

# CURES

EFFECTED BY

## ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

BY THE SOMNAMBULE,

ADOLPHE DIDIER.

---

*150. c. 15.*

LONDON:

HIPPOLYTE BAILLIÈRE, 219, REGENT STREET,

AND AT THE AUTHOR'S RESIDENCE,

15, RUSSELL PLACE, FITZROY SQUARE.

1861.

*151. c. 277.*

LONDON :  
Printed by A. Schulze, 13, Poland Street.



C U R E S

EFFECTED BY

ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

---

For the advancement and honour of Magnetic Science, for the good of my fellow-creatures, and for the service of the scientific world, I think it my duty to publish my latest cures effected exclusively by the aid of Animal Magnetism.

For the twenty years that I have been engaged in Magnetic Science, my object has

been to prove that man possesses a supreme faculty, inseparable from his very being, which constitutes his essence, and that he may transmit this faculty to his fellow-creatures. With this object, I have given lectures and *séances* in all the great cities of Europe. I have never feared fatigue, convinced that there is virtue in the perseverance which we bring to the work of doing good. If sometimes we feel sadness at witnessing the obstinacy of certain persons who deny everything to Magnetism, we are, at other times, well rewarded by the happiness which we feel in relieving or in curing sufferers, in cases where medicine has proved powerless.

I am assured that Magnetism has a great future before it. The day will come when its

curative application will be adopted by all the world.

Among my friends whom I have cured by Magnetism, there are some who, convinced in their own persons of the efficacy of this treatment, magnetise, now, their own children at the least indisposition, always succeeding in arresting disorder at its onset.

To reap from Magnetism all the advantages which may be derived from it, it must become the medicine of families—that the father and the mother should magnetise their children.

In certain cases, the benefit of Magnetism is a long while before it displays itself.

Man is composed of two beings, the one spiritual, the other material. He who de-

votes himself exclusively, from infancy, to the development of the physical being, under the pretext that it could not attain to a perfect growth if labour were given at the same time to moral development, commits a grievous error ; such a one loses sight entirely of the view of Nature, who shows us every day that nothing perfect can exist without harmony ; harmony can only exist, can only be maintained by the equal development of every part of one whole. We may see an example of this in the habit which we have in making use of one hand rather than the other. We have more strength in one part of our body than another. The cause of this is not in our organisation, since the small number of those who have contracted the habit of using the

left hand, find an incompetency in the opposite hand.

I think it necessary, before relating cures resulting so victoriously from the beneficent action of Magnetism, to lay down certain principles.

Man is endowed with the faculty of feeling, and with that of acting. He feels, that is to say, he receives impressions from which his thoughts arise. He wills, that is to say, he expresses his existence by acts, independant of the general laws of nature, and of which the causes reside in his will.

The organs of sensation are the senses, of which the constituent parts are the nerves.

Besides the senses, properly so called, he also possesses different internal organs, fitted to receive impressions; but the habit

of receiving strong impressions through external organs, scarcely permits him to distinguish the more delicate impressions of the internal organs ; in some particular cases, however, these latter impressions may become sensible.

If the regularity of the internal movements is disturbed by some cause or other, the body is in a state of disorder.

In this latter case, the conservative principle makes incessant efforts to destroy the cause of the disorder ; if it succeeds in this it effects a cure ; in the contrary case, the disorder increases, and has no other issue than the total cessation of movement—death.

Medicine is the art of aiding nature in re-establishing equilibrium in the body ;



it may succeed in this in two ways, either by strengthening the conservative principle, so as to enable it to subdue the cause of disorder, or by acting upon this cause itself, so that nature has less effort to make to destroy it. This latter branch of medicine is the only one cultivated in our day. Internal remedies, of which it is difficult to calculate the effects, from the infinite shades of temperaments, are its means. The first branch in question appears to have been known to the ancients, and to have become lost by the effect of revolutions; these processes, simple as Nature, from which they are derived, constitute Magnetism.

To magnetise is to direct one's thought upon a patient with a persistent will to relieve him; there then results a general

movement communicated from the magnetiser to the magnetised, in which the former is principal, and is able to accelerate, or to moderate, the interior movements of the latter, and consequently, to strengthen the conservative principle.

Under Magnetism, all crises are salutary ; it prepares for them, it brings them on, and leads them to a happy termination.

