

**GENERAL MEETINGS.**

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The thirty-fourth, thirty-fifth, thirty-sixth, and thirty-seventh General Meetings of the Society were held at the Westminster Town Hall on October 25th and November 29th, 1889, and on January 31st and March 28th, 1890, at which the preceding four papers were read in whole or in part.

## SUPPLEMENT.

### I.

#### OBSERVATIONS ON CLAIRVOYANCE, &c.

BY DRs. DUFAY AND AZAM.

Most of our readers are already familiar at least with the name of the Société de Psychologie Physiologique, founded in Paris, in 1885, under the presidency of M. Charcot, and including in France such names as Beaunis, Janet, Ribot, Richet, Sully-Prudhomme, Taine, &c. The bulletins of this Society contain many papers of interest; most of which are accessible to the general reader in the *Revue Philosophique*, where they are generally first printed. With the permission of the Society, and through the kind help of Miss Porter, we are enabled to print here a somewhat condensed translation of two papers laid before the Society in 1888, by Dr. Dufay, formerly a practising physician at Blois, and now a Senator of France. These papers were published in the *Revue Philosophique* for September, 1888, and February, 1889.

### I.

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF SOMNAMBULISM PRODUCED AT A DISTANCE AND WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT.

In an experiment of this nature, I was successful one day with a lady whom (with her consent), I was in the habit of putting into the magnetic sleep.

I had recommended my patient, Madame A., who was extremely nervous, to give up all stimulant, especially champagne. I was not only her medical attendant, but also a friend of the house, and was often invited to dine there. One evening I noticed that my patient had allowed champagne to be poured into her glass, and was about to raise it to her lips. Fearing to be inconsiderate in reminding her that she was disobeying orders, and gazing fixedly at her—without her noticing it, I believe,—I willed intently that she should sleep, so that she should not be able to drink. And she remained, in fact, with her arm hanging in a state of cataleptic rigidity, and with open eyes, though without looking in my direction, said in a reproachful tone: "Ah! doctor, you are cruel!" Then she fell quite asleep, and when, at the end of several minutes, I woke her, she declared that she had quite forgotten my order: that only at the moment when she was raising her glass, had she *felt* that I was preventing her from drinking: that this had annoyed her very much, but that she had not been able to disobey . . . and here her memory failed.

It may be asked whether the fear that I might prevent her drinking her

champagne had not been sufficient to produce the self-suggestion, from whence resulted the incident that I have just related ; but as neither self-suggestion nor expectant attention was known of at that time, I find the occurrence headed in my notes : "Somnambulism produced at a distance, and without the subject being aware of it." At the present time I should share M. Richet's doubt, if I had not entire confidence in Madame A.'s assertion, made subsequently by her when in the somnambulic state, that she had not thought of my prohibition.

In connection with this patient, I may, perhaps, be allowed a digression, which is not without a certain interest. It is an example of the extraordinary development of memory observable during somnambulism—whether spontaneous or induced. Madame A. who was expecting a first confinement, was in the habit of remaining in bed till mid-day : one morning when I went to see how she was, I found her in tears and so shaken with sobs that she was unable to pronounce a word. I handed her a pencil and a sheet of paper, begging her to write down what had happened. With a trembling hand she then wrote : "The mother resides at Blois . . . a son . . . great joy ! Croup, the hideous monster, attacking the poor little one, seized it by the throat. . . ."

Here she uttered a piercing cry, and was seized with violent convulsions. I hastened to place my hand on her forehead, so as to bring about sleep and composure, and, if possible, to prevent any serious misfortune. The sobs, while becoming less and less frequent, continued some minutes, and then the attack passed over.

In the words written down by Madame A. I had recognised some fragments of Victor Hugo's verse, and I was not long in discovering at the foot of the bed his volume of *Contemplations*, which her husband had brought in an hour before, without having read it himself. By an unfortunate accident, the poor woman's eyes had fallen on the piece entitled "Le Revenant," the reading of which had caused her all the greater emotion, because the scene was laid at Blois, and her imagination suggested to her grave anxieties as to the health of the unborn child, whom she so ardently longed for.

At last the storm had abated, respiration was slow and regular ; the eyes remained closed, deeply sunk in their sockets and surrounded by broad, dark circles. Her right hand moved continuously, which led us to suppose that the sleeper dreamt that she was writing.<sup>1</sup>

We decided to settle this : I again put the pencil between her fingers, and her husband having placed a large sheet of paper on the stiff cover of a piece of music to serve as a desk, I asked her whether, now that she had recovered her composure, she felt able to write down, from the first line to the last—and there are 102 of them—the little drama that had so upset her.

Then, with her eyes still closed, she set to work. The lines were

<sup>1</sup> This takes place, moreover, in the normal state, when in a half sleep, the brain automatically continues the day's work, and one dreams of altering a phrase already written, or of finishing a page already commenced. The right hand becomes the seat of slight contractions, more fibrillar than muscular, which direct the movements of the fingers necessary to form the letters and words expressing the thought of the moment. This correlative phenomenon, although very frequent, often passes unobserved.

certainly occasionally confused, running one upon the other in spite of the trouble that we took to guide the paper, but that was because her fore-arm remained motionless, and only the fingers moved the pencil : still there was no error of rhythm or of rhyme, only the punctuation was entirely wanting.

"How many times have you read these verses?" I asked Madame A., as soon as she had finished.

"Only once : I had not the courage to begin again."

And I did not doubt her word, because though people in the somnambulist state may occasionally refuse to reply to a question put to them, it is impossible for them to lie. When, two hours later, I had just aroused her, she repeated that she had not read a second time these 102 lines, written out from memory during sleep, and of which she could not remember four consecutively now that she was awake.

The previous year I had been witness of a similar occurrence with this same lady, who was an excellent musician. One of her friends had received the score of a new opera, and took it to show to her. My patient set to work to study the overture, which greatly pleased her ; then she glanced through the first act, and at the end of an hour her friend took away the score, promising to let her have it again in a few days. The following day I was received with the exclamation : "Ah ! doctor, if you had only come last evening, you would have heard something that would have given you pleasure," and she told me of the loan of the score.

I suggested that as she had played the overture, and found it so charming, she should do me the kindness of letting me hear it. But she expressed herself quite unable to remember eight or ten pages of music, which she had only played through once : then, guessing that I wished to make an experiment, she declared herself willing to submit, in order that she and her husband should laugh together over my failure.

As usual, the simple touch of my hand on her forehead produced immediate sleep, and her head sank forward on her chest : but when one hand was placed on the keys of the piano the head suddenly regained its upright position, and vigorously-grasped chords announced the commencement of the piece. From the beginning to the end there was not a single hesitation. Her husband and I looked at each other in amazement. Never afterwards, even with the music before her, was her execution more perfect.

