ANIMAL MAGNATISM.

Mr. Editor: Will you permit me through the Medium of your colums, to suggest to the recently appointed Regents of the Smithsonian Institution the expendiency of adding to its faculty a professor of "Animal Magnetism?"

The growing apathy of our citizens to this the most noble, because the most useful of sciences, gives cause to apprehend that, unless some provision be speedily made for the permanent and liberal support of at least one professor, the miraculous benefits of Antony Mesmer's wonderful discovery may eventually be lost to our country.

With a view to awaken a becoming interest on the part of the Board of Regents in this momentous subject, I beg to submit to them a few remarks on the origin of the science to which I have adverted and to enumerate some of the benefits which it has conferred and may yet bestow upon the human family.

A belief in animal magnetism may be traced back to a very early period. The ancients admitted the existence of a fluid or agent, which pervaded the whole universe, and was the cause of life and motion. According to this doctrine the soul of man was a portion of this universal spirit, which on his death, became liberated and entered into other combinations. Fenelon, in his Telemachus, has alluded to this theory in a happy and beautiful manner. "L'ame universelle est un vaste ocean de lumiere; nos âmes sont autant de petits ruisseaux qui y prennent leur source et retournent s'y perdre."

The same idea is found among the nations of the East, but in a still more extended form. According to Sir William Jones the Brahmins believe that not only the souls of men, but also all that exists in the world are an immediate emanation from Brahma not merely created by his power, but an absolute diffusion of himself, so that, to use the quaint explanation of Bernier, "he created the world as a spider produces a web; which it draws from its own bowels and can again resume at will."

In pursuing their investigations on this most important and interesing subject, the wonderful properties of the magnet soon attracted the attention of the learned; and all the characters of the universal fluid were believed to be concentrated in it. It appeared to unite every quality that had been attributed to this agent, and, in fact, to be a condensation of all the wonders of nature. Its principle was conceived to have emanated from the stars; and as it always turned to the north, the polar star was supposed to be the great origin of its powers. Magnetism and the all-pervading fluid, or soul, were now thought to be identical; and every action of nature was supposed to be the immediate result of its influence.

Wirdig, in his "Medicina Spirituum," thus expresses himself on the subject:—"Universa natura magnetica est. Totus mundus constat et positus est in magnetismo; omnes sublunarum vicissitudines fiunt per magnetismum; vita conservatur magnetismo; interitus omnium rerum fiunt per magnetismum." And he only gives the generally received opinions of the times at which he wrote.

To the effects of magnetism were also referred all those sympathies and antipathies so generally observable in nature; and as this fluid was the bond of union and harmony between different bodies it was also believed to exist in full force between the parts, should these even be separated. Hence arose very rationally a reliance on the curative powers of sympathetic medicaments and powders, which being applied to the instrument that had caused a wound or to any article imbrued with the blood, would cure the injury certainly and expeditiously, even where the operation was performed at a distance from the patient. The celebrated Sir Kenelm Digby was a strenuos advocate for this practice, and has given several marvellous instances of cures thus performed, some of which fell under his own notice. One of these so fully exemplifies the mode of operating, that it would seem improper to pass it over. One of his friends, in endeavoring to part two gentlemen who were fighting, was unfortunately, severely wounded in the hand. This accident put an immediate end to the duel, and both the antagonists endeavored to succor him.

"It was my chance," says Sir Kenelm, (for he relates the case himself,) "to be lodged hard by him, and, four or five days after he came to my house, and prayed me to view his wounds. I told him I would willingly serve him, but if haply he knew the manner how I would cure him, without touching or seeing him, it may be he would not expose himself to my manner of curing, because he would think it, peradventure, either ineffectual or superstitious. He replied: 'The wonderful things related of your way of medicinement makes me nothing doubt of its efficacy.' I asked him, then, for any thing that had the blood upon it. So he presently sent for his garter, wherewith his hand was first bound; and as I called for a basin of water, as if I would wash my hands, I took a handful of vitrol and dissolved it. As soon as the bloody garter was brought me, I put it in the basin; on which he suddenly started, as if he had found some strange alteration in himself. I asked him what he ailed? 'I know not what ails me, but I find I feel no more pain, methinks a pleasing kind of freshness, as it were a cold napkin, did spread over my hand, which hath taken away the inflamation that tormented me before.' I then replyed: 'Since then, that you feel already so good effect of my medicament, I advise you to cast away all your plaisters; only keep the wound clean and in a moderate temper, betwixt heat and cold.' To be brief, there was no sense of pain afterward; but, within five or six days the wounds were cicatrized and entirely healed."

