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RENOVATION OF THE ANIMAL SYSTEM.

It is a generally admitted physiological fact, that the animal body is renovated once at least within seven years. The length of time required to renovate the system is probably very materially modified by the age and health of the animal. The youth, whose system is healthy, active, and buoyant, is no doubt thrown off and replenished more rapidly than the aged, whose systems act slower, and more sluggish, and are less healthy. Hence, the aged become stiff and inactive, while the youth are suple and more active.

There may be instances, however, in which disease—a spell of sickness materially facilities the renovating forces; at least the decomposing force, which throws off the worn out matter. This causes patients to waste away very rapidly, and soon become very much diminished in size and strength.

It is a law of matter, to be constantly changing its form, size, weight, color, motion, &c., and position in space. These changes are effects, and the causes which produce them are the positive and negative forces of nature, or the attractive and repulsive. The one attracts bodies and unites them together, and the other separates them, and rends them asunder. The least acquaintance with the science of chemistry impresses us, with the remarkable susceptibility of molecular or dissolved matter, to combine in a great variety of proportions, producing new forms, with a modification of all the attributes, or properties of matter. This law of change is as inherent in the constitution of matter as form, size, &c., or any other property of matter.

We wish here, in few words, to impress upon the minds of our readers the intelligence of matter. We may take two kinds of matter in a dissolved state, and they will combine in certain proportions, and pro-

duce a different substance; and then we may take a third substance in a proper dissolved state, and add to this compound, and the two first will separate, and one or the other will unite with the last added substance and form a different compound; and the rejected substance will be precipitated, or thrown down. Here we observe a glimmer of intelligence —a power inherent in matter to choose. Was it not true that intelligence is inherent in the constitution of matter, and consequently possessed by the very infinitesimal particles of matter, it never could be manifested through the congregated masses of matter. We might as well talk about education creating mind, as that a peculiar organization creates mind or intelligence. Education cannot create anything it only cultivates or improves that which is all ready created. The same is true of organization, it only develops mind or intelligence in a peculiar manner; it does not create it. Mind or intelligence is inherent in the constitution of matter, and is inseperably connected with it, and every new organization manifests a portion of this universal mind, in a modified form peculiar to itself. Hence, the solution of the variety of minds, and the unity of the whole.

This renovating power in the animal economy is carried on through the agency of this general intelligence. The raw, or gross material is taken into the mouth, masticated, and passed into the stomach, where it is dissolved by a chemical process, and properly prepared to be distributed throughout the body, and deposited in accordance with its chemico-electrical affinity. Those molecules, or infinitesimal particles of matter, which were the constituent particles of the raw material which was thrown into the stomach, and dissolved, are recombined in a variety of proportions, and suited to replenish the various organs and systems of the animal economy. Thus we perceive that the osseous system, the muscular system, and the nervous system, and every organ pertaining to the body—their secretions and excretions are all manufactured and replenished from the same material. Hence, the sublime fact fully develops itself, that nature is the master mechanic, for out of one simple substance she manufactures all her tools, and out of the same simple substance with these tools, she builds up and sustains the whole variety of nature.

In our next article we will show how these particles of matter, after they have subserved their purpose in the system and become worn out, are thrown off. And in due time we will not forget to show that the mind is subject to the same physiological laws.

[*Continued.*]

FRANKLIN, Mo., August 20th 1846.

Dr. T. J. McNair:

DEAR SIR—While in your office a few weeks since, I witnessed an examination of a patient, by Mr. C. EAKER, Clairvoyant, which I deem worthy the notice of your readers, provided you think proper to give it a place in your interesting pamphlet, "The Magnet." And what seems to make it still more interesting, the individual examined was two hundred miles from the examiner. The reason why I had the individual examined, were the following: first, because I had undertaken to cure the patient, and thought it might be of benefit to both of us: and secondiy, because I thought it was a case beyond the reach of fraud, and would furnish the most demonstrative evidence either against or in favor of the science; at least so far as I was concerned, the circumstances were these: Sir, I was a stranger both to you and Mr. Eaker, or at least you were both strangers to me, and I have every reason to believe that you never had even heard of the individual, whom I intended to have examined, but if my memory serve me rightly, I told you that I wished an individual examined, and immediately you called Mr. Eaker in, and told him that I wished to be examined; without anything more of importance being said, you and he took your seats, and in about three minutes and one half, the magnetised seemed to be in the mesmeric sleep. When you bound his eyes about with a thick handkerchief, and requested him to travel with me. I then took hold of his hand, and placed my mind upon the patient, but in a moment withdrew it again, to speak to you concerning the propriety of noting down the language of the somnambulist, and he immediately remarked why he has been there, but he has came back again, seeming to have followed my mind to the place in a few seconds.

So soon as you were ready to write, I placed my mind upon the patient again, and in about one fourth of a minute he said, "Yes, yes! I see her, I see her, a young lady; why, said he, that is a long way off, two hundred miles or upward. And then said I, see an old lady and an old gentleman there; these three compose the family. Then looking at the patient again, he said she was dseased. We hope to be pardoned here for not giving in detail the examination. It would be interesting to your readers, but I shall forbear, least I spin on too far. He spoke of the age of the patient, and the length of time she had been afflicted; spoke of the origin of the disease, traced it from one part of the system to another, until finally he spoke boldly the name of the disease. He

