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TIFFANY THAYER

DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

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FIRST PRIZE

The rosiest apple goes to the British people and their judges for freeing Gerhart Eisler after the United States had invaded Poland to take him illegally.

YS realizes that those few words will cause others to call him a Communist. Things have reached such a pass that anybody who defends decency is a "Red". The Fat Boys don't seem to realize that such a situation is fraught with menace. Suppose the association of ideas should get transposed in the public mind!

GOMER BATH ON FORT

Laughing Charles Fort

Reprinted from the Peoria (Ill) Star, where MFS Bath writes a daily column.

"Progress," said Benjamin DeCasseres, "is nothing but the victory of laughter over dogma."

The most civilized, erudite and literate laughter at dogma of the present generation was Charles Fort. It should follow, therefore, that the disciples of modern progress hail Charles Fort as their prophet. But I seldom meet a person who responds with any sign of recognition at the mention of the name of Fort.

There may be several reasons for the relative obscurity of this great American thinker, including the fact that he did not seek popular acclaim. One of those reasons, I think, is the failure of Fortians to proclaim Fort's delightful and malicious sense of humor. I know of no writer

of this century who has so joyfully amused himself at the expense of dogmatic wisecracks as has Charles Fort. This poking fun at dignity in high places he does with such finesse that a discriminating sense of humor is needed for full appreciation of it. But his delicate laughter is enduring. The reader who finds Fort in "The Book of the Damned" or any of his other three major works, may be sure that he has discovered a lifetime retreat from the wearying dignity of stuffed shirts. Reading a few pages of Fort almost at random will restore one's good humor as surely as a cloth restores the polish of a waxed surface.

One may read logical presentations of, attacks against and defenses of any idea ever known to mankind and find the scales well balanced on controversial questions of the ages. Such is the power of logic that it may defend a false position as ably as attack it. But against the power of laughter there is no defense.

It is perhaps a good thing that the gift of humor is not widespread. "Humor is a divine attribute," said George Bernard Shaw. Upon but few is the great gift bestowed. If many possessed it, what we know as order in the world would vanish.

"The Book of the Damned" is about countless things that have happened, things that people have seen, felt and heard, things that have been recorded in newspapers, things that have excited cities and nations (remember the unexplained "flying disks" of the summer of 1947?) but have nevertheless been declared not to have happened. Why? Because they could not be explained by any principles accepted by orthodox science.

"A procession of the damned," Charles Fort calls these things. "By the damned, I mean the excluded. We shall have a procession of data that Science has excluded."

And what a procession it is! In the four books (the other three are "New Lands," "Lo!" and "Wild Talents") there are 1,062 pages of these unexplained happenings, the data "damned" by science because it would not fit into any of the theories which scientists currently agree are true.

Science's "seeming approximation to consistency, stability, system—positiveness or realness—is sustained by damning the irreconcilable or the unassimilable," says Fort. "All would be well. All would be heavenly—if the damned would only stay damned."

So Fort spent his life digging up thousands of facts that had not and could not be explained, and writing them with great gusto, poking fun all the while at dogmatic theorists who turned their backs on these facts rather than admit that unexplainable mysteries existed.

Fort's books are not attacks on science. They attack the dogmas of science which

are held to be final and absolute truths. And in so attacking, Fort proved himself more the true scientist than many scientific bigwigs who scorned him and his work. "Certitude is not the test of certainty," said Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, himself a Fortean. "We have been cocksure of many things what were not so."

And so Charles Fort laughed at dogma and his quiet laughter will echo through the years. And if more people knew of his great sense of humor, the books of Charles Fort would be more widely read than they are.

APRIL FISH

Several sharp-eyed members conversant with the German language caught the fun of Prof. Tchetchin and Dr. Joke in DOUBT #25, p. 381. As appears, Tchetchin backwards (nichtecht) means "not the real", and the publication, dated March 30, was for April 1st distribution . . . Our thanks to all.

CHAPTER SIX

Ron T. Deacon writes from London that he and other members have made a habit of meeting "almost" every Thursday evening at the White Horse Tavern, in Fetter Lane, a turning off Chancery Lane. London members and visitors, stop in!

ESSAY ON HUMAN NATURE

Manhattan: Sandwiched in between the Mexican War and the Civil