

coldly fall the words of the speaker, how unreal seem the pictures of life after death. But when at the spirit circle the departed wife of Mr. Livermore, the New York banker, appeared to him radiant with life, and with more than human beauty, came to him with joy in her face, and the bright light of happiness in her eyes—came to him with flowers from the land beyond the tomb, and wrote long messages to him before his eyes in her well-known handwriting, that he might be sure afterwards that it was not a mere heavenly vision too bright for earth,—when such a revisitation as that took place, where was the gloomy influence of the voice of the conventional preacher? where the chilling effects of all the gloomy paraphernalia of death? and where—above all these—was the inconsolable grief for the loss of the loved one gone before? What, think you, is the amount of responsibility of those authorities in our land who exert all the temporary influence they possess to keep back from mankind such a revelation and consolation as this?

But where would be the consolations of the revisit if the bereaved husband did not greatly desire it? Who is to keep quiet those restless spirits which, having plagued you while embodied, will not leave you in peace when they have got themselves disembodied? With a doctrine, as with a tree, when it is undergoing decay parasites grow upon it and hasten its decomposition.

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*Canine Hallucination.*

A dog, into the stomach of which M. Magnan forced five grammes of the essence of absinthe, was first attacked with violent convulsions; at the end of an hour, without any provocation, it started up suddenly on to its feet, its hair standing on end, its countenance fierce, its eyes bloodshot and glaring. It looked fixedly towards a completely bare wall, on which there was nothing whatever to attract its attention, leaning forward on its feet, with extended neck, ready to make a spring. It advanced and retreated alternately, barked with rage, and seemed to engage in a furious fight, snapping its jaws and jumping quickly about as if to seize its adversary; it then shook its head from side to side, with clenched teeth, as if it were tearing its prey. By degrees it became calm, looked several times, growling, in the same direction, and after a while settled down entirely.

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