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P R E F A C E .

In this volume a wider latitude has been given to the expression of the various writers than in any of its predecessors. Facts of the most extraordinary kind are stated in sober earnestness, and views diametrically opposed are presented. As a record of prevailing phenomena in the development of Man, this Magazine has endeavoured to be faithful during the year. The articles on Spirit Photography by M. A. Oxon are brought to a conclusion for the present. The question of Reincarnation is further discussed, and various views of Creation are given from mediumistic sources.

The Poetical department is well sustained. Mr. Pride and Mr. Barlow occupy leading positions, and give to the world thoughts varied and peculiar. The new age of observation is giving birth to a school of poetry in consonance with itself, and to nurture and develop the new power of song is as much our mission as to record phenomenal facts. The poet does not in all his works represent his own personal views, but often phases of thought quite foreign to his proper realm of life, and thus here presents the human mind in its various stages of growth and aspects of expression, recording thereby proceedings entirely overlooked by the scientific observer.

This volume abounds more in heavy articles than those which appeared in previous years, but this, it is hoped, will not be regarded with disfavour. We appeal to the more studious and thoughtful of the pioneers of anthropological investigation, the demands of whom it is our constant effort to supply.

Our thanks are due to all who have so kindly aided us with literary contributions during the year. They will rejoice to know that their presents have been widely appreciated, as we this year dedicate our prefatory remark to a wider constituency than has hitherto presented itself.

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