appear subsequently. As we understand that Mr. Ogle has since represented that the Committee were entirely satisfied with his experiments, it is necessary to state, emphatically, that exactly the contrary is the fact; inasmuch as the Committee obtained no satisfactory evidence that Mr. Ogle's subject saw otherwise than by his natural organ of vision.

#### PHYSICAL PHENOMENA COMMITTEE.

The Secretary writes that the Committee are actively at work and have had numerous sittings with different "mediums," imposing such conditions as they deemed satisfactory. Under these circumstances the Committee regret to have to record their failure to obtain phenomena of evidential value, but at the same time they have had some encouragement to persevere, and hope to be able to report more fully next month.

#### CAMBRIDGE BRANCH OF THE S. P. R.

A Meeting, to establish a branch of the Society for Psychical Research at *Cambridge*, was held on February 1st, in Mr. Oscar Browning's rooms, King's College: Prof. Henry Sidgwick, President, in the chair. Mr. Browning was appointed Secretary, and Mr. Hodgson, of St. John's College, Treasurer. The meetings to be held in Mr. Browning's rooms.

*February 6th, 1884.*—A Meeting was held in Mr. Browning's rooms, King's College. A number of affiliated members were appointed, and it was arranged that a meeting for mesmeric experiments should be held on February 21st.

*February 21st, 1884.*—A Meeting was held, at which Mr. Smith was present as mesmerist. Experiments were made, but with no very definite results.

*February 29th, 1884.*—The Branch Society met in the Secretary's rooms, King's College. Mr. Myers read part of the proposed Report of the Literary Committee, on apparitions of the living, which was discussed. It was arranged that the next Meeting should be held on March 14th, at 8.30 p.m.

*March 14th, 1884.*—A Meeting was held at which some cases, collected by the Literary Committee, were read and discussed. Mr. Myers read his classification of apparitions, and it was discussed. Afterwards a private business meeting was held, at which it was agreed that affiliated members should be admitted to attend the meetings, at a subscription of five shillings a term, such members to be proposed and to be elected by the members of the Society. The next Meeting was fixed for Friday, April 25th.

*April 25th, 1884.*—At this Meeting it was agreed that a notice of the existence of the Branch Society and the application of persons wishing to be affiliated members should be inserted in the *Cambridge Review*. Mr. Myers read the second part of the Report on apparitions. Mr. Padshah gave an account of his experience as a member of the Theosophic Society. It was settled that the next Meeting should be held on Thursday, May 8th, in the Secretary's rooms.

*May 8th, 1884.*—Previous to the Meeting Messrs. Debenham, Ashbee, Hodgson, Grant, Sidebottom, Goodhart, Bidder were elected affiliated members. Colonel Olcott was present and gave a full account of his experiences. The next Meeting was fixed for Friday, May 23rd.

## CAMBRIDGE MEMBERS.

Prof. Henry Sidgwick.	W. Bateson.	A. Pashkoff.
Oscar Browning.	Miss Johnson.	D. M. Pollock.
Mrs. Sidgwick.	J. P. Postgate.	W. E. Johnson.
F. W. H. Myers.	H. T. Stearn.	W. H. Macaulay.
Mrs. Myers.	E. C. Perry.	J. B. Mathews.
R. Hodgson.	Rev. W. Cunningham.	R. W. Hogg.
W. W. R. Ball.	Hon. Mrs. Lyttelton.	R. N. Goodman.
Mrs. Adams.	Dr. Cunningham.	G. F. Stout.
J. J. Thomson.	Prof. Macalister.	C. S. Kenny.

## AFFILIATED MEMBERS.

Mrs. Prothero.	J. W. Graham.	A. G. Stephenson.
M. R. James.	Rev. J. Southward.	Miss Bernard.
G. S. Dickinson.	E. R. Debenham.	E. J. Sidebottom.
W. H. Bennett.	C. R. Ashbee.	H. C. Goodhart.
A. P. Laurie.	G. C. Hodgson.	G. Bidder.
D. Rintoul.	A. J. Grant.	Mrs. Passingham.
A. Berry.		

SPECIMENS OF THE CLASSIFICATION OF IMPRESSIONS  
AND APPARITIONS AT MOMENTS OF DEATH  
OR DANGER.

I.

As has been elsewhere stated, a classified index has been prepared to about 500 cases of impressions and apparitions, conveyed to waking persons from agents dying or in danger, or other distress. We propose in the Journal to give occasional samples of these cases, with comments intended to indicate the general principles of arrangement adopted, and the directions in which additional evidence is specially to be desired.

As regards the broader divisions, the cases have been so classed as to illustrate the theory which regards phantasms of the living as a development of Thought-transference. The mode of impact on the percipient's mind has, therefore, been the point primarily regarded.

In a First Division have been placed the cases where the phantasm or impression was perceptible to one person only. And this division begins with cases of *mere impression*, such as could not, by its very nature, be *shared* with other percipients. Among these impressions, again, we may take first the vaguest and least definite; the cases where the percipient merely feels an impression that death or misfortune is happening to some one of his acquaintance, without any identification of the person so suffering.

