

retailed slander on Judge Edmonds, or his libellous charge of "rank blasphemy" on me; although he, "whether priest or layman," knows that the retailer of a slander or the republisher of a libel is equally responsible with him who originates it. But let this all pass. I can make great allowances for these monomaniacs, and would advise them, in their lucid intervals, to argue this question without denouncing those who investigate it. With that I will be content; and, so far as I am concerned, they shall have the whole field of argument to themselves. But if they continue their denunciations, I shall repel their assaults as I would the assaults of any other madmen, no matter whether they imagine themselves Don Quixotte, Hyder Ali, or *Tong Whang!*

The writer still persists in his determination to put down the investigation of this subject by the strong arm of the law. Well, let him, and those laboring under the same hallucination, persevere in their praiseworthy efforts. As the venerable JOHN QUINCY ADAMS once said on a memorable occasion, "We shall see what we shall see." In the mean time let us have the name of this writer, when entering on this crusade against civil liberty and religious freedom, emblazoned on his monomaniac banner, that his ignorant and infatuated followers may see under what sign they conquer. He has put his name at your service. I insist that you give it to the world, that the whole world may revel in the effulgence of this luminary of the nineteenth century.

Very respectfully, yours,

N. P. TALLMADGE.

Appendix—C.

EDWARD FOWLER'S COMMUNICATIONS.

I copy the following papers from Edward Fowler's notes of some interviews which he had, and which were given to him evidently to carry out the explanations which they were unable to give to me.

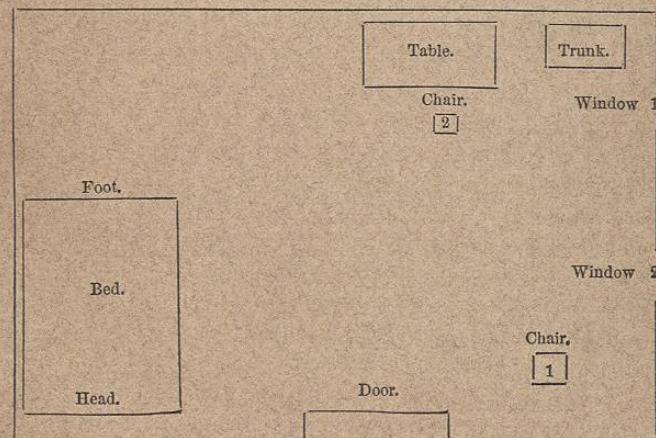
FIRST INTERVIEW.

Nov. 21, 1851.—On this night I sat at my table engaged in reading and writing until within a few minutes of twelve o'clock, when I retired.

After extinguishing my light, and before getting in bed, I noticed a bright light over my bed, which I should judge was a foot in diameter. At this I was not surprised, because I had been accustomed to see such lights, with the exception that this was brighter than usual.

I proceeded to bed, where I had lain probably five minutes, when I heard a footstep in the room.

The following diagram will aid the understanding of the statement.



My face was at the time turned toward the wall. I looked around toward the windows, and beheld a form, apparently that of a man forty years old, and a little more than six feet high walking from the center of the room toward window No. 1, where he met another man not so tall, who seemed to have come through that window. I did not see him come through, but first saw him, when one or two feet from the window on the inside. They stopped near the window and spoke with each other for a few minutes, and then came to my bedside, and the taller one said to me, "Arise and take thy pen, for I will dictate."

I made an unsuccessful attempt to rise, not to write, but to retreat from my room. I was paralyzed. I could not move a limb, had not power of articulation; in fact, I had not control of a single muscle in my body. A cold, winter breeze seemed to be chilling me through and through; I never before experienced such an indescribable feeling of horror.

The two stood by my bedside gazing at me for a few minutes, and then moved away to the table, where they were joined by a third party, who also appeared to come in by the window in the same manner as the second one. He was a small man, not over five feet six inches high, and rather slender. He had a high, open forehead, was quite bald, and appeared to be sixty or seventy years old. He had some small thing in his hand, but I did not notice what it was.