Sir Kenelm communicated his secret to that inveterate eschewer of all witches, King James I., and declared he had obtained it from a Carmelite friar, who learned it in Armenia or Persia. But, notwithstanding the great success this learned practitioner met with, it appears that he was fully initiated into the whole art and mystery.

Van Helmont was also a disciple of this science of surgery, and wrote a treatise on the magnetic treatment of wounds. The great remedy in these cases was not mere vitriol, but an ointment, composed of the moss or mould which had grown on a human skull, mixed with fat. With this preparation, called *unguentum armarium*, the instrument that inflicted the wound was to be rubbed. But some important precautions were to be observed; for if the sword or other weapon, were stroked upwards, the patient would feel no pain; whereas, if this process were performed the contrary way, the wounded person would feel intolerable anguish.

Sir Walter Scott alludes to the use of this preparation in his Lay of the Last Minstrel:

"But she hath ta'en the broken lance,
And washed from it the clotted gore,
And salved the splinter o'er and o'er:
William of Dolerrine in trance,
Whene'er she turned it round and round.
Twisted as if she galled his wound."

It is truly astonishing, however, that, notwithstanding the numerous extraordinary cures effected through the agency of animal magnetism, men of observation and talents even at that early period, were found who doubted its efficacy, yet this only serves to demonstrate the perversity of our nature, and should prove a warning to us, lest we too close our eyes against the light of truth.

The power of magnetic sympathy was known also, at that time, to extend even farther than the mere curing of wounds.—It was a notorious fact, that if an image were made of wax, in the exact resemblance of a person, any injury done to this would be felt by the individual. Niderus speaketh of one "Œmiponte, a most notorious witch, who by making a picture of wax, and pricking it with needles in various parts, and then burying it under the threshold of her neighbor's house, whom she much hated, she was tormented with such grievous an insufferable prickings in her flesh, as if so many needles had been then sticking in her body. But the image being found and burned, she was instantly restored to her former health and strength."

By means of this subtle and omnipresent fluid, persons could converse at any distance. This mode of communication, is certainly very superior to the modern telegraphs, was very simple, and only consisted of slicing off a morsel of flesh from the arms of those who wished to possess this power, and applying that taken from one to the arm of the other. On these pieces, which soon became incorporated with the individual, the alphabet was to be traced; and when one of the person, thus prepared touched any letter with a sharp-pointed iron, the other was apprized of it, by a sensation of pain at the spot corresponding to the designated letter.

Grafts of flesh thus united to another body, also experienced the effect of the magnetic fluid in another manner; for when the individual died, from whose body they were taken, they also suffered the same fate. This was exemplified in a man at Brussels, who had an artificial nose, made after the Talmotian method. It served every useful purpose, until, unfortunately, the person from whom it was derived, happened to die, when it suddenly became cold and livid and finally fell off. It is also said that, some years ago, that all the chestnut trees in the Island of St. Helena were suddenly blighted and destroyed. On investigation as to the cause, it was found that they had been derived from grafts taken from a tree on the continent of Africa, which having been struck with lightning was killed at the moment its progeny were perceived to wither.

The blight which lately attacked so many of the buttonwood trees of this country is doubtless attributable to a similar cause.

To this all powerful agent may also be referred the present improved method of curing warts, and corns. This deserves to be universally known; for although the professors of the art are not quite in unison as to the precise means to be employed, some preferring a scrap of raw beef and others a piece of salt pork, still there can be no doubt as to the efficacy of this plan of removing the obstinate excrescence.—The most approved mode, with either of these substances, consists in rubbing the affected part with it, but unknown to any individual, and then burying it in some spot that is often walked over. As the pork or beef decays, so does the wart or corn diminish and disappear.

The science of animal magnetism remained in a very unsettled state until the time of the celebrated Mesmer, from whom it received an additional impulse and was reduced to systematic order, and whence also it subsequently became distinguished by his name. This philosopher, adopting the hypothesis of the universal fluid being the immediate agent of all the phenomena of nature and the originator and preserver of life in organized bodies, conceived the idea that it was owing to a diminution of this principle that diseases took place.—Hence it resulted, that to restore an individual to health, all that was requisite was to furnish his system with a certain quantity of the magnetic fluid. The great difficulty, now, to be overcome was the mode in which this was to be effected; but as the magnet evidently contained more of this powerful agent, than any other substance, Mesmer made use of it, employing in his experiments the magnetic plates inventented by Father Hehl, the professor of astronomy at Vienna. These were of a peculiar form, and great effects were attributed to them. This was attended with astonishing success; rapidly causing a dimunition of the disease and subsequent cure of the patient.

