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QUOTING

The San Francisco Chronicle

"The theory of the experts is that the artifacts undoubtedly have been underground for a long time, but since there are no similar discoveries on record they must be spurious."

Anything your Secretary might add to that morsel would be anti-climax. The story is in the issue of 2-26-40. p. 12.

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and

BURTON RASCOE on Charles Fort

CONTRIBUTED by Edward Peters

From "Popular Mechanics", December, 1939; page 807:

Many Stars are Nearer Earth Than Hitherto Believed

More than 5,000 stars nearest the earth, including many visible to the naked eye, are only half or a third as far away as previously believed, according to Prof. Jan Schilt, of Columbia University, who has found a small systematic error which changes the calculations made by the method of parallaxes. This involves sighting the angle of the star at intervals of 6 months apart and then computing its distance by trigonometry. It is now suggested that tides and waves in the earth's atmosphere, caused by the moon's pull and sunlight above the earth, bend the beam of light from the star. Because of the systematic nature of the new correction, re-calculation can be made without taking new observations of each star. The discovery does not effect more remote stars.

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From "Current Literature", London, England. (It was in one of the early 1939 issues):

One of our Learned Book Room "astronomers" has long held the opinion that the moon is a looking glass 230,000 miles off, which reflects the planet Earth. The so-called "craters" being genuine to a boiled out sphere. The theory, lacking mathematical signs and symbols, is very simple. His conviction has gained merit by a statement (Current Literature's italics) to this effect-

> "Helvetius, of Danzig, in 1647 called the lunar features, shown on his maps, after terrestrial continents, capes, islands and mountains, *which they more or less resemble in form and relative positions".*

Order is Heaven's first law, as Pope said, but reflection is certainly another.

'FATHER OF RADIO' DIES, SPURNING BRAIN CHILD

Paris, March 25, 1940 Edouard Branley, 95-year-old French physicist whose discovery of the principles of wireless telegraphy led Marconi to develop radio, died Sunday night without a radio in his Paris home.

"To think that I had something to do with its invention," he used to say in expressing his disgust over use of radio for propaganda purposes.

Earthquakes Come in Groups

Fresh discussions of why earthquakes sometimes occur in groups, with intervening periods of relative quiet, have resulted from the series of four severe shocks felt in widely separated parts of the earth within the span of a few days near the close of last year. In addition to the devastating quakes in Turkey, there were two centering off the Pacific Shore of Costa Rica, and a sharp shock was felt in Southern California. Seismologists of the U. S. coast and geodetic survey admitted that it may be possible for one earthquake to set off another, even in a remote part of the earth, but said that this could happen only if rocks of the earth's crust in the second locality were already in a state of severe strain. In such circumstances it is believed that waves from one temblor traveling through the earth's core might supply the push needed to precipitate the break. Other "trigger forces" being studied are the pull of the sun and the moon on the earth's crust, strains produced by exceptionally high and low tides, and even pressure changes in the atmosphere caused by a shift from low to high barometric conditions which might amount to millions of tons over a large area.

Earth Gains 100,000 Tons a Year from Falling Star Dust

This earth of ours is gaining weight. Every year it picks up at least 100,000 long tons of meteorites which fall on the earth, Dr. Fletcher G. Watson, Jr., of Harvard College Observatory reports, and the total may amount in some years to 10,000,000 long tons of microscopic "star dust".

Eighth Vitamin Is Synthesized as Pantothenic Acid

Of ten vitamins recognized thus far by science, eight have been successfully synthesized and the newest of this group, announced recently, is pantothenic acid. In nature this vitamin is widely distributed, found universally in all animal tissue, and it is believed that the synthesized product will be found highly valuable in nutrition. The exact field of usefulness for the vitamin has not been discovered.

(Please notice the contradiction in the last two sentences of this article. *Pure "science"*! ! E.P.)

STILL CLOWNING

Sir Hubert (what would we do without him) Wilkins was reported (3-26-40) by the Liverpool *Daily Telegraph and Morning Post* to be "planning an 800-mile trip down the Mackenzie River in a special submarine which can be used for travel below ice in Arctic waters" . . . . But less than two months later (5-9-40) he was in Detroit: "Sir Hubert is known as the only scientist who has advocated the use of a submarine in Arctic explorations . . . 'In a submarine a fixed weather observatory could be established (*sic!*) which could be correlated with other weather stations so that predictions would become scientific certainties,' he said . . . Explorer is in city to place war orders, rumors insist."

MAKE UP YOUR MIND

"NERVOUS diseases on wane in U.S., says expert" . . . . . Americans are (4-8-40) becoming so accustomed to the rapid pace of modern life, says Dr. Benjamin Black of Alameda, that they are overcoming tendencies to nervous diseases. (San Francisco *Examiner*)

Same day —San Francisco *Chronicle*: "And so the Western Reserve psychology department, under Dr. Calvin S. Hall, is probing into the private emotional life of rats, keeping close tabs on the moods and frets of the little animals in search for clues to the mounting toll of human beings falling victim to serious emotional diseases."

In Allentown, Pa., "our heavenly Father" told Miss Margaret L. Cowan, 77, to kill her mentally ill sister. She confessed (Pittsburgh *Sun-Telegraph,* 4-4-40) and was condemned to life imprisonment The jury had nothing to say about punishing Miss Cowan's "heavenly Father".

Chronicle, 4-19-40: "There is a growing body of scientific evidence that the intelligence of the American people is declining . . . . Dr. Norman E. Homes, Colgate, said today . . . . No State in the Union can build hospitals fast enough for the feeble-minded, the insane and the epileptic."

NOTES ON THE NEW MADRID, MO., QUAKES

(See *The NOTES Of Charles Fort,* in the Fortean Society Magazine, October, 1937, p. 15, (1812-Nov) where there is a typographical error "1911" should read "1811".)

by Bart Reagan

"Several authors have asserted that earthquakes proceed from volcanic causes, but although this may be often true, the earthquake alluded to here must have another cause. Time perhaps will give us better ideas as to the origin of these extraordinary phenomena. It is probable that they are produced in different instances by different causes and that electricity is one of them; the shocks of the earthquake of Louisiana in 1812 produced emotions and sensations much resembling those of a strong galvanic battery. It will perhaps be pertinent to observe that this earthquake took place after a long succession of heavy rains, such as had never been seen before in the country." The New Madrid Earthquake, U.S.G.S. Bulletin 494—p. 103.

"The years 1811, 1812 and 1813 were characterised by unusual seismic activity in many parts of the Western Hemisphere as well as New Madrid. On March 26, 1812 a terrific earthquake occurred at Caracas, throwing down churches or other buildings and destroying 10,000 persons. A little over a week later another heavy shock produced geologic effects of considerable magnitude, over 300 feet of the top of one of the mountains being lost by a landslide. Other shocks were felt at New Grenada and other of the West India Islands. While a very important earthquake occurred in California at about the same time. Volcanic action was similarly active. On April, 27, the eruption of St. Vincent Soutriere began. During the year preceding more than 200 earthquake shocks presumably of volcanic origin had been felt. Farther away, the island of Sabrina in the Azores was built up to a height of over

300 feet above the sea by a submarine eruption.

A comparison of the dates of the great South American earthquakes with those in (the) Mississippi Valley does not suggest any direct connection. Neither March 26 nor April 5 the dates on which principal shocks occured was characterized by any pronounced disturbance at New Madrid; in fact both days were unusually quiet.

(Note: New Madrid, Missouri, shocks occurred: December 16, 1811; January 23, 1812; February 7, 1812.)

There is a tendency after any great disturbance to produce readjustments to new conditions to surrounding areas, and a series of shocks may be expected to follow in other parts of the same geologic provinces. There seems, however, to be no possible connection between the New Madrid and Caracas regions, the geologic provinces being entirely unrelated. That the disturbances may each be a surface expression of a single deep seated cause, such as a general crustal or subcrustal readjustment, nevertheless, is not altogether improbable." . . . Contemporaneous Disturbances "The New Madrid Earthquake" U.S.G.S. Bulletin 494. Pg. 109.

Noises:

"An awful noise resembling loud and distant thunder but more hoarse and vibrating." . . . Eliza Bryan.

"Distant rumbling sounds, succeeded by discharges as if a thousand pieces of artillery were suddenly discharged." . . . Linn.

In the region of marked disturbance there were additional noises made by escaping air, water, crashing trees and caving of river banks.

In reality, as has been stated to the writer in regard to the recent Jamaica earthquake, although suggesting many of the common noises, it was essentially unlike anything ever heard by the observers before. (pgs. 101 and 102)

"Electricity can likewise be ruled out as cause, although certain electrical and magnetic phenomena appear to be associated with most great earthquakes."

Darkness:

As in most of the great earthquakes the atmosphere seems to have become darkened during the more severe shocks in the Mississippi Valley. Eliza Bryan notes that total darkness of the atmosphere marked the severe shock of 4 p.m. on February 7. Godfrey Le Sieur also says a dense black cloud of vapor overshadowed the land after the severe shocks. At Herculaneum the atmosphere, according to Co. Samuel Hammond, was filled with smoke or fog so that a boat could not be seen 20 paces, and houses were so shrouded as not to be visible 50 feet. The air did not clear until the middle of the day. A writer from New Madrid states that at the time of the shock the air was clear, but in five minutes it became very dark, and the darkness continued until nearly morning, during which period there were six shocks. At 6:30 the air cleared, but at the severe shock later in the morning the darkness returned.

The darkness was probably due to a number of co-operating causes. In all probability the dust projected into the air by the agitation of the surface, the opening and closing of fissures in dry earth landslides on dry hillsides, and possibly the falling of chimneys and buildings contributed to supply to the atmosphere the suspended particles which presumably produced the obscurity described. It is likely also that aqueous vapors, rising from fissures connecting with the warm ground waters (temperature 50 degrees to 55 degrees), or from the waters extruded from cracks and craterlets and condensed by the cold December air played a part. The extrusion of such vapors, usually more or less sulphurous is described by many witnesses. It is not entirely impossible that conditions favoring condensation of atmospheric moisture either accompanied or resulted from the earthquake disturbance.

Besides the darkness observed in the area of principal disturbance similar manifestations were recorded in other localities. For instance, at Columbia, Tenn., a very large volume of something like smoke was declared to have risen in the southwest, from which direction the sound appeared to have come, and, proceeding northeastward, settled as a black cloud in the course of the 10 or 15 minutes the shock lasted.

An unusual darkness during the earthquake was reported at a number of other points, but if it had any relation to the earth disturbances its nature is not known. It seems likely that in the outlying districts the darkness was due to ordinary clouds associated with storms then in progress across the country.

