

# JOURNAL

OF THE

## SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

### CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
New Members and Associates ..	185	An Account of Some Abnormal Phenomena	
Annual Business Meeting ..	187	Alleged to have Occurred at B—— Lodge,	
Announcement of General Meeting ..	187	W—— ..	198
Balance Sheet for 1885 ..	188	Cases received by the Literary Committee	205
Flanquette Writing ..	189	CORRESPONDENCE:—Why I Believe in Ap-	
Note on My Article in the January Num-		paritions ..	210
ber of the Journal, by Hon. Roden Noel	195	Supplementary Library Catalogue ..	216

### NEW MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES.

#### CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

- DOBROSLAVIN, PROFESSOR, M.D., Imperial Medical Academy, St. Petersburg.
- KOVALEVSKY, PROFESSOR, The University, Kharkof, Russia.
- WAGNER, PROFESSOR N., Imperial University, St. Petersburg.

#### MEMBER.

- FORSTER, ANTHONY, Clovelly, Silverhill Park, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

#### ASSOCIATES.

- BOWNESS, WILLIAM WILSON, 20, Campden Grove, Kensington, London, W.
- HARRIS, MISS ISABEL, 9, Chelsea Embankment, London, S.W.
- HOPKINSON, MISS, 37, Woburn Place, London, W.C.
- KIMBALL, BENJAMIN, 8, Congress Street, Boston, U.S.A.
- MARSHALL, GEORGE W., LL.D., F.S.A., 60, Onslow Gardens, London, S.W.
- SLADEN, DOUGLAS B. W., 20, Campden Grove, Kensington, London, W.
- SNAPE, MRS., Chorley New Road, Bolton.
- STURGE, MISS EMILY, Tyndall's Park, Clifton, Bristol.
- VENN, J., D.Sc., F.R.S., Petersfield House, Cambridge.
- WARDROP, MRS., 10, Lower Belgrave Street, Eaton Square, London, S.W.

#### MEETINGS OF COUNCIL.

A Council Meeting was held on the 29th ult., when the following Members were present:—Messrs. Alexander Calder, Edmund Gurney, C. C. Massey, F. W. H. Myers and Frank Podmore. Mr. Calder was voted to the chair.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed.

On the proposition of Mr. F. W. H. Myers, three Corresponding Members were elected, namely, Professors Dobroslavin and Wagner, of St. Petersburg, and Professor Kovalevsky, of Kharkof.

One new Member and six new Associates, whose names and addresses appear above, were also elected.

The resignations of several Members and Associates were accepted.

The following donations were reported, and were directed to be

acknowledged with thanks: From Mr. R. Pearsall Smith, £20; from Mr. Hensleigh Wedgwood, £10 towards the cost of the *Journal*; and from Mrs. Russell Gurney, who, in sending her annual subscription, included it in a cheque for £5.

Some presents to the Library were on the table, for which the thanks of the Council were directed to be conveyed to the donors.

An Audited Balance Sheet for the year 1885 was presented, together with a letter from Mr. Morell Theobald as Auditor, expressing his satisfaction with the way in which the Books were kept; also a statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Society at the end of 1885. These were directed to be laid before the Annual Business Meeting.

The usual Cash Account, made up to date, was presented, and the necessary accounts passed for payment.

The Finance Committee presented a Report as directed at the last Council Meeting. After some discussion, it was resolved to defer the full consideration of it until the next Meeting of the Council.

The Council met on the 5th inst., at the close of the Annual Business Meeting, Professor H. Sidgwick in the chair, the other Members present being Messrs. Alexander Calder, Walter H. Coffin, Edmund Gurney, C. C. Massey, and Frank Podmore.

The Minutes of last Meeting having been read and signed, report was made that at the Annual Business Meeting, no additional names having been sent in, the following were declared duly elected Members of Council: Professor J. C. Adams, F.R.S., Professor W. F. Barrett, Professor Oliver J. Lodge, D. Sc., Chas. C. Massey, Esq., F. W. H. Myers, Esq., Lord Rayleigh, F.R.S., and Hensleigh Wedgwood, Esq.

The Council then proceeded to the election of the Officers of the Society for the ensuing year, and the following were unanimously elected: President, Professor Balfour Stewart, F.R.S.; Honorary Treasurer, Alexander Calder, Esq.; Honorary Secretary, Edmund Gurney, Esq.

The following Committees were appointed, with power to add to their number:—

**COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE.**—Professor Balfour Stewart, *ex-officio* as President, Professor Adams, Professor Barrett, Mr. Edmund Gurney, Professor O. J. Lodge, Lord Rayleigh, Dr. C. Lockhart Robertson, Professor Sidgwick, and Professor J. J. Thomson.

**LITERARY COMMITTEE.**—Messrs. Edmund Gurney, Richard Hodgson, Chas. C. Massey, F. W. H. Myers, Frank Podmore, Professor H. Sidgwick, and Mrs. H. Sidgwick.

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE.**—Dr. A. T. Myers and Mr. F. W. H. Myers.

**HOUSE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.**—Messrs. Alexander Calder, Richard Hodgson, Edward R. Pease, and Josiah S. Stapelton.

On the proposition of Mr. E. Gurney, Mr. Walter H. Coffin was

electd a Member of the Council, in accordance with Rule 17; and on the proposition of Mr. Myers, Professor Macalister, M.D., F.R.S., and Professor J. J. Thomson were elected Members of Council, under the same Rule.

Four new Associates were elected, whose names and addresses are included in the list on a previous page.

The Council heard with regret of the death, some months since, of the Rev. Thomas A. Cock, an Associate of the Society.

The list of the Corresponding Members of the Society having been read over, it was resolved that they all be re-elected for the coming year.

The consideration of the List of Honorary Associates was deferred until the next Meeting of Council.

The Report of the Finance Committee, including the scheme of expenditure for the current year, was again under consideration, and was adopted after a slight modification had been made.

It was agreed that the next General Meeting, on Saturday, the 6th of March, be held at the Suffolk Street Rooms.

The next Meeting of the Council will be held on that day at 4.30 p.m.

#### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

Owing to the absence of a quorum on the 29th ult., the Fourth Annual Business Meeting of the Members of the Society stood adjourned, in accordance with Rule 15, to Friday, the 5th of February.

The chair was taken by Professor H. Sidgwick, at 4.30 p.m. He placed before the Meeting the Audited Balance Sheet of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Society during the year 1885, which appears on the next page. He also read a statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Society at the end of last year. From this it appeared that these almost exactly balanced, independent of the Library belonging to the Society, and of the stock of *Proceedings*. An estimate had been made of the value of these two items. It was obvious, indeed, that property of that character might be estimated very differently according to the point of view from which its value was regarded. But as the Society was solvent independently, it might be considered in a sound and satisfactory position.

No additional nominations for Members of Council having been sent in, those whose names were included in the notices convening the Meeting were declared duly elected.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL MEETING.

The next General Meeting of the Society will be held at the Rooms of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, S.W., on Saturday, March 6th, at 8.30 p.m., when a paper will be read by Professor Barrett, on Physical Phenomena connected with Spiritualism.

# SOCIETY FOR PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

*RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1885.*

Dr.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1885.								
Jan. 1.	-To Balance in hands of Treasurer ...		75	3	2			
	Do. Secretary ...		10	0	0			
			<hr/>			85	3	2
Dec. 31.	-., Subscriptions:—							
	Members ...		415	14	0			
	Associates ...		276	3	6			
			<hr/>			691	17	6
	,, Life Subscriptions ...		42	0	0			
	,, Donations ...		27	7	0			
	,, Sale of Publications:—							
	Per Trübner & Co. (July 1884 to June 1885) ...		84	10	2			
	,, Secretary ...		71	5	5			
			<hr/>			155	15	7
	,, Rent—(Two upper floors at 14, Dean's Yard, 12 months to Michaelmas 1885) ...		55	0	0			
	Sundry Receipts ...		3	4	5			

Cr.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1885.								
Dec. 31.	-By Research:—							
	Literary Committee ...		33	2	1			
	Mesmeric Committee ...		10	0	0			
			<hr/>					
	,, Library ...					43	2	1
	,, Printing:—					32	16	7
	Proceedings, Part III. Ed. 2 ...		22	0	0			
	,, VI. (Alteration) ...		3	13	6			
	,, VII. ...		66	10	6			
	,, VIII. (on account of) ...		50	0	0			
	Index and Title Page to Vol. II. ...		6	1	0			
	Journal, Nos. 8—12 ...		48	15	0			
	General ...		51	14	6			
			<hr/>			248	14	6
	,, Covers and Binding ...					6	2	11
	,, General Meetings ...					78	2	3
	,, Advertising ...					35	4	0
	,, Translation (from the German) ...					13	2	0
	,, Travelling Expenses (Members of Council) ...					33	7	6
	,, Salary to Secretary (Sep. 1884 to Sep. 1885) ...					120	0	0
	,, Rent and Service (12 months to Michaelmas 1885) ...					150	0	0
	,, Reading Room and Stationery ...					8	16	3
	,, Philosophical Instruments ...					1	12	0
	,, Postage (Secretary's) ...					72	16	4
	,, Postage and sending out of Part IX. ...					12	7	1
	,, Gas (18 months) ...					7	11	9
	,, General Expenses ...					35	18	2
	,, Balance Invested in Consols ...		42	0	0			
	,, ,, in hands of Treasurer ...		108	14	3			
	,, ,, Secretary ...		10	0	0			
			<hr/>			160	14	3

Audited and found correct—  
**MORELL THEOBALD,**  
 Fellow of the Chartered Accountants.

£1,060 7 8

£1,060 7 8

A January, 1886.

