[Cut this out and paste it in your scrap-book and watch for the next. These selections are made with great care by the Editor of the GAZETTE.]

## SOUL STILLNESS.

When winds are raging o'er the upper ocean,
And billows wild contend with angry roar,
'Tis said, far down beneath the wild commotion,
That perfect stillness reigneth evermore.

Far, far beneath, the noise of tempest dieth,
And silver waves chime ever peacefully;
And no rude storm, how fierce soe'er he flieth,
Disturbs the sabbath of that deeper sea.

So, to the soul that knows thy love, O Purest,
There is a temple peaceful evermore!
And all the babble of earth's angry voices
Die in hushed stillness at its sacred door.

Far, far away the noise of passion dieth,
And loving thoughts rise ever peacefully;
And no rude storm, how fierce soe'er he flieth,
Disturbs that deeper rest, O Lord, in Thee.

O rest of rests! O peace serene, eternal!
Thou ever livest and thou changest never;
And in the secret of thy presence dwelleth
Fullness of joy, forever and forever.

—Harriet Beecher Stowe.

# THE OCCULT FACULTIES IN MAN

BY HON. LORAN A. SHERMAN—EXPERIMENTAL TELEPATHY

**And Thought Transferrence—Existence of a Form of Energy Which the Physical Senses Cannot Perceive—Reproduced in the Gazette in Weekly Installments.**

PART IV.

My own study of occult phenomena, in a superficial and desultory way, began thirty years ago. At the outset I was in doubt regarding a future state of existence, but was firm in my conviction that spirits of the dead did not and could not communicate with the living. That thought transferrence and certain phases of clairvoyant perception were actualities I knew from experience, observation and experiment. In this frame of mind I visited a man who posed as an exposer of the alleged illusions and frauds of spiritism, and found that under test conditions he could and did read, mentally, concealed writings and give correct answers to them, signing the names of the dead persons to whom they were addressed. He also told me facts regarding a deceased cousin which I had never known, but afterward ascertained to be true, using the language, "He says so." Following this I did not scoff at the theory of the continuity of life and communication of spiritual with physical men. I simply said, "It may be so; I do not know."

But there came a time when further investigation, casting aside preconceived ideas and prejudices, seemed forced upon me. The death of a young son by drowning was followed in a few weeks and months by various reports coming from personal friends who were investigators that he had manifested himself in various ways as a spirit and expressed regret that I would not investigate. I paid very little attention to these reports at first, and it was not until nine months after his death that I called upon a man who designated himself as a physiognomist, residing in a distant city from my own home. We were entire strangers to each other, and I gave him no information regarding myself. We sat down in full daylight, and for a few minutes the psychic gazed fixedly at a point in the room near myself. Then he began saying, "The boy, the boy," and proceeded to give a correct personal description of my boy who had been drowned, with the principal circumstances of the event, including a number unknown to me at the time, which I afterwards ascertained to be true. The theory of occult manifestations I then held enabled me to account for some of the things he told me as thought transferrence and the perception of mental pictures formed in my own brain; but it would not account for many things that occurred. Among other things he said that certain events, absolutely unexpected by me, would occur at my own residence very soon, as he saw it, within a day or two; and they did occur as predicted, failing in but one minor point. In considering these facts afterward, I could understand fully the predictions and their fulfillment, assuming the Spiritual theory to be true. If my boy actually existed as a spirit, with power to go from place to place, observe facts and events and the thoughts of living persons, he could easily have perceived the probability of such occurrences and could have helped to bring them about. Otherwise it must have been absolute prophecy in the fact of the clairvoyant, or his perceptive consciousness must have been projected to observe a great variety of circumstances among people entirely unknown to him. I asked the man how the boy he claimed to see appeared to him. He said that he first saw a misty form, which gradually developed into perfect form and features, and that the form disappeared as it came, ending in a mist which finally vanished like condensed steam. This physiognomist or clairvoyont subsequently predicted many events which actually occurred, some of them fully two months after the predictions were made. On one occasion he told me I would receive a letter from an eastern city which would bring about certain results. I had no expectation at the time of receiving such a letter, and no definite idea of who would send it, but formed a theory of it in my own mind. Subsequently the letter came, but not in accordance with the theory I had formed. For a time everything proceeded according to the prediction; but before the result which the writer of the letter sought to bring about had been reached I became opposed to it, and partly by my own effort, but mainly by occurrences not anticipated, it was prevented. In this case again the circumstances were such that if the clairvoyant could really communicate with spirits they might have given him his information regarding the intention of the person to write the letter and their expectation of its result. And as the matter was one that my boy would have been deeply interested in if alive, and would probably desired to have resulted according to the wish of the one who wrote the letter, I can conceive it as entirely probable that his spirit was the one that gave the clairvoyant the information, if the spiritual theory be true.

