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RENOVATION OF THE ANIMAL SYSTEM.

We have shewn in our preceding article, that the stomach is the great laboratory of the animal body ; and that the gross materials after being taken into that organ undergo a chemical change, which prepares them to become component parts of the various systems which compose the animal. This we may term the positive force, which builds up and sustains the living animal out of the food which is taken into the stomach.

Our next object is to call the attention to another force, (the negative,) which is as efficient in tearing down, or in other words, throwing off the worn out particles of matter, as the positive force is in building it up. Was it not for this latter force, the animal body would undoubtedly continue to increase in size as long as the animal remained healthy, and could obtain food to live on. These two forces are constantly active in the living body. One creates gross tangible forms out of minute particles of matter, and the other reduces these gross tangible forms back to minute particles of matter again. This seems to be the universal order of nature, which may be correctly represented by a circle, which has neither beginning nor ending. The ancient philosophers observing this simple fact in nature, would, naturally enough, represent eternity by a circle.

We find in all the operations of nature a disposition to change the forms and their positions in space. Hence, certain forms are destroyed by the animal, and the minute particles which composed these forms are converted into new forms—the human form—and after these minute particles have subserved their purpose in the human form—worn out, they are taken up by the absorbent vessels—the negative force, and thrown off, and are again condensed into new forms.

The earth is composed of minute or infinitesimal particles of matter, which are drawn from surrounding nature, and modified into earth upon the same principle, that earth is modified into vegetable matter, and vegetable matter into animal matter. The means by which ethereal matter is condensed into earth is principally through the instrumentality of the vegetable and animal kingdoms. The atmosphere, or the electricity it contains, is inhaled or taken in through the leaves of the vegetable, and the lungs of the animal kingdom, by which means these two kingdoms are principally built up and sustained, and the death and decay of these two kingdoms in their turn build up and sustain the earth, or mineral kingdom. The vegetable and animal kingdoms, then, are to the earth what the stomach and digestive organs are to the animal, or the roots and leaves to the vegetable kingdom. All nature is alive to these two forces, the creators and destroyers of all forms, from the simplest object in nature to man himself. Hence, too, we observe there is no such thing as independence in nature; but one universal system of dependencies, which may properly be termed series.

A SUGGESTION.

In Nature there are fixed principles and motive powers acting in harmony, and in all inanimate matter there exist certain component parts, so in animated nature. We see the operation of the same principle of order and arrangement in the human system, we see a division of the general sustaining powers acting in perfect harmony when a person is in perfect health—the venous, nervous, and another which has heretofore been unnoticed, which I shall term the Electro-Magnetic principle; these, when they perform their parts correctly, constitute a healthy action and general good health, when either performs its part in a disordered and uncertain manner, it produces a great change on the system, and consequently causes the other branches of our composition to become unhealthy in their action, and thus cause disease. Each of these principles are proportioned with accuracy and equality through the system, and any derangement in their acting or concentration to one point causes a very unhealthy state in the system, they are, when implanted in the system, like water in a vessel, when it is standing perfectly quiet, the same in all parts of the system on a true level; when

excited, they, like the same vessel when agitated, the fluid flowing to the lowest parts of the vessel, causing a continual motion, and consequently irritation in the part where they concentrate their force.

The writer would suggest that this Electro-Magnetic property flows equally through the system, and any point where it is obstructed or hindered in its free circulation through the system, or when the system becomes overcharged with the Magnetic property and does not pass off as freely as nature requires, then the system becomes deranged, and an unhealthy action takes place. Nature has so ordered, that excess of blood passes off naturally through the pores, in the form of perspiration, yet we have not yet discovered in what way this Magnetic fluid escapes when the system becomes overcharged, and we come to the conclusion that its free egress is sometimes stopped and consequently pain is the result of a superabundance of this fluid concentrated to some point, thus causing rheumatic afflictions, as they are termed; yet, at the same time, it is nothing more than a flow of this fluid to some particular part of the system, where we find the pain is located, as in the circulating system, when it becomes inactive, or flows too freely to any part of the system, produces inflammation in that part by the pressure on the component parts of the body, when it is thus located, or stopped, so this magnetic influence becomes stopped in its free circulation, and causes pain in that portion of the system, and the organs becoming overcharged are not able to bear the burden and yield to the extra force heaped upon them, and become excited to such an extent that it causes pain in that part.

When the circulating system becomes thus deranged by a stoppage of its free circulation, all that is necessary to cause a restoration is to cause an equilibrium in the circulation of the blood throughout the system, and you at once remove the cause of the disease engendered by the stoppage.

The same principle should be adopted in the management of the magnetic fluid that is adopted in regard to the circulating system, to-wit: an equal flow of the magnetic fluid throughout the system. How is this to be accomplished? The system like the atmosphere in the summer, when heated, generates more electricity than it can contain naturally and passes off in lightning, thus causing a healthy state in the atmosphere, and we must see if we cannot contrive a method of passing off this accumulated fluid from the system to the extent required to produce healthy action in that branch of the system. I would suggest

that an experiment be tried, as follows, that the patient be magnetised in the following manner, to-wit: that some five or six persons join hands and form a circle in which shall be the person afflicted, the poles of the battery shall then be united in the circle, causing the influence to be general throughout the ring formed by the persons who compose the circle, thus equalizing the influence of the fluid through all the persons. The excess of the influence is thus drawn from the patient, and by this means restored to health again. If my position be correct such will be the result, or at least the cause will be removed of the disease, and nothing is required to restore health more than nourishment to strengthen the circulating system which has become impaired by being overburdened.