## PLANCHETTE WRITING.

In a paper of Mr. Myers' (*Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research*, Vol. II., p. 217) on "A Telepathic Explanation of some so-called Spiritualistic Phenomena," he adverts to the familiar experiment of planchette writing, and considers what theories are logically possible as to the source of the writing obtained. The words, he says, may conceivably be:—

1. Consciously written in the ordinary way with the deliberate intention of expressing certain thoughts.

2. Or they may be written automatically, that is, as I understand the term, by the muscular action of the writer, but without previous conception of the thoughts which his hand is about to signify on paper, or even in total ignorance of the purport of what he is writing.

Mr. Myers then enumerates four sources from whence the influence directing the automatic action of the hand in a significant track, may conceivably be derived, viz.—

1. Unconscious cerebration, that is, I suppose, spontaneous agitations of the brain of which the writer has no direct cognisance.

2. Some higher unconscious intelligence or faculty of the mind, as in clairvoyance.

3. Telepathic impact from other minds, that is, sympathy through other channels than the ordinary organs of sense with the thoughts or affections of other persons.

4. Other spirits or extra human intelligences.

It is not my purpose to inquire into the value of these theories in explaining the fact of automatic writing, or to consider how far the various principles, suggested as the source of the writing impulse, are entitled to claim the character of a *vera causa*. My object will be to point out what seems to me a vital error in the way in which Mr. Myers supposes planchette writing to be produced. Whatever the source from which the writing impulse is supposed to proceed, it is clearly understood by Mr. Myers to take effect through the muscular action of the planchette writer, who blindly moves the board in such a manner as to trace out significant lines, in the same way that the bird builds its nest, without previous conception of the structure it is rearing, or of the purpose which it is destined to serve. So in planchette writing the movement of the board is supposed to be truly the act of the apparent writers, although without intelligence of the sense their writing will be found to express. But this is directly opposed to my own experience. I always sit with a partner at planchette, with both our hands upon the board, and have never seen writing obtained with a single sitter. Now I *know* that it is not *I* that am moving the board. I am conscious of

being entirely passive in the guidance of the pencil. To me it feels exactly as if the movement came from my partner.

My endeavour is to allow my hand passively to follow the movement of the board, and all that I do in the way of muscular action is to give so much play to my hand, as may be needed in order to avoid interfering with the feeble force by which the pencil is guided in the formation of letters. Whether that force proceeds from my partner or from some invisible power I have of course no direct knowledge. But my partners give exactly the same account of their experience with that of which I am sensible in my own case. They assert that they take no active part in the guidance of the pencil. I have chiefly sat with a lady in whose accurate observation as well as perfect good faith I have entire confidence. She writes me: "I will try to describe about the planchette writing, which in its best form is totally different from automatic writing. I can speak positively as to this, as both are done through my mediumship. With the planchette there is no electric sensation in the arms and hands. They feel quite in their usual condition. The fingers are placed on the board with sufficient firmness to exert a downward pressure on the pencil point, and after a little interval the board appears to become a living thing under one's hands, moving often with great energy, and all that one has to do is to follow it, taking care that no involuntary movement on one's own part interferes with its proceedings, and that the hands remain in position upon it. The removal of a hand by either of the sitters breaks the link, and the movement ceases instantly. This is equally the case with the subordinate as with the chief medium. The writing is upside down to the chief medium and faces the subordinate. With C. I am subordinate medium, with you, my father, husband, and aunt I am usually chief. I think it is a proof that the movement is not caused automatically [*i.e.*, by the muscular act of the sitter] that the board has the power of lifting itself up under our hands, the pressure of which is downward. The sense of separateness [*i.e.*, independence of the sitter] in this writing is very great. I need not allude to the matter of what is written, for it would be too long a story to tell the numberless instances in which information has been given which could not have been derived from the minds of the sitters, and views expressed which were at variance with our own."

To the same effect, in a case cited by Mr. Myers (p. 236) where the writer was operating without a partner, and had, therefore, the whole circumstances of the case within her immediate knowledge, she says: "When I write in this way the ideas do not come (*consciously* at least) from my mind, and my hand seems to be gently moved by some external influence."

I have entire confidence in the assertion of my correspondent above

quoted that she is completely passive in the guidance of the pencil, and I have every corroboration of her word of which the case admits. I see that her fingers are quite without rigidity, and the writing goes on unchecked while she looks away or converses with those around her.

The last time I had an opportunity of sitting with her (in August, 1885) I said aloud on sitting down to the table that perhaps the real operators would give us some proof of the intervention of a third intelligence besides our two selves. I had not in my own mind formed any precise idea of the proof I required, but I vaguely thought that perhaps they might refer to something unknown to either of us in a way that might subsequently be verified. The pencil began to move shortly after we sat down, but on looking at the writing we could neither of us guess what it was meant for. We replaced our hands on the board, requesting the operators to write clearer. The writing immediately recommenced, and now there was no difficulty in reading the sentence, "*Vera sunt illa*," which was obviously the same with what had been aimed at in the first imperfect attempt at writing. I understood it to mean that my supposition of the presence of a third intelligence who was the real mover of the pencil, was correct; and this understanding was at once confirmed by planchette.

Now I knew that the sentence was not written by me, nor had any such thought passed through my mind. My partner, therefore, could not have been influenced to write by telepathic impact from my mind, and as she knew no Latin she could not have written it consciously herself. To me, therefore, it was as complete a proof as could possibly be given of the operation of an intelligent agent distinct from either of us.

If anyone thinks that an escape from my conclusion might be found in the supposition that my unconscious self, approving, in Latin, my own actual belief, telepathically influenced my partner to write the words, I would reply, in the first place, that such a supposition would be in direct conflict with my partner's positive assertion as to a matter lying within her immediate cognisance, viz., the question whether the board was guided by her active exertion or not. But independent of this fundamental objection, I would call on the objector to establish, as a *vera causa*, the power of my unconscious self telepathically to influence the action of another person. The instance adduced by Mr. Myers of a son brought home in the middle of a concert by the anxious longings of his mother, is not to the purpose, as in that case the affections telepathically effective lay fully within the consciousness of the telepathic agent. It is incredible that phases of that mysterious being, the unconscious self, which fail to inspire our own thoughts or actions, should yet have power to influence the bodily action of another person.

The exertion of mechanical force as if by an unseen agent has

frequently been witnessed under various forms in other cases. The movement of bodies in darkness or in light, apart from any human agency, has been matter of daily experience at physical séances for the last forty years. And, in much closer analogy to the case of planchette-writing, a cloud of unexceptionable witnesses have given their testimony to the fact of what is known as psychography or slate-writing; where writing is produced under conditions carefully devised in order to exclude the possibility of its being done by human hands. Writing, often in languages unknown to anyone present, has been produced in nailed-up boxes, in the hollow between pairs of slates locked together or hermetically closed with gummed paper, or even between the pages of a closed book. Over and over again the word to be written has been arbitrarily fixed by the sitters by naming the page and line of a book taken down at random from the shelves at the moment, and only opened after the word has been written. Most of these I have repeatedly witnessed in full light, under conditions that made the possibility of juggling inconceivable to me.

In the case of planchette-writing, the evidence of an external agency must, of course, depend upon the credit given to the assertion of the sitters that their hands are passive in the operation. Now, in my own case, I know that I can speak with perfect assurance to the question whether it is I who am guiding the pencil or not, and I naturally attribute the same power to my partner. But if our assertion that the writing is not done by either of our hands is believed, all possible opening for a telepathic explanation of the phenomenon is cut away. It will be necessary, then, in order to clear the ground for such a theory, to maintain that it is impossible for the sitter to say whether the board is moved by his own act or by an external force.

HENSLEIGH WEDGWOOD.

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Mr. Wedgwood's very interesting paper raises two important points, first, as to the source of the *motion* of planchette, and secondly, as to the source of the *communications* given.

As to the first point, I must at once admit that I do not think that in the present state of our knowledge Mr. Wedgwood's argument can be completely answered. He argues that the motion of planchette cannot be always due to unconscious muscular action, because that motion is sometimes considerable in amount, and proceeds while the writer is carefully noting his own muscular sensations and the look of his hands, and feels convinced that his muscles are *not* acting.

Now, it is very hard to say to what extent one's muscles can act unknown to us under these conditions. The "willing-game" shows us that they can thus act to a small extent; that one may give a small push or jerk, even when one's whole attention is devoted to *not* jerking. But it

is quite possible that in these cases the jerk is the actual *translation into motion* of the will *not* to jerk,—an apparent paradox which will be better understood if we look upon all or most thoughts as involving rudimentary tendencies towards some motion. In that case, if I resolve not to move my hand, the very direction of attention to the hand-moving centres may in effect move my hand *slightly*,—though at the same time it will *prevent* my hand from moving *much*.

It is therefore possible that we may very quickly reach the superior limit above which unconscious motion (during definite attention) cannot go on. It is possible that Mr. Wedgwood's and his friend's conviction that they were not moving the planchette was justified by fact. On the other hand, we must remember that not only mesmerised subjects, but some persons even in a waking state, when specially susceptible to *suggestion*, can be made to believe that they are struggling—say—to remove their hands from a table, while in reality the muscles which would move their hands are at rest, and the muscles which keep their hands in position are tense,—in direct opposition to their own belief. Those who have performed such experiments as these, (as I have myself done,) with a waking and perfectly conscious person,—deluded on this point alone,—will hesitate before ascribing to external agency any effect which a man's own muscles are actually capable of producing.

On the whole, it seems that in order to decide the matter either way, we need mechanical tests. Mr. Wedgwood's contention that the planchette partly rose while the hands were pressing downwards is not, I think, cogent without such tests; for slight changes of pressure between the two hands may make the implement rise in almost any direction.

I would suggest to inquirers with a mechanical turn that they should (1) repeat Faraday's experiment as to the rotatory motion given unconsciously to tables, and this both *before* and *after* warning the sitters to be careful not to push; and (2) try and get a planchette to write in a box or case, so contrived that the writers can apply pressure only in one direction.