Among the curative crises evolved, the most remarkable of all is that called Somnambulism. In this crisis, the external senses have ceased to receive impressions ; the internal senses are then alone impregnated with the principle of feeling, and receive a great development ; an extraordinary instinct exhibits itself in the patient, who then acquires a knowledge of his interior,

and of the remedies suitable to his disorder ; sometimes, even, his senses become so delicate, as to enable him to perceive the morbid causes, and their remedies.

This crisis, which Magnetism often produces, may be more or less perfect ; it is, when completely obtained, a certain sign of cure.

To magnetise, that is to say, to open one's heart to the sweet impulse of benevolence, requires the same sentiment, in return, from the person who is magnetised.

The processes which I employ are of the greatest simplicity. I isolate myself, and concentrate myself as much I possibly can. I neither see nor hear any thing that is passing around me ; I make a mental prayer that God may bless and aid my efforts. My

thought once fixed, my will is firm, I magnetise. An invocation so sincere by pure intents cannot but succeed.

The persons whom I have had the happiness to cure have never been magnetised for the sleep. I have only occupied myself with the malady and the cure.

Every one can be magnetised : all diseases may be cured by Magnetism.

God has endowed man with the power of curing his fellow-creatures by imparting without injuring his own existence. (I do not believe that one can catch a disease by magnetising ; if that were the case, I should have every disease possible. After all, and this is the belief of many of my friends, one may guard oneself against any such possible risk by demagnetising oneself.)

This precious power, known especially to men whose habits bring them most closely to Nature, is assuredly instinctive.

In the humble cottage where the only science known is that of cultivating the earth, and in training children to simple and useful labour; the mother soothes by gentle frictions, made with a solicitude which permits not the slightest distraction, the pains which disturb her infant: instructed by her tenderness, she varies her movements and caresses, she knows that by passes from above downwards upon the vertebral column, and upon the abdomen, she can dissipate the pains so frequent and so dangerous in infancy; she knows that by supporting with her hands the head of her child upon her breast, and gently rocking

him there, she can soothe and render supportable the anguish of teething ; she knows that by placing one of her hands on the little patient's forehead she can allay the fever which burns his head ; that when he has sickness, slight frictions on the epigastrium allays it ; she also knows if her child, laid in the cradle or in a chair, utters cries torn from him by suffering which he can only thus express, that to make them disappear it is often sufficient only to take him in her arms and press him again and again to her heart.

Persons estimable alike for their profound knowledge and for their humanity have not disregarded these simple observations.

The time is not far off when physicians will make a special study of Magnetism.

In the meanwhile I think magnetisers would do well to adopt a more prudent conduct than has been usual with them.

Magnetism is a most powerful agent ; it may be abused : it would be dangerous if it were in other than honest hands. Happily its practice requires too much time, too many sacrifices, to permit its being adopted by others than those who are actuated by the desire of being serviceable to their fellow-creatures ; and this sentiment has no force and activity except in the hearts of the good.

Magnetism has other inconveniences ; when it is not under the direction of prudence it does not produce effects so salutary.

I have seen many persons who have ex-



perienced no present sensible effects from magnetisation, but who have nevertheless been cured by it.

The magnetisation performed for the relief of suffering differs, as in its object so also in its means and in its effects, from that which is intended solely to produce an altered state in a magnetic subject.

The magnetic fluid, like all other fluids, is dynamic, it is the vital force ; to accumulate it in the nervous system, is to augment the powers of vitality. Consequently, if this vital excitation is made without discernment, and an organ, already over excited, acquires irritability, it will assuredly favour disorganisation. But if, after having ascertained the organ in which irritability is concentrated, the faculty which the



magnetiser has is made use of to establish magnetic currents, either in the organic centre, or in another which he establishes within him, then danger is avoided and relief is accomplished.

It is very easy for a mother to magnetise her children, for a husband to magnetise his wife; for this very little instruction is requisite; provided that they have confidence, that is enough. As they are occupied with one single object—the object that most interests them—the attention is not distracted, the will the same; they naturally make use of all their faculties, and nothing can disturb the gradual and salutary progress of nature.

Several ladies whom I have magnetised have magnetised their children with the

greatest success, two especially. One has a very large family, and ever since she has been cured by Magnetism, she has employed it upon her own children. The other had an infant whose face became covered with a disfiguring eruption. Physicians had pronounced the case incurable. She asked me whether she could not magnetise the child. Upon my replying in the affirmative, she proceeded to do so; at the first magnetisation she thought she perceived an improvement. She persisted with hopefulness, and after a few days a crust which covered the whole face was detached. I believe that at the present day, this child is in perfect health. Behold what Magnetism can do!

