

" LIGHT ! MORE LIGHT !"-Goethe.

"WHATSOEVER DOTH MAKE MANIFEST IS LIGHT."-Paul.

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NOTES BY THE WAY.

In the "Evening News" of the 30th ult. appears an interview with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle by Mr. W. McCartney, under the heading "There is no Death-only a Veil." Of the famous novelist, the interviewer remarks that "he was reluctant to talk about it [Spiritualism] because, he said, sad experience had taught him that it was not easy to get the subject discussed with reverence." We can still hear faintly the yell of "Spooks!" and the con-temptuous allusions to "psychists" which were found in certain journals a few years ago-journals whose writers seemed to be unconscious that thousands of their readers were suffering the pangs of bereavement and that some of the distinguished men and women upon whom they were lavishing praises elsewhere in their columns were earnest followers of this disreputable "psychism." It was as though a callow journalist had been told off to write about Acting and Actors and gathered all his sensational information from interviews with strolling players at country fairs and the loafers and "barn-stormers" at theatrical taverns. It would be interesting, of course, but as an accurate survey of dramatic art it would leave a good deal to be desired. We believe, by the way, that actors are still, technically speaking, "rogues and vagabonds" in the eyes of the Law.

In the course of the interview Sir Arthur said that he knew thirty mothers who were now receiving direct messages from their sons, that he had received a letter from a British corps commander who had lost his son, with whom, however, he was now in communication. Referring to the addresses he had delivered in the country, he alluded to the prospect of Spiritualists taking the Albert Hall for London audiences later on. In concluding an ably written description of the interview, Mr. McCartney writes :

Sir Arthur speaks to you on this question with the vigour and firmness of the unshakable believer. There is no more obscurity or mincing of words than in the strong, simple English of his books. And when he asks for reverent discussion, he asks in the tone of a man asking not for a favour, but for what is a right. is a right.

The interview was reproduced in the "Daily Mail" of the following day, when the "Daily Chronicle" also published an interview.

Since the foregoing was written, other interviews and since the foregoing was written, other interviews and articles have appeared in the daily papers. On the 31st ult. the "Evening News" gave some quotations from Sir Oliver Lodge's "Christopher," the biography of a young officer in the Welsh Guards, the psychical interest of which, however, is mainly incidental. In the same journal on the following day appeared an interview with Sir William Barrett, whose guarded remarks, although a trifle disappointing to convinced followers of Spiritualism, have their value in the complete presentation of the subject. They serve to check the indiscreet and impulsive elements in the propaganda. On the 2nd inst., in the "Daily News," appeared an interview with Sir Oliver Lodge, who spoke with clearness and conviction. Referring to the addresses of Sir A. Conan Doyle in the North, Sir Oliver said, "I can corroborate Sir Arthur's statements out of my own knowledge." The "Daily Chronicle" on the same day published some letters from persons whose knowledge of the question is plainly too imperfect to make their remarks of any particular value. One of the writers is quite clear about the origin of spirit messages. "The mediums compose them." When a newspaper wants a play criticised, it selects a dramatic critic. It is the same with literature, politics and other subjects : the appeal is to the expert in each particular matter. Only lately have our contemporaries begun to wake up to the elementary common sense of choosing the psychic scientist when it is a question of giving its readers information concerning psychic research. To invite the lucubrations of the uninformed is to waste time and space.

POST SCRIPTUM : OBSERVATIONS AND ASIDES.

POST SCRIPTUM: OBSERVATIONS AND ASIDES. "L. H." sends us a vigorous protest against the assump-tions of Mr. Sinnett in the address reported on p. 347. He does not believe that Spiritualism was set on foot by the Masters of the White Lodge or that "M.A. (Oxon)'s" "Spirit Teachings" was dictated by a Mahatma. Neither do we, but Mr. Sinnett and many Theosophists think so. "L. H." does not believe in wrapping up simple psychical facts in "mystical wadding." Apparently some minds can only take them in that way, and we must be tolerant. As to the statement in "Spirit Teachings" that "the spirit returning to earth takes on much of the pure human tone which it loses when absent." what has this to do with rein-arnation? Nothing, so far as we can see. The allusion is clearly to the temporary visit to earth of a returning spirit, which, as we know, takes on something of the earth ordition when communicating. However, it takes all kinds-of people to make even a "psychic world." And the rein-samongst us, is probably helpful to their development, how-ever much it might hinder the progress of others.

We have had much argument of late on the subject of human survival and immortality, and the question threatens to be carried outside the region of practical thinking altogether. It has been proved that man survives the shock of physical dissolution; therefore he is not mortal in the accepted sense of the term. To carry the matter beyond this point, to speculate on possibilities of extinction or physical regions. We do it ourselves now and again, but it seems wiser to keep to practical issues where psychic science is concerned. Travelling beyond these, we are carried to the discussion of subjects with which the intellect is in-competent to deal, and only the deeper faculties of vision, intuition and interior life experience are of any value. There are matters about which we can argue with profit. But Eternity and Infinity are not amongst them.

THERE are scientific men who do not care for any estab-lished forms of religion, who despair of religion partly on account of established forms.—Haweis' "Thoughts for the Times."

COMMENTING on the Cosmic Memory idea, a legal corre-spondent remarks, "Every objection to discarnate human agency operates oven more fatally against the Cosmic Memory theory. It is a more difficult and less credible hypothesis than theory. It the other."

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND CERTAIN CRITICS.