described the various symptoms as accurately and as minutely as an attendant physician could have done; and really, I thought more so. After the examination was ended, the sleeping doctor made out a prescription, which he said if strictly attended to, would effect a permanent cure. All has been well attended to, and we sanguinely hope the cure performed. After he was done prescribing for the patient, I requested you to ask him if the patient could be mesmerized; he answered that she could partially, but not thoroughly. She could be put to sleep, but would scare and rouse up again. I then wished to know if I could be mesmerized; he answered "No!" and said that I was a good operator. I then wished to know if I could mesmerize the patient; and when asked the question, the young gentleman laughed, and said "certainly," I could come as near as any one else, for I had done it, which was even so in the partial manner first described. You then asked him what my profession was, and he answered that I was preparing to practice medicine. You then asked him if that was all, he then said he would look again, and then answered, "why no, no, no, he does this way," (lifting his hand with an undulating motion,) he talks to the people, you then asked him what he meant by talking to the people? he replied why he preaches what makes speeches, said you; no, I tell you, said he, "a preacher." There was not the least variation from the fact, as I knew them to exist in the aforementioned cases, by this clairvoyant examination. These things seem marvellous in our eyes, but they are true; therefore we cannot discard them, or distrust the science, because we cannot understand them quite so well as simple addition. We might discard many important facts upon the same principle.

Yours, in haste,

J. C. HEBERLING.

We have made a number of examinations under similar circumstances, with perfect success.

St. Louis, September 13th, 1846.

T. J. McNair, Editor of the Magnet:

Dear Sir—I am among the number who dare add my testimony to the truth of the science of Animal Magnetism. During the past four years I have studied and experimented much upon that science; not, however, with a view of the accumulation of wealth, for in all cases I

have refused compensation for my services, nor of practicing deception or fraud upon the public, as some of the *learned* doctors have intimated; but my object has been not only to satisfy my own curiosity, but also to search into the hidden mysteries of this wonderful science, and if possible to see how far it may be used as a remedial agent, in smoothing our pathway down to the grave. Unaided by science, (for I make no pretensions in that way,) but by the aid of Clairvoyance, I have been able to accomplish wonders. I have not only been enabled to direct the spirit of the Clairvoyant through the fields of unlimited space, and bring correct intelligence from distant lands, in a very short space of time; but I have through this agent rescued many from the very jaws of death, and restored them to health and happiness.

True, in some cases, I have cheated the doctor out of his patient, but then he should console himself upon the reflection that although he has lost a patient, the grave, too, has been robbed of a victim.

But why do the scientific world discard Animal Magnetism? generally they do not; but suppose they did, it would be none the less true. But the reason so many physicians deny its truth, is because it is against their interest to practice it.

A certain learned doctor in this city who had been using Magnetism in his practice for more than twelve months, stated to me that he could not live by the practice; for instance, said he, "a gentlemen of this city for several years past has paid me about a hundred dollars a year for attending his wife for the nervous headache. I tried Magnetism and affected a perfect cure the first time, consequently my services were dispensed with for the balance of the year, and instead of getting my hundred dollars, as usual, I got only five dollars, and in this single case I am looser 95 dollars. "Well, Doctor," said I, an honest confession is good for the soul, and although you cannot live by such a practice, still your patient can.

But there is another reason why so many of our physicians do not, or cannot believe in this strange science, and that is the want of capacity to believe. Their little heads are already so full of learning and science that there is no room for a new idea to be crowded in edgeways, and therefore they cannot believe. But show me a physician or any other man, with a full development of intellectual organs, and I will show you a believer in Animal Magnetism; that is, if he has had an opportunity to examine the subject, and has not an overshare of self-conceit, which is seldom the case with men of good intellects. But,

Sir, I have already protracted my remarks further than I intended. My object is to furnish you with some facts that have grown out of my own experiments. For the present, however, one case will suffice, and here you have it.

About the middle of December, 1844, Mrs. Seymour, of the Missouri Hotel, came to my house on Green street, and with tears in her eyes, she stated that their family physician, Dr. Merrick, had that morning informed her that Susan Seymour, (a young lady of 17 years of age, who had been in a declining state for more than eight months,) was beyond the reach of medical aid, and could not live more than six weeks from that time. Her complaint was consumption, and that firmly seated. She added that the Doctor's advice was to stop giving her medicine, and let her down as *easy* as possible, for die she must, and that before the first day of February next.

And now, said she, turning to me, I have come to see if you can do anything for Susan, with Mesmerism, all other hopes have failed, and *I can't give her up;* no, no, I can't give her up! and Mesmerism is now the last and only hope; will you try it? I remarked to her that it was hardly giving Mesmerism a fair chance to try it upon one so far gone. She, however, prevailed, and I took the best Clairvoyant I knew of in the city, and went over to the Missouri Hotel, where we found the young lady above mentioned. Soon after my Clairvoyant was in the mesmeric sleep, Dr. Merrick came into the room, stated that he was an unbeliever in Mesmerism; but, said he, if that young man can tell or describe the disease of Susan Seymour, then I will know that Mesmerism or Clairvoyance is true; for, said he, no person living except myself knows her disease, or the particular diseases with which she is afflicted. He then took his pencil and wrote down all the particulars of her complaint, folded it up and put it in his pocket. After which the Clairvoyant began his examination, which lasted more than two hours, but which resulted in convincing the doctor of the truth of Clairvoyance, for he stated that the lungs, liver and spleen were all diseased. In a word, his description exactly coroborated all that the Doctor had previously written; not only so, he described all the symptoms of her disease without a single error or mistake. He then made a prescription for her, which more than all seemed to astonish those who were present, and particularly the Doctor; for, said he, if all the physicians of St. Louis were present, and could have known the par-

ticulars of her case, as he has stated, then they could not have made a prescription so well adapted to her disease as the one made by him.

