

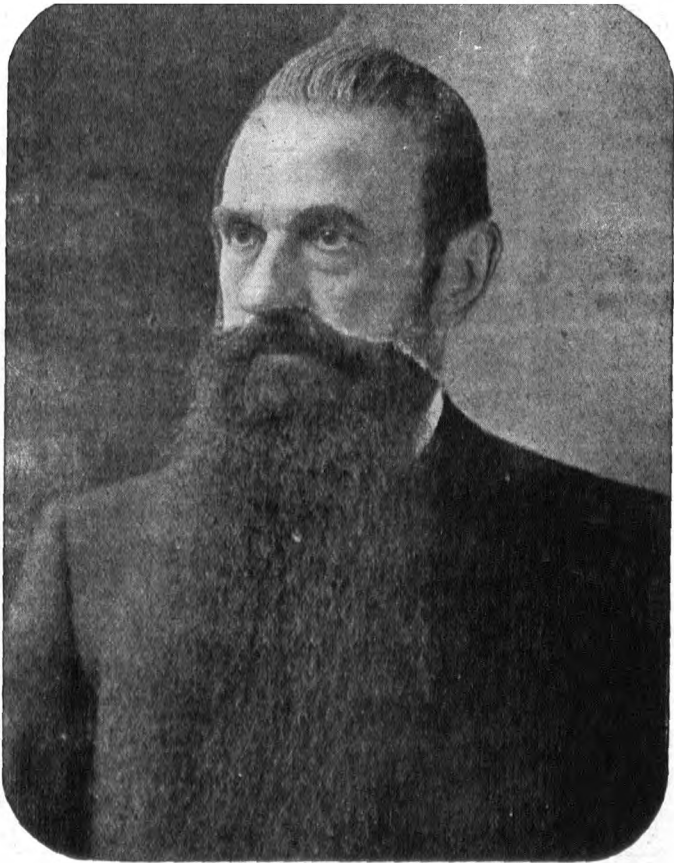
# SPIRITUALISM

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FACT  
versus  
FALLACY



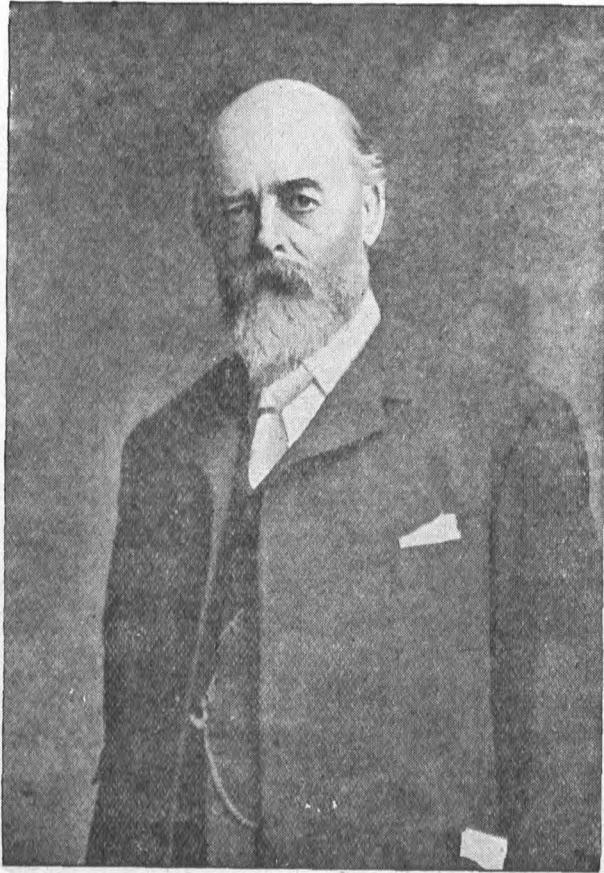
*There is no death, what seems so is transition ;  
This life of mortal breath is but a suburb of the  
life elysian,  
Whose portal we call death.*



"Harbinger of Light"

Photo

Mr. T. W. STANFORD,  
The Father of Spiritualism in Australia



“Harbinger of Light”

Photo

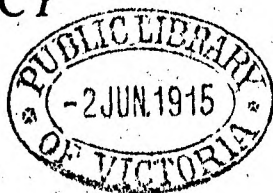
Sir OLIVER LODGE, F.R.S., LL.B., Dr. Sc.

# SPIRITUALISM!

FACT

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FOREWORD

*THIS Booklet owes its publication to the great help and kindness shown us by Mr. Stanford, "The Harbinger of Light," and the Local Press, and we send them our best thanks, and pray that the Great Spirit may bless them for the help they have given to propagate Truth against all adverse criticism, and we hope it will be the means of bringing many enquirers who wish to know the truth into a state of absolute conviction and perfect peace of mind as to man's future state.*

*P. S. MILLS-TANNER,  
W. McINTOSH.*

*Geelong, 1915.*

# SPIRITUALISM!

FACT versus FALLACY.

**S**PIRITUALISM! What is it? asks the man in the street, and he wants to know in a nutshell. Briefly, then, it is the oldest of the religious or scientific isms, and records the primitive man's first attempts to touch and sense the unseen forces around him. I say religious, because it is the human attempt to reach out to God the unknowable, the basic effort of all religions, and it is scientific because it is strictly natural; Nature herself supplying the conditions to make perfect communion. Life from life is the biological law, and as soon as man found he could be touched by life from higher realms than this it ever became his desire to explore it in some way or other. The cosmopolitan student knows nothing of "modern" spiritualism, or ancient either, for that matter. There is but one Ism, and he recognises that the spirit kingdom impinges on the material, just as the animal, the vegetable, and the mineral impinge on each other in their turn. Our earliest knowledge is from one of the oldest nations, the Chinese, and we find that 3,000 years ago the family seance or circle was in evidence in the country. There are several facts which cannot be brushed aside or denied. One of these is the wide diffusion of certain natural gifts or faculties which are not always apprehended at their true value by the possessors of them. The writer knew a man in business who was ignorant of spiritual or psychic science, and addicted to

the liquor habit occasionally; yet he was clairvoyant in a high degree, and could see spirit forms almost as naturally as those in the flesh, and until enlightened on the matter had always put down this peculiarity to a defect in his vision.

As the owners of these gifts are not always too ready to speak of them to their neighbors it is not easy to discover them. In the study of psychology one soon gets to know of others who possess abnormal faculties. Nature is lavish indeed, and no respecter of persons in this way. The student of history can find abundant evidence that these have existed in man apart from any special revelations, and if this be the case it knocks out the old theologic argument that these gifts of the spirit descended at Pentecost for a brief term to establish the supernatural origin of Christianity.

