

THE ANTI-MESMERIST.

"THE EARTH HATH BUBBLES, AS THE WATER HAS,
AND THESE ARE OF THEM."

SHAKSPEARE.

No. VI.]

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MESMERISM UNMASKED.

We understand that Mr. Weekes complains of the unfairness of Dr. Smethurst's report of his lecture at Sandwich, and its results; and in reference to Dr. S's. letter to the *Medical Times*, he asserts that "the case of the boy who experienced such base and unmanly treatment at the hands of Dr. Smethurst, and who designated him as an impostor, was a *genuine and beautiful instance of Clairvoyance, of lucid somnambulism!* the reality of which is well known to hundreds of intelligent persons among whom are numbered many persons whose very names in the scientific world render it an honour to be condemned as a 'collusionist in their company.'"

Mr. Weekes it seems, has elsewhere stated "that had not Dr. S. made his exit from the lecture room, he would have been kicked down stairs." We are, therefore, induced to subjoin the following correspondence, leaving to the judgment of our readers which of the parties was most afraid of the other, and how much value is to be attached to Mr. Weekes' excuse or pretext for declining the meeting proposed by Dr. Smethurst:—

Spencer Square, Ramsgate, 3d Nov. 1843.

SIR,—As you kindly expressed a wish to afford me a private opportunity of investigating the boy's capabilities of seeing, either from the posterior part or crown of his head, the pit of the stomach, or deciphering the inscription of coins enclosed in a box. I now solicit the enquiry, with the *intention* of admitting either the truths of your assertions, or of *expressing my opinion of the fallacy of mesmerism.*

In conclusion, I request the power of bringing two or three friends with me, together *with my own mask*; the right of directing the position of the lad, and the articles to be used in the experiments, to which, of course, you can offer no objection. A public meeting on the subject will be equally agreeable, and an early answer will greatly oblige.

Sir, your obedient Servant,

THOMAS SMETHURST, M. D.

P. S.—The presence of the lady who reads from her fingers ends would prove an important acquisition on the occasion.

W. H. Weekes, Esq., Surgeon, Sandwich.

In reply to which Dr. Smethurst received the following answer:—

Sandwich, 4th Nov., 1843.

SIR,—Unfortunately, the patient whom you saw magnetised after being awakened, heard your assertion, that he had seen by the use of his eyes every test presented during the evening. Now the fact being, that he is quite unconscious that any tests whatever were applied to him, except inasmuch as he depends upon the statements of others, he naturally feels indignant at being denounced as the agent of an imposture, and sturdily refuses to be magnetised again, either in your presence, or that of any stranger. In this determination, I find he is backed by his relatives, and I have not the right of control over him."

I am, Sir, respectfully yours,

W. H. WEEKES.

Dr. Smethurst, Ramsgate.

MODERN MESMERISM.

(Continued from page 33.)

Having disposed of Phreno-Mesmerism, it will now be well to conclude our evidences of the deceptions practised under the name of Clairvoyance. The experiments already detailed, as offered for public acceptance by Mr. Vernon and others, have been proved impositions: nor is it merely to him or to ourselves, that this has been made manifest.

At Greenwich "a book produced by Dr. Purvis, was placed in the patient's hand with a fly leaf covering the title which she was requested to read, but declared her inability. The lecturer called on the judges to bandage the patient's eyes, or for one to keep his fingers on the lids, so as to prevent her seeing. Dr. Purvis placed his finger on her eyes, when the book was placed in her hands, that she might read the title then full before her. She held the book close to her eyes, above, in front, below, rose from her chair, twisted about, and after three or four minutes had elapsed in dragging the Doctor about thus, the patient eventually read the title "Poetical Treasury, a series of Sacred Poems," correctly, except using the word political for "poetical."

At Greenwich too, we were asked to place some adhesive plaister over the eyes of a boy said to be in a state of Mesmerism, but *not to put it over the eyebrows.* Under protest, that this would be no test, we did so. The boy then had a pack of cards given to him, he dealt them, and turned up the trump, which he named the *eight of hearts.* It was the eight of diamonds. A person in the audience called out, "the eight of diamonds," and then the boy named it correctly—upon this a piece of green cloth was held between him and the audience, when a card was placed before his eyes, the light being full on it, and the chairman watching the proceedings. He pretended to smell it, but the card was kept *straight* before his eyes, and he said "he could not tell what it was." He was tried a second time, and he again failed, and a third time with a like result. Now it is evident that he had gradually worked the upper eye-lid, until its lower edge was level with the top of the plaister, but the eye-lashes remained covered. By getting the card therefore, above the brow, he could see it, but when held fairly before the eyes, he could not, and yet the Mesmerizers claimed a victory, although this was the only experiment performed in our presence.

After we left, he cheated them to their hearts content, but we

waited not to see the juggling.

Our readers will have discovered by this time, that the public pretensions to clairvoyance detailed by us, were in every instance neither more nor less than gross imposition; they will be prepared then to expect the same result in those that remain to be noticed, nor will they be disappointed. There lives at Maidstone, a man of the name of Dan, a painter and glazier; this Dan has a wonderful boy, the same (we believe) who has been immortalized by Mr. Spurrel. He, who in his mesmeric sleep, went to Buckingham Palace, and followed about the Queen, to her most private retirement, witnessed her every act; he, who described Hampton Palace and the Cartoons, (never having previously heard of one or the other.) This is, this must be the boy who received a sovereign from the authorities of the Town for *smelling* out where a gas-pipe leaked; and as Dan himself informed us, was in the habit of saving him many a weary walk, and many a fruitless journey by his gift. "Suppose a house is building three miles away," said Dan, and "I want to know how it is getting on, I can get the information now without crossing my own threshold. I call the boy, put him to sleep, and then tell him to go to the building and inform me of its state. Have they made the frames yet?" say I, "not quite," says he; "one is finished, another half finished, and a third, but just begun; one is on the bench; the other in the corner of the room." We were informed that upon another occasion, the same boy was told to go to Rochester, and say what he saw there. Among other things, he declared that "Rochester clock was a peculiar one, that all the figures on the dial radiated from the centre, except two, and that these were perpendicular."

The clock had been so, but it had been altered more than 6 months.

Well! we met this boy; he exhibited at one of our lectures, and although something foreign to our present argument, involving as it does more questions than clairvoyance, yet is the case too instructive to lose, especially as Mr. Vernon declares that they "beat us at Maidstone."

After the boy was put to sleep we proceeded to test him.

Some ammonia was put under his nose, when he held his breath until he could hold it no longer; and then he who being mesmerized should have been motionless, *moved his head on one side to escape the bottle, breathed the fresh air, and replaced his head.* When the fingers of the mesmerizer were held to his mouth, he laughed and clapped his hands; whereas the cause of laughter and of joy is in the brain, (which was not attempted to be influenced), and not in the mouth, which is the mere agent of the thought. When he held his arm out, it must have been in one of three states—cataleptic, rigid, or under his command. It was not cataleptic, for it returned to the position from which it was forced; it was not rigid, for it could be moved; it was subject to his volition, for when a weight was hung upon it and the string suddenly cut which held it, the voluntary action of the extensor muscles threw the arm up six inches or more. He talked, without any excitement being attempted of the organ of language; he moved, when the power of motion had been taken away, frequently scratching his head, and putting the climax upon the whole, by nudging the operator when he wished to be demesmerized, and this was witnessed and can be sworn to. When he left the room, he was heard to say, "We've done him now at any rate."

