

# SUNBEAMS.

*"Always look on the bright side."*

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY  
BY THE  
SUN PUBLISHING COMPANY,  
Temple Building, Montreal.

#### ADVERTISING RATES:

Single Insertions, . . . . .	12½	cts	per	agate	line
One Month (Four Insertions), . . . . .	10	"	"	"	"
Three Months (Thirteen Insertions), . . . . .	8	"	"	"	"
Six Months (Twenty Six Insertions), . . . . .	6	"	"	"	"
One Year (Fifty-Two Insertions), . . . . .	5	"	"	"	"

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year, \$4.00; Six Months, \$2.25; Three Months, \$1.25; One Month, 40 cts.  
Single Copies, 10 cents; payable in advance, postage free.

Vol. I. MONTREAL, JUNE 14, 1890. No. 11

THIS can hardly be called an other-worldly age, but the minds of men are very deeply stirred in these days about things far beyond the material. Matter-of-fact as we nineteenth century people are, we have no end of a hankering after the mysterious. With all the passion with which the modern female loves "a wee mystery," does the modern thinker—male and female—delight in a "big" mystery. We have not yet reached that state of mental ecstasy which can only be achieved by sitting for days looking at the point of one's nose and thinking of nothing, but we delight to occupy ourselves with problems which are generally equally effective, so far as practical results are concerned.

\* \* \*

INDIRECTLY, of course, good results are often attained. Students of psychics, for instance, may fail to discover one authentic case of a ghost being composed of anything but flesh, blood and pillow-cases; but the mental discipline attending the pursuit more than pays for the necessary expenditure of labor and gas—of several brands. Another and very valuable result is the kind reminder which such studies afford that, all belief to the contrary, we shrewd latter-day people do not know it all, that we are and are likely to remain ignorant of much more than we know. And, besides, such studies are interesting just because, as has been remarked, we so dearly love a mystery.

\* \* \*

IT was no doubt upon such considerations that some of the most prominent of English thinkers some years ago formed the Society for Psychical Research, whose objects, shortly stated, are to study by personal research and the collection of existing materials such questions as the influence of mind upon mind, hypnotism, mesmerism,

apparitions, spiritualistic phenomena, etc., etc. The English Society has been a great success, and includes among its members such men as Gladstone, Ruskin, Tennyson, and a host of leading politicians, literary men and clergymen. For some reason the American Society, which was more recently formed, has so far been less successful; but it has sustained a fresh impetus by the appointment of Professor Wm. James of Harvard University to collect and classify the required data. In the interests of Science and its never-to-be-despised ally,—fun, SUNBEAMS has pleasure in giving the widest possible Canadian circulation to Professor James' question to the world in general and nobody in particular, which is as follows:—"Have you ever, when completely awake, had a vivid impression of seeing or being touched by a living being or inanimate object, or of hearing a voice; which impression, so far as you could discover, was not due to any external physical cause?" Don't send your answers to SUNBEAMS but to Professor James. He may follow them up with some more questions, but don't be afraid of him. He at least is flesh and blood.

\* \* \*

SUNBEAMS hopes very much that the present investigation may bring to light at least one instance of an "uncanny" manifestation to a physically healthy and mentally sane person right here in Canada, and not, as is generally the case, to an individual whose name can be found in no directory and whose town is disregarded by every map. Its hopes are greatly encouraged by the fact, that the American Society has just had added to its membership another man of distinction in the person of that student of things material and immaterial, Mr. Ernest J. Craigie, the "apostle" of Spiritualism in Montreal. Mr. Craigie, as the editor of "Brighter Spheres" by "Spiritus," has already introduced to Canadians a departed gentleman, who from his spirit home tells, or says he does, the story of his life—good and bad—death and aetherial peregrinations thereafter. After such a herculean task it should be a comparatively easy matter for Mr. Craigie to get Professor James all the "points" he wants.

\* \* \*

"BRIGHTER SPHERES," by the way, is a book well worth reading. Besides being the first literary product of Canadian spiritualism, it is a book sufficiently novel and interesting to deserve general perusal. SUNBEAMS won't say that it swallows every thing that is in the book, neither will it affirm that it has the greatest admiration for Mr. "Spiritus" either alive or dead—to be candid, it has rather a prejudice against invisible intelligences, of modern date at least—but it fails to understand what object men of Mr. Craigie's standing could have in perpetrating such a prodigious fraud upon the public as the falsity of "E. J. C.'s" preface would involve. Read and judge for yourself.

**One Hundred Dollars in prizes. See page 13.**