Odors and Vapors:

Sulphurous or otherwise obnoxious odors and vapors were an attendant feature of the earthquake at many points, as stated by nearly every writer. Bryan speaks of the complete saturation of the atmosphere with sulphurous vapor a few minutes after the first shock, and of similar vapors after the shock of Feb. 7. Hildreth speaks of the escape of sulphur gas through the cracks tainting the air and impregnating the water for a distance of 150 miles so it was unfit to use. Another observer, writing to Mitchill from New Madrid, states that although the air was clear at the time of the shock, within five minutes a vapor with a disagreeable smell and producing a difficulty of breathing impregnated the atmosphere.

At Jeffersonville, Ind., a warmth and smokiness were noted for several days after the shock, while at Columbia, S. C., the air during the shock felt impregnated with vapor which lasted for some time.

Light Flashes and Glows:

The phenomena of what may be termed "light flashes" and "glows" seem so improbable that they would be dismissed from consideration but for the considerable number of localities from which they were reported. Dillard, in speaking of the shocks (not especially the first one), says: "There issued no burning flames, but flashes such as would result from an explosion of gas, or from passing of electricity from cloud to cloud." Another evidently somewhat excited observer near New Madrid thought he saw "many sparks of fire emitted from the earth." At St. Louis gleams and flashes of light were frequently visible around the horizon in different directions, generally ascending from the earth. In Livingston County, according to Mr. Riddick, the atmosphere previous to the shock of February 8 was remarkably luminous, objects being visible for considerable distances, although there was no moon. "On this occasion the brightness was general, and did not proceed from any point or spot in the heavens. It was broad and expanded, reaching from the zenith on every side toward the horizon. It exhibited no flashes nor coruscations but, as long as it lasted, was a diffused illumination of the atmosphere on all sides." At Bardstown there are reported to have been "frequent lights during the commotions." At Knoxville, Tenn., at the end of the first shock, "two flashes of light, at intervals of about a minute, very much like distant lightning," were observed. Farther east, in North Carolina, there were reported "three large extraordinary fires in the air; one appeared in an easterly direction, one in the north, and one in the south. Their continuance was several hours; their size as large as a house on fire; the motion of the blaze was quite visible, but no sparks appeared." At Savannah, Ga., the first shock is said to have been preceded by a flash of light.

That the flashes were entirely imaginary is improbable, but it is very doubtful if anything out of the ordinary actually took place. A source of many of the flashes appears to have been the thunder storms which occurred at the time. Such storms, which were very unusual at the season at which the shocks took place and which were unsuspected by the people outside of their immediate path, have been recorded at a number of points, especially in South Carolina. Bearing on the origin of the flashes or glows the observations of several of the captains of ocean liners in the Tropics at the time of the recent severe disturbance in Mexico (1907) are of significance. They reported that on the night on which they afterwards learned that the earthquake had occurred strong glows in the sky, resembling the auroras of northern latitudes, were seen. As these were not reported farther north the view suggests itself that they were due to magnetic disturbances going on at the time. It is not improbable that similar magnetic manifestations were associated with the New Madrid shock.

It is probable that in the New Madrid region brush or wood fires, made by the Indians or settlers, may have been an additional cause. It should be noted in this connection that in the New Madrid area itself, where the weather was clear at the time, no mention of any such phenomena was made in the more conservative descriptions.

BRITISH CORRESPONDENCE by Eric Frank Russell

From the Manchester Evening *Chronicle* 12-30-40, Sydney (Australia), Monday. A white Pekin duck belonging to Mr. W. Bower, of Engadine, near Sydney, has turned into a drake. Before it began to change its sex the duck laid eggs regularly for 18 months. Now it has left its nest and started to rule the roost.—British United Press.

JUDGMENT TESTS FOR VOTERS
Docor's Suggstion

Laboratory tests to establish a right to vote at elections were advocated by Dr. H. Chrichton-Miller, senior honorary physician of the Tavostock Clinic and a leading medical psychologist, in the Sir Charles Hastings lecture of the British Medical Association which he delivered in London last night. (4-8-38)

"The citizen who was educated in a special school because his intelligence quotient was 60 is not a fit person to vote," he said. "The thief of many convictions has shown such a lack of social responsibility as to merit no further voting privileges.

"And if a man has assaulted his wife so frequently that she can divorce him, I strongly object to his voting on how much income tax I shall pay."

Dr. Chrichton-Miller said that they might begin their tests at Oxford and Cambridge.

"Next time a Union Society is about to decide on some vital political or international issue, let the vote be restricted to those who have achieved a reasonable score in a laboratory test of individual judgment.

"The world might be surprised not only by the issue of the voting, but by the reduction in the franchise."

RAIN OF DEAD BLACKBIRDS

Shreveport, La., March 20, (40) (AP)—Blackbirds by the hundreds dropped dead from the sky at Barksdale field. They cluttered the army airbase so thickly that its police were called out to clear the ground. A soldier said large flocks of the birds broke flight suddenly and plopped to the ground. Some of the dead birds were taken to the post hospital, where surgeons began autopsies.

MILLIONS OF DEAD CLAMS

Longport, N.J., March 20, (40) (AP)—This small seashore town is worrying about what to do with mother ocean's latest gift, several million dead clams. For weeks the ocean has been washing them in at high tide, and now in some places the beach is covered three feet deep with clams. Four years ago the ocean presented Longport with the remains of a 20-ton whale. That crisis was met with a match and 500 gallons of fuel oil.

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From the London Sunday *Express,* 10-15-39, by George Edinger.

Andrew Crosse was one of those amateurs with a little knowledge and boundless curiosity who were pioneers of chemistry and physics.

One day in 1837 he was trying to make crystals to amuse his children by passing a weak continuous current over a lump of oxide of iron treated with a mixture of hydrochloric acid and a solution of silicate of potash.

On the fourteenth day of this experiment a few white nipples appeared unaccountably on the stone.

Puzzled and a little frightened, Crosse watched them grow. He was amazed to see that they not only enlarged but actually thrust out filaments.

On the twenty-sixth day of his experiment each of these protuberances (there were now more than a hundred of them) had become a perfect insect.

There it was standing erect on a few bristles that formed its tail.

"Till this period," Crosse wrote, "I had no notion that these appearances were other than an incipient mineral formation."

It was impossible to go on believing in mineral formation when, two days later, the little insects began to wave their legs and finally detach themselves from the stone and started walking about the table.

"I must now say that I was not a little astonished," remarks the inventor.

Examined under a microscope the insects mostly seemed to have six legs, although a few of the larger ones had eight.

Experts called in to see them could not decide whether they belong to any known species, but the general impression was that they did not.

All agreed in saying that they were some branch of the genus acarus, in other words akin to spiders.

Crosse went on with his experiments, discarding the stone and treating his solutions of copper nitrate, copper sulphate and zinc sulphate in glass cylinders.

His "spiders" usually appeared on the edge of the fluid, but in some cases they were apparently hatched two inches under the surface. If they were put back into it after once emerging they died.

Once they appeared on the underneath of a lump of quartz submerged in chloric acid containing silica in solution.

The spiders generally lived until the first frost, which was always fatal to them.

To his friend, Dr. Noad, a clergyman, Andrew Crosse wrote: "I have never ventured an opinion on the cause of their birth, and for a very good reason—I was unable to form one."

That letter to the clergyman was a bad mistake. If Crosse had communicated his discoveries only to his fellow-scientists we might be nearer to solving the mystery. (sic!)

But Noad could not keep quiet. He broadcast the contents of the letter, and something like panic got hold of the quiet Somerset neighborhood.

The villagers talked of their squire as the "thunder and lightning man" who created evil beings from the flesh of the dead; and would not go within a mile of his house after dark for fear of meeting the demons who they believed used to dance along his mile and a half of wire.

"I received," Crosse told Noad, "such virulence and abuse in consequence of the experiment that it seemed as if it were a crime to have made them."

Andrew Crosse was very modest about his discovery, and refused to consider the possibility that he had created life.

"I have never in word, thought or deed," he wrote ten years afterwards to Harriet Martineau, famous nineteenth century historian, "given any one a right to suppose that I considered them as a creation. I have never dreamed on any theory to account for their appearance. It was a matter of chance."

Crosse lived until he was over seventy, continuing for another twenty years to perform the electrical experiments that were his favorite relaxation. But he never published his findings again, and he did not make any more acari.

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From London Daily *Herald* 6-20-38. A large number of apparently human footprints two feet in length and 11 inches wide have been found in a field in the Jalpaiguri district, Reuter reports from Simia.

The owner of feet capable of making such impressions is reckoned to be at least 18 feet tall.

The giant evidently passed by the village at night, for the footmarks, which were about 35 cubits apart, were discovered by the villagers early in the morning.

This is the third time that these footprints have been found. The first time was 12 or 13 years ago when the track of similar footprints passed from north to south.

The second occasion was in June, 1936, when the footprints led from the north-west towards the south-east. This time they are from north-east to south-west.

LETTER by Albert E. Page

One of the earliest Forteans was Albert E. Page, author of *The Chief Aspects of Western Civilization's Decline* . . . Since this work has had no general circulation in the United States, the Society will quote from it in this place from time to time for the benefit of students.

A letter from Mr. Page follows by way of introduction.

IN OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER OF 1930, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden, notified me that my "Philosophy of Parallelism, or the negative answer to the question: Is the Principle of Cause and Effect or Antecedent and Consequent, True in Reality" had been officially registered and duly credited to me on their records.

I have made no effort to make my ideas known other than sending them to the above Academy of Sciences because the nature of this work is so incompatible with the present scientific ideas of the world, that it would be useless.

In fact my ideas practically reverse and overturn every notion of our present science, and I hardly have any idea of trying

to reveal them unless some very exceptional change came over the world.

It is even hard to give expression, in common terms, to my philosophy and I also experience trepidations at the thought of expressing that which has had no response previously drilled into the mental attitude of the world.

In fact, its repulsion would be expected because it denies every established idea, even the individualistic interpretation of the Universe, or even the personification of knowledge, supported by a monistic theology or a monistic philosophy rather than a dualistic conception of antithetical tendencies to the extent of an endless diversity.

Such terms as intelligence, consciousness, mind, and soul, are all rejected and discarded as realities, being considered merely temporary adjusted effects from out of basic realities with no reversible possibilities.

The Continuum is considered to be the only representative solid, material, substance, and being indivisible, it naturally is as well insensible or imperceptible. Hence, the objects of the senses are not material but symbolizations, being the product of a process called the Sensible Function in which the perceptible is the symbolization of the imperceptible.

All sensible phenomena are manifest by means of an electrical background, from out of the Continuum, according to the principle of duality; that is, coexisting subjectively and objectively. No cause and effect relation between them. They are concomitant each directly related to their common electrical background, somewhat similiar to the relation between the picture and its canvass background. It is well to recall that science now admits that there are no sensible solids, hence there can be no conflict when we offer the Continuum as the only solid, material, indivisible, substance, which is "impenetrability" as well.