On a succeeding occasion, we challenged the Maidstone people to produce a case of clairvoyance, offering the proceeds of the evening's lecture as a reward. "Do you mean that, sir?" exclaimed a voice from one corner of the room. "Of course we do, or it would not have been offered," was the reply. "Then I accept your challenge," was the rejoinder, and up walked Mr. Cornford and this very boy. The terms of our challenge were, that he should declare within five minutes the time by a hunting-watch, whose hands should have been moved. This was giving a wide latitude, for it is evident that it was only eleven to one against his guessing the hours aright, only six to one against the minutes. For instance, suppose the hands to stand at a quarter past six, ten minutes or twenty minutes would have been within the prescribed five minutes, and there are but twelve hours!

However, he was mesmerized, and a watch previously arranged was handed to Mr. Cornford, who asked if "he might give it to the boy?" "Oh yes," we replied; *and the boy took it.* Yes! he who was declared to be unconscious, insensible to pain, and without-volition, took hold of the watch and held it up to his half

closed eyes. But he gained nothing by the motion, as the lawyers would say, for it had a double case; finding this, he enclosed it in both hands, with his fingers applied to the opening. God forgive us for thinking that as he could not see the time he would try to feel it, but this we did think, and requested a surgeon present to keep a sharp look out. Foiled in this, and after the lapse of much time and more pressing, the boy, the clairvoyant boy—he who had seen the gas-pipe, and whose fame had made the country ring, told us that it wanted twenty minutes to eight; when the watch was opened, and lo! IT WAS A QUARTER PAST TWO! People absolutely rushed upon the platform to grasp us by the hand, and congratulate us at escaping the barefaced attempt which had been made to swindle us.

Mr. Cornford was about to waken him, when we requested one more experiment; and sending for the strongest bottle of ammonia that could be procured, we tested its strength, and then said audibly that "if the boy could fairly smell that—not hold his breath, but smell it, we would believe in Mesmerism." Cornford took the bottle, and held it to his nose. "I won't," whispered the boy. "You must," said Cornford. "I won't, I tell you," was the reply, and finding all solicitation vain, Mr. Cornford turned round and exclaimed, "HE SAYS THAT HE WON'T HAVE ANY MORE OF IT." Reader, ponder these things, and then say if Mr. Vernon is correct when he says that "Mr. Rumball knows Mesmerism to be true." Is not Mr. Rumball more likely to be so, when he states his conviction that Mr. Vernon knows it to be false?

It will create no surprise to hear, that whereas before we entered the town of Maidstone it was calculated that at least two hundred of its inhabitants were in the daily practice of Mesmerism, its day has passed, and now "its name is never heard"; and yet Vernon wrote that "the Maidstone Mesmerizers beat us at every onslaught."

The same boy was privately tested a few evenings afterwards by Mr. Crandall, and he failed just as signally. This gentlemen's name would not have been mentioned, but that he related to us a case of clairvoyance, equally interesting. It seems that a relation of his at Chatham had a servant girl, who claimed this faculty. "Well," said Mr. Crandall, "I am open to conviction. Put her to sleep at such an hour on such a day, and let her look in at my house at Maidstone, and declare what I am doing." This was consented to, and with the confidence of innocence or assurance of brass, (it little matters which), the girl said that "he was sitting in his room, reading a book, but inattentively."—A very likely thing to be doing *pour passer le temps*, but instead of which HE WAS PERFORMING ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTS.

Speaking of Chatham, it is rich in Mesmerism; some of the patients there pretend to "introvision," as well as clairvoyance, and have obtained much fame as mediciners; one woman pretends, or did pretend to tell the age, sex, and state of health of any person, of whose hair, a lock should be handed to her.

A tradesman of the Town sent her some hair, and she declared it to be the hair of a male 37 years of age, ill, with an affection of the head and difficulty of breathing; and concluded by affirming that Mesmerism would cure him. THE HAIR WAS THE HAIR OF HIS SISTER!!—BUT HE HAS A BROTHER WHO IS 37 YEARS OF AGE, AND WHO IS AFFECTED IN THE HEAD AND BREATHING; AND THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE HAIR FOR EXAMINATION IS A RELATIVE OF THE WOMAN MESMERIZED AND WELL ACQUAINTED WITH THE TRADESMAN'S FAMILY!!

We shall have some more to say to these good Chathamites, when we come to examine into other supposed phenomena, but we will just cross the channel for the purpose of copying the following account of a somnambulist exhibition given in the Paris *Globe*. After noticing some previous exhibitions of the same nature by M. Marcelet with the somnambulist, the "young Alexis," the *Globe* says:—"We will now speak of the exhibition at the hotel of the Viscountess de Saint-Mars. M. Victor Hugo, who was present, had prepared at home a sealed packet, in the centre of which he had placed a single word, printed in large characters. The somnambulist, after turning over the packet every way, spelled slowly—p—o—l—i—t—i—q—u—e, and then exclaimed, 'I do not see the letter that immediately follows, but I perceive those which come afterwards, i—q—u—e; eight letters; no; I now see nine; it is a—t, *politique*, and the word is printed on large green paper. M.

M. Hugo cut it out of a pamphlet, which I now see at his house.' Similar experiments were frequently repeated, and always with the same success; at the house of M. Charles Ledru, where they took place specially, in order that Lord Brougham might witness them. His Lordship was quite astounded at seeing Alexis playing at cards with his eyes bandaged, and reading through several sheets of paper. But the last experiment was of a nature to remove all doubt. 'What words have I written there?' said Lord Brougham, presenting his closed hand. 'Chester,' replied the somnambulist; and Chester it was. The Hon. Mrs. Dawson Damer then said, 'Can you tell me what I placed on the guérdon of my saloon before I left home?' 'Yes, madam, I see there a medallion.' 'What does it contain?' Hair. 'Whose hair?' 'That of three personages—the Emperor Napoleon, Wellington—as to the third, I cannot tell his name, but he died before Napoleon, and was an Englishman—a sailor.' The Hon. Mrs. Damer then named Lord Nelson. Some days afterwards, Viscount Jocelyn having presented a box well wrapped up to the young Alexis, the latter instantly said it contained only one object, that it was red, and came from a distant country. He ended by saying that it was a piece of coral cut into a death's head.

[We hope to lay before our readers a true version of this affair, at present it is sufficient to note, that if Alexis did really see the hair, he could not possibly know *whose hair* it was, without collusion, and this is enough to stamp the whole report as false.]—ED.