In addition to the medical prescription, the Clairvoyant directed me to mesmerize her once a day for three weeks, when he would examine her again. But before concluding his remark, he turned to the patient, and with no small share of severity, upbraided her for tight lacing, and told her that was the principle cause of her sickness, to all of which she plead guilty, and promised to do better for the future. The Doctor, after having witnessed the whole transaction, advised that the prescription should be carried out to the very letter. I immediately began Mesmerizing and giving the medicine as directed. The patient was not very susceptible, and therefore required more mesmerizing on that account. I generally spent one hour each day in mesmerizing her during the three weeks. But I never was able to produce the mesmeric sleep.

The result, however, was the same. It is not necessary, as many have supposed, that the subject should be thrown into the mesmeric sleep, in order to be benefitted by Mesmerism; for if that was the case, not one in twenty could drink at this healing fountain, and but few would be interested in promulgating this saving truth to the world. In a word, she began to mend from the very commencement, and before a single week had elapsed, the change was so great that Mrs. Seymour and Mrs. Webster, her sister, notwithstanding the Doctor's predictions, even expressed a hope of her recovery. And that was not a vain hope, for she continued daily to gain strength, and before the end of three weeks, she was able to walk to Market street from the Missouri Hotel. At the end of three weeks another Clairvoyant examination took place, which was equally satisfactory to all who were present. He not only told her all that she had done, but in a particular manner pointed out to her where she had varied from his prescription. And now, said he, addressing the patient, notwithstanding all that I said to you about tight lacing, you have not fully obeyed my instructions. I then remarked, that he must be mistaken in that particular. No, said he, I am not, for she has now got her corsets on, I can see them. She blushed, and owned the truth, it was even so she had them on, but, as she stated very loosely. He then made another prescription, quite different from the first, which with the assistance of a little more Mesmerism, soon restored her to perfect health. She is now a blooming, healthy woman—a living witness of the truth of the science of Animal Magnetism.

I have been thus particular in giving names, in order that any who may doubt the truth of my statements in this may enquire of those who were eye-witness, for I would not that any should be misled upon this subject, but desire that all should prove it as I have done. For I believe Mesmerism to be to the body what religion is to the soul. "A sovereign balm for every wound, a cordial for every fear.

Yours, respectfully,

CHARLES COLLINS.

ELECTRICITY.

In all the numerous experiments, already introduced in these various numbers, the affect visible has mostly been that of a certain tendency the excited bodies have had to coalesce with each other in some cases, and to recede in others, or have been instances of electrical attraction and repulsion. Upon a closer examination of the circumstances attending these experiments, it will be found that when two bodies are electrified equally, they will repel each other; and also that when one body only is electrified, it is attracted by all others of a conducting nature in its neighborhood. Thus it appears that two laws only govern all these phenomena, which Franklin gives thus:—The electric fluid repels itself, and attracts all other matter; therefore, bodies similarly electrified, that is, if both are electrified *plus*, or both *minus*, they repel each other, but if one body be electrified *plus*, and the other *minus*, they will attract each other, until the equilibrium be restored, when they become neutral. It may be thought that, in many instances, but one body is affected, and therefore the laws do not apply. For example:—

Ex. 30.—Suspend from the ceiling a string, and from this a feather, attached to a thread of silk. Hold towards it an excited glass tube, the feather will first adhere to it, then be repelled, and, if a finger be held near it, be attracted towards the finger. The attraction of the feather and tube is accounted for—they are differently electrified. The receding of the feather is also accounted for—for after touching each other they are similarly electrified; but why the feather should seek the finger is not so apparent. It arises from a cause, which, instead of militating against the truth of Franklin's laws, does but prove there general applicability. When a body of any kind is electrified, it affects and repels the electric fluid contained in all the bodies near it, and thus the

overcharged feather drives away some portion of the fluid in the finger, in consequence of which the part of the finger nearest to it becomes negative, or in a different state from itself—therefore they are mutually attracted. The degree of this attraction is found to be in proportion to the square of their approximation towards each other, or as it is usually expressed, proportional inversely as the square of their distance—that is, if at an inch distance from each other, they attract with a force equal to one—at two inches the attractive force will be a quarter as much only —at three inches it will be one-ninth only—that is, three times three. The cause of attraction we leave until a future chapter explains the laws of electrical induction. At present we content ourselves with laying before our readers some of the best of the numerous experiments on this particular division of electrical sience.

Ex. 31.—Hang two feathers on silk strings from a stand, which will elevate them some inches above the table, and which stand has a glass leg, or support, to it; or still better than this, hang a string from the ceiling, and at the end of the string the two silk lines with feathers, so that they are not near any other object. Hold towards the excited feathers the glass rod. The two feathers will, at first, adhere to the glass rod, and soon afterwards be repelled from it, and from each other.

Ex. 32.—Balance upon a rod of glass, terminated by a needle point, a delicate rod of wood, having a small disc of white paper, or a pith ball, at each end. Hold towards either end of this an excited glass rod—the end will be attracted by it. This forms a delicate, useful, and cheap electrometer.

Ex. 33.—Procure two stands, each formed of a foot which supports a glass rod, and upon this a brass wire hooked at the top, so that there may be hung to it a silk thread, bearing at each end a feather, to the one pair of feathers hold an excited glass rod—they will repel each other with positive electricity. Hold towards the other pair of feathers an excited stick of sealing wax—they will repel each other with negative electricity. Put the one stand near the other, as represented in the figure, and the one pair will attract the other—they being differently electrified.

Note.—A common sized stick of sealing wax is too small for this and similar experiments. The glass and sealing wax rods may be combined with advantage. Having procured a hollow glass tube, about two feet long and of one inch diameter, heat it gradually by a fire, until hot enough to melt sealing wax—then rub upon half of it a stick of red wax, until the surface of that half is completely and evenly covered with the

wax. Hold it near the fire again, that the wax may settle into a smooth and glossy surface, and it will be complete. When to be excited the glass end only will require warming, the waxed part serving as a handle; so also, when the wax end is excited the glass may be held in the hand. To excite glass, rub it briskly with a black silk handkerchief—to excite sealing wax, rub it with a piece of flannel.