It is obvious that from an *evidential* point of view many of these cases will be of comparatively little value. A feeling of mere causeless depression is not rare even among quite healthy persons, and even if such depression is unusually strong, it is not very likely to be mentioned at the time, or to be remembered by others, even if mentioned by the sufferer. If the object of our collection were purely *evidential* we should pass rapidly over this class of cases. But our object is not only *evidential*, but *theoretical*. Taking the general fact of transference of impressions from mind to mind as established by other evidence, we feel justified in treating these inconclusive cases as examples of it; though the theory of mere coincidence might have been held to explain them, had no other *vera causa* been known. This other cause being, as we maintain, known, it becomes important to examine carefully the whole range of its probable effects. And these incipient cases in which there is a mere mental or physical *malaise*, with no emergence into consciousness of any definite idea as to its cause, are likely to be both numerous, and, if carefully studied, instructive, as indicating what may be called the *modes of telepathic invasion*—the obscure channels by which one mind makes itself gradually felt in another.

We subjoin two cases from trusted informants. The first is from the Hon. Mrs. Fox Powys, a member of the S.P.R. :—

February 16th, 1884.

About three months ago as I was sitting, quietly thinking, between 5 and 7 p.m., I experienced a very curious sensation. I can only describe it as like a cloud of calamity gradually wrapping me round. It was *almost* a physical feeling, so strong was it; and I seemed to be certain, in some inexplicable way, of disaster to some one of my relations or friends, though I

could not in the least fix upon anybody in particular, and there was no one about whom I was anxious at the time. I do not remember ever experiencing such a thing before. I should say it lasted about half-an-hour. This happened on a Saturday, and on Monday I got a letter from my sister, written on the Saturday evening to go by the post which leaves at 7 p.m., in which she told me she had received a telegram, an hour or so ago, informing her of the dangerous illness of her brother-in-law, at which she was greatly upset. This appeared to be a very probable explanation of my extraordinary presentiment, and I wrote and told her all about it at once.

A. C. POWYS.

Here is a case where the impression was absolutely vague, and where the agent, from whose state of mind the impression is supposed to have originated, was not dying or in danger, but merely in mental distress. The value of this case largely depends on the *uniqueness* of the experience in the percipient's history. If any of our readers believe themselves to have had similar experiences, it is much to be desired that they would henceforth set such experiences down in writing as soon as they occur, and mention them to others before it is known whether any calamity has happened or not. For, we repeat, it is likely enough that fits of depression of this kind are often *real telepathic events*, although nothing but a very careful comparative estimate of their so-called *causeless* invasions (invasions, that is, dependent on some obscure *internal* cause) can justify us in admitting an *external* cause for them in the case of any given percipient.

The next case which we shall cite is one where the agent is dying, though the chillness and misery which the percipient experienced do not seem to have distinctly suggested her sister's death.

From Miss Agnes M. A. S., Whelpstead Rectory, Bury St. Edmunds.

In May, 1871, I was away from home for a change, leaving a sick sister behind, who had been ill for many months from mesenteric decline. I was to go to a ball at Willis' Rooms on May 11th, and left some friends in Kensington to stay with an old schoolfellow at Denmark Hill. I heard that my sister was worse, but concluded it was one of the usual spasmodic attacks of sickness that accompany the disease—how could I ever have been so blind! It was a Thursday; my new dress had come, and dinner time came—a large family circle, and I the only stranger, as I had never stayed in the house before. I could hardly swallow my dinner, and felt a chillness all over me. When the time came to dress I went upstairs and slowly began. As I bent down to pick my dress up I stopped. I felt an unseen presence, and a terrible chillness, which, even as I write, returns only too vividly. I rang the bell. When the servant came, I could only say faintly, "Ask Miss Emily to come to me." When my friend came, I could explain nothing; I merely said I could not go to the ball. I have often wondered how I looked at the time, for I know how I felt, even to my lips. The next morning came the news that my sister had died on the previous morning, longing and calling for me to the last.

In another letter Miss S. says:—

I looked upon my chillness and mental sensation which stopped my going to the ball as a most merciful warning.

Miss Druce, the friend with whose family Miss S. was staying, has not a very clear recollection of the circumstances, but says:—

Our impression is that Miss S. did not go to the ball; personally, I cannot quite remember whether she actually went or not. Next

morning, the news of her sister's death reached her through a letter enclosed to me.

The coincidence of *time* here seems not quite close. It is possible that a telepathic invasion of this kind may sometimes need a considerable time to make itself thus felt throughout the whole organism. There seems to have been a *growing* distress, resembling the onset of a fever or some acute disease.

But it is not our intention here to do more than throw out hints which (as we have already said) may indicate to our readers the points to be noted, and the directions in which fresh evidence will be especially welcomed. We should be glad indeed if each of these brief notices were to elicit some additional cases of a cognate kind.