BY ELLIS G. ROBERTS, M.A. (OXON.).

PART II.-" DISCLOSURES IN RE DESMOND."

Punctually to the moment Sherlock Holmes laid down his pipe, and his voice broke through the canopy of smoke.

"You have your merits, doctor," he said, "most decidedly you have your merits. You are refreshingly free from rancour, and you submit an alternative hypothesis for criticism. You do not assume that telepathy is the masterkey to all mysteries, and you do not babble of the unconscious possess a conscious one. For once admit the existence of telepossess a conscious one. For once admit the existence of tele-pathy and unconscious mind, and the noisiest of the opponents of Spiritualism will soon be out of the fray. He may still come up to the scratch for a round or two, but the other man has the fight in hand. "Now for your own hypothesis, which certainly movite due consideration.

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(To be Continued.)

DR. ELLIS T. POWELL'S appearance last week as an expert witness in the celebrated case in the King's Bench Division involving a comparison of two systems of shorthand exhibited at once his versatility and his critical acumen, his pungent remarks on the defects in the newer system making a great impression.

B. ROBERTSON sends us some verses entitled "Over There," written in a metre which would adapt them for singing. Here is the first :---

There are little homes we're building over there; They are built with actions kind and dealings fair, And every fault we master Makes the building all the faster Of those little homes we're building over there.

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Mr. J. Arthur Hill's survey of our movement,* its phenomena and doctrine, comes at an opportune moment, for many amongst the throngs of new comers are people of searching intelligence who are in need of some comprehensive and reliable statement which will enable them to take in the matter at its broadest instead of having to base their knowledge of the subject as a movement on fragmentary details painfully pieced together by a study of many books and a jumble of conflicting views. To one who, like the present writer, has been familiar with many of the *personnel* and events of Spiritualism, and its subsidiary schools and cults, for over a generation, there is a feeling of personal gratification in the advent of Mr. Hill's latest book. It puts into a relatively small compass the career of the subject from its beginnings as diffused in the beliefs and traditions, rituals and practices of the human race in earlier times down to its specialisation in modern days, when it has become the subject of serious rationalisation and synthesis. Many rills and rivulets have contributed to the broad stream which is now at last beginning to run itself clear.

The work is marked throughout by precision and lucidity of statement, and the moderate, yet sympathetic, way in which the author deals with the various questions involved is espe-cially noticeable. He writes in successive chapters of the antecedents of Modern Spiritualism; of Swedenborg; the confluence of Swedenborgianism and Mesmerism in America; the Hydesville Knockings; the Early Days of the Spiritualist Movement in England; Physical Phenomena; Confirmatory Phenomena in India; Ghosts; and Evidence, Proof, and Belief. There are also chapters on William Stainton Moses, better known as "M.A. (Oxon.)," and on the Society for Psychical Research. The second part of the book is devoted to a consideration of the religious aspects of the subject, and this includes some criticism with most of which the impartial reader will probably agree. For the present reviewer the appearance of a chapter on Fechner's theory of Life after Death was of particular interest. Fechner discoursed on the interior principles of spirit life and spirit communication with an astonishing range and profundity of thought and perception. Much of his work remains untranslated, however, and in view of the war conditions, he is likely to be a "dark star" for a long time to come. Mr. Hill gives a summary of certain of the philosopher's ideas which will be of value to the close student of comparative systems of psychical philosophy.

Mr. Hill speaks with commendable frankness on some of the defects in Spiritualism as popularly pursued. But the lack of critical judgment, the crudity of idea, and certain banalities which he notes in connection with much that passes as "trance speaking" are being rapidly outgrown, and it will soon, one hopes, be possible to speak of them only in the past tense. Some of us can contrast the Spiritualism of to-day with that of a generation ago as observers of each stage of the subject with a vivid realisation of a great development that goes on cumulatively as the years go by, and in the light of the contrast comes a feeling of heightened gratitude to the "old guard," those heroes and martyrs of a new revelation, rugged, iron-willed, indomitable, the scouts and outposts of the

Indiged, ito-whiled, indominable, the scouts and outposts of the great advance of to-day. Logical and analytical in method, Mr. Hill's treatment of some of the problems of survival and communication will be deeply appreciated by those who approach the subject along intellectual lines. There is much that has yet to be thought into coherence, even although the central problem, human survival, has been finally solved. On the historical side of the matter he has given us an admirable epitome, careful, succinct, impartial and comprehensive. We could ask for no better work, as a general survey of the activities of Spiritualism past and present, in a book of the same compass. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle contributes an introduction, which in itself is a model of concise expression-a graphic summary of his own views.

THE value of Spiritualism is that it has given a definite form to that which was only a faint though cheering vision of poet or seer. "THERE are in this world many people who are half dead. The spirit is unable to carry the half-dead body any longer. It frees itself from an encumbrance. You call that death. It is only the dropping of a load too heavy longer to be carried."

*" Spiritualism : Its History, Phenomena and Doctrine." (Cassell & Co., 7s. 6d. net.)

SURVIVAL AND SPIRIT IDENTITY.

Sir William Barrett, in his article on this subject (p. 341), says, "But entrance into life, after death on earth, does not prove immortality-i.e., the eternal persistence of our personality-nor does it prove that survival after death extends to all.