We have already quoted from the Phreno-Magnet some rich specimens of Phreno-Mesmeric exhibitions: we shall conclude our history of clairvoyance by extracts from the same source. At page 87 of No. II. a letter is inserted, dated at Alton, Illinois, U.S. in which the writer narrates several instances of apparent clairvoyance in a young girl, and after stating that he had not hitherto "entered into any arrangements with any one to ascertain whether she told truly, therefore had no positive evidence," he goes on to say—

"On Christmas Eve, however, I directed her to go to W.'s; she immediately began as follows—'Almira is sick.' On being asked how she seemed, and whether very sick, she replied she had a cold and some fever, but is better, and is not as sick as I at first thought." On being asked what they were doing, she says, "Father W. is sitting before the fire with his shoes off, warming his feet; Mother W. is also sitting there, holding the babe, and Eliza is up stairs, dressing or undressing." This must have been about nine o'clock in the evening then. *I have never asked any questions to learn the truth or falsehood of all this.*

Again, at page 120, No. IV., we are informed that a young woman at Nottingham was sent to sleep, and among other tests "was asked if she saw into Mr. W.'s house?" She replied, "No, I can't—I don't know where he lives." She was then asked if she could see into Mr. E.'s house, and she said, "Yes, I can see into the kitchen, and I can see Rebecca the cook; she is sitting alone by the fireside," and (*mirabile dictu*) she was found to be as described. What was this but a good guess?—it being the custom of an afternoon for servants to sit by the fireside when their work is done, just as it is the custom in America for Eliza to be upstairs undressing at the hour of rest. These and all others of the like nature are cunning attempts to make truth subservient to falsehood, and to attribute to a miracle what is mere knowledge. The manifestations of intro-vision bear also the same character of shrewd guesses, assuming an oracular shape, and oftentimes fulfilling themselves through the imagination of the patients. Ample evidence has been given, that when a clairvoyant patient is properly tested, he is invariably detected; and so conscious of this are the mesmerizers, that they constantly refuse all fair precautions. They will only have their patient's blinded after their own fashion. Paper that they can see through, masks that they can see under, fingers that they can move, and plasters that they can unfasten, are their chosen blinds; and if it is attempted to interpose a sufficient obstacle, it is either interdicted, or the experiment fails. The cases already before the reader afford ample evidence of this, and as these are quite the best, and nearly all upon record, the inference is inevitable, viz., that *Mesmerism is not proved by clairvoyance*. But if any further evidence be sought, it will be found in the fact

that all pretensions to the power are of modern origin, and the invention of men who already stand before us convicted impostors. MESMER KNEW NOTHING OF CLAIRVOYANCE. Throughout the whole investigation before the Committee of 86, not one word of mention is made of any such power. Elliotson knows nothing about it; and this does constitute an impassable barrier between him and the ignorant knaves who would fain cling to his skirts.

But these men are such bunglers at their trade that it must remain matter of marvel how they can have deceived even for a moment.

Read the following account, ye dunces, and then go hide your diminished heads:—

What are Mr. Vernon's wonders to those of the "Great Wizard of the North," or even to the Scotch boy "Donald," exhibited a few years ago at the Green, on Blackheath, who, with his eyes bandaged, and his face placed against a wall could give full particulars of every thing in the room, and could even tell how much money the visitors had respectively got in their purses, and of what pieces of coin it was composed. We saw the thing done. "Now Donald," said the father, who was the catechiser, "how much money has this gentleman got in his poorse?" "Fifteen shillings," replied the lad. "Vary good—and how many are half-crowns?"—"Four." And what besides?"—Three shillings and four pence. Answers far more remarkable than these were given, and the most acute observer could not detect the means of communication, or form of putting the questions, by which the boy exhibited such wonderful powers of *clair voyance*. What a treasure Donald would have been to Mr. Vernon. Take another illustrative case—not of the conjuror in the bottle—but of the man who about forty years ago was exhibited in Paris, as capable of dying and bringing himself to life again at pleasure. The test was this—he was placed at full length on a table, and with an arm extended, any one of the audience was invited to step forward and feel the pulse; which in a short time ceased wholly to beat, and so continued for any length of time proposed. This, wonderful as it seemed when the experiment was first exhibited,—far more wonderful than anything Mr. Vernon attempted to do—was accomplished by the simplest possible means—disguised pressure with the other hand upon the subclavian artery."

MODERN MESMERISM.

(Continued from page 40.)

On Saturday night Dr. Elliot tested the boy. The Lecturer first produced rigidity in his legs, and said that the strongest person could not bend them. A weight was attached to his foot but had no effect in removing the position of the leg; Dr. E., however, had succeeded in bending the knees with perfect ease, and put the legs down amidst the applause of the audience. The boy was again mesmerised, as on the preceding evening, and various organs were excited. Dr. Elliott and a surgeon were on the platform when the plasters were put on, but they appeared not to be satisfied, and the lecturer told the doctor, with some warmth, that he was a man for whose judgment he would not give a straw, and that they were both ignorant men. The boy afterwards played at cards; one of our members, a young man, a pupil at Mr. Woodman's, surgeon, sat by his side, and watched the boy's eyes. He at last said he distinctly perceived that the boy saw; the lecturer directly and flatly called him a liar; and many other epithets, such as a fop, a puppy, &c. &c., used by the lecturer, drew forth expressions of disgust by the audience.

Mr. Edye proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Elliott, for having so successfully tested the experiments, and afterwards put it to the meeting—whether they were not disgusted with the lecturer's conduct.

Towards the conclusion it was a complete uproar. One gentleman hoped that some reporter was present to note the conduct of Lundie, and it ended with some seasonable remarks of Mr. Duval, addressed to him by way of a friendly recommendation that he would never again appear in public until he had learned how to command his temper, and treat his audience with respect. I told him aloud during the debate that such ungentlemanly conduct as he had shown that evening was the cause of your declining to meet him, as you could not expect but to be similarly treated.

Yours, obediently,

FREDERICK CHANNON,

We did afterwards meet him at Bridgewater, and have prepared a long history of the proceedings, it involves much controversy and personal imputation upon all the parties opposed to us, but we feel *imperatively called upon to publish it*, although by so doing it is again necessary to sink the Editor in the individual and become the egotistical hero of the tale. This is almost the last time that we shall obtrude personally upon our readers, but it is absolutely necessary to adduce overwhelming evidence of the abject worthlessness of almost every public professor, of the disgraceful system we are unravelling. Having cleared away the rubbish, we shall turn with some satisfaction to the philosophy of the subject (if such there be,) and in a calm spirit of inquiry, endeavour to account for the delusions of great minds—for the wanderings of pure ones; but we cannot do this whilst reptiles are in our path.

BRIDGEWATER.

FEBRUARY 1 and 3, 1844.