### Obituary.

With deep regret we have to announce the death, on May 12th, at the age of 67, of an eminent scientific member, Dr. R. Angus Smith, F.R.S. This is not the place to speak of Dr. Angus Smith's high scientific distinction, nor of those profound and classical investigations into the chemistry of the air and water of large towns upon which largely were based the Acts of Parliament that he was called upon to administer. As Chief Inspector under the Noxious Vapours (Alkali) Acts and the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, Dr. Angus Smith did an immense amount of valuable public work, his reports to the Local Government Board being models of painstaking research and cautious generalisation. Unlike most specialists, Dr. Angus Smith was a man of large sympathies and wide culture. Classical literature and archaeology were his pastimes; his knowledge of Scotch and Irish archaeology and the dreary wastes of early Irish literature was, we believe, singularly extensive. But, perhaps, his keenest interest was centred in psychological investigations, and it is no secret that he held the attitude taken by science towards Mesmerism and Spiritualism to be utterly unphilosophical and unfair. Hence he welcomed the foundation of our Society, and often spoke of the quite supreme importance of the results the Society had already achieved. His valuable library, containing many rare psychological works, will, we hope, not be scattered, nor his unpublished MSS. be overlooked. To those who had the privilege of his friendship his name will be ever dear from the large and loving heart he possessed. Combined with a philosophic breadth of view, his conversation was ever enjoyable from the quaint Scotch humour which played through all he said. It is, however, impossible to convey the sweet charm of his gentle spirit, which sought and revealed the best side of each one's nature, and invariably led him to try to understand, and, if possible, justify those who differed from him.—W. F. B.

REPORT ON THE ALLEGED MANIFESTATIONS  
AT ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

BY MAJOR G. L. LE M. TAYLOR.

Royal Military College, Farnborough Station, Hants.

Accompanied by Major King, R.M.A., I arrived at Arundel on Saturday, February 22nd, to inquire into the circumstances attending the alleged manifestations in connection with the girl Clark.

We first visited Mr. Hubbert, F.R.C.S., the medical man who had been called in to see the girl when the affair commenced; he very kindly told us what took place, his statement being in effect as follows:—

He was called in about 10.30 on the night of February 8th to see the girl Clark, who was said to be "bewitched"; he found the household in great consternation, and persuaded that a neighbour had "bewitched" her. He asked what the symptoms were, and was told that "scratchings" took place "all about the bed" on which the girl was, that she did not make them, and that they were supernatural; he was told to listen, and shortly he heard a noise in the bedroom above as if made by scratching the mattress with the nails of the hand. On going upstairs he found the girl in bed and asked her "How she did it?" or "Why she did it?" but she said she had nothing to do with it. While he was in the room nothing took place, but he was told that if he left the room the noise would probably recommence. He did so; and again the scratchings were heard. He went back into the room with the girl alone, and having taken hold of her hands with one of his he scratched the mattress with the other. The noise was at once recognised by the family outside the door as the same previously heard. The doctor now tied the girl's hands in such a way as to prevent the use of the nails, and left the room. The noise was soon repeated, but was now more like rubbing than scratching. In fact, the sound seemed muffled. Again he tied the girl's hands more securely, and balanced a woollen cuff on them, outside the bed clothes. Now no noise was heard for some time and on re-entering the room the cuff was found unmoved. The doctor was satisfied that the noises were made by the girl herself. He then left and has had nothing more to do with the affair.

We next went to Clark's house, and found that, unfortunately, the girl's father was away, and the girl herself had been sent to Brighton. We saw, however, the girl's mother and her father's mother.

The mother is a large, flabby, sallow woman of about 40, with a

narrow forehead and rather oblique eyebrows. She did not seem in good health, and was certainly nervous and frightened at the whole affair. Mr. Hubbert described her as hysterical. The grandmother is an old woman, who was not at all frightened at what had taken place, but rather liked talking about it.

The impression we received as to the evidence of these women was that they were perfectly honest witnesses, believing everything they told us; the mother being unwilling to speak of them at all and particularly careful not to speak to anything which had not come within her own knowledge. The grandmother, though equally honest, had evidently told the story so often that she described things which, on her own showing, she could not have seen.

We gathered that the "manifestations" began on Friday evening, the 8th of February, and the girl was sent away on Tuesday or Wednesday, the 19th or 20th, and that nothing took place between Tuesday, the 12th, and Monday, the 18th, on which day the girl is said to have seen an apparition, which determined her people to send her to Brighton. Our two witnesses were able to speak directly to only some of the alleged manifestations, the evidence for the others resting on the testimony of the girl, her father, the girl's maternal grandmother, and a neighbour. The manifestations appear to have begun spontaneously; but afterwards to have been in a great measure sought by the father to test their reality. We ascertained pretty well in what order the different things happened, but could not quite make it clear on which days they occurred.