To the same principle must clearly be attributed the efficacy in the cure of disorders by Perkin's tractors, and this celebrated *savant* must evidently be classed with Mesmer and his followers. He is claimed as such by Deleuze, who observes that not only the good effects produced by the tractors were attributable to magnetism, but that the mode of curing toothache by crushing a lady-bug between the fingers and then touching the tooth with them arose from the same cause; "for I am far from believing," says he, "that an insect can communicate a curative virtue to the fingers; but he who is pursuaded of it uses them with confidence and will, (*velente,*) & hence often succeeds." Whilst on the subject of the cure of toothache by lady-bugs, it may be interesting to your readers to know that Signor Gerbi, the discoverer of the plan, cured 401 persons in 629, by this mode. The best plan, according to him, is to bruse the insects (for the benefit of naturalists, I give its long name *curculio antiodontalgicus*, but the *coccinella septempunctata* is equally useful) between the finger and the thumb. About a dozen should be used. The curative power of the fingers will last for a year, but is somewhat enfeebled by every tooth that is operated on. Signor Gerbi does not inform us whether the hands are to be washed during the period.

Since the time of Mesmer the science to which he gave name has been greatly extended, and the range of its beneficent influence proportionately enlarged. By means of the knowledge it unfolds, every human being susceptible of the magnetic influence may become his own physician prescribing with unerring accuracy to whatever malady may befall him. Poverty must cease throughout the land as the knowledge of this science is diffused, since he who is poor, by magnetizing a wealthy neighbor, and thus bringing him within the influence of his *will*, may induce him to bestow his property in obedience to his dictates. The time now usually wasted by young men and maidens, in preliminary courtship, may all be diverted to more profitable employment, by the magic power of the magnetizer. All strife and contention between man and wife must give place to peace and harmony, since one *will* must become the guide of both. Parents will no longer be harrassed by refractory children, who will all become gentle as lambs and submissive to their all-powerful *will*.

Teachers, too—how changed will their condition become! For, by the mere exertion of the *will*, after magnetizing his pupils, he may lead them as with a straw; and not only so, but he may magnetize the parents also, and thus not only dictate the terms of his tuition, but *will* them to promptitude in payment. Why, Mr. Editor, you too may derive infinite personal advantage from a diffusion of the magnetic science; for you will be able to obviate entirely the unpleasant necessity of reminding your numerous readers that the printer and the printer's devil, as well as yourself, who cater so diligently and so abundantly for the inelegant appetite, should promptly receive the reward of their labors.

You may sit at your desk and slumber, or revel in all the ecstasies of the fifth degree of clairvoyance, and, when you awake, find your coffers literally distended with yellow gold.

Politicians, too, and aspirants to office, will lay aside all bitterness and importunity; for our Chief Magistrate may will them all to leave him undisturbed in the possession of the presidential chair and to listen only to his dictation.

But it is vain to attempt an enumeration of a tithe of the benefits that would result to the nation, and prospectively to the world at large, from the universal diffusion of the doctrines of animal magnetism.

I therefore conclude with a prayer that the subject of appointing among its officers a professor of this wonderful science be taken into the gracious consideration of the venerable Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

PI BETA PHI.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 16, 1846.

P. S.—If the suggestion made should be favorably received and the contemplated appointment be determined on, accompanied by a *liberal appropriation for the support of the incumbent*, you may mention my name, Mr. Editor, as one eminently qualified to discharge the duties of the office.—*Washington paper.*] P. B. PH.

A GREAT SNOW STORM.—The following account of tremendous snow storms in the year 1777, is taken from the "History of Lynn," by Alonzo Lewis, published a number of years ago:

"Two great storms, on the twentieth and twenty-fourth of February, covered the ground so deep with snow that people for some days could not pass from one house to another. Old Indians of an hundred years said that their fathers had never told them of such a snow. It was from ten to twenty feet deep, and generally covered the lower stories of the houses. Cottages of one story were entirely buried, so that the people dug paths from one house to another under the snow. Soon after, a slight rain fell, and the frost crusted the snow; and then the people went out of their chamber-windows and walked over it. Many of the farmers lost their sheep; and most of the sheep and swine which were saved lived from one to two weeks without food. One man had some hens buried near his barn, which were dug out alive eleven days after. During this snow, a great number of deer came from the woods for food, and were followed by the wolves, which killed, many of them. Others were killed by the people with guns. Some of the deer fled to Nahant, and being chased by the wolves, leaped into the sea and were drowned. Great damage was done to the orchards by the snow freezing to the branches, and splitting the trees as it fell.