After a lecture at Exeter, Dec. 1844, upon the fallacies of Mesmerism, a man of the name of Lundie came there with two travelling subjects, and challenged me to test his experiments; but the terms of his circular were of so insulting a nature, that I declined any public meeting, but caused it to be intimated to him that I would test him before a committee of gentlemen, half to be chosen by me, and half by himself. During his lectures, however, he used such disgraceful language to those who did test him, that I ultimately declined meeting him "at any place or any time," feeling that if I owed something to the public, I owed more to self, and had no right to descend to the level of a man, who was evidently an unfit person for a gentleman to come in contact with. Of this, he made the most, and grossly and shamefully slandered me; but the public prints bore ample testimony to the propriety of my resolution, and his audiences so dwindled down, that he was obliged to leave the town. However, he was tested, and most successfully, by Dr. Elliot, Mr. Pridham, and others, whose characters and attainments are of the highest order in the city.

Some time after this, I advertised a lecture at Bridgewater, and upon my arrival in that town, was waited upon by two gentlemen, who requested that, instead of my Lecture, I would consent to witness Lundie's experiments and test them; this I flatly refused unless an apology was given by him for his Exeter abuse, which after a time he wrote, denying the assertions, which I have ample evidence to prove he had made; this tolerably well convinced me that he little cared what he said or wrote, and that little reliance was to be placed upon either. It afterwards appeared that he had been expressly sent for from Bristol, and his expences paid, I believe, by the party with which these gentlemen were connected. Now, as the public room is principally supported by this very party, and as they had declared their belief in mesmerism, and as the large audience collected, was mainly composed of their friends and connections, I had from the very first strong misgivings of the mode in which I should be treated, and the result amply justified my doubts.

A chairman was elected, a committee appointed, a secretary volunteered, all but my half of the committee being intimately connected in relationship or friendship, and therefore, it was to be expected that their opinions would be much modified by their prejudices, and that however honourable they might all be in private life, yet that a certain amount of *esprit de corps*, and that strong disinclination which all men feel, to be convicted of error, would bias their opinions, and influence their conduct. It did so, and when I premise, that the members of Lundie's committee were all fluent men, and mine almost entirely passive spectators of the scene, it will hardly be wondered at that they went against me. After a few remarks, with reference to cases in the *Phreno-Magnet*, and the French Commission, &c., to which Lundie replied, the business of the evening commenced:—Two boys be-

longing to the Town, of reputed integrity were sent to sleep, and the only experiments performed were to shew—1st, *Sensibility to pain*, which was proved by thrusting a pin twice or three times sharply into one of the boy's hands when placed on his knee, producing blood, but apparently, no consciousness. 2nd and 3d. —*Phreno Mesmerism, and rigidity of one arm*. Believing that both boys were awake, and the whole deception on their parts, I proceeded to test them. Now I shall elsewhere prove, that pain is but an extension, or increase of common sensation, and that if the extreme cannot be felt, no minor degree is possible. And as up to very recently, loss of volition and consciousness, have been held to constitute the very essence of Mesmerism; I took one boy by surprise, squirted some water in his face, and he immediately winked and started, as any other person would. I applied some strong Liq. ammonia to his nostrils, and made sure that he should inhale it; he gulped forcibly, and his face was contorted; this at once proved sensibility and consciousness, at least to me, although the believers thought nothing of it. During the whole time the trachea or windpipe kept moving up and down, as if he were swallowing his saliva; a surgeon present, contended that the whole might be accounted for by irritation of the involuntary nerves, and that it did not imply consciousness, the meeting agreed with him, but I leave it to better physiologists than either of us to decide. I say, and without fear of contradiction from any competent authority, that the whole of these actions indisputably proved consciousness and will, and that they alone upset mesmeric, as far as this boy is concerned.

His arm was then put up, and I was asked to bend it—pressing it down, so as to overcome the depressor muscles of the shoulder, and throwing thereby, all the volition, if there were any, into those which raise the arm, I suddenly reversed the action, and threw the arm up by the side of his head—not close to it but to an angle of 45 possibly, from the perpendicular, and I held it there some time with my thumb. Now, if rigid, it should not have gone up at all; or if I overcame the mesmeric force, and it was still rigid, it should have remained up when I took away my thumb—but it returned at once to its horizontal position. This was said to be the result of elasticity, but those who know any thing of the nervous or muscular systems will at once allow, that there was neither rigidity, nor catalepsy, but pure volition, and this settles the whole question; the boy was not asleep, nor was any mesmeric influence exhibited—this is my conclusion, and I do not believe it can be confuted. Some few Phreno-mesmeric experiments were performed upon the lad, but as the organs were touched, nay, pressed by the mesmerizer, they were of no value; extension was possible, and that vitiates the process. The other boy seeming apparently asleep, was also taken by surprise: I stole behind him, whilst the other was the object of attention, and suddenly passed my finger across the outer canthus of his closed eye, rubbing it smartly; he winked and moved his head as any other sensible person would have done. Some Phreno-mesmeric phenomena were then produced, the finger was placed upon self-esteem, and he rose and walked proudly enough; then upon tune, and language, and he sang; one little incident occurred here which satisfied me, but as it was denied, I omit it. However, it will be borne in mind that Mesmerisers profess to believe in phrenology, and therefore, as self-esteem is but a feeling, and has nothing whatever to do with the motor nerves of the limbs, although it may direct them when in action, it cannot act upon them; the very fact that the boy rose up and walked proved him to possess consciousness and will—this is enough, quite enough to shew that he was deceiving us. Lest however, there should be any doubt of it, the finger was placed upon veneration at the request of one of Mr. Lundie's committee, and the lad rose up, clenched his hand, put his arm straight down by his side and stamped his feet down on the floor, standing there with his head erect, firm, and determined; and this gave me at once to know, that those who were sitting there, not only as judges, but reporters, were incapable of appreciating those nice distinctions which separate truth from error, and that their belief was founded upon their want of analytical ability. Upon requesting the note of this experiment to be read, the *pro tem.* secretary had written as follows:—"The finger was placed upon veneration, and the boy stood up." This was true, strictly true, but not the whole truth. If it had remained thus, inasmuch as we often stand to pray, it might well

be considered a fair manifestation of veneration, (if this organ could move the limbs, which it cannot;) but when at my remembrance the words "with great firmness" were added, the whole thing was changed; a false manifestation detected, and my point established—the boy mistook the organ. In order to escape this, Lundie declared that he operated on firmness, but his assertion was scouted as it deserved. All who were near enough testified to his having placed his finger on veneration and on that only. Some of his friends however, tried to get him out of this difficulty, and said that the manifestation was one of devotion—'Twas more like *Ajax defying the thunder!* Love of approbation and language were then simultaneously excited, and upon being questioned he said "he was thinking of the room; of the square which he had broken, and which he feared, he should have to pay for;"—this was held to be by Lundie, and those who were to be my judges, as a correct manifestation of the organ!! Need I state that I ate much dirt that night. Very few and unimportant were the remaining experiments; Lundie's supporters were not satisfied, and a second meeting was proposed, when he should bring his stock patients, and I should meet him. Saturday was ultimately decided on, but before the decision, a vote was called for upon the evening's experiments. Now when it is borne in mind that the question of an adjournment was pending—that I had, at the request of this very party, expressly put aside all my proofs, drawn from various sources and sufficient, (as I hope my readers already begin to think,) to decide the whole question; and confined myself to Mr. Lundie's experiments, it was unfair, most unfair, to call upon the meeting composed as it was almost wholly of believers, to hold up their hands and declare that "I had not proved Mesmerism to be founded on fraud and delusion." If I had, why what were they? Weak believers—small minded people, to say the least. What! was it to be expected that any man in that room would hold up an arm and write on his own head "folly?"—that they who were defendants in the cause, and judge and jury too, would call themselves "noodles?"—'tis not in human nature; at least it was not in Bridgewater nature, and so almost to a man, certainly without a dissentient hand being raised in my defence, I was declared to have failed in my proofs. Complaint was made by the writer of the resolution, that Mr. Lundie's experiments were any thing but satisfactory, but this was not thought of any consequence, and so it was not inserted in the vote, 'twould have been unfriendly to have put it there." Oh, vanity and pride, and obstinacy, and one eyed truthfulness, and love of power, and self opinion, ye are wondrous strong and shew your strength as much in what you omit, as what you do; but this was corrected at the next meeting as we shall see.