That they were manifested then as they were before in the temples of Greeks and Egyptians, and as they have been since through all the ages till now is beyond dispute. As primitive man being untutored, naturally feared the unknown, it was his first attempt to propitiate the power which he knew existed in and behind the elements. When one or two endowed specially by Mother Nature with clear seeing or clairaudient faculties realised their gifts they took confidence and opened up communication. It is on record that in 2337 B.C. the Chinese had their family conclaves, in which they sought guidance and comfort of their dear ones gone before. That system of ancestral intercourse can be traced down through Chinese history, and is confirmed by missionaries at the present day.

When the apostle Paul wrote to the early Christians that there were diversities of gifts, but one and the self same spirit he well knew what he was talking about, and if many of our priests and teachers understood his teaching better, as he gives it to the Corinthians, they would not say a single word about

a resurrection of the physical body, knowing it to be as gross an absurdity as a vacuum in nature. It is a singular fact that of all the religions, ancient and modern, the Christian is the only one that teaches of the rising again of the physical body. There is something sublimely grand in the idea of our spiritual bodies rising from the wreck of the material fitted and purified for its new surroundings in the spirit realms. It can be affirmed then, without fear of contradiction, that the exercise of abnormal faculties or gifts is man's natural religion, and his method of reaching out after the Great First Cause. That one man abuses these gifts while another makes the highest and noblest use of them is outside the argument. The same thing occurs in every avenue of civilisation, the imitation or flattery only serving to prove that there is something genuine to imitate and flatter. That the ordinary layman and woman must judge for themselves is imperative, for in this city there are ministers of the gospel, knowing but little of the subject, condemning it publicly, while others stand up in the pulpit and openly preach the truth of it. This attitude says very little for the Church's authority, still less its infallibility as expounder of the Word.

A few years ago the Rev. Father Backhouse, of Bendigo, and the Rev. Father McDonald did excellent and Christlike work in healing the sick. At the present moment the Christian church as a body knows nothing of Psychic Healing, and has even lost the power of casting out demons or evil spirits, which the Master taught His Disciples to do. The office of Exorcist, as it existed in the early church, is quite unknown, and as human nature is much the same now as then there is just the same need for it to-day. Such unfortunate persons, who are often unconscious trance subjects, or subject to fits, get sent to the lunatic asylum to be made worse instead of being taken in hand by the Christian "prophet" or

teacher. Therefore, the man in the street cannot be blamed if he seeks an independent judgment on this momentous question: Do we live again? The doubt arises from confounding two things that differ—the **Thinker** and his body. They are independent of each other as anything well can be.

There have been dark ages in all national histories, and the European peoples have experienced much of it. But God never left Himself without witnesses, and the mystic element in Christianity was conserved in brotherhoods of a secret order, like the Rosicrucians, the Knight Templars, the Troubadours, and down to our modern Freemasons, where only the semblance of the cult is left, and those mystics like Bernard of Clairveaux, Francis d'Assissi, Catherine of Sienna, were a few whom the light of God's truth shone through and illumined their souls with that larger spiritual light which led many to seek God in spite of the inner corruption of the Church as a body.

### **A Forgotten Truism.**

One of the most magnificent truths that the thinking student discovers in studying Psychology is this, and I never remember to have seen it noted by any writer, that if all the "revelations" of the Hindus, Brahmins, Parsees, Mahommedans, and Christians were blotted out to-morrow there would still be a natural religion left. The Deity, through His angelic messengers would teach all races, as has been done in the past, and that religion would be Spiritualism. How? asks the reader. Because man contains in himself the factors for reaching out to the higher life, and man disembodied takes with him those factors he had on earth, including memory, passions, and everything we realise as consciousness, and can use them to reach out to those he has left behind; and the two reaching out to each other meet and commune.

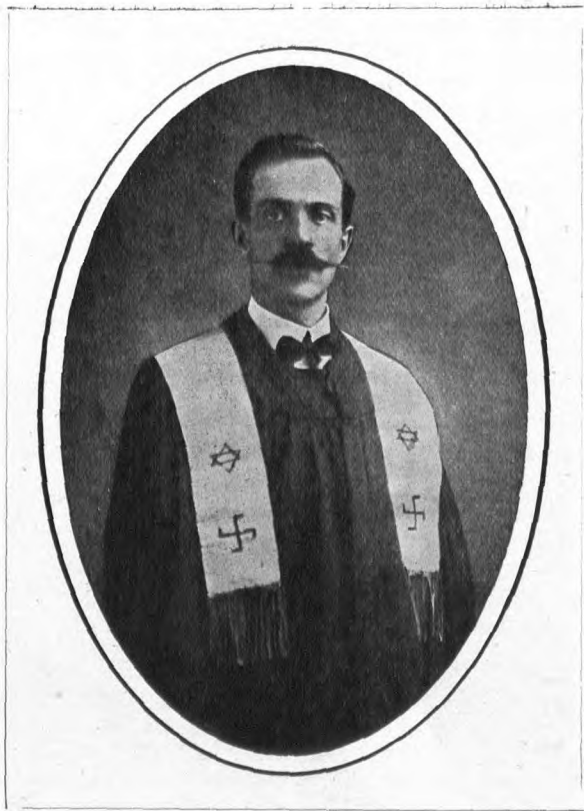


"Harbinger of Light"



Photo

Sir W. CROOKES, F.R.S.



Yours for Truth,

P. S. MILLS-TANNER,  
Author, Lecturer, Etc.

Says an old Hebrew proverb: "There is a spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding," another instance of the operation of the biological law, that life in the higher or spirit kingdom is supplied from the life on the lower or animal kingdom. Let the student ponder this and ask: Is it not in complete harmony with all nature's operations?

It is the only religion known to the most primitive of all races, the Australian blacks, and is also common to the African negroes and the Red Indian, with his medicine man or medium.

### Pitfalls in Spiritual Investigation.

Because of the fascination of the subject many rush in where angels fear to tread, hence a word of warning is needed. To those who in the recent newspaper controversy, and to all who ask what is the good of it, we beg to submit a few crumbs of evidence to show on what lines good may come. But these could be multiplied a thousandfold. To all inquiries, however, I strongly commend the late Lord Tennyson's lines—

"How pure in heart, how sound in head,  
 With what divine affections bold  
 Must be the man whose thoughts would hold  
 An hour's communion with the dead."