When, by means of certain passes, from within outwards, made behind her head, I had put an end to the sleep, the artist turned towards us with a mocking expression : "There," she said, laughing, "I was quite sure that your experiment would not succeed." It was in vain for us to assure her that it had been a complete success, she would not believe it. She only admitted it when she was again put to sleep.

But to return to our subject, that is to say, to the production of sleep at a distance.

At one time, when medical attendant at the theatre at Blois, I had to attend a young actress, who was subject to frequent Protean exhibitions of hysterical passion. Laying aside purely medical considerations, which would involve me in a fresh digression, I only extract from my notes what concerns the special subject now occupying me.

The first time that I was called to Mdlle. B., I found her seated on the

carpet, near to a large fire, her clothes torn, and ready, so she told me, to throw herself into the grate, if I did not succeed in subduing the fury that was consuming her. I questioned her as to the cause of this attack of anger ; she maintained silence ; her jaws tightly clenched, her eye-balls convulsively turned upwards, her limbs rigid ; . . . then a sudden shock stretched her on the floor, from whence I moved her on to her bed, in a state of tetanic rigidity and general anæsthesia.

My hand had hardly been a minute on her forehead, when the muscular contraction disappeared : a flood of tears and a succession of deep sighs put an end to the scene, and the poor girl was then able to slip into her bed, making a thousand excuses, and assuring me of her gratitude. As to the cause of her great rage, she knew of none. She then sought my hand and lifted it to her forehead, saying that it gave her a delicious sensation of well-being ; afterwards she fell into a drowsy state, which I allowed to last for some hours, while one of her companions watched her.

I witnessed similar attacks seven or eight times during the two months that the company remained at Blois ; but after my third visit it was sufficient to command *Mdlle. B.* to sleep, or even to fix my eyes on hers, in order immediately to produce a perfect calm ; moreover the attacks became less and less violent, and she felt strong and refreshed after an hour of magnetic sleep.

I said just now that I had managed to hypnotise *Mdlle. B.* by a word or a look, but I did not think that without real contact it could succeed, unless I was close to her at the time. Having always noticed that intelligence is much more highly developed in the somnambulant state, I had sometimes hypnotised this very indifferent little actress by merely telling her, just as she was about to make her appearance on the scene, that she was going to sleep, which always procured her a great success with the public. It is a circumstance of this nature which introduces her into my present subject.

One evening I arrived late at the theatre. The manager was waiting anxiously for me in his office ; he had changed the order of the pieces and put the "Caprice" at the end of the entertainment, because he had just been informed by telegram that his "grande coquette" had missed the train, which was to have brought her from Tours to Blois. But he was relying on my assistance to substitute *Mdlle. B.* without damaging the performance.

"Does she so much as know her part ?" I asked him.

"She has seen it played several times, but she has not rehearsed it."

"Have you expressed any hope that I might come to her assistance ?"

"I took care not to do that : any doubt as to her talents would have been sufficient to have produced one of her attacks."

"Very well, do not let her know I am here. I will take advantage of this opportunity to make a very interesting experiment."

I did not show myself on the stage, but took my place in a close box at the far end of the house, which happened to be unoccupied, and the grating closed. Then, drawing myself together, I willed intently that *Mdlle. B.* might fall asleep.

It was then half-past ten. I learned at the end of the performance that at this same time the young artist, stopping in the middle of her toilette, suddenly sank down on the sofa in her room, begging the dresser to let her rest a little. After a few minutes of drowsiness she got up, finished dressing

herself, and went down to the stage. When the curtain rose I was not very confident of the success of my experiment, not then knowing what had taken place in the actress' dressing-room ; but I was not long in satisfying myself, merely by seeing the action and attitude of my subject. She had retained in her memory this part which she had not learnt, but had only seen played, and acquitted herself marvellously. There was, however, another suggestion that I must unconsciously have given her, when mentally ordering her to play the comedy, and that was to put herself *en rapport* with the other characters in the piece, since without that somnambulists only see and hear the person who has put them to sleep. However that may be, I was obliged to awaken Mdlle. B. in order that she might take part in the supper which was given by the delighted manager.<sup>1</sup>

She then remembered having thrown herself on the sofa, just as she had put on one of her gloves, and, finding herself seated there again, she imagined that we had come to tell her that the curtain was rising for the "Caprice." It was only on seeing her companions surrounding her, and congratulating her on her progress, that she understood what had taken place, and thanked me with a glance.<sup>2</sup>

If it be objected that she had expected my arrival, then suspected my presence, or, at least, my influence which had been so favourable to her talent on other occasions, and that self-suggestion had even in this case produced somnambulism—I have no reply to make.

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Among my other patients, to whom induced somnambulism brought undeniable relief, there is one whose history fitly finds a place here.

Madame C. was 35 years of age, of a nervous temperament, and slightly rheumatic. For some time she had been subject to periodical attacks of headache and sickness, which the usual remedies had failed to relieve. Under these circumstances, I did not hesitate to try the effect of magnetism on my first visit to her. At the end of five minutes the pain passed off and the sickness ceased, and on every subsequent occasion the same thing took place. If my arrival was delayed, the troubles continued ; but

<sup>1</sup> All those whom I have seen in the somnambulant state, whether spontaneous or induced, were unable to perform the movements of deglutition. If this is a general rule, it has at least one exception, because Dr. Azam's Félida would not pass months in her "situation seconde" without taking nourishment.

Had I then known of the possibility of suggestion, it is probable that I might have enabled my patients to eat. It ought to be as easy to put an end to a pharyngeal anaesthesia, as to cause, as has been done, the appearance of bleeding stigmata and of blisters on the skin.

<sup>2</sup> With respect to the forgetfulness of what had taken place during an attack of somnambulism, I have published in the *Revue Scientifique* of December 1st, 1883, the case of a young servant girl, who, thinking that her mistress' jewels were not safe in the drawer where she had put them, hid them in another piece of furniture, where they seemed to her to be safer. Accused of having stolen them, and despite her denials (which were quite sincere), she was put in prison. One day, in paying a professional visit at the prison, I recognised her, having seen her serving at the house of one of my colleagues. Knowing her to be somnambulant, I put her to sleep, and she then related to me what she had done, and was much distressed at having no recollection of it when awake. I made her repeat her declaration before the examining magistrate, who, after verification, had her set at liberty.

hardly had I pulled the bell, and before the door was opened, Madame C. fell into a calm sleep, It was quite a different thing if anyone else rang the bell, for then the invalid complained bitterly of the noise that was splitting her head.

Later on she even felt my approach from the further end of the street : "Ah! what happiness!" she would say, "here is the doctor coming, I feel myself cured!" and Monsieur C. would open the window to make certain of it, and would see me in the distance. And his wife never made a mistake. Sometimes he would try to encourage her by telling her that he saw me coming, but she knew that this was not true, and the sickness continued.