We met again, a code of arrangements was drawn up, and all was to go merry as a marriage bell. The chairman was not again to become the advocate, no mis-judged interruptions to my delicate tests were to be allowed, suggestions were to be written, not spoken, the committee reduced, and order kept, if possible.

The comedy began—a youth of the name of Brown was placed in the chair; a medical man wished to test his pulse, &c. I made some remarks, Lundie tried to mesmerize him, and failed, but we all agreed that the lad was excited and not in a fit state, he therefore left the platform, but during his stay he confessed his sensations when previously in supposed mesmeric sleeps. And as I believe that this confession embodies accurately what does take place, as I think almost all the cases are of the same type, where downright imposture is not attempted, as I am sure he spoke the truth, or at all events, as I believed him, I will in his words state what I believe Mesmerism to be; there were some attempts made to pervert his meaning, but he adhered honestly to his purpose, and I am glad to bear this tribute to his praise. He said then, "That he could not only hear Lundie, but others also, that he could reply to them, and did; that he was conscious, but that he seemed to be just as if he were asleep and did not wish to get out of it." It is impossible to find words more explicitly describing a state of mental quietude, brought about by the action of a man's own belief, and inducing him to become passive and self-deluded in all that follows; that he is wide awake is evident enough; that he thinks himself mesmerized is also true, and as Mr. Brown declared that he had heard many mesmeric lectures, when a finger is placed upon any organ, he fancies that he is to manifest that particular faculty, and he does: and it requires more deep

insight into motives, than Brown possesses, to decide whether he is an active or passive agent in these matters. The fate of Mesmerism is sealed, whenever an explanation of its supposed manifestation can be given shewing them to proceed from natural laws; Brown has given that explanation.

Lundie's man David was then introduced, and without any pretence about sleep, he was placed in an arm chair and a few passes being made down his legs, they became rigid. I took hold of one, pressed my fingers against the popliteal nerves, and (as I say,) bent the legs to a small angle, but the audience denied this. However, it was allowed, that whenever I declared myself on the point of succeeding, *the man slipped off his chair*, and thus frustrated my attempts; but Lundie did for me, what I failed to do for myself—he stated that there were nerves in the *INSTEP* and in the *HAM*, and that by pressing on them, the mesmerism was removed. *He then put his finger between the laces of the man's boot, pressed gently on the instep—yes, anatomists, on the instep, and the man put his leg down; the other was served so, and David walked.* Lundie then declared that he taught Dr. Eliot, of Exeter how to do this!!

After David left the platform, the pet patient was introduced, a nice looking lad of fifteen, the one already spoken of in the Exeter papers; and before operations commenced, Lundie declared that "the boy should not be touched, it would be dangerous, &c., &c." This at once put me *hors de combat*; I said so, and took little more interest in the evening. I felt that I was to be victimized, and I was; there was one gentleman, and only one on the platform, upon whom I relied for anything like fair play; the rest acted as served them best. I have been upon public platforms before, I have tested the patients exhibited by the very commonest of the middle classes, I have been insulted by coadjutors, but it was reserved for Bridgewater gentlemen to make me answerable for the evening's results, and prevent the application of a single test; for three hours at least, I was compelled to stand by and watch what others did. Mr. Spillar with the bust in his hand directed what he thought fit, and left me to examine, if I pleased, but again and again, refused to allow me to test for myself. I put it to the meeting, if I had been allowed to apply a single test; I demanded that one should be named if I had, and no one replied that I had. And once, when I had placed the boy's hair between me and a light, in order to see that Lundie did not touch it, the hair was touched. I said so, when Mr. Spillar called out "it was not touched." Yes, standing more than a yard away, looking down upon the head, with the finger between him and the hair, and the shadow behind, so that *he could not by any possibility see if it were touched or no*; this man had the *audacity* flatly to contradict me, and almost give me the lie. Had he said he did did not see it touched, it would have been true; when he said it was not touched, he said what was not true! and like the rest of them he talked a good deal about cheating, and trick, and deception after this palpable manifestation of it. Why do I cavil for a hair? Why! because the whole truth or falsehood hangs upon it—because Phreno-mesmerism was to be shewn without contact, and because not a single manifestation was made; all that the boy did whether combativeness or veneration, self esteem or fear, were pointed at, was to move his head about, up and down, backwards and forwards, this side and that, in order if possible, to touch with the hair of his head the finger of the operator. Lundie appeared to avoid this as much as he could, and in consequence the boy did not do one single thing; before this, when the organs were touched, he knelt, prayed, fought, and gave Lundie *back his own pocket handkerchief!*—(D'ye mark this?) *How came Lundie's pocket handkerchief in the boy's pocket?*—took things out of Lundie's pocket, and thus exhibited what Mesmerizers are pleased to call manifestations of benevolence and acquisitiveness. They always steal under the influence of the one, and give away from the other—meaning us to believe then, that the nerves of the arms arise from benevolence and acquisitiveness.—However, the Phreno-mesmerism without contact was acknowledged to be a failure even by the vote of the Mesmerists themselves. Now up to this time I had not been permitted to perform one single experiment, beyond attempting to bend a man's leg, which was as stout as a bullock's, and as arms are not so strong as legs, I could not do it. If any strong young man will hold his own leg straight out, the strongest man in company can't bend it,

even across his knee—at least they never could mine. I again remonstrated upon the treatment I was receiving, and was asked, "Well, will you now do something?"—it really must have been three hours before this most gracious boon was granted. Reader, never have a chairman or committee, if you wish fair play when you test mesmeric experiments. Never be told you shan't open your mouth when you catch a discrepancy, or perform a test till your opponents are pretty sure it will be valueless. Boldly stand up, as I in future mean to do, and tell one and all, that you will perform your own tests in your manner, and leave the room if not allowed. I forget, I had *proposed* one test, and it was to put a little hellebore up the boy's nose: this Lundie objected to, and upon what grounds think you? Why, verily, that *this particular boy's* sensibility, was *increased* twenty fold. Nay, I think, he said fifty fold; this boy, who fell asleep as all others fall asleep, who remained perfectly quiescent for nearly two hours, who exhibited exactly the same phenomenon as all other well-trained patients do; this boy was declared to be insensible to pain, and fifty fold sensible to snuff at one and the same instant. Well might the operator declare that the laws of mesmerism are unknown! However, to be brief, I now took Lundie aside, with two of the committee, and proposed that Lundie should excite hope, whilst I named fear the old experiment which succeeded so well at Birmingham. He refused to do this, for he said "How will the boy know where my finger points, if you deceive him?" Exquisite innocence! I then proposed that he should go behind the boy and state audibly that he would excite self-esteem without contact, but make no attempt to excite any organ whatever. This also, he refused, for he said my voice would have more influence than his mesmeric influence. I believe you Mr. Lundie; I believe you—it always has had more than any mesmeric influence I have ever yet witnessed, at least when the patient has been thrown off his guard.

