

son magnetized into a state of apparent sleep, or somnambulism, will perform acts requiring the greatest attention and judgment, and is able to see, or to act as one who has his sight, when the sense of seeing is thus suspended. A case is stated of a Mr. Petit, who being magnetized into a state of sleep, could play at picquet with great dexterity. It was impossible to deceive or embarrass him. His eyes were closed, but the ball of the eye seemed to move under the eyelids, and to follow the motions of the hands. Wide and thick bandages were placed over the eyes, still the man attended to the game, in all respects as one who saw. When afterwards he was suffered to take repose, and the magnetizer ceased his operations, and the man awoke he said he had no recollection of any thing which took place while he was asleep.

What is even more wonderful, it is stated, that a person thus magnetized into sleep is able to determine what his disease or debility is owing to, and what will operate a cure. He can even predict when and what disease would afflict him, and the best remedy for his disorder.

Another magnetized person was able by a touch to determine the disease and constitutional temperament of any one presented to him. These are wonderful relations; too strange, perhaps, to be credited, or to be repeated. But they are stated in a report of learned men appointed to investigate the subject.—The wonders performed by a somnambulist in this country which have been publicly related, are somewhat similar to those above referred to. But the state of apparent sleep was not produced by animal magnetism; and remains a wonder to be explained. To say that these persons are delicately constituted, and of extraordinary susceptibility, is not sufficient to account for these wonders. For the patients do not feel and suffer exquisitely; but they see, discern and discriminate with more power and accuracy than those in health.

Not only are their senses more acute; but they can see with closed eyes, and judge correctly without previous knowledge!—*American Magazine.*

THE CLEARNESS OF SOUNDS AT NIGHT.

The greater clearness with which distant sounds are heard during night, is an interesting phenomenon. It was noticed by the ancients, and ascribed to the repose of animated nature. When Humboldt first heard the noise of the great cataracts of the Orinoco, his attention was directed to this curious fact, and he was of opinion that the noise was three times louder during the night, than in the day. As the humming of insects was much greater at night than in the day, and as the breeze which might have agitated the leaves of the trees, never rose till after sunset, he was led to seek for another cause of the phenomenon. In a hot day, when warm currents of air ascend from the heated ground and mix with the cold air above of a different density, the transparency of the air is so much affected, that every object seen through it appears to be in motion, just as when we look at an object over a fire, or the flame of a candle. The air therefore, during the day is a mixed medium, in which the sounds are reflected and scattered in passing through streams of air of different densities, as in the experiment of mixing atmospheric air and hydrogen. At midnight, on the contrary, when the air is transparent and of uniform density, as may be seen by the brilliancy and number of the stars, the slightest sound reaches the ear without interruption. M. Chladni has illustrated the effect of a mixed medium by an experiment of easy repetition. If we pour sparkling Champagne into a tall glass till it is half full, the glass cannot be made to ring by a stroke on its edge, but admits a dull, disagreeable and puffy sound. This effect continues as long as