

Facts, Fables and Fancies.

IDA INGOLD MASTEN.

Psychical Research.

Recently I have been interested in the study of the Society for Psychical Research of London and its work. It was established in 1882, and has had for its Presidents such men as Rt. Hon. O. J. Balfour, the late Prime Minister of England, Prof. Wm. James, a noted psychologist of Harvard University, Prof. Henry Sidgwick whose book, "The Methods of Ethic" is a standard in literature, and many other eminent men. There was an American Branch Society at Boston until recently when it was dissolved into the Institute for Scientific Research which Prof. James Hyslop was organizing. This change was made Dec. 31, 1906, and is thought to be a step in advance. They publish a monthly journal. This Institute is independent from the mother society of London but works with the same interest at stake.

The Purpose.

The purpose of Psychical Research Society is to investigate all phenomena of the mind which are classified as supernormal and abnormal. Note the word "supernormal," it means an excess of what is in our natures to have or to be. It is not to be thought of in kinship with "supernatural" which means something above human sphere—above human range—something spiritual. To illustrate—it is in the nature of all of us to see things with our natural eyes, and to perceive things to a certain extent that are covered away from our natural eyes. These are common powers in the possession of every normal individual. But, there are some people who can see farther and perceive deeper than ordinary persons. They are able to see much with the eye of their mind that the ordinary run of people do not and cannot guess. Such people are "seers" and everything they look at has special significance to them. Benjamin Franklin conceived the idea of gathering electricity from the atmosphere, or in other words, he perceived electricity in the air and conceived the idea of controlling it. Edison perceived that the human voice might be photographed and conceived the way and means for accomplishing his idea. These men saw beyond outward appearance, and are what I call men of supernormal intelligence.

System of Work.

The Society's investigations are carried on under sections, each section having its particular work. For instance:

Section A. looks after abnormal phenomena, such as insanity, loss of memory, hallucinations, melancholia, hysteria, monomania, phobias, delusions, and alcoholism. A thorough investigation of hypnotism also comes under this section.

Section B. looks after all supernormal acquisition of knowledge, phantasms of the living, telepathy, dreams, premonitions, clairvoyance, and the mediumistic phenomena.

Restrictions.

The London Society investigates the phenomenon as it presents itself: the power and manner of its influence on the mind, and upon life, and if possible it discovers the cause and source of phenomenon. In this way the workers hope to specify for the good of all mankind what available powers and what possibilities the mind of man may possess. But they do not meddle with the supernatural, in the sense that one might say they are trying to prove that a supernatural force is working on the minds of people, that is the restriction. They treat phenomena as mere earthly events, believing that the mind is largely responsible for its own condition. But open and willing to find out what is to be found out, simply seeking the truth.

Representatives.

The English Society sends out men over this country and elsewhere to try evidences. Some of the Chicago papers have jestingly called these men "Ghost Detectors" and "Spook Hunters." They speak of it as a peculiar calling. They also add in their criticism that these men will have nothing to do with "Mr. Ghost" unless he be real. They give them credit by saying, "You can't fool these spook hunters," they detect fraud easily, and as soon as they find the least evidence of untruth they drop investigation and flee from the scene. And it is true. One of the common purposes of the workers is to detect fraud. Because to do this is to bring out and insure the truth which they are after most strenuously. They hate humbug and therefore sift vigorously all evidence.

Discoveries.

They have found that adventures have methods and appliances by which they delude the public, or a part of the public, to a finish. Many instances have been exposed where in the dark seance room the supple medium's feet are made to perform tasks such as throw mysterious lights ring bells, etc., presumably the work of spirits, while his hands are held around the table by sitters. These are of course genuine frauds. Then there is the well-meaning "medium" so called "spiritualistic medium" who has so trained his subjective mind that he is able to read the minds of his sitters, and startle them with certain statements and declarations, which must be clearly defined, unconsciously, if not consciously, in the mind of some one present. That the excessive use of the subjective mind in this way is abnormal is one of the conclusions which they have reached. As an abnormal condition is an un-natural one and therefore detrimental to the health of the body, such a use of it is to be avoided. This is illustrated by the fact that real mindreading "mediums" are exhausted in body after a successful seance. And which state is always found in persons of unsound mind. When their subjective mind gains supreme control of the functions of the objective mind they become insane, and this abnormal condition of the mind brings about the broken health generally found in insane persons, instead of vice versa as we commonly suppose.