This snow formed a remarkable era in New England; and old people, in relating an event, would say that it happened so many years before or after the great snow.

An old man who had been dreadfully *ten-pecked* all his life, was visited on his death-bed by a clergyman. The old man appeared very indifferent, and the parson tried to arouse him by talking of the King of Terrors. "Hout, tout, man, I'm no scar't. The King of Terrors! I've been living sax and thirty years with the Queen of them, and the King canna be muckle waur:

CONGRESS.

[Reported for the Balt. Clipper.]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27, 1847.

SENATE.

The Loan Bill ($28,000,000) was taken up, read a third time, and passed by ayes 42, noes 2, (Messrs. Cilley and Corwin.)

The bill establishing the office of Surveyor General of Oregon, was read a third time and passed.

The Army Bill was taken up; the pending amendment being that of

Mr. Atchison's proposition to change the character of the ten regiments to be authorized, from regulars to volunteers.

Mr. Corwin obtained the floor, when the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Houston reported the bill making appropriations for the Post Office Department.

The bill to increase the pay of regulars and volunteers, was taken up in committee. A large number of amendments were voted on, and several agreed to. Finally, a substitute was adopted—in effect, increasing the pay three dollars, and giving eighty acres to those who serve less than twelve months, or to the end of the war, a hundred and sixty acres. Nothing to be construed to give lands to those who did not reach the seat of war. When the committee rose, the bill was passed—yeas 117, nays 18.

The amendments of the Senate to the Treasury Note bill were concurred.

Mr. Hopkins submitted a resolution, to terminate the debate on the Navy bill, to-morrow, at one o'clock.

Without taking the question, the House adjourned.

[Reported for the Balt. Clipper.]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 1847.

SENATE.

Mr. Morehead, of Ky., presented a memorial from some person whose name was not heard, praying that Congress would give him *power* to construct a Magnetic Telegraph across the Atlantic ocean, as he professed to have discovered a mode in which it could be done. Referred to the committee on Post Offices and Post Roads.

At 1 o'clock the special order—the army bill—was taken up, the question being on concurring in the Land bounty section as reported by the committee of the whole, and to which Mr. Rusk had offered an amendment, giving $100 Scrip bearing interest at 6 per cent, redeemable in ten years, and receivable in payment of public lands.

Mr. Rusk withdrew his amendment.

Mr. Hannagan next proposed an amendment; pending which,

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The hour of one having arrived the committee proceeded to vote on the pending amendments. A large number were offered, and some of them agreed to; among them, an appropriation for the Naval School at Annapolis; dry docks; towards one at Kittery, Me., $50,000; for the commencement of one at Philadelphia, $50,000; for the completion of a dry dock at Pensacola, $250,000; six cents a day, to the sailors who may elect, in lieu of the spirit ration now allowed.

When the committee rose, these amendments and others were concurred in.

And the bill making appropriations for the Navy for the year ending June 30th, 1848, was passed.

(Reported for the Balt. Clipper.)
WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1847.

SENATE.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Slicer. Journal of yesterday.

Mr. Jarnagin pursuant to notice introduced a joint resolution giving thanks to General Zachary Taylor and the troops under his command.

The Army bill was next taken up and Mr. Hannegan's amendment adopted by ayes 38 noes 8, granting 160 acres to all the 12 months Volunteers as well as to those who volunteer during the war.

Mr. Atchison next proposed an amendment, restraining the location of any of these land warrants from lands on which there are any pre-emption rights, or on which there are any actual settlers—which, after debate, was agreed to, ayes 27 noes 10.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

This morning, by a vote of 136 to 28, the rules were suspended, and Mr. Coke submitted a joint resolution, indicated yesterday, tendering the unanimous thanks of Congress to Major General Taylor, and through him, the officers and men under his command, regulars and volunteers, for the brilliant achievement at Monterey, with a force double that of their own to defend the city, which was strongly fortified; authorizing the President to have struck a gold medal and presented to Major General Taylor, and furnishing him with a copy of the resolution. Mr. Faran proposed to amend, in effect: that the war was forced on us by Mexico, and is waged in defence of the honor of and in justice to the United States, by repeated and flagrant acts of insult, outrages, and finally the invasion of one of the States of this Union. He accepted a proviso of Mr. Jacob Thompson, of Mississippi, "that nothing herein contained shall be construed into an approbation of the capitulation at Monterey."