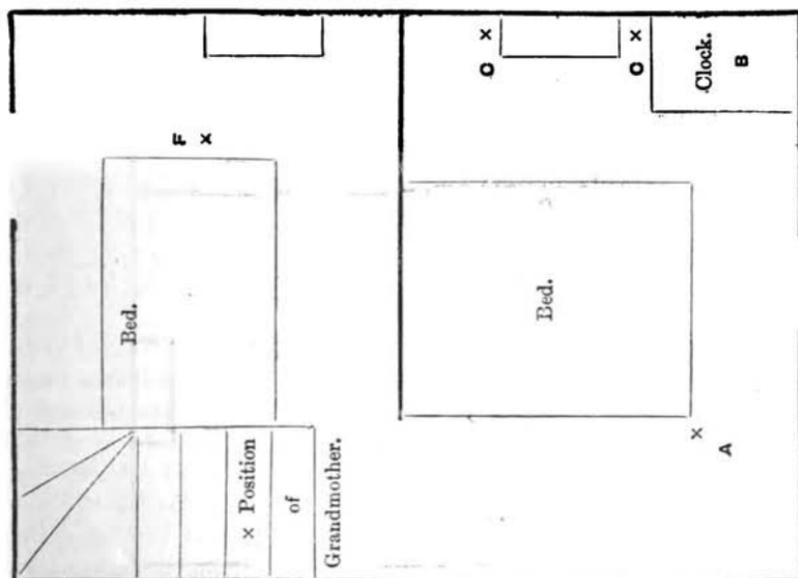
I will give first the substance of the statements of the two women we saw, as far as they speak from their own knowledge; and then the remainder of the story as gathered from the grandmother, but the direct evidence for which could not be obtained.

The mother states that the girl is 13, but looks older; is a good, quiet girl, about whose honesty in the present matter she has no doubt. (Major King saw the girl's photograph; it was of a girl with a sharp and rather shrewd face.) That on Friday night, a minute or two after getting into bed with her two girls (her husband being away at work), she heard a scratching noise on the mattress of the bed. She asked the girls if they were making it. They said, "No," and seemed frightened. She held the girl's hands and yet the noise continued. She got out of bed, thinking it might be rats, lit a candle, searched the room, and remade the bed. When they went to bed again the noise recommenced. She then went into the back room, but the noise continued on the other bed. She also states that the first bed heaved up, and, that when they went into the second room, the bed and everything in the room shook. She got so frightened that she sent for the doctor.

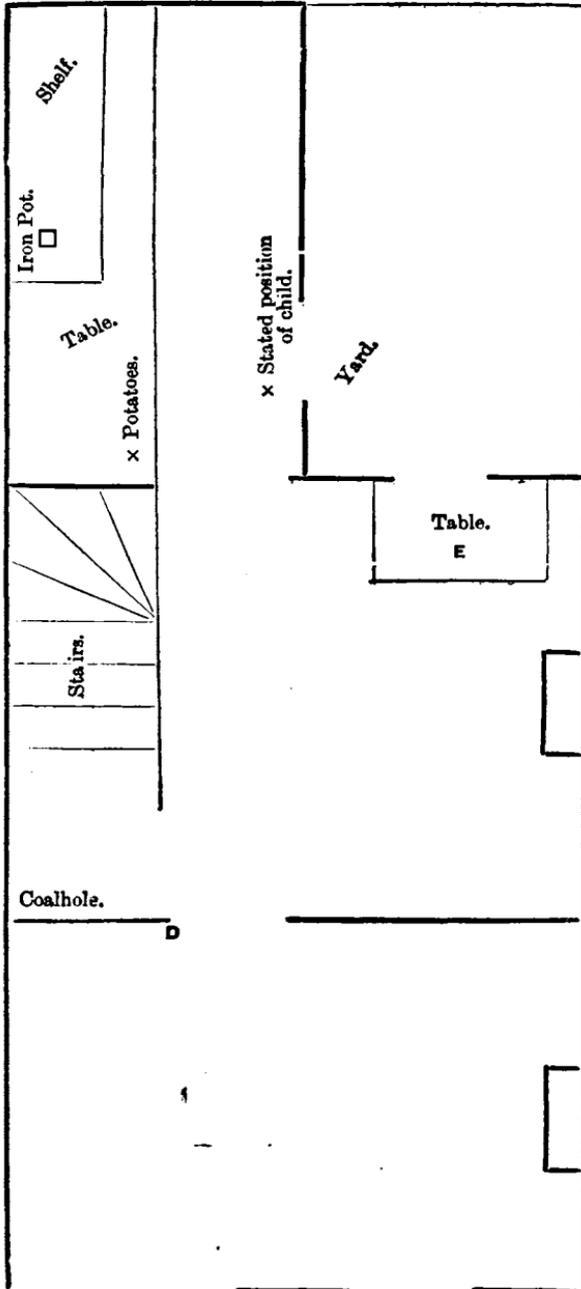
Though the mother sat by and acquiesced in all her mother-in-law subsequently related, she said nothing more than the above came under her special knowledge, except the evident distress of her daughter on other occasions.

