

**MODERN SPIRITISM; A CRITICAL
EXAMINATION OF ITS
PHENOMENA, CHARACTER, AND
TEACHING, IN THE LIGHT OF THE
KNOWN FACTS**

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Modern spiritism; a critical examination of its phenomena, character, and teaching, in the light of the known facts by J. Godfrey Raupert

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PREFACE

THE contents of this work will be found to more than justify its publication.

The modern spiritistic movement, so strongly supported by recent scientific utterances, is increasingly affecting all classes and conditions of society, and is beginning to undermine the religious belief and convictions of thousands of serious-minded but not very accurately informed persons. The basis of this movement is the claim that the spirits of the dead are habitually communicating with us through the agency of sensitives, and that the disclosures which they are making are of an authoritative character, and have a deeply important bearing upon our life and our religious beliefs.

A systematic study of the subject, extended over a long period of years and carried on under exceptionally favourable circumstances, has thoroughly convinced the author that this popular and widely accepted view of the matter is a mistaken one, and that the modern spiritistic theory is untenable.

Information of a deeply interesting and suggestive character, which has quite recently come

into his possession, has gone to still further confirm and strengthen this conviction, and has been the immediate cause of his preparing the present work.

The author earnestly commends the facts set forth in this volume, supported as they are by such incontrovertible and overwhelming testimony, to the serious attention of all fair-minded and unprejudiced inquirers.

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MODERN SPIRITISM

I

THE EVIDENCE

IN really well-informed circles there is no longer any doubt that in the presence of certain peculiarly constituted individuals, and under conditions hereafter to be described, a series of abnormal phenomena can be induced which cannot be accounted for by science and by the known laws of nature, and that many of these phenomena are objective in character and are directed by extraneous intelligence or intelligences.

The patient and prolonged research of men of note, many of whom are well-known experimenters in other fields of scientific inquiry, has recently yielded a large and unexpected amount of evidence, the value and significance of which is increased and strengthened by the consideration that many of them entered upon the inquiry with a pronouncedly sceptical attitude of mind, if not with the distinct desire to disprove, if possible, the occurrence of these phenomena. So abundant and spontaneous, indeed, has been the testimony that, as the late Professor of Astronomy at Cambridge observed