I ought to add that Mr. and Mrs. Newnham, the *chevaux de bataille* of my theory—which is Mr. Newnham's theory, too—go even further than Mr. Wedgwood, and state that the movement of planchette was often such as Mrs. Newnham could not by conscious effort imitate afterwards under the like conditions.

It seems to me that this question (on which I took care not to dogmatise in the paper to which Mr. Wedgwood refers) must remain open until in the first place accurate mechanical tests have been applied, and in the second place some sort of agreement has been reached as to the occurrence or non-occurrence of other movements of

objects by supernormal means, of which "psychography," if it exists, is an example. I note with respect Mr. Wedgwood's conviction that psychography is a fact, for I know that he has not been sparing of time or trouble in satisfying himself on this point. But qualified opinions on the matter are certainly not so accordant as to justify us in assuming psychography as a foundation on which to base further argument.

And so far as regards the source of the communications, it is not clear that even were planchette to move without being touched at all, the words written need proceed from any mind except the minds of the sitters. Many of those who believe in "physical movements" explain them by an "extra-neural force" exerted by certain persons in near proximity to their own bodies, though not by ordinary muscular action.

The sentence, "*Vera sunt illa*," which Mr. Wedgwood cites as a reply which could not have proceeded from the unconscious mind of a lady ignorant of Latin, is an unlucky one for this purpose. For it is plainly a fragment of the often-cited speech of the dead Ficinus, "*O Michael, Michael, vera sunt illa*," as given by Baronius in a story which (though demonstrably inaccurate) has been repeated in a great many collections. This is just the kind of phrase which would lodge in the mind even of a non-Latinist reader. I trust, however, that Mr. Wedgwood's correspondent may be able to furnish some stronger cases of answers containing facts provably unknown to the persons present.

I am disappointed at the scantiness of the evidence sent to me for these higher branches of automatic writing. I observe that the editor of *Light* has made a like appeal with equal ill-success, so that I am obliged to conclude that such phenomena are probably not now often occurring, that there are not many presentable cases of information given or identity proved. In reply to one of my papers on this subject, *Light* printed an article from an anonymous correspondent, who urged—as his sole instance to confute me—that a friend of his had a friend whose children wrote messages in languages which they did not know. I at once asked for further particulars, but the anonymous writer made no attempt to substantiate his statement. Now does any educated Spiritualist think me unfair because I am not impressed by letters of that kind? Does he not agree with me in making small account of anonymous dogmatism and third-hand gossip, whatever be the cause which they are meant to support? And, on the other hand, may I not call even upon my anti-Spiritualistic readers to receive with respect a letter like Mr. Wedgwood's? clear statement as it is of personally-observed facts, which, whether we agree with his interpretation of them or not, form, at any rate, one more brick in that fabric of psychical research which we and our successors shall yet be many a year in building.

FREDERIC W. H. MYERS.

NOTE ON MY ARTICLE IN THE JANUARY  
NUMBER OF THE "JOURNAL."

BY HON. RODEN NOEL.

May I be allowed, while correcting three misprints in my paper in the January number of the *Journal*, to make a very brief addition to it? On p. 170, for "committed ourselves" read "committed themselves," and on p. 171, for "that a dominant suggestion" read "that of a dominant suggestion," and for "and where the Spiritist hypothesis" read "where the Spiritist hypothesis."

The amplification I wish to make is this. I did not sufficiently signify in that paper my agreement with Messrs. Myers and Gurney when they speak of the dramatising faculty of the individual imagination. The "materials of sense" are always subjected to the "categorising," moulding, or robing faculty of the intelligence which receives them. But philosophy has, in my view, not enough recognised that, while thought is universal, it is also individual, and hence receives a subjective tinge special to every individual mind. So that a thought, or sensation from outside (*i.e.*, according to my idealism, from other minds) would receive a more or less peculiar investiture from the individual into whom it enters. If all thought is universal, and yet also individual, my contention concerning visions or abnormal percepts is surely justified *a fortiori*; for there is always something in the sense-element which irresistibly suggests an external source. But to put the whole content of such perception (normal or abnormal) into other minds is to put the origin of it back indefinitely, *i.e.*, to give no origin at all. Hence this must be supplemented by the additional admission of an investing, or dramatising power in the individual imagination. But what I maintain is that, in dreams and visions, something is transferred; there is an element from outside, something corresponding to what is usually meant by *objective*.

If I dream of persons being in a situation in which they do not seem to themselves, or their friends to be, what corresponds externally to this may be only a "dominant suggestion"—a vivid imagination by another intelligence impressing itself on ours, and worked up by ours. But it *may* also correspond to a passing thought of the person himself or to a forgotten dream of his. In any case, the sensuous imagination is the true creator of what we term objective reality—or the sensuous fantasy, working co-operatively—though there is a Diviner and more substantial kernel, or Basis of Intuition within, or behind this appearance. So at least it seems. I would not be dogmatic!

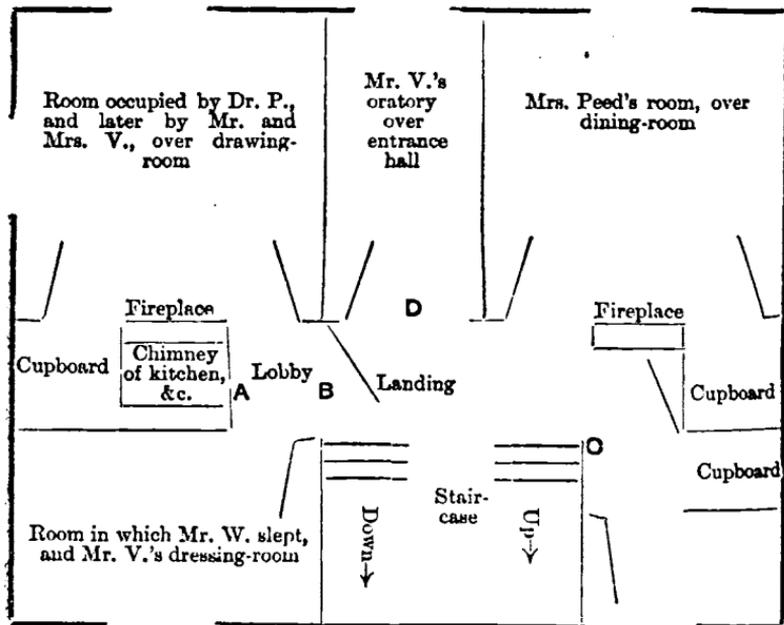
The gist of my argument is that, if normal perception implies an object external to the individual perceiving mind, so does abnormal perception likewise.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME ABNORMAL PHENOMENA  
ALLEGED TO HAVE OCCURRED AT B—— LODGE, W——.

In the autumn of 1884 the Society received accounts of some abnormal phenomena which were said to have occurred at a house in W——, a small village about 40 miles from London. The house—a modern one, having been built, I believe, within the last half century—stands flush with the high road, having a garden on one side and at the back, and a barn, which separates it from a row of cottages, on the other. On the ground floor, to the right and left of the entry respectively, are a drawing-room and dining-room; behind each of these is a kitchen: the kitchen behind the dining-room communicates with a small scullery, which leads into the barn above referred to. The barn, which has no window, possesses another door, opening to the high road. Beneath the house are dry and spacious cellars.

The first floor contains four rooms; situated as shown in the plan subjoined. On the second floor there are three bedrooms, corresponding to the front rooms on the floor below; the rest of this floor is occupied by two windowless garrets, one of which contains the cistern.

ROUGH PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR OF B—— LODGE, W——



A Place where Dr. P.'s dog slept.

B Baize door.

C Place where Mrs. H. (then Mrs. Peed) states she saw the figure.

From 1870 to 1876 the house was occupied by a Mr. and Mrs. Peed. Mr. Peed died in 1876, and Mrs. Peed—who subsequently became Mrs. H.—left the house in 1877. During her occupancy she received as lodgers, successively, the Rev. H. A. S., and the Rev. E. G. P., who acted as curates to the rector of the parish.

The following letters from the Rev. H. A. S. were written in answer to our inquiry whether he had had any unusual experience in the house during his stay there :—

*July 28th, 1885.*

I regret that I am unable to offer much information in reply to your inquiries concerning B— House, W—.

I do, however, distinctly remember hearing on many occasions sounds of footsteps upon the stairs, and especially upon the little landing, at various hours during the night. The inhabitants of the house then were Mr. and Mrs. Peed (the former paralysed and unable to leave his room without assistance), myself and a maid named Emma Matthews. At first I thought the maid must have been secretly entering or leaving the house for objects best known to herself, but as she was always thoroughly respectable and discreet, and 25 years of age, I could not easily understand these proceedings. Moreover, I could never discern the object of the footsteps themselves. If they descended, I waited vainly for sounds of ascending; if ascending, I might vainly listen for any sounds of descent. For obvious reasons I was unwilling to emerge upon the stairs *en deshabelle*.

Finally, I asked my landlady, Mrs. Peed, if Emma walked in her sleep; but no satisfactory solution of the matter appeared, and I ceased to notice the ordinary sounds.

On one occasion I remarked to my landlady that I heard people “scuffling in the garden at the back door, and could hear their feet on the gravel.” She went to the door and perceived nothing. She became a widow shortly after I left W—; then married a farmer, who has also died, and she is now living at W—-. From her some further information might perhaps be derived.

Of course I had often heard rumours about the house—a more *modern* and practical house could not exist—but know nothing further of my own knowledge.

H. A. S.

P.S.—I ought to mention that the footsteps on the stairs nearly always proceeded to or emerged from the *top* story of the house, where no one lived but the maid. I never heard either back or front door opened at night, though I often waited for that object.

*July 31st, 1885.*

I began to reside in B— House, W—, (probably) about July, 1871, and left the house finally on August 27th, 1872.

H. A. S.

The next account is from the Rev. E. G. P., D.D., who appears to have succeeded Mr. H. A. S. in the curacy. This account was written by Mr. C. Downing from notes taken at a personal interview, and has been corrected by Dr. P. himself.