There are many persons probably who are not sufficiently charged with the magnetic fluid, and thus a general debility ensues. When, for instance, there appears to be general languor and weakness in the system, it may be that it is caused by a deficit in this fluid; in such cases, if the physician could obtain a patient who is affected with Rheumatism, and a patient who is of the above described class, and magnetize them both at the same time by forming a circle through which the magnetic fluid shall pass equally. They may both be restored by equalizing the influence through both the systems, thus causing a healthy action throughout. There has no method been adopted by which magnetism can be measured and its strength tested, science may yet unfold some method by which the quantity can be known, which a system in a healthy state requires, in order to keep it in a healthy moving action. When such discovery is made, it will be as great a light to medical science as the principle of the circulation was, when it was discovered by Harvey, and the pulsation thereby regulated accordingly. So in the circulation of the magnetic fluid through the system, when we are able to know the quantity necessary to produce healthy action of nervous and muscular systems, magnetism is the motive power to them as the blood is to the healthy action of the whole body. It is this that gives all the power to the muscles, for when magnetised a person finds his muscles are strengthened to such a degree that they become like steel, and are as tenacious as iron, so much so that they will not yield without breaking; so when the passions are excited, they are nothing but the magnetic fluid put in extraordinary commotion, this causing muscular force and excitement through the whole system connected both with the nerves and muscles.

In cases of lunacy the magnetic fluid is concentrated to an alarming extent in the brain when the muscular system in general is entirely prostrated, and the whole system is debilitated and unhealthy, and by applying remedies to remove the concentrated fluid from the brain and cause a more general flow through the system, we remove the great cause of lunacy, and all that is required then, is the restoration by stimulants of the venous system and digestive system, by remedies that are known as agents that will restore those to a healthy state and cause them to act in harmony with all the other branches of the system. The connexion between the different portions of the system are so distinct in themselves, yet so harmonious when they act in their proper spheres and form a junction with each other moving onward in a smooth even course, that it is extremely hard to ascertain which branch of the motive power in the system is affected, it requires great care and watchfulness to discern the right cause, and which of these principles is not acting in its proper sphere or which needs regulating, perhaps the cause may be in the first instance a derangement in the magnetic fluid and by being deranged for any length of time, it deranges the action of the other branches, consequently leading men astray in judging of the cause of the disease, thus the necessity of speedily consulting (those who ought by their profession to know) immediately and before the whole system has become changed by the original derangement of this one branch of the moving power of the system.

C. BAISTOW.

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*Dr. McNair, Editor of the St. Louis Magnet:*

DEAR SIR:—I have rather an interesting experiment in *Clairvoyance*, which I feel disposed to report to you; hoping, should you think it interesting to your many readers, that you may give it a place in your invaluable *Magnet*. I am inclined to think, that one of the principal reasons, why so many are still lingering in doubt in respect to *Clairvoyance*, is, that the friends of Mesmerism, and particularly *Clairvoyance*, have been too fearful or negligent, or both, in reporting the innumerable experiments, which have and are daily being made in *Clairvoyance*, for the scrutiny and reflection of the people. I plead guilty to the charge, and for the future shall try to do better. Indeed, I feel it obligatory

upon me, as far as it is in my power, to present to the world those interesting facts, which come within my cognizance—facts, which I am compelled to believe, are destined to be woven into a new science—a science which will arouse the sensibilities—develop intelligence, and in short ameliorate the condition of mankind to a greater extent, than all other sciences together, which have preceded it. To the healing art it is, so far as my experience goes, without a parallel. The time is certainly coming when no patient will suffer himself to swallow thousands of poisonous and filthy *nostrums*—they will call to their aid Clairvoyance, and dispense with this insufficient, very dangerous, and wretchedly blind method of practice. It will not be long till every physician, of a deep reflecting and candid bent of mind, will have recourse to clairvoyance in all complicated and critical cases. The simple reasons upon which I base these assertions are, first: no physician can determine correctly internal diseases from external symptoms, especially where the internal diseases are of a very complex character, which is frequently the case; 2dly, if he could determine the disease correctly, he would find it still difficult to apply the proper remedies to remove the disease. Physicians are well aware that even in external derangements they have to make several experiments before they hit upon the proper medicine to remove the disease. And how frequently, while they are thus experimenting, the patient dies. It is well known, too, what will cure one patient will not cure another. When Clairvoyance is substituted for blind chance, then will a revolution take place in the science of medicine, which may well cause the world to rejoice.

Pardon this digression. The experiment, which I propose to give you at present is not connected with the healing art, although I have seldom used it for any other purpose than to relieve the sufferings of my fellow beings.

While spending a few weeks at my country residence, with my family, my brother visited me, and knowing that my wife was capable of being thrown into the Clairvoyant state, wished me to mesmerize her. This, for his satisfaction, I did. My brother then told me he had an experiment which he should like to see tried for the especial purpose of testing clairvoyance. My brother then stated the experiment, which was simply this: a lady near my brothers, which was some fifteen miles distant from my residence, had lost a book, which she suspected had been taken from her house. I directed my wife's mind to



the lady's house, although at this distance, and then told her to examine the house critically and see if she could see the book. After setting for some time, as if in a deep reverie, she said she saw the book, which the lady thought was lost. I then asked her where the book was. She said it had slipped down in a small crack between the floor and wall, and that they would find it there. I can see it, she observed, it has on a black cover.

My brother returned home, and feeling interested to know the result of the experiment, went immediately to the lady's, and requested her to examine her house and see if there was any crack between the wall and the floor. A short search discovered the crack, and, to my brother's astonishment, the book, just as my wife had stated.

I thought no more of the matter, till several days afterwards, when my brother revisited me on business, and informed me of the result of the experiment.

