

three half a century ago, and of which my daughter knew nothing, and I had myself long forgotten. In the winter of 1813-21, I slept by a broken window in wet weather, thought cold, and lost my speech for a period of two weeks, when I coughed up copious quantities, or false issues from my lungs, in motions of several inches in length, nearly resembling ice in the effect. For many years afterward access to the present time, on making violent exertions, I experienced a distressing sufficing sensation in my left lung.

Another remarkable incident in this narrative, is that of the medium suddenly grasping my daughter's hands in hers, and whispering the name "Maggie! Maggie! Maggie!" My daughter was named "Shepherdess" in childhood, but has not been called by her first name since she arrived at manhood, except by myself and wife. We have always, and do still call her "Maggie." It is most remarkable that this strange holy-medium, who had never heard her called by that name, should, in connection with her abnormal vision of our persons and our home, address "Maggie! Maggie! Maggie!" It was it is in respect with my daughter's situation, the medium, who whispered, the familiar name, without, if ever, repeated by any person except myself and wife? If this is at all possible, it is rendered probable by the fact alluded to by the medium; that there is, and always has been a "strong magnetic current" between myself and that daughter.

Can any of your readers give a philosophical explanation of the foregoing remarkable facts and circumstances? Did the medium actually, in spirit, my home, three thousand miles distant from where her body was lying in transit, examine my physical organism, and report its condition, and describe the home I lived in to my daughter? That this was done in some way is certain; now who can justify the modes employed?

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SPIRITUALISM AND COMPOSURE.

BY RICHARD BURNES WALLACE.

A SHORT time since there was a note in *The Spiritualist* to the effect that Dr. Lynn was exhibiting "barbarous" imitations of spiritual phenomena at the Aquarium." From Dr. Lynn's antecedents it seemed probable that this should be so, but probabilities are not facts. From what a friend informed me I had my doubts, and I therefore visited the Aquarium a few days back, and, with four other gentlemen, went on the stage to take part in the séance. Your readers must be told that Dr. Lynn is not the performer, but a gentleman who is introduced as "a medium—a real medium;" and I must say I believe him to be so. We first sat at a table—a very common and unobtrusively gorgeous table, which I turned over and examined, and after about four minutes' sitting this table rose up full two feet from the floor, and floated horizontally round the stage twice, resisting my efforts to stop it. All our hands were on the table; it moved about rapidly but somewhat irregularly; and no wires or machinery had anything to do with it. To me the motion was exactly such as I have experienced, with a genuine medium, but more powerful. Then followed the cabinet séance, the "cabinet" being a large curtain supported by four poles on a carpet-covered platform, raised about a foot above the stage, and having no connection with it. We examined it thoroughly, and it was absolutely airtight and unpeepable. The medium was tied, hands and feet, in the usual way in a chair, by two gentlemen, and almost all the phenomena which characterized the *Iluminations* performance were here reproduced, but with even greater rapidity. At the very same instant that the curtain was drawn, hands appeared over the top, and the moment they descended the curtain was drawn back, and we found the medium with feet and hands tied exactly as before. This was repeated in various ways half a dozen times. Then, for an instant, three figures appeared in the cabinet robed in white from head to foot, and the next instant they disappeared, the medium being found tied as before, with no possibility of concealing the white robes, in any nothing of the figures which were there. The medium's coat was also removed and afterwards put on again, his hands remaining tied, and one of the spectators who entered the cabinet had his coat-sleeves turned inside out, and the coat put on his again without his being able to give any account of how it was done.

Now, it seems to me that a very bad effect will be produced by telling the public that this is all imposture; for they will naturally say, "We see no difference between this performance and those which you tell us are real: if this is imposture, then all your alleged spiritual manifestations are imposture also." I trust that you, Mr. Editor, or some of your readers, who have had more experience of mediums than I have had, will visit the Aquarium theatre and tell us

your impressions after going on the stage; and if you think it is all juggling, point out exactly where the difference lies between it and fraudulent phenomena. I must also add, that when I was three Dr. Lynn said nothing against Spiritualists or Spiritualism. Of course, he made his usual fare, and referred to the risk of presentation if he said it was all done by spirits—a remark which his audience took as an excellent joke, but which might have another meaning.