I began residence as curate of W— at B— Lodge, December 29th, 1872, and left May 10th, 1875. I was then fresh from Oxford, and a boating man. The house was of moderate size, built plainly of red brick, and had nothing in any way suggestive of "ghosts" in its appearance. It was neither lonely nor gloomy looking.

I was not aware, upon taking possession of my apartments there, that any history attached to the house; but have since learnt that an old gentleman of no great reputation once lived there, who was supposed to have had an illegitimate child, and to have made away with it. There were some peculiar stains on the floor of an upper room in the house, and on the occasion of the kitchen chimney catching fire, what looked much like charred fragments of a child's bones came down. It is also said that the house is built upon the site of an old inn (17th and 18th century) which was frequented by the outlaws of the Chiltern Hills, and in which several murders were committed.

A Mrs. Peed (now Mrs. H.) was the landlady. Her husband was paralytic, incapable of moving by himself. He died July 20th, 1876. *The phenomena have continued since his death.*

The only other person in the house was Emma Matthews, the servant, a taciturn and trustworthy woman, of Puritan family and religious disposition. *One night, when she was away in the village, at the sick bed of her mother, the usual occurrences took place, in a more pronounced way, if anything.*

There was a second floor. My sitting-room on the ground floor was beneath my bedroom, and Mr. and Mrs. Peed had a dining-room beneath theirs.

On retiring to rest, I always bolted the lobby door, leaving my bedroom door open. I was thus shut off from the rest of the house. My dog—a Yorkshire fox-terrier, pedigree breed—slept in a basket in the lobby.

Almost immediately after I began to live there I noticed strange noises at night, both in my own rooms and all over the house, especially in the room at the top of the house, where the stains were. These noises, however, were not very easy to localise. They were at first slight, but afterwards increased in intensity. They were essentially unearthly, and it is very difficult to describe them. There were loud explosions, sounds like the falling of trays, stampings, rustlings, sounds of heavy furniture being moved. When I sat in the room below, it seemed as if there were a lot of schoolboys "larking" in the bedroom above. There were also sighs and groans; but no knockings. Nor did I ever attempt to communicate with what I considered to be an evil power. Strange to say, and this was noticed by previous and subsequent occupants of the house, the noises seemed to be greatest towards the full of the moon; and there were considerable intervals in which they were not heard at all. The dog apparently heard nothing.

On the night of May 14th, 1874, I had retired to rest, quite ignorant that a dear friend of mine was dying. I was awakened by a noise in the corner of the room, like the clashing of cymbals, followed by other strange sounds. I had become used to my visitants by this time, was in no way frightened, turned away and went to sleep again.

On the night of May 31st, 1874 (the moon then being at the full), an old

gentleman, Mr. W., my friend and adopted father, as I was wont to call him, was staying with me. He slept in the dressing-room, and burnt a light. Both our doors were open, but I am as certain as I can be that the lobby door was fastened as usual. Mr. W. knew nothing of these noises. In the middle of the night I was aroused by the most extraordinary clamour in the lobby; sprang out of bed and entered the dressing-room. As I did so I saw the dog was gone, and the lobby door wide open. Mr. W. was much agitated; said that he had been greatly alarmed, but should be better presently. It was not till shortly before his death (December 28th, 1875) that he told me that he had awoke just before I entered and seen the figure of a tall man, in a grey woollen dressing-gown, standing at the foot of his bed. This appearance, I believe, coincides with what has been seen by others. My only feeling at the moment was that of great anger at being thus continually disturbed, and upon this night especially, in a manner which was worse than all that had gone before. Taking the light, I went out on the landing, where the noise still continued, followed it closely *wherever it seemed to go*; drove it, so to say, down stairs, seeming to hear the stamp of feet upon each stair, together with an indescribable sound in the air, just where the head of an invisible being, the height of a man, might have been. From the stairs it proceeded, still stamping, into the dining-room, which I also entered, with nerves braced for the worst that could befall, and thoroughly determined to cope with this now insupportable annoyance. In the middle of the room it ceased, and I adjured it in the Name of God. There was no answer, and in a moment or two, with more terror than I had ever felt before, I returned upstairs. The dog was at D. (on the plan), crouched in a condition of the utmost fear, foaming and bristling, every hackle on end.

After this night the noises *kept at a distance and were never in the same room with me.*

Mrs. Peed and Emma Matthews heard noises, though I cannot say whether they were heard at the same time by everybody. Mrs. Peed has seen the apparition twice, I understand; also that an old lady who came down from London afterwards and took the apartments, having previously inquired whether any one else lived in the house, and been answered in the negative, complained on the morning after the first night passed there, that the landlady had deceived her in this particular, for in the middle of the night she was awakened by a tall man, in a grey woollen dressing-gown, who was moving the ottoman in her bedroom. Near this ottoman I used very often to hear noises.

I may mention that before Mr. V. took the house he had heard from me, at St. Augustine, what experiences I had there. He was rather inclined to laugh at me, and for some five months after he began to live in it this intimation seemed justified. But no longer than five months, as you will doubtless hear from him. I never *saw* anything there myself though I have constantly had the feeling of someone being in the room with me, behind my shoulder while I was writing, &c. Neither before nor since have I had any hallucination. If any trickery were practised it was far too clever for me to discover. If rats could do this they could do anything; at least, they would never have alarmed my dog. I never listened for or fearfully expected to hear noises.

[Dr. P. was asked whether his friend, Mr. W., heard the noises, and replied in the affirmative.]

Mrs. H. declined to write out any account of her own experiences in the house, but she had no objection to relating them *vivâ voce*, and the following account was written by Mrs. H. Sidgwick immediately after an interview with her :—

B— Lodge, W—.

September 28th, 1885.

I have just come back from a long interview with Mrs. H. She entirely declines to write out an account of what she saw, or to sign any account written by me, so we must be satisfied with a second-hand account.

She lived in this house from 1870 to 1877, with her first husband, Mr. Peed, who was an invalid—paralysed, I think—and who died in 1876. Very soon after she came to the house she used to hear noises of various kinds and especially noises like a person creeping or shuffling about the house. Mr. S., the curate before Dr. P., who lodged with her, said he was sure someone came shuffling into his room at night, and thought her servant walked in her sleep. But she did not think much of the noises till Dr. P. seemed much impressed by them. She saw the ghost only once, in July, 1875, after she had been five years in the house, and about a year or 18 months after Mr. W. (Dr. P.'s adopted father) saw it. It was about 8 o'clock in the evening. She had been giving her husband his supper in the room over the dining-room, the servant had gone out to fetch her some stout for her own supper—when going out of the room she saw a tall figure standing against the door opposite. It was a tall figure dressed in white—like a surplice. She did not see the hands. It was an old gentleman with a bald head, fine forehead and beautiful blue eyes. They looked straight into each other's faces—she caught its eye. She said to herself, "So it's you that goes about the house," looked down to the ground a moment, and when she looked up again it had vanished, or she would have spoken to it. She would know it again anywhere, but never saw the face before. She told no one at the time. Her servant remarked on her paleness when she came in, but she did not explain. A little later—a few weeks, I think—she heard a great rustling, as of silk dresses, just as she was starting downstairs. It seemed as if something was "coming on her back," but she saw nothing. This frightened her a good deal more than the other, I think. It was at the same hour in the evening. After this she prayed to be delivered from it, and was never troubled again. She continued to hear sounds, but did not mind them.

The servant, Emma Matthews, once heard a silk dress brush past her, and go upstairs and shut a door while Mrs. Peed and Dr. P. were at evening church, and Mr. Peed and his daughter were in the dining-room. It was darkish. She thought it was Miss Peed—so much so that she went into the dining-room immediately after *without knocking*, to take in candles or something. Miss Peed was there, and said she had not been up, but that Mrs. Peed had come in and gone upstairs—she had heard her silk dress, &c.

Mrs. Peed once saw an old woman with a cap and hooked nose, who held her down in bed. She had not been in bed long. She thought it was a nightmare, but after it had happened three times in rapid succession on the same night she got up to see whether anything was there and found nothing.

This was also at B— Lodge. She never saw anything, nor had any psychical experiences anywhere else, and disbelieved in ghosts before she went there.

She half thinks that the ghost was concerned in throwing her down-stairs on one and perhaps two occasions, but on one of them it is believed by others to have been Mr. S.'s cat.

One sound that she describes as occurring in the house consisted in three heavy sighs in perfectly still weather; and once at night, in the dark, a voice whispered at the foot of her bed, "Three more stages and then death," hissing at the last word. This frightened her, and she has not liked to sleep in the dark since. I think it was before she saw the ghost.

Others have heard the sighs who had never been told about them, she believes, viz., a visitor of hers now dead, who thought it said "Ann, Ann," and a third word which I have forgotten. The servant, too—another one, not Emma—was found by Mrs. Peed, when she came in, looking out at the back door, to see if a thrashing machine was preparing for work, but it was not. She had heard three sighs quite loud, and apparently close to her, and had tried to account for them as caused by the thrashing machine. These sighs were not heard during Mr. V.'s tenancy.

#### ELEANOR MILDRED SIDGWICK.

The next account comes from the Rev. J. F. V., who has also kindly related it *visà voce* to some of us on the spot. The distressing nature of Mr. and Mrs. V.'s experience is proved by the fact that they moved at some personal inconvenience into a much smaller house rather than complete the term of their tenancy of B— Lodge.