All sensible exhibitions are questions of the infinitesimals. The Continuum manifests itself by means of electrical vortexes which exhibit the infinitesimals. The vortexes and infinitesimals are concomitant parallels; that is, parallel manifestations of one substance. Without better terms of expression, we say that the infinitesimals cascade up into all sensible or perceptible phenomena, however every stepped up process is one of concomitant parallelism. In other words, each cascading scintillation, from the Continuum through the vortexes, the infinitesimals, and the sensible phenomena is but one instantaneous scintillation.

There is no reality in the idea of dimensions. The first three dimensions are superficial appearances caused by the symbolization of the Sensible Function. They are fictions of the scientific mind which is the method by which the Sensible Function operates in its formation of appearances. (The fictitional character of dimensions is easily proved). The phenomena is a process by means of which the conscious function is said to form its sensible objects. As a half truth, it may be said that it functions by separated cells participating with reciprocal interchangeability. (Radio principle or synchronization principle).

No distinction, as to origin, is conceived between mental and physical. In other words, the mental and physical processes are considered to be concomitant or parallel variations of one substance.

All life is electrical from out of Continuum. It is not individualistic. Life does not produce life any more than electricity produces electricity. The sensible objects are effects of these indivisible forces and these effects are not reversible. In other words, the objects of the senses do not produce life. Life, like electricity, is everpresent everywhere. It is ubiquituous and cannot be created. It is only the unreality of the objects of the senses which are created, effected, or manifested.

Not only is the sense of sight or vision conceived as a process of the sensible function by means of cascades of sequences called scintillations in which subjective scintillations match or are synchronized with the objective scintillations; but we also conceive all other sensible phenomena to be similiarly manifest. In the case of sound in the Radio, we have a cascade of valves in which a background of electrical scintillating impulses, steps up into audible sound.

Sense of touch, which is most complex, consists of innumerable subjective and objective impulses in a cascade covering the scale from the infinitely small to the infinitely great in which the diametrical repulsion of the vortex impulses (upon the principle of electrical right and left handed spirals) manifests the SENSE OF SUBSTANCE.

Every sensible phenomenum is conceived as a symbolization or averaging process covering a background tendency from the infinitely great to the infinitely small. In reality, the Continuum is characterized as a duality of an endless diversible tendency. Hence, sensible objects and sensible images, which cannot be real of themselves, are merely the workings of an averaging (degree of measurement) process called the Sensible Function, in which scintillating infinitesimals or cascades of scintillating infintesimals are matched; that is, synchronized. We, sensing by means of the Sensible Function do not detect the infinitely small and yet we know that the objects we look at are infinitesimally full of holes. We do not see reality, we see by means of synchronization. We, by means of our Sensible Function or its operation pretend that we register solid substances and yet we know that there are no sensible solid substances. What the scientist calls substance or material is but a vast nebulous field filled with billions of cascading scintillations which are matched or synchronized with the perceiving sense in which spaces are ignored, but sensed or recorded. Hence, science is compelled to symbolize the only real, solid, indivisible, substance and to worship the symbol instead of the thing symbolized. Therefore, experiment and observation being limited to identity appearances in which infinite and variegated scales of cascading scintillations are compounded from out of the infinitely great and the infinitely small, including the processes of the Sensible Function, manifesting its effects as a Universal major process as well as an infinitesimal minor process, are useless. In other words, experiment and observation are limited to a blind circle, in which infinitesimal identity must match infinitesimal identity, otherwise there is no sensibility.

Of necessity this theory compells us to deny the reality of movement. Hence, the earth and planets do not move as solids or mass is supposed to move. Contrary to the mathematicians individualistic reasonings, it is the infinitesimals which are the only quantities (sensible effects). Hence, electrically by means of the infinitesimals, sensible movement which is said to be the basis of life, is manifest by means of the principle as illustrated in electrical signs. In other words, the endless tendency to diversity as a background of every phenomena is ever present everywhere, both in the infinitesimal sense as well as the major sense. Every movement is but the result of variations in positions, as it were. Every moment a movable image may cascade into its manifestations by means of many thousands of scintillations, according to certain definite periodic ascending or descending scale formation etc. Hence, according to certain laws, it is possible for an image to be manifest every instant in a different position as we see variations in light and shade effects on the motion picture screen.

The Sensible Function, whose process is one of choice and selection, becomes a question of symbolization of the imperceptible. In doing this, its function naturally acts by means of its antithetical nature; that is, in choosing, it also must ignore. Hence, we have alternate periods of seeing and not seeing. Thus, out of the indivisible, the Sensible Function symbolizes and produces the divisible. In other words, it forms parts, divisions, and separations between which it alternately forms blank unseeing spaces. This naturally is only a half truth; as the Sensible Function includes, in its resultant manifestations, not only the subjective but also the objective. For its manifestation, we must have subjective and objective reciprocity, both being concomitant manifestations of one basic substance.

We do not conceive of either light or heat, in the individualistic sense, as coming from a body called the sun. We deny such a body as the sun and say it is impossible, according to this atomic theory, that any atomic matter can exist within the nucleus (sun). Light and heat are Universal (major and minor atomic)manifestations in which every planet in the major atom is matched subjectively and objectively as well as concomitantly. Light always exhibits these separated subjective and objective diversible variations whether the human eye can see them or not. Infinitesimally these phenomena are ever present in light. The seven cardinal colors,

more or less, manifest their identity with the seven planets, more or less, etc.

Light and heat are manifest as a result of atomic synchronizations in which each minor atom, when matched against its major atom (universe) according to the alternating workings of the Sensible Functions, signifies harmony and identity, according to the degree of their operation. We find no evidence to support the idea that there is any light in the sun. Observational appearances, cannot under any circumstances, signify reality. Contrary notions are merely of the most primitive nature and most of our scientists base nearly all their ideas on primitive foundations from out of the dark ages. Man, being basically a fixture as it were of his environment or this earth, cannot leave it without disintegrating. However, it is believed that if it were possible for him to get far enough away from this earth toward the center of Universe (barring the manifestations of the other planets) he would find the center in darkness.

We do not recognize either gravitation nor radiation as having any reality. They are merely efforts of scientists to explain phenomena in harmony with the science of the dark ages. They are like movement merely questions of variations in positions. These sensibilities or sensibility effects are not singularities. There is no such thing as a singularity in all the kingdoms of nature. Instead of being singularities, they are but effects of mutual and INDIRECT interchangeability; that is, they have a common background or they become sensible by means of an insensible electrical device, producing synchronization.

Because all forecasting seems to have had its basis from out of the primitive past, no Jules Verne has ever yet portrayed the possibilities of mutual interchangeability. In other words, all predictions have for their basis the idea of singularities instead of the idea of mutual dualities. The following is an illustration of a possibility requiring a divorce from the philosophies of the dark ages and the primitive ideas of all people.

For purposes of illustrating my idea more fully which may seem wild and strange, if not preposterous to the physicists of the laboratories as well as the physicists of mathematical artifice, I might forecast the next possible accomplishment of inventive ingenuity. However, such accomplishment, if ever perfected and made practical, will conclusively establish the truth of this philosophy.

Following out the principles upon which television is brought about, not only will sequences of shadows, considered as a question of variation in scintillating light and shade effects, be manifest (broad-cast?) but also will human bodies be similiarly manifest (broadcast?). It is a question of double manifestations of identity, not transference. In other words and my words require a symbolical interpretation, the method of television is described as a question of dual manifestations of separated identities in atomic shadow formation. Also recall to mind that the shadow is one of the stages in the stepping up process toward completed sensibility of all five senses. The object and its shadow are also inseparably involved in its full manifestation. Now when we have developed the DUAL manifestation of separated identities with their atomic character including molecular, cellular, and organic formation, then a man can enter a cabinet in America while his wife may enter a similiar cabinet in Europe wherein both will find themselves in the presence of each other, capable of every sensation because all five senses will be represented.

My object, in this illustration, is to emphasize the principles involved in this philosophy, not particularly to affirm its possibility. However, this illustartion carries out the theory upon which my ideas rest.

BURTON RASCOE on Charles Fort

My expression is (to use the phrasal reservation of Charles Fort) that this book may or may not be one of the great books of the world, and that, since at the moment I am convinced that it is, it is high time (to use the Fortean formula of skepticism) for me to begin to doubt it. For, says Charles Fort, "I cannot accept the products of minds as subject matter for beliefs." But I accept "with reservations that give me freedom to ridicule the statement at any other time," that Charles Fort has engaged in investigations which make Einstein's seem piddling and that this book is the "De Revolutionibus" and the "Principia" of a new era of discovery where in there will be an entirely new arrangement of our patterns of thinking. Though where did I get the idea that the "De Revolutionibus" and the "Principia" were important, or comparatively important, or of an importance equal to this book or that it might annoy somebody for me to mention the "Principia" and The Books Of Charles Fort in the same breath? And where did I get the idea that it would be salutary to have a new era of discovery or a new arrangement of our patterns of thinking?

You will excuse me, but I cannot keep up the pretense of pursuing the Fortean process of really rational thinking or the attitude of mind which makes Charles Fort so singularly provocative a challenger of our sluggish, almost amoeba-like method of arriving at somatic death through an interval of accepting buncombe, from the cradle, as wisdom and scientific knowledge. I must frankly revert to type and to the species journalist. A Fortean of Forteans, willing to make the requisite gesture of shaking my finger at Charles Fort at any time I feel like doing so, and willing also to distrust with a profound distrust whatever he says that seems too reasonable and full of common sense, because all the fallacies in the world are founded on reasonableness and common sense, I must yet, until I break up old habits of acceptances by habits of doubt, remain a journalist, awed, impressed, fascinated, amused by what I consider one of the most amazing (a very good and handy journalistic word, "amazing") books I have ever read.

You can read The Books of Charles Fort in almost any way you like or in any mood your temperament dictates and whatever way you read it, it is my expression that it is a great book. You may take it as pure fantasy and you will find it gorgeous stuff, full of poetic imagery, eloquent in the grand manner, beautiful to read. You may take it as an intellectual hoax and still you must admit it is a marvelously contrived one, satirical, subtile, full of laughs at the expense of the big-wigs of science. You may take it as a sort of pseudo-divine revelation with Charles Fort as a mere "agent" of a higher force seeking to impart knowledge to us, and you will have to admit that Charles Fort opens up new, magic casements upon resplendent vistas.

