

is evidently "subjective" in the girl's own *sensorium*, for no one else can see it. I am inclined to believe the story, but would make a small bet that the girl has tubercles in her brain. We see almost every day persons who see similar visions under the effect of chloroform. I gave chloroform, some weeks ago, to a clerical gentleman, a schoolmaster, and he had for several days the most pleasing and vivid recollection of having spent ten years in the other world in a charming personal colloquy with the poet Homer. He could tell the lines and book in Homer that they talked about, and described the appearance of the blind old man of Scio; and all this time he had only undergone a small, painless, but very unpoetic, surgical operation. Patients in hundreds talk of chloroform sleep as a long dream of railway tunnels and country scenery, grottoes, and storms; but the wonderful thing seems to be that an insensibility of one or two minutes will suffice for the mind under chloroform to form a perfect vision spreading distinctly over ten or a dozen years. If this peasant girl has tubercles in her brain, exactly the same thing may occur. The rushing wind and the grotto, the lady dressed in white, &c., are precisely the images that the brain forms when slightly or transiently disordered; even diseased heart, by disturbing the circulation in the brain, or such a mischievous Ariel as flying gout, have been shown by Briciore du Boismont to produce hallucinations of the most incredible kind, far outdoing the scenes in Bulwer Lytton's "Strange Story," or even those which the Bishop of Tarbes has described.

INDIA.—It seems that the introduction into India, of that great disorganizer, the railroad, has raised a new theological question, and that the heathen priests in India are discussing with great interest, how the merit of pilgrimage to celebrated shrines is affected by this new facility in travelling.

THE LATE PRINCE CONSORT AND THE ROYAL EXCHANGE MOTTO.—Various statements have been made regarding the origin and cause of placing the motto on the pediment of the Royal Exchange, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof," the general impression being that it was suggested by the late Prince Consort. Mr. T. M. P., architect of the Exchange, explains the matter in the *City Press*—"As the work (the building of the Exchange) proceeded, his Royal Highness took much interest in the modelling and carving of the various groups, and condescended very frequently to visit the studio of the sculptor at Wilton-place. Your readers may recollect that the figure of commerce stands on an elevated block or pedestal in the centre of the group; and it became a subject of earnest conversation with Mr. Westmacott and myself in what way the plainness of the block could be relieved; for although in the original model on a small scale this defect did not strike the eye, in the execution it was very apparent. Wreaths, faces, festoons were all tried, but the effect was unsatisfactory; and in this state of affairs Mr. Westmacott submitted the difficulty to his Royal Highness. After a little delay, Prince Albert suggested that the pedestal question would be a very appropriate situation for a religious inscription which would relieve the plainness of the surface, in an artistic point of view, and at the same time have the high merit of exhibiting the devotional feelings of the people and their recognition of a superior power; and he particularly wished that such inscriptions should be in English, so as to be intelligible to all. This happy thought put an end to all difficulty; and as Mr. Milman, the learned Dean of St. Paul's, had kindly advised me, in reference to the Latin inscriptions on the frieze and in the merchants' area, Mr. Westmacott consulted him on this subject also; and he suggested the words of the Psalmist, which were at once adopted."