This experiment was made at the distance of fifteen miles from my residence, a place where my wife never had been, and was unacquainted with the parties, except my brother. The subject was not mentioned to her or myself until after I had put her to sleep; nor was there any means by which she could have become acquainted with the facts, save through clairvoyance. This experiment, having been so carefully guarded against deception by my brother, who was rather sceptical upon the subject, is one reason why I publish it for general consideration.

Yours, &c., respectfully,

JOHN J. GRAMMAR.

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## ELECTRICITY.

[Continued.]

*Ex. 49.—Electric Swing.*—Balance a small figure upon two fine silk strings, and place it within three or four inches of a ball, which forms part of a conductor, while on the other side of the figure is a second ball connected with the ground. Upon putting the machine in action, the figure will vibrate from one to the other.

*Ex. 50.—The Electric Swing.*—Suspend a strip, or fine rod of glass upon a centre, (it may be hung up by silk,) and upon each end of it support a light figure of pith. Let one of the figures have no conducting substance under it, nor yet touch the conductor when swinging up-

wards; but let the other figure come against the ball of the conductor when it rises highest, and touch another ball connected with the ground when descending lowest; if put properly under the conductor of a machine it will vibrate up and down—the opposite figure only acting as a counterpoise to it.

*Ex. 51.—The Electrical Rope Dancer.*—Suspend from the ball of the conductor two thick wires, about a foot long. The upper wire is connected with the conductor by a small chain, or hook; the lower one hung to this, at the distance of two or three inches, by a silk thread at each end; the lower wire is also connected to the ground by a chain. Place on the lower wire a paper or pith figure, and upon putting the machine in action, it will move alternately and briskly between them.

*Ex. 52.—Electrical Spider.*—Cut out of a bit of cork the body of a spider: furnish it with eight white thread legs, and run through the body a long silk thread. Hold this up in one hand, so that it shall hang two or three inches from the side of the conductor, and hold the finger about the same distance beyond it—when the assistant turns the machine, the spider will fly backwards and forwards between the conductor and the finger.

*Ex. 53.—Spinning Sealing Wax.*—Fasten on to a thick wire a piece of sealing wax, about one inch long, by heating it, and thrusting the wire into it. Put the other end of the wire into a hole, either at the end or side of the conductor, so that the wax shall be at some distance off. Underneath where the wax is, either on the table or the floor, place a sheet of brown paper, merely to catch any drops which may fall when the wax is inflamed. Provide yourself also with a lighted candle, and a sheet of white paper. Direct your assistant, (for in this experiment you must have one,) to turn the machine, and stop it exactly at the time you may desire. Then standing near the wax, hold the white paper four or five inches from it, and light the sealing wax. When well lighted, blow it out, and at the same instant let the machine be turned, and exceedingly fine threads of wax will be thrown off, and collected on the white paper, as long as the wax remains melted. Stop the machine—light, and blow out the wax, and turn the machine as before—more of the filaments will be thrown off, and thus any quantity may be collected, and if scraped together by the point of a pin, it will resemble the finest wool, such as cannot be procured by any other means.

*Ex. 54.—The Electrical Pail.*—Suspend to the ball, which projects from the prime conductor, a small metal or wooden pail, having at the



bottom of it a hole, so fine that water will pass only by drops. Pour a little water into it, and when electrified, the water instead of dropping only will pass out in a stream, and this will divide itself into several streams, each of which in the dark will be beautifully luminous.

This experiment has been supposed to offer an explanation of the fiery rains mentioned in various authors, and is a corroboration of a fact, the utility of which we had once reason to congratulate ourselves upon being acquainted with. The circumstance was as follows: We were visiting a medical friend, and electrifying a lady for *gutta serena*, when a gentleman was brought in stunned by a fall from his horse; it was thought advisable to bleed him. The arm was tried; no blood would flow. The temporal artery; still without success. We suggested that electricity should be tried. He was placed on a chair, and that upon an insulating stool, and immediately the machine was put in action. The blood flowed from both orifices, and the gentleman recovered. Might not this fact be of use frequently in our hospitals? It is certainly very seldom, if ever applied to.

*Ex. 55.—Fiery Sponge.*—Suspend in like manner to the bucket a sponge dipped in water, and the luminous streams which issue from it will be more numerous and beautiful than even in the last example.

*Ex. 56.—Electric Planet.*—Suspend from the conductor of a machine a brass ring, about a foot in diameter, and underneath it, at about half an inch distance, a metallic plate connected with the ground. Place upon this plate, and within the ring, a very light hollow glass ball—turn the machine, and the little ball will describe an orbit around the ring, and turn at the same time about its own axis. The poles of its rotation are nearly at right angles to the plane of its orbit. We have not tried this experiment. Mr. Adams says, "that it requires considerable attention to make it succeed, as a small difference in the apparatus, or in the force of the machine, &c., will occasion a failure."

The above, together with the experiments formerly given, are the chief that are had recourse to for amusement. They are all to be explained by the principles of electrical attraction, which important law of the science has given rise to many instruments of paramount utility in pursuing electrical inquiries. The chief of these are known by the name of *Electrometers* and *Electroscopes*, the object of which is to measure either the quantity or intensity of accumulated electricity. The principal are as follows:

## ELECTROMETERS.

*The Quadrant Electrometer*, was invented by Mr. Henry. It consists of an upright stem of wood or metal, terminated by a ball at the top, and bearing an arc of ivory, divided into degrees, as in a great circle: that is, containing 90 degrees in every quarter, beginning at the bottom with zero, and having 90 at an equal distance from the upper and the lower part of the semi-circle of ivory. In the centre of this is balanced a very thin rod of wood, with a pith ball at its outward point, as represented. The slender rod is capable of motion up and down. It is used in connection with a charged jar or battery, and by the pith ball and its stem rising to a certain height, it indicates the intensity of the charge within the bottle or battery. At the greatest charge of a Leyden jar it will rise to nearly 90 degrees, but in a battery seldom more than 60 or 70. It being impossible to charge a battery so highly as a single jar.