In a case of this sort, how could I hesitate to make an attempt at influencing her from a distance? Moreover I was driven to it by circumstances. At the height of an attack, Monsieur C., who had already been twice to fetch me, discovered where I was to be found. Being with a patient whom I could not leave for several hours, I assured Monsieur C., without being at all certain of it myself, that his wife would be asleep and cured when he got home again. I had the satisfaction of verifying this three hours later, when I ordered a profound sleep to last till the following day, which repaired the fatigues of the morning. "Thus the possibility of magnetising at a distance is not to be doubted," say my notes. But now-a-days the objection of self-suggestion presents itself : I was expected ; Monsieur C. had promised to bring me with him.

Am I going to find a more convincing example? Yes, certainly. It was however an act of simple curiosity without any therapeutic aim. Madame C. was in perfect health, but her name happening to be mentioned in my hearing, the idea struck me that I would mentally order her to sleep, without her wishing it this time, and also without her suspecting it. Then, an hour later, I went to her house and asked the servant who opened the door, whether an instrument, which I had mislaid out of my case, had been found in Madame C.'s room.

"Is not that the doctor's voice that I hear?" asked Monsieur C. from the top of the staircase; "beg him to come up. Just imagine," he said to me, "I was going to send for you. Nearly an hour ago my wife lost consciousness, and her mother and I have not been able to bring her to her senses. Her mother, who wished to take her into the country, is distracted. . . ."

I did not dare to confess myself guilty of this catastrophe, but was betrayed by Madame C., who gave me her hand saying, "You did well to put me to sleep, Doctor, because I was going to allow myself to be taken away, and then I should not have been able to finish my embroidery."

"You have another piece of embroidery in hand?"

"Yes : a mantle-border . . . for your birthday. You must not look as though you knew about it, when I am awake, because I want to give you a surprise."

"Make yourself easy as to that, you will see me just as surprised as grateful the day when you make me this valuable present. But why do you mention it to me now?"

"Because you ought to know why I am pleased at not being able to go away."

I then explained to the husband and the mother that I had allowed myself to make an experiment, and it was settled amongst us that Madame C. should not be told of it. I then woke her as usual by means of passes from within outwards in front of her eyes, and she was told that she had fallen asleep after lunch, while reading the newspaper, which did not astonish her at all.

This truly appears to me to be sleep produced at a distance and without the knowledge of the subject. But what is one to understand by the word distance? A metre, five or six metres, a half or a whole kilometre? Up to the present time, these are the distances from which I have operated on Madame A., Mdlle. B., and Madame C.<sup>1</sup>

I repeated the experiment many times with the last mentioned subject, and always with success, which was a great help to me when unable to go to her at once when sent for. I even completed the experiment by also *waking* her from a distance, solely by an act of volition, which formerly I should not have believed possible. The agreement in time was so perfect that no doubt could be entertained.<sup>2</sup>

To conclude, I was about to take a holiday of six weeks, and should thus be absent when one of the attacks was due. So it was settled between M. C. and myself that, as soon as the headache began, he should let me know by telegraph; that I should then do from afar off what succeeded so well near at hand; that after five or six hours I should endeavour to awaken the patient; and that M. C. should let me know by means of a second telegram whether the result had been satisfactory. He had no doubt about it; I was less certain. Madame C. did not know that I was going away.

The sound of moanings one morning announced to M. C. that the moment had come; without entering his wife's room he ran to the telegraph office, and I received his message at 10 o'clock. He returned home again at that same hour, and found his wife asleep and not suffering any more. At four o'clock I willed that she should wake, and at eight o'clock in the evening I received a second telegram: "Satisfactory result, woke at four o'clock. Thanks."

And I was then in the neighbourhood of Sully-sur-Loire, 28 leagues—112 kilometres—from Blois.

Is all this possible? Certainly not, if one refuses to admit as possible what one cannot explain. It was this explanation that I was waiting for before publishing my observations, which were written from day to day without any fixed object; but I could not resist M. Richet's invitation, and yielded to it without, however, having any pretensions to offering an important contribution to modern psycho-physiological science.

It may be objected, specially in my last observation, that I had been

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Gilbert has produced sleep at a distance in a subject who was not forewarned, from one end of the room to the other, and finally from Gravelle to Havre, a distance of two kilometres. Dr. Héricourt has several times produced sleep from one house to another at a greater or less distance—always without the knowledge of the subject. [See *Revue Philosophique*, February, 1886.]

<sup>2</sup> M. Ch. Richet, when house surgeon at Beaujon, put one of his patients to sleep from a distance, and also awakened her, without seeing her, and without being seen by her; moreover he mentally suggested an action, which she performed.



the victim of a deception ; that M. C. had played upon my credulity by announcing to me that things had taken place in the way that I had almost predicted. To this I should reply, that my credulity is far from being excessive ; that M. C. was an earnest man, incapable of the idea of deception, and too anxious about his wife's health not to have begged me to come at once to her aid—as had been arranged before my departure—if the symptoms, which so greatly terrified him, had continued after the time which he considered necessary for me to receive his first telegram.

I had no doubt as to the reality of action at a (perhaps unlimited) distance, when I observed this case, about 25 years ago. But now, so much am I struck by the improbability of the story, that I am more ready to admit that Madame C., at the moment when the pain and sickness commenced, thought that her husband had heard her moans and had hurried to secure my assistance, since she was unaware of my absence ; that her conviction that I should give her relief as usual had sufficed to produce sleep by self-suggestion, and that the waking had taken place under the same influence, after a lapse of time sensibly equivalent to that during which I usually caused her to sleep. The agreement in time would be a simple coincidence, explicable, moreover, on the above hypothesis, and by the time of despatching the first telegram, without any certain relation of cause and effect. I regret not having repeated the experiment in a modified form, that is to say, by making Madame C. believe that I was away and could not be informed of her illness.

However that may be, can these facts, as well as many others not less well authenticated, justify a belief in the reality of knowledge not acquired by study, or, to be more specific, can a person in the somnambulant state, for example, make a medical diagnosis, and give therapeutical advice based on this diagnosis ? Certainly not, if he has not studied medicine. The somnambulant state develops the cerebral faculties—probably by withdrawing all distraction, internal and external—but it does not create them.