It is superfluous to say that Tennyson knew what he was writing about. When novices seek sensitives to commune the immutable law of attraction makes it imperative that they shall receive from the other side exactly the same conditions they bring and seek. But if "the pure in heart and sound in head" seek humbly that spiritual communion, then nothing I know of on earth can exceed the holy joy and divine affection that is experienced by the seeker. God hath made of one blood all nations of men (we self-exalted Anglo-Saxon races too often forget this, and



think we are the pick of the earth), and our brothers and sisters in India have for centuries, if not thousands of years, debarred the amateur seeker from participation in the innermost mysteries of the soul, until he has proven by years of training that he is fitted by wisdom, patience, virtue, and humility to advance into them. Briefly, the neophyte has to work hard to possess the divine mysteries. Did not that foremost lecturer, Annie Besant, serve her seven years' novitiate? Here they are thrown at and grabbed by every tyro who thinks he is a budding orator of the J. B. Gough stamp. No traveller thinking of exploring a new continent would dream of starting without priming himself with all the available data to be had, and taking every needed precaution. Why then should he neglect these when he faces a country he can neither see nor feel at first? The average student is usually surprised when told there are hundreds of books written concerning it. There is, therefore, no excuse for anyone not preparing the way by reading and cultivation of the reasoning faculties.

### Evidences.

One of England's famous platform lecturers was saved from burning by his guiding spirit waking him in time to escape.

Will Atkinson, barrister, and author of "Thought Power," owed his regeneration to the inspirational words of a spiritual lecturer. When at his wits' end, and even contemplating suicide, he dropped in to a meeting, and there got what started him on a new line of thought. Some are known in this city to have changed their course of life by realising the truth of Spiritualism. Why? Because they cannot ignore the evidences, and they find there is a future life, and it is very, very real. Will any critic dare to ask: What good is it? Even within an arrow's flight of the publishers here it is a common

occurrence to hear the manifestation of speaking in tongues by those who know nothing of them, and in the writer's experience warnings and guidings have been given many a time. By the exercise of the psychometric gift lost relatives have been restored and crimes discovered, whose perpetrators might have gone free had these soul faculties never been cultivated.

Thousands, too, can testify to having their lives spared and health prolonged by having correct diagnosis of their diseases—diseases which had often baffled the medical men. How? asks the reader. Because the eye of the spirit is superior to the eye of the mortal.

Some years ago a missionary testified to what he called a miracle at the Christian Convention in Geelong Mechanics' Institute. He settled in New Guinea, and used a native the first few weeks as interpreter when preaching to the natives. Finding he was being made a laughing stock of, he discarded him, and with his wife prayed earnestly over it, till the following Sunday, when he rose and confidently spoke to them in their native dialect, much to their surprise. The miracle is plain when you understand Spiritualism.

### **Matter and Spirit.**

It is sometimes hard for the lay reader to grasp the idea of spirit, seeing he has hardly had the chance to comprehend matter as we know it; but if he pondered the truth that the hard, adamant rock is the same matter as the fine sand that oozes through a baby's fingers, and the same that constitutes the filmy spider's web, so difficult to sense by touch, he will perhaps grasp the idea better that spirit matter is still of a finer grade, real and tangible, like the glossy web, but still impalpable to our coarse material bodies.

**Mediums or Sensitives.**

The great drawback to this soul science reaching the highest level is the lack of scientific training for sensitives or psychics—they are often called psychics, from the Greek word psyche, the soul—who propose to enter for professional work. At present it lies with each individual to discover how and where he or she may develop their faculties of the mind, and to what special use they may be put. The lack of this training leaves them free to follow their own idiosyncracies, and the result is far from what it should be.

It is gratifying, however, to know that at last a beginning has been made in this matter, and a Chair of Psychology established at the Leland Stanford University, with Dr. Cover, Ph.D., as Professor, and it is endowed specially for psychic research. Let us hope it is but the forerunner of many more, seeing that the majority of prominent scientists are acknowledged spiritualists. And they are not so because they have inherited their religious opinions second hand, as most people do, from their grand parents. These people, too, who would scorn to wear a second-hand garment on their material bodies will wear the religious cloak of their ancestors over their mental bodies without questioning whether it is sound enough to carry them into eternity. These learned men referred to have usually begun to examine this cloak, and finding it unsound, have examined the spiritual philosophy, and finding it true have been compelled to accept. That is their uniform testimony.

What! Do you really believe in the Bible? is frequently asked, with an accent of surprise, or the Bible says it is the work of familiar spirits, and God

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**READ "THE HARBINGER OF LIGHT."**

says it is wrong. Is it? Let us see what the Bible has to say, taking only a few of the very many instances given us, if we will only read.

We claim that Spiritualists are better able to understand what they read in the Bible, because of their Spiritualism. You say: I do not believe in Spiritualism because of the Bible. Take it up and you will find that there is not a single phenomenon which is recorded there which does not occur at seances to-day, whether it be lights, sounds, the shaking of the house, the coming through closed doors, the mighty rushing winds, levitation, automatic writing, or the speaking of tongues. We are acquainted with all this phenomena, they occur frequently in our town, be it Geelong, Melbourne, Sydney, or London, and recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. It is incontestable that such things do occur, that in the main the phenomena of Spiritualism are reliable, and happen over and over again under test conditions in the presence of witnesses who are the leading scientists and teachers of the world, such as Sir Oliver Lodge, Sir W. Crooks, Archdeacon Colley, Rev. John Page Hopps, Rev. R. J. Campbell, Rev. A. J. Waldron, Rev. A. Chambers, Dr. Peebles, Dr. Gordon, Dr. Ward, Dr. Paul Schluman, Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, Vice-Admiral Moore, Professor Barrett, Princess Karadja, Count Meyalsvick, Mr. T. W. Stanford (the father of Spiritualism in Australia), the late Mr. Stead, Mrs. Annie Bright (late editress of the "Harbinger of Light"), Mr. Wallis (late editor of "Light," and world-wide author), and General Booth, of the Salvation Army, and thousands of others, who all agree that spirit return is a fact to-day as it was 2000 years ago.

Sir Oliver Lodge says, in his lecture delivered in the Browning Hall, Walworth: "I say, on scientific grounds, that there is no death. I say it because I know that certain friends of mine (who are supposed

to be dead) still exist, because I have talked to them. To do this one must obey the laws governing communication; one must find out the traditions. I don't say it is easy, it is possible. I have conversed with them as I could with any one of you, and being scientific men, they have given proofs that it was really they, not some personation, not something emanating from myself. They have given definite proofs; some of these proofs are published; some we are keeping back, but will ultimately be published. I tell you, with all the strength of conviction which I can muster, that the fact is so, that we do persist, that these people still take an interest in what is going on, that they still help us, and know far more about things than we do, and that they are able (given conditions) from time to time to communicate. You must have evidence, of course. The evidence such as we have got is recorded in the volumes of a scientific society, and there will be much more evidence. The evidence is not a matter for casual conversation. It is a matter for serious study, and the conclusions that may be arrived at may be delayed. You may take some years to agree with those conclusions. Quite so. There is no hurry. But those students who have given most attention to it have gradually, and in the process of many years, come to agree that the proof has now become crucial, and I have no doubt whatever about it, though for many years, even since the 'eighties, I have tried all sorts of other methods of explaining these things until gradually they have been eliminated.