Surely if consciousness is not a by-product of the brain, the death of the body, in which the brain partakes, must leave that consciousness intact, thus necessarily involving the survival of all. To assert otherwise seems to involve the materialistic hypothesis. Sir William holds that "human beings have only a *potential* immortality." But what philosophical justification is there for the supposition that immortality being the goal, Nature or God should have failed to envisage the possibility of some failing to reach that goal? Surely if some do not survive, the very purpose for which they were engendered is frustrated. Again, Sir William says, "Even in this life we see how

human consciousness gradually shrinks in the purely selfcentred soul; how the soul shrivels when its only aim is self-gratification." But if the consciousness may be said to shrink in the sense of excluding from its field other factors than self, it gains in intensity by concentrating on that self. And only in a metaphorical sense may the soul be said to shrivel when its aims are focussed on self-gratification. It is still an item of Eternal Being-indestructible. "Such souls must gradually lose selfconsciousness." But why should an intensified self-consciousness result in a loss of self-consciousness? On the analogy of the physical body ought it not to ensure a strengthening and persistence ? But Sir William's last sentence seems to cut the ground from under his argument, for he speaks of "the Universal life in every soul" which "cannot perish," and suggests that it may take "a new earthly body somewhere and somehow," being "drawn to earth again by the attachment of the soul to earth until it is freed from the grip of all earthly desire." Then it is immortal after all !

B. STEVENS.

[Immortality is a difficult question for debate, for it takes us outside all conceptions of time and space. It is by consequence not intellectually cognisable at all. Again, "per-sonality" is probably a fleeting and illusory matter as compared with the concept *individuality*. Force is persistent and indestructible, but the form in which it manifests is con-tinually changing. The reality (spirit), therefore, always remains, however impermanent its forms of expression in the outward world. Possibly some such idea as this was at the back of Sir William Barrett's recent remarks; but perhaps he will be good enough to supplement his observations for the benefit of Mr. Stevens and other inquirers.-ED.]

"NIL NISI BONUM . . ."

"NIL NISI BONUM"

F. FIELDING-OULD.

SURVIVAL AND IMMORTALITY.—A further article on this subject, by Sir William Barrett, dealing with the points raised by Mr. B. Stevens in the present issue, will appear next week.

The Alliance possesses the largest Library in existence of occult, mystical, and psychical books. Members' annual subscription $\pounds 1$ 1s. For prospectus, syllabus of meetings, classes, &c., apply to the Secretary.

PSYCHISM, GLASTONBURY, AND OTHER MATTERS.

Some FURTHER REFLECTIONS.

We gave last week a brief reply from "A Member of the Scots Bar" ("M.S.B.") to Mr. Hookham's letter in LIGHT of the 26th ult. The discussion of course revolved around the problem presented by the Glastonbury messages. On the central issue we have already stated our opinion that there is something to be said for the view taken by Mr. Hookham and those who think with him. But it is rather like the idea that a barrow pushed by a man is really propelled by the solar energy. Of course it is, in the ultimate analysis. But the fact does not do away with the man, his muscular power and the degree of mentality he employs on his task. If the man were invisible to us, we could still determine by the movements of the barrow that human agency was at work even if the man, labouring under difficulties, were a little eccentric in his propulsion of the barrow. That, we think, is to put the whole question, in homely fashion, into a nutshell.

Mr. Hookham concentrates his attention, of course, on the Glastonbury messages, and his theory eliminates the idea of discarnate human agency. Let us suppose that by force of circumstances we are compelled to admit the absence of human agencies in *that* particular instance—a difficult supposition. Should we have to go further and concede that there are *never* any personal agencies involved? By no means. The reality of personal communications has been proved øver and over again in the records of Spiritualism and Psychical Research. "M. S. B." is perfectly correct in his statements on this head, and can cite many reputable witnesses who could speak from long practical experience and testify that in their investigation of the question they have applied every test that human ingenuity could devise.

Next, we may glance at the question of mediumship, speaking from an experience extending over many years. There is "something wrong" about a medium, professional or otherwise, just about as often as there is about a musician, a poet, an artist, or an architect-no more. We have known abnormal folk in all these and many other vocations sometimes their eccentricity grew out of their labours where these, being exceptionally trying, reacted on natures naturally sensitive. One of the most eccentric men we ever met was a stockbroker, who knew nothing of mediumship. On the other hand, one of the most capable, astute and level-headed persons of our acquaintance is a trancemedium. We know of mediums who as practical men of the world have done the State signal service. One might as well judge the status of music by observation of itinerant musicians, on and off duty, as adjudicate on mediumship on the result of experiences with or gossip concerning a few mediums. There are hundreds of mediums in private life, occupying all grades of society, and we would defy Mr. Hookham to pick them out, even after a considerable acquaintance, by reason of any abnormality in their manners or speech.

Mr. Hookham's objection that nothing positive is known about psychic phenomena may stand if he will concede that "nothing positive" is known about anything. A good deal that is reasonably certain is known about psychic phenomena. It is set down in some standard books on the subject—those of "M.A. (Oxon.)" and Dr. Crawford are amongst the number.

Mr. Hookham remarks that "the Founder of Christianity made no attempt to satisfy the demands of human reason." Yet we seem to remember that He actually and literally complied with such a demand in the case of "Doubting Thomas," who did receive a "sign.' So did St. Paul, and "signs" have come to the saints and the devout all down the ages.