I had no more tests to propose, and requested that Lundie's refusal should be put down. I hope it was.

Clairvoyance was then attempted; I had brought some strips and two oval pieces of plaster; Lundie had none, and so I lent him mine, and he placed a strip along and apparently over the opening of each eye. I say apparently, for here is the trick—that over the right eye was really so, it united the upper and under lid that on the left eye was prevented adhering to the under lid by the upper eye-lashes, therefore, if an object be placed below the eye, the boy can open it sufficiently wide to see the object without being detected by the spectator, for the plaster is still before the opening. I stated this, and demanded that the oval pieces should be put on; this he refused to do, exclaiming with singular *naïveté*, "He can see through his eyelids, but how can he see through cloth?" Mr. John Brown asked to see the plaster, and advised Lundie not to put the round pieces on upon the plea of danger. It mattered not that two slips cut from the same piece were at that moment sticking on the lids: *it should not be, and it was not*. But then Lundie was Brown's man. Well, well! I have learned more of human nature at Bridgewater than ever I did before, much as I thought I knew.

The plaster was taken off, the boy awakened, no clairvoyance attempted: and after some stormy words, lots of amendments, and hands held up, as I was afterwards told, without their owners knowing what for; a vote was carried that Mr. Lundie had proved Rigidity, but had not proved Phreno-Mesmerism. Certainly, if he did not prove Phreno-Mesmerism, he did not prove clairvoyance; and as these were the only two things he tried to prove, except that he had a fellow with him with a remarkably strong leg—it follows as a matter of course, that as far as the evening's experiments went, I had proved Mesmerism to be founded on delusion or fraud; because if, when fairly tested, it always fails—if, on this occasion, mere supervision prevented any effects from being produced, (and none, not one was exhibited), the whole was delusion or fraud, and to me indirectly was owing the exposure. But no, it was thought fair on this evening to make it a partnership account. On the Thursday, Mr. Lundie was kindly left out of the concern; to-night it was added that I had failed to prove Mesmerism a delusion, or fraud. Gentlemen, it is hard to prove a negative, but you have odd ways of judging at Bridgewater. If Mesmerism is not true, it is false. Did Mr. Lundie prove it true?—by your own shewing he did not; it was therefore false.—Q. E. D.

Lundie was crestfallen, and volunteered to come again on

Monday night and admit them free—that is, if they would make a collection, *that is, if they would pay sixpence a-piece!*—then he would shew them all over again: and how did he succeed?—why, so well, that he was allowed to excite the organs *with* contact, and plaster his patient as he pleased! and of course he succeeded to admiration.

A more striking evidence of partiality, open, undisguised partiality, (against which I protested so strongly as to call upon the chairman to leave the chair) can scarcely be conceived than was exhibited on that evening. But it was scarcely to be expected that men would pay to be beaten.—J. Q. R.

The above account has been minutely rendered, for the purpose of adding to the numerous proofs we have already afforded of the utter incapacity of any promiscuous assembly to judge of science or detect fraud. In this case it will be seen that the most unfair conduct was exhibited by those who should have been neutral—that we were required to conduct our tests as the chairman directed, and then held to be responsible for their failure. Oh, you are a nice set, you Bridgewater people.

Sufficient has been said already, to expose this man and his pretensions; if not, the following literatim and verbatim copy of a letter written by himself and published in the *Western Times*, will enable our readers to form their own judgment:—

The following letter has been addressed to us by Professor Lundie. As the professor writes very illegibly, and spells very mesmerically, we advised him to get the letter done into English, by a friendly hand. The professor got a friend to undertake the job; but he persevered no farther than the end of the first paragraph. The remainder of the letter is genuine Lundie hand, not Lundy foot, though we believe the worthy professor to be quite up to snuff.—The professor hath great hardihood of assertion, and we regret that we have wasted so much time in his baldersdash:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WESTERN TIMES.

SIR,—In reply to your article of the 13th instant, headed "Professor Lundie's Mesmeric Lectures," at least an article which you have fathered, for some Gents of Exeter, who, perhaps from shame or fear, had not the manliness to acknowledge it themselves; however, I am happy to find that you, Sir, had pity upon them in their distress, and helped them in this their time of need—a friend in need is a friend indeed. The article contains much that is unfair, much that is untrue, and much that show the authors of it not good for much—do not mistake me, I do not mean to say that you are not good for much, as I do not believe it to be your offspring, but, as I said, out of pity, you took it under your care; no, it is not characterized with that candour for which you are famed. I will pass over the insults and taunts which were offered to myself, knowing as I do from whence they came. You speak of my having two patients, and that neither of them are sharp-looking fellows—*something this* in favour of Mesmerism, for if Mesmerism be all deception, how sharp, yes, and how clever too, must they needs be who practise it. You speak of my introducing my two patients first—this is untrue, as Master Carlisle was the first I operated on that occasion. Also you said one of my patients was attached to my person owing to my having cured him of fits; I did not say so—that my having cured him of fits is true, yes, and after twelve of the faculty in Bristol had given him up, and not him alone, but many others. You say that I profess it to have no knowledge of the occultate laws which govern the mesmeric influence—this is also untrue. You say that my soul argument and ground work for the truth of Mesmerism was the man's religious creed; but no, I produced experiments on this person, as also on Carlisle, proving the truth of Mesmero Phrenology, Rigidity, Insensibility to Pain, &c. &c., which could not be gain said, no, not even by the fair judging doctor himself; and as for the spectacle manufacturer, he was not present, or else we might have had a lecture on the optics, on the shin, back, or other bones. Dr. Elliott seems to be the chief actor on those occasions, and much is said of his cleverness and

and fairness, but he must give us a sample of each, before we believe him to be well stocked with either. Doctor E. said that if the person mesmerized would breathe the strongest solution of Amonia, that he would be a convert to Mesmerism; it was applied to the nostrils of the man at first, he certainly gave slight indications of smell, but on being put into a deeper state of mesmeric trance, he breathed it as free as air for *ninety seconds*; but the Doctor would not believe, or at least would not acknowledge his believe, though called on so to do by most all present. He said he was not satisfied with the test; if it was not a sufficient test why did he propose it, and if so, why not acknowledge it?—here cleverness or honesty on the Doctor's part must give way, if not both.