The magnetised or hypnotised subject invents nothing. If he is questioned, it can be shown that he remembers better than when in the normal state what he has previously seen, heard, studied, and felt ; that his impressions are keener and more frankly set forth. His superiority consists in the exalted condition of his memory. The same applies to natural somnambulism.<sup>1</sup>

But the natural somnambulist, like the insane person, has spontaneous illusions and hallucinations, while in the hypnotised subject they have to be suggested. In natural somnambulism imagination plays the principal part ; it is a dream in action. The hypnotised person is an automaton, entirely passive ; while the somnambulist is inspired by his own imagination, without the need of an external influence, but is also in danger of following it. This is the distinguishing diagnosis that my observations permit me to make.

Now, what is the action of the various processes by means of which the somnambulant or hypnotic state is brought about ? Is it nervous radiation, electro-magnetic influence, an effect of polarisation ? Do these different causes constitute a single one ? Perhaps the future may learn this. But

<sup>1</sup> Mlle. R. L. thus expresses this fact, speaking of herself as two persons, and in the negro speech that is habitual with her in the somnambulant state: "I do not understand why the *fille bête* (that is to say, she herself in the normal state) does not remember that ; me knows it well, me is perfectly sure of it."

for these cases of influence at a distance, exercised without the knowledge of the subject, what is the conductor that links the agent to the percipient? How does this influence reach the person aimed at and no other? It is doubtful whether this problem will ever be solved.

I have confined myself to the statement of facts, leaving of necessity their theoretical explanation to the progressive evolution of science. The serious consequences that follow, from both the philosophic and legal point of view, will not escape anyone, especially if suggestions fulfilled after a lapse of time be taken into consideration,—but with these I have not had to concern myself here.

Blois, May, 1888.

DR. DUFAY.

## II.

After reading the *Revue Philosophique*, of September 1st, 1888, which included the above communication, Dr. Azam wrote to Dr. Dufay :—

I myself, and I believe many other medical men, have observed cases of this or of a similar nature. I will quote two, in which I think I took all necessary precautions before being convinced of their truth.

1st. About 1853 or 1854, I had under my care a young woman with confirmed hysteria : nothing was easier than to put her to sleep by various means. I consider myself entitled to state that, while holding her hand, my unspoken thoughts were transferred to her, but upon this I do not insist, error and fraud being possible.

But the transmission of a definite sensation seemed to me to be absolutely certain. This is how I proceeded : Having put the patient to sleep, and seated myself by her side, I leaned towards her and dropped my handkerchief behind her chair ; then while stooping to lift it up, I quickly put into my mouth a pinch of common salt, which, unknown to her, I had beforehand put into the right-hand pocket of my waistcoat. The salt being absolutely without smell, it was impossible that the patient should have known that I had some in my mouth ; but as soon as I raised myself again I saw her face express disgust, and she moved her lips about. “ That is very nasty,” she said ; “ why did you put salt into my mouth ? ”<sup>1</sup>

I have repeated this experiment several times with other inodorous substances, and it has always succeeded. I report this fact alone because it seems to me to be certain. It thus follows that under certain circumstances, by the intervention of the hand, the transmission of a definite sensation can take place between the operator and the subject in the hypnotic trance. Not at a distance, and solely by the force of the will, as in the cases you report, but very nearly so.

2nd. One day, about 1878 or 1879, my old friends Dr. Mesnet, a celebrated physician and member of the “ Académie de Médecine,” in Paris, and the Dr. M. whose keen intellect and knowledge constitute him an authority on forensic medicine, showed me some experiments in the garden of their private asylum, which impressed me most vividly ; one of them has especially remained in my memory.

<sup>1</sup> What would have been the result if the operator had mentally willed the subject to experience a sweet taste ?—(Dr. D.)

The subject was a young workman, who had already suffered from attacks of spontaneous somnambulism. Having been put into the somnambulist state by M. Mesnet, several experiments were made, but one alone is sufficiently clear in my memory to allow of my reporting it.

We experimented in a pavilion at the bottom of a large garden with many avenues of trees. We had previously arranged among ourselves, and quite unknown to the young man, that we would make him walk about the garden, and that at a certain point in one of the avenues (which point we had noted by the position of some fallen leaves), the subject, freely strolling about, should be stopped by an imaginary and impassable obstacle. M. Mesnet, who alone was in communication with him, was mentally, and at a distance, to impress this command upon him.

All took place as had been arranged: called by M. Mesnet, the young man followed the chosen path, and was suddenly arrested as though by a wall. M. Mesnet continuing to call, the face of the subject assumed an expression of anguish and of rage: "I cannot,—I cannot pass," he said in a hopeless manner.

I know, my dear colleague, that enthusiasts in the question of magnetism or hypnotism would see nothing in this case but what was most ordinary; for me it is important, because the precautions taken, the good faith and competence of the witnesses, and the purely scientific aim pursued, absolutely preclude the notion of illusion or deception. My colleagues and I, all three familiar with hysterical patients, know how to suspect and mistrust, and in questions of the sort incline rather to stop short of the truth than to go beyond it.

It is thus possible, according to the preceding statements, that a person in a condition of induced somnambulism may perceive a definite sensation, felt by the operator, and only communicated to him by thought. It is also possible to obey a definite order so impressed upon him from a distance, as we have just seen.

I will not here lay before you all the reflections that occur to me on the subject; a letter is hardly the place to do this; but I cannot resist comparing these facts with those which you report.

Communication at a distance between two individuals, without the employment of the usual means, is a point they possess in common; but in those which you report the distance is greater, and there is no known medium of communication. In fact, on this matter of distance hangs the whole question, and this implies the supposition of a special force. I am told that this is the "force neurique"—give it what name you please, it is none the less certain that it exists.

Extraordinary as it may be, it has its analogues, which we cannot explain any better. The principal analogue is the magnet; it acts at a distance across media which stop many other forces; the magnetised needle, drawn by a power which is enormous, though inaccessible to our senses, always turns in the same direction, and its inclination and declination indicate a gigantic centre of attraction.

Can we explain these phenomena? By no means; not any better, I repeat, than we are able to explain the facts that I report. But is this saying that a time may not come when these questions will be fathomed? For my

part, I believe that such a time will come, but that we shall not see it.—  
DR. AZAM.

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No one (continues Dr. Dufay) will discredit the observations of my honourable colleague of Bordeaux. Those who are acquainted with the history of magnetism and induced somnambulism, and are conversant with modern progress, will scarcely be astonished at them. Will those which I am about to relate be received with the same amount of confidence? I may say at once that the contrary will neither astonish nor pain me, because unless I had seen—seen with my own eyes—I do not know whether I should have believed or not.

Before entering into the subject it would perhaps be as well for me to mention an episode which might serve to show how little I am inclined towards credulity. Here it is in a few lines :—

Before quitting Paris in 1845, I had the curiosity to consult several so-called “lucid” somnambulists, who at that time were enjoying a great reputation. I kept a monkey in my room in those days, who permitted me to cut off a lock of hair from underneath his body, and seemed to observe with great interest the care I took to enclose this small portion of his person in a double envelope, questioning me meanwhile with an anxious look.

