

"In No. 114 of the present series of the Journal, we give a brief report of Mr. Faraday's lecture on the relation of light and magnetism. Since its delivery, he has explained away a misapprehension existing in the minds of many persons as to his experiments, which it was imagined were meant to prove that the luminousness of a ray of light is due to magnetism. The truth, however, resolves itself simply into this : that, regardless of any of the existing theories on the nature of light, whatever is magnetic in a ray only has been effected ; the line of magnetic force was illuminated by the ray of light used in the experiment, as the earth is illuminated by the sun : *there was no creation of light* ; the ray was required to show that light in common with ponderable matter, is acted on by magnetism.*

"A second lecture was delivered by Mr. Faraday, at the beginning of March, 'On new magnetic actions and on the magnetic condition of all matter.' So great was the interest excited by the announcement of the subject, that the entrance-hall of the institution was thronged, long before the hour of admission, by a dense body of individuals from among the most scientific class, who afterwards filled the theatre to overflowing, many being unable to obtain seats. It was impossible to look round on the intellectual-looking assembly, without being struck with the reflection that they had met to do homage to some of the highest truths of science.

"Punctual to the hour, the lecturer made his appearance, and observing that he would not waste time in idle regrets that a portion of the audience was unable to find accommodation, proceeded to the discussion of the subject. The apparatus used on this occasion was the same as at the former lecture, with a little difference of arrangement. The helix stood perpendicularly on the floor, connected as before by wires with the electro-galvanic battery ; and the large horse-shoe magnet was placed so that two poles only were seen rising through openings to a level with the surface of the table in front of the operator, who, by this arrangement, had the great power of the apparatus completely under command, while it afforded the best means of exhibiting the effects —

* This shews that Faraday does not consider light and magnetism as the same thing.

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