A great responsibility attaches to a magnetiser who takes charge of the treatment of

several persons. An active desire to do good, and faith in his power, are not the only qualities required in him, he must have instruction, great prudence, and firmness of purpose and character; he must also be master of his time.

Magnetism is not sufficiently known to allow of its being employed in the bosom of every family, even where its utility is recognised and admitted. There is, in the first place, a vast difference of force among magnetisers. As a necessary consequence when one is informed that a magnetiser has effected remarkable cures, many patients present themselves asking his aid. When one has experienced the happiness of restoring a suffering being to health, especially when the patient is already regarded by his

family as lost, one feels an exquisite and incomparable delight ; and one feels tempted to yield to the requests of all who come for similar aid without calculating one's strength. But there are limits to everything ; in extending efforts of this kind as if they were illimitable, they are rendered less active and less useful. It is therefore necessary to know how one may magnetise several patients at the same time, without any one of them suffering thereby, and without the magnetiser experiencing an exhaustion which would effectually neutralize his zeal.

There are maladies the treatment of which ought not to be undertaken unless there is a certainty of being able to continue it, and unless one is well assured that the

patient will not become wearied after the first few *séances*.

Magnetisers well know what they engage to do when they undertake the treatment of a chronic malady. A patience is required which is above all trial, an unshaking firmness, a devotedness which charity alone is capable of inspiring, a charity whose sweetest satisfaction is in rendering a service to a suffering fellow-creature.

Ils étaient bien peu médecins, peu physiologistes ceux qui ont nié que le Magnétisme déterminait des changements dans l'organisation, et qu'il ne pouvait jouir de quelques puissances dans la cure des maladies.

—ROSTAN.

They are scarcely worthy of the name of physicians or of physiologists, who say that Magnetism determines no changes in the organisation, or that it does not possess powers in the cure of diseases.

It is a little more than a year ago, from this time, that I received an invitation from Sir J. —, Bart, of the —. He had been in a bad state of health for a long time. Disappointed in all the usual reme-

dies, he had turned at last to Magnetism. He had consulted me several times. He now sent for me that I might attend to him properly.

Immediately upon my arrival I magnetised this gentleman. I repeated my magnetisation twice a day. I had to persevere for two months, when he was completely cured.

The disease was chronic dyspepsia, general weakness, great nervous susceptibility, and other troubles, which altogether rendered this gentleman so fearful that he scarcely dared to take any exercise. Now he is quite well and strong, and a warm advocate of the science to which he owes health and happiness.

During my stay at his residence he re-

requested me to do something for his house-keeper, who was suffering much from dropsical swelling of the legs to the knees, and of the abdomen, great weakness, diarrhœa, depression. But how could I propose such a treatment to an ignorant person? In this case I had recourse to a small *galvano-magnetic* machine which I have invented, and by which I obtain happy results.—By this means I was able to magnetise at my ease and to cure her unknown to herself in three days! She was at the end of that short time able to walk, and go up and down stairs without weakness, and has suffered no relapse.

About ten months ago, when I was in the Isle of Wight, a lady who was a great



sufferer asked me to give her a *séance*. This I did with the greatest pleasure. Sir J. — was kind enough to magnetise me for the occasion. I perceived, after my diagnosis, that it was a case for Magnetism. I therefore magnetised this lady for several days; these few *séances* had a most happy result. Some time after I was again sent for to —, to continue the work so auspiciously commenced. I magnetised, then, this lady twice a day. She was in a state of great nervous debility, and was not far from her confinement. After a few *séances* we observed a sensible improvement. Taking into consideration her precarious state, we were obliged to proceed with the greatest caution. After a few days of magnetisation she was able to go out in the carriage; at

the expiration of eight days she was further able to walk by the aid of my arm in the park, to every one's astonishment. All around, it was known that this lady's restoration to health was due to Magnetism; for these excellent persons would not conceal that it was to this remedy that the happy result was attributable. The good woman of the neighbouring farm seeing the lady walking with only the support of my arm exclaimed, "Oh, madam, this mesmeric treatment has performed a wonder!" At the end of a fortnight I took leave of these excellent persons, leaving the lady completely well. Since then she has been confined and is as well as possible. A few weeks subsequently to the interesting event, I received a letter, by which I learned that at a concert

given at their residence, this lady had been able to play during the whole evening without apparent fatigue. Since then, I have had the honour of seeing her again, and was happy to find that her health was quite re-established.