"The conclusion is that the survival of existence is scientifically proved by careful scientific investigation, and that of itself leads us to a perception of the unity running through all states of existence. That is why I say that man is not alone, and that I know he is surrounded by other intelligences. And if you once step over the boundary, there is no limit to the

higher intelligences until you come to the Infinite Intelligence itself. There is no stopping. You must go on until you come to God."

Sir Oliver may say there is no hurry. I say now is the time. We can get these results ourselves. Is it not worth two hours a week to get the proofs? In our own family circle they can, and are got, if we only seek study, and sit, not perhaps in a month or a year, but come they do, and the results pay us one hundred fold. Opinions of all the leading scientists of the day appear in the "Harbinger of Light" each month of their investigations. The late General Booth, the grand old man of the Salvation Army, who says: "My personal intercourse has been but limited, yet I have had spiritual communion with the departed saints, and one in particular, and that is my blessed and beautiful wife." ("Harbinger of Light," July, 1914, page 138.) These people have all investigated and proven beyond all doubt that spirit return is true. Let us now go to the Bible and see what we get there. We must bear in mind at all times that the Bible is not the infallible word of God, but the word of many spirit friends whom the Great Spirit (Infinite), all powerful, has allowed to come back and teach His children of the earth plane to become better children. Much confusion of thought has arisen because of the modern misuse of the phrase, "The Word of God," as though it meant the Bible, whereas it originally meant the message inspiration, dream, or spoken word, as we shall see if we study. "Word of the Lord" occurs 98 times, "Word of God" 46, "Words of God" 7, "His Word" 30, "Thy Word" 44, "My Word" 17, and on no occasion does it refer to the Bible as a whole.

The expression, "The Word of God," occurs for the first time in the Bible in 1 Samuel ix., 27, R.V. Samuel said to Saul, "Bid thy servant pass on before us" (and he passed on), but stand thou still at this time that I may cause thee to hear the Word of God,"

and Samuel delivered a message from God, which proved to be true. In the next chapter Samuel explained to Saul that the spirit of the Lord would come mightily upon Him, and he should prophesy and be turned into another man; and these things happened the next day.

Here we get a faithful account of a Spiritualist evening church service, trance lecture, or inspirational address, with clairvoyance following, and if we are to be condemned on any particular translation, such as dealing with familiar spirits, wrongly translated, as I will prove later, surely this first mention of the Word of God, and connected at that with our beliefs are evidence of our claim. Jeremiah, xvii.-15, 16. The prophet says, "Behold, they say unto me, where is the Word of the Lord—thou knowest that which came out of my lips was right before thee." This is a plain statement that the Word of the Lord came through a prophet. Micah in 1 Kings, xxii.-19, began his predictions with "Hear thou, the Word of the Lord," and gave the very improbable story of God's efforts to induce Ahab by lying spirits to go to battle. The message given by Elijah is called the word of the Lord. Further, read Chapter xxxvi., 4-6. Here we have a statement that Jeremiah, not being able to go into the House of the Lord, went into trance and commanded Baruch to take down in writing the words he should give, and to go into the House of the Lord and read the words of the Lord to the people. In this and the following chapters we find the Word of the Lord delivered several times through Jeremiah's mouth, but the words are never regarded as those of Jeremiah. David's last words were "The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, and His Word was upon my tongue." Moses said in Deuteronomy xxx.-14, "But the Word

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**Read "The Harbinger of Light." Interesting  
Instructive**

is very nigh unto thee in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it." In Ezekiel, the 2nd chapter, "And the Spirit entered into me when He spake unto me, and set me upon my feet." Just the same occurs to-day when an inspirational speaker is made to stand on his feet, he, too, is able to hear him who speaks through him (trance speakers being unconscious). You are asking for evidence to-day in the same way the people did, among whom Jesus lived and wrought, believed in the miracles of by-gone days, but they asked Him for a sign, and when He gave them proofs of His mediumship they said he worked by the power of Beelzebub, and declared that he was mad. "We know that God has spoken unto Moses, but as for this man we know not whence He is." John ix.-2-29 R.V. And you judge your medium even as of old the people did Christ when they said, "This man (Christ), if he were a prophet, would have perceived who and what manner of woman this is which touched Him." Luke vii., 39 R.V., which proves that Jesus, even like modern mediums and psychics, required conditions without which He could do no mighty work, and when He found them unsympathetic He explained the possibility of failure because of their critical attitude (unbelief). 1 Thess. v. 19-22 R.V., "Quench not the Spirit, despise not prophesyings, prove all things, hold fast that which is good, abstain from every form of evil." Therefore if you require results you must give the conditions required even as Jesus demanded (see Matthew xiii. 58), and He did not many mighty works there, because of their unbelief.

One must also remember that a medium or psychic cannot give you always what you require to prove spirit return. Much is made of the fact that the London daily papers cannot or (should I say) have not been brought to Australia by a spirit, or that the Australian papers have not as yet been taken to London, and some say this would be proof. Mr. Stan-



ford, of Melbourne, a keen business man, who has devoted the greater part of his life and money to spiritual research, has given to the world greater evidence than any daily paper proofs, and has apports brought to him more convincing. These apports have been photographed and published times out of number in the Spiritual papers, but even this is not enough, and if the daily papers were brought some would not believe any more than they did 2000 years ago. Take up your Bible again, and what do you find, that even the greatest teacher and medium (Christ) was doubted with all His good works, and He reminded them how when there was a famine in Israel for over three years Elias was only sent to one widow among many, and although there were many lepers at the time only Naaman, the Syrian, was cleansed (see Luke iv., 23-27). Thence, although they might challenge him to do in their midst what had been accomplished in Capernaum, he, like the prophets before him, could not cure all the sick or perform wonders under all circumstances, but his hearers were filled with wrath, and rose up and cast him forth out of the city. He then taught in the villages round about, where he was successful. He told the people it was because of their faith, but among his own people he could do no mighty works, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folks, and healed them. (Mark vi., 4-6 R.V.). Again, at the last he was tempted, and tried, and tested, for they blindfolded him, spat upon him, buffeted him, and challenged him to tell who it was that did it; and, further, they cried, "Save thyself now from the cross . . . Let the Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross that we may see and believe (Mark xv., 32 R.V.)." Proofs you say you require, and I fancy many are saying "Yes, but what do the scientists of to-day say?" Do you know that Alfred Russel Wallace, F.R.S., at one time believed there was nothing in the universe but matter and

force, but after patient investigation in his own home was compelled to believe in Spirit, that the late Dr. George Sexton, the eminent scientist and lecturer, at one time an infidel, after 15 years' investigation in his own home, found truth of Spirit return through members of his own family.