*Sauseure's Bottle Electrometer*.—It consists of a glass case or bottle, with a metal bottom, four pieces of tinfoil being pasted on the sides of the glass, in connection with the bottom; withinside the glass are two very fine silver wires, swinging freely in a loop above, and ending below in two small pith balls. The upper part of the instrument is a brass cap, terminated by a ball and a rod of three or four feet, made in joints for the sake of greater convenience, and pointed. This instrument when used is to be placed in some exposed situation, when an approaching storm or other cause indicates the electric fluid in the atmosphere to be disturbed. The silver threads by their divergence will show the degree and character of the fluid in contact with the instrument. When it is used in rainy weather, the upper part of the glass is covered with a hood, like an umbrella, to keep the glass dry, and consequently the electrometer insulated.

In the above electrometers, as well as in the Gold-leaf Electrometer, described in a former part, it will be seen, that however valuable they may be as indicating an extremely minute quantity of the electric fluid, yet for comparative and delicate experiments they all fail; because gravitation considerably influences the weight of the moveable parts at different altitudes. To remedy this inconvenience, Mr. Coulomb contrived his Tortion Electrometer. It consists of a fine metallic wire, one end of which is attached to a screw, and to the other is suspended a horizontal needle, composed of gumlac, or other non-conductor, and armed at one extremity with a gilt pith pall, counterpoised at the other end by an index. The conductor is a small wire, with a ball at each

end, passing through the glass receiver, in which the needle is suspended, and having its lower ball opposed to that of the needle. By a screw, the two balls are brought into contact, and the index then points to zero, or the divided scale of degrees. On communicating a very feeble electrical power to the conductor, it transfers it to the moveable pith ball, and repels it to a certain number of degrees, proportional to the intensity of the acquired electricity, and measured by the power of portion which it exerts upon the fine wire. By experiments made with this electrometer, it would appear that the electrical powers follow the law of gravitation, in being *in the inverse ratio of the squares of the distances of the acting bodies*. In the most delicate construction of the instrument, a single silk-worm's thread is used instead of the wires.

## DE OBFUSCATIONIBUS

(Continued.)

The letter then suggests doubts and difficulties as to the cause of this ecstasy, &c. whether it be divine or merely a result of the "passions of the soul"—and whether it may be said that the "soul generates the power which has an "imaginative perception of futurity, &c. &c. and rather argues "that a passion of the soul is the cause of divination \*

\* \* because the senses are occupied and fumigations are introduced and invocations employed; and likewise because, that not all men, but those that are more simple and young are adapted to prediction."

You will see by these questions that the writer had a desire for an explanation of some mystical communications, and that the difficulty had occurred to him as to their true cause, whether merely human or superhuman; and it is enough for my purpose at present to intimate that questions would not have been asked or answered unless there was at least supposed to be something that needed explanation.

If the answer prove to be wholly unsatisfactory and even absurd, yet it is worth considering that something was attempted to be explained, and we are now to see what that something was.

But before proceeding in the matter I feel obliged to refer to another part of the work of Iamblicus, in order that you may recognize a peculiar distinction stated by the author in as clear language as the sub-

ject will admit the distinction between intuitive and acquired knowledge—between the reason and the understanding as it is now a days talked about, as if derived from the Germans, though much older than Plato's time. It is important to refer to it here because allusion is evidently made to it in the explanation that it is to follow, and the thing is very curious in itself and shows Iamblicus to have been a very clear-headed and a very pious man, considering that he was a heathen: He says, referring to the epistle of Arebo:

"In the first place then, you say, 'it must be granted that there are Gods.' But thus to speak, however, on this subject, is not right. For an innate knowledge of the Gods is co-existent with our very essence; and this knowledge is superior to all judgment and deliberate choice, and subsists before reasoning and demonstration \* \* \* In truth, the contact with divinity" [let this be called the light of faith, and it will be clear to those who have it] "is not knowledge—for knowledge is, in a certain respect (distinguished or) separated from its object by a sense of *otherness*. Before the knowledge, which as one thing knows another, is the uniform connexion with divinity, and which is suspended from the Gods, is spontaneous and inseparable from them. Hence it is not proper to grant, *that there are Gods*, as if it might not be granted, nor to admit it as if it were (doubtful or) ambiguous—nor are we worthy to explore a question of this kind as if we had authority either to approve or reject it. We are, indeed comprehended in it, or rather we are filled by it, and we possess that very thing which we are, in knowing the Gods."

It is singular, let me say, that Faust's answer to Margaret's inquiry as to his faith is very precisely expressed in this passage—too exactly, as it appears to me, not to have been suggested to Goethe by it. All critics agree that the answer of Faust is one of the most sublime passages in modern literature; so says Mrs. Austin at all events, and she is a competent judge.

Now it is from a reference to the peculiar kind of knowledge here described that the explanation of divination is derived by Iamblicus—for he says, further, that this intuitive knowledge will be assimilated to that of which it participates; that, "as the Gods have an existence which is always invariably the same, so the human soul is conjoined to them by this knowledge, according to an invariable *sameness*; by no means pursuing or obtaining such knowledge through conjecture or opinion or a process of reasoning (all of which originate in time) but acquiring it by becoming co-united to them."