The first expert to whom I submitted my little packet, turned it well over between her fingers, handled it in every possible way, and then remarked to me—not without due consideration for my feelings—that my good grandmother, to whom this lock of hair belonged, suffered from cancer of the liver, a very serious malady, but which could nevertheless be cured, if the treatment about to be ordered were adhered to. I preserved my gravity while the “Barnum” wrote out at the lady’s dictation a prescription too stupid to be preserved.

For another “extra-lucid” somnambulist, my packet contained a lock of hair, “cut from the head of one who was dear to me, but in whom I ought to place no confidence.” It was the same thing with a third, who gave me an anatomical description of the diseased organs of the person to whom the hair belonged, quite unsurpassably fantastic.

I was thus ill prepared to swallow the hocus pocus of “extra-lucid” artists.

Only one of the somnambulists whom I have observed, was endowed with mental vision; this was the servant of my colleague M. Girault, of Onzain (Loir et Cher), the story of whose misfortune in being unjustly accused and imprisoned for theft, I have already related. In a state of spontaneous somnambulism she had changed the place of some jewels belonging to her mistress, in order more effectually to secure them from the danger of thieves,—a precautionary measure of which she had no recollection in her waking state.

Dr. Girault had several times shown me most interesting experiments with this girl, whom he magnetised nearly every day. When he was summoned into the country, he put Marie to sleep and questioned her as to the state of the invalid he was about to visit; and by this means, he said, he knew positively—we will only say approximately—what drugs he ought to take with him. I hasten to add that I have never been able to verify Marie’s clairvoyance in her diagnoses either at a distance or near at hand: but what I have myself seen I will now relate.

On the 15th of June, 1855, I was paying a visit in the neighbourhood of Onzain, (at Varenne, 16 kilometres from Blois), staying with a client of mine, whose daughter was about to be married. We had been talking of M. Girault's Egeria, when all at once Mdlle. de S., a charming creole from the Island of Réunion, seized me by the hands, and led me into a corner of the room, begging me to fetch the famous somnambulist, as she had the greatest desire to question her as to the real character of her future husband. As was natural, I complied with this childish fancy, and, an hour later, returned with Dr. Girault and his servant.

Put to sleep by a few passes, Marie was placed *en rapport* with Mdlle. de S., those present discreetly keeping at a distance, as the young enquirer wished to be the only recipient of the revelations of the Pythoness.

For my part, I did not attach any great scientific interest to the very animated colloquy taking place, being doubtful of the reality of the phenomena, and suspecting Marie of playing an amiable part before Mdlle. de S. by drawing the most enchanting portrait of the absent one. She (Mdlle. de S.) was in fact in a state of rapture, stamping her feet, clapping her hands, and laughing gaily. . . .

Then with lightning rapidity, the comedy changed to tragedy ; the poor somnambulist panted and breathed with difficulty, tears flowed, a cold perspiration moistened her brow, and she called on Dr. Girault for assistance.

"What is the matter, Marie ? . . . What are you suffering from ?"

"Ah ! Sir . . . Ah ! Sir . . . how terrible ! he is dead !"

"Who is dead ? Is it one of my patients ?"

"The son of Limoges, the rope-maker . . . you know . . . in the Crimea . . . he has just died. Poor folks ! Poor folks !"

"Come, come, my child, be calm, doubtless you have had a dream, a bad dream."

"A dream ! . . . But I am not asleep," (such is the assurance of all somnambulists). "I see him . . . he has just drawn his last breath. . . . Poor boy ! Look at him."

And she turned her eyes to a part of the room which she also indicated with her hand. She wanted to run away, but she had hardly risen from her chair when she fell back ; her legs were unable to carry her.

It was a long time before she was calmed, and when M. Girault had awakened her she was still suffering from great discomfort, which she attributed to an indigestion, having no recollection of what had taken place.

What had caused her all at once to think of the young soldier ? It was known in the village that the father was anxious,—not having received news of his son. Was she concerned about it through sympathy with the family, or in consequence of a tenderer feeling which the idea of Mdlle. de S.'s marriage may have awakened in her at this moment ?

However this may have been, some time after Limoges received the news of the death of his son, which had taken place at Dalmate (is this the name of a French ambulance ?) near Constantinople on the 15th of June 1855—that is to say the very day that Marie had her vision.

This reminds one of an account by Gregory of Tours, according to whom Saint Anbrose having fallen asleep while saying mass in the Cathedral at

Milan, dreamt that Saint Martin had just died at Tours, which did take place exactly on that day and at the time of mass.

\* \* \* \*

Some time after I received a visit from Dr. Girault, who had been speaking to me of his relative Madame D., then under my care. He had just seen her, had found her convalescent and recommended some amusement. Madame D., however, was still unable to leave her chair. "There is only one thing that could amuse me," she said to him, "and that is that you should bring your somnambulist here, and show me some of the incredible phenomena that you are always telling me of, and which I never see. I shall invite some friends just as incredulous as I am, I warn you."

In order that there should be no suspicion of a pre-arranged scene between him and his servant, Dr. Girault had promised to get me to arrange the programme of the séance—the wrapping up, for instance, of certain packets so as to disguise the nature of their contents, which contents Dr. Girault himself was not to know. These little packets were to be given to the somnambulist, who was to find out what was inside them. Thus the matter was settled and the day fixed.

I had already put aside for the purpose a few objects, not of common use, in order that chance should not too greatly assist our clairvoyante, when I received a letter from Algiers, from the commander of an infantry battalion, whom I had known in the garrison at Blois. He related to me several episodes of his life in the desert, and especially spoke of his health, which had been very much tried. He had been sleeping under canvas during the rains, and this had resulted in violent dysentery, both in his case and in that of the majority of his comrades.

I placed this letter in an envelope without address or post-mark, and carefully stuck down the edges: then I put the whole thing into a second envelope of a dark colour, and closed it in like manner.

On the day appointed I arrived a little late at Madame D's. Marie was already asleep, and was thus unaware of my presence, merely knowing that I was to be there. The ten or twelve people assembled in the room were simply stupefied by what they had just seen; the somnambulist having correctly discerned the contents of several packets, which they had prepared in the way that I had prepared mine. But I left my own in my pocket, so as to avoid monotony in the experiments, only slipping my letter into the hand of a lady present, and intimating by a sign that it was to be passed on to Dr. Girault. He received it without knowing that it came from me, and placed it between Marie's hands.

I did not notice whether her eyes were open or shut, but, as will be readily understood, that is a matter of no importance in such a case.

"What have you got in your hand?" asked Dr. Girault.

"A letter."

"To whom is it addressed?"

"To M. Dufay."

"By whom?"