Do you know that Sir William Crookes, F.R.S., the eminent English scientist, ex-president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and inventor of the Crookes vacuum tube, investigated, under absolutely test conditions, in his own home, and proved scientifically the phenomenon of materialisation. Have you read his "Researches in Modern Spiritualism?" Do you know that 50 of the leading scientists of the world, out of 80, have investigated and endorsed the truth of Spiritual Phenomena? Have you read Epes Sargent's "Scientific Basis of Spiritualism?" Zoellner's "Transcendental Physics," and "Miracles and Modern Spiritualism," by A. R. Wallace, F.R.S.? Did you ever read the life, history, and work of the late Dr. J. R. Newton, the great psychic healer, who healed, it is said, 150,000 people? His record surpasses that of any other healer known (see B. F. Austin, M.A., D.D.). Earl of Crawford and Balcarre's, F.R.S., past president of the Royal Astronomical Society, says we can with the proofs we have received now say that Spiritualism is a fact, and scientifically proved.

Professor Herbert Mayo, F.R.S., M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology, King's College, London, says: "Twenty-five years ago I was a hard-headed unbeliever of Spiritual phenomena. However, suddenly, and quite unexpectedly, it soon after developed in my own family. This led me to inquire and to try numerous experiments in such a way as to preclude the possibility of trickery and self-deception, that the phenomena occurs there is overwhelming evidence, and it is too late now to deny the existence."

Dr. John Elliotson, F.R.S., M.D., Professor of Medicine in London University, President of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, author of the "Lumley Lectures on Diseases of the Heart," editor of "The Zoist," etc., says Spirit return is proven beyond all doubt, and I have received help from the Spirit world in my present works.

Professor W. F. Barrett, F.R.S.E., Professor of Experimental Physics and Dean of the Faculty of the Royal College of Sciences, Ireland, says: "The impressive fact of the phenomena is the intelligence behind them, and the evidence of an unseen individuality as distinct as our own."

Professor Caesar Lombroso, Italy's greatest scientist, remarks in the ensemble, "Spiritualistic Phenomena form such a compact web of proof as wholly to baffle the scalpel of doubt. Mr. T. W. Stanford, the "Father of Spiritualism" in Australia, who has devoted years of his life, and spent a fortune on his investigations, has just presented to the Leland-Stanford University, California, the largest and finest collection of apports (brought to him by the Spirit people) in the world. Apart from this he has a large aviary in his private home, with dozens of beautiful birds, all brought to him under test conditions at different seances from all parts of the world, and Professor Reichel says, in referring to Mr. Stanford's museum of apports: "It is a remarkable collection, and I am sure no one could have brought the Egyptian tablets, for example, nor those from Thibet. I have myself travelled in Egypt, and know that the authorities noted carefully every one who visited the temples and graves to see that they do not touch a single stone or take anything away with them (see "Science and the Soul"). Mr. Stanford says there is no doubt at all Spirit return is a fact, but if you want results you must be a Spiritualist and give the conditions, and not a Spiritist."

And now to those who believe in the Bible. Let us see a few of the many instances of Biblical quotations to substantiate our beliefs, taking them as we find them to-day in our own town. First we have trance speaking, "The Spirit of the Lord will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy, and shall be turned into another man" (controlled by another man).

"I was in a deep sleep on my face towards the ground, but he (the man Gabriel) touched me and set me upright."

"And it came to pass that when I (Paul) was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance." (Acts xxii.-17.)

"Peter went upon the housetop and fell into a trance." (Acts x. 9, 10.)

"Therefore have I uttered that I understood not things too wonderful for me, which I knew not." (Job. xiii. 3.)

"He hath said which heard the words of God, which saw the visions of the Almighty falling into a trance, but having His eyes open (Numbers xxii. 4); and, further see—

Genesis xv., 12-17.

Daniel viii., 18-19.

Acts ix., 3-9; xxxii., 17.


11 Corinthians, xii., 2.

Numbers xxiv., 4.

Exek. ii., 2.

1 Corinthians, xiv., 18: "I thank my God I speak with tongues more than ye all."

"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts ii., 3-4 R.V.)

**If you have any doubts about "The Harbinger of Light"  
Spiritualism, READ** 

### Clairvoyance and Spirit Tests.

“And the Lord (Spirit Guide) opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold the mountain was full of horses and chariots, as of fire round about Elisha.” (2 Kings vi., 17.)

See also 2 Kings vi., 12; v., 25-26.

Genesis xxiv., 14-19.

Exodus iv., 14-31.

Judges vi., 36-40.

1 Samuel, 1-10, 11, 17, 26, 27.

1 Samuel x., 2, 6, 9, 10.

Jesus also proves clairvoyance when in John, in Chapter 4, in the conversation between Jesus and the woman of Samaria. In this Jesus, after telling in a way of His mediumship, asks her to call her husband. When she says she has none He answers, in verses 17-18, “Thou hast well said ‘I have no husband,’ for thou hast had five husbands, and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband.” This caused the woman to remark, “Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet” (Verse 19).

Now some say to-day that the modern idea of a prophet is a fortune teller, or one who foretells future events, but this is never the leading thought when the word was applied to Jesus. The word “medium” would always fit the case better than the word “prophet.” (See Luke vii., 16; xxiv., 19, 24, 25.) John, chapter vi., 14; vii., 40; ix., 17: “Jesus talked to the woman and convinced her so thoroughly that she went to her friends, and said He told me all that ever I did. (Verse 39, John iv.).

### Materialisation.

“In the same hour came forth fingers of a man’s hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall, and the King saw part of the hand that wrote.” (Dan. v.-5.)

“Jacob wrestled with a man until daybreak, and had his thigh put out of joint, and Jacob called the place ‘Peniel,’ for I have seen God (a Spirit) face to face.” (Gen. xxxii., 24-30.)

Again, “When the three Hebrew children were cast into the midst of the burning, fiery furnace, a fourth man was seen walking in the midst of the fire, and they had no hurt.” (Dan. iii.-25.)