Mr. Hookham deprecates the remark of his critic, "A Member of the Scots Bar," when he says, "I prefer Christ to Mr. Hookham." To us it seemed a very natural and pardonable expression of impatience with the attitude of a writer who calmly asserts that "the assumption of a spirit representing continuity of life after physical decease" is "a mere coinage of the brain"! That sounds exactly like the dictum of a hardened materialist, and Mr. Hookham's protest against the profanity of his opponent comes as an anti-climax. However, on that point "M. S. B." has made his own comments.

Next we take Mr. Hookham's point about the pseudoarchaic English in the Glastonbury scripts. It was in places Wardour-street English." May we say, with every desire to be courteous to Mr. Hookham and his friends, that there is nothing in the point, and the mere fact that it is raised seems to argue a lack of practical knowledge of psychic communications. Unless in special cases, communications of this kind are given in the form of unarticulated thought and are clothed for the most part in the language supplied by the medium's own mind. We have in the past given some curious instances where the fact communicated was unknown to the medium, but the language so peculiarly his own that the extraneous source of the communication was ridiculed by those who did not know the true inwardness of mediumship. There was, for instance, the celebrated case, related by Andrew Lang, of the ghost of the murdered English soldier in 1746 who told a Highland shepherd of his death, his murderers, and where his body lay. The facts were verified. But as the shepherd knew no English and the soldier spoke no Gaelic, the Sadducees of the time were highly amused. The alleged murderers were apprehended on the information and tried at Edinburgh, but escaped on that point of language. The shepherd was not a professional medium. He got nothing but ridicule for his pains.

In conclusion, we commend to the attention of those interested in the argument the remarks of Professor Hyslop and of Mr. G. R. S. Mead quoted in LIGHT of October 19th and 26th respectively (pp. 330 and 338).

THE LATE MRS. MACBETH BAIN: IN REMEMBRANCE.

The passing of Lily Parker Peel, afterwards Mrs. Macbeth Bain, but more actively known among us prior to her marriage, has bequeathed to the region of memories not only a pleasant personality, but one who was a connecting link with a past which becomes now a matter of remembrance. Most of the figures among whom she moved and worked are seen no more about us. The writer of these lines can speak at a distance only of Peel, the artist, whose adopted daughter she was, and whose name she bore. He goes back too far in the calendar; but an admirable portrait of Miss Peel, which hangs in a certain house of familiar friends, keeps his name prominently present for a few—and will so keep hers—since it was the work of his hand and brush. She recalls in a particular manner that ercellent and old worker, Captain John James—author of a little handbook of mesmerism, which might still be of practical useto beginners—and many people in his circle. William Harrison is one of them, founder and editor of "The Spiritualist." The medium Rita is another. There were also Dr. George Wyld, a writer on Christo-Theosophy; General Maclean—an old and patient investigator—all well known among us in connection with Spiritualism, its phenomena, and faith in its veridial message before and during the days of "M.A. (Oxon)," who was also among her friends. Her own fame as a healer rests on a solid basis, as a few may remain to testify, though she avoided all publicity. She had also, it is understood, some personal experience in messages from the other side, and bore witnessay occasion offered. While she was with us, the people mentioned and others, such as Andrew Glendinning and Thomas Shorte, seemed not so far away, and her transition is, therefore, as said, the distinct snapping of alink. The time had come, hwever : it was the one way of liberation from long suffering. All who knew her will wish her fair progress in the world whichhas opened before her, and will say from the heart : God speed Liby Parker Peel in all her path beyond.

A. E. W.

November 9, 1918.]

LIGHT.

THE RALLY IN THE NORTH.

The interviews and articles on Spiritualism and Psychic Research which have been such a feature of the London newspapers of late were doubtless indirectly inspired by the reat meetings in the North of England, at which Sir A. Conan poyle, Dr. Ellis Powell and Mr. E. W. Oaten (President of the Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd.) were the principal speakers. As no full reports seem to have been taken, it is only possible to give a brief summary, although we may be able later to pre-sent at least a synopsis of Dr. Powell's address, "The Soldier's Home in the Land Beyond.'

In the Town Hall at Leeds on Sunday, the 27th ult., Mr. E. W. Oaten spoke in the morning on "What is this Spirit-ualism?" showing that, as spirit life and spirit communication were facts in Nature and part of the human heritage, they could not be ignored, but demanded recognition and standing. The true meaning of Spiritualism involved the reverent attempt to gain clear knowledge of the nature and uses of the psychic powers of humanity, those faculties which enabled the human being in the flesh to respond to the in-fluences of the unseen world, and to use that knowledge

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's address in the evening on "Death and Afterwards" was largely devoted to an account of his own experiences, extending over many years, in studying the question. In depicting the process of death and the nature of the supermundane life he went over much ground familiar to Spiritualists. He showed that Spiritualism was not so much a religion as a confirmation of the central tenets of religionsomething that would re-enforce it for its career in modern civilisation, supplying it with fresh fire and energy and tending towards its final reconciliation with Science. He warned Spiritualists against any hostility to religious systems. Rather they should welcome all which in any way contributed to a higher outlook on life and a more spiritual view of human nature and its destiny. On the other hand religious sects were adjured not to treat Spiritualism as a rival but as a coadjutor, goodness of character rather than any form of creed being the chief factor in progress here and hereafter. Mr. J. J. Morse, who presided, announced that the Union

had passed a resolution deploring the tendency on the part of the public to consult fortune-tellers, whose claims were often in inverse ratio to their psychic ability. It had been further resolved that "while it may be helpful to experienced inves-tigators to consult professional mediums, this Union is strongly of opinion that new investigators will be wise to do so only under the advice of experienced Spiritualists or a bona-fide Spiritualistic Society."