After the cure above cited, I received a telegram summoning me immediately to Hungary. I had been informed that the Baroness P——, whom I was thus required to visit, had been in correspondence with me for her family for several months, for some years indeed; for I learned afterwards that I had been consulted ten years previously, but on that occasion for a different person. I was free; I did not hesitate. I set out full of hope and of faith in my curative power.

On my journey I made the acquaintance of Prince W——, who wanted me to make a stay at Dresden ; but, urged on by a presentiment, I determined to continue my route. At length I arrived at the residence of the Baroness S—— de P——, after three day's and three night's continuous travelling. I found the invalid overwhelmed with a weight of suffering, a yellow countenance, great oppression, expectoration tinged with blood, palpitation of the heart, and slow fever ; such were her complaints.

I endeavoured to collect my strength to magnetise with energy ; but after a few passes I found myself so weak that all my efforts were vain. I mentally prayed, but could produce no result. After a few minutes' conversation I withdrew to a room

prepared for me. As I went thither I expressed my apprehensions to her son-in-law. I entertained but little hope of being able to do any thing for the patient.

In fact, I was for the first time in my life hopeless of doing good. Notwithstanding the fatigue of my journey I could get no repose. At length, worn out, I fell into a light slumber, in which I saw an angel, who said to me: "My son, wherefore this grief? Hast thou not seen that thou art to heal this person? thou art much distressed but thou art wrong. This lady is sick indeed, but thou shalt cure her. Preserve thy strength, thy presence of mind, magnetise the chest; make long passes from the head to the feet."

I awoke in the morning tranquil and re-

assured. After the first magnetisation the patient was better. From day to day there was progressive amendment. All the Baroness's friends complimented me on this happy success. The delight of the whole family was excessive, even to the little grandson, who could not refrain from tears at my departure.

On my return home I visited the Baron Reichenbach at Vienna, and M. Jobard at Brussels, to whom I communicated this success for Magnetism.

I take no glory specially to myself, what I did all may do. Will, faith, are all that are necessary.

Since that period I have been in correspondence with this noble family, and I have

had the happiness to be informed that she has not in any respect retrograded.

### **Diphtheria.**

On the 9th of May 1860, Captain H—— of the Life Guards, came to me for relief. He was suffering from a grave attack of the new malady diphtheria; it was of a most intense description. He was scarcely able to make himself understood.

I magnetised him for twenty minutes. In this single magnetisation he was cured.

The next day he called to confirm the complete disappearance of this severe complaint.

Upon certain constitutions magnetism appears to operate instantaneously.

At the moment of writing this I have



before me, just received, a letter from a clergyman, (whose mother I had cured) informing me that he had obtained an equally happy result in the same disorder.

### **Influenza.**

At the same period, Mr. C——, M.P. came to me. I magnetised him for three weeks with complete success, eventually. At every magnetisation he said, "I am already better."

### **Suppressed Gout.**

Mr. A——, of G—— Castle, came expressly from Ireland to submit himself to the magnetic treatment. He was suffering from suppressed gout, giddiness, inability to lie on the left side. He was magnetised



seven times. During each *séance* he endeavoured to take and to maintain the position which was previously so painful to him. To his great satisfaction his pains and troubles disappeared. He left London again in three days. On his return home, he was so kind as to report his progress to me. He wrote thus of the state of his health: "I thank you very much for all your kind attentions to me. I am happy to be able to tell you that I have never felt so well as I do at this moment."

### Diabetes.

I now come to the cure which I think is the finest I have made in my whole magnetic career. Every one knows the happiness he has experienced at the appearance of

progressive and sensible improvement in the health of a person in whom he feels interested. I had this happiness in this case ; from the very commencement I was able to follow the progress of the cure step by step.

Mrs. H—— had been a sufferer for a long time. She had been treated for diabetes by medical celebrities ; indeed she presented all the symptoms of that distressing disorder ; constant thirst, sleeplessness, general relaxation, neuralgic pains, sensitiveness of the limbs, so excessive that the slightest touch caused her great suffering ; she was, from being robust and *enbonpoint*, now weak and emaciated.

From the first magnetisation there was evident amelioration, which imparted to us the greatest confidence. She submitted herself

then to the treatment full of hope in me, I being equally confident in my *dictum*.

After a few weeks the patient was able to take some little exercise, to walk the length of the terrace, supported only by some one's arm or a walking cane. Desirous of not neglecting a cure which promised so favourably from the very commencement, I willingly acceded to the wish that I should take up my abode with the family at their residence, in the midst of one of the most beautiful sites in the world, and whither the Queen, when at Osborne, has been sometimes attracted. While I was there, Her Majesty came to visit the grounds. Unhappily, at the moment, the family was not in the castle; had it been otherwise, perhaps, my good friend would have mentioned my name.