"A military gentleman whom I do not know."

"And what does this military gentleman speak of in his letter?"

"He is ill. He speaks of his illness."

"Is it an illness that you can name?"

"Oh! yes, very well . . . it is like the old woodcutter's of Mesland, which has not yet been stopped."

"Very well, I understand, dysentery. Now listen, Marie. I think it would give great pleasure to M. Dufay if you were to go and see his friend, the officer, so as to bring him reliable information."

"Oh! it is too far . . . it would be a long voyage."

"Well, but start without losing time. We are waiting for you."

(After a long silence :) "I cannot get on . . . there is water, a lot of water."

"And you do not see any bridge?"

"There certainly is no bridge."

"But perhaps there is a boat to go across in, as between Onzain and Chaumont?" (The bridge at Chaumont on the Loire was not then built.)

"Boats . . . yes; but this Loire frightens me,—a regular inundation."

"Come, come, take courage and embark." (Long silence; agitation; pallor; some nausea.) "Have you nearly arrived?"

"I am arriving, but have been very much fatigued, and I do not see anyone on the shore."

"Land and go on: you will find some one at last."

"There, there . . . I see people . . . nothing but women in white. But no, on the contrary, they all have beards."

"Very well. Go to them and ask them where you will find the military gentleman."

(After a silence) "They do not speak as we do; I have been obliged to wait while they called a little boy with a red cap, by whom I was able to make myself understood. He took me on himself, and slowly, because we were walking in sand."

"And the gentleman?"

"There he is. He has on red trousers and an officer's cap. But he looks very ill and is so thin! It is sad that he has not had any of your medicine."<sup>1</sup>

"Has he told you what caused his illness?"

"Yes, he showed me his bed, three planks on pickets, above damp sand."

"Good, thank you, now advise him to go to the hospital where he will be better treated, and you come back to Blois."

(With great animation.) "It is time that I did return, for do you not see that the innkeeper is giving his own horse the oats which we brought with us for Bichette." (The accusation could not be verified, but it is not at all improbable.)

I then requested my colleague to open the letter and read it aloud. He was not the least astonished of the company: the success had surpassed his hopes.

It cannot be assumed that Marie read his thoughts, when he did not know the contents of the letter. (Later on he said that he had suspected that the letter came from Algiers, when the girl suffered from nausea.) Can she have read my thoughts without having been put *en rapport* with me, merely having heard, before being magnetised, that I was to be present

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Girault had great confidence in the astringent action of plantain, of which his servant had often seen him make various preparations.

at the séance? How useless appears the minute precaution of bandaging the eyes of a true somnambulist when her lucidity is being put to the proof.

Was it even necessary that Marie should have had the mysterious letter in her hands? Would she not have read, or rather felt, the contents just as well, if this letter had been in my pocket, or even in my house, on my writing-table, or elsewhere?

These are experiments which have still to be made. But to continue.

It is in the prison of Blois that we next encounter Marie, under circumstances which I have already made known. Owing to judicial formalities, she was not set at liberty the same day that her innocence had been proved.

The following day I was sent for very early, on account of a suicide which had just taken place. A prisoner, accused of assassination, had strangled himself with his neck-handkerchief, one end of which he had fastened to the foot of his bed, which was fixed to the floor. Laid prone on the flags of the cell, he had had the courage to push himself backwards with his hands, until the slip-knot in the handkerchief drew up and caused strangulation. The body was already cold when I arrived, at the same time as the procurator and the examining magistrate.

The procurator, to whom the magistrate had related the somnambulist scene of the preceding day, expressed a desire to see Marie, and I proposed to him to take advantage of what had just taken place to question the girl as to the criminal who had thus executed justice on himself. The magistrates eagerly accepted my proposition. I cut off a piece of the handkerchief and wrapped it up in several sheets of paper, which I then tied up firmly.

Arrived at the women's quarters,—they had just left their dormitory,—we begged the sister to lend us her room; I signed to Marie to follow us, without saying a word to her, and put her to sleep by merely placing my hand on her forehead. Then I drew the packet from my pocket and put it between her hands.

At that moment the poor girl started on her seat and flung the packet from her with horror, angrily crying out that she would not "touch that." Now it is well known that suicides in prisons are kept secret as long as possible; in the building nothing had as yet transpired as to the tragedy which had taken place; even the sister herself was ignorant of it.

"What do you think that this paper contains?" I asked when calm had been partially restored.

"It is something that has been used to kill a man."

"A knife perhaps; or a pistol?"

"No, no, a string . . . I see . . . I see . . . it is a neck handkerchief . . . he has hanged himself. . . But make that gentleman sit down, who is standing behind me, he is trembling so that his limbs cannot support him." (This was one of the two magistrates, who was so overcome with what he saw, that he was in fact trembling in every limb.)

"Can you tell me when this took place?"

"Why here, you know very well. . . . It is a prisoner."

"And why was he in prison?"

"For having assassinated a man who had asked to get up into his cart."

"How did he kill him?"



“ By striking blows with his *gouet*.”

This is the name used in Loir et Cher for a sort of hatchet with a short handle, a broad long blade turned over at the end like a parrot's beak. It is very much used in the country, especially by coopers and woodmen. In fact it was a *gouet* that I had suggested in my medico-legal report, as being the instrument probably used by the murderer.

So far Marie's replies had taught us nothing that we did not know before. At this moment the examining magistrate drew me apart, and whispered in my ear that the *gouet* had not been found.

“ What has been done with this *gouet* ? ” I asked.

“ What has been done ? . . . wait . . . it was thrown into a pool. . . . I can see it quite well at the bottom of the water.”

And she described the place where the pool was situated, with sufficient exactness to permit of a search, which was made that same day in the presence of a superintendent of police, and resulted in the discovery of the instrument of crime.

We did not know this result till the evening, but already the scepticism of the magistrates was much shaken. I asked them if they would profit by the lucidity of our somnambulist, to clear up certain obscure points : but this they refused, considering it dishonourable to employ a means of inquiry that could not be placed at the disposal of the defence. These scruples, honourable at first sight, appear to me to be exaggerated ; for the use of the somnambulist might just as easily result in the recognition of innocence, as in the discovery of guilt. Be that as it may, in order to satisfy their curiosity, I begged the sister to borrow from some of the inmates any little objects belonging to them, such as a ring, or an ear-ring, and to tie them up into packets hiding their form. This she did with intelligence, though viewing with great disapproval practices which appeared to her to be the work of Satan. And Marie told us exactly the circumstances which had brought about the condemnation of the prisoners.

This girl has left the country ; I have heard it said that she married. It would be interesting to know whether she is still—should I say gifted, or afflicted ?—with somnambulism, spontaneous or induced, or if her children have inherited this nervous disease.