Ex. 34.—Tie twenty five linen threads together at each end, so that there may be about six inches distance from knot to knot, hang this by a wire loop fastened to one of the knots, to the conductor of the machine; upon charging the conductor, the threads will recede from each other, forming a curious balloon-shaped body.

Ex. 35.—Instead of tying the threads at both ends, let the lower end be loose, and upon turning the machine, they will form a brush.

Ex. 36.—*The Glass Feather.*—Procure a glass feather, as made at the fancy glass shops, and stick it into one of the holes on the upper side of the conductor, when the machine is put in motion the radiation of all the filaments of glass will offer a most elegant object.

Ex. 37.—*The Frightened Head of Hair.*—As a variation of the last experiment, the head of a doll is furnished with a wig of hair which is two or three inches long; upon electrifying this "each particular hair will stand on end" in the most grotesque manner, and thus it is with every person who is electrified, when on a glass legged stool. This experiment becomes most effective because seen more conspicuously when the hair is of a grey color.

Ex. 38.—*Radiating Feathers.*—Let a metal ring be supported upon a glass pillar, and at six or eight equally-distant points, around this ring tie a thread (not silk) a few inches long, the other end of which bears a feather, where six are represented. Connect the metal ring with the conductor of the machine by a wire or chain, and the feathers being electrified will repel each other until they will stand at equal distances like the spokes of a wheel.

Ex. 39.—*Electric Fish.*—Cut a piece of very thin leaf brass (such as is called tinsel will do) with an obtuse angle at one end and an acute one at the other; present the large end towards an electrified conductor, and, when the brass is within its atmosphere let it go; it will then fix itself to the conductor by the apex of its obtuse angle, and, from its continual wavering motion, will appear to be animated.

Ex. 40.—*Flying Feather.*—Excite a glass tube, and hold towards it a very light and fleecy Feather, it will adhere to it for a moment, then

be repelled in the most beautifully expanded form; if no object be near, it will gradually be attracted to the earth, but it may be driven in any direction round the room, by bringing the still excited glass near it, for it will be still repelled from the glass. It is evident that the feather in sailing along must not be suffered to deposit its electricity by touching any surrounding object.

Ex. 41.—*Animated Thread.*—Present a fine thread to an electrified conductor, when it is at a proper distance it will fly towards, and stick to the conductor, and convey the electric fluid from it to the hand; remove the thread to a small distance from the conductor, and it will fly backwards and forwards with great velocity, and in a very pleasing manner; present the same thread towards one that hangs from the conductor, they will attract and join each other. Bring the finger, or a brass ball, near these threads, the ball will repel that held by the hand, and attract that which is affixed to the conductor.

Ex. 42.—*Suspended Leaf.*—Hold towards the ball at the end of the conductor, a square thin leaf of brass or paper; upon turning the machine, it will leave the hand and be suspended with one of its points upwards between the hand and the conductor.

Ex. 43.—*The Moving Leaf.*—Move the hand round and at a uniform distance from the ball of the conductor, when the leaf of brass is suspended near it, and it will be seen to move with the hand in any direction which the latter may take.

Ex. 44.—*Dancing Images.*—To the end of the conductor, suspend a plate, made either of metal or wood, covered with tin foil, at a distance of three or four inches under this a similar plate, but one that is rather larger. Place on the lower plate any little figures cut out of paper or pith. Take care that the lower plate is supported upon some conducting substance; turn the machine, and the figures will raise themselves, and fly up and down between the two plates, forming a most ludicrous dance.

Ex. 45.—Support the lower plate upon a glass bottle, or other insulator, and although all the rest of the apparatus remains as before, yet the figures will not dance. The reason is this, the upper plate being charged by its connexion with the machine, the figures are attracted by it—they becoming charged and repelled by the upper, and attracted by the lower plate. When they touch this their charge is removed by that contact, and conveyed to the earth, while the figures jump up again, for a fresh supply, and thus they move alternately from the one to the other

plate. When the lower plate, however, is insulated, the extra portion brought to it cannot escape, and it becomes charged in the same manner as the upper one—therefore the figures have no tendency to move between them.

Note.—If in cutting out the figure the head is heavier than the feet, it will dance head downwards—damping the feet in the mouth will usually remedy this, but this, at the same time, gives them a tendency to adhere to the upper plate, while wetting the head makes them dance on the lower plate. Female figures usually dance more regularly because of the weight of the lower part of the dress. In all the figures the head should be somewhat pointed, either by the adjunct of a steeple-crowned hat, or something similar put upon it.

Ex. 46.—*Dancing Pith Balls.*—Place upon the lower stand, (mentioned in Experiment 44,) six or eight balls of the pith of elder, and cover them over with a dry tumbler. Hang to the conductor a chain, which touches this tumbler; upon turning the machine, although glass intervenes between the exciting power and the balls acted upon, yet the balls will fly rapidly up and down within the glass tumbler. In this instance, the outer part of the glass is by contact electrified positively; the inner part, therefore, will be by induction, (afterwards to be explained,) electrified negatively; and the balls are flying up and down to supply the deficiency of the glass—each ball coming to deposit its load, and flying down again for another.

Ex. 47—The dancing pith ball experiment may be reversed thus: Fasten to the conductor a chain, as before. Put it in a dry tumbler, and turn the machine. After a few turns the tumbler will be charged withinside with positive electricity. Place upon a table, or a metal plate, a few pith balls, and cover them over with the charged tumbler. They will now jump up and down, each one conveying some of the fluid away from the glass, and not towards it as in the latter instance. They continue to dance long after the machine ceases to act, and when their motion has ceased altogether, it may be renewed by merely putting the hand upon the outside of the glass.