I thus, possibly, lost the signal honour of being presented to Her Majesty. At the time, I was, myself, in the grounds ; had it been another person I should have remained where I was, but, knowing it was the Queen with the Royal party, I ran to the remotest corner of the place. I thus lost a favourable opportunity for the cause of Magnetism ; for facts would have spoken strongly in its favour and would have given weight to my words ; in this family, the husband owed his relief to Magnetism, his wife and daughter—their cure.

But to resume the narrative of my treatment. Every morning my patient was able to take her walk, sometimes with the assistance of my arm, but often alone and without even her cane. Once wishing to afford

us an unmistakeable evidence of her strength she resolved not only to take a long walk, but ascended, in spite of a rough road, to the summit of the downs in the vicinity of the castle.

At length, becoming stronger and stronger, my intrepid patient, for the honour of the science, resolutely walked from Ryde along the pier to the steamer. These unusual exertions, for her, did not prevent her, on her subsequent arrival at her residence in London, from engaging in her affairs without fatigue.

For almost twenty long and tedious years her fingers had been in a state of rigidity, they have now recovered their previous and natural flexibility.

Her satisfaction is only equalled by her gratitude to the science to which she is in-

debted for her present well-being—a state which she could scarcely have hoped for. These feelings have inclined her to authorize me in publishing this narrative of her cure.

### **Chronic Dyspepsia.**

I have just said that the husband, Mr. H. had been relieved. Since I penned that account, after two months' treatment, and after a crisis of the most alarming kind, which obliged me to magnetise during a part of the night, and also a part of the following morning, he is now in perfect health. His malady was dyspepsia of long standing, accompanied with neuralgia.

Such results so satisfactory, so completely happy, expand one's heart, give it

new energy, and inspire it with a stronger desire for similar satisfactions.

**Muscular Relaxation, Weakness of Sight.**

I relate here nothing but positive facts, facts well established, such facts as are required to insure the progress of Magnetism.

During my stay with this family to whom I had thus been the means of restoring health, I was introduced to Mrs. C——, seventy-six years of age. She had relaxation of the muscles of the neck; her head was constantly inclined upon the chest. I magnetised her, and under the salutary and vivifying power of Magnetism her head became erect again, and her sight, much enfeebled, became strong again. This lady calls me her Esculapius. I wish I had



some of her spirit to give to the recital of my cures the interest which, while relating, she imparts to them. I must be satisfied, however, with relating the truth simply, and without pretension. Moreover, that which I have done, cannot all besides do? Yes, and the proof among many other instances is, that two ladies whom I have cured by Magnetism, employ in their turn upon their children, and with the greatest success, the remedy of which they themselves have appreciated the benefits.

Is there anything sweeter than this thought—that we can find in the beings to whom we are bound, and who have so many claims upon our love, the precious gift of healing, and hence an additional motive for loving them still more.



Thursday, July 19th. This having been a very fatiguing day, I had prepared to recruit myself as usual with a walk, when from the other side of my house I saw, at a distance, the postman. I know not what presentiment seized me and held me back. Presently he approached the house, knocked, and my servant brought in a letter. It was from Sir J——, as follows :—

“Thursday Morning, 19th July.

Dear Sir,

“I am extremely ill—dying, probably.  
Can you come at *once*?

“Yours truly, &c.”

I could not resist this appeal. I imme-

diately jumped into a carriage, and hastened to give notice of my temporary absence to my friends, who were all, however, in a sufficiently satisfactory state. The next morning, another letter, more urgent still, if possible.

“Dear Sir,

“Do not delay one moment, I may not be able to write any more.

“Yours truly, &c.”

I started at once. I found the Baronet in a state of extreme debility. Pleurisy had commenced, excessive nervous excitement, paralytic symptoms, lips blanched, eyes inflamed. I magnetised him without loss of time, and with the greatest energy. I di-

rected my action upon the head, the eyes, and the chest; then I made long passes over the region of the heart, and warm insufflations over the stomach, which was strongly palpitating; lastly, I made passes over the hypochondria.

The magnetisation had lasted forty minutes, and I had expended so much strength that I felt almost exhausted. According to my custom, I then took a walk in the fresh air, and soon regained force enough to resume my work. The result was, that the patient, by the dinner-hour, was able to take something.

