

apprehended and become as commonplace as electricity, and we shall use it, every one of us, for the benefit of ourselves and that of humanity.

But until the common people understand it, they would better leave it alone. I do not think I would care to go into an establishment where electricity is manufactured and recklessly place my hand on the dynamo. I would first prefer to learn a little about the laws of electricity and the voltage of the generator. Lacking that knowledge, I had better keep away from it.

And that is a safe injunction in regard to hypnotism. Do not trouble yourselves about it, unless you desire to enter upon a scientific investigation and learn the laws and nature of its operation. But, on the other hand, do not regard it as some mysterious and monstrous bugaboo conjured from the depths of hell to produce death and destruction to all who tamper with it.

Let us understand that nothing exists in all the universe a knowledge of which is dangerous. There is nothing, however, mysterious at present, which the intelligence of man will not some time apprehend. Man is the unconquerable master of nature; man will become the ultimate conqueror of the universe; and there is not a star so distant in yon nebulous dust but what some time shall cross the plane of his telescopic vision and be grasped and analyzed with scientific precision, as is the commonest substance of this earth. Let us understand that there lie concealed no gods, or God Supreme, within the bosom of Nature's mysterious forces, whom man himself—the only redoubtable god in the universal pantheon—shall not successfully challenge to remove the mantle of mystery that surrounds them.

Then shall we be able to apply all the potencies of nature, not only for physical benefit and relief from temporary disease, but for relief from mental and moral disorders, and all those cramping and narrowing conditions which harrow the heart and bedim the spirit of man. As in Nature, all forces are but the expression of a single principle, so there is in man himself a power that harmonizes him with the universe and makes it possible for him, as universal conqueror, to rise to that mountain height of achievement where he shall learn that nothing unknowable exists, that infinite knowledge but awaits the apprehension of an infinite mind, and that all knowledge achieved is for the uplift of humanity and the betterment of the individual. On that far height he shall behold, not some undiscerned and undiscoverable god buried in the abysmal bosom of space, but introspectively discerning himself,

he shall behold the god that never forsakes him, the god of himself and the universe—the only god he ever shall know, for in him inhere undreamed of possibilities, whose ends are divine and whose compass is infinite.

The Religion of Attention; Natural, Human and Rational vs. Hypnotic and Spook Religion.

BY T. B. WAKEMAN.

"The important thing" in all our life turns out to be ATTENTION. And upon that important light is thrown by the foregoing remarkable articles from the great French Physiologist, Ribot, and the astute Liberal Preacher and Observer of New York, Henry Frank. In that word, attention, with its auto-suggestion and Hypnotism, they give us concisely some of the most practical results of perhaps, the most wonderful of the Sciences, modern Psychology. The great uses of the other Sciences, from the sublime Astronomy, the far-reaching correlation of Physics, Chemistry, and the evolution of Biology, was to form the grand pedestal upon which MAN could stand to receive his final explanation. As Sir William Hamilton used to keep saying, "There is nothing great in the World but Man, and in Man nothing great but Mind;" and now it is shown that ATTENTION is the feeder, sustainer, executor and substance of mind, with all its astonishing powers of memory, reason and judgment. But what all of the facts in this domain of Man and mind really were, it only became possible to know since A. D. 1600; and only has it gradually become known since Lorenz Oken Gœthe and Lamarck, in or about 1800, put forth the "Ur-schleim" or Protoplasm, as the ONLY life exhibiting substance. Since then, how the World AND Man have been laid open! We seem never to have known anything certainly before. Certainly nothing reliable about "the secrets and mysteries," the normal sanity as distinguished from abnormal insanity, the spasms and terrors, which used to make horrid sport over the thoughts and feelings of Man. The human past had a few "green isles in the dark, wild sea of agony," and so the survivors have managed to live through. They were compelled to continue their species by the life instinct, but darkened by horrid superstitions and stained by the blood of murderous wars.

Now, the Sun of Science has arisen, and for the first time thrown a saving light over the lot and fate of man the individual and his race, that is, man and Man. What we are, How we are to be saved, "What we must do to be saved,"

is now for the first time told to individual man by the Science of Psychology, to Social Man, by the Science of Sociology, and to both by the Science of Morals. Now that we have really discovered where we are at, and what we can know and do, and what is to become of us, the next thing on hand is to take an account of stock; then to conduct our lives according to our means, the actual facts of the case, and the future which lies before us, as man and as MAN. [Note, man means the individual; Man or MAN means the race, Humanity.]

Strange as it may seem to us at first, that simple mental act, fact and process, ATTENTION, is the key to the whole human business. If we learn to use that key RIGHTLY, we are lords of ourselves and of our fate. It is man's fault if, as Byron said, "Lord of himself—that heritage of woe!" Attention is the rudder, and if we learn to steer even tolerably well, we shall find life well worth living, and if we steer first class, life becomes physically the most exquisitely delicious, and psychically the most blissfully ecstatic state of existence we can imagine. The old "Heavens" are out of the count. The Peoples that were, only had a confused idea of what they wanted, and their religions (including the Christian) were the most mistakenly absurd notions of how they were to get that—nowhere, or up in the sky?

But now correlative Psychology says: It has taken the Infinite Universe infinite time to work out the speck of protoplasm wherewith you started. Its first life was hunger, the feeling of need of something to absorb and assimilate—so as to keep going. Hence chemical affinity produced attractive longing to its foods; but there were dangers and hurts, too, and they left a feeling—the sense of repetition, againness, expectancy, AWARENESS; the beginning of memory, the mother of reflection, and then of the conscious Ego, the Father of wants and joys; hence ATTENTION, comparison, reason, judgment, will, conation, action and TELESIS, which is the final adjustment of means to effect, pre-desired and thought-of purposes, ends and objects of life. In a word, thus through the Ages the Universe and Humanity have produced man, "the thinker," a sentient, reasonable and purposeful being, and the finest, loveliest living statue, whose activities give the highest mind, soul and "spiritual" power known to exist. What shall the Lord of this wonderful, this miracle-exceeding "heritage" of a mindful body do with it? "Attention" is the word (ad, to, and tendo, I stretch, is the Latin of it) That is, to what shall "I stretch to;" to what shall I go out; that is, what shall I become devoted to,

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