To make Pith and Cork Balls.—Procure some of the thick young shoots of the common elder-tree, cut them into lengths between the joints, and push out the pith of each length by a smooth stick, as near as possible the size of the hole where the pith is, and dry it for use. When wanted for balls, cut out each ball moderately true with a pen knife, and to round them more perfectly, and take off the rough edges, roll them very gently, with a circular motion, on a smooth table, and they will be fit for use. Cork balls may be cut in the same manner,

but to make them smooth each one must be placed upon the point of a needle, and turned round two or three times in the flame of a candle, or should the blackness thereby occasioned be an objection they may be rubbed with sand paper.

Ex. 48.—*Electric Bells.*—The apparatus thus called is of various forms—that put into action by attraction is represented. It consists of a rod, or wire, having a hook to hang it up by, and a small chain at each end, terminated by a bell. There are, also, at three other parts depending from it three silk threads—one terminated by a third bell, the other two by metal clappers. The third bell, it will be observed, has a chain appended to it which reaches the ground. When this is suspended from the conductor, the wire at top, and bells at the sides, become electrified—these latter, therefore, attract the clappers. They thus becoming charged recede till they touch the centre bell, and thus the motion of the clappers, from one to the other, produces the sound of ringing.

[To be continued.]

DE OBFUSCATIONIBUS

(*Continued.*)

The next case I design to give you is a very brief one, and is taken from some fragments of the lost writings of Proclus a Platonic Philosopher of the fifth century, a celebrated commentator upon Plato, whose admirers believe him to have been of the "Coryphean" class of philosophers, and cannot enough express their admiration of him. It seems that a fragment of a work, itself lost, has been preserved, recording some remarkable cases of resuscitation from apparent death. I wonder how they escaped Dr. Dendey, who does not allude to them. After enumerating several cases, Proclus adds—"that it is possible for the soul to depart from, and re-enter the body, is evident from him who, according to Clearchus, used a soul-attracting wand on a sleeping lad"— * * * "For, striking the lad with a wand, he drew out, and, as it were, led his soul (away) for the purpose of evincing that the body was immoveable when the soul was at a distance from it, and that it was preserved uninjured; but the soul being again led into the body, by means of the wand, after its entrance related every particular. From this cir-

cumstance, therefore, both the spectators and Aristotle were persuaded that the soul is seperate from the body."

If Mesmerism be true, we may see this experiment repeated almost any day we please.

I am a little puzzled now to decide upon the mode of presenting the next evidences I have in view. They are, I think, rather more to the point in favor of Mesmerism than any others I have yet seen. I am not much acquainted with the publications of the Mesmerizers—have never read even Townsend's Facts—and do not know whether Iamblicus on the Mysteries has ever been appealed to by them or not. Some two or three years ago I wrote to a New York Editor, since diseased, and referred him to the work and also to Glanville's, but have never known whether my letter was received or *how* it was received. Iamblicus was a Platonic Philosopher of the fourth Century (died about 333). You know I make no pretensions to a scholar's knowledge of the learned men of old, but what I have been able to gather has been obtained, as Knickerbocker says this Continent was originally peopled, by accident.

It appears that Porphyry (another of the Alexanderian Platonic Squad of remarkable men) addressed a letter to an Egyptian priest *Anebo*, which, as I understand the matter, fell into the hands of Iamblicus, who answered it;—or, as some appear to suppose, Iamblicus wrote the letter himself. Be this as it may, it is sufficient here to notice that the letter proposes a series of questions respecting the mysteries of the Egyptians, Chaldeans and Assyrians, and the object of Iamblicus is to answer the questions. I am about to give you only some small portions of the work, and will begin with some extracts from the letter of Anebo.

"Since the ignorance of and deception about Divine Natures is impiety and impurity, and a scientific knowledge of the Gods is holy and beneficial, the ignorance of things honorable and beautiful will be darkness—but the knowledge of them will be light: and the former will fill men with evil through the want of erudition, and through audacity, while the latter will be the cause to them of every good. I wish you therefore to unfold to me the truth respecting these particulars.

"And, in the first place, I wish you to explain to me distinctly, what that is, which is effected in divination? For we frequently obtain a knowledge of future events through dreams, when we are asleep; not being at the time in tumultuous ecstasy, for the body is then quiescent; but we do not apprehend what then takes place in the same manner as when you are awake.

"Many, also, through enthusiasm and divine inspiration, predict future events, and are then in so wakeful a state, as to energize according to sense, and yet they are not conscious of the state they are in, or at least not so much as they were before." * * * * * *

SWEDENBORG'S ANIMAL KINGDOM.

(*Continued.*)

If the reader can once succeed in apprehending it, there will be no danger of his letting it go again even among the perilous quicksands of modern experience. It is one of those truths that rests upon the facts within the range of the most ordinary observation, and require but little anatomical investigation to confirm and demonstrate them. It is visible in its ultimate effects during every action that we perform, and at every moment of our lives. Perhaps there is nothing in the history of physical science that is more illustrative of the native ignorance of the mind, or that better shews how far we have departed from the simplicity of nature than the manner in which this grand office of the lungs has been overlooked; particularly when coupled with the fact, that it should have required a great and peculiarly instructed genius, by an elaborate process, to place it once again under our mental vision. But nature is simple and easy; it is man that is difficult and perplexed. Not only in the lungs, but in the whole body, the primary office is disregarded, and the secondary substituted for it. It has been supposed that the lungs inspire simply to communicate certain elements of the air to the blood; and expire for no other end than to throw out by means of the returning air certain impurities from the blood. Under this view, their motion is only of use for other things, or instrumentally, and not as a thing in itself, or principally.