Magnetism produced in this case the effect of a powerful medicine, and this favourable crisis put an end to the anxieties of the patient; the symptoms which had so

much alarmed him disappeared, and he was able to resume his ordinary habits. I left him on the third day, freed from everything of his disorder except its remembrance.

At the time of writing this, I have just received a letter from him, reporting thus of his health :—"On Monday and Tuesday, in spite of this weather, I was ready for anything."

Certainly, if the patient was happy at the re-establishment of his health, I was not less so, it may well be believed, at the rapidity of my success.

### **Consumption.**

Miss L—— had been consumptive from her infancy. The delicate state of her health had imperatively required her being

removed from the East Indies. I was sent for to see her in company with Dr. H——.

At this particular period, it was extremely inconvenient, from the multiplicity of my engagements, for me to engage to magnetise her ; but it was impossible for me to resist the urgent entreaties of this young lady. I made my arrangements so that I could magnetise her every day.

She had continual expectoration. One lung was seriously affected. After several magnetisations, an examination was made and no improvement could be distinguished. Disappointed at this fruitless result of my efforts, I was resolving to communicate to her family my hopelessness of doing any good, when, suddenly, we perceived a manifest improvement, which happily revived

my courage, and I continued my work with renewed vigour. From this day we made rapid progress. The cough gradually diminished, the strength of the system was returning. After a short time, the patient was strong enough to undertake the voyage to Nice.

In Magnetism, a great deal of perseverance is necessary. One may go on magnetising without apparent effect for a long time, until, at length, its excellent effect becomes palpably evident.

I have recently had to magnetise twice a day in a similar case; but in this instance, the patient was excessively feeble.

Determined to spare no effort to see what Magnetism was capable of effecting in this

disease, I acceded willingly to the request of the excellent parents of this patient to reside in the family for a short time. I therefore set out for their abode in the Isle of Wight, resolved to devote all my forces to my task. I was soon happy to perceive a considerable improvement in the general condition of the invalid, greater strength, and more physical tranquillity.

It is one of the most striking therapeutic properties of Magnetism—to tranquillise.

I was once requested to see a lunatic of great muscular power, and who was always under the surveillance of two keepers. His medical attendant and friends proposed that I should magnetise him. I did so, but obtained no result the first time. On the contrary, his violence causing me to lose my



habitual presence of mind, I turned away from him, and he would have attacked me, had not his keepers prevented him. After a few days, however, I established so great an influence over him, that I could always tranquillise him afterwards.

But to return to the young lady : Magnetism gave her strength and tranquillity. She has now gone to Pau, it being expected that the mild climate of the south of France will be conducive to her restoration.

When a magnetiser takes the case of a patient in hand, and he feels animated with energy, he fears no fatigue ; his success and his patient's recovery reward him.

Magnetism always relieves, sometimes cures, but does not perform miracles.

To obtain relief in a serious disease



where professional men have tried all the resources of their art, in despair of the cause, it is essential, as I have said before, that the patient and the magnetiser should be animated by the same sentiment of faith and of perseverance.

G. H——, an officer of the Life Guards, was a great sufferer of the above disease ; after three weeks he wrote to me the following letter :

“ Dear Monsieur Didier,

“ I have delayed some time without writing to you, in order to convince myself of my having been radically cured. It is with the greatest pleasure I can now inform you that I am perfectly well ; and that, thanks to

you, this illness, from which I scarcely expected to recover, has left me; and I can now affirm that Magnetism was the powerful agent, &c.

“ London.”

### **Nervous Disorder.**

The Rev. Mr. — suffered so extremely from a nervous complaint that he was unable to take part in his religious duties. Having had the pleasure of his acquaintance for a long time, I offered to magnetise him. I am just now finishing his course of magnetisation, and he is about to return to his duties with renovated health and strength.

This day I have received a letter from another reverend gentleman, to whose child, four years of age, I have been instrumental

in doing much good, only a few days ago. He writes to me that he has discovered that he himself has the magnetic curative power largely, and that he has begun to magnetise in his parish with great good effect.

All the cures related above are recent. For others, and more numerous ones, I refer to my published work on Magnetism.

I hope soon to be able to give to the magnetic world the result of all the cures which have been made in France during the last quarter of a century.

### **Asthma.**

Mr. R. Y——, from Cambridge, was magnetised for three weeks. He had been suffering for several years from chronic asthma. His suffering had increased to

such a degree that he was obliged to sleep in an easy chair. Having magnetised him for three weeks, he was progressively and completely cured.

From a letter I have recently received from him, I learn that he has not had a return.