There was a crowded audience of over 2,000, many having

There was a crowded audience of over 2,000, many having to be turned away. In the Picture House at Bradford Mr. Ernest Keeling spoke in the morning on "Is Spiritualism a Religion?" and Mr. G. F. Berry in the evening on "The Changing Sym-bology of Religion," Mr. R. H. Yates being in the chair. In the Victoria Hall at York Mr. William Gash addressed the morning audience on "The Opening of the Gates," and in the evening Dr. Ellis T. Powell spoke (as already mentioned) on "Our Soldiers in the World Beyond," his account of the con-ditions which followed death on the battlefield being given with is customary force and eloguence and head on many years" his customary force and eloquence and based on many years

At Nottingham, on the 28th, Sir A. Conan Doyle spoke under the stress of his recent bereavement, of which he had heard only a few hours before, but his address lost nothing in power and eloquence. He spoke on the same subject as on the pre-ceding evening, delivering a similar message. The address was and eloquence. He spoke on the same subject as on the pre-ceding evening, delivering a similar message. The address was given in the large hall of the Nottingham Mechanics' Institu-tion. The hall was crammed with an audience of 1,250, hundreds of people being unable to gain admission. Sir Arthur was accompanied by Lady Doyle. Mr. Ernest Oaten presided.

"SELF-TRAINING : THE LINES OF MENTAL PROGRESS," by H. Ernest Hunt (Wm. Rider and Son, 4s. 6d. net), is full of useful facts and wise counsel. The relations between thought and health, the power of suggestion, the right train-ing of the senses, the strengthening of the memory, the control of feeling, will and imagination, the need for such a rest period as shall suffice to remove all the toxic products of the work period—these and other matters are set out in order, and emphasised with a clearness and a wealth of fact and illustration which cannot fail to fix them on the reader's attention. Unfortunately our modern conditions are such as to result sometimes in such a mental obfuscation and bewilderment that the brain may note mechanically sentence after sentence of the simplest written or printed words without receiving a glimmer of their meaning—in which case the self needs not so much training as freedom to work in its own way.

PSYCHIC PHOTOGRAPHY.

THE CREWE CIRCLE CRITICALLY EXAMINED.

By F. BARLOW

On October 5th, 1918, accompanied by a friend, I journeyed to Crewe for the purpose of investigating the supernormal results obtained through the mediumship of Mrs. Buxton and Mr. William Hope. This was not my first visit, but at the same time I did not neglect any precautions on that account and, although hoping for the best, I had my with about me. I have been an anot my where a been an anot my been account and a second sec my wits about me. I have been an amateur photographer since about the age of ten, and can swear that when at Crewe I was neither "biologised" (whatever that may mean) nor hypnotised and yet, using my own camera and dark slide, we obtained a photograph and simulacrum on the same plate, at one exposure

This fact proves either that most marvellous trans-This fact proves either that most marvellous trans-cendental forces were at work, intelligently controlled, or else that exceedingly subtle trickery was being carried out, under keen observation, without being detected. In any case, the duty of the investigator is clear: if these results are due to trickery then most certainly does the obligation devolve upon him to discover and expose that trickery, while, on the other hand, if they are supernormal it is equally his duty to do all in his power to increase our knowledge of the subject. There can be no middle course; the whole phenomenon is either based on a most elaborate system of barefaced trickery or else we are confronted with one of the most important scientific facts of the twentieth century. century

An apology is due to the Crewe friends for the very suggestion of fraud, so far as they are concerned. To know them is to esteem them, and in so far as every visitor to their circle is allowed to ask any questions and make any

their circle is allowed to ask any questions and make any examination he likes, I trust they will appreciate the spirit in which these remarks are written. The facts in connection with this particular visit are briefly as follows. Four photographs were taken in all, two with Mr. Hope's camera and two with my own. Three out of the four negatives obtained show extraneous faces, etc. Two packets of plates were taken, wrapped in the sealed packets exactly as sent out by the makers. These packets remained sealed until I myself opened them in the dark room and myself placed the plates in the carriers, specially marking them at the time. The plates were developed and fixed by myself and in the case of the result obtained, using my own camera, the focussing, insertion of the dark slide, withdrawal and replacement of the sheath were all done by myself, the exposure being made by my friend. My camera is quite a different model from that used by Mr. Hope, and beyond arching his hands, in conjunction with

My camera is quite a different model from that used by Mr. Hope, and beyond arching his hands, in conjunction with Mrs. Buxton's, over the camera, he had nothing whatever to do with the exposure. The only occasion during which Mr. Hope had possession of my slide was immediately on leaving the dark room when, in accordance with instruc-tions received from his control, he was given the slide to "wear" for a short time. This slide, however, projected from his pocket and was visible during the short time he had it there. from his poo had it there.