We took up our abode in B— Lodge in September, 1882. The house fronts the London Road. Two steps lead up to the front door, a garden runs along behind and to the right of the house ending in the stables, divided by a high brick wall from the road on one side, and by a stiff hedge from an orchard on the other. The house has had the reputation of being haunted for at least 10 or more years past. When we entered the house we were aware of its ill name, but did not treat the matter very seriously. We resided there till Michaelmas, 1884. During this period various phenomena took place which may be divided into two kinds:—

##### I. Visible apparitions.

##### II. Unaccountable and mysterious sounds and noises.

I. 1. The first time an apparition took place was about December, 1883. Mrs. V. was awake in the night after getting out of bed to give the baby his food. She was thoroughly awake and had been so for some time, when she felt a cold blast like an icy wind pass over her hands, which were outside. She felt an impulse to turn and face the door. The door was seen to be about a foot open, and a man's hand grasping it, and his head and his body down to his waist, in a white dress, as if a night-dress, looking in. He looked full at her. She was terrified and tried ineffectually several times to call her husband by name; when she succeeded, the door shut noiselessly. Mr. V., when awakened, saw that the door was shut, as his wife's first words were to ask him if it was open, and after assuring her that it was all fancy, without more ado fell asleep again.

2. Sarah S., on going upstairs to light our bedroom fire at 9 p.m. saw a man in white coming out of the dressing-room door. She stood by to let him pass, thinking it was her master in his surplice (which he sometimes wore in the oratory, and which hung in the dressing-room). His clothes seemed to brush her; the figure disappeared into the cupboard at the end of the landing. (Mr. V. was out at the time, or, at any rate, nowhere near.) Sarah S. told this experience to Mrs. V. She has repeated her account to Mrs. V. since she left (about one year after the event), and is unshaken in her conviction. [She is believed to be thoroughly trustworthy.]

3. Sarah S. was carrying water across the hall about 9.30 one morning when, on hearing a noise, she turned towards the front door, which was a few yards off. She saw come out of the dining-room door, and pass into the drawing room, shutting the door behind it, the figure of a tall woman in black wearing a dress made like a "sacque," with her hair twisted upon the top of her head, her face turned towards the door, and wearing shoes on her feet. Sarah S. was much astonished, and went into the kitchen and reported what she had seen to Lizzie P., the cook. Mr. V., who was upstairs, heard her recounting some tale or other, and the cook laughing incredulously, but he did not know what about. He then went out, and the servants came and reported the matter to Mrs. V. They all three went then into the drawing-room and found the door, which had been left open, shut, but nothing else peculiar. Mr. V. soon after came in and examined both rooms without making any discoveries. If anybody came in, the entry must have been (1) Noiseless; (2) through the dining-room window; (3) in broad daylight; and the exit must have been out of the drawing-room window. Mr. V. felt quite satisfied that it was morally impossible for anyone to have got in and out under these conditions.

4. Lizzie P. disbelieved, or affected to disbelieve, Sarah S.'s story. Sarah soon after left, and Annie C. took her place. On the night of April 9th, 1884, about 9 p.m., Lizzie was in the first or upper back kitchen—there being a light in the room—on her way to the lower back kitchen to fetch a dish from the rack, when suddenly a figure rose up in the doorway before her. The figure was of a woman in a long black dress, a face very white, eyes shining red, like a ferret's. It seemed to stand and look at her and she at it. She was too terrified to move, but at last managed to cry out "Oh! Clara!" to the girl ironing in the kitchen. At her cry the object vanished with a sort of rushing sound, but no steps. Mrs. V. heard the cry in the drawing-room, the door being shut, and found Lizzie in a state of great agitation and unable for some minutes to speak. After some little time she burst out crying, and her first words were that she could not stay in the house. She then described what she had seen. Just after Annie C. came down stairs ignorant of what had happened, and passed through the back kitchen, *unbolting* the last door and the door into the barn into which she went to get some coal. She returned without having noticed anything. Lizzie was so terrified by what she saw that she seemed in danger of a fit. The four women were so panic-stricken that they spent the night in the same room. Mr. V. happened to have gone away the same day, and heard nothing of the event till his return on the following Saturday. The only exit from the back kitchen, excepting the one leading into the hall, visible from the kitchen, was by the bolted outer door.

5. Clara M. was ironing in the kitchen by herself about 4 in the afternoon. She heard someone coming down stairs, apparently wearing high-heeled shoes and a silk dress which rustled. She saw through the open kitchen door a shadow of a person on the cupboard door, which faced the bottom of the stairs. She went on with her ironing and listened, thinking Mrs. V. was coming down. She then saw the door into the back kitchen open and close again. She could only see the hinge portion of the door. Hearing the footsteps stop she went out to see who it was, but no one was visible. She then called out, but no one answered. She then went into the back kitchen and looked, finding nothing. She then went upstairs and asked who had been down. Finding that no one had she was much astonished and reported to Mrs. V. what she had heard and seen. This took place May 3rd, 1884.

6. Mrs. V. was in the kitchen one morning ordering dinner; there came a noise like the crashing of tin trays from the back kitchen. She said "What is that, Lizzie?" thinking a dog had come in to help himself to the pig-bucket. "Oh, we often hear that!" she said. The noise was repeated; the third time both went out to see, and on going out through the kitchen door saw in the back kitchen something black, as if the end of a dress, in the air, vanish away towards the door. They went to the doors, found nothing moved, the doors fast.

7. About August, 1884, Annie C. and Lizzie P. were in the spareroom on the top floor, above Mr. and Mrs. V.'s bedroom, about 9.30 p.m. Annie had just been into the cupboard to take out the bath. On going to the bed to turn it down she faced this cupboard and saw a man in white standing against the black clothes which were hanging there, facing her and "looking very cross." Lizzie P. saw her face turning white and her terror-struck appearance, but nothing else. After a few seconds Annie called out "Oh, Lizzie, there's a man in the cupboard." While she spoke he vanished away.

II. *Noises* strange and manifold have taken place at all times of the day and night, and at all parts of the house. Some have been incidentally mentioned. Noises have been heard, *e.g.*, as of the dashing of fire-irons close by when they were seen to be quite still, as of a person walking about, as of one packing up over head, as of coals falling into the grate, as of some one thumping under the floor while the family were at prayers, as of a box being put down in the room with a crash, as of boards falling down on one another, as of a person groaning or wailing in agony. A few cases may be singled out for special remark.

a. One night Mr. and Mrs. V. were either awake or awakened by a loud crash in the centre of their bedroom, apparently, as if some one had dropped some large coals on the floor. Mr. V., surprised, got out of bed and went to the grate thinking some coals had dropped out of the fire-place. Nothing of the sort had occurred, there was nothing in the grate but small ashes, nor was there any discoverable ground for the noise.

b. Mr. and Mrs. V. have heard noises as of a person packing a box in the bedroom above, where a sister slept at the time—having, as she alleged, been perfectly still all night; of a person moving up and down quietly under the same circumstances.

c. A moan was heard as if on the stairs by Mrs. V. and Lizzie P., half moan, half scream of horror, April 9th aforesaid about 11 p.m. They were

on the first floor. Mrs. V. thought it was Annie, called her, and found she had made "no noise."

d. Mr. V. heard a similar agonised, indescribable, horror-stricken moan one evening when he was going down stairs. The noise was impossible to localise and unearthly in its peculiar tone and character.

e. Sunday morning, September 14th, 1884, Mrs. V. was at home sitting in the dining-room alone in the house. Mrs. P., who had succeeded Lizzie P. *pro tem.*, was in the garden with the baby. Mrs. V. heard a noise as if someone were scrubbing the floor or grinding a coffee mill on the top floor. Mrs. V. listened for some time; the noise grew louder and louder without being continuous. Mrs. V. called in Mrs. P. to listen, and she heard the same, and even the baby heard it, and made his little remarks. No investigation was made as they felt too much alarmed to go up. The door of the spare room opened and shut and banged of its own accord, although all the windows were shut. Mrs. V. watched the door and it stopped moving. She stood nearly a quarter of an hour watching. As soon as she left off it opened again, and banged loudly, shaking the whole house. Doors on the top floor have at various times done the same thing for no apparent reason. Mr. V. has watched them also, but never caught them *in flagrante delicto*.

f. In September, 1884, Mr. V. awoke one night. He was fully awake, and became vividly conscious of some evil presence close to him, apparently striking with a sharp instrument against the bedstead close to his head, making a ringing noise. Hesitantly commanded the being three several times in the name of God to desist, and the noises ceased. Mr. V. said nothing to Mrs. V. about it, but he became aware that she was in a state of great agitation, and asked her what was the matter. He found that she had been awake, and declared that some being had passed round the bed, and touched her foot on the way. She lay still and without speaking, and felt some one holding his hands close to her face. Mrs. V. also heard, she afterwards said, this sharp knocking against the bed. Mr. V. lighted a candle, but, as they expected, nothing was visible. But the strange sensation did not pass away for some little time. Mrs. V. was so disquieted that Mr. V. promised there and then to leave the house. Next day he gave notice; his wife's health and nerves had begun to be seriously affected by what she had seen and heard, and before the month was over they had left the house never to return.

*Remarks.*—The above is a bare and uncoloured narrative of the phenomena which took place in the house during its occupation by Mr. and Mrs. V. Mr. V., the writer of the account, wishes to record his strong personal conviction that the phenomena admit of no natural explanation. Mr. V. is of opinion that the house is either under a curse or in some way under the influence of diabolical agency, or of departed spirits who have not found rest. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. V. nor any of their fellow sufferers, as far as they know, have enjoyed any experiences of the kind at any other time.

Upon this evidence it was decided in the spring of 1885 to take the house for six months. A member of the Society undertook to defray the necessary expenditure. The Society's time commenced on Lady Day, and the house was occupied continually from the 30th March till the 4th May by Major H. M. Hughes and three or four

friends. From the 7th to the 18th May it was occupied by the Misses Porter, and from that date until the end of September, 1885, when the six months' tenure expired, it was occupied at intervals by various members of the Society, and others, for periods varying from one to five days. The sum of these shorter periods was about 25 days, and about 50 persons in all appear to have slept in the house during the six months. Only two occurrences during that period appear to me to call for any remark. In the middle of September a party of four ladies and two gentlemen were staying in the house, and after they had retired to their rooms hurried steps were heard to descend the stairs. On the gentlemen proceeding to investigate the matter it was discovered that the door leading into the garden—which had been closed and bolted a short time before—was standing open. They inferred that some one from the village had concealed himself in the house with the object of playing the ghost.

