

The creation of a new heart and the consequent transfiguration of life and character is the greatest miracle of the ages. Its significance is not local, but widens and deepens till sublime and eternal possibilities are realized.

These facts have become very trite and even commonplace; and yet, in view of their truthfulness and importance, we are compelled to approach any question relating to revivals with sympathy and in a devout spirit; and further, we cannot but realize that the least of all revival interests, as well as the greatest, demands our intelligent consideration.

Of all the aspects of revival work those which, above all others, seem at present to demand a careful study are the physical and psychical. These two aspects may be taken as one for our present consideration, together with all their physiological and pathological relations.

With the exception of casual indirect references in articles written upon quite other subjects, little has been produced which has tended to clear away the misconceptions which have thronged about this subject; and, besides, those eminent psychologists and pathologists who have referred to it have, in many cases, been antagonistic to the whole work of revivals. On the other hand, theologians have somewhat discouraged such investigation at times, even when made in a right spirit. The time for all unsympathetic and inharmonious relations between science and religion is now past. Science is in these days recognized as being in a very important sense a divine revelation, which is so plain and yet so salutary that we ought not to be able to doubt it. Precious truths have been realized in new relations, both by psychologists and theologians during the last quarter of this century. Psychology has, indeed, only lately become a science, but already the conditions and laws of operation, and the manifestations of psychic energy, both healthy and morbid, have been named, classified, and explained, till in many respects the human mind is as well understood, and its operations as correctly described, as is the physical organism and its physiology. The time is ripe for an exhaustive presentation of the whole subject. The object of this article is simply to show that certain phenomena which occur