

Telepathy.

ASTRA.

(CONTINUED).

THERE are so many interesting cases of impressions being received from dying persons, that quite an interesting volume of "creepy" stories might be compiled with but little labor. Well authenticated and numerous, these incidents cannot easily be explained on the ground of co-incidence. Those of us who have listened to blood-curdling tales, handed down from one story-teller to another, with no corroboration, can scarcely realize the startling effect of a mass of indubitable evidence, such as has been brought forth in the support of the reality of these phenomena. The point in the evidence that impresses us is not its exciting or terrific quality, but its overwhelming quantity—overwhelming, we mean, to any possibility of further doubting this class of phenomena.

An English lady sent the following story to the Society for Psychical Research some years ago, and the literary committee of that society published it in the Report of the organization's proceedings.

"My mother married at a very early age, without the consent of her parents. My grandmother vowed that she would never see her daughter again. A few months after her marriage my mother was awakened about two a. m. by a loud knocking at the door. To her great surprise, my father did not wake. The knocking was resumed; my mother spoke to my father, but, as he still slept, she got up, opened the window and looked out, when, to her amazement, she saw her mother in full court dress, standing on the step and looking up at her. My mother called to her, but my grandmother, frowning and shaking her head, disappeared. At this moment my father woke, and my mother told him what had happened. He went to the window, but saw nothing. My mother was sure that my grandmother, even at that late hour, had come to forgive her, and entreated my father to

let her in. He went down and opened the door, but nobody was there. He assured my mother that she had been dreaming, and she at last believed that it was so. The next morning the servants were questioned, but they had heard nothing, and the matter was dismissed from the minds of my parents till the evening, when they heard that my grandmother had been in court dress at a ball the night before—I think at Kensington Palace, but of this I am not sure—that, feeling unwell, she had returned home, and after about an hour's illness, had died at two a. m. She had not mentioned my mother's name during her short illness."

It will be observed that in this case the impression from the dying mother, although fully realized only in wakefulness, made itself felt in the first instance during sleep.

In the year 1830, a transport, carrying some two hundred English soldiers, left Bermuda for Halifax, and was lost at sea with all on board. Two young officers of the regiment to which the detachment belonged, Lieuts. Creigh and Liston, had, in a half-jesting way, made a sort of promise that whoever died first, should come back, if he could, and let the other know whether there was another world. This conversation was overheard by the narrator, Dr. Colchester, as it took place in his presence, perhaps a year before the events happened, though not remembered till afterwards. Liston embarked in charge of the detachment, and had been gone about a fortnight, when Creigh, who had one night left the mess early and retired to bed, and was beginning to close his eyes, saw his door open and Liston enter. Forgetting his absence, and thinking he had come to pull him out of bed (for practical joking was then more common in the army than it is now), he cried, "No, no, Liston, don't, old fellow! I'm tired! Be off." But the vision came nearer to the bed, and Creigh then saw that Liston looked as if very ill (for it was bright moonlight), and that his hair seemed wet and hung down over his face like that of a drowned man. The apparition moved its head mournfully; and when Creigh in surprise sat up, rubbed his eyes, and looked again, it was gone. Still Creigh had no idea that he had been looking upon a spectre, and, believing that he had seen Liston in flesh and blood, he went to sleep. In the morning he related the occurrence, when he recollected, but not till then, Lis-

ton's absence from the island on duty. In this case, it is impossible to say whether the transport foundered at the precise moment the vision occurred or not. It would be well to draw attention to the fact that a large proportion of these appearances at death seem to have been preceded by some such compact as that which existed between Liston and Creigh.

(To be continued).

Little self-denials, little honesties, little passing words of sympathy, little nameless acts of kindness, little silent victories over favorite temptations,—these are the threads of gold, which, when woven together, gleam out so brightly in the pattern of life that God approves.—*F. W. Farrar.*

Man cannot go out beyond himself, for the universe is contained within the circumference of his being. In him potentially exist celestial harmonies and hellish flames, heavenly ecstasies, and demoniacal orgies. He has the equipment to play saint or sinner, devil or angel.—*Henry Wood.*