The grandmother corroborated what the mother stated about the girl's goodness and honesty, and proceeded to say that when the father returned on Saturday night (?) some attempts were made at an investigation, in the course of which the girl was sent upstairs into the room in which the noises were first observed, "to see what would happen." She was followed by her two grandmothers (the maternal grandmother, who lived in another village, having been sent for previously). The girl stood at A (see plan), in full view of the old women, who were at the head of the stairs, when in a minute three articles fell to the ground at the other end of the room at B and C, a clock from off the chest of drawers, and two ornaments from the chimney piece, all at the same time. The girl rushed back to the stairs, and the two old women, going into the room, found the things on the floor, but not broken; there was a mat or carpet where they fell. They replaced the things, the clock on its back far back on the drawers. They again fell under similar circumstances (?); the girl described them to have turned over and over till they reached the floor. One of the things that fell was a small bell-shaped shade over a match stand.

After the above incident (on Sunday, I think), the girl was sent



PLAN OF CLARK'S HOUSE.—1st FLOOR PLAN.



PLAN OF CLARK'S HOUSE.—GROUND PLAN.

to her grandmother's house, not far off, "to see if anything would happen in a new place." The grandmother says that, when there and in view, things jumped up and fell down which were out of the girl's reach. I could not get a clear statement about it, but got the old woman to acknowledge that she *saw* nothing fall.

Later, again, the grandmother declares that when going upstairs in her son's house, with the girl in front of her, a dark cloud seemed to meet them and obscure the light of the candle till she lost sight of the child, who shrank back to her and said she felt it all over her; the cloud soon passed away.

As for the rest of the story, it appears that the father sent the girl into the scullery, and watched through the door a tray of potatoes and an iron pot fall; they were, however, scarcely beyond the girl's reach. This experiment appears to have been repeated, for on another occasion a neighbour, looking through the door, said he saw a shadowy hand stretched out from the girl to the things to upset them. On another occasion the girl, having been sent across the road to the baker's, returned with the story that immediately she entered the shop two chairs fell over of themselves, but no one else saw them fall.

Again, the girl is said to have been alone with her maternal grandmother (whom we did not see) in the lower front room, and being told to get some coal, the child opened the door at D. At this moment the grandmother and girl heard three violent knocks on table E. The girl got frightened, and the grandmother went with her to get the coal from under the stairs. Again three knocks were heard on the stairs.

After this it seems the girl never left her mother's side for a week, and nothing took place. At the end of that time her mother, thinking that perhaps it was all over, sent the girl upstairs to get a dress from the back bedroom. On entering the room the child screamed, and on her return stated to her mother that she had seen at F a figure in a white dress, with fingers very white and long, bald head, and white eyes and feet, which, when she screamed, receded and disappeared into the wall behind it.

The order in which the manifestations are said to have followed one another is as follows:—

ORDER OF MANIFESTATIONS.	OBSERVED BY.
1. Scratchings .....	Mother, Sister, and Doctor
2. Ditto .....	Mother, Sister, and Paternal Grandmother
3. Things falling .....	Paternal Grandmother and Maternal Grandmother
4. Ditto, ditto .....	Paternal Grandmother
5. Ditto, ditto .....	Father and Neighbour
6. Knocks .....	Maternal Grandmother
7. Darkening of candle..	Paternal Grandmother
8. Apparition.....	Child

## OBSERVATIONS.

Nos. 1 and 2.—The doctor being quite unaffected by any feeling of excitement or fear, which was not the case with the family, was the best judge of the cause of these manifestations. He was convinced that they were caused by the child herself.

Nos. 3 and 4.—If the evidence of the paternal grandmother could be relied on these could not, in my opinion, be accounted for by any physical cause, as the clock and ornaments fell simultaneously and were 9ft. from the girl, who, having been sent by her father without warning (as I understood) to the room above stairs, had no opportunity of making any arrangements for trickery.

No. 5.—In these manifestations the girl might not have been more than 4ft. from the things which fell, and the hole in the door (as tested by me) is so small that little can be seen through it, and that little in a shadowy way.

No. 6.—The girl standing where she did when the knocks "on the table" were heard, was within reach of the door of the coal-hole, knocks on which (as ascertained by Major King) sounded hollow; as if on a table, and from their sound it would not be possible to tell whence they came. When immediately afterwards, the girl was in the coal-hole, the knocks on the stairs sounded from a place within her reach.

No. 7.—The stairs are so narrow that the girl must have been in front of her grandmother and above her; if she had shaded the candle with her hand it might not have been observed by the old woman, and the stated effect might have been easily produced on the half-frightened grandmother.

No. 8.—The fright of the girl on seeing the appearance must have been well feigned to deceive her mother, but the girl herself was in such a condition of nervousness as to make it most probable that she was frightened at a shadow only.

## CONCLUSIONS.

Major King and myself came to the following conclusions:—

1.—The scratchings were perhaps done by the child at first by accident, and persisted in, when the effect was seen, for fun.

2.—That the grandmother possibly did not actually keep the girl in sight when the things fell in the bedroom; having perhaps turned round to speak to the mother at the bottom of the stairs.

3.—That the knocks were most likely produced by the child, who at this time was getting rather frightened at her own "manifestations."

4.—That the father and Mr. M., the neighbour, could not have watched the girl through the scullery door, and that Mr. M., from his reference to a spirit-hand, suggested a spiritual appearance to the girl.