[Thus far the Professor's literary ally: here follows the *uncorrected portion* of the original letter:—

You speak of rigidity and had it not been disproved before that the honest man left town it would have been all well enough but it has not been disproved yet, nor has the honest man left yet. He still remains, and the medical student whose conduct was so disgusting to the audience may run a race with him on the rigidity line and if he runs he shall have the Profit £10 which would serve a boy of his tender years and experience for pocket money some length of time. a weight was attached to the toe and the string by which it was attached cut suddenly it sprung up—this was looked upon by the Lern Doctor as a proof that the limb was not cataleptic as it was argued that no weight should or could make a cataleptic or rigid limb give way or spring up. but how foolish is such an argument what is there that has not Elasticity in it Even stones themselves are Elastic and who in Exeter seen a real case of cataplysis the Dr. says that he has I wonder if that he tested it by a 7lb. weight. Perhaps when he writes again he will tell us he has yet got to Prove that I have not produced rigidity.

And as to the remarks which you Pass upon Heath Hollis and Carlile the are so Paltry that the are scarce worth mentioning only this I would say that I never saw either Heath or Hollis before seeing them that Evening before the audience and that the were both perfectly mesmerized I am Perfectly convinced as we were nine-tenths of all Present on these occasions. you speak of a £5. note being offered to the boy if that he would go for it but he did not—yet you do not give credit even for that but insinuate that he could only that he would not and sir I will Engage to Put a Person in a rigid state rendering him so uncappable of moving that 1000 £5 notes would not stimulate him to Move so much for rigidity Clairvoyancy is an other Point upon which you touch and upon which you Pass some very funny remarks and it appears that you have adapted its use at your office for you have reported the week's proceedings at the Athenem without being Present or Even your reporters was at it by clairvoyance or by Dr. Elliot Mr. Quick & co. had it been by clairvoyancy or your own Presence in sted of the latter Professor Lundie's Lectures and Experiments would have been Dressed in a Different garb. Mr. Brooks came to your city and it was said he had mesmerised a citizen one would have believed I come mesmerising your good citizens by the Dozen and you cry collusion. But as soon as Mr. Rumball makes his appearance with his tomfoolery and Lectur on the fallacies of mesmerism he is herd and believed in and for why not, because that he Told the truth or Disproved mesmerism no for this hed not nor cannot Do it was ou account of its Pleasing and Propping the Prejudices of the Times a man who can accommodate himself and strain his conceance to suit certain parties will most Likely succeed for a time but when truth comes he and his Party like Disappointed beasts of Prey retire growling to their Dens no says Rumball I will not face Lundie Either Public or Private and what can we call such an one but a Great big boasting coward however had he Promised to have met me I could not have Depended upon him as will be seen by

so much for Mr. Rumball. but to return you say that the Exhibition of Pheno-Mesmerism in your oppinion did not go for much and Pray what Part of the mesmeric Phenomena does you should have said how much it did Go for the orgains were Excited with and without contact were the Denied by fair docter or disproved by any one Present no the were not you talk much of clairvoyancy and its uses and how advantageous it would be to you in Particular

but not so Even were it all you say and more one would have no need of reporters for one would then know Even as we are known and see Even as we are seen and what a sight it would be or rather what sight would one then see I Pass on to saturday nights Proceedings about which so much has been said you make some remarks with respect to the Difficulty I had A Putting the boy into the trance this allow me to say was owing to the noise made by a few Rumbalions who kept rubbing their feet cofing and talking as the did on other ocaion and I must say that dnring the course of my Travels throughout Englad Ireland and sCotlad I never met with such unmanley opponents as I met with in Athaaneam on Saturdey night Last and some other Evenings. but the boy was mesmerised and the Plasters were put on to dr Elliets satisfaction than your artical says now and then the docter Produced a Pack of cards the game of all fours commenced and the Dr seeing that he was Likely to Loase the game or his Pint instantly Pulled a card out of the Pack and aske the boy what it was mark the boy had told the trump card and the game had begun now was it likely that aney one Playing a game at card would tell his companion what cards he held in his hand the Dr on seeing this rose from his seat causing the greatest confution Possible while the roars threats and Intimidations from all the Rumbulluans Poured in Like musket shot and it need not be said that a certain spectical man by the name of Alixander was foremost in this row as you call it. the Experiments were not on this ocaation the most satisfactory but it was owing the outrage on the Part of the opponents of mesmerism—their object on this ocaation appear to me have been that of caveling and not to convince themselves of the truth or falsehood of mesmerism and as the thought Probbably that it was my Last night in Exeter that I would not have an oppertunity of Exposing their meanness of Prinsiple but no I am not one of the runaways opposition only serves to make me strong and unfairness on the Part of my opponents serve only to determn me upon Death or victory and although I am a stranger in Exeter I trust to remain untill Mesmerism be more thought of and more appricateed as I Look upon it as one of heavens best gifts to man. much is said of my having used some Language of not a very Good or complementery kind I only said to a man who call me an imposter that he told a Lie, and it is the shortest way of settling a Matter. Good sir, if you had been as carefull to report the conduct and Language of that said young man and of Dr Elliot and a few others I fancy that theirs would have been by far the most blameable. I was called a Liar by them on every ocaation. I am not an Imposter my Experiments are not acts of colusion nor delusion the are Genuine and Defy any man in Existance to Prove the reverse and I am willing to meet Mr. J. Q. Rumball with all his Boasted Powers and will give him £30 if that he will Produce cases of acting analigis to mine of reality and I will not run off nor get a way nor shall it be confined to Mr Rumball alone for I believe that he has not Pluck Enough to meet any on in a fair way or atall not but that he is ready enough to attack in corners and to calomneate in Publick where he knows very well that there is none to oppose or contradict if my conduct is rascaly his is cowardly nay it is bres and unmanly and Btirley unworthy a squire I will give fifty Pounds to any Person who will Produce a case of acting Now those who wish to speculate in the Rigidity Line have an opening for a Small capital or great as the case may and as it has been reported that Master Heath said to Mr Quick that he was only Pretending to be mesmerised for a Lark I beg to say that the young man has Declaired that he has never said any thing of the kind But what can be Expected from a man like Mr Quick of Kings Lodge who when his own child was put into the Mesmeric sleep to say nothing of the Effects which were Produced upon himself his Elder Daughter and son who had the face to say that she was acting the Part of a hypocrite and that she was not a sleep I do not know if it is customary for Mr Quicks children to deceive him if so I can ashure him that this was an Exception so I can Dr. Elliot as all so can a Gentleman of worth in Exeter Mr. Fox Dentist who was Present at the same time.

H. LUNDIE.

[Professor Lundie's MSS. are in our possession, for the inspection of the incredulous, or the inquisitive. Would it not do well for a practical joke, and to prove the antiquity of the Science, if the Professor's MSS. were dexterously slipped into the bandage of the first mummy that may be unrolled in public? His hieroglyphics would do admirably for the purpose.]