And yet it is not confined to the sphere in which these secondary offices of the lungs are performed, but pervades the abdomen as sensible as the chest, and according to the shewing of the experimentalists, extends also to the heart, the spinal marrow, and the head. It was therefore incumbent on the physiologist to shew what its function was in all the regions where it was present, and to declare its action as a universal cause, as well as its action as a particular cause. Now the motion itself which the lungs originate, is their grand product to the system: the inspiration and expiration of the air but one part of its necessary accompaniments, being

performed in the chest alone. Granting that the inspiration and expiration of the air are the particular use of this motion in the chest, what then is the use of the rising and falling which the lungs communicate to the abdomen, the heart, the spinal marrow, and the brain?—What office, analogous to respiration does the motion of these parts communicate to the organs? It manifestly causes them all to respire, or to attract the various materials of their uses, as the lungs attract the air. For respiration is predicable of the whole system, as well as nutrition: otherwise the head would not be the head of the chest, nor the abdomen the abdomen of the chest; but the human body would be as disconnected, and as easily dissipated, as the systems that have been formed respecting it. The universal use, therefore, of the respiratory motion of the body, is to rouse every organ to the performance of its functions by an external tractive force exerted upon its common membranes; and by causing the gentle expansion of the whole mass, to enable the organ, according to its particular fabric, situation and connexion, to respire or attract such blood or fluid, and in such quantity, as its uses and wants require, and only such. Each organ, however, expands or contracts differently, according to the predicates just mentioned; the intestines, for instance, from articulation to articulation, to and fro; the kidneys, from their circumference to their sinuosity or hilus, and vice versa, the neighborhood of their pelvis being their most quiet station and centre of motion: and so forth. In a word, the expansion as a force assumes the whole form of the structure of each organ. In all cases the motion is synchronous in times and moments with the respiration of the lungs. The fluids in the organs follow the path of the expansion and contraction, and tend to the centre of motion, from which these motions begin, to which they return, and in which they terminate. The lungs, however, only supply the external moving life of the body; but were it not for them, the whole organism would simply exist in potency, or more properly speaking, would cease to be; or were it permeated by the blood of the heart,—a condition which can by no means be granted,—the latter would rule uncontrolled in all the members, subjugate their individualities, and not excite them to exercise any of the peculiar forces of which they are the forms. In a word, the whole man would be permanently in the fœtal state, forever inchoate and ineffective.

It need not surprise the members of the New Church that no writer before or since the time of Swedenborg should have seen the primary function of the lungs in the human body. For it is shewn in those wor-

derful theological treatises with which they are familiar, that the heart and lungs of the natural body correspond to the will and understanding of the spiritual man; and as the understanding or rational mind has hitherto brought out none of those truths which enable man spiritually to live, nor been an external cause co-operating with the Word as an internal cause in the work of regeneration, so it had in itself no ground from which to recognise the necessity of the above function in the human frame; but its lower chambers alone being opened, took cognizance only of the lower and relatively passive offices of its bodily correspondent, the lungs. Unwittingly it yielded up the sceptre of the body to the heart, and here again obeyed the law of correspondence. But the truth is that the lungs mediate between the brain and the body, precisely as the rational mind of man is intended to mediate between heaven and earth.

[*Continued.*]

[From the Water Cure Advocate.]

MODES OF USING THE WATER CURE.

THE DOUCHE.

This remedy belongs exclusively to the treatment of chronic diseases. As it is the most powerful of all the water-cure processes of its class—the most powerful when properly indicated and judiciously applied, to exalt the energies of the organism, to complete what the other parts of the treatment might fail to effect, namely, their conversion into acute diseases, and their cure by a *crises*;—so when misapplied—when the true pathological condition of the patient is not determined—when fever is present, when there is disease of the blood-vessel, heart or brain, or the organic nerves are paralyzed, it is the most pregnant with mischief.

The Douche is the strongest local stimulant of the vascular and nervous systems. Inducing a strong reaction and determination to the surface, it tends pre-eminently to dissipate the remnant of chronic engorgements of the mucuous tissues, and visceral congestions of all kinds; but after other remedial means have laid the foundation of recovery—resuscitating the energies of the whole organism, exhilirating the spirits and quickening the senses, it is very intelligible how it should facil-

itate and hasten the arrival of the crisis. The whole secreting and excreting apparatus *seem* to take a new activity; and their altered products *seem* as if the elimination from the system of every thing morbid effete that had resisted the usual decompositions and transformations.

The Douche is a column of water of variable thickness descending from a variable height; from three to six inches in its usual diameter, and from ten to twenty feet its ordinary fall. Its effect is determined by the state of the body, the force of the fall, and the coldness of the water. To insure its good effects, it should be taken at the time of the highest bodily activity and vigor, as early in the morning in the stronger, and between breakfast and dinner in the weaker—in both cases always premising smart exercise short of fatigue. Active exercise is especially necessary after the douche. The reason that necessitates this forbids the drinking of much cold water at this particular time of the day, at least till reaction be fully established.

The average duration of the douche is from three to ten minutes; the uninitiated should never exceed the former. It is usual to commence this bath by receiving it on the palms of the hands, and washing the face, head and chest. The shoulders, neck, spine, loins, hips, and extremities are then subjected to the powerful stream; avoiding the stomach pit and the abdomen. The hands are sometimes held up and spread above the head to protect it from the fall of water; allowing the stream to act as a shower bath. In *local* complaints, as palsies, sprains, tumors, the affected parts are particularly subjected to the influence of the douche. The bath is highly enjoyed, and always gladsomely anticipated—a proof that it leaves no ungrateful reminiscences—which is much more than can be said for any of the *old* modes of cure.