I repeat now that the explanation of Iamblicus may be altogether false, but you will notice nevertheless the outward facts he refers to, and which he says "happen daily." The explanation is in the phraseology of an answer to Porphyry, as follows:

"But the dreams that are denominated *Theopemptoi*, or sent from God, do not subsist after the manner which you mention, but they take place either when sleep is leaving us, and we are beginning to awake, and then we hear a certain voice which concisely tells us what is to be done; or voices are heard by us between sleeping and waking, or when we are perfectly awake. Sometimes an invisible and incorporeal spirit surrounds the recumbents, so as not to be perceived by the sight, but by a certain other *co-sensation and intelligence*." The entrance of this spirit is accompanied with a noise, and he diffuses himself on all sides without contact, and affects admirable works conductive to the liberation of the passions of the soul and body.

[Continued.]

## SWEDENBORG'S ANIMAL KINGDOM.

(Continued.)

The brain supplies the body and the blood with life, and its functions in this respect combine nutrition, circulation, and respiration. It respire the ethers of the world, it nourishes its life with ethereal chyle, and it circulates the animal spirit elaborated therefrom through the corporeal system. It may be regarded as a unity which involves in principle and idea all the varieties that are manifested in the two inferior regions of the thorax and abdomen. Its cortical substances involve the functions of both the heart and lungs, because they are in the degree above both. They are so many corcula propelling the animal spirit through the medullary fibres and nervous system, and so many pulmuncula performing an animatory motion synchronous with the respiratory motion of the lungs, although not dependent upon it, but automatic or self-derived, and which indeed generates the motion of the lungs, as the end generates the cause, or the cause the effect. The ethereal medium that they respire they derive principally through what are termed by Swedenborg the corporeal fibres, which originate in the skin, and run back from the last boundaries of the body to the first in

the brain. Now the physiologists have never discovered the animation of the brain, because they have never seen the respiration of the lungs in its primary light. Had they done this, it would have been evident that the respiratory motion exercises a traction upon the sheaths of all the great nerves, and expands them, and that this traction is the external cause of a nervous circulation; for were there no fluid to respond to the force, there would be a tendency to a vacuum in these most incompressible organs, and their parts would be strained, or drawn asunder. But if there be a real circulation in the nervous system, it must have centres that propel it, and times and moments in which it is performed. We have already seen that in this case the fluid is externally drawn forth by the attraction of the lungs, consequently in the times of the respirations, and hence it must be drawn in by the brains in the same times; in short the animations of the brains must be synchronous with the respirations of the lungs. Hence it is that the brain supplies the body with internal motive force at the same instant as do the lungs with external; the heart only maintaining the organs in a state of potency and supplying what they demand by the influx of this compound attractive force operating according to their various fabrics.

It must not be inferred that a truth of such paramount importance in physiology as the animation of the brain, rests upon the slight chain of reasoning attempted above. No; its attestation is as general as the truth itself is universal. But since Swedenborg has taken the proof of it upon his own Atlantean shoulders, the reader is referred to his treatise\* on the subject for further corroborations. But it may be useful to indicate, that the doctrine is in no way shaken by the existence of the pulsatile movement so readily felt in young children, nor yet of that other movement, alternate and not synchronous with the respirations, which has been observed by some experimentalists. The truth is that all the three movements proceed uninterrupted by each other; and that the alternate movement, which is referable to the blood rushing out by the veins during inspiration, is what chiefly masks the synchronous movement, which is automatic, or referable to the brain itself.

There is no part of Swedenborg's system which is better worthy of attention than the doctrine of the skin. As the skin is the continent and ultimate of the whole system, so all the forms, forces and uses of the interior parts coexist within it. Moreover as it is the extreme of the body, and the contact of extremes, or circulation, is a perpetual law

\* *Economy of the Animal Kingdom*, tr. ii., 1—68.



of nature, so from the skin a return is made to the other extreme, namely, to the cortical substances of the brain. Hence the first function of the skin is, "to serve as a new source of fibres." For the fibres of one extreme, to-wit, the brain, also called by Swedenborg the fibres of the soul, could not of themselves complete the formation of the body, but could only supply its active grounds, and therefore these fibres proceed outwards to the skin, which is the most general sensorial expanse of the brain, and there generate the papillæ; and again emerging from the papillæ, and convoluted into a minute canal or pore, they take a new nature and name from their new beginning, and become the corporeal fibres, or the fibres of the body, which proceed from without inwards to the brain, and unite themselves to its cortical substances. These are the passives of which the nervous fibres are the actives; the veins or female forces of which the nervous fibres are the arteries or males; and "they suck in the purer elemental food from the air and ether, convey it to their terminations, and expend it upon the uses of life."

Besides this, the skin has a series of other functions which there is not space to dwell upon at present. Inasmuch as it is the most general covering of the body, therefore it communicates by a wonderful continuity with all the particular coverings of the viscera and organs, and of their parts, and parts of parts. And as it communicates with all by continuity of structure, so it also communicates by continuity of function; the whole body being therefore one grand sensorium of the sense of touch. In short, the animal spirit is the most universal and singular essence of the body and all its parts; the skin, the most general and particular form corresponding to that essence.

Having thus bestowed a cursory glance upon some points of Swedenborg's doctrine of the three spheres of the body, and their most general and particular continent, the skin, we shall now enlarge a little on certain subjects that have already been mentioned, in order to give them a more distinct place in the reader's apprehension. And first with respect to the circulation. It is clear that in assigning its due weight to the primary function of the lungs, we obtain a law which enables us to limit the function of the heart and arteries; and the result is, that the heart and aorta simply propel the blood to the mouths of the arteries leading into the viscera, and the viscera themselves attract it thenceforth, and dominate over the circulation of their own vessels, commanding it to take place in the times of the respirations, and not in the times

of the pulses of the heart. As one means to this end, the vessels which supply the organ, generally come off at right angles from the great artery.