The other incident referred to consisted in the occurrence of violent manifestations during dark séances held in the house by a party of gentlemen accompanied by the well-known medium, Mr. Eglinton, but the details of these appear to belong rather to the question of Mr. Eglinton's mediumship than to that of the haunting of B—— Lodge.

The following letters from Mrs. Sidgwick and Professor Macalister may be held to suggest a possible means of accounting for the noises heard by Dr. P. and other witnesses; but the apparitions seen by Mr. W., Mrs. V. and others, if they were not simply hallucinations generated by expectancy or anxiety, seem to require some less obvious explanation, and should, I think, be referred to the class of phenomena treated of by Mrs. H. Sidgwick in her paper on the "Evidence for Phantasms of the Dead." (*Proceedings*, Part VIII.)

Hill Side, Chesterton Road, Cambridge.

July 27th, 1885.

Our visit to W—— was quite uneventful. We encouraged the ghost as much as we could by sitting in the dark, &c., but to no purpose.

The house seems to me one well adapted for strange sounds, on account of its extreme nearness to the road. I think some one made this remark before, but I was certainly surprised to find how extremely audible outside sounds were, and the idea that outside sounds have been mistaken for inside ones is rather supported by Dr. P.'s statement that the manifestations occurred more about full moon, because then people are out at night so much more.

ELEANOR MILDRED SIDGWICK.

[It was bright moonlight when Mrs. Sidgwick was there.]

Anatomical Schools, Cambridge.

October 27th, 1885.

My notes of the house are rather in the form of a criticism of the evidence submitted to me than of positive results of investigation.

During the period that we stayed there (five days from June 26th) we neither saw nor heard anything noteworthy.

Since that time I had the opportunity of reading Dr. P.'s narrative, which, however, contained nothing but what was known in the neighbourhood, and the substance of which I had learned from Mrs. H. and Mr. V.

The value of the narrative is much lessened by the small amount of personal observation in it, and Mrs. H. stated to me that Dr. P. was not at home when the kitchen chimney took fire nor for some days afterwards. "Had he been at home I should not have let him sleep in his own room, as the smell there was so bad." (I noted her words.) She also said that some dirt came down the *kitchen* chimney, but no bones that she could see. She could not specify the year, but thought it was about 1875.

The stain on the boards in the top room I cut a small bit of, and brought it home; it is paint. Probably some paint pot had been standing on the board and stained it.

Two men in the neighbourhood (Mortimer and the landlord of the Red Lion) told me that the old inn was not on that site but a little further down.

The local traditions of "some murders" resolve themselves into a story of one pedlar who was seen to enter the inn and was not seen to leave it. There was a later homicide in a house south of the King and Queen Inn, but that was the result of a quarrel, and the house is at some little distance.

Mrs. H. stated to me that she had only *seen* the apparition once. Her account of the old lady's vision differed from Dr. P.'s as to the character of the apparition.

We made a number of experiments on noises in the house, which creaks like a basket on very slight shaking. Mr. Hill, of Downing College, who stayed there with us the last night we were there, said that after we had gone upstairs, walking rather heavily on purpose, the stairs creaked at intervals with a series of "recoil creaks" for a while. We also noticed this ourselves.

When I stamped or jumped in one of the top rooms I set the whole house quivering, and the sounds as heard below were quite disproportionately loud; specially was this the case at midnight.

One of the nights was windy, and when one of the top windows was left open we had noises, with window flapping, creaking, and doors slamming, quite enough to frighten a nervous man. When the door of the dark room at the top was left partly open and the window open, it produced a most eerie noise when the wind blew.

It was altogether one of the noisiest houses I ever slept in, but every sound we heard had an evident physical cause.

I do not know whether Mrs. H.'s evidence has been taken down; it should be, for the story of the lady visitor, as well as that of the first servant, rest on her evidence alone, also the story of the kitchen chimney.

Her narratives were graphically told, especially the incident that standing by the foot of her husband's bed one evening she heard the words, "Three stages more and then death," the last word prolonged and hissed as through the speaker's teeth. Mrs. H. came up and showed me the places where these incidents took place. Her account of the appearance was a tall bald-headed man with side locks of long grey hair, clothed in a long, grey dressing gown, and with bright blue eyes. He was solid, although there was a window behind him, and it was yet light (eight o'clock p.m. in July), yet she could not see through him.

ALEX. MACALISTER.

Our readers may be interested in comparing with the foregoing accounts the following specimen of second-hand evidence, which is taken from a local newspaper :—

LETTER FROM THE REV. J. Y.

Previous to the year 1874 rumours of appearances were common, always at one particular house (which your neighbour and my friend, Mr. —, has, with me, examined), and nowhere else in this town. In the year 1874 Mr. and Mrs. H. went to live in the house. Mr. H. ("a tall, thin gentleman") was ill a long time, and died in the house. After his death, Mrs. H., the widow, saw, as she says, "the ghost," and her description of it is nearly enough a true description of her own departed husband. She says the ghost breathed faintly her name. Mrs. H. soon after left the house, and is living now at W., five minutes' walk from my house. Whatever construction may be put on Mrs. H.'s story, there can be no doubt whatever that Mrs. H. is a clear-headed, well-informed Christian lady, in whose veracity perfect reliance may be placed. The house was next occupied by a curate, who frequently heard something but saw nothing. The house was then tenanted by a Mr. T. and family for about 18 months, I believe, and they neither saw nor heard anything. Next a Mrs. G. occupied it. She "frequently heard something but saw no appearance." Then the present curate, the Rev. Mr. V., and family occupied it. Mrs. V. saw the ghost (as an old gentleman in long white robes) so many times that she durst not stop in the house any longer. She was able one night to wake up Mr. V. (who had not up to this time seen the "ghost") before its disappearance, and he saw it. They got out of the house as quickly as possible after this unpleasant experience in 1884. For several months last summer the house was occupied by deputations from the Psychological Society in London successively, each company numbering from four to five persons. It is believed they neither saw nor heard anything particular; but I am not quite sure that they have made public all their experiences. . . . The house is a substantially-built brick building, and looks like a comparatively modern structure, very remote from what we would expect as being a haunted house. There is a large, lofty wooden structure adjoining the house on one side, which has not been made much use of for years, and is in a somewhat dilapidated state. . . . This old wooden building, in such close contiguity to the house, is, to my mind, quite sufficient to account for anything that may have been heard.

Then, as to what Mrs. H. saw (or fancied she saw) after the long, weary watching at the sick—ultimately death—bed of her husband, after his decease, was it wonderful that she (in her weakness, sorrow, and loneliness) should in the dark and silent hours of the night meditate on the trial and scenes through which she had so recently passed, and so vividly realise the very presence and form of her departed husband? I have no belief whatever in ghost stories of this sort.

In conclusion I may add that we have been unable to ascertain that there is the slightest ground for attacking the reputation of the old gentleman who "once lived" in the house before the Peeds; and think it not improbable that the stories against him have their foundation in the supposed blood-stain, ascertained by Dr. Macalister to be paint.

FRANK PODMORE.

## CASES RECEIVED BY THE LITERARY COMMITTEE.

(Continued.)

L.—2362.—Ad Pn

The next case is from the Rev. E. D. Banister, of Whitechapel Vicarage, Preston.

November 12th, 1885.

My father on the day of his death had gone out of the house about 2.30 p.m. to have his usual afternoon stroll in the garden and fields. He had not been absent more than 7 or 8 minutes when, as I was talking to my wife and sister, I was seized with a very urgent desire to go to him. (The conversation related to a visit which we proposed to pay that afternoon to a neighbour, and no allusion was made to my father.) The feeling that I ought to go and see him came upon me with irresistible force. I insisted upon all in the house going out to find my father. I was remonstrated with—my very great anxiety seeming so unreasonable. My father's afternoon stroll was a regular habit of life in fine weather, and I had no reason to give why on that particular occasion I must insist on his being found. Search was made, and it was my sad lot to find him dead in the field, in a place which, according to the route he ordinarily adopted, he would have reached about 7 or 8 minutes after leaving the house.

My idea is that when he felt the stroke of death coming upon him he earnestly desired to see me, and that by the operation of certain psychical laws that desire was communicated to me.

E. D. B.

November 20th, 1885.

In reply to your letter I have to state :—

1. That vivid impressions of the kind I have related are utterly unknown to me ; the one related is unique in my experience.
2. There was not the least cause for anxiety owing to the absence of my father. It only seemed a short time since he had gone out of the room, and on this account my urgency was deemed unreasonable.
3. I enclose a corroboration of my statement by my wife and my sister.
4. The date was January 9th, 1883. [We have confirmed this date by the obituary in the *Preston Chronicle*.]

Mr. Banister's wife and sister supply the following corroboration :—

We have seen the statement which Mr. Banister has forwarded to the Psychological Research Society relating to the strong impression by which he was irresistibly urged in search of his father on the afternoon of January 9th, 1883, and we are able to confirm all details given in that statement.

MARY BANISTER.

AGNES BANISTER.

L.—2363.

From a gentleman who does not wish his name and address to be published, though he has no objection to their being communicated privately.

May 28th, 1885.

In 1862 I sailed to Bombay in one of Dunbar's old frigate-built ships. I was depressed the whole voyage with an undefined presentiment of "bad news from home."

At Bombay I used to get my messmates to go ashore for letters (a great privilege), even when it was my turn to do so ; my nervousness was so great.

However, we sailed for home, and reached and left St. Helena, and no *black letter* was delivered to me. Two days after leaving St. Helena I was up aloft doing some trifling sailor's work with the fourth officer, on the mizen topsail or top gallant yard, when I heard a bell begin to toll.