In Ezek. viii.-3 we find: “A Spirit hand lifted Ezekiel up between earth and heaven.”

A full form manifestation is further reported in Joshua v., 13. Again in Mat. xvii.-3, Mark xvi., 5-6; Genesis iii.-8, Genesis xviii.-1, xxxii.-24; Exodus xxiv.-10-11, Ezekiel ii.-9, Dan. v-5, Luke xxiv.-16-29, 30-31, John xx. 19-30.

### **Spirit Writing.**

2 Corinthians, chap. 21, 12-15 verses. Daniel v., 5th verse. 1 Corinthians xxviii., 11th and 9th verses: “David gave to Solomon, his son, the pattern of the porch and of the house thereof, and the pattern of all that he had had by the Spirit. ‘All this,’ said David, ‘the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon Me.’”

### **Healing.**

Numbers xxi., verses 8 and 9.

2 Kings v., verse 14.

1 Kings xvii., 17 to 24th verses.

2 Kings iv., 18th to 37th verses.

### **Spirit Communication In Dreams.**

See Job. xxxiii., 15; Joel ii., 28; Genesis xxviii., 12, xxxi., 24, xxxvii., 5, xli chap.; Judges vii., 13; 1 Kings iii., 5; Daniel ii., 4; Matthew i., 20; ii., 13th verse; xxvii., 19th verse.

**Trumpet Speaking.**

Exodus, xix., 13, 16, 19; xx., 18.

**Professional Mediumship.**

1 Samuel (read the whole of this chapter, noting particularly verses 8 and 9).

**Seances.**

Music was also used to create harmony and prepare the conditions for the spirit to manifest (See 2 Kings iii., 15; 1 Samuel xvi., 23. We have therefore proved that both the Old and New Testament are full of instances of spirit manifestations, and that seances were constantly being held for hearing the words from the people on the other side, or the angels (messengers) of the Lord.

This is our case, both from a Biblical and Scientific point of view. We say Spiritualism is the science of life of the manifestation of the Spirit, the inter-communication between the people of earth and those on the other side. Such intercourse can be enjoyed through mediumship. Most people have some mediumistic power or spiritual gift, such as seership clairvoyance, clairaudience, psychometric gift; others are dreamers of dreams, trance speakers, physical mediums, etc. Thus Spiritualists know that man lives a conscious and loving life after the body dies.

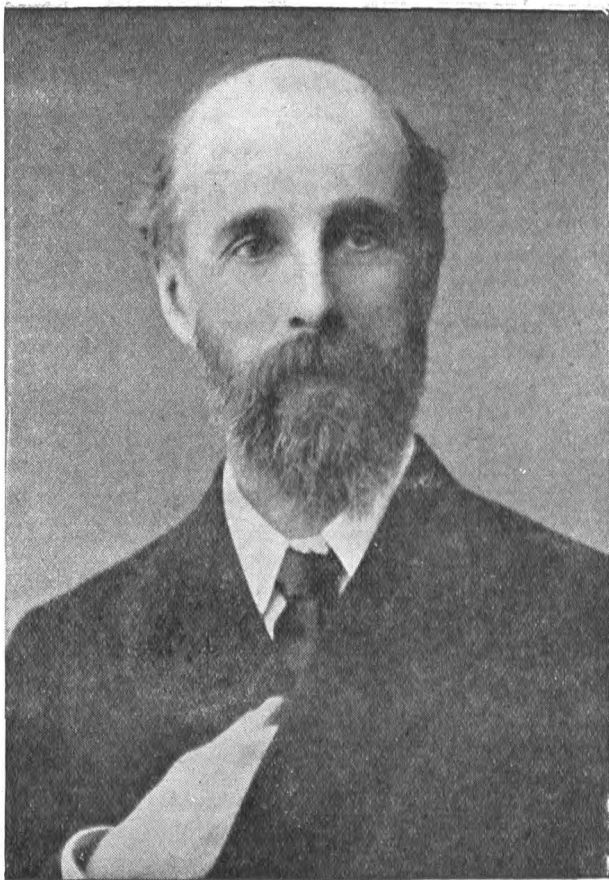
Spiritualists have no creed, but they practically agree to the following:—

The Fatherhood of God.

The Brotherhood of Man.

The Immortality of the Soul and its personal characteristics.

The proven facts of Communion between departed Human Spirits and Mortals. Personal responsibility with Compensation and Retribution hereafter for all

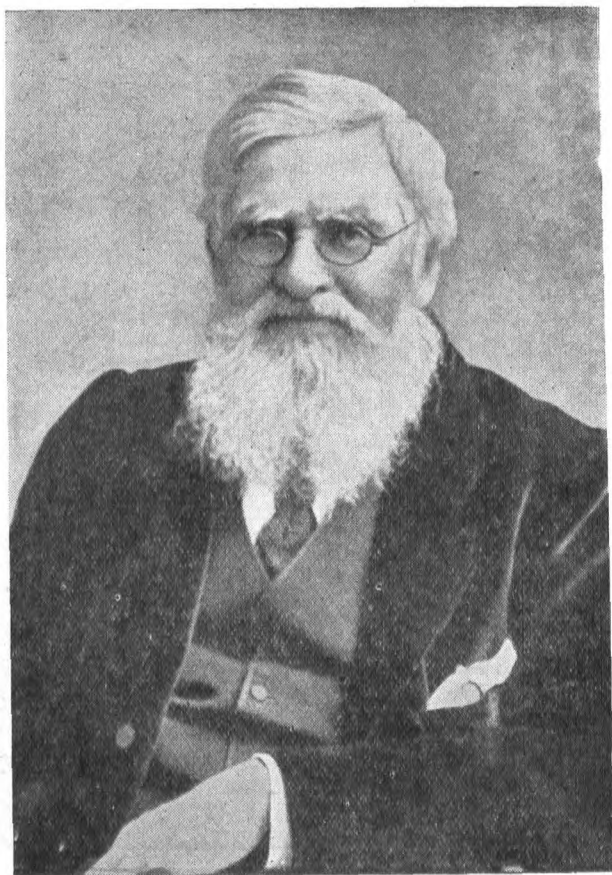


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the good or evil deeds done here, and a path of eternal progress open to every human soul that wills to tread it by the path of eternal good. Spiritualism teaches the development of the Christ within.

Nearer Him whose name is Love,  
We would lift your thoughts above,  
And are working with intent  
To redeem each life misspent.  
We proclaim His Fatherhood,  
Lover, Giver of all good,  
Parent, Helper, Fervent Friend,  
Loving us unto the end.