Now assuming that Mr. Hope is one of the cleverest trick

from his pocket and was visible during the short time he had it there. Mow assuming that Mr. Hope is one of the eleverest trick protographers extant, speaking as a photographer, I know of no means whereby he could possibly have printed an image on the plate whilst the slide was in his pocket, without being immediately detected. Both hands would have to be used, a transparency would have to be put carefully into place, and means would have to be adopted to prevent the fogging of the plates. No sleight of hand was practised as regards exchanging the plates, since I specially marked. The means would have to be dotted to prevent the form of the plates. No sleight of hand was practised as regards exchanging the plates, since I specially marked them immediately before parting with the slide. The Tose who are photographers will know that there are several methods of producing faked "spirit" photographs, and an acquaintance with such trick methods is useful in mature consideration, that in some of the tests carried out with the Crewe circle, trickery would be absolute. "Mhat about the black cardboard used in Mr. Hope's slide," is a question I have been asked over and over again, both by those who have visited the Crewe circle and those who have not. What a lot that poor cardboard has to answer for ! It is as innocent as a similar piece of cardboard I have in an old dark slide of my own. In the earlier days of dry plate photography many of the double dark slides placed on the market had the interior of the slide quite open. To work the sliver salts on the sensitive plate just to the right extent when making an exposure, it is necessary to insert piece of black cardboard or similar material between the work hats. Now, how on earth could Mr. Hope paint a piece of black cardboard with some wonderful invisible solution unknown to science, to give off rays to affect with estiver salts on the sensitive plate just to the exibit exact the sliver salts on the sensitive plate just to the obtine and administer black and that i

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the Crewe results, after a little consideration. I have men-tioned this cardboard, however, since those who are not photographers have been mystified by it, and it is really photographers have been mystined by it, and it is really amazing how sceptical people are of these psychic photo-graphs, even Spiritualists! This, however, is probably due to the fact that the whole subject lends itself so easily to trickery. Before leaving this question of the dark slide I would like to say that results have been the dark since I would like to say that results have been obtained at Crewe with n etal slides; my own slide, used in the case already mentioned, is of an entirely different type from that used by Mr. Hope, and in addition these results have been secured without any camera or slides whatever, simply by holding the unopened packet of plates in the hand.

I will not detail here the methods by which trick "ghosts" are obtained. They have been given so often in photo-graphic journals and suggested as being the means whereby "psychic photographs" are obtained that one wonders whether the writers of such articles are devoid of commonsuccess the writers of such articles are devoid of common-sense in suggesting that investigators could be so easily gulled. Many a photographer has gone to Crewe with the intention of proving the whole thing an imposture and has returned with a more modest idea of his abilities—baffled and perplexed.

and perplexed. Wonderful are some of the results that have been ob-tained. Long messages across the photographic plate in the handwriting of deceased persons; photographs of deceased individuals who had never been photographed at that particular age when alive; likenesses of loved ones mourned as lost, messages in foreign and ancient languages. Truly a man who could fake all these wonderful results would be a super-genius instead of a humble working man like honest Hope.

honest Hope. Mr. Hope was no Spiritualist when first he began to obtain these results. After photographing one of his work-mates one Saturday afternoon it was noticed upon develop-ing the plate that an additional image was there. This was set down to a defective plate and another attempt made. Still the image was there. A print was taken and the "image" proved to be a likeness of a deceased relative of the sitter. Since that day Mr. Hope, with the assistance of Mrs. Buxton, has been able to obtain these supernormal results with more or less regularity. They cannot be ob-tained at will, however, since during some periods plate after plate has been exposed without the slightest supernormal result.

The testimony to the genuineness of certain phases of psychic phenomena is so complete that such things as the movement of objects without contact, and even materialisamovement of objects without contact, and even materialisa-tions, are accepted by the majority of investigators in this realm, and particularly by Spiritualists, as having actually occurred beyond the shadow of a doubt. Why is it that the same cannot be said of this phenomenon going by the name of "psychic photography"? Its value to the cause of Spirit-ualism has most certainly been under-estimated. What better and more lasting proof could there be of the continuity of life than that afforded by a likeness of a deceased person obtained under test conditions? Not once only but in dozens of instances have such likenesses been obtained and recog-mised beyond the shadow of a doubt--both through Mr. nised beyond the shadow of a doubt-both through Mr. Hope's mediumship and through other sensitives with similar gifts. Many a mother has been comforted upon recognising the features of a loved one alongvide her own, and who can tell what consolation such photographs must afford in hours of trouble? An increased knowledge of this subject may eventually result in this method of communication being plified and the number of sensitives for same increased. The se who are photographers should try for these results in the home circle. Success is by no means improbable, and in any case the time and trouble will not be wasted provided the investigator works not for selfish ends but for the enlightenment of those who are groping in the dark.

* We welcome the above testimony, and thank Mr. Barlow, a practical photographer, for his frank statement. Having watched the career of psychic photography since the days when the late Mr. Traill Taylor, Editor of "The British Journal of Photography" and the beading authority on the photographic art, first testified to its reality—some twenty-five years ago—we have been struck by the fact that the most obstimate sceptics of the subject have been found amonget Spiritualists themselves. Whatever may be the ex-planation of this fact, it certainly does not support the accumating of credulity levelled at them by the uninformed critic.—ED.

Was Mas. EDOT & MADOUR ?--Mr. C. W. J. Tenmant, District. Manager of the Christian Science Committees on Publication, writes: "Kindly allow me to correct a mis-statement appearing in your islane of the 25th ult. with regard to Mrs. Eddy. Miss Lilian Whiting is reported have said that Mrs. Eddy at one time practised as a chair-toyant. This is not the case. When such statements were made in "McChare's Magazine" in January, 1907, Mrs. Eddy wrote a reply, in which she emphatically denied that she ever practised as a clairwoyant."

A MESSAGE FROM BEYOND.

III .- PERSENT AND FUTURE

By V. C. DESERTIS.