In 1852 I was at Bern, where I was consulted for a gentleman who had suffered from asthma for upwards of twenty years. Every medical treatment to which he had been submitted, proved wholly ineffectual. A member of his family, wishing to give Magnetism a trial, came to consult me, having nothing to form a connection between us but a lock of his hair. On my having given a minute and exact description of the com-

plaint, this person was so astonished at the result, that he strongly engaged his relation to submit to my treatment. During six weeks I magnetised him three times a day. A great improvement in his health and appearance was very soon perceptible. Being obliged to leave Bern, one of his daughters continued the treatment. Subjoined is an extract from a letter with which this gentleman favoured me some time after.

“Chateau de Bourgestein.

\* \* \* \*

“I feel most grateful for your recollection of me, though absent; I hasten to reply to your obliging letter of the 21st. Thanks to you, my health continues to keep up, and I am beginning to gather a

little flesh, and every one finds me looking much better. I can now always sleep. Ever since your magnetic treatment, there has been no appearance of that fever nor of those fits of coughing with which I had been annoyed for twenty-five years, and over which no medicine had the least control.

“Deign, Sir, to accept the acknowledgment of my most profound gratitude.

“F. de G. M.”

### **Inflammation of the Stomach.**

The following testimonial from a respectable member of the Faculty, whom I had the happiness to cure of an inflammation of the stomach of very long standing, and which is in French named *gastrite chronique*, will suffice to prove the salutary effect of Mag-

netism as a sovereign remedy for this complaint.

“I had been a sufferer for many years. Not knowing what treatment to follow, I determined upon consulting a magnetiser. I therefore saw M. A. Didier, and satisfied with his consultation, I followed his advice, and I can declare that he has completely cured me of a chronical inflammation of the stomach, and also of hæmorrhoids.

“Paris.”

### **Megrim.**

I received a letter from a lady friend, who was a great sufferer of that disease, and I am happy to say, succeeded in curing it. Although

in England I have been in constant correspondence with her since ten years.

“ If there are persons so humane as to take a pleasure in relieving those who suffer, so ought there to be those not less capable of appreciating the benefit thus received. It is this sentiment, Sir, which to-day urges me to obey the impulse of my heart by testifying to you all my gratitude. Thanks to your advice, zeal, and magnetisations, you have succeeded in putting an end to my sufferings.

“ A——.

“ Paris.”

### **Tumour.**

Mrs. K—— had been suffering for many



years from a tumour, which was gradually assuming greater dimensions. I magnetised her with the greatest success.

### **Pleurisy.**

Mr. M—— had been a sufferer for several years from pleurisy, with pains in the region of the stomach and liver. I magnetised him with the greatest success.

### **Cancerous Tumours.**

Mrs. W—— had a tumour of this character. It had caused her alarm for some years. I magnetised her during a month. I am happy to say that she is now well.

### **Liver Complaint.**

Mr. W—— was afflicted with a liver com-

plaint for many years. He was so struck with the exactness of the result of a *séance à distance*, that he resolved to try what effect Magnetism would have in his own case. He was sensibly improved by three magnetisations, and progressively recovered. He continues well.

### Loss of Voice.

The Rev. Mr. G—— suffered from excessive debility. His condition excited great uneasiness. I had the pleasure of corresponding with him while he was in France. Magnetism had a surprising effect upon him. At the end of a few days, he was enabled to leave London for Scotland.

I have had the happiness to be able to

relieve very many other persons, but do not mention their cases because I know that it would not be agreeable to them ; for, notwithstanding the undoubted progress of Magnetism, there are still prejudices difficult to efface. I know persons who love Magnetism, but who would think themselves hurt if the world were to be informed of it !

Now and then I hear people raise an objection to Magnetism ; they say, if an individual possesses a faculty like this, might he not do anything he wishes ?

No ; while endowing man with the faculty of relieving his fellow-creatures, God has assigned limits to it : these passed, man would fall into uncertainty.

For several years, I have declined giving

tests merely for the satisfaction of curiosity. Several days ago, a lady and gentleman came to me to ask if I would aid them in trying to convince a most incredulous person, who had pointed out to them a letter of another incredulous person in the *Times*. I replied that under these circumstances I would give a *séance*. They required me to give a description of the disease of an absent person. This I did with exactitude. The lady handed me her card, saying, "We are convinced." The gentleman, in a note to me the next day, said, "I am delighted at this glorious success."

I cite this simple case, inasmuch as it was excited by the article of the *Times*.