5.—The darkening of the candle might have been done by the child accidentally, and frightened her as well as her grandmother.

6.—That the "spirit" was purely subjective.

7.—That on the whole it is most likely that the affair was begun in fun, continued in fraud, and closed in fright.

## INVOLUNTARY GUIDANCE WITHOUT CONTACT.

The President of the Society has lately received an interesting letter from Mr. A. E. Outerbridge, jun., of Philadelphia, U.S.A., asking for further information as to our Thought-transference experiments, and pointing out that absence of contact by no means excludes involuntary guidance on the part of the operator. Accompanying his letter, Mr. Outerbridge sends a record of some experiments which he has made in this direction, and which were communicated to the late Dr. Beard, and by him published in the "American Popular Science Monthly," for July, 1877.

These experiments are of sufficient interest to justify a lengthy quotation. Mr. Outerbridge writes :—

"The only condition I require of the subject is, that he shall follow me at a distance of about three or four feet, as I grope my way *apparently* at random, keeping his mind fixed upon the object. I am able to tell, by close attention, when he follows me readily, and when reluctantly; in this way I cautiously map out the *direction* in which he tends to follow me most readily. When I approach the vicinity of the object thought of, he shows no inclination to move in any one direction. There is, of course, a certain element of uncertainty in the finding of a small object under these circumstances, but the proportion of failures is astonishingly small. I reached this result by a succession of experiments, first through a rigid rod, then through a wire, then a stretched string, then a string with a loop. I then worked without contact, *not* blindfolded. I would walk backward, holding out my right forefinger, and directing the 'subject' to hold his right forefinger, at a distance of six inches (this would convey to most people the impression of two terminal poles of a battery or electrical machine), and he would often have an imaginary pricking, as of sparks at the finger-tip. I would then proceed around the room, and when moving in the right direction the hiatus would be rapidly closed between the two fingers.

"I can almost invariably distinguish an intentional or accidental indication from an involuntary one, and I do not find that keeping the 'arm perfectly stiff' interferes very seriously. The indications are not confined to muscular contractions or relaxations of the arm, but it is a sympathetic movement of the whole body.

"It is a curious fact that subjects who naturally work well will be very slightly influenced by the explanation of the apparent mystery. You may assure them that every *correct* movement you make is only a translation of their own, and they will declare positively that they are trying to move in the *opposite* direction, and, in fact, they often do hold back with their feet, while giving the most positive indications with their arms.

"I have found that a large majority of well-educated people have an innate bias for mysteries, and prefer to refer these 'phenomena' to animal magnetism, auras, psychic or odic force, or any incomprehensible cause, rather than to the rational explanation of unconscious movement. Some time since, I had a curious illustration of this fact, and at the same time an admirable proof of the physical theory (if any were required), in an experiment suggested by a gentleman of this city. I had concluded a successful exhibition at an evening company, and described the precise method by which the experiments had been performed. This gentleman said to me, privately, that he could suggest an experiment which, if successful, would disprove my

theory of muscular or physical movement. I retired from the room, and was brought in blindfolded. Meanwhile he had requested a very good subject with whom I had done a number of complicated things to hide an article. The gentleman then took the towel from *my* head and blindfolded the 'subject'—turned him rapidly round several times, and told him to think of the object. He said, 'Now you will find it by mental communication only.' I started off rapidly, but, of course, received no indications. I then purposely touched his hand to the mantel-piece in the back-parlour. Instantly he unconsciously calculated the position of the hidden article and directed (not led, for I always go in advance of the 'subject') me toward the front-room; then he was lost, until I again touched his hand to some object, when I received a fresh indication. In this way I finally found a 10-cent note, rolled into a little ball, and attached to the lower knot of a cord running through the handle of a small feather-duster, which was hanging from the bell-handle on the wall. I did not, however, immediately produce it, as I wished to experiment further. I led the 'subject' off to another part of the room, and he immediately brought me back to the duster. Again I led him away to the same place, and turned him round so as to confuse him. All indications ceased, even when I held his hand within an inch of the duster.

"In regard to finding small objects, I have no difficulty in picking out any letter on a page of a book or newspaper, and I frequently spell out abstract thoughts or names of people, places, &c., in this way: I hold a sharp-pointed stick or pen-handle in my left hand, pointing downward, with the same hand grasping the left hand of the 'subject.' I thus pick out letters on the page which spell the thought in the mind of the 'subject.'

"The power of perception of these minute indications is capable of being developed to an astonishing degree, and I have often been amazed at the curious effects produced, a few of which I have indicated to you."

