

not be imparted to him in a dream. The fact is, probably—more than probably—that God still speaketh once, yea twice, in dreams, yet still “man perceiveth it not.” It may be that the circumstances of our high civilization are unfavorable to such perceptions. “A dream,” says the wise man, “cometh through much business,” Eccles. iii. 5. By multiplying our ideas, by increasing the objects of interest and attention to us, the materials of mental association become so various, and the activity of the mind is so much awakened, that ordinary dreams are probably much more numerous than in older and simpler states of society, and the impressions they make more faint. The late rising, and the number of hours devoted to rest, among us, is also favorable to the increase of puerile dreams; whereas men leading a less wildering waking life, sleep regularly and shortly, but soundly; and, rising early in the morning, have but comparatively few dreams. It is well known that dreams seldom rise during sound sleep: and all the sleep of men of simple oriental habits is sound. Hence dreams being more numerous and less vivid, they make less impression on the mind, and those among them that may be really significant, become less heeded. Nevertheless, history, biography, and the experience of most of us, supply not a few modern instances, in which dreams have been most important for warning, for

guidance, or for the detection of crime. Those of the latter class are not, perhaps, the most frequent in themselves; but they are most generally as authentically known, as their evidence is necessarily produced in the investigation of the case. Yet even in these cases, there has seemed a general disposition to underrate their importance, for which we feel unable to account, but from the general disposition among the men of the world to discountenance the idea of a particular Providence. This idea is necessarily involved in the belief, that God speaketh to man in dreams; and this very reason, which renders the belief distasteful to the world, should recommend it to the earnest consideration of those to whom that doctrine is dear.

Many of our readers will remember a case which filled the newspapers some years ago. One point in it, which was only mentioned, because it was historically necessary to complete the case, engaged our attention greatly at the time. A young woman was murdered in a barn, and buried under the floor. She was thought by all who concerned themselves about her to be still alive in another place: and the murder remained not only undiscovered, but unsuspected at the time, when the young woman's mother was warned *repeatedly* in a dream to search the barn. She did so; the murder was thus discovered, and the murderer (Corodor,) condemned and executed. Now,