Through other clarivoyants I have been told many things likely to occur, not often with absolute positiveness, but usually as the statement that, "Your friends," or some especially named deceased friend, "think so and so," or "they are trying to bring it about," or in some other form of expression similar to that a friend in physical life who might be trying to accomplish a certain end or regarded a certain result as probable would use.

On one occasion a clarivoyant said to me: "Willie says you are going to have a chance to make an important change in your business very soon, one out of which he thinks you will make some money. When it comes he wants you to remember that he told you about it." Less than a week later, to my great surprise, I did have such a proposition. At first I considered it quite impracticable for me to accept it, the investment involved being quite beyond my immediate means, and the risk great. But with very little effort I obtained the money and made the investment, and it has proved the most profitable venture I have ever engaged in. Subsequently, through another clarivoyant, who told me my boy was present, I said: "Willie, how did you know I was going to have that business proposition?" The reply was: "Why I heard the men (naming them) talking about it. Grandpa and I are doing all we can to help you. We hear men talking, know what they think and sometimes can influence them to think as we want them to and so help you." I state facts as they have occurred. Different inferences and conclusions will be drawn by different persons. I have no desire to influence anyone's conclusions. But so far as prophecy is concerned, while I do not say that the soul of man, either incarnate or decarnate, cannot foresee future events, except as the results of causes in operation, I have not been able to obtain any very positive evidence that it can. Those who read Bible prophecies analytically, and without prejudice, will be impressed with these facts and characteristics: Such prophecies were nearly all given as communications from spirit intelligences. All those who did not speak for Yah-weh (commonly called in the English translation the Lord, sometimes the Lord of Hosts or leader of a host of spirits, and sometimes God), and some of those who claimed to represent Jehovah were regarded as false prophets. The language most commonly used is, "Thus saith the Lord." Very many of the prophecies made by the assumed mediums of Jehovah did not come true; and in such cases the representations of the prophets usually were, as they will be found recorded in the Bible, that the Lord had repented, if evil had been threatened, or that the sins of the people had brought about disaster, if evil came when good had been promised. The prophets of Israel were, indeed, quite as fallible as those of the present day, and those alleged to be false were much more numerous, proportionately, than the alleged fraudulent mediums of modern times.

In the early days of my systematic investigation of psychic and spirit phenomena I visited a clairvoyant, whom I had met but once before, and who could by no possibility have known anything about my family affairs. This lady reported the circumstances of the drowning of my boy, including facts which, up to the time, I had not known. She also reported as present, giving their names and correct descriptions, all of my deceased near relatives. One of them she called by a name unknown to me, but which I afterwards ascertained was hers. During this sitting the clairvoyant said: "Willie says he is coming to you in the night and will wake you up, so that you will know it is he." I said: "Willie will let me go to sleep again, will he not?" The reply was that he would try and help me to sleep. This was in the city of Detroit. That night I occpied a room on the front of the Russell house, facing the city hall. I went to bed shortly before 11 o'clock and slept almost immediately. My next realization of consciousness found me sitting up in bed, with the feeling that I had received a powerful electric shock in the head, while before me, as though standing in air, was a boy's form, distinct in outline, but not feature. On that side of the bed the light shone through the transom of my room, and was as clearly shaded by the figure as though the apparition had been flesh and blood. Through the windows in front the street lights shone into the room, making every object in it plainly visible. As I gazed in astonishment the figure waved its hand and faded away. For an hour afterward I tried to sleep with my face toward the window, but time and again, almost involuntarily, turned my eyes toward the point where I had seen the apparition, but it did not appear again. Soon after the city hall clock struck 2 I fell asleep, and did not waken again until after it was on the stroke of 7. The shock I had received, however given, affected my heart so seriously that I did not recover from it until I had taken medical treatment. Perhaps this experience was not what it appeared to be, but as I have related it, the occurrences were as real to me as any I have ever observed.