The Societies are laboring hard to bring about an honest notice of the wonderful phenomena of the mind by the scientific men of the world. Because they believe that the mind of man as yet has been sparsely developed. They have deep convictions, and these convictions are that the human mind is responsible for infinitely more than is credited to it. And I feel as I read from the pens of some of the honest workers, that indeed when we as a nation, as a world of people come to understand ourselves, and what infinite powers lie within us, and when we have developed them so that all the advantage of their influence may go abroad, then, surely there will be a millennium. Then it may be said of us that we are a nation of giants, instead of the indefinite statement that "there were giants in those days."

Welsh Revival.

Lately I have read the "Psychical Aspects of the Welsh Revival," the work of Rev. A. Fryer, and which investigation was conducted by him. I think this was done for the English Society and read before that Society in December of 1905. This article presents the phenomena as the writer had found them out, namely: the visions seen by responsible people in close proximity to the revival in Wales; music and voices heard in the quiet air and lights seen descending from the heavens with no apparent material cause; the sudden elegant and refined speech of illiterate persons and the sudden changing of appearance; the visions of Evan Roberts, the leading spirit of that revival; his strange actions and power; his ability to read an audience one at a time until he had got a mental picture of every need, every desire, and of every condition in the individuals around him. His power to touch those needs and desires with the utmost accuracy in every instance, and to foretell coming events always of a spiritual nature. The evidences of his mediumistic power are so many and so telling that while we read we cannot help thinking of Jesus who pointed at the sins of the Pharisees who brought the

LAND SALE.

By virtue of an order of the Superior Court of Randolph county in the special proceeding entitled "Pearl Leonard and others," I will, on the 18th day of March, 1907, at 12 o'clock M., sell to the highest bidder at public auction, at the courthouse door in Randolph county, North Carolina, the following described tracts of land:

FIRST TRACT. Adjoining the lands of Acen (in Foutress and others), beginning at an ash on the banks of Deep River, thence East 25 1/2 chains to a stone in the old line; thence North 44 chains to a stone; thence West 5 1/2 chains to a stone in Julian's line; thence South 2 1/2 chains to a hickory; thence West 42 1/2 chains to a black oak in the river bank; thence South following the various courses of the river to the beginning, containing 113 acres more or less.

SECOND TRACT. Adjoining the lands of E. S. Coble and others, beginning at a small hickory on E. S. Coble's line, running North on the division line 18 chains and 50 links to a stone in the North Manufacturing Company line; thence West on said Company's line one chain and 40 links to a stone; thence South 17 chains and 75 links to a dead black oak in E. S. Coble's line; thence North 68 degrees east on said Coble's line to the beginning, containing three acres of land be the same more or less.

THIRD TRACT. Adjoining the lands of G. L. Leonard and others, beginning at a stone, Leonard's line, running the line 9 chains and 60 links to a hickory; thence South 68 degrees east on Coble's line 4 chains and 90 links to a stone; thence North 5 chains and 50 links to a stone; thence North 39 degrees west 7 chains and 67 links to the beginning, containing 57 1/2 acres more or less.

Terms of sale one-half cash, balance on a credit of six months, title to be retained until purchase money is paid.

This 18th day of February, 1907.

J. A. SPENCE, Commissioner.

erring woman in the streets of Jerusalem.

At present the Society for Psychical Research are not able to have a settled opinion as to the direct source of the foregoing phenomena. Perhaps for the lack of enough phenomena of one kind, and for the presence of fraud which may prevail in some instances. They cannot say, though they strongly believe that the mind is the source. To believe that such phenomena comes from a source outside of the human organism is, to quote from them, "to open the the largest question of interest that man ever faced and may be fraught with an importance impossible to estimate."