These cases of mental vision—or double sight, or magnetic lucidity—which I have just related took place during induced somnambulism ; those which are to follow were observed during spontaneous attacks.

One of my fellow citizens, M. Badaire, formerly director of the “ école normale,” first at Guéret, then at Blois, having read in the newspaper an extract from my communication to the Société de Psychologie Physiologique, has since told me that he also once knew a very remarkable somnambulist. He was one of the pupil teachers at the school at Guéret, and almost every night, after an hour or two of normal sleep, fell into the somnambulant state, and executed acts which excited the astonishment of the teachers and of his comrades. Some of the inhabitants of the town were also permitted to witness these phenomena.

Dr. Cressant, the medical officer, was specially interested in the boy, and begged the director to write out for him a report, which he proposed to

address to the "Académie des Sciences."<sup>1</sup> M. Badaire has been kind enough to copy this report, and I cannot do better than place it *in extenso* before the Society.

Guéret, *February 5th, 1860.*

SIR,—In compliance with your expressed desire, I have the honour of sending you a summary of some of the phenomena of natural somnambulism which we have had the opportunity of observing in young Théophile Janicaud, pupil-teacher in the école normale of la Creuse.

M. Simonet, his brother-in-law (assistant master), informs me that Janicaud was subject to frequent attacks of somnambulism from about the age of eight to ten. After that date they ceased almost entirely until he was nineteen.

During the first year that he was at school, we noticed nothing unusual in him ; but during the excessive heat in the months of June and July, 1859, the condition of young Janicaud completely changed, and attacks of somnambulism occurred every night, with a frequency which soon gave cause for anxiety as to his health. In a few weeks he was so much altered as to be hardly recognisable even to the members of his family. His eyes were sunken, tired, and haggard ; and an extreme thinness took the place of robust health.

Every evening he got up, walked about the dormitory, descended to the study to work in the dark, or wandered about the gardens for hours at a time, after which he went back to bed. He had all the appearance of being awake, with the exception of a particular tone in his voice when he sang or replied to questions.

Naturally of a timid and shy nature, he became merry, even facetious in the somnambulatory state. He was sharp at repartee, expressing himself with the greatest facility, and pitilessly exposing any incorrect employment of terms.

One night, despite our attentive watching, Janicaud left the dormitory without the assistant master or any of the pupils noticing it. The next morning when it was time to get up he was in his bed like the rest of them, but his pillow and his watch had disappeared. From his fatigue and his exhausted aspect, it was evident that he must have been up during the night. Search was made all over the house and the surrounding garden, but without success. At last, during the day, something white was seen on the zinc roof of the infirmary : it was Janicaud's pillow which he had put there during the night, with his watch and a bunch of flowers from the garden. Some marks discovered on a glass frame, indicated the perilous path which the somnambulist must have followed in order to mount the roof, and also to descend from it. In his waking state it is evident that he could not have attempted such an ascent, without the certain prospect of a dangerous fall.

The risks run by Janicaud during these nocturnal expeditions, soon necessitated precautions for his safety. Every night he was secured by a padlocked band round his wrist, fastened to the end of an iron chain which

<sup>1</sup>According to information obtained from the secretary of the institute, Dr. Cressant did not carry out his project. Like myself, and many other medical men, he probably drew back in face of the disapprobation which these questions then encountered in the official world of science.

was riveted to the bed ; but this was soon seen to be insufficient, for when his somnambolic state came on, his hand contracted so that it slipped through the band, and it became necessary to attach him by the leg above the ankle.

One evening about 11 o'clock, Janicaud, having escaped from the dormitory, knocked at the door of my bedroom :

"I have just arrived from Vendôme," he said, "and have come to give you the news of your family. M. and Mme. Arnault are well, and your little son has four teeth."

"As you have seen them at Vendôme, could you go back again and tell me where they are at present?"

"Wait . . . I am there . . . They are sleeping in a room on the first floor ; their bed is at the farther end of the room, to the left. The nurse's bed is to the right, and Henry's cradle close to it."

The description of the room and the position of the beds were perfectly exact, and the following day I received a letter from my father-in-law telling me that my child had cut his fourth tooth.

A few days later, Janicaud came to me at about the same time, telling me that he had again come from Vendôme, and that an accident had happened to the child during the day. My wife, being much startled, anxiously inquired what the accident was.

"Oh ! do not be frightened, Madame, reassure yourself, there will be no serious consequences, whatever the doctor, who is now with the child, may think. If I had known that I should have caused you so much alarm, I should not have spoken of it. It will be nothing."

The next morning I wrote to my father-in-law to tell him what Janicaud had said, and begged for news of the child by return of post. The answer was that he was perfectly well, and that no accident had taken place.

But in the month of September, when I went home for the holidays, I learnt the whole truth, which my father-in-law, on the advice of the doctor, had hidden from me. He told me that at the time when Janicaud came to tell me that an accident had happened, the doctor did not expect the child to live through the night. During the day the nurse, having got hold of the key of the cellar, had become completely intoxicated, and the child having been fed by her when in this condition, was seized with violent sickness, which endangered his life for several days.

One night Janicaud suddenly jumped up in bed, and turning to one of his companions said :

"See, Roulet, how careless you are. I certainly told you to shut the door of the bookbinding workshop, but you did not do it, and a cat, in eating the paste, has just knocked over the dish, which is broken into five pieces."

Someone went down at once to the workshop, and it was found that what the somnambulist had said was perfectly correct.

The following night he related how he saw on the Glény road the body of a man, who had been drowned while bathing in the Creuse, and that he was being brought to Guéret in a carriage. Next day I made inquiries, and heard that an inhabitant of the town had really been drowned the previous day at Glény, and that his body had been brought to Guéret during the

night. But nobody in the house, not even in the town, had known of the accident the day before.<sup>1</sup>

M. Badaire continues to report as follows :—

M. Simonet, the assistant master, and Janicaud's brother-in-law, once consulted him when in the somnambulant state, about his child, who had been suffering for some months from a cyst behind the ear, which the doctors feared might result in decay of the bone. Janicaud pronounced their fears groundless, and recommended the use of a certain herb, which grew in the garden, and which he undertook to gather for them.<sup>2</sup>

But the somnambulist, walking barefoot, accidentally stepped upon a thorn, and the shock woke him before the plant was secured.<sup>3</sup>

The child recovered soon after, as Janicaud had said it would.