### Fallacies.

It is sometimes amusing, in discussing this question, to hear it asserted that the phenomena is genuine enough, but that it is the work of the devil. Poor Satan, whoever thou art, and wherever thou dwellest, much has been laid at the door of which thou art innocent, and much given to thy credit thou hast never earned. The average Christian of orthodox views unconsciously puts far more faith in the devil than he does in God, forgetting that with God, and Him alone, "all things are possible." If there was a shadow of truth in the puerile statement so often made, that the devil can transform himself into an angel of light, and deceive even the very elect, it would cut the foundation from the feet of every honest believer in Christ, for on this logic no Christian could be sure whether he was following God, or the devil disguised as an angel of light. Such attempts at reasoning ignore the fact that God could not bring about such a chaotic condition of spiritual things to bamboozle His people, when everywhere He provides for their evolution, physical and spiritual, by the immutable operation of His will, i.e., universal laws working harmoniously.

It is a fallacy to suppose that if a man accepts the truth of spirit return and spirit communion, he is bound to alter his ecclesiastical beliefs. He is no more bound to do so than the man who gets married is bound to cut the old friends of his benedict days.

It is a fallacy to suppose Familiar Spirit, as in Deut. xviii.-11, is a correct translation, as Chas. W. Upham ("Salem Witchcraft," 375-6) says there is no word in the Hebrew which corresponds with familiar.

### The Church's Failure to Get the Masses.

It is a fallacy for Church Assemblies and Councils to suppose, as is often done, that the masses are indifferent to religion because less than 25 per cent. of the population of large centres attend places of worship. In discussing causes for the decline in membership this one cause is **never** touched upon—that the people are spiritualising along different lines. The spread of education these last 30 years, co-incident with the diffusion of scientific knowledge through the daily and weekly press, has enlightened us so much that many feel that the Church is not only inconsistent with the teachings of its Founder, but that many of its preachers, apart from Greek and Hebrew, do not know much more of the problems of life they are supposed to be authorities on than the layman himself. Going a little further, in his reading, the average man finds that the Church to-day does not possess what it ought to possess—the gifts of the Spirit as they were practised in the early centuries. Three instances occur to my mind where members of Christian churches asked spiritual bread of their pastors and were offered stones. Why? Because they knew no better; and had these members not had personal experience of the Christ life they might easily have drifted into materialism instead of spiritualism.

"The soul that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out." Let the human spirit seek the Divine Spirit by following the Christ's life, and he will feel the influx of spiritual life to aid and sustain him. It matters little whether you call it "grace," or the Holy spirit," or "Comforter." It is there for the seeking, by prayer, meditation, and devotion, and it is the operation of a natural law in the spiritual realm. That is all.

Let the orthodox reader rid his mind of the idea that the devil possesses even half the power attributed to him (assuming, of course, he is a power to be reckoned with), and get planted firmly in your own mind the idea that you possess just as much power again as you thought you had, and that as God alone rules the universe in love, and in Him we live, move, and have our being, you will find a wonderful upliftment through realising this grand thought. Did not the Psalmist of old, realising this, exclaim: "The Lord is the strength of my life."

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## The Editorial Chair.

[Reprinted from "The Harbinger of Light," Feb. 1st, 1915]

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### A TREMENDOUS STATEMENT.

"We shall certainly continue to exist after death. Why do I say that? I say it on distinct scientific grounds. I say it because I know that certain friends of mine who have died still exist, because I have talked with them. I tell you **WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF THE CONVICTION WHICH I CAN MUSTER** that we do persist, that people still continue to take an interest in what is going on, that they know far more about things on this earth than we do, and are able from time to time to com-

municate with us. I know this is A TREMENDOUS STATEMENT—a tremendous conclusion. I do not think any of us—I do not think I myself—realise how great a conclusion it is.’

This is the latest and most emphatic declaration ever made by Sir Oliver Lodge. There is nothing “tentative” about this very definite and unequivocal utterance. The merely hypothetical ground, so long held by this distinguished physicist, has been finally abandoned, and, fortified with a conviction which has taken between thirty and forty years to mature, he now comes forward with a metaphorical sledgehammer and endeavours by its use to drive this stupendous discovery into the prejudiced minds of a densely materialistic race—the discovery that death, instead of spelling finality, is merely an incident in the evolutionary development of the human ego, that it does not even annihilate our interest in the affairs of earth, and that it has actually been defeated by the glorious success that has rewarded the efforts of those who have for nearly half a century been striving to obtain overwhelming proofs of the fact of clear and unmistakable communication between the world of matter and the world of spirit.

Of course, this discovery is nothing new to the thousands of readers of this journal. In fact, we can imagine them ejaculating—“Fancy being told this by Sir Oliver Lodge, or anybody else, at this late hour of the day.” Just so. That is all very well from their point of view, and we should not complain if they were to indulge in a risible outburst at the bare suggestion that there was anything “new” in this recent pronouncement of the celebrated Principal of Birmingham University. They have known of the fact for years, and so have millions of others scattered throughout the length and breadth of the earth. But the all-important point to remember is that their beliefs, based, as they are, on unassailable

knowledge, have not yet received the imprimatur of Science, and that until they can claim this magic credential they will not be accepted by the vast majority of mankind.

Personally, we frankly confess it is utterly immaterial to us what attitude the scientific world may choose to assume regarding the survival of the human personality and the possibility of communicating with those who have entered within the veil. We know it to be a fact, because we have proved it for ourselves, and the adverse testimony of all the scientists in the world could not uproot a conviction based on our own experience, and which we know to be founded on what to us, at all events, is a veritable rock of Truth. But when we take a broader view of the question — when we sink the personal aspect, and look at the matter in the interests of the cause of psychical research, and the obvious desirableness of once and for all slaying the fear of death, then we realise the inestimable advantage of having on our side such fearless scientific champions as Sir Oliver Lodge, and many of his illustrious compeers.

“You know that other scientific men beside myself think the same,” added Sir Oliver, “and many who are not scientific.” Of course, we know it. It is the spiritually-minded Scientists, in fact, who will be the spiritual leaders of the people in the time to come. They are the authorities to whom multitudes of thoughtful and inquiring men and women are looking to-day for light and guidance. They are, in short, fast usurping what have hitherto been regarded as the exclusive functions of the clergy. Sir Oliver himself often occupies a pulpit, and the probability is that in the future the Church will much more frequently avail itself of the services of such men in assisting it to recover its hold on the masses. There have been bitter conflicts in the past between Science and Religion, but in more recent years a happy rap-

proachment has been noticeable, and both sides seem to-day to be more and more disposed to "bury the hatchet." It is much to be hoped that this tendency will increase. But there is only one line of procedure along which this development can come. It will certainly not be by the capitulation of Science to the orthodox teachings of the Church. It will be the other way about. The established conclusions of Science are generally recognised as representing Truth. And in whatever respect the teachings of the Church are at variance with the dicta of Science, those teachings will be regarded by all intelligent and enlightened minds as the external manifestations of internal spiritual darkness.