But there is another branch of this subject which is worthy of attention. The circulation in the great vessels is comparatively inordinate or confused, because in them the blood is all mingled together in a heterogeneous mass, and propelled onwards by an external force; but the circulation in the capillaries is most orderly and distinct, being an automatic movement performed by the single globules of the blood, in vessels which correspond to them individually, and where they are perfectly at home. If a comparison be permitted, they constitute a medley crowd in the heart and aorta, but march separately, man by man, in the capillaries. Hence the blood in its mass can but imperfectly manifest its living endowments, but when sundered into its individualities or leasts, it distinctly exercises its dynamic nature, and flows spontaneously; for it is a spiral and circular force and tends therefore to a spiral gyration, or to circulation. Indeed in a universal sense, the leasts of the blood are the causes of the heart's action, and the grounds of the whole sanguineous movement; although speaking in generals, the heart, and the lungs acting on the viscera, are the joint causes of this effect.

[Continued.]

## MEDICAL CASES.

CLAIRVOYANT EXAMINATION of Mr. B——, by E. E. Dill.

"This patient's system is very much deranged, and he tires very easily from exertion. Perspires too freely, and is very liable to take cold. His blood circulates very unequally, and determines too much to the head. Liver torpid, nervous system irritable, and stomach quite weak. The lining membrane of the lungs is considerably inflamed, and the air cells of the left lobe are somewhat contracted. These derangements cause great general debility, accompanied with severe pains in the back, right side and left shoulder, with a good deal of stiffness of the joints—particularly the knees."

*Remedies.*—"Thoroughwort, 2 oz.; Indian Turnip, 1 oz.; Skunk Cabbage, 1 1-2 oz.; Hoarhound, 3 oz.; Lady Slipper, 2 1-2 oz.; Blood Root 2 oz.; Lobelia Seed, 1 oz.; Cherry Bark, 1-4 lb. Make into half

a gallon of syrup; let the patient take half a wine glass full before each meal."

2dly. Take Extract of Dandelion, 1 dram; Sulphate of Iron, 1 do.; Carbonate of Potash, 1-2 do; ex. Blackroot, 1-2 do.; Make into four grain pills. Let the patient take one every evening, and two in the morning, until all are taken."

"The patient may bathe his feet two or three times per week in hot water; and he should also sponge all over every morning in cold Salene water."

"The magnetic machine should be applied three or four times through from the liver and epigastric region to the back. The positive pole may be placed over the region of the liver, and the negative pole should be passed down the whole length of the spinal column."

"The patient should be careful not to eat too much at a time. He may eat whatever his appetite craves, but he must be very careful to eat but little at a time until his digestive organs regain their natural tone and energy. This course of treatment will soon cure, and the patient will become stouter than he has usually been."

This examination was made last February, and in less than ten days after the patient went to work, and has not lost a day since from sickness. He stated to me a few days since that his health was much better than usual. This patient had taken a great deal of medicine previously to this examination, which resulted in no special benefit.

We was called in great haste, some ten days since, to see a patient who was given up by two of the old school physicians. In less than thirty minutes after we reached the patient's room, he was a corpse. A lady of the highest respectability was present, and an excellent Clairvoyant. A great desire was expressed by several present to have the corpse, (or the dying man, for he perceptibly breathed for some minutes after the examination was terminated,) examined. The lady consented, and we threw her into the Clairvoyant state. The result of which was, that the patient had come to his death from the effect of strong medicines. She stated that the lower part of his lungs, stomach and liver were all mortified—that the strong medicine which he had taken, had produced a great deal of irritation, which lead to inflammation, and terminated in mortification. She then stated what would have arrested the inflammation, and restored the patient, had it been used before mortification took place. The lady was awakened, and we then enquired into the particulars of the patient. We was informed that he

had taken a slight cold—complained of a pain in his left side, and had rather a hacking cough,—but was still able to walk about. On Wednesday he called in his family physician, who prescribed a dose of tartaremetic, bled,—taking about a quart of blood, and gave thirty grains of Calomel!!! The patient was immediately prostrated, and rapidly sank under the *magic* effects of these *Sampson's* of the drug shops—efficient weapons in the hands of *butchers*! To counteract the evil thus produced Iodine was prescribed, and as a last resort, a solution of Quinine and Camphor!!!! Comments are unnecessary. A comparison of the two cases is sufficient. From all the information we could gain, these two patients were very similarly deranged, in the first commencement of their attacks. Their temperaments and constitutions from every appearance was much the same. In tracing effects and their causes we certainly cannot be blamed for coming to the conclusion that the difference in these results originated in the difference in treatment.

## CONSTIPATION OR COSTIVENESS OF THE BOWELS.

This is not only a troublesome symptom, but always indicates an unhealthy state of things in the stomach, liver and abdominal organs. The use of cathartic medicine for this symptom, so common at this day, always other things being equal, only aggravates the complaint. Good food as coarse wheaten bread and fruits, the avoidance of tea, coffee, spices, salt, and other heating and stimulating condiments, exercise in the open air, the drinking freely of pure soft water, and injections of the same fluid—judicious bathing daily followed—regularity and care in all the habits of life—these are the means, and incomparably the best, that can be used to prevent constipation.—[Water-cure Journal.