*(To be continued.)*


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# DESTRUCTION OF SPANISH FLEET.

## Story of How the Great Naval Engagement Was Fought off Santiago.

CERVERA'S fleet composed of the very best vessels the Spanish Navy boasted has been completely destroyed in battle and Admiral Cervera with 1600 prisoners captured, and offered to the United States as a 4th of July gift by Admiral Sampson's fleet.

At 9.40 o'clock a. m. the watchful eyes of the men on the American vessels blockading Santiago saw the torpedo boat destroyers Furor and Pluton coming out of the mouth of the harbor. Close behind them followed the first class armored cruisers Almirante Oquendo; Vizcaya, Infanta Maria Teresa and Christobal Colon.




REAR ADMIRAL W. T. SAMPSON.

Immediately after leaving the harbor the armored vessels turned westward and proceeded at a high rate of speed, while the torpedo boats made straight for the Brooklyn. Tho Spanish ships were all stripped down, and their hulls had a shabby, weather-beaten look, which seemed to indicate that little attention had been given to appearances during their long imprisonment.

As the Spanish vessels swept along in single file, while ours were swiftly moving into position to open fire, they seemed already to shrink from the terrible blows they knew were coming.

The Spaniards had hardly left the harbor before a heavy fire was opened upon them and several of the Americans started in pursuit.

As the torpedo boat destroyers started for the Brooklyn, the converted yacht Gloucester commanded by Captain Wainwright, which was lying close by, started for the two dreaded little boots, firing upon them as she advanced:

It didnt take the torpedo boat destroyers long to decide that they preferred flight to fighting. The vessels in which Spain had put such reliance because of their speed and supposed fighting qualities, were even less aggressive looking now than the cruisers. They gave no evidence of a desire to test their teeth, but made the best possible use of their nimble legs. They held a course further in shore and astern of the cruisers and put the latter between them and our ships.

Meanwhile the Texas, Iowa, Oregon, Indiana and Brooklyn were in hot pursuit of the big Spanish ships. The Vizcaya and Infanta Maria Teresa where hit repeatedly but continued to fire and run.

In a short time the Almirante Oquendo was on fire and headed for the shore. Next the Maria Teresa with smoke issuing from her made for the beach.

The Vizcaya kept on for two miles further, and then she too, started for the shore. Almost as soon as she grounded there was a terrific explosion aboard.

The Americans now devoted all attention to the Cristobal Colon until 2 o'clock in the afternoon when she ran for the shore and hauled down her colors. Admiral Cevera surrendered and was carried a prisoner on board the Glouster.

The Glouster had in the meantime distroyed unaided the Pluton and Furor.

Captain Wainright congratulated the Spanish Admiral upon having made a most gallant fight. He placed his cabin at Cevera's disposal, who retired with his officers. While Captain Wainright was talking to the Admiral the latter wept. The crew of the Glouster dressed the wounds of the Spaniards and procured food for them, which they ate like they were half starved.

Admiral Sampson, on the flagship New York, had gone to Siboney for a conference with General Shafter, but he returned in time to join in the chase of the Colon.

The morning was calm and beautiful and the whole engagement could be seen by those aboard the warships.

The beach is now strewn for miles with half burned life boats and debris of all kinds, among which are many corpses.

Thirteen hundred Spaniards were taken prisoners, about 359 killed and 100 wounded. The only American casualities were the killing of Chief Yoeman Ellis and the wounding of one man on the Brooklyn.