When, therefore, the attitude of the scientific world regarding death, the inter-blending of the material and spiritual phases of existence, and the conditions prevailing in the life beyond, becomes identical with that assumed by Sir Oliver Lodge to-day, the Church will unquestionably be compelled to accept these conclusions or be regarded as hopelessly out-of-date and consequently find its influence correspondingly proscribed. The flowing tide is with Science, and no human agency can stem the stream. The Church may fight successfully against purely material forces. But it cannot combat the fiat of the Spiritual Powers. And the fiat has gone forth from the unseen world that mankind is to be convinced of the truth of the teachings that are being received from that source to-day.

"The evidence is not a matter for casual conversation," continues Sir Oliver Lodge. "Those students who have given most attention to this subject have gradually, and in the course of many years' research, come to the conclusion that **THE PROOF IS NOW COMING. I HAVE NOW NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER ABOUT IT,** though for many years, ever since the 'eighties, I have tried all sorts of other

explanations, but these gradually, one after the other, have been eliminated, and I HAVE PROVED THAT THE PEOPLE WHO COMMUNICATE ARE WHO, AND WHAT, THEY SAY THEY ARE Not always But still, the conclusion is that survival of existence is SCIENTIFICALLY PROVED BY SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION."

There is nothing ambiguous about such phraseology as this. And the spiritual agencies—the Messengers of the living God operating behind the scenes—are determined that ambiguity shall not much longer prevail in the minds of men. The world is to be bathed in a great spiritual influx and lifted on to a higher plane. One of the results of the present war will be in this beneficent direction—the forces of evil are to receive such a check as they have never received before, and in their place is to be ushered in the glorious reign of Love and the Universal Brotherhood of Man. With Sir Oliver Lodge, we believe that the Master Himself is directing this movement, and that He is utilising human agents in all parts of the world for the accomplishment of this purpose. And if this be so, then all opposing "principalities and powers" will fall back defeated and abashed by His all-commanding will.

The position of the Allies in Europe was never stronger than it is to-day, and the position of the Allies in the ranks of Spiritualism was never brighter than at the present time. We have simply to continue to "fight the good fight" of Truth and the laurel wreath of victory will eventually be ours! When that day comes a spiritually-emancipated world will sing with a greater wealth of meaning than it had ever known before:—

Hail to the brightness of Zion's glad morning,  
 Joy to the lands that in darkness have lain,  
 Hushed be the accents of sorrow and mourning,  
 Zion in triumph begins her mild reign.

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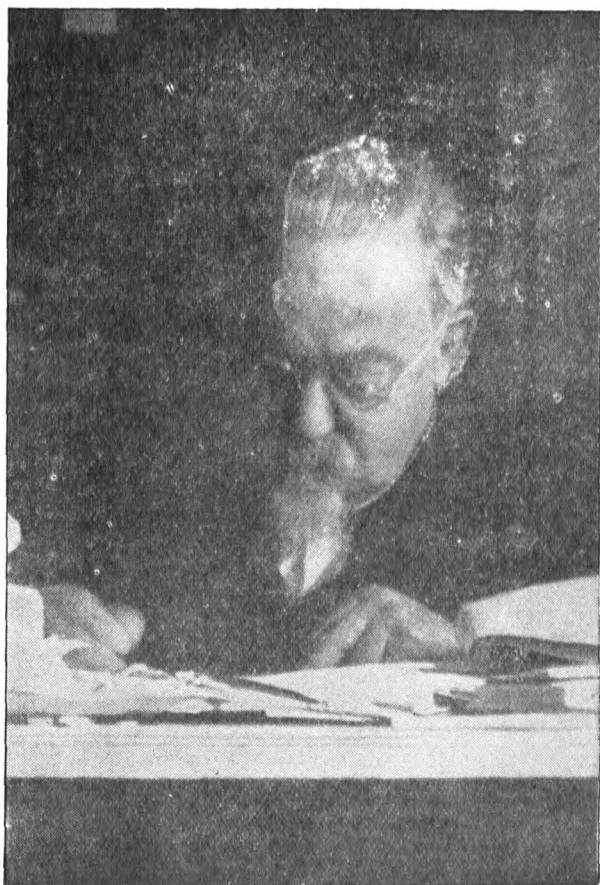
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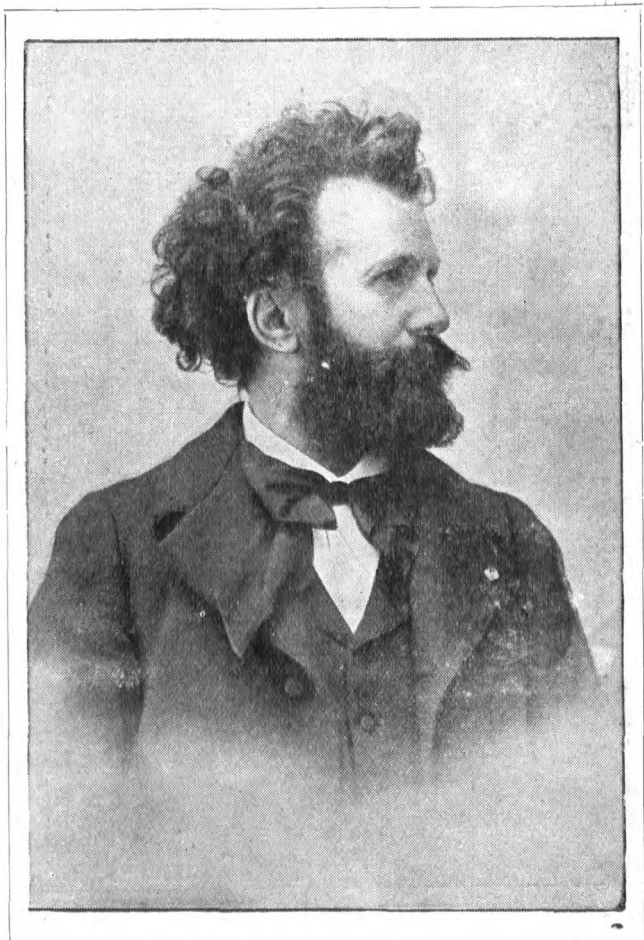


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