

has been several contributions to the literature of the subject, including a paper by Dr. John Duncan Quackenbos, read before the New Hampshire Medical Society, and a book from the press of Messrs. Harper and Bros., by the same author, entitled *Hypnotism in Mental and Moral Culture*. The hypnotism of which this book treats must not be confounded with the loathesome hypnotic displays of dime museums, or the disgusting parlor exhibitions so degrading to intelligent manhood and womanhood. Dr. Quackenbos strongly contends for the suppression of the circulation, by charlatans, of literature on hypnotism, advertising instruction in methods of inducing this abnormal mental state, teaching "the art of fascination" for money, promising to empower business men to secure patronage by hypnotizing prospective customers, and adventurers to win similarly the affection of heiresses, and illustrated by shameless pictures of hypnotic sharps, in full dress, influencing fashionably attired women amid the surroundings of sumptuous boudoirs. In connection with this recommendation, it is gratifying to note that the New York State Medical Society has under consideration a bill to prohibit public or private exhibitions of hypnotism, which is

intended to limit the practice of the science to duly authorized physicians and surgeons. The importance of this proposed legislation may be gathered from an idea of the marvellous powers possessed by the hypnotist, to whom, for the time being, his subject surrenders his entire volition. Dr. Quackenbos relates some wonderful personal experiences in his work, telling, amongst other things, how many marvellous cures have been effected by means of hypnotic suggestion. He holds that "each human being is an individual with two distinct phases of existence, a combination of two personalities which do not shade into each other—the personality by which he is known to his associates, which takes cognizance of the outside world and consciously carries on the ordinary business of life; and a higher more, subtle personality, which science has demonstrated to be capable of acting independently of a physical environment, which, as the image of God, intuitively apprehends, and which the writer believes will assume relief after death as the essence of the *pneuma* or soul. The astonishing communications of entranced mediums regarding events actually occurring in remote parts of the world at the very moment of their revelations are comprehensible only