To Summarize.

I was told when I started into the study of this subject to be careful and not drift into certain things which my monitor would not have me believe, and that I myself would rather be free from. But after the meagre, but I am happy to believe liberal thought and well-directed study, I must say that I believe just as I did before, only I am strengthened in my belief; that the mind of man is, if I may use the expression in regard to the mind, an unknown and a much abused quantity. That it shall be and is being brought to its full power. Not through the over-done efforts of any bodies of fanatics—I had almost said "lunatics," and perhaps just as well—, who have gone to seed in one limb, forgetting that the whole tree must grow and thrive alike; to make the sturdy oak of God's promise; But it will be through the combined efforts of sane people and all-around people everywhere, who see a little farther and perceive a little deeper than others perhaps, and say little—or nothing, it may be, but who work and believe.

However, if some of us do not believe all that the Society for Psychical Research would prove concerning the mind, we have consolation in the maxim of Epicharmus, and old Greek poet;

"A sober sense of honest doubt
Keeps human reason hale and stout."
IDA INGOLD MASTEN.

There is an old tradition among the Dutch farmers of Piedmont Carolina that the weather on Ash Wednesday indicates what sort of wheat crop may be expected. If that day is bright and pleasant a good crop will be expected. As yesterday (which was Ash Wednesday) was a beautifully bright day we may expect a good wheat crop in June.—Chatham Record.

Thousands Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect it.

How To Find Out. Fill a bottle or common glass with your water and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys; if it stains your linen it is evidence of kidney trouble; too frequent desire to pass it or pain in the back is also convincing proof that the kidneys and bladder are out of order.

What To Do. There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in curing rheumatism, pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passage. It corrects inability to hold water and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to go often during the day, and to get up many times during the night. The mild and the extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. If you need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists in fifty-cent and one-dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle and a book that tells all about it, both sent free by mail. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. When writing mention this paper and don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y.

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At the 31st Annual Bench Show of the West Minister Kennel Club, in Madison Square Garden, New York last week, George J. Gould's dogs from the Furlough Kennels at High Point, won several prizes. Melksham Boy and Furlough Irma, were the prize pets.

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Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is not a simple cough syrup. It is a strong medicine, a doctor's medicine. It cures hard cases, severe and desperate cases, chronic cases of asthma, pleurisy, bronchitis, consumption. Ask your doctor about this.

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Greensboro, N. C.

James T. Morehead Oscar L. Sapp
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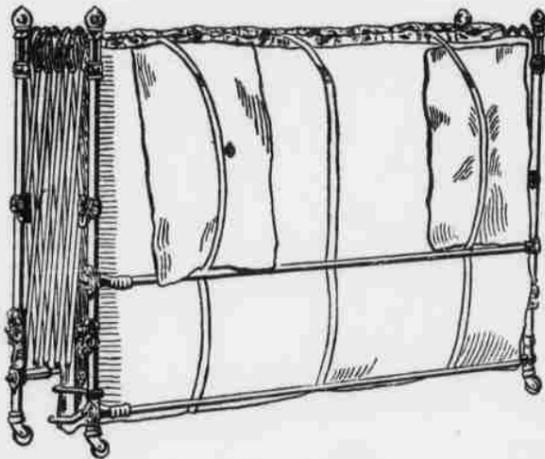
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LAND SALE!
BY VIRTUE of an order of sale granted by the Superior Court of Randolph county on the petition of J. M. Vancannon Adm. of J. H. McDaniel against James A. McDaniel et al heirs at law, I shall sell on the premises at 12 o'clock M. on the 13th day of March 1907, the following land: To-wit: A certain lot of timber on the land described in the petition in this court, containing four hundred acres more or less, consisting of all the merchantable and saleable pine, oak, and poplar timber measuring over 12 inches at the stump, 10 inches above the joint. Also a tract of land known as the Harris-Troop land containing 10 acres more or less, said tract is being taken from the four hundred acres above described.

This 8th day of February 1907.

J. M. VANCANNON,
Adm. and Commr.