In cases where this measure is strongly indicated, two short douches per diem are more advantageous than one prolonged one.

THE WET SHEET.

This application is used for the two-fold purpose of increasing or diminishing the animal temperature; in either case it was equally *anodye* and *anti-phlogistic*—soothing aches and irritation—removing languor and fatigue—tranquilizing the pulse, and subduing fever. It opens the pores, favors cutaneous transudation, and aids the elimination of effete elements and morbid materials. Hence the intolerable odor sometimes exhaled from the sheets; the thick coating of slimy matter with which they are varnished; the debris, smell, and color of medicines and oint-

ments long before used deposited in them; and the eruptions that soon appear upon the skin. The fluids repelled from the surface by the first chill return with a brisker circulation: the escape of caloric is prevented by the covering: and the moisture of the sheets is converted into vapor. According to the delicacy of constitution, and the feebleness of the reactive power, the heat of the water and the weight of the covering must be increased. The imbibition of water by the body in this and other processes is manifested by very *unequivocal* symptoms. *This* origin of the effect in question, in the wet sheet at least, is a *legitimate* inference.

The wet sheet is Priessnitz's greatest discovery, and far outstrips all other therapeutical improvements ever made in the healing art. This is destined to be by-and-bye the universal domestic remedy used by mothers and nurses in the outbreak of all illnesses; and will supersede, in nine cases in ten both the employment of medicine and the attendance of the physician. With every water-cured person its efficacy will be an article of *faith* that no arguments will stagger, and its practice in every emergency a source of confidence that no authority will baffle. Henceforth the name of Priessnitz will be a household-word and a grateful posterity will embalm his memory. Few are the complaints in young or old in which this remedy will not be hailed as one of the best boons ever given by Heaven to suffering mortals. This language is strong, and may be called enthusiastic. But we appeal to those who have tested the powers of the wet-sheet fomentation, whether our meed of praise is commensurate with its merits. In weariness and watching—in fatigue and cold—in restlessness and anguish—in acute diseases and in chronic ailments—in fevers and inflammations—in shivered brain—in worn-out stomachs and palsied bowels—in irritated skin and broken bones—in quelling morbid heat and soothing morbid sensibility—in the quiet routine of home and the bustle of travel abroad—in infancy and in age—in the weak and in the strong—in cottages and in palaces—in courts and in camps—in hospitals and in prisons—in all climates and seasons—shivering at the poles and scorching in the tropics—in all the multiform ills that flesh is heir to—the wet sheet will be the first remedial resource of the sick, and the last earthly refuge of the dying.

The wet sheet is applied in the following way: A very thick blanket is first spread upon a mattress; a sheet of coarse linen is then wrung out on a pole; this is smoothly spread over the blanket the patient then

reclines at full length, and has the sheet wrapped round him, fitting it closely about the neck, and securely covering the feet. The blanket is then with equal care tucked under the neck and shoulders, the trunk and limbs of one side, and then on the other. This "packing" which resembles a compact bale of goods, is then completed by a load of additional blankets and coverings, or preferably by a down feather-bed, which is well tucked in from the neck to the feet. In this state the patient is allowed to remain from half an hour to an hour. The first impression isdisagreeable but is only for a minute or two; and is succeeded by a soothing freshness heightening into a delicious glow; which would end in perspiratton if prolonged. On being unpacked from this envelopment, the patient takes the cold or tepid half-bath or full-bath, and is well rubbed in the water by an attendant for a longer or shorter time, himself assisting in the operation. He then dresses quickly and goes out to his customary walk and water drinking. This process is usually gone through the first thing in the morning, and commences the daily routine of treatment. It is repeated or not in the subsequent parts of the day, according as it is indicated The sensation of the patient will often be the monitors for his extrication, and the inducement for its repetition or cessation. When the object is to quell fever, the sheet must be changed every quarter of an hour or half hour, or as often as may be necessary to bring about a cool surface. When the due abstraction of heat and reduction of fever is effected, the patient is then put into a slightly tepid bath, and well rubbed.

If determinations to the head occur during this process, cold applications to the scalp are to be constantly renewed as they get warm. If the feet or legs continue cold too long, they may be kept out of the envelopment, and wrapped in flannel.

The fallacy of catching cold from damp beds was long ago sufficiently exposed by one of the shrewdest and ablest practitioners of his day, Dr. Heberden, and will be found in a quotation in another part of the volume. The soundness of this judgment cannot *now* be questioned, as the innocuousness of such exposure is confirmed by all the facts of Priessnitz's extensive experience, and by those of his numerous followers.

[From the Transcript.]

HUMAN MAGNETISM.

Mr. Editor:—As this all-absorbing theme appears to be the order of the day, at present, we hope it will not be out of order to submit a few thoughts upon the subject, for public consideration, through the medium of your paper, together with some facts which occurred a few evenings since under our own observation. A number of young gentlemen of this city, on one evening of last week assembled for the purpose of witnessing, privately, an exhibition of some of the wonders of the above science. The experiments were conducted by a Mr. Keely, who has been engaged for the past week, in public lecturing and demonstrating on Human Magnetism. Mr. K., by the way, appears to be a man of considerable intelligence, and much of a gentleman in his deportment. Each of the gentlemen assembled, was requested to submit to a trial of the process by which the Professor brings about this mysterious influence. After consent had been given, the magic coin was distributed, one piece being placed in the hands of each individual, and his eyes fixed closely upon it according to direction. He only succeeded, however, upon two of the persons present, one, a resident of this, and the other of a neighboring city. Upon the latter of whom I shall endeavor to give briefly the results of the experiments, which were truly astonishing, and looked upon with a great deal of interest.