Although these few pages are not written expressly for Magnetisers, yet they will, I trust, accept them as conveying results which I have obtained, and which any one else may obtain.

The facts which prove the existence, the reality, of vital Magnetism are innumerable.

Let an individual yawn, laugh or cry, and let some of those who may be present imitate him, and his affection, manner, &c.,

will be communicated to the rest. So also with the spirits, sentiments, and passions, are subject to the same law. But Natural Magnetism is more apparent especially in nervous disorders. It is only sufficient for some persons to witness a nervous attack to be seized with convulsions. The moral disorders observed in large and exciting assemblies are traceable to a similar influence. This is shown in the history of shakers of the Cevennes.

The sympathy or antipathy which is felt when in the vicinity of certain beings; the composure which children feel in the arms of their mothers, the relief effected by being breathed upon or by the imposition of the hands alone upon the seat of pain; the vigour which old people regain by lying with

children, and *per contra* the exhaustion of the latter ; the benefit resulting from frictions and passes, are all explicable by the same laws.

The history of Magnetism goes back to the very commencement of the world. We learn from various authors that India, Greece, Judea, Rome, and ancient Gaul, were all acquainted with the marvels of human Magnetism. The Magi, the Druid, the gymnosophists, and all the thaumaturgists, oracles, sibyls, and pythonists, made use of Magnetism.

All beings are endowed with a latent virtue, with an invisible fluid, called by physiologists, the vital principle, nervous fluid, or simply *life* ; this acts upon animals, and especially upon man, as the loadstone

acts upon iron. Its quantity may, like that of the blood, be diminished without the functions of the body being arrested. Like caloric it may be transmitted from one body to another by contact, as between two individuals of whom one is warm and the other cold. It circulates in the nerves like electricity. It, proceeding from the brain, escapes by the aid of the nerves. The fluid, directed upon the viscera, accumulates there. Magnetic effects are the result of an augmentation of *life*.

There are two magnetic processes; the one moral, the other physical. The moral process is the most essential; it consists of *concentration* and *will*. The soul is strong only by *concentrating* its faculties, and acts well only by *willing*.



The benefits which medicine and surgery have derived from Magnetism are immense ; it has, in consequence, made great progress within a comparatively short period. To enumerate a few instances of this ;

1. A Jury has been instituted at Paris for the annual distribution of medals to Magnetisers who have obtained notable results.

2. A Mesmeric Society has been established there.

3. Also the Philanthropic Magnetic Society of Paris.

4. In London, the Mesmeric Infirmary under the direction of one of the most eminent physicians of the metropolis.

5. At Lyons, a Magnetic Society.

6. A Magnetic Society at New Orleans.

7. A Magnetological Society at Port Louis, which is extending Magnetism in the Mauritius, and awards annually a gold medal to the Magnetiser who obtains the most striking cure in the island.

8. A Magnetic Society at Berlin.

Among its advocates may be enumerated Drs. Deslon and De la Motte, the Marquises de Chastelleux and de Puységur, the bailli de Barres, the philosopher Cabanis; the advocates Bergasses and Duport, the procureur Servant, the Fathers Gérard and Hervieu; the banker Hornmann, the physician Franklin, the botanist De Jussieu, General Lafayette, &c., &c. Then the Count de Redern; Pigault, Lebrun, Char-del, Juge; the Counts Panis and Orial, Doctors Georget, Bertrand, Frappart, Koref,

Cuvier, Laplace, Gall, Charles Fourier, Agais, Broussais, Lavater, Hahnemann, Washington; Lord Stanhope, Archduke Charles, Queen Hortense, the Czar Alexander, Fouquier, Ling, De Montalembert; Doctors Elliotson, Ashburner, Charpignon, Ordinaire, Teste, Leger, Du Planty, Esdaile, Parkes, Filassier, Pigediré, Praed, and many other physicians of eminence. Among *savans*, Baron von Reichenbach, Professor Gregory, M. Jobard, the Archbishop of Dublin, the Père Lacordaire, and the Abbé Chatel.

Among persons of rank it is advocated extensively, especially by the late Governor-General of India, Lord Dalhousie, the Marquises de Boissy and de la Case, the Counts d'Ourches and Freschi, Sir Bulwer

Lytton, Bart. It is sanctioned also by those eminent advocates, Crémieux, Jules Favre, Victor Hennequin, Jules Logerotte, Monri, and Emile Olivier.

We might cite also the most celebrated names in the world of literature as well as in that of politics.

LONDON :

Printed by A. Schulze, 13, Poland Street.