

ment, and with much attained knowledge and its attained adult spirit proportions, must by its retrocession become reduced to the diminutive form of the newly conceived infant, which is to become its physical abiding place, and its physical body growth be ever subject to the requirements of the spirit which occupies it during a second earth-life experience.

Is the first life record still preserved in the subjective mind as that of Wm. Smith, together with what was added in the years spent in the spirit spheres, and are these now further to be added to, by Wm. Smith's second life record as made by John Brown, into whose body Wm. Smith entered in order to gain a second human life experience, with a second spirit life experience to follow, which indeed is somewhat perplexing for the ordinary mind to comprehend, to say nothing as to the motive which prompts its enactment, and the results to be attained?

To me it appears that there is reason for the belief that the retrocession will be found to prove unsatisfactory, with no evidence to prove that the second human life is any improvement upon that of the first human life.

*I have not discovered any natural law with provision made for such an exception; and were it to be the rule, or a natural law, it would be self-evident to all.*

Having no tangible evidence in support of reincarnation, I questioned some of the alleged advanced spirits regarding it. Among others questioned were the alleged spirits of the philosophers Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, brought to me by Hypatia. By reference to Chapter XXIV, the reader will learn what each of them had written in reply to my question, at least Plato and Aristotle did so.

The gist of the several responses to my plea for some knowledge regarding reincarnation, is briefly embodied here. It was pronounced to be "chimerical." All affirmed it was not true. One of the philosophers said, "Nor was it intended to be so understood." Another said such a conception is inconsistent with natural law, and with the evolution of discarnate spirit; and that literal minds so interpreted, in error, the sayings of ancient psychics.