Those who have practised medicine in the Allopathic school, know something of the obstinate perverseness of this unnatural condition of the bowels; and those who have had the “ill-luck” to contract the habit, know something of the disappointments attending that kind of practice. Within my knowledge there are persons who have been afflicted with costiveness for a good half dozen years, and who have exhausted the round of medicating, taken rhubarb, magnesia, charcoal, syrups, patent medicines, &c., by the pound. Who is there, that has

ever had this disease, that does not know by experience that medicines will not cure it permanently? A dose of any cathartic will give relief for a day or two, but the over excitement which it occasions, deepens and fixes more permanently the disease, and begets the necessity for other and larger portions of the medicine. The water-cure, in connection with correct living, and regular habits, promises not only immediate relief, but a perfect cure. Injections of cold, or tepid water, regularly each day, one or two general ablutions, together with the use of the sitz-bath, morning and evening for 20 or 30 minutes each sitting, washing and rubbing the bowels freely with the hand whilst in the tub, will, I believe, cure the most obstinate cases of costiveness. I have sometimes directed, in addition to the processes just named, that the wet bandage be worn at night—but this is rarely necessary.

From the Mississippian.

### SURGERY AND MESMERISM.

An interesting surgical operation was performed in our city on the 2d inst., by Dr. W. R. GIST, assisted by Dr. W. S. LANGLEY, of which the following description has been furnished us by one of the witnesses. The patient was the lady of Mr. James E. Mathews, Auditor of Public Accounts.

On the 25th June, Dr. Gist visited and mesmerized Mrs. M. for the first time, with the view of removing a cancerous tumor. He visited her again on the 27th and 29th of the same month, and mesmerized her on both occasions. The tumor was situated just behind the angle of the lower jaw, on the left side of the face, and over the lower half of the parotid gland. It was slightly inflamed and exceedingly tender, so much so that the slightest touch caused very great pain.

On the 2d inst., Dr. G. accompanied by Dr. Langley, visited the patient. She did not know that Dr. G. intended to perform the operation on that evening, but suspected it from the fact of Dr. Langley's being present, and was therefore much agitated. Dr. G., however, succeeded very soon, in placing her most fully under the mesmeric influence. At this time, Col. Mathews called in Chancellor Cocke, Gen. Clark and lady, and Mr. George Boddie, in whose presence the operation was performed. A portion of skin, one and a half inches in length and one inch in width was then removed—a cut was made about half an

inch in depth, including the skin and cellular tissue, together with the entire tumor, taken away. It bled freely, after which the wound was closed with stitches and adhesive straps; the whole operation occupying about twenty minutes. The pulse and respiration were counted by Dr. Langley, both before and after the operation, and it was found that the pulse had not varied a beat in a minute, neither had the respiration changed. Those who watched the countenance, could not detect the slightest change in the features, not even the contraction of a muscle, although the operation was (or would have been under ordinary circumstances) a very painful one.

About a half an hour after the operation was over, she was awakened from her mesmeric sleep—her attention called to some irrelevant subject, when she laughed heartily and *naturally*. Her attention was then called to the wound. She was perfectly astonished, and said she knew nothing of it, but, that it then smarted and burnt. She is doing well, and will soon be entirely recovered.

Much praise is due Dr. Gist for the skilful and satisfactory manner in which the operation was performed. We learn that a full report will be made out for publication in some medical journal.

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### REMARKABLE MESMERIC CURE.

At a lecture given at Derby, Mr. S. T. Hall related the following remarkable case: It is that of a young lady of whose mind and disposition, to say the best I could, would be no compliment; but whose bodily powers were so worn down by a grievous internal disease and a natural delicacy of constitution, that some years ago, she was unable properly to balance herself when walking, and so fell from the top to the bottom of a flight of stairs, severely bruising the back of her head, and various portions of her spine, step after step, during the entire descent. From the description I have heard, the paroxysms and tortures to which she became subject, must have been most awful. Notwithstanding her previous debility, so powerful were the convulsions she afterwards for sometime underwent, that it often required the efforts of two or three strong men to prevent her being thrown by them off the bed. To the relief of these, nature came at length with an attack of paralysis, which entirely prostrated her, and for nearly three years she lay unable to help



herself, as it was even with difficulty she could be helped by others, since the slightest application of a camel hair pencil to the region of the spine, was sufficient to occasion the most excruciating pain. The best advice that could be obtained, afar or near—every remedy that medical authority could suggest to her kind and anxious friends—had been tried, and had left her little better than it found her; and when I was first introduced, she was not only suffering from exceedingly acute pain, but appeared to be as weakly and as inert as an infant. The results of my visits have since been attributed by some of our opponents, to the effect of a powerful imagination. But as ever since the cessation of her convulsions, one of the young lady's legs had become permanently foreshorted, so that when she was made able to stand, she could not bring the heel within two inches of the ground; and as this physical, and not imaginary contraction, has now been entirely removed—further, as a constant and anxious medical friend of the family had such faith in the patient's integrity and sound judgment, that he had declared long before, if mesmerism could produce any effect upon her, he should fully believe her report of it—such an interpretation is as preposterous and pitiful as the spirit that dictates it. Whatever the agent between my passes and her frame, or whatever name it may be called by—and 'the rose by any other name would smell as sweet'—this truth is clear to all who know her, and though her sufferings had been all and more than I have described, up to the commencement of my present series of visits to Derby, and though my treatment has been without the aid of drugs of any kind, she is not only now comparatively free from pain, but goes freely about the house, enjoying the society of her delighted friends, and occasionally walks, unsupported, in the garden, gathering flowers with her own hands, and thankfully reaping additional health from such a renewal of her acquaintance with nature." We believe, says the Derby Reporter, that we are perfectly in order, in saying that the patient thus far restored, is Miss Longdon, of Friar gate, well known in Derby as a kind and intelligent member of the Society of Friends, whose parents, and others of the family connexion, were present at the lecture, and concurred in all that was advanced in relation to the case by Mr. Hall.—[Bath Herald, England.