Charles Fort gives us a great new list of thinkables while at the same time showing us the absurdity of things we have been thinking or rather accepting without thinking. Not many years ago it was thinkable that I might talk to someone in Europe without moving from my chair in Larchmont, but there were certainly not many who would have agreed then that such a thing was thinkable. Charles Fort suggests that it is thinkable that when and if we know more about what he calls teleportation, a merchant in London might transfer almost instantly a carload of oranges from California to his warehouse in Limehouse simply by taking thought, "wishing" the event. He entertains the notion that people have been transferred from one region to another; that the celebrated Casper Hauser, whose mysterious history the Encyclopedia Britannica admits science has been unable to explain, may have been a visitor from another planet, that the mystery of Dorothy Arnold might

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Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

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YOUR MASTER'S VOICE

The newspapers complained (9-19-41) that the cosmos had interfered with the broadcast of a baseball game. (That was the day of Aurora display.) On 9-29-41 they announced that manganese is "the mother-love mineral". (Now watch for that phrase in advertising.)



BURTON RASCOE

be explained by teleportation, that the miracle of the stigmata is a fact and not a hoax, pious fraud of hallucination, that frogs and snakes and snails and crabs and periwinkles have rained out of clear skies, that the Children of Israel not only were nourished by "manna" that fell from the heavens but that in our own time "manna" or an edible plant of unknown origin capable of being ground into excellent flour has fallen upon the same arid plains in Asia Minor.

Charles Fort, by gathering and investigating curious data of earthly phenomena which science excludes or "explains" rationalistically, opens up new worlds of speculation. He says that he does not "believe" a thing in his book, he merely offers the data; but then he does not believe the astronomers and physicists and geologists and paleonthologists, who also, by the way, do not believe one another. Dr. R. A. Milliken, who believes in Cosmic Rays and a Creator and that new energy is always being created, finds himself at odds with Jeans and Eddington—of whom one believes in a Creator and the other doesn't, neither believes in Cosmic Rays, and both agree that the universe is running down like a clock.

But it is not so much the strange data that Charles Fort offers of unexplained phenomena or the world of mystery he leads us into—the suggestion of teleportation and of the nearness of other planets to our own, of visitations from other planets and the dealing of death and plague by process of thought— that stimulates and delights me most in his books. It is his inveterately inquiring mind, his truly scientific skepticism, his showing up of the complete absurdity of common processes of deduction and of the dogmas we have all more or less accepted. He shows us, for example, that there is no such thing as a law of cause and effect, of supply and demand, and so on. He shakes up all of our complacencies; he gives a rude jolt to our articles of faith. He spares no one, not even himself. If you are a materialist or a mechanist, he gives aid and comfort to the enemy, the religionists and the mystics. But if you are a religionist or a mystic, he gives aid and comfort to the enemy also. I can well imagine H. L. Mencken and Bishop Manning reacting in the same degree, if not in kind, of fury at some of the "suggestions" of Charles Fort. But, on the other hand, whoever heard of a stranger collection of bed fellows united under the same banner than Booth Tarkington and Ben Hecht, Harry Leon Wilson and Tiffany Thayer, John Cowper Powys and Louis Sherwin, Gorham Munson and myself, all of whom see something portentious and exciting in the curious delvings and speculations of a quiet, enigmatic, humorous-minded but self-isolated middle-aged man who lived almost like a hermit in the Bronx?

MOODUS AGAIN

Contributed by K. W. Golde

Dull Sounds Echo as Country-side Shakes

(From the Buffalo, N. Y. *Evening News,* 3-2-40.

The mysterious "Moodus noises" have returned. At irregular intervals since colonial days, this region has been shaken by sharp earth shocks and dull booming sounds have echoed throughout the countryside. No one has been able to explain them and even the Indians were mystified.

They thought the place so peculiar, they gave it its name meaning "the place of strange noises." Shortly before midnight the noises came back. Loud rumblings were heard and houses trembled. Townspeople were awakened. There was no damage. Scientists for years have been endevoring to explain the cause of the noises which last were heard eight years ago. . . . (See THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT, p. 391.)

There are Twelve kinds of people

WHICH ONE OF THEM ARE YOU?

1 First there are the dead *sot* . . . those for whom Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes once wrote: "Certitude is not the test of certainty; we have been cocksure of many things that were not so." The dead sot never shelter a doubt about anything. They *know* what's right or wrong, what is or isn't so. No nonsense about them! They're positive they know what they're talking about—until — —

2 Then there are the *dull* . . . who stare at life with uncomprehending eyes. They see and hear things—but that only confuses them. Their Art is a double-feature program at the movies; their Literature the comic-strip. The educational system of the United States is geared to produce them by the million every year—and does—purposely.

3 And the *Untouchables* . . . the high priests of science, of finance, of society, of politics and religion. They all have a stake in "things as they are" and can't, therefore, be expected to see any virtue in any kind of world other than the one which keeps them Untouchable.

4 The *pompous* . . . which includes the gas-bags in starched shirts and tail-coats who present plaques and medals and trophies to other stuffed shirts fresh-returned from discoveries of new (political) Poles.

5 And *sourpusses*. . . . those who cannot laugh as they work; who think wit spoils an equation.

6 The *unobservant*. . . who don't even bother to look because "there's nothing to see anyway, really."

7 Worshippers at the shrine of *Einstein*. . . who, though not among the baker's dozen supposed to understand him, are nevertheless in awe of him—because—what is beyond understanding is, of course, beyond question.

8 *Pedagogues* . . . whose learning is worn like a raincoat, to protect them from new ideas. But along comes a shower of new facts, like a litter of friendly puppies, and that messes them up!

9 The *timid* . . . who often suspect that all is not well in this best of all possible worlds, but are too shy or too scared to do anything about it.

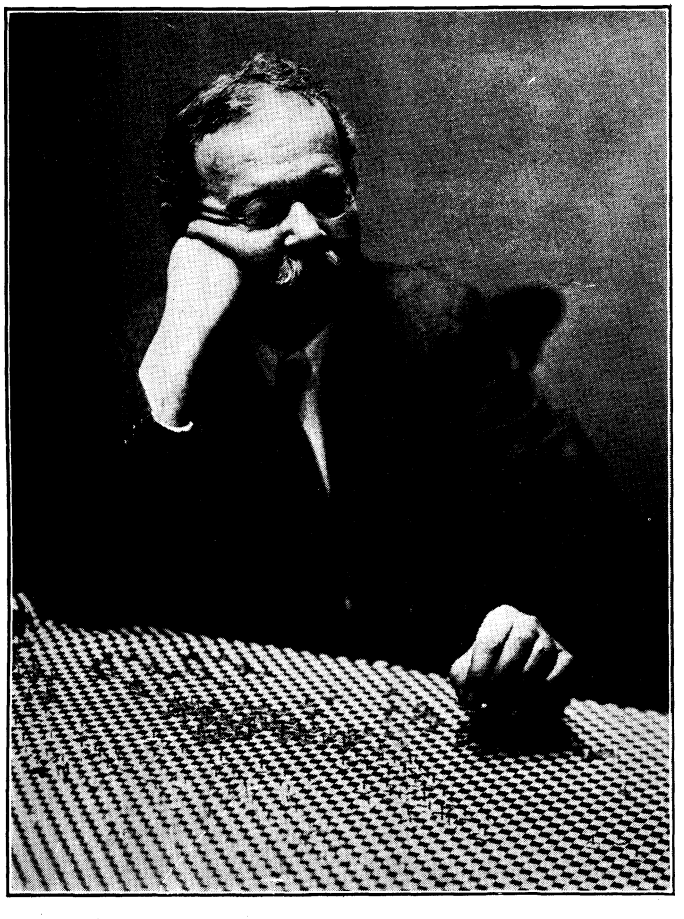
10 The *gullible* . . . who believe all they hear, accept all they see in print, question nothing that is spoken by men of Science, men of the Cloth, or by anybody called an "Authority".

11 The *"popular" knowledge hounds* . . . who get their science at the feet of newspaper columnists or from the pages of the *Science News Letter*.

With all these the BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT will be very "unpopular". None of them would feel at home in his lucidly sane though surprising pages. After all, Fort has nothing to sell, not even himself. His books won't help

you reduce weight, restore falling hair, or make you more beautiful. They're concerned with such stuff as the mysteries and marvels of life. But what kind of fare is that for grownup men? True, if every diplomat and soldier read his books, if every teacher and preacher, every scientist and banker were to do the same, there might never be another war as long as men remembered what Fort had said. But what kind of life would that be? No more wars! No deaths or taxes, no plagues, no nothing!

Which brings us to the *twelfth* kind of person—the one who hates to be pushed around. He hates the pushing whether it's mental or physical . . . and he fights back every time he feels pushed. He's curious, adventurous, skeptical . . . but he refuses to accept finality in anything. If he meets a new idea, he examines it with interest, perhaps even with eagerness. But his acceptance, or rejection, of it is never more than tentative. Because tomorrow—another fact is coming along—maybe . . . This man finds, in the books of Charles Fort, a world of wild surmise more exciting than any thriller . . . a world in which he can roam with delight—a grownup world that has lost none of the wonder he knew as a child.



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GET THE SHOVEL

By radio from Berlin Thursday we were told that the German people then knew no more of what had happened in the Skagerrak than the loss of the cruisers Bluecher and Karlsruhe. No other news had been permitted to reach them. In Soviet land the Russian people know nothing of the Nazi seizure of Denmark and Norway.

Contrast that with what is known in Britain and France and the United States. The dictatorships do not dare let their people know the truth. The Democracies do not dare to keep the truth from their people. In that is the fundamental difference between totalitarianism and democracy. . . . San Francisco *Chronicle* 4-13-40

THE RELIGIOUS FOLLIES

APRIL 30, 1940: The Rev. Dr. Nathan R. Melhorn editor of *The Lutheran* addressing Pennsylvania churchmen in Harrisburg said: "The Greatness of America is drawn from its resources, its culture and its religion. And what makes our democracy work is the fact that there hasn't been any major political move since the revolutionary war that hasn't been approved by the church." Pittsburgh *Sun-Telegraph*. . . . Same paper, under head "40 Years Ago": Stroudsberg, Pa., April 29, 1900—"Several months ago the pastor of a local church prayed that heaven would strike the new big brewery which is being built here, with lightning. The Reverend and others believe that prayer has been answered. Yesterday lightning struck the brewery doing some damage.

Associated Press despatch of March 29, 1940: Original sin, under which the human race is "deprived of sanctifying grace at birth," is placed squarely upon the shoulders of Adam in a revised Catholic catechism drafted for use in parochial schools . . . . The new version reads: "Q. Did Adam and Eve remain faithful to God? A. — Adam and Eve did not remain faithful to God; but broke his command by eating the forbidden fruit.

"Q. — What is the sin called which we inherit from our first parents? A. — The sin which we inherit from our first parents is called original sin.