I said to him, "Do you hear that bell tolling?" "No," he said, "I hear nothing." However, my agitation was so great that I went down and examined both our bells ; and placed my ear near them, to see if they were vibrating or if any chance rope was swinging loose and striking them. However, while doing this, I still heard the boom of the tolling bell, and it seemed *far away*.

I then, when I had satisfied myself that the sound was not attributable to either of our ships' bells, went up aloft and scanned the horizon in search of a sail, but saw none.

I then said to my messmates, "That's my 'black letter.' I knew I should have had news this voyage."

At Falmouth we called for orders, and there I found that a lady who filled the place of elder sister to me (my aunt by marriage), and to whose younger sister I am married now, had been suddenly carried off by illness—at that time as near as we could calculate, allowing for the different longitude. She was young (29), lovely, and most winning in her manners. I, boy-like, adored her, and she used to say I was her young sailor lover ; as my uncle, a captain in the Navy, was her old sailor lover.

I am 40 years old now, and have been through dangers of all sorts, in imminent danger of death many times, but I have never had a presentiment since.

After nearly 25 years I can still remember the boom boom of that old bell in the Manx churchyard, which I heard in latitude 14 S., or thereabouts.

[Our informant then goes on to give an outline of his career, which seems to have been an unusually active and adventurous one, and continues :—] I only write this short sketch of my life to show you that I have not been a dreamer, fool, or a mystic, but a hard-working, clear-headed man of business. I tell you all this, not in a boasting spirit, but simply to prove, so far as possible, that I am not a likely subject for "illusions" or "hallucinations."

[Asked whether he has ever experienced any other hallucinations, our informant says :—]

No. I have never suffered from any hallucinations. I have led an active life, including much loneliness, being for weeks together in the jungles shooting and surveying alone, save for native servants, and far from white men, and during all that time my brain never played me any tricks.

You must remember that this occurred when I was a careless youngster of 17, on my first voyage to sea. I could not account for it then ; nor can I now. The impression is as vivid as ever.

Asked whether any bells would have been ringing at the time of the lady's death, he says :—

Yes. Malen Church bell would have been tolling in Castletown at that time, for the *passing bell* or for the funeral. I never asked whether the *passing bell* was rung, but it is a common habit in the Isle of Man to toll the church bell immediately after the decease of any one of some social importance. I feel sure it was done in this case ; we were so well known there. I mean it is done for the gentry and such of the farmers and shop-keeping class who care to pay for it.

I may add that the lady who died was inexpressibly dear to me, being more like a sister than an aunt, and I am married to her sister now.

Our informant has given us the name of the lady in confidence, and the date of her death, and we have verified this information by reference to an Isle of Man newspaper.

L.—2365.—Ad Pn

From the Rev. H. A. H., The Vicarage—

December 19th, 1885.

The following occurrences took place 3 years ago, and had reference to parishioners here who were much on my mind, and whom I was visiting in their last illnesses.

One was a farmer's wife who was much afraid of giving me trouble. I had given her the Holy Communion during the afternoon, and when I left promised to come again next day. She said she should be very glad to see me, but did not like to be such a trouble, as it was some distance and I was going every day. I said it was no trouble, but the reason why I was here, and I should be sure to come.

That evening I had a mission service, 2 miles away, in quite another direction. Mrs. H. was with me. We were walking home together, and had joked about not meeting anyone on the road. I said, "You see if you had been alone you would actually have met no one to alarm you." It was rather dark, but you could see a form 15 or 20 yards away. We walked on, talking about various things, and then I saw someone coming. I said, "Here we meet someone at last." She said, "I don't see anyone." "There," I said ; "look, *there* comes an old woman, and she is twisting her shawl round her neck." My wife, however, could see nothing, but I thought to myself she will see her plainly enough directly. However, it melted away. There was no one. I said, "It is very odd ; I certainly *did* see an old woman. Let us go into C.'s house (the village carpenter's) and see if there is anyone dead." We went in, and he said, "I have just got orders to make a coffin." I looked at Mrs. H. and said, "Indeed, who is it for?" He said, "For Mrs. B.," naming the farmer's wife I had seen that very afternoon. I said "There must be some mistake. I only left her at 4 o'clock, and there were no signs of immediate death." "No," he said, "it is so." I went next day, and found she had died from a sudden stoppage of the heart, about half-past 8, and that almost her last words were, "I am sorry to give Mr. H. the trouble of coming again to-morrow."

The other occasion was about two or three months afterwards. A very respectable young farmer broke a bloodvessel on the brain, and I visited in some three or four times. The last time he was quite unconscious, and

evidently could not live long. He was very anxious to see me as much as possible before becoming unconscious, often saying, "Send for the vicar." On the morning that he died I was awake by what I thought was Mrs. H. in her white dressing-gown. We were sleeping, for some reason, in separate rooms that night. I was very sleepy when awoke, and said, "Is it time to get up? I must have another 10 minutes," and fell asleep again. I did not look at the face of the form, being very sleepy and feeling *sure* it was Mrs. H. However, by-and-bye Mrs. H. *did* come in, and said, "Young R. is dead; the girl who brings the milk brought word." I said, "Is it very long since you *first* woke me?" Then she assured me it was the first time she had been in the room. He had died about 5 that very morning, just as I fancied I had been called by Mrs. H. My regret is, I did not look at the face, but being tired and sleepy I only saw the figure up to the waist, and went off to sleep with it standing there, never imagining it was not my wife. That is my last hallucination. I have visited scores of death-beds since, but have had no further visions.

I may add I am in no way nervous, but a strong, middle-aged man, in excellent health, and very temperate in eating as well as drinking. I don't quite know how to account for these things, except that both those people were much in my mind, and both of them people for whom I had much respect and sympathy.

H. A. H.

Mr. H. adds in subsequent letters :—

I may add, as regards the first of the two curious visions, that I was very constantly walking that road at that hour, as I had a weekly service ; but that was the only occasion my eyes misled me. When I first saw the figure, it appeared to be crossing the road, but in our direction, like a person changing from the footpath to the middle of the road. It was of course somewhat shadowy, as a person is in the dusk. Still, it had the look of an old woman ; I could distinguish the sex. The road is a country one, but on nearing the village there are some lamp-posts ; but we were some distance from them. It was a cloudy and rather windy night, and there were, of course, shadows from clouds and trees cast about ; it was not *deep* dark, but more than dusk. I am so accustomed to these walks that it would be difficult for any natural object to have caused such an illusion. I was quite sure that an old woman was there, in the middle of the road—so sure that I did not keep my eye upon her, and as we came up she was gone. Mrs. H. has ordinary eye-sight, much like my own, neither remarkable for great acuteness of vision nor the reverse.

I may add too, regarding the second case, that I was fully awake, though heavy with sleep, and did not *dream* Mrs. H. awoke me. I am personally convinced of this, for I wondered, as I went off to sleep again, that Mrs. H. *did not go*, and thought she would tell me in another minute or two that I really *must* get up. I fell asleep with the sensation of her presence after my eyes were closed again.

Mrs. H. writes :—

December 23rd, 1885.

As you wish to have some corroboration of two curious statements of facts made to you by my husband, I write a few lines to tell you my remem-

brance of the occasions. We were walking home from a week-night service, from a hamlet some distance from here, when I remarked I would not walk here alone for anything. Mr. H. said, "It is curious we have never met anyone." Not long afterwards, as we were nearing the village, he said, "Well, here comes some one at last; who is it?" I said, "I don't see anyone." He said, "Oh you must, by the lamp-post; she is putting a shawl over her head, and coming to meet us. Do you know her?" I said, "Certainly not, for there isn't anyone." He said, "Anyhow she is coming quickly towards us; then you must see." In another minute we were both sure it must have been some appearance, and went into the carpenter's close by, to see if we could hear anything; and his first words were, "Well, sir, I have orders for a coffin for Mrs. B." We both said, "Impossible! she seemed nicely this afternoon." I know she was anxious to spare my husband any trouble, as it was a long walk, and we naturally connected it with this.

As regards the young farmer, he had been much on our minds, as it was a distressing case in many ways. Word was brought early in the morning that he was dead; but owing to one of the children not being well, and having to be in my room, Mr. H. was in an adjoining one, and I would not disturb him until later. When I went in I said, "Well, poor J. R. is gone." He said, "I knew he would be; but why didn't you tell me when you came in before?" I said, "I have not been in before." He said, "Yes, when you came in to wake me, and I begged for at all events 10 minutes more." He then told me what he had said to me—as he thought, and he was surprised I did not answer. It must be 3 or 4 years ago, but I remember these facts distinctly.

E. H.

[Neither of these cases would, perhaps, be very striking alone; but they are of interest as occurring to the same percipient.]

L.—2368.

From Mr. J. G. F. Russell (the narrator in Case 2355).

32, Upper Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, W.

December 18th, 1885.

On Wednesday, December 2nd, 1885, I was woken up at night, between 12 p.m. and 2 a.m. (as far as I can recollect), by hearing myself distinctly called from a small passage outside my bedroom door; the voice seemed to come from just outside the door itself. I got up, fearing Mrs. Waller, in the adjoining room, was ill, but, as the calling of my name was no longer repeated, I did not then disturb her. (There is no door of communication between the rooms, the wall is solid, and a gigantic wardrobe is against it.) Next morning I asked her if she had called me during the night; but she declared she had slept "like a top," and had never thought of me or anyone else. I did *not* mention the incident to her sister (who had just left us after a long visit), but she (Mrs. Waller) did, on returning to the country; and I enclose the result.

I enclose what Miss Young [a near relative who had been staying for a long time with Mr. Russell and his wife] wrote to me, solely from her sister mentioning to her my having questioned her. The dates correspond exactly ; it was the first night of Mrs. Waller's visit.

J. G. F. RUSSELL.

The following is the extract from Miss Young's letter to Mr. Russell:—

I will tell you something that has struck me rather. The two nights my sister was with you in London were very disturbed nights to me ; you were continually in my dreams, and one of those nights I found myself sitting up in bed, having woke myself up by calling you loudly by name. When she came back she told me you had asked her one morning whether she had called you in the night, as you had distinctly heard your name. I wish I could remember which night it was. I have an impression it was the first.