*Important Discovery.*—A German friend translates for us, from the "Schnellpost," the annexed account of a highly important discovery:

FRANKFORT, (Germany,) August 10th.

At the meeting of the society for natural philosophy, held here the day before yesterday, some interesting facts were communicated by Professor Boettger relative to the important discovery of Prof. Schoenbein at Basle, (Switzerland,) to transform vegetable fibre into a transparent, colorless, glass-like mass. The process discovered by Professor Schoenbein is as yet a secret; but according to communications, made in polytechnical journals, the following striking results are said to have been obtained. Ordinary unsized paper may, by this process, be made tougher and more durable; it becomes perfectly water-proof, is not acted upon by either acids or alkalies, and needs neither sizing nor starching, in order to be used as writing, printing, or wrapping paper. Thus prepared, it can also be made entirely transparent, exhibiting further the remarkable property strongly to develop electricity by friction. More important, however, are the effects of this process upon cotton, which thereby acquires the property of detonating on bringing it in contact with live coal. Professor Boettger said, that the reading of these facts induced him to resume his former researches in the same line, and that he succeeded in arriving at like results, whether by a like process is not decided. He exhibited to the meeting specimens of paper, which displayed the properties mentioned above. A small quantity of prepared cotton, to all external appearance exactly like common cotton, even when examined under the microscope, exploded at the moment it came in contact with a piece of ignited tinder, leaving but a very small residuum. On further trials, made in presence of the writer of this communication, the cotton proved to be of more than double the strength of gunpowder. Professor Boettger discharged from a small pistol, loaded with cotton instead of gunpowder, a bullet, which passed through both an oak board two inches and a half, and a pine board one inch thick; whereas a bullet, fired from a barrel charged with gunpowder, of the same weight with that of the cotton, did not pass through the pine board alone. Further communications on this important discovery are looked for with no small degree of interest.

**ELECTRICAL PHENOMENON.**—An account of human electricity was given in a number of *Silliman's Journal* sometime ago, which might, if carried out, lead to some important conclusions in respect to human phenomena heretofore unexplained. The subject became so electric that sparks were drawn from and even spontaneously issued from the ends of her fingers. During this time an intense aurora borealis showed itself. The phenomena continued for several months, the sparks being readily given out wherever the lady approached any conductor of electricity. She could touch nothing metallic without emitting an electrical spark, which was an annoying circumstance to her. These appearances were proportionably heightened when the air was warm and the lady was in good spirits. During cold weather, and when she was in a melancholy mood, these phenomena were suspended. When sitting by a stove with her feet upon the metal edge, the sparks were drawn out at intervals of a few seconds, from three to six sparks per minute. The lady was about thirty years of age, of sedentary habits, and rather sickly. She had suffered from rheumatic and neuralgic affections about two years prior to this time.

[From the Northampton Democrat.]

## PERSECUTION FOR OPINION.

BY STEPHEN J. W. TABOR, M. D.

Make it crime for men to speak and think,  
And all our gifts would to oblivion sink;  
The arts would wither—science droop and dye,  
And commerce frighten'd seek another sky;  
Blind ignorance would rule the land with awe,  
And superstition be enthroned by law;  
Cowl'd shaven monks would all the world control,  
And burn and fulminate from pole to pole.  
But TRUTH needs not the law to make it stand,  
Nor asks assistance from the stake and brand.  
Secure she moves enshrin'd by holy light,  
And seeks no arms but those of moral might;

So far from gaining strength by ill judg'd force,  
 It clogs her feet and checks her in her course,  
 Enshrouds in darkness her refulgent lamp,  
 And marks her brow with error's fearful stamp.

Away, then, freemen, with those views so vain,  
 Which would renew vile Tarquemada's reign,  
 And here established, on Columbia's shore,  
 The Inquisition known in days of yore.  
 Let TOLERATION o'er your realms extend,  
 And faith and works forever find a friend:  
 Nor fear that harm may thus perhaps accrue  
 To aught divine, important, just or true.  
 "Let Truth and Falsehood grapple," Milton said,  
 Though the encounter Error well may dread;  
 But Truth defies all human strength and wit—  
 MAGNA EST VERITAS—PREVALEBIT!  
 So reads the motto on her pierceless mail—  
 The Truth is mighty and it must prevail!  
 How impotent are then those senseless laws,  
 Which, made to aid, but retrograde her cause!  
 How base those men, who in the guise of zeal,  
 Convert with fire and demonstrate with steel!

Such men there were in a monastic age,  
 Who made the world a scene of woe and rage,  
 Who pour'd forth seas of pure and guiltless blood,  
 And revell'd gladly in the crimson flood.  
 But not to ancient monkish times,  
 Not to far distant or to foreign climes,  
 Need we to turn our horror stricken gaze  
 To mark the blight of persecution's blaze;  
 For o'er the earth her scorching flames have run,  
 And fed on gore wherever shines the sun,  
 Burnt and destroy'd in England, France and Rome,  
 And hung and branded even here at home—  
 Yes, even here, where proscib'd freedom fled,  
 Has persecution rais'd her horrid head,  
 Confin'd the mind by oppressive sway,  
 And boldly walk'd abroad in open day,  
 O'er spread the land with misery and tears,  
 And prov'd her doctrines by the scourge and shears!