Our friends will have it that we are breaking a fly upon a wheel, that no one believes in mesmerism, except the ignorant—no one practices it but the base. Common sense they say, is sufficient without argument, to expose a doctrine which teaches that God stultified himself when he made eyes, for skin can see without them, and that this newly discovered vision so far exceeds the old, that men are able now to see through brick walls. We extract from the *York Courant*, a short paragraph, which will acquit us of creating the giants that we slay, and prove at the same time, that we have no easy task before us. We shall review this gentleman in our next.

Mr. SPENCER T. HALL, AND HIS FATHER.—We last week mentioned Mr. Spencer T. Hall's successful lectures on the subject of mesmerism, at Ripon, and we are glad to hear that his ingenuous and able mode of treating the question, has induced the Literary and Scientific Institution that invited him to this city, to nominate him one of its honorary members for life. Whatever be the merits of mesmerism, there can be no doubt that by his labours many have been led philosophically to examine its claims, who at first regarded them only with suspicion or derision; and although considerable opposition was offered him on the first evening, his candid manner of meeting all objections, insured for him a fair hearing afterwards, and enabled him to justify his prediction, that before he left the city, he would completely turn the tide of public opinion on the subject. Besides the two interesting strangers brought with him, Mr. Hall mesmerised not less than nine residents of the city and its suburbs—three of them being grievously afflicted with epilepsy, and likely to be greatly benefited if not entirely cured, by the process, Mr. H's. own opinion being, that if it be properly carried out, cure is certain. The contrast between his first reception and his farewell, was most striking. At the former he was harassed by querulous objections, and cross-examined by the chairman, even before he had an opportunity of giving his evidence. On the latter occasion he had for his chairman Mr. Smith, a medical gentleman of the city, who has convinced himself by experiment of the truth of Mesmerism; whilst in the most complimentary manner, a vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr. Bruce, surgeon, seconded by Mr. Thomas, surgeon, and passed by a large and respectable audience without a single dissentient, many expressing a wish that he might shortly visit the neighbourhood again."

We thought it right to make a communication to the Committee at the Adelaide Gallery; and we think it right to publish it, together with the answer received. Those who choose to misconstrue it may do so: suspicion affects not him who has the "mens conscia recti."

3, King William Street, Strand; June 17, 1844.

Sir,—I beg to withdraw my name from the Committee now sitting to investigate Mr. Vernon's experiments, and to test his patients. As Mr. Rumball, he ought not to object to my presence; as Editor of the *Anti-Mesmerist*, I do feel that he has every right to object to it. Because I have expressed myself too strongly to expect to be considered by him an impartial judge, and my convictions are too settled for me to qualify a single expression that I have used. Under these circumstances, justice to him and to myself will perhaps be better satisfied by my absence; and I take this step without one care for the mode in which it may be misrepresented.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

To the Chairman. J. Q. RUMBALL.

*Extract of Minute of the Mesmeric Commission,
held on June 17, 1844.*

Moved by Mr. Day, and seconded by Dr. Dillon—

"That the letter of Mr. Rumball, notifying his wish to withdraw from the Commission, be acknowledged by the secretary, who is requested to inform Mr. Rumball that the Committee does not consider itself competent to receive the resignation of any of its members, they having been appointed at a public meeting; and that in the case of Mr. Rumball, the Committee do not recognise the validity of his reason for withdrawing."

Carried unanimously.

CHRONOTHERMAL SYSTEM OF MEDICINE.

FALLACIES OF THE FACULTY, with the Principles of the Chronothermal System. By Dr. DICKSON. People's edition, enlarged, price 2s. 6d.

There is but one health, which is strength: there is but one disease, which, wherever situated, is weakness: there is but one cure, which, however produced, is attention to temperature. But there is a time to apply heat, and a time to apply cold. Time (chronos) and Temperature (therma) are the elements of the Chronothermal System.

Simpkin and Marshall, Stationers' Court, and all Booksellers.

MR. RUMBALL begs to inform numerous inquirers that he has completed every arrangement, and intends to commence the **LONDON PHRENOLOGICAL MAGAZINE** on the first of October. As this will be an expensive undertaking, it is very desirable that those who intend to support it should send their names immediately, direct to the Editor, 3, King William Street, Strand. Parties subscribing are not **PLEADED** to take more than the first Number.

On the first of December, Mr. Rumball's Phrenological Class will meet—terms, one guinea for six months. Ladies and Gentlemen intending to join it, are requested to enclose their names and addresses.

N.B.—Phrenological Books and Busts supplied, and Casts taken from the living or dead.

INSANITY.

Mr. RUMBALL, Surgeon, Author of the Letter upon Insanity to the Lord Chancellor, &c. &c., wishes to receive a quiet patient at his country house. The situation is high, dry, and healthy, twenty miles from London, and almost unequalled for beauty and privacy. His own medical, and son's personal care are offered, and the sole occupation of a cottage on the grounds if required, with any amount of attendance and accommodation.

Mr. R. may be consulted daily, except on Sundays, at 3, King William Street, Strand, and has it in his power to place patients in the best possible position for their care and cure, with or without his own supervision, upon terms suited to the wants and means of the parties. His claims to public confidence consist in his having been the pupil at Bethlem of Dr. Monro, and the late Sir George Tuthill, the latter of whom constantly deputed him to attend country patients of the very highest rank.

During twenty years he has also had under his roof and at his table one or more patients, many of them having been cured, and all having been treated as members of the family; Mr. R.'s father and himself having been among the very first to adopt the system of non-restraint.

NOTICE.—Mr. RUMBALL is in Town for the Season, and may be consulted daily from twelve o'clock on Monday, until five on Saturday afternoon, until further notice.

HIS SCALE OF FEES ARE AS FOLLOW:

For a Craniological Examination	2	6
Ditto ditto, with written observation & advice	5	0
Ditto ditto, with a lengthened statement	10	0
As minute a Portraiture as can be given	1	0

Mr. RUMBALL is open to engagements for the next season, to give Lectures upon "Phrenology," or "Education Phrenologically Considered." Of his fitness, the following extracts may afford some evidence.

REMARKS OF THE PRESS.

"Mr. Rumball's eminent success in describing the characters and dispositions of individuals, after a craniological examination, is, we think, of itself, one of the best proofs that can be adduced of the truth of Phrenology."—*Gloucester Chronicle*, Dec. 8, 1838.

"The correctness of his conclusions are startling, and his skill in reading characters by the aid of his science, is little less than marvellous."—*Plymouth Gazette*, Oct. 9, 1841.

ERRATA.

In the first edition of our last Number, our printer fell into several unaccountable errors. In page 39, for violation of our mocking nature, read *volition* of our waking nature. page 38, for powdered *whalebone* read *hellebore*. There were also several typographical errors which the reader can as easily correct as discover.

LONDON:—RUMBALL, King William Street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin in-the-Fields, in the County of Middlesex; STRANGE, Paternoster Row; and Sold by all Booksellers.

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