

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC.

THOUGHT-READING.

A leading London medical journal (*Med. Times and Gaz.*) has discussed the subject of thought-reading. From it, it appears that Mr. Bishop's so-called thought-reading "resolved itself simply into the interpretation of the involuntary and unconscious muscular movements of persons whose attention was fixed on some particular object. Similar results have been obtained by Mr. Stuart Cumberland, who entirely disclaims the possession of any peculiar power, and avows that he works simply by the means of the communication we have stated."

The children of a clergyman in Derbyshire, of unblemished character and tried integrity, had been accustomed to amuse themselves with the "willing" game—*i. e.*, one of them would leave the room and in her absence the others would think of some object, and the absent one on being re-called would try to guess the object thought of. The children attained such great skill in "guessing" as to surprise their father, who in consequence gave to their proceedings more than usual attention. It seemed to him so wonderful, that he invited members of a neighboring family to join them, and the fame of the family spread. The presence of the father seemed to increase the successes. On one day, when there was ill-success, it was attributed by the children to inertness after an early dinner. The family are convinced that when mistakes are made the fault rests, for the most part, with the thinkers, rather than with the thought-readers. Dull and undemonstrative people make success difficult. The *Gazette* concludes:—"It seems that in some organizations thought can be communicated by means apart from the generally recognized modes of perception. How such communication takes place—whether it depends upon some peculiar power, or whether it is simply that some quick children have so trained their perceptive powers that they notice indications of thought, ordinary in kind, but so slight in degree that less skilful observers are not aware of their existence,—we will express no opinion."

UTOPIAN.

LEAVES FROM THE DIARY OF A CENTENARIAN.

JUNE—1983.—To-day I went in the "Sky Fly," high up over the beautiful fields and houses and trees, to the great city of Hygieapolis, to see the enormous balloon and other preparations for the proposed expedition to the moon. I hope this, the third expe-