One night Janicaud went to the director (M. Badaire) begging for leave to go out and post a letter which he had just written to a former pupil, to whom he was much attached. As this was of course impracticable, he was told that it should be posted for him, and M. Badaire ran upstairs to wake the assistant master and ask him to watch the boy in his absence. He then went straight to Dr. Cressant and the two together examined the letter. It was an eloquent and touching expression of sadness consequent on the departure of his friend, and an earnest prayer that constant correspondence might mitigate his pain. "The dream in which thy troubled imagination is wandering, carries thee back, if only for a moment, to the side of him who mourns thy absence. Thy right hand resting on thy heart, betrays to me the secret of thy sadness. Thy left hand, lying open on thy disordered bed, seems as though ready to grasp that of him who reads into thy soul." <sup>4</sup>

A more recent event serves to show the rapidity with which Janicaud wrote during somnambulism. Just before retiring to bed the pupil-teachers had been given the subject of an exercise in style for the following day : one of them suspecting that Janicaud would write his composition during the night, provided himself with a pencil and paper. Accordingly about half-past ten the boy attempted to get up, but finding himself chained to his bed, begged one of his companions to give him writing materials. This was done ; and in the dark, with his night-cap drawn over his face,<sup>5</sup> and an assistant master and several pupils grouped round him, he began to speak with a loud voice, his pencil at the same time moving rapidly. In a few minutes the spoken words were neatly written down and covered two pages.

<sup>1</sup> Facts of the same description are reported by Dr. Macario (*Du Sommeil, des rêves, et du somnambulisme, 1857*), who borrowed them from F. Lebeuf. Here also it is a case of spontaneous somnambulism. (Dr. D.)

<sup>2</sup> Possibly comfrey, of whose astringent properties Janicaud may have heard. (Dr. D.)

<sup>3</sup> When he got up in the sleeping state, he always dressed himself completely with the exception of his feet.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Cressant had expressed a desire to know what Janicaud wrote in the somnambulant state, M. Badaire having frequently told him that his style was then very superior to what it was in his normal state.

<sup>5</sup> He always did this, having been teased by his companions, and accused of acting his somnambulism.

His health now giving cause for alarm, he was sent home for change and exercise, and while away suffered very few attacks, and these only during the first few days. One which took place two days after joining his family deserves some notice. He rose up during the night with the fixed determination of going fishing. M. Simonet decided to accompany him, and before starting succeeded in inducing him to alter the nature of his excursion, and go and visit a relative residing some distance off. This was done, Janicaud being undisturbed from his sleeping condition, either by the noise of barking dogs, or by the fatigues of the walk. At last he decided upon going home, and on the way having come to a narrow and dangerous path by the river, his brother-in-law begged him to be careful as to where he put his foot. Janicaud, however, assured him that he could see the better of the two, and as a proof asked his companion whether he saw the match which was under his left foot. M. Simonet at once felt under his foot, and sure enough found a match there. Not only was it very dark, but Janicaud with his night-cap drawn over his face was some 30 paces ahead.

Noteworthy, too, were the means which he used to take to free himself from his chain at night. Once with a pen-knife he cut off a small portion of a window-sash close at hand, and from it modelled a key, with which he easily undid his padlock.

M. Badaire concludes: It may not be useless to make an observation of possible interest from a scientific point of view—which is that during an attack of somnambulism Janicaud is perfectly conscious of the state in which he finds himself. Indeed, he is generally very well pleased at his condition, and if attempts are made to awaken him, begs that it may not be done, as he is so much happier than in his waking state. Nevertheless, after each attack he suffers greatly from fatigue, and his appearance is noticeably altered. Ought this fatigue to be attributed to the extraordinary activity of his faculties during somnambulism, or may it be the result of the shock which he sustains in passing from one state to another?

Once awake, Janicaud has not the least recollection of what has taken place in his somnambulant state. But in each attack he remembers perfectly all that has been said and done in the preceding ones.

In his natural state, Janicaud has an uncertain memory and retains what he learns with difficulty; but on several occasions when he has been studying his history lessons in bed, the assistant master has taken the book from his hand and the somnambulist has then repeated the five or six pages which he had just read without omitting a syllable. Awakened immediately after, he had no recollection of what he had just read and repeated.

BADAIRE.<sup>1</sup>

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Before forwarding his report to Dr. Cressant, M. Badaire had called together the teachers and pupils of the Ecole Normale and had read it aloud to them, asking them if they had any observations to make. All declared it to be scrupulously accurate. A copy of it had also been sent to M. Théry, then rector at Clermont-Ferrand, who was acquainted with some of the

<sup>1</sup> M. Janicaud married almost as soon as he left the Ecole Normale, and has since had only one attack of somnambulism, which was a few days after his marriage. He has since become Master of the primary school in La Creuse.

circumstances, and who was specially interested, having had occasion to observe similar phenomena at the Lycée at Versailles, of which he had been head master.

Many points of similarity will be perceived between the account of Janicaud and that of Mdlle. R. L. (*Revue Scientifique*, July 15th, 1876. p. 69), but there are also differences.

The attacks were almost daily with both Janicaud and Mdlle. R. L. ; but though the latter sometimes passed from normal sleep into somnambulism (like Janicaud) it generally happened that she fell into that condition while in the waking state. Both passed from somnambulism into normal sleep, and then woke in an ordinary manner, without suspecting the modifications that had taken place in their sleep. Both, when in the somnambulant state, remembered perfectly all that had taken place in former attacks, and were also conscious of the events of their normal existence, whereas in the normal state, they were completely ignorant of all that they had thought and done during somnambulism. This is what constituted double personality in both of them, only it was more complete in Mdlle. R. L., who during her abnormal existence spoke of her waking self as of another person, calling it *la fille bête*. With both of them there was considerable development of memory and intelligence during the attacks.

When it was thought desirable to put an end to an attack, without waiting for a spontaneous transition into normal sleep, it was necessary (according to M. Badaire) to firmly press Janicaud's thighs, or to flash a bright light before his eyes ; but the slightest touch on the skin of the neck or mucous membrane of the pharynx sufficed in the case of Mdlle. R. L. Both strongly resisted any attempts to bring about this result.

Both walked about and worked in the dark, but Mdlle. R. L. used her eyes: she was no longer short-sighted, but laid aside her spectacles, throwing back her head so as to bring the pupil behind the opening of the eyelid, which was much contracted, owing to the drooping of the upper eyelid.<sup>1</sup>

Janicaud, on the contrary, saw without the intervention of the physical organs of sight.

Finally there is one considerable difference. Janicaud perceived things at a distance as well as though near at hand ; he presented in his spontaneous somnambulism this phenomenon of mental vision or double sight, usually only observed in induced somnambulism.

Blois, September, 1888.

<sup>1</sup> When I mentioned in my article in the *Revue Scientifique* (July 15th, 1876) this removal of short-sightedness in Mdlle. R. L., I put forward the hypothesis of its being due to the relaxation of the motor muscles of the eye ; the drooping and partial paralysis which occurs at the same time leads one to think that all the infra-orbital muscles, at least, lose their tonicity.