The gentleman in question was a firm believer in the truth of the science, in its early and more undeveloped forms, as presented by those who first agitated it. He has also been frequently operated upon by clairvoyance demonstrators, but avered most positively, his conviction, that he could not be operated upon in the manner proposed by Mr. K., assigning as a reason, that his manner of operating was in direct opposition to an established and fundamental principle of the science, viz: That the natural senses of the subject (while under the influence) were entirely destroyed, and that he only saw, heard, tasted, &c., through the senses of the operator, consequently the subject could not see any person or things, which the operator did not first picture vividly in his imagination. After gazing, however, a few minutes upon the coin placed in hand, Mr. K. pronounced him fully under the magnetic influence. He requested him to rise to his feet and observed, that when he (Mr. K.) counted two, he would be compelled to open his eyes, and that he would be fully aroused mentally, but that his physical system

would remain entirely under his control, which effect took place immediately after counting. He then went through his usual course of experiments illustrating the fact that he thus held such control: such as requiring his hands to be thrown upon his head and fastening them there, until he willed their relief, and numerous other experiments of the same character. Mr. K. then wished to know if he desired to see any friend, he replied he did, and named two relations, both of whom were brought immediately before his imagination, and a near one, who had been absent for five years. The scene which opened up at this imaginary meeting was indeed thrilling, we shall not attempt to describe it, as it would occupy too much space. The subject was then aroused, but still avered that he was not convinced as to the point in controversy, i. e., that Mr. K. could not bring vividly to his mind any person or scene, unless he (Mr. K.) first pictured clearly and distinctly such person or scene in his own (Mr. K.'s) imagination he was not convinced from the fact, that Mr. K. knew his relatives. Mr. K. then requested him to give his consent to be placed again under the influence, declaring that he would convince him beyond the possibility of a reasonable doubt. The gentleman refused at first, assigning as a reason, that he felt unwell and that he did not wish to go through the first process of looking at the coin as it was very fatiguing. Mr. K. remarked that although he felt perfectly relieved and fully aroused, yet his physical as well as mental powers were still under his control, here another controversy arose, and to settle the point, Mr. K. requested him to look him fully in the face; when he should command his hand to be fasted upon his head, and in spite of all the power and resolution he could sum up to resist it. He did so. He then required that after he should have counted four, the subject should pass fully under the influences—which he did, closing his eyes. He then required that his eyes should be opened and fixed upon his, which was done forthwith. He then asked him if he had any friend in any quarter of the world that he desired to see. He replied he had, and after naming him, was immediately introduced to one of the company, as that friend by Mr. K., who declared very impressively as he introduced him, that it was the person named. He immediately approached him shaking hands, in the most familiar manner, exhibiting most strikingly, and true to nature, all those agreeable emotions awakened, by the unexpected meeting of the warmest friends after a long absence. He conversed freely and familiarly for perhaps fifteen min-

utes, passing all the usual congratulations upon such occasions, made numerous enquiries in relation to his business—wished to know if he had seen any old friends while absent, the individual replied he had not. However in the course of the conversation, the name of an old friend was mentioned as the subject, upon which Mr. K. immediately draws his attention and introduced him to another person as such friend. He approached him in the same manner and conversed as before. These experiments were repeated with the most perfect satisfaction, until he had introduced him to every person in the room. He expressed the utmost pleasure and satisfaction at meeting so unexpectedly the many friends that surround him. There were, I think, twelve gentlemen in the room. Then in conclusion as a cap sheaf to the entertainments, Mr. K. was requested to draw his attention from the crowd for a short time, and see if he could be brought back into it, and single out each individual by their respective names, as he had been introduced to them. Mr. K. remarked that he was not absolutely certain the result would be perfectly satisfactory, as it was a class of experiments new to him, as well as to us, but that he was well convinced that satisfaction would be given, merely from inductions from well ascertained facts and other experiments, in the course of his practice, it was tried and the subject succeeded in every instance to the satisfaction of all.

AN INVESTIGATOR.

From the New York Beacon.

ODE TO NATURE.

O Nature, Nature, thou art sure,
Ever enduring to endure;
Thy laws eternal *must* abide,
Comprising all—there's none beside.
Thou art when rightly brought to view,
All self-supporting, just and true;
No power above thee, none below,
Can ever prove thine overthrow.
Ten thousand volumes closely wrote
Would not make up a single groat,
Compared with what the mind that's free,
Discerns, in thy variety.
Thine own intrinsic unborn laws,

Do constitute the great first cause,
And all the motions we behold,
Are by their influence controlled.
The varied forms of earth around,
By their creative power abound,
Life giving—bringing to decline,
To decompose, and recombine.
Thou art our parent, thou, our friend,
From thee we come—to thee we tend:
And all that in thy moulds are cast,
Reverts again to thee at last.
Something from nothing never came;
Thy lessons teach to man the same:
Nor wouldst thou e'er withhold the thought,
That substance never comes to naught.
No more existed—no more will,
Than what is now existing still:
And best philosophers confess,
There ne'er can be one atom less.
The Christian, Pagan, Turk and Jew,
May each his clashing creed pursue:
And all the varied forms of strife,
May have a transitory life;
But all the planets as they roll,
In thine embrace thou dost control;
And nought thereon can stay thy hand,
Nor thy minutest law withstand.
If man would but consider well,
The lessons thou to him canst tell,
And strive to know thee as thou art,
Thy richest stores thou wouldst impart.
Beyond the diamond set in gold,
Are hidden treasures, yet untold;
More to be sought, and still more rare,
Though jewels sparkle e'er so fair.
Without beginning, without end,
Thou dost upon thyself depend:
In turn thyself depends on thee,
Dependent thus, thou art, and free.

SPIRITUS.