The three stood by the table conversing, when a fourth party entered. He appeared to be about sixty, medium height, and shortly built. His head was somewhat bald, and his shoulders rounded. The contour of his face resembled in a degree the portraits of Franklin, but he appeared to be more jolly than I supposed Franklin to have been.

(I have since been told, through the rappings, that it was him.)

He came in by the same window, bearing under his left arm a box about eighteen inches long, and nine in depth and width. He came to the table and sat his box thereon. Meanwhile the tall man had seated himself in chair No. 2, and the small one on the trunk.

After the four had consulted together for the space of half an hour, the first and second one came to my bedside and talked to me twenty-five or thirty minutes. I at the time fully understood what was said. Its import was very clear to my mind; but I can not

now, nor have I been ever able since to recall the first word or idea uttered.

The small man, and he who brought the box, remained at the table.

After this one had ceased to speak, the two again went to the table and joined in conversation with the other two. I could hear them talk, but could not understand their language. They were evidently speaking of me, as they often looked around at me.

After staying three hours, from twelve till three, they left, apparently going out at the same window at which they came in, the tall man going first, and the man with the box last.

I did not see them go through the window. They seemed to disappear from my sight when about a foot from the window inside.

That I really had possession of my natural senses I infer from the following circumstances:

First, I had not been asleep when the scene commenced.

Second, The Brooklyn fire-bells, which were tolling for fire when I went to bed, I could still hear, and in the course of half an hour the City Hall bell of New York gave the alarm of fire, which the church fire-bells repeated. I heard the "Rutger's Hose" go by the house, and the adjacent church bell toll the four hours as I lay awake, viz., twelve, one, two, three, and four o'clock.

SECOND INTERVIEW.

Nov. 22, 1851.—As I had but little sleep last night, I retired early (at nine) this evening, and soon fell asleep. I slept till near twelve, when I awoke, seemingly without any external provocation. I almost involuntarily looked round the room to see if my visitors were present, but found, much to my satisfaction, that they were not.

In a few minutes the clock of the church struck twelve. About five minutes passed when the tallest one of my previous evening's visitors entered the room at the same window as before, and closely followed by five others, the last one being the man with the box.

They all appeared to be in good spirits, especially the man with the box, who appeared quite gleeful, and sat his box down on the table in a careless manner.

The six conferred together for a short time, alternately glancing at me and at the box.

At length the man who brought the box stepped up to it and opened it. The top and side of the box were let down.

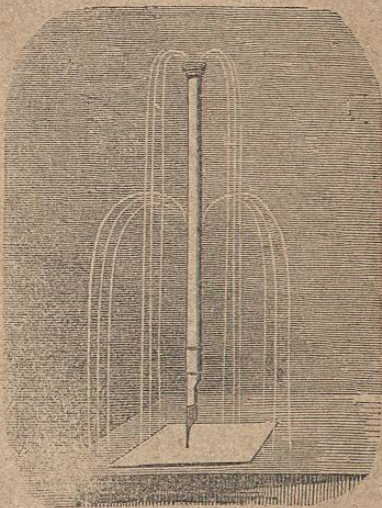
I should think they were quite one hour in arranging the machinery which was inside the box, and which occasionally emitted shafts of light resembling in appearance and vividness the flashes which occur during a severe thunder-storm.

My knife, which was highly charged with magnetic power, lay on the table, and seemed to be quite detrimental to their operations. The shafts of light seemed to be attracted to the knife, and the knife in return emitted a blue shaft of light. At length the knife was thrown upon the floor, at which they seemed to evince much satisfaction.

A sheet of paper which lay upon a shelf, one end of which overhung the table, was taken from the shelf and placed on the box cover which was unfolded upon the table. After displacing the knife, the lights seemed to form more regularly from a circular row of holes in the box cover, and the lights now, instead of being all white, were alternately white and blue, and seemed to be operating upon a steel pen which lay upon the table. The pen was several times lifted nearly perpendicular, and fell, and finally they succeeded in getting it entirely upright, and then adjusted the lights as the following sketch poorly represents:

The pen was then hopped along to the inkstand, dipped in, and then conveyed to the sheet of paper, and commenced writing. It two or three times fell, and with much difficulty was reerected.