BLANCHE YOUNG.

Mr. Russell, who gave me the account *via voce* on December 16th, has explained that the wall between his room and the next is so thick that even a very loud cry in one would be almost inaudible in the other ; nor did the sound seem to come from the direction of that other room, but from outside the door. He has never had such a hallucination on any other occasion.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

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### WHY I BELIEVE IN APPARITIONS.

Mrs. Sidgwick's further instances of haunted houses, published in the *Journal* for the current month, seem to me to be very well authenticated, and to bear upon them the stamp of truth. How this clever lady can herself doubt the truth of many of the cases she reports, is, I confess, a marvel to my mind. Take the first case on p. 132, headed "R— Nunnery." Three of the witnesses, or rather two of them, saw *the same figure*. Supposing no collusion between them, and there seems to have been none, and presuming their brains healthy, is it not *far more likely* that there *was* an objective reality corresponding to their description of it, than that they should have *each* experienced the same optical delusion ? Even had the appearance been purely subjective, arising from diseased or overheated brains, the odds are a *thousand to one* against each brain conjuring up the *same* image ! The writer of the narrative appears to have seen *another* figure, and the *detailed description* she gives of it precludes, to my mind, any explanation as to its being an optical delusion, or an image born in the brain. Then, in the case of "B— Fields," though in this case there was a whisper that the house was haunted, and the nature of the apparition was also described, yet it seems to me *absurd* to suppose that a number of young people, presumably sound as to eyes and brain, should be *perpetually* seeing the same tall, black figure (*which hid pictures from sight*—very strong proof here !) in various parts of the house !\* Even supposing the possibility of the *same* optical delusion occurring to all the witnesses,

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\*Of course, I am excluding the hypothesis of *trickery* and *falsehood*.

what caused the bright light? who shrieked in the maid's ear? and tramped about the room? who knocked the bedroom furniture into confusion? Surely, all this could not have been *imagination* on the part of those concerned, or they would be all fit candidates for Bedlam! One sense might possibly have been deceived, but hardly those of *seeing, hearing, and feeling* as regards the same apparition. What the intense *blackness* of the figure denoted is, of course, a deep mystery, but we may well believe the darkness symbolical of evil, and so feel satisfied this was an unhallowed spirit of some kind.

But perhaps Mr. Gibson's story is the most strange of all, having regard to his iron nerves, his scepticism, his temperate habits, and his *complete unpreparedness* for anything uncanny. Mr. Gibson seems to have seen the phantom *repeatedly without alarm*, and the opening of the obstinate door is, to my mind, very strong evidence indeed of *superhuman* agency. I use the word "superhuman" advisedly, as I think the word "supernatural" should be erased from our dictionaries. How do we know, we with our brief glimpses into the domain of Nature and her laws, what may be strictly termed *supernatural* or the reverse? Probably no phenomenon whatsoever which has actually occurred on earth is *supernatural*, however strange and startling it may have been, but being in *unison with certain natural laws* of which mortals are ignorant, we use that convenient word to cover that same ignorance! What seems supernatural to beings whose souls are cramped in a molecular casket, may seem perfectly natural to spirit sense (when disembodied), for the whole economy of Nature and her laws may then be before us, as an open book! *Superhuman*, on the contrary, is a legitimate and accurate term to apply to these phenomena, which are certainly beyond the pale of ordinary human experience, a very different thing to being beyond the province or scope of natural laws, which we so imperfectly understand. The reader will, I hope, pardon this digression; this word *supernatural* always makes me shew my bristles somehow! I will now pass on to the immediate subject in hand suggested by the heading of this paper.

It seems to me that there is a *primâ facie* probability of the frequent genuineness of apparitions.

Passing by the Scriptural warrant for their occurrence, as in the case of Samuel's appearance to Saul, the Transfiguration, and the apparitions of the saints after the Crucifixion, which at least show that they have appeared to man in his molecular state, let us consider what the Soul—the Ego, really is. We know we are Souls vested with bodies. The Soul must be made of something; infinitely rarified though its substance be, far more so than any gas known, the fact remains that the soul must be made of something, or there is no such thing as a Soul! Matter is molecular, as we all know—the Soul is non-molecular, immaterial to our present senses, probably material to Spirit-sense, and composed of some other combination of atoms than that which forms molecules. Hence the Soul is indivisible, ultimate, and precisely as spirit in a tumbler permeates the grosser molecules of water, so could the infinitely finer particles composing the Soul easily pass through walls, doors, &c. Since Soul must occupy the whole body, and not be confined to one part of it, the irresistible inference is that the Soul must be shaped like the body. Here, then, we have arrived at the real apparition, which is simply the disembodied Soul, the real Being, the Ego. We have seen why

*material substances* form no bar to its progress when entering a room. And we have the warrant of Scripture for the fact of the disembodied soul being visible to men in the flesh, under certain conditions.

Here then, it seems to me, we have the whole rationale of *well-authenticated* ghost stories. The reason silly people pooh-pooh them so is, as is well-known, simply through fear of being ridiculed. The belief in apparitions is world-wide, and has existed for ages; of course there are numberless impositions on record, and equally obviously an excited or diseased brain can project images out of itself, which, though really purely subjective, seem *objective* to the normal vision. But after making this large deduction from the huge *mass* of ghost stories on record there still remain an immense number which *cannot* be explained away. The *possibility* of ghosts appearing, once being admitted, the whole matter is merely a question of *evidence*, and to be dealt with accordingly.

A very thin barrier may divide the seen and unseen worlds. Why should it not often be crossed by spirits, *especially* in the case of those who are *driven to earth as suicides and murderers?*

F. B. DOVETON.

Eastbourne.

P.S.—The question of the *apparel* of apparitions is, I confess, a  *vexata questio* indeed. Mrs. Crowe attempts some explanation of it, but I can't lay my hand on the passage. Your readers may be able to suggest a way out of the difficulty.

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I am glad to take this opportunity of explaining why the narratives of haunted houses spoken of by Mr. Doveton appear to me somewhat less important than most of those which I quoted in my paper on Phantasms of the Dead, published in Part VIII. of the *Proceedings*. R—— Nunnery, No. 16, is a case about which I hope we may in time obtain more information, but at present I do not put it in the first-class because the evidence for the independent appearance of the figure to a second person is at third hand only, and cannot therefore be regarded as being strong. In Mr. Gibson's narrative, G. 328, we have also the testimony of one person only. It is, I think, a remarkable story on account of the number of opportunities Mr. Gibson had of observing the figure, and, as he says, "If it was a trick, I fail to see what it was done for." Still I cannot convince myself that it was absolutely impossible that it should have been a real man. The opening of the obstinate door was a very curious incident, but there is nothing to connect it with the figure.

I do not rank No. 163, B——Fields, among quite the best stories of haunted houses, because it had been suggested to the percipients that it was haunted by a black figure. There is some reason to suppose that suggestion and expectation may determine both the occurrence and the form of a hallucination, and if this be so we should be very cautious about regarding any other cause for an appearance as proved, when these are present. The light in the cook's bedroom may possibly, I think, have been due to a candle. Mary F.'s experience resembles a dream, and the disturbance of Miss A. C.'s bedroom furniture, like the opening of Mr.

Gibson's door, is not very satisfactorily explained by the ghost, and is unlike its other proceedings. The narrative seems to me, however, to be an interesting and important one. And if I regard those given in the December and January *Journals* as less important than those on which I laid stress evidentially in my paper, it is merely a question of degree. As I said in that paper, I do not think that they should be left out of account in estimating the whole evidence.

ELEANOR MILDRED SIDGWICK.

### SUPPLEMENTARY LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

*The following additions have been made since last month.*

- FAHNESTOCK (Wm. Baker, M.D.) *Statuylolence*. Third Edition.....  
Philadelphia, N.D.\*
- FARMER (John S.) *'TwiXt Two Worlds: A Narrative of the Life and Work of William Eglinton*.....London, 1886
- HOPPS (John Page) *The Future Life*.....London, N.D.\*
- Spirit Life in God the Spirit. A New Edition.....London, N.D.\*
- A Scientific Basis of Belief in a Future Life.....London, N.D.\*
- MYERS (A. T., M.D.) *The Life History of a Case of Double or Multiple Personality. (Reprinted from the Journal of Mental Science, January, 1886)*.....London, 1886\*
- PEIRCE (C. J., and J. Jastrow) *On Small Differences of Sensation. Read before the National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.* 1884\*
- SINNETT (A. P.) *The "Occult World" Phenomena, and the Society for Psychical Research, with a Protest by H. P. Blavatsky*.....  
London, 1886

- BAISSAC (Jules) *La Vie après la Mort. Eternité et Immortalité*...Paris, 1886
- BEAUNIS (H.) *Recherches Expérimentales sur les Conditions de l'activité cérébrale*.....Paris, 1886\*

- BRUCKSTUCKE aus dem Leben eines süddeutschen Theologen (2 vols.)  
Leipzig, 1872 & 1875
- HANAK (Dr. Michael) *Geschichte eines natürlichen Somnambulismus*  
Leipzig, 1833
- HENSEL (Louis) *Neueste Offenbarungen über das Fortleben und das Jenseits*.....Steglitz, 1885\*
- Anhang zur Philosophie des Geistes.....Steglitz, 1885\*
- HUFELAND (Dr. Wiedrich) *Ueber Sympathie*.....Weimar, 1822
- MARCARD (Dr. and Baron von Strombeck) *Geschichte eines animalischen Magnetismus*.....Braunschweig, 1815
- PREL (Dr. Carl du) *Ein Problem für Taschenspieler*.....\*
- SPHINX, No. 1 (Edited by Dr. Hübbe-Schleiden).....Munich, 1886†

\* Presented by the respective Authors. † Presented by the Editor.