History never repeats itself in the same forms, but the same passions give rise to similar situations. Hider, revolutions have always followed a set course. These a Hitter revolutions have always followed a set course. There as real hardships recognised by the thoughtful, by the best strong, by theorists, by idealists of the impossible, by set seekers, by the discontented and the violent, and by the masses on whom injustices of an outworn system pea-hardly, but who never see the root-causes of their trulks and are always ready to imagine personal enemies. The reformers divide into a constitutional and a violent pay. The acid archiver, the archives and the descuence has The self-seekers, the reckless, and the demapping and themselves together, and, though a small minority, fly always succeed for the moment because they heute a no dishonesty nor cruelty; they peculate, they pluder, at if resisted, they murder. Trade and industry are dred up at their sources, the conditions become intolerable, at reaction sets in. We have seen the sequence nearly played ent in Parsia out in Russia.

reaction sets in. We have seen the sequence action pays out in Russia. "To my astonishment," says M. Kerensky (who mise the devil he could not lay), "some very serious Europen political men consider as democratic a régime which is dispersed the Constituent Assembly, abolished freedom é speech, made human life the easy prey of every Red Guni-man, that has destroyed liberty of election even in the Councils of Workmen, that has made an end of all inti-tions of self-government that have been erected by misen suffrage. War has been organised against the hel-less population, and every Russian citizen who refuse a recognise the method of government as perfect is desined a counter-revolutionary. When the Russian wrime in thousands were thrown out of work, they understood to meaning of the dictatorship, not of the proletariat, but we the proletariat, who have lost all the political rights wins the Revolution gave them, and live again under polic terr

M. Kerensky apparently still clings to the dream of a dictatorship by the proletariat, which is impossible in arithmetical reasons-the leaders must always be few. Be arithmetical reasons—the headers must always be level as preached class war; he unchained the passions of the nor-he destroyed the morale of the Army. M. Kerensky is ut the only politician who has given effect to the medieud fable of the wizard who learned the spell for raising the devil, but not that for dismissing the inconvenient attenta

When no longer required. Up to now the Russian revolution has exactly followed fie precedents of 1793 because it proceeds from the am

<text><text><text><text><text><text> principles. It is well said at the present time that the aim, after the

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LIGHT.

mishes the actual proofs to the senses that there are facts and no materialist science can explain, but it cannot rest are. If it is to fulfil its great mission in the world, chulists must take a higher line than proving over and again phenomena which have been substantiated er again

ar again phenomena which have been substantiated may as far as evidence can substantiate anything. Tust world changes are impending—momentous issues put with great consequences. Wholesome conditions of is in all are a prime necessity. Abundance of production, entifically organised industries, sufficient leisure, much and education are all imperative; and, most of all, a sign which rests on present spiritual realities and is glowed in as men believe in hygiene. An Spiritualista going to stand aloof from the conflict

Let Spiritualists going to stand aloof from the conflict green Good and Evil? Let us keep out of the mud of aty politics by all means—but let us also apply our know-ign to present conditions, and, as friends to a true inuracy which is the real brotherhood of men without minimizes of class, let us put in motion the prayer and the dot which identify themselves with the moral evolution of he race, and draw wisdom, strength and courage from open minimums with that world which we know to be so close mon us all

Then, whatever menace the future may hold, we know ivil be overcome by the principles of fair-minded justice, he of truth and love of goodness working out as goodwill words men, for love of Good is love of God.

COSMIC MEMORY.

Dr. W. J. Vanstone's lecture on the 31st ult., in the hall mailed to the rooms of the Alliance, provided much matter in interesting speculation and study. His subject was "Spirit Personality and the Theory of Cosmic Memory." Starting nih the axiom that energy was never exhausted-that it was netaly transferred from one form of manifestation to another, and its expenditure was always being registered — he suggested fat this must hold true of events. Somewhere they were king registered. The old orthodox teaching that our thoughts nd actions were all put down in a book had behind it a great min. Incidents in the lives of nations were not only recorded a history books and the memories of men; they had written tenselves upon that all-pervading, all-persetrating substance which we called the ether, and so had become part of what Indan philosophers called the Akashic records. There was nthing unreasonable in this belief. The ether was but a finer inn of matter, and thought could, and did, create changes in The excretions of people who were under the sway of mander. different emotions-jealousy, joy, grief, &c.-had been ex-mined and abowed corresponding different chemical reactions. The reaction of an emotion, moreover, need not be confined to the body of the person with whom it originated. The same motion, with its physical effect, might be conveyed telepathic ally to another individual two hundred miles away. "Now," aid Indian philosophy, "there is a great Akashic atmosphere al around us, and as the mind can make its record on the body, so it can produce definite records on this atmosphere." In this my each of us was writing his or her own biography, and when we recognised also the possibility of others obtaining access to and reading that record, it was easy to see how serious were the implications involved. They did not negative the evidence for spirit identity, but they did point to the possibility of im-perionation and deception and the need for patient testing and research.

THIRTY YEARS AGO.

(FROM "LOGHT" OF NOVEMBER 10TH, 1888.) /

The French Spiritist journals have naturally much to say don't the Barcelona Congress, where Spiritism seems to have been well represented.

Mr. and Mrs. Morse, on the eighteenth anniversary of their wedding, were the recipients of many presents and abundant good wishes from their friends on the Pacific coast.