If our readers will turn to our first report on Thought-transference, in Part I. of the Proceedings, p. 16, they will find Dr. Beard's paper on the "Physiology of Mind Reading" referred to, and on p. 18, the experiments made by Mr. Outerbridge are classed under the heading, "*II. Where actions are performed without contact with the person willing,*" and upon this the following remarks are made: "Here the involuntary guidance by the eyes of the rest of the party, or other indications of an almost imperceptible character, are swiftly and probably unconsciously interpreted by the guesser and lead him hesitatingly to do what is being willed. . . . Even blindfolding the subject merely removes one vista of error. The doubtful interpretation of the best results obtained in this group, has compelled us to attach comparatively little importance to them." We then recite our experiments where the word or figures thought of were *named* by the percipient, and on p. 23 show that any explanation hitherto given is inapplicable to the results obtained and hence conclude "that we have here very strong evidence in favour of a class of phenomena entirely new to science." Our readers are familiar with the mass of evidence that has since then been set before them, and as the details of all the experiments are faithfully published, the candid inquirer is now in a position to decide how far we have established the existence of a class of phenomena hitherto unrecognised by science.

CHANCE-GUESSING *VERSUS* THOUGHT-TRANSFERENCE.

One of our members having written to us to the effect that he conceived it possible mere chance coincidence might possibly have accounted for the success in naming the cards, described in our earlier reports on Thought-transference, we wrote to him, suggesting that he should put his doubt to the test of experiment; at the same time pointing out that our experiments were not confined to a few trials, but extended over numerous days and embraced, altogether, some 500 experiments with playing cards, numbers of two figures, &c. In reply, our correspondent writes as follows:—

“Wemyss Bay, N.B.

“I was all wrong about the card guessing chances, as the following experiment at random guessing will show. In the first 40 trials two were right. Then in 190 trials none were right; the 191st was right. Then 170 and none right; the 171st was right. Then 108 and none right. Altogether, four right in 510 guesses, and 17 wrong only by a spot.”

The same correspondent, writing again, says:—

“I have made 1,000 more trials with guessing cards in a room by myself, the cards being re-shuffled each time, and found this time that my results were a near approximation to the theoretical one correct guess in 52 trials. Thus, in the last 520 trials I had 11 right and 17 one spot too high or too low. The correct guesses were separated by wide intervals, except in one case when two were right in four trials, followed by a long break, with none right. This convinces me that the results obtained from the Misses Creery are utterly inexplicable on any theory of chance coincidence.”

## ALLEGED CURES OF ANÆSTHESIA BY MAGNETISM.

We have received from Dr. Dreschfeld, the Professor of Pathology at Owens College, a report of an interesting case, which came under his own observation, of the cure of hysterical anæsthesia apparently by the application of a powerful electro-magnet\* to the part affected. The case was published in the *British Medical Journal* for August 7th, 1880, and is briefly as follows:—

The patient, Ann H., aged 43, was admitted to the Infirmary on November 29th, and suffered from loss of muscular power and greatly impaired tactile sensibility, “the sense of pain being completely abolished over the whole body except the tips of the fingers; pricks made with a needle did not bleed except at the finger tips.” Heat and cold could only be felt on the forehead and arms; the mucous membranes were sensible to touch but not to pain. The patient also

\* We may perhaps be allowed to explain to those of our readers unfamiliar with scientific instruments, that an electro-magnet is simply a bar of iron usually bent into a U shape, and strongly magnetised by the passage of an electric current sent round coils of wire which encircle the iron. Compound words in scientific terminology have the cause named before the effect; here the cause is electricity, the effect magnetism of the iron.

had contracted vision in both eyes, was colour blind in her left eye, and was deaf in both ears. She had scarcely any sense of smell and taste was entirely absent. Three other physicians besides Dr. Dreschfeld confirmed these observations.

“The first series of experiments consisted in the application of different metals to the anæsthetic skin, with the well known results. Gold and silver were found active ; copper and iron inactive. It was interesting to observe that, with the return of sensibility over the whole body after the application of gold, the left achromatopsic eye became normal, while the right eye became colour-blind. This was the only transfer observed. Internally, the patient was treated with chloride of gold (five minims).

“On December 4th, the electro-magnet was used for the first time. One pole was applied to the outer side of the right leg. The apparatus was so arranged that the current could be made and broken without the patient being made aware of it. Careful examination of the patient, previous to the application of the electro-magnet, showed that the anæsthesia was as perfect as on the first day ; the achromatopsia, however, had disappeared, and the muscular power had a little increased. Five minutes after the application of the electro-magnet, the sensibility was returning on the inner side of the right leg ; in ten minutes, it had extended considerably ; and, after twenty-five minutes, the whole of the right and left side, with the exception of the head, was acutely sensitive to the touch, except the upper part of the face and the whole of the scalp. The points pricked (except one in anæsthetic scalp) bled now freely. The special sense organs underwent no change during the passage of the current. Soon after the removal of the electro-magnet, the anæsthesia returned.

“On December 6th, the electro-magnet was again applied, with no current passing. For more than one hour, there was no effect. After the electro-magnet had remained near the anæsthetic leg for two hours, there was slight, but very perceptible, return of sensibility on the outer side of the leg. This unexpected result was afterwards easily explained, as it was found that the electro-magnet had been used for a considerable length of time in the physical laboratory of Owens College, and the iron had retained enough magnetism to magnetise a needle, even if no current passed ; and thus the simple application of the magnet, when not in contact with the battery, sufficed to bring back the sensibility, though it did so very slowly, and only after being applied for a long time.