After occupying about five minutes in writing, the pen was dropped, and the box was rearranged and shut up by the one who brought it. They then held a conversation for a while, and at three o'clock left by the same window in the same manner as the night before, the tall man leading, and the man with the box being the last to go.



When the pen was moved, the white light was brighter on the side from which it moved, and the blue light on the side toward which it was moved.

They were all dressed as on the former occasion (that is, in long gowns), with the exception of the man with the box, who seemed to have on a sack coat, which reached down nearly to the knees and was very loose, the girdle for confining it hanging loose.

About the four new ones there was nothing remarkable.

In the morning I found the writing was executed on real paper and was five lines of Hebrew. The translation by Professor Bush proved it to be a quotation from the book of Joel, ii. 23-27.

THIRD INTERVIEW.

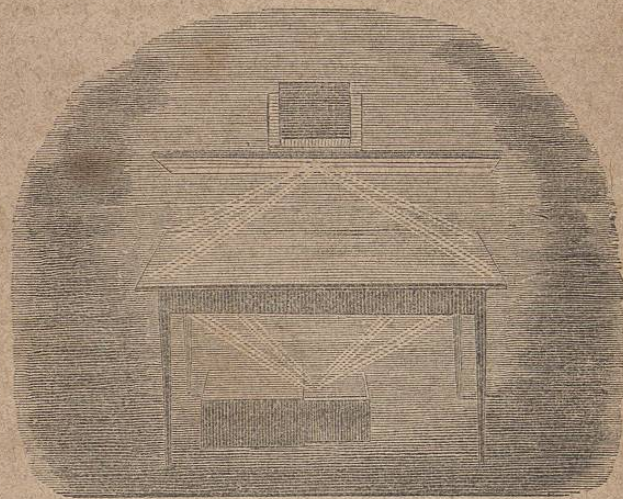
Nov. 27, 1851.—This evening I retired in company with my brother Samuel at half-past eleven o'clock, and soon fell asleep. I had slept, I know not how long, when I was awakened by a foot-step in my room. I looked around, and at the same window beheld a tall man walking toward the table, closely followed by six others. The man with the box was next to the tall one, and the small man next. The last one of the company appeared to be merely an aid, who brought another box, and retired immediately after setting it on the table.

The small man and the man with the box seemed to take the most active part in conducting this evening's operations.

The man with the box (who for brevity's sake I will call Franklin) placed one box under the table and the other on a shelf over the table. These boxes were about the same size as the other, but were different in outward construction. These two seemed to open by a drawer drawn out at the end. After the two had occupied some time in apparently arranging the machinery (during which time the tall man sat in chair No. 2), lights came from the boxes to the table, as the following sketch will represent.

The shafts of light, as before, were alternately white and blue. Whenever the white lights increased in brightness below the table and the blue above, the table would rise. The blue lights would sometimes become bright at one end of the table underneath, and not at the other end, as did also the white lights above, and then only that end of the table would move. This phenomenon was often

varied, but possessed the same general characteristics of procedure. After experimenting for some time in this manner, apparently for the purpose of showing how material objects were moved by the invisibles, the box under the table was moved out to the center of the room, and then by these same streams of light books were conveyed through the air from one box to the other, the electrical or odic lights or forces operating upon a book in a manner similar to that described in respect to the pen and table.



A A—Boxes. B—Shelf. C—Table. Lines—The lights.

The books started rapidly, moderated their speed, and descended toward the floor midway in their passage, and then increased their speed and altitude as they approached the other box.

After some time was occupied in this manner, both boxes were placed on the table, and a process of forming hands from this light was gone through with, but as my observation was not sufficient to enable me to clearly describe this, I will not attempt it.

My brother did not wake during the scene, though I several times attempted to awaken him, but was prevented by being rendered entirely powerless. I felt more composed this evening than on the former occasions. There was not a word exchanged between us.

They were dressed, and left as described in the last interview.

FOURTH INTERVIEW.

Nov. 28, 1851.—This p. m. was requested by the spirits, through the rappings, to darken my room and go into it. Accordingly I did so at twenty minutes past three.