This was objected to in various quarters; unsuccessful efforts were made to prevent it from being attached; but, under the operation of the previous question, the amendment was agreed to—yeas 110, nays 70.

[Report of the Balt. Blipper.]
WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1847.

SENATE.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Sprole—Journal of yesterday.

After the presentation of Sunday memorials and reports of committees.

A resolution offered by Mr Benton, directing the Secretary of the Senate to employ Mr. Charles Prues, to compile a map of the Rocky Mountains, showing the headquarters of all the rivers rising in them was taken up, and Mr. Benton made a speech in explanation thereof, and the resolution was adopted.

The Senate went into executive session.

Maryland Legislature.

[Report of the Baltimore Clipper.]
ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 27, 1847.

SENATE. A communication was received from the Governor, in answer to a call, showing the amount of assessable property in Baltimore city.

HOUSE. The Speaker presented a memorial, signed by numerous gentlemen of Baltimore city, in favor of a pension to the widow of the late Lieut. Col. Watson, who was killed in the Mexican War, which was referred to a select committee.

In committee of the Whole, the bill regulating the salary of the Governor and Secretary of State, was again under consideration. The salary of the first was fixed at $3,000, and the amendment proposed by Mr. Kennedy, assigning certain duties to the Secretary, then came up. After much discussion; in which Messrs. Kennedy, Murray, Duckett, Turner, of Frederick, McComas, and Orrick, participated, without coming to any conclusion, the Committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again. The House, having determined to conclude debate in committee at two to-morrow, adjourned.

[Report of the Balt. Clipper.]
ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 29, 1847.

SENTE. A petition was received from the Junior Artilleries, of Baltimore for arms, and asking compensation for certain expense; which was referred to the House.

HOUSE. The Speaker called attention to a letter from the clerk to the commissioners of Washington county, declining to furnish information called for, unless paid therefor; but without taking any definite action there on, it was passed over.

On motion of Mr. Done, the committee on ways and means were directed to inquire into the propriety of making provision for persons innocently receiving instruments of writing not on stamped paper.

A resolution providing for the settlement of accounts with the Messrs. Barings, was passed.

The bill fixing the salary of the Governor and Secretary of State, was taken up. The question being upon the unfavorable report of the committee of the Whole—after some personal explanation, in reference to allusions to Mr. Turner, of Frederick, in previous debate and through the press—the bill was laid upon the table—where it will probably "sleep the sleep of death."

A resolution authorizing the transfer of certain State historical documents to the Maryland Historical Society, was taken up, in committee of the Whole, (Mr. Spencer in the chair.) The Hon. John P. Kennedy, in advocating the resolution, gave some interesting accounts of his researches for these records at the seat of government, and of their scattered and neglected condition, &c.

Mr. Sellman suggested the State Library as the most appropriate place for these documents. After some further debate, the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again; when the House abjourned.

[Reported for the Baltimore Clipper.]
ANNAPOLIS, Jan. 30. 1847.

SENATE. Mr. Parran obtained leave to report a bill in favor of A. P. Wilson, in the case of a deed.

Mr. Donaldson, chairman of the committee of ways and means, made a report. The report was signed by every member of the committee, and it proposes to resume the payment of interest on the public debt from and after the 1st January, 1848.—That after October next, all taxes shall be paid in cash—prohibiting the receipt of coupons, as at present. The arrears of interest from the 1st October, 1847, to be funded, at 6 per cent,—payable annually. The committee expressed its fullest confidence in the State's ability to sustain these measures, and have taken every precaution against contingencies.

It was ordered that 1000 copies of the report be printed.

Mr. Duckett, from the committee to whom the subject had been referred, made an elaborate report, accompained by a resolution, fixing the salary of Chancellor, after the 1st of January next, at $3,000; and nine hundred copies of the report were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Lankford gave notice of his intention to report a bill supplementary to act of 1833, ch. 54, relating to the destruction of oysters. Adjourned.

[Reported for the Balt. Clipper.]
ANNAPOLIS, Feb. 2, 1847.

The bill confirming the biennial session act, was taken up; and, after some debate, passed (Mr. Bowie being excused from voting) by the following vote.