“The magnetic experiments were now continued almost daily for an hour, and the patient at the same time began markedly to improve, so that, after a few days, the sensibility had returned, and remained permanently in both upper and lower extremities and trunk. The scalp was still anæsthetic, and the special sense-organs (excepting the achromatopsia) were in the same state as on admission.

“On December 15th, the electro-magnet was applied to the scalp with very decided effect, so that, fifteen minutes after the application, the whole skin of the head became sensitive, and the points touched bled freely. The special senses also underwent improvement during the application. The improvement continued—though the sensibility was somewhat diminished—even after the removal of the electro-magnet, which was only once more applied (on December 17th) and again to the head.

“The patient now rapidly improved, and was well enough to be discharged on December 24th. She found herself well enough to follow her work ; her muscular power had increased ; the sensibility had returned over the whole of the body ; the field of vision had improved ; smell and taste had become normal ; and the hearing on the left side was much better. She continued

to take the chloride of gold internally during the whole of her stay in the hospital, and persisted with its use some time after her discharge. I have seen the patient repeatedly since, and she has remained perfectly well."

Dr. Dreschfeld gives two other cases, that also came under his own observation, wherein the application of an electro-magnet effected a similar cure. One was that of a labourer (Matthew C., aged 25,) suffering from frequent epileptic fits, so that he had to give up his work. He was examined on February 6th, and iodide of potassium administered; on February 13th he was no better; on February 20th somewhat better; but now numbness had seized his right side, and he was on that side insensible to touch or pain. In the presence of Dr. Wilkinson and others the electro-magnet was applied to the right forearm. "Fifteen minutes after the application the whole of the anæsthetic side became normally sensitive." On February 24th, he was seen again, and had had no return of the anæsthesia; the epileptic attacks now occurred rarely. On February 27th, the epileptic attacks ceased, and he had had no recurrence up to March 12th, when he was last seen; he was then enjoying normal sensibility, though complaining of occasional vertigo. The other case was that of a joiner (A.H.) suffering from hemianæsthesia, complicated with mental disorders. Here too, the electro-magnet appeared to cause a return of sensibility, but owing to an organic lesion in the brain the patient did not recover. Dr. Dreschfeld remarks:—

"The immediate effect of the electro-magnet in all three cases was very striking, but the method of application in the first case was so conducted that there could be no deception on the part of the patient."

We should be very glad to receive any further information in this direction from any of our medical friends, or any evidence pointing to the existence of a special "magnetic sense." It is obvious that extreme care is needed in conducting experiments of this nature, to avoid confounding effects due to the imagination with the specific action that appears to be exerted by magnetism.

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

The following additions have been made since last month.

- BUSH (Rev. George, M.A.) Reasons for Embracing the Doctrines and Disclosures of Emanuel Swedenborg ..... London, N.D.\*
- CLOWES (Rev. John, M.A.) Illustrations of the Holy Word... London, 1875\*
- EVENING (The) AND THE MORNING. A Narrative, 5th edit. ... London, 1883\*
- GILES (Rev. Chauncey) The Spiritual World and our Children there  
London, 1883\*
- The Incarnation, Atonement and Mediation of the Lord Jesus Christ ..... London, 1883\*
- HYDE (Rev. John) Emanuel Swedenborg. An Outline ..... London, 1883\*
- MONNIN (The Abbé Alfred) Life of the Curé d'Ars. From the French  
London, N.D.
- NOBLE (Rev. Samuel) An Appeal on Behalf of Swedenborg and his Writings ..... London, 1881\*
- PAMPHLETS, English, for Vol. III.—  
Swedenborg, Emanuel, Intercourse between the Soul and Body, London, 1867\*
- SPILLING (James) Things New and Old..... London, 1883\*
- SWEDENBORG (Emanuel)—  
Arcana Coelestia, 12 vol..... London, 1863-1881\*  
    (Index to) ..... London, 1880\*  
The "New Jerusalem and its Heavenly Doctrine" ..... London, 1868\*  
Heaven and Hell ..... London, 1875\*  
The Earths in the Universe ..... London, 1875\*  
The Last Judgment ..... London, 1875\*  
Conjugal Love ..... London, 1876\*  
The Four Primary Doctrines of the New Church..... London, 1876\*  
Divine Providence..... London, 1879\*  
The Apocalypse Revealed ..... London, 1882\*  
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The White Horse ..... London, 1871\*  
Brief Exposition of the Doctrine of the New Church..... London, 1878\*  
The Future Life ..... London, 1883\*  
The Heavenly Doctrine and Charity ..... London, 1883\*
- SWIFT (Edmund, junr.) Manual of New Church Doctrines, 3rd edit.  
London, 1882\*
- U.S.E. (Emanuel Swedenborg) The Spiritual Columbus, Phonetic edit.  
London, 1878\*
- RIEGER (Dr. Conrad) Der Hypnotismus.....Jena, 1884
- SPLITTGERBER (Franz) Tod, Fortleben und Auferstehung.....Halle, 1879

The books marked thus \* have been presented to the Library by the Swedenborg Society.

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