I was in but a few minutes before the tall man entered by the same window, and in the same manner as before, followed by ten others. On their entrance the room became light as day. The light seemed to emanate from no particular point. This was also the case at the previous interviews.

This time four large boxes, apparently two feet square, were brought in by persons I had not before observed, and who retired immediately after depositing them. The man who had before brought the box (Franklin) and the small man (who I have been informed was Hahnemann) each brought a bundle.

I do not know what was done with the bundles, as in the confusion of numbers I lost sight of them, and they took nothing with them when they went away. I therefore suppose they were taken away by some of the others while my attention was drawn in another direction.

I was at the time standing near the bed. The boxes were placed one in each corner of the room. They appeared to have covers, which rested on the tops of the boxes. These covers were removed by "Franklin," and lights soon began to flow from each box, meeting at a center point at five or six feet from the floor, the meeting place gradually changing from the center of the room to nearer the table, on which lay various things, such as pens, books, paper, bandbox, wafers, ink, etc., which were with great rapidity moved off, and placed on the shelf which overhung the table. This was accomplished so quickly that I had not time to observe the order or manner in which the things were displaced. Nothing was left on the table except the pen, ink, paper, and blotting paper. The table was then, by the same peculiar action of these lights, moved nearly to the center of the room, I suppose for the purpose of getting equal power from each battery. The pen was then picked up in the same manner as before described, only with much more ease, passed into the ink-stand, and conveyed to the paper, and writing executed.

Five lines of the writing have been pronounced to be Sanscrit, and

I have not yet seen any one who can translate it. There were also seven lines in French, poorly written; they were the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth verses of second chapter of Joel. The Sanscrit was apparently executed with much greater ease and quickness than the French, and looks more perfect in penmanship. The most rapid could not have done it in as short a space of time as it was done. The pen fell but once this time.

I made several attempts to approach the box nearest me, with the intention of placing my hand upon it, but each time became perfectly powerless.

After the writing was completed, the lights approached and surrounded myself, grasping me round the waist in the same manner the pen was grasped, taking me from the floor and swaying me backward and forward and several times raised me so that my head touched the ceiling. I felt nothing like a hand or band touching me, but distinctly felt a sensation resembling a mild breeze. I was thus operated with for the space of half or three quarters of an hour, during which time the servant girl passed the door, which very materially impaired the operation of the boxes on that side of the room.

She afterward came to the door and rapped, at which time I was suspended several feet from the floor, and the operation of the boxes on that side of the room were so much affected that I came near falling. Her presence seemed to change the white lights to blue. The absence of the white lights seemed to render the blue ones uncontrollable, so that instead of converging to me as a point, they diverged irregularly to different parts of the room, displacing with roughness whatever chanced to lie in their line of motion. They regained their former state of controllability as soon as the girl receded from the door. The blue lights, when abstracted from the white, caused a breeze of very great coldness.

Finally, the boxes were covered again, and "Franklin," "Hahnemann," the tall man, and one of the others, took each a box and retired, the others following.

FIFTH INTERVIEW.

Nov. 30, 1851.—This evening I retired at eleven, and had scarcely got in bed when my visitors made their appearance, first the stout

man, "Franklin," then the tall man, and then the small one, "Hahnemann;" which three composed the whole of this evening's party. "Franklin" had under his arm the box which he brought on the first occasion, and placing it upon the table, he let down the cover as described in the second interview.

In the space of four or five minutes the lights began flowing or rather darting from the box in a confused manner, exhibiting those eccentric motions which are observable in the electrical bolts which occur during a thunder-storm, and violently displacing every thing which came within the range of its progress.

There were no white lights, and the blue were more intense in color than usual.

The individuals also seemed to wear an expression of apprehension or concern upon seeing how things operated, and an end to the operations was made as soon as possible.

Among other things which were displaced was a lamp, containing burning fluid, which would probably have terminated in a serious accident had it been lighted, for I found upon rising to replace it, after they had left, that considerable fluid had escaped and become wasted on the carpet. I now wonder that it escaped ignition from the effects of the electrical current.

After they had succeeded in suppressing these erratic proceedings, the stout man re-closed the box and they left by the same window as before.