Ayes—Messrs. Williams, President Blackestone, Carter, Clarke, George, Keyser, Mathews, Moores, Naill, Phelps, Roberts, and Whalen—12.

Nays—Messrs. Blocher, Carey, McCullough, Parran, and Sellman—5.

HOUSE. Messrs. Cox, Hayden and Patterson, of Baltimore city, Jamar, Jarrett, Stephens and Turner, of Calvert, presented petitions.

A resolution in favor of the Maryland Historical Society, was again taken up.—Mr. Kennedy, (who is its legitimate author,) defended it; and Messrs. Owens and Henry, opposed it. The speeches of these gentlemen were chaste, beautiful, and highly interesting, as they touched upon the ancient history of Maryland, referred to the papers proposed to be removed to that society, and spoke of the incidents connected with the history of this ancient metropolis.

Without taking the vote, the subject was passed over, and the House adjourned.

If we would enjoy ourselves we must take the world as it is, mixed up with a thousand spots of sunshine—a cloud here and there—a bright sky—a storm to day, calm to-morrow—the chill piercing winds of autumn, and the bland, reviving air of summer.

EASTON GAZETTE.

EASTON, Md.

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 6.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*The Belle of Niagara*" declined. It is sadly deficient in plot, and abounds in grammatical errors too gross for the public eye.

"*A Subscriber*" will receive our acknowledgments for his very encouraging epistle. We shall give his request the earliest possible attention.

INTELLECTUAL TRIUMPHS.

The world appears just arousing itself from a long sleep. Science which once moved at a snail's pace from century to century, now finds the wing of the lightning too slow for its flight. Strange, sudden, overwhelming indeed are the developments of the era in which we live; and the man whose attainments approach the half of them is justly entitled to the appellation of learned. Dangerous is it to sit down to the calm perusal of a volume, least by the revolution and improvements in the science treated, its propositions should be found vague and obsolete. And what is all that we know compared with the intellectual glory and power which shall burst upon a future century—and what will that be compared with the centuries yet to roll over this earth ere it swings,

—"blind and blackening in the moonless air."

But although it is just cause for congratulation, that we are permitted to live in a period so illustrious in all that adorns human nature, and pregnant with results of such vast magnitude, how should our position rebuke a spirit of self sufficiency in Letters, and teach a lesson of the deepest and most lasting humility! How wise has been every period of the world's history in its own vain estimation! How startling its discoveries! How infallible its deductions! How immense its attainments! And yet how ignorant compared with all that is now understood! Such to the end of time must be the progressive experience which nation after nation shall apply to its own advancement. When the last age shall dawn upon the Earth it will reflect more and more brightly, as it progresses to the close, the dazzling glory of the Heavenly mind, leaving all former periods in shadows of the night. But even the last inhabitants may apply to themselves in prospect of what is beyond the language of the Great Newton, in his closing hours, and admit, that their grandest discoveries and loftiest achievments have been indeed like picking up trifling pebbles along the vast shores of eternity, in which lie buried all the treasure, all the beauty, all the wealth.

The foregoing reflections have been prompted by a perusal of the more recent discoveries in Astronomy. How wonderful that a single human mind in this floating atom of the universe should penetrate far into boundless expanse, where the imagination has before scarcely dared to linger. The most sublime acme seemed to be attained, when old theories faded before the discovery, that the sun was the great centre around which all else revolved. But what shall we think of Lord Rosse's telescope, which makes the great sun and his planetary orbs but satellites revolving around another great blazing centre! What vast mysteries does it unfold! Higher and higher, farther and farther, follows the mind in its flight through system upon system, until Galaxies burst upon the gaze compared to the brilliancy of which our mighty sun is but the fire fly coruscation of a summer night; the whole expanding towards the great centre of all, the awful CREATOR of the Universe, and the controller of its infinite harmonies.

Nor should we omit, in speaking of Lord Rosse, to mention the great Leverrier, whose name has already filled the world. In the solitude of his closet by intricate mathematical calculation upon the aberrations of the most distant planet known to our system, Uranus, this great philosopher has been able to detect a new world still beyond, and to calculate its dimensions, orbit, revolution, &c. So great an achievment has brought the kings and potentates of the Earth to do him homage. How sublime is the spectacle of a single man, emerged from the shadow of obscurity, by a mighty effort of intellect asserting his superiority in an hour over power and rank which centuries have assisted to organize! Louis Philippe at once constitutes

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