

or other is detrimental to our progress, or unbecoming to the magnanimity of our manhood. It seems to me, in order to make these suggestions practical, and of any lasting benefit to humanity, there is something more required than the mere suggestion of evil, and the necessity of overcoming such follies; it is important that we understand their relation to prosperity, happiness, and the practical relations of life. It is assumed, by the writer of the above article, that there can be no possible connection between the events of life and our superstitious beliefs. If such be true, then we are at a loss to understand why he should consider it so injurious. From a psychological standpoint we are led to understand that all faith, (whether it be considered superstitious or otherwise) not only bears an influence upon character, but also bears some relation to the object or event upon which such confidence is placed. Hence, from the concentration of thought, or the expectation of results, we formulate an ideal force, which soon becomes a positive power that worketh for good or evil, according to the character of the ideal upon which our confidence is placed. Hence the expectation of a division of friendship, because something passes between us on our journey, has a tendency to bring about that division, by rendering us ready to accept anything that may have a tendency in that direction, and thus with all the other signs or superstitions that may be accepted by humanity. While a proper understanding of this law of psychology upon which such phenomena is based, would render us competent to place ourselves positive against such events; and make us the more careful to offset the conditions which might otherwise result in such disasters as our belief would lead us to expect.—Ed.

Regarding Hypnotism.

Scientists Everywhere Are Beginning to Study
its Phenomena.

Mesmerism alias hypnotism, the latest scientific sensation of the hour, was a few years since denounced by the scientific world in unmeasured terms. No expressions of scornful contempt were strong enough to characterize those fearless torch-bearers of advanced