There have been many cases in which genuine clairvoyance has been brought before the public as conjuring; and now that the credulity of anything claimed to be spiritual manifestations is punished by the strong arm of the law, it is to be expected that some physical mediums will engage themselves to professors of pyromania in order to secure peace and safety. If the phenomena I have described are produced by conjuring, it is clear that Dr. Lynn, who is a master of the art, could do it himself and thereby add to his reputation; but he does not, and, as I venture to think, cannot do so, and will soon see up to the tricks of conjurers really shown "how it is done." I shall continue to hold the opinion that we have here a case of genuine mediumship.

London, August 19th, 1877.

Was the *Iluminations* Spectacular?—The following is an extract from Dr. Fletcher's *Notes on Spiritualism*:—"The last time I saw him (Dr. Quinby's) was in the streets of Glasgow, when I suddenly came upon him at turning. 'I have I should most joy,' he said. 'There would indeed I was mysteriously aware that you were somewhere in the neighborhood, and that our two sets were approaching each other. Have you never experienced such a phenomenon, or thought of some one in a sudden and inexplicable manner, when you had no particular reason to think about a person who, for all you knew to the contrary, might be a thousand miles away, and come across him unexpectedly in the streets a few minutes afterwards?' I would not make a general statement had I had to be so every time since, and that in the present instance I had been so often in the street some time before I met him. If I had been in haste to keep an appointment this statement would have been unlikely, but I was in no particular hurry, and had to stand and listen at the street corner while he poured forth a full stream of personal and philosophic talk in explanation of what he called the possibility of spirit meeting with spirit before body met body. Like the Ancient Mariner with the wedding guest, in Coleridge's poem, the option over 'tied me with his glancing eye,' which he depicted him, he expressed his belief that every human being was surrounded by a spiritual atmosphere; that the body was but the medium revealed by a spiritual atmosphere; and that with a light emanating by the physical eye, and the rays of this luminous atmosphere was in possession of the intellect, and that the light thus cast before him into space, by a man of genius, was vastly greater than that projected by the dull ordinary man of common sense; and that the atmosphere which enveloped the feet was no slight an anomaly to be considered an atmosphere at all. Thus, he said, our atmospheres had met and mingled; that meeting before we knew that we were near each other, and had communicated to each of us, by means of an apparently spontaneous thought, the intelligence that we were approaching, and should shortly meet."

MR. AND MRS. J. W. FLETCHER at DALTON.—On Thursday evening last week, the 9th inst., a reception was given by the Dalton Association of Spiritualists, at their Rooms, to Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Fletcher, of Glasgow, who were the company present on the occasion. It was given by Mrs. Charles, the Misses Currier, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Colquhoun, Mrs. J. Treadwell, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. J. Bradley, Mr. T. Aitken, Mr. G. B. Tapp, Mr. J. Ross, Mr. H. A. March, Miss Emily Thomson, Miss Jessie Price, Mr. T. Wilson, Mr. A. Dunbar, Mr. W. H. Aitken, Mr. C. F. Russell, Mr. Edwin Fairbridge, Mrs. Marianne Nelson, Madame Isabel de Siqueira, Mr. A. B. Lewis, Mr. M. Paris, and others. The chair was taken by Mr. G. B. Tapp, who, in the course of his introductory remarks, told several persons had had good proofs of the value of Mr. Fletcher's gifts, and the aptitude of Mrs. Fletcher had noticed them from the United States. In the form of mediumship introduced by Mr. Fletcher was a particularly valuable one, and was comparatively new, or not fully developed among mediums in the country. It was so called some that any other in the present condition of Spiritualistic science, as it afforded demonstration of the fact of immortality. Therefore they welcomed the presence of such fellow-workers among them. The large meeting showed inconstantly that notwithstanding recent prosecutions, and the determined attempts of bigoted or prejudiced persons to stop free inquiry into the most important subject that could occupy the mind of man, the interest of the members of the Dalton Association of Spiritualists had continued in matters psychical was unaltered, whether in connection with all its complications, or in the study of all the sciences and triangles, was not abandoned or lessened of those who started its phenomena, and they determined to reach it or stop its progress would only in meeting the real friends to come closer together.—In the course of the evening Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher and several members addressed the meeting, which terminated the close Mr. Fletcher was controlled by "Winnock," who terminated the proceedings uttering some passages in a low tone of voice. On the motion of Mr. Thomas Hylton, seconded by Mr. H. A. March, a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher for their visit.