One Sarah Tanner has been sentenced to a month's hard about for imposing on the credulity of maidservants by for-tune-telling. We take no stock in such things, faeling sure that a time will never come when human credulity will fail, or imares cease to trade upon it. Where there is sham there is also a reality to the counterfeit.

-From "Jottings."

Mass must go back to the earth if his race is not to become extinct in the world.--Baar Kaysanr. Houx Fuxa.-Mrs. Etta Duffus, of Penniwells, Elstree, Herta, acknowledges with thanks the following donation : A Friend, \$1.

THE BUILDING OF THE PYRAMIDS.

In further reference to his letter and our comments on this subject (p. 348), Mr. A. Boothby writes :

"Among the many fine buildings constructed by the method I described is the beautiful opera-house in Philadelphia, built almost entirely of sand-lime bricks and blocks. It stands out prominently from a mass of huge, handsome buildings, and it is hard to believe that it is not constructed of white marble. effect is charming. "In these sand-lime blocks one can also get a granite effect

by introducing colouring matter which gives the blocks the wave-like markings of granite. "With reference to the 'air' mentioned by the medium's

communicator, air was needed for the hardening process of the mortar which cemented the Pyramid blocks together. By exposure to the air the process of slow drying hardens, and forms an after-strength not equalled by any artificial method.

With regard to the question of an admixture of lime, I would suggest that perhaps the control was not making a thorough analysis of the matter. One need only mention or classify the amount of solid matter contained in water-namely, organic and inorganic matters and gases. But among the perals found in water is calcium (lime, chalk, &c.)."

TO-MORROW'S SOCIETY MEETINGS.

These notices are confined to announcements of me tings on the coming Sunday, with the addition only of other engagements in the same week. They are charged at the rate of is, for two lines (including the name of the society) and 8d for every additional line.

Steiszony Hall, Lover Seymour-street, W. 1.-6.30, Mrs mock. November 17th, Mr. Horace Leaf. Cannock

The London Spiritual Mission, 13, Pembridge-place, W. 2.-11 and 6.30, Mrs. M. H. Wallis. Wednesday, November 138h, at 7.30, Mrs. E. A. Cannock.

Spiritundist Classes of the New Reseating, 131, West End Lane, Hampstead.-11 and 6.30, services, Mrs. Mary Davies.

Lewisham.-The Priory, High-street,-7, Mrs. Alice Jamrach Kingston-on-Thames, Bishop's Hall.-6.30, Miss V. Burton. Reading .- Spiritual Mission, 16, Blagrave-street .- 11.30 and

6.45, Mr. John Jackson.

Woolwich & Planstend.—Personance Hall, Villas-rd., Plan-tend.—3, Lyceum; 7, London Lyceum District Council.

Cambergell.-Masonaic Hull.-11, service; 6.30, Mr. H. E. Hunzt. 17th, 6.30, Mrs. Cannock. Saturday, 23rd, Social and dance ; tickets 1s.

Battersen.—45, 8t. John's Hill, Clopham Junction.—Lyceum Annivecsary: 3, Mr. C. J. Williams; 6.30, various speakers. Thursday, 8.15, Mrs. Bloodwarth.

Brighton.-Windsor Hall, Windsor-street.-11.15 and 7, Mrs. Neville, addresses and clairvoyance; 3.15, Lyceum. Wednesday, 8, public meeting, conducted by Miss Fawcett.

Holloupuy.—Grouedale Hall (near Hiphynte Tule Station).— 11.15, Sergeant Campaigne on "An Illunive Demon"; 3 Lynenun; 7, Mr. A. Punter. Wednesday, 8, Mrs. Pulham.

Lifesinin; 7, M.Y. A. Punter, "retrievely, 6, Mix Punter, Brighton Spirituniist Brotherhood. — Old Steine Hall.— 11.30 and 7, addresses and clairvoyance by Mrs. Bloodworth, also Monday, at 7.45. Tuesday, 7.45, lecture, "Ancient Masonry," Mr. Swainson. Thursday, 7.45, inquirers, questions and clairwoyance. Friday, Guild. Lycenn every Sunday at 3.

Baronzi an important interview let us send an active ught of good will to the one we are going to see.—Hanaw Boruzsons in "The Healing Power."

M. Bownsons in "The Heating Power." Cornas of important books referred to in Loour, and books generally suitable for inquirers, can be purchased at these offices or borrowed from the lending library of the London Spiritualist Alliance. Particulars of membership on application. The subscription of those who join as mem-bers now will be taken as covering the remainder of the present year and the whole of 1919.

present year and the whole of 1919. We may again remaind our readers that a petition can be signed at this office asking that the Spiritualist community shall hold a position before the law similar to that of any other religious hody, that the existence of psychic faculty and mediumship shall be recognised in law, and that the old Acts of Parliament directed against witchcraft shall not be applied to spiritual vision. Societies and others able to assist in the collection of signatures should communicate with Mr. R. H. Yates, road, Huddersfield.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

A.m. MRS. M. H. WALLIS. p.m. MRS. M. H. WALLIS. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, AT 7.30 P.M., MRS. F. A. CHARGE At 11 a.m. At 6.30 p.m. MRS. F. A. CANNOCK.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 107H. 11 a.m. ... Inspirational Address ... Mrs Fairclough Smith. 5.30 p m ... "The Order of Melchisedek" ... Mr. Hooper. Healing Service after the Evening Meeting. WEDNESDAY. November 13th, 7 30 p.m., Mrs. Fairclough Smith. "The Value of Spiritualism in the War."

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