"Q. — Why is this sin called original? A. — This sin is called original because it came down to us from our first parents, and we are brought into the world with its guilt on our soul." . . . . While the man who, by the dictates of his office, must be Public Hypocrite No. 1 issues this ukase: RELIGIOUS REVIVAL BIGGEST NEED IN AMERICA, ROOSEVELT SAYS. "No greater thing could come to our land today than a revival of the spirit of religion —a revival that would sweep through the homes of the nation and stir the hearts of men and women of all faiths to a reassertion of their belief in God and their dedication to His will for themselves and for the world." . . . . . Is this what he wants revived? . . . . . "50 Years Ago"—Birmingham, Ala., April 24, 1890: An unusual sight at a hanging here today—after the minister accompanied the condemned man to the scaffold and led the assembled crowd in song and prayer, he passed his hat and took up a collection. "He managed a small sum."

(Most of the above sent in by Bart Reagen.)

SCHOLASTIC PHONEYS

To the Institute for Propaganda Analysis and all the rest of those women's clubs for men endowed by the Big Dough to keep everything just as it is, add two more:

1. Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (Affiliated with the American Psychological Association and headed by Edward C. Tolman, California, and supported by I. Krechevsky (NYU), F. H. Allport (Syracuse), Gordon Allport (Harvard), J. F. Brown (Kansas), Hadley Cantril (Princeton), L. W. Doob (Yale), H. B. English (Ohio State), Kurt Lewin (Iowa), Gardner Murphy (Columbia), T. C. Schneirla (NYU), Ross Stagner (Dartmouth).

2. The Readability Laboratory of the American Association for Adult Education, the Committee on Simplification of Materials headed by Charles A. Beard and supported by Lyman Bryson, Morse A. Cartwright, Arthur S. Hoffman, Harold D. Lasswell, Austin H. MacCormick, Frederick G. Melcher, Charles Merz, Harlow Shapley, A. L. Threlkeld, Miriam D. Tompkins, James Clarke, Catherine Cartwright.

These two organizations are strictly political, strictly *status quo,* strictly intent upon paralyzing the growth of the human mind at a point where the necessity for their functions can be made permanent.

The attention of Forteans is drawn, further, to the sham battle over the contents of some text-books written by one Harold Rugg. These books are harmless and their opponents know it. The effort is simply to emphasize the freedom of the press which we do not have.

CONGRATULATIONS to B. J. S. Cahill

The man who invented the "Butterfly Map"—which has been called "The best attempt so far to map the globe in a plane."—writes that his projection of Earth's surface has finally won him the recognition he has so richly deserved for the past 32 years.

Forteans are urged to forget Mercator's monstrosity forevermore and to insist upon B. J. S. Cahill's Butterfly projection whenever they buy maps of the world for any purpose whatever. Maps for every use are now available on this Fortean's projection from Schwabacker-Frey Co., San Francisco; Rand McNally & Co., Chicago; C. S. Hammond & Co., New York; George Philip & Son, Ltd., London.

Mr. Cahill was made an Honorary Life Member of the Fortean Society in 1940 in recognition of his genius and his long struggle against the *status quo.* Now the Society extends its heartiest congratulations to a real Fortean.

PRAISING Alfred H. Barley

This notice might be in the nature of a memorial—for Alfred H. Barley is dead. But instead of *writing* a memorial to one of the most valued Forteans of all the Society pledges itself to continue the work to which he devoted most of his life. The Fortean Society is a *living* memorial, a *working* memorial to all sponsors of the minority viewpoint, to all who raise their voices in dissent.

Older members may recall the Society's search for a young astronomer who had learned his trade without falling completely under the spell of the Schools. Such a youth was being sought by Alfred H. Barley, author of *The Drayson Problem* . . . . This is a quotation from his book:

Drayson was for some fifteen years professor at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, (he had spent two years at Greenwich Observatory) lecturing on astronomy and military surveying to the young cadets there. It happened one day, that after he had delivered a lecture on the subject of precession, with some such explanation as has just been given, a young cadet enquired if the distance between the pole of the heavens and the pole of the ecliptic had always been the same.

"No," was the reply; "It was formerly somewhat greater, and it is subjected to an annual diminution of about a half a second, which is termed the Decrease in the Obliquity of the Ecliptic."

"Did you not say just now," pursued the enquirer, "that the precession of the equinoxes was caused by the Pole of the Heavens moving in a circle round the Pole of the Ecliptic?"

"So it is."

"Then what is the centre of that circle?"

"The centre? I told you, the Pole of the Ecliptic."

"But you have just told us that the Pole of the Heavens is decreasing its distance from the Pole of the Ecliptic. How, then, can this be the centre of the circle in which the Pole of the Heavens is moving?"

This was indeed a dilemma. Drayson answered honestly that he had never considered the matter, but had given the usual explanation according to the text-books. He said there did seem an apparent contradiction, and he promised to enquire further into the matter.

He did enquire further, and as a result of his questioning discovered that nobody had ever thought about the subject. It had simply been overlooked. Two thousand years previously the pole of the ecliptic had been supposed the centre of the observed motion, and this literally time-honoured supposition had become accepted, without examination, as a proved fact. It is indeed so regarded today.

Probably nothing in the whole history of science is likely to prove so illuminating to the student of group-phychology,

as the growth and propagation of this extraordinary paradox. Long before the publication in 1687 of Newton's *Principia* even, it was suspected—indeed it was openly maintained by some—that the obliquity was less than in former times; and for the last two hundred years it has been definitely known as an ascertained fact. And yet in Drayson's time it was being taught (it still is!) that the Pole of the Ecliptic is the centre of the Polar Motion Who could ever dream that when such an anomaly was pointed out, no notice would be taken, except to request the speaker to be silent and refrain from airing his ignorance? But so it was.

Yet can one say that the young cadet used the language of intemperance, or of exaggeration, when on Drayson reporting the official pronouncements in reply to his first enquiries, he said: "It seems to me, Sir, that to put those two explanations side by side, is all bosh. I may not know as much as the writers of text-books, yet I do know that the circumference of a circle does not decrease its distance from the centre."

Drayson perceived that here was a matter for investigation. The pole of the ecliptic had been supposed the centre of this movement at a time when the obliquity—which is the same thing as the distance between the pole of the heavens (P) and the pole of the ecliptic (E)—was thought to be invariable. Then, when the decrease became known, the fact that this showed that E could not be the centre of motion of P, had been overlooked. The quesions therefore arose: *Is the path of the pole a circle, or some other curve? If a circle, what is the centre of that circle?* Drayson set to work to investigate the matter.

Briefly he found that the course of the pole is a circle round a point distant six degrees from the pole of the ecliptic; and that this movement is caused by a slow rotation of the earth, and in a sense opposite to the daily rotation, and about an axis fixed in space not as regards the earth but as regards the heavens,—the period of this rotation being about 32,000 years.

That is his discovery in a nutshell. A number of curious consequences follow, however, arising from the fact that it is impossible for an error in astronomical thought to be perpetuated for centuries without begetting sundry anomalies; and one of the most interesting of these consequences is the so-called "proper motions" falsely ascribed to the stars.

However, one thing at a time the reader may say. And the first and most important thing from the layman's point of view is the explanation afforded of the date and duration of the last glaciation and the occurrence of former periods of glaciation, with their intervening "genial" periods, to which may be added the forecast of a future ice age, a few thousands of years hence, as seemingly bound to occur.

Drayson accordingly hoped much from the light thrown by this discovery of his upon the Ice Age. He was disappointed, however. Leaders in geology in this country (England) were then (the seventies) going through a phase of thought on the subject which made a comparatively *recent* date for the passing away of the Ice Age appear preposterous—since geologists in general paid little heed to the new idea then beginning to form in North America regarding the last period of ice invasion. So from geologists, as that time, he received no support.

Atronomers rejected him *nem. con.*, then and thereafter. And in spite of his persistent efforts to eliminate a palpable paradox from astronomical doctrine he was regarded not as a friend but as a trespasser. He has been contemptuously termed a 'vague theorist', and even—oh, irony!—a 'paradoxer' by some astronomers. The long labours of Admiral Sir A. de Horsey on his behalf have in consequence been pronounced 'pathetic' while his coworker has received (in some quarters) the *sobriquet* 'a geological Don Quixote'.

The discovery which he made is frequently alluded to as "Drayson's theory", but this is not correct. A theory may be plausible, or it may be far fetched; but it rests on *suppositions.* Drayson's discovery was the result of a geometrical investigation, and not only was the position of his centre of polar motion (C) derived from actual tests, but so also was his explanation of the movement, namely the Second Rotation as he termed it, proved by investigation.

To apply, then, to the conclusions derived from the result of this work the term "theory" is not only not correct, but not fair. We do not term the result of a geodetical survey a "theory", and why should we apply it to the result of an astronomical survey conducted on the same principles? Drayson had no theories, and might have said with Newton, *Hypothesis non fingo.* To a question as to how he accounted for the Second Rotation he said he did not profess to assign a cause for it, adding dryly, 'I do not even know what is the cause of the Daily Rotation. You see how ignorant I am.'

From which we see that Drayson, who was talented with many gifts in other paths of research, must also be accredited with that of humor.

Anent the Second Rotation it may be added that although this was regarded by astronomers generally as an altogether novel—and needless—conception, whereby to explain the phenomenon of precession, the soundness of the idea, and indeed its inevitability has already been *implicitly* recognized by no less an authority than Sir John Herschel.

* * * * *

Mr. Barley had carried on the studies of A. W. Drayson for many years. When he joined the Fortean Society he asked us to look out for any such "heckler" of his instructors as the young man mentioned in the above quotation—any *student* of astronomy who had majored in the subject and who had subsequently continued to *study.* Mr. Barley was looking for an open-minded apprentice whom he could instruct in the details of the Drayson Problem so there would be someone in this country competent to carry on his work.

No proper man appeared—and Alfred H. Barley is no more—so the Drayson Problem becomes *our* problem. WE have to start the rounds of the observatories, carrying this classic skeleton out of Astronomy's closet from door to door until we *haunt* the High Priests of Hoax into acknowledging their ignorance and into taking up, for serious study, this Problem which makes half their figures for the past few centuries just so much balderdash. You'd think they'd be glad to embrace a study calling for still *more* meaningless cyphering. Think how much longer they will thus be sure of their jobs! (In this connection see the first story on page 2 of this issue.) But, to date, Drayson's Problem has been too much for them to tackle in spite of Mr. Barley's ceaseless efforts and those of his associates in England, chiefly Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. Skinner . . . . . Read more about THE DRAYSON PROBLEM in the January issue of the Fortean Society Magazine.

Not the least of Mr. Barley's contributions to Forteana was his discovery to us of a book—*The True Figure and Dimensions of the Earth,* by Johannes von Gumpach, London, 1862 second edition. A copy of this volume is in the New York Public Library and students are referred to it there. Mr. Barley contributed this transcript of von Gumpach's *Preface* to his work:

* * * * *

During the last century and a half, the problem of the true figure and dimensions of the Earth has been, and continues to be, one of the most prominent, as well as one of the most important, objects of scientific enquiry and practical investigation. While the results of the latter, at a vast expenditure of labour and money, have furnished us with a commensurate amount of the most accurate empirical knowledge, the efforts of the former have thus far proved completely abortive .

In the following pages, the first geometrical, and, therefore, final solution of this problem, reversing most of the ideas, which we have been accustomed to associate with it, is submitted to the severest scrutiny of the learned, in a manner intelligible to every one. "Why I should have succeeded wherein so many of the most eminent men, from the time of Sir Isaac Newton to the present day, have failed?" The reason is a very simple one. Instead of applying myself, as they have done, to the task of bending the successively collected geodetical facts,—that is to say, the Earth itself,—to a preconceived theory, solely resting on Sir Isaac Newton's erring imagination, I have adopted the more legitimate method of geometrically deducing a theory of the Earth's figure from the given geodetical facts, hitherto collected. "How I dare to oppose my individual judgment, in a matter like this, to the conclusions, arrived at, and upheld by, the whole scientific and intellectual world?" Let the reader remember,

that Galileo and Copernic did the same, and were in the right. I can but, pointing to the *facts* of the case, and to *the terrestrial equator itself,* reply in the words of the apostle. Kaisara epikaloumai.

A scientific question of extreme interest and importance in itself, and the practical bearing of which upon commerce and navigation involves the loss at sea of millions' worth of property and of thousands of human lives, needs no further title to commend it to the earnest attention and solicitude of the British Government and the British public.

The first edition of this letter, addressed to Mr. Airy in his official capacity as Astronomer Royal of England, appeared in the shape of a pamphlet, to which, excluding, as it did, all details of discussion, a very limited circulation was given for reasons, connected with the following correspondence between the Astronomer Royal and myself:—

Guernsey, October 10, 1861

"Sir,—I have the honour of transmitting to you, by this post, a printed Letter, which I am about to address to you, publicly, on the problem of the true figure of the Earth.

"In respectfully calling your attention to that Letter, and its important results—important both in a national and a scientific point of view—I conceive that they warrant the request on my part, that you will be pleased to give to them your early consideration; and to inform me whether it is your intention to recommend to Her Majesty's Government the scientific expedition suggested by me, or to leave it to myself to take such steps in the matter as I may deem advisable.

"I have the honour to be, with profound respect, &c"

Royal Observatory, Greenwich, October 12, 1861.

"Sir,—I have had the honour this day of receiving your letter of the 10th instant, and also the printed pamphlet to which it refers, entitled (follows title at length).

"I have perused the pamphlet sufficiently to acquire a general knowledge of the character of its reasoning, and the practical step to which it is supposed to lead.

"And in reply to the suggestion on page 54, [which gives some indication of the degree of explicitness of the pamphlet I think: AHB], page 54, paragraph 3, I have to state, that I do not see occasion to urge upon Her Majesty's Government the propriety of an expedition to proceed to the equator for the purpose of ascertaining by actual measurement the linear extent of the Earth's equatorial circumference (page 10); with the views and for the reasons which you have detailed.

(Aside: your Secretary notes that Amelia Earhart might be alive today if the proposed expedition *had* been made. T.T.)

"I should be glad to have an equatorial arc measured, as an additional contribution to our knowledge of the Earth's figure, and as possibly modifying by an insignificant quantity the numerical value of one of the elements.

"But I do not think that there is the slightest reason for doing this in respect of the considerations explained in the pamphlet cited above.

"I am, &c."

Guernsey, October 14, 1861.

"Sir,—I have had the honour of receiving, in answer to my communication of the 10th instant, your letter of the 12th, by which you inform me, that you see no occasion to recommend to Her Majesty s Government the scientific expedition to the equator, suggested in my printed letter to you; that you should be glad to have an equatorial arc measured; but that you do not think there is the slightest reason for doing this in respect of the considerations, explained in my pamphlet. And the grounds, upon which you express this opinion, are, that you have perused the pamphlet sufficiently to acquire a general knowledge of the character of its reasoning, and the practical step to which it is supposed to lead.'

"Permit me to observe, in reply, that a question, involving not only the progress of truth and of astronomical science, but, moreover, the preservation of millions' worth of national property and of the lives of thousands of our fellow-men, appears to me a proper subject, not for a general and fugitive inspection, but for a fair, a conscientious, a scrupulous examination.

"I therefore desire to offer you the opportunity of a more mature re-consideration of the opinion, at which you have arrived after a first cursory survey of my pamphlet, and once more to call your attention to the conclusive nature of the proofs and arguments, adduced in support of my propositions.

"As this is a matter of deep national concern, you will willingly consent, I doubt not, to my giving publicity to the present correspondence, on the receipt of your answer, which I request at your early convenience.

"I have the honour to be, &c."

Royal Observatory, Greenwich, October 21, 1861. (a week later).

"Sir,— I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, in continuation of correspondence on the Figure of the Earth.

"In reply I have to state, that I have no alteration to make in my letter of the 12th instant, and nothing to add.

"I am, &c."

Guernsey, October 28, 1861. (week later)

"Sir—I have the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dated the 21st instant, informing me that you 'have no alterations to make in your letter of the 12th and nothing to add'; which leaves me to infer, that you have not thought it necessary to give to the logical and geometrictl reasoning of my pamphlet on the true figure of the Earth that more mature consideration, which I ventured, a second time, to claim for results, involving to so vast an extent the interests of British commerce and navigation.

"I had reason to believe, I remarked in my pamphlet, that naked truth, in opposition to the established system of theoretical astronomy, would stand but a poor chance of a hearing. But when it has in its train, I added, the wreck of colossal national wealth, and the corpses of thousands of our fellow-beings, hurried into eternity by the abstract idea of universal gravitation, its voice is certain to make itself heard, sure to command the attention even of the Astronomer Royal.

"You have, in a signal manner, verified the former part of that statement; to verify the latter, now rests with Her Majesty's Government, the British press, and the people of England.

"I have the honour to be, &c."

It is not my wish to offer one word of further comment, either upon the position assumed by the Astronomer Royal in reference to the important question at issue, or upon the tone and spirit of his letters. The true aim, Mr. Airy has in view, is sufficiently apparent to every one, who sees below the surface, and knows something of what is passing in the astronomical world.

That the amount of plain and overwhelming evidence, both negative and positive, which is here brought to bear upon the problem discussed, should be fairly weighed and scrupulously examined, is all I desire, and need desire. The evidence is such that, in a rational and well-constituted mind, powerful enough to divest itself of its preconceived notions, it can lead to but one conclusion.

As to the scientific expedition to the equator, suggested by me for the purpose of settling, by direct measurement, the question of the Earth's equatorial extent—if question it may still be called—it is, in my opinion, imperatively called for, not with reference to any theoretical considerations, or doubts as to the general correctness of the measurement, effected in 1735 by Messrs Bouguer and La Condamine, but on account of the vast national interests, involved in a direct verification, conducted with all the resources of modern science, of the former results.

For this reason, the new expedition will be carried into effect,—for, "unless I greatly mistake the temper of the people of England, they will not suffer the practical solution of a question of this nature and magnitude to remain long in abeyance,"—and will be carried into effect on the grounds, established in the present treatise, notwithstanding the factious opposition, offered by Mr. Airy. There are limits, beyond which the Astronomer Royal may not extend such an opposition, without disgracing the astronomical science of this country in the eyes of Europe, without rendering himself responsible to the Government, whose servant he is, and to the nation, whose servants the Government are.

Johannes von Gumpach.
Guernsey, July, 1862

Frank Harriott's EXISTENCE

(Mr. Harriott has deposited in the archives of the Society the first four chapters of a book he calls *Existence*. Of his work, he says:)

Holding to the satisfaction of first experiences is the psychology of childhood's happiness in repeating over and over again the same simple motions of play. In adults with whom it is so prevalent in matters more serious, it is the psychology of hereditary stupidity, akin to that of our domesicated animals. And if one would know why and how we humans make so little progress in our affairs, he need only try to drive some cows from their pasture to the barnyard by a new route; or try to lead a team of plough horses from their work to their feed stalls by a round-about way; or try to drive some chickens into a new hennry built opposite to their accustomed place. You see, those animals also hold to first experiences and so become startled by any new idea.

On June 28, 1934, I wrote to the five leading institutions of learning in the U. S., quoting about 2,000 words from a work entitled EXISTENCE:

"These analyses of matter and energy are postulated upon the hypothesis that heteroproximity is the physical state of all matter under all conditions.

"By heteroproximity I mean that in the variable alignment of positions essential to the equilibrium of a balanced distribution, no two hypothetical subdivisions of a unit of matter, nor any two sensible divisions in any form of matter, are ever exactly the same distance apart as any other two in the variation of mass-densities forming a complete sphere— . . .

"By a complete sphere of matter I mean that, either by a sufficient number of subdivisional parts, or sensible divisions, of matter so variably aligned in equilibrium, or by any lesser number of the same, whose rotations in equilibrium are inversely of greater velocity to provide that sufficient alignment of positions, a saturated sphere of matter is formed by the elimination of any continuous line of interstice or space through any radius, angle or curvature within the centripetal force of its completeness."

Not a single word of acknowledgment from them. But about three years later the Science Editor of the S. F. News wrote:

"Our galaxy of stars, which astronomers have assumed for half a century to have the shape of a . . disk, may actually be a sphere . . . This makes our galaxy very nearly spherical . . . Regarding other spiral nebulae, . . . a study of long-exposure photographs of 500 . . . indicate that the dimensions of these galaxies are 60% larger than the figures now in use for them."

In the early part of 1934 I wrote a personal letter to Dr. Arthur Compton in which I quoted from EXISTENCE:

"The hypothetical ultimate of matter I have termed a cosmode; which, collectively, are heterogeneous in character. Cosmodes constitute the emissions of transmuted energy-matter from the substance (matter given off) and the bodies of all planets within a given nebula, and are isochronous at every point therein."

I didn't hear from Dr. Compton, the Nobel prize winner on that subject. But on June 30, 1938, I read in the S. F. News:

"Dr. Arthur Compton, . . . surprised a distinguished gathering last night with an announcement he had drastically revised his generally accepted theory, on the origin of cosmic rays . . . 'The rays probably originate locally with the Milky Way rather than in remote stellar space,' he said."

In that letter of 1934 to the leading universities I also quoted:

"The sequence and variation of mass-densities in the physical state of matter produce an incessant contending for positions of equilibrium in the interstices, spaces and distances between hypothetical subdivisions, sensible aggregate, and separated bodies in their respective spheres; so that the energetic source of all physical phenomena lies potentially in the distending forces of those interstices, spaces and distances of dividedness . . . from atoms to planets and from planetary systems to nebulae; for all interstices, spaces and distances are incessantly variable within certain degrees."

Then in TIME of June 21, 1937 I read:

" . . . Last week in Peru Dr. Derge A Korff of the Carnegie Institution reported that the eclipse lasted ten seconds longer than the computations called for, and a Japanese savant declared that it began ten seconds later than expected. The fault is not with human mathematics, but with a mysterious wobbling of the moon from its orbit."

On February 15, 1936, I wrote to Professor Leigh Page, head of the physics department of Yale University:

"Concluding before I overtax your time and patience, I have found that the first and last motion of all matter is that of rotation, whose span of momentum is determined . . ."

I didn't hear anything from Prof. Page. But in the following year on April 27 I read from Science Service that Drs. Smyth and Taylor of Princeton University " . . described experiments which show that molecules in solids are free to rotate just as are those of liquids. This is contrary to previous notions of the behavior of solids and is expected to have important bearing upon the understanding of the nature of atom."

The Smithsonian Institute was one of those honored by my quotation on June 28, 1934, and one that paid no attention. (?)

"That phenomenon of incessant contending for positions of equilibrium by the variation of densities, thus producing a constant interstitial variability . . . I have termed protomotion. It is universally constant in a fractional division throughout all forms of matter, and is therefore the energetic source of all physical phenomena."

Then in the S. F. News of July 9, 1937 I read:

"The Earth is in a continuous state of microseism or minor vibration—so is every thing upon it. Nobody knows just what causes it." So declared officials of the Geodetic Survey. And it seems to me that the Survey has some connection with the Institute above mentioned.

SAID FORT:

"What We Want Is Variety."

Now comes something called *Vitosophy*, as set forth in a leaflet from Dr. J. V. McManis . . . The following are selected quotations:

IF THE UNIVERSE
SHOULD SPEAK
TO YOU
And Tell Its Story
What Would It Say?

What would You find in the great Book of Nature if You were Able to READ IT?

Would its Declarations be found to be in Agreement with . . . .

Classical Astronomy
Modern Philosophy
Current Cosmology
Accepted Physics
Prevailing Social Forms
Schoolbook Geology
Darwinian Evolution
Scientific Hypotheses?

A New and Valid and Amazing System of Science answers — NO!

What Vitosophy and the Field Theory Sciences Say

To the mind of the reader the conclusions set forth in the Field Theory Sciences may be strange and startling, as well as amazing!

Yet we consider them valid and true, the best answer to the questions you may ask and the most scientific solution of the great world problems confronting research workers and scientists.

VITOSOPHY *is the most modern and the most dynamic of all world-concepts.* Vitosophy, as a philosophic system, has for its basis the famous FIELD THEORY, which involves sensational concepts formulated by Dr. U. G. Morrow of New Orleans:

The Universe is a great Cell-Form, the environing body being the Concave or Hollow Earth.

The Universe is a great Living Organism, completely alive throughout its whole extent.

The Cell-Universe is Eternal, persisting through all time.

Matter and Energies are Living Substances, not dead, inert, and unconscious as per modern physics.

Cosmic Space is structured in accordance with the principles of the Electric Feild. *This is the most original and daring Space*

Concept ever put forth by any scientist!

These are sweeping discoveries, destined to revolutionize human thought, conclusions, and conduct!

The Mathematical basis of the Field Theory Sciences has been declared valid by eminent astronomers and mathematicians.

—THE LIVING COSMOS—

ACTIVISM characterizes the Living Cosmos described in VITOSOPHY.

The Cosmos is envisaged as constituting one great Being upon which all parts of the Organism depend.

We see in such a Cosmos the source of all thought, the mental power, as well as so-called physical energies, generated through the intense activities of the electric vortices of atomic infinitesimals — *a Cosmos possessing a psychology and metaphysics of its own,* through understanding of which Prophets, Seers, and Geniuses of all ages derived their powers!

YOU, too, may contact the great Reservoir of Mind and Life!

(Just how this conception differs from that of the Koreshans is not clear to your Secretary.)

The NOTES of Charles Fort

Continued from Number 4 of the Fortean Society Magazine.

Students will find the *Index* to THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT of value in connection with these notes, especially in reference to bibliographical sources. Where only abbreviations appear in the notes, the full name of the publication usually appears in the *Index* . . . . . Throughout the notes "BA" refers to reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. The numerals in connection with "BA" sometimes refer to volume numbers and sometimes to the year. This will cause no confusion in consulting the reports since either year or volume number will identify the publication to almost any librarian where the work is on the shelves.

1817 Box 1 - (Resumed)

April 4 Light quake Mexico
10 Bohemia fireball BA 60
16 Palermo 2 AM (Volc) Sounds, objects cross sun and Etna eruption BA 54 D-228
17 Rhine fireball BA 60
26 London Times p. 3, ? igneous meteor PM
26 London Times p. 3, Meteor of Corsica, audible phenomenon
27 Hesse Fireball BA 60
30 quakes at Naples and Vesuvius, greater activity Journal des D., May 16, 1817

May 2 Gottingen BA 60
21 12 h/ inferior conjunction Venus A1

June 10 June 30—hot rain at Inverness August 7, 31, Sept 2—small (?) in 1818 Robert's "List of Earthquakes"
30 Inverness and neighborhood—a quake and hot water fell from the sky

July 24 Loud detonations and the Lake of Canterno, Italy, ran dry Nat. Reg. October 25 (One word in parenthesis indecipherable. T.T.)

Aug 7 Augsburg fireball BA 60
21 London Times, p. 2, St. Stevens, quake
29 London Times, p. 2, Inverness, quake

Sept 8 Richmond Fireball BA 60
12 Dark, Scotland (123)
25 Great meteor visible at noon in Venzuela National Intelligencer Washington, November 11, 1817

Oct 5 Woburn, Mass. quake BA '11
6 Tunbridge Wells Fireball BA 60
13 11 PM detonating meteor at Senesee, N.Y. National Intelligencer, Washington November 4
17 Aix Fireball BA'60
21 day of the West Indian hurricane. 8 inches of rain fell on Island. Heavy rains continued

Nov 22 severe quake in Greenland BA 54 Hecla quiet at the time

Dec 8 Opposition Mars (A1)
8 12:57 AM Ipswich, detonating meteor from Taurus—like discharging a distant canon, Gents Mag., 1818-1-159
10 11 PM sharp shock S. Carolina and Georgia, Niles Weekly Register, January 17, 1818
22 to 26 Vesuvius

1818

Jan 6 Loft's Vulcan—supposed by him to be a comet in transit over sun—observed at least 3 ½ hrs—Ipswich Quar. Journal Royal Institute 5/117 (reverse) no comet known
17 Vermont — detonating meteor —BA 67

Jan 18 Siberia Fireball BA 60
28 Cambelltown, Scotland Fireball BA '60

Feb 6 Daylight meteor — Blackwoods 2/516

Feb 6 2 PM., brilliant daylight meteor from Zenith toward North Cambridge and Norfolk, Gents Mag., 1818-1-268 461 Sun brilliant in a cloudless sky hail in the Orkneys preceded by sounds like cannonading (Schwedoff) Symons 17/149 (reverse) Schwedoff explained that detonated like meteorites
6 Lincolnshire — detonating meteor BA '60 '54-115
15 Limoges, France — meteor reported unknown (indecipherable) or stars Phil Mag 4-8-459 BA 1860
16 At Coningsby, Lincolnshire — sounds like gun shots ground shaking slighty — on 20th noises like firing of canon and a "meteor" seen at Kiston Lindsey (reverse) Repeat Apr 30 B Ass 54/115
20 3 PM — Another shock at Coningsby, and a meteor seen in Lindsey. First shock at Coningsby was Feb 6. Like subterranean cannon in Lincolnshire Gents Mag. 1818-1(171, 364
20 great quake, Italy 23 medium quake France BA '11
20 phenomena Catania See 1805 See Annales de Chimie 33/405
20 heavy quake, Italy
23 light quake in Italy
23 medium quake in France
24-25. quakes in towns in Bouches-du Rhone/BA 54/116
28 light quake in Italy

Mar 1 One of the most terrible hurricanes in history of Mauritius Gents Mag. 1818/2/76
7 afternoon /Isle of Wight (near Whilwell) for half an hour a roaring sound and violent atmospheric disturbance. The cloudburst called a waterspout. Nothing said (indecipherable word) seen Gents. Mag. 1818 1/364

Mar 14 2:30 PM, clouds gathered, though little wind, and began to shut off sunlight giving the *sun* the appearance of fire — at 4 PM total obscurity and the people crowded to church to pray. Then the sky looked fiery and detonations, or thunder was heard, and brilliant lights or lightning were seen. Great drops of red liquid began to fall. About nightfall this fall and the sounds and lights of the lightning (on next note) ceased Said that this fall not only in Calabria but in the Abbrozes. Full particulars of Chemist Analysis given Jour de. Physique 86/205
14 Story confirmed for this date Quar. Jour. Roy Inst. 1818
14 Same story as March 14, 1813
14 Naples carbonaceous substance (D-75)

April 10 Zaborzika, Volhynia Stone fell BA 60
11 Zaborzika, Volhynia, Russia, meteorite (F)
30 Again see Feb 6, 1818

May 17 Motz, Savoy quake preceded by loud detonations BA 54

May 31 medium quake in Mexico

June Seres, Macedonia, Turkey, Meteorite F

June Seres, Macedonia stone 15 lbs. fell BA 60

July Isle of Ely, after a thunderstorm several "creeping creatures about six inches (reverse) in length were picked up—were locusts. They were locusts. Gents Mag. 88/366
17 between 9 and 10 PM Meteor size of full moon, Montpelier, Vt. (reverse) A.S.Sci. 2/32/441
July 19 South of France shocks and heavy rains and followed by (reverse) great electrical explosions BA 54
19 Paveli quake and great thunderstorm BA 54
Aug 3 Worthing fireball BA 60
8 Chelenfort Fireball BA 60
10 Slobodka, Smolensk, Russia/ meteorite (F)
Sept 2 London Times p. 3 Bencoolen quake
8 medium Italy quake
14 England fireball
Oct 21-24 Volcano Goentoes, Java, N.M. C. R. 70-880
21 violent eruption volcano Goenoing in Preang Gents Mag 1919/1/557
31 Hecla BA 54
31 Meteorite between Bucharest in Wallachia, and Mehadia. Great meteorite (BA 1849) according to Bigoslawski's (reverse) catalog it was aerolite BA 60
Nov 8 Volc and great quake Lemongang Java N. M. C. R. 70-878 also another volc — Smeroe
13 Meteor Gosport BA 60
17 Fireball Gosport BA 60
20 medium quake St. Domingo, West Indies
26 Comet in Pigova
Dec 9 light quakes Italy & Phillipines
18 Halle Fireball BA 60
20 to May 21, 1819, eight quakes in the West Indies of which seven were between 9 and 11 PM BA 54
26 -3 hours/Venus Inferior Conjunction (A-1)

1819

1819 Auroras Great Britain Amer-J. Scie. 14/96
Jan 4 2 days Vesuvius
29 light quake Caucasia
Feb 2 Canterbury Fireball Ba '60
Mar 12 Light quake Vera Cruz, Mexico
18 quake in Oran and Mascara, in Morocco. A great many of the inhabitants disappeared beneath the ruins. B. Assoc 1854/122
26 Borne Fireball BA 60
April 11 Salerno, Italy Meteorite. At Massa Lubrense Stonefall BA 60
3, 4, 11 Copiapo, Chile, violent quakes
3. 4, 11, great quakes Chili (BA?) '11
17 Vesuvius
May 3 medium quake, Oaxaca, Mexico
5 12:30 PM, great Meteor Aberdeen and other places, exploded with a (reverse) sound that terrified cattle. Q.J. Roy. Inst See BA 67 7-395
26 Light quake Italy (Lativia)
26 Etna BA 54
27-29 eruption of Vesuvius. Q. Jour. Roy Inst. 19-227
27-28 about midnight Etna begins B.G. Univ. 11/191
June 9,10,11,18,24, detonations like cannon fire from Vesuvius Quar. Jour. Roy. Inst. 19-229.
11 a few days before—Coast Mass. —wave 10 feet high—several persons drowned (Reverse) Niles Weekly Register June 19
13 6 AM Jonzac "contains poison" (?) BA 60
13 6:15 AM Charente Inferiure Jonzac Stones fell like rain after 3 detonations B.G. Univ 15/311
14 Larvae, at Riga, Russia, during a strong north west wind fell caterpillars. People swept into (reverse) heaps and dug ditches to bury them. Destroyed in every way think of without seeming to diminish the numbers. Niles Weekly Register Sep 4, 1819
About middle of June—Berwick-upon-Tweed / about noon meteor and rain at first like a ball of fire and then like a flaming sword Visible 5 minutes June 18 London Times, p. 3.
June 16 Cutch, India/ quake preceded by a violent wind and noise like that of a large flight of birds (reverse) B. Assoc 1854/ 1.22
16 Time of the great quake at Masulipatam, India, a tremendous thunderstorm (reverse) and a fireball burst, doing damage BA 54-98
16 quake of Cutch 1150 persons burned in the ruins of Bhooj. Said that from a hill was thrown (reverse) a ball of fire that then fell to the ground scorching vegetation. Rain fell in torrents. Trans. Lit. Soc. Bombay, 3/90
16 1st shock at Kutch (Another 23rd, midnight) also at Ahmedabad, Amer. J. Sci. 4-316. (reverse) Volcano opened 30 miles from Bhooj.
18 Auxonne, (or Auxerre) France "waterspout" or large hail fell. Destroyed the harvest in 19 communeo (reverse) Quar. Journ R M Est. 6-162
26 "Passage of earth through tail of comet/ Clerke History of Astronomy, appendix
26 5 solar spots by Gruithuisen cited with "Vulcan". Amer. Sci. Disc. 160/411
26 Time of a comet Pastoroff saw dark spot with a luminous center cross the sun. Astronomers, among them Obur, said could not have been the comet. Webb Celestial Objects 40.
Summer Large numbers of butterflies—The Camberwell Beauty—seen floating off the coast of Durham. This butterfly so rare in Great Britain (reverse) that in from 1911 to 1921 only about 20 recorded captured in England & Scotland. The Field, Nov 5, 1921
July 1 See July 3
2 Etna, p. 2, London Times
3 About two hours after sunset in England new comet not far from Bela Auriga, nearly in a line with Bela and Capella to northward not far from horizon when first seen London Times p. 3, July 5. (reverse) Other seen at Leeds at 10 & 11 PM July 1. declination about 40° N supposed longitude 10 (?) 15° of Cancer/ p. 3, Lond Times July 7,/ Aberdeen on the 1st/ This comet had a tail
3 Sudden appearance of a comet, Paris, Clerke Hist. Astro. /103
14 Terrific detonations from Vesuvius. Quar. Journ. Roy. In st. 19-232
24 Detonating meteors, Youngstown, Ohio Amer. Jour. Sci. 6/316
26 Remarkable storm Catskill, Amer. Journ Sci. 4-124
Aug 1 London Fireball BA 60
2 Kioto, Japan, violent quake.
6 Moravia Fireball BA 60
9 Perseids. Amer. Jour. Sci. B 7-335
13 Amherst, p. 41 f. Damned p. 42 (p. 41, THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT T.T.)
15 Quake and sounds like cannon fire, St. Andrews, Lower Canada.
18 Shocks Voss Sweden BA 54
20 Rotwill Fireball BA 60

1819 Box A - (Resumed)

Aug 23 London Times, p. 11, (also elsewhere in that issue—TT) 2 different deaths/Matterhorn ab. saction (?) (Indecipherable word might be "Rgit" T.T.) Journal 1819

1819 Box 1 - (Resumed) ..

Aug 23 Norway/ Lunroe series begins BA 54
Sep 2 bet. 2 & 3 AM and Sept 16 bet. 10 & 11 PM, shocks New Madrid region, Columbian Centinel Oct 30
5 Red rain Studein in Moravia R-May 26, '46
5 Small pieces of earth (fell) from a cloud. Annals of Phil· N.J. 22/95
Oct 1 England Fireball
2 before/noises Bristol. Nothing in Bristol Observer.
2 Larvae, during a thunder storm in Bristol, England, (reverse) a mass of larvae fell from the

NEXT ISSUE - - - JANUARY, 1942
John Cowper Powys - - - Ben Hecht
Tiffany Thayer - - - - And Others

Oct sky and carried away in bushels. Niles Register of Oct 2.
13 Polilz, S. Prussia/ 3 stones fell (F)/ Ph. Mag 4/8/459 (reverse) 8 AM BA '60
24 Antwerp Fireball BA 60
28 Montreal, earthquake in morning/ 29th "a storm of thunder and lightning" for hour and a half of unusual violence. (reverse) violent shocks 7:25 AM on 29th—Mercury Nov. 2 Quebec Mercury Nov. 16.

Nov 2 In the afternoon at Blankenburg and Dixmude, Flanders/ at night in Scheveningen. Edin Phil. Tory 2/381
2-3 night./ red rain D-40 Scheveningen Holland, Quar. Journ Roy. Inst. 9-202
2 In the Quebec Mercury Nov 23 taken from a Salem newspaper dated Nov 9, which takes from a Newburyport paper of Nov 5 that on the Tuesday before the 5th or the 2nd that—intense darkness and thunder and rain that was colored "with some dingy substance."
2 Boston, intense darkness—little or no rain, Columbian Centenel Nov. 6 (reverse) Here too the account of rain Nov. 2 at Newburyport, Mass.

Aside: From the seventh to the tenth of November, 1819, something was going on. Fort's notes are slightly out of chronological order at this point, due, perhaps, to his pursuit of detail from sources dated much after the events. The notes appear here as I find them. After November 10, the regular chronological order is resumed. T.T.

8 Before/ Norfolk, Va. in the Quebec Mercury, Nov. 23 (dated Norfolk, Nov 8) "In consequence of the fire somewhere (it is said in the Dismal Swamp) our atmosphere is so beclouded and has been so for several days, that no object at any considerable distance can be discerned. The James River Steam Boats have neither of them arrived yet (9 o'clock), and no doubt the delay proceeds from a difficulty in finding the way along."

Nov 9 In the Northern Whig (Hudson, N.Y.) Nov. 23—that according to a Buffalo (reverse) paper, rain had fallen "lately," "deeply tinged with some sooty substance."
9 (Plan) tell that volcanoes etc., but admit the forest fires (reverse) See Sci. American that was forest fires—still the phenomenon but can't clear this up till Sept 1881.
16 B. rain, Broughton. tr V A (Probably indicates black rain at the time of a transit of Venus TT) / Oevres Arago, 12/46
10 Montreal, Canada / slight shock followed by great storm—black rain. B. Assoc. 1854 125 D-33
6 to 10/ New England—Canada/ Dark Day Sc. Amer. 112-229
7 See Nov. 9
10 Montreal/Listed as earthquake in Mallets Catalog

No date darkness, etc., Montreal to Bermuda/M.W.R. 1904/23 (x) (reverse) vividly set forth in N Y Times Apr 23/2/7 1881
9 At Albany, N.Y.—8:00 AM. darkness and fall of hail—wind was from the South. (reverse) Candles lighted at 3 pm.—atmosphere thick, hazy, yellowish, Quebec Mercury Nov 23.

Nov 8 Niles Weekly Register, (issue of) Nov. 27, no particular date mentioned, said that in West Indies difficult for (reverse) navigators to make their observations on account of the smoke.
9 That in several showers in N Y State *recently* ashes had fallen in rain (reverse) Niles Weekly Register, Dec. 4
9 Similar darkness at Quebec/ Oct 17, 1834—Oct 14, 1835—Oct 18, 1839 (reverse) Niles National Register Nov. 16, 1839 p. 192
7 and 9/ See Oct. 28,29/ Quebec Mercury of Nov. 16—Same account as Burlington paper. "The blackened color of the air viewed through a luminous substratum presented a spectacle awful and grand in the extreme." Said that after thunder and lightning had subsided (reverse) the darkness continued, and seemed to increase until about 4 PM.
8 etc. Account by Mr. J. H. Dorian to the Montreal Star in Sci. Amer. 44/329. / Sun (8th) rose upon a cloudy sky, greenish in places, inky in places. Soon intense darkness and heavy shower of rain like soap suds which after settling deposited (reverse) substance like soot. Late in afternoon sky cleared. The next day fine. Morning of the 10th again the clouds and intense darkness. Then a great body of clouds that seemed to rush upon the city and darkness—flashes and detonations and shaking city, Then rain with soapy, sooty substance/ Should be 7th and 9th.

Nov 7 described in N Y Times 1881 April 23-2-7
7 b. (for "black" likely—T.T.) rain Montreal Oct 17, 1834
7 See Montreal May 21-22, 1871
Nov 7 Montreal series See May 20, 24 1848

No date Dark day in Canada described N Y Times 1881 Apr 23-27
7 Dark day and meteor May 21, 1877
9 See Feb 24/1868
7 See Fires like Sept. 1881 and Siberia 1896-7
7 In Col. Cent. Nov 24 said that at Louisville the smoke had been attributed to (reverse) forest fires in Kentucky. In Nor. Car. to forest fires in that state
7 Columbia Centinel Nov 24 that the smoke and darkness had appeared about (reverse) same time attended by colored rain at Sea, Canada, Eastern, Western and Southern states.
9 In Columbia Centinal (Nov 17) said that the smoke at sea had delayed navigation since the first of the month—that smoke had been attributed to forest fires in New Jersey but that this (reverse) smoke had appeared well to the windward of New Jersey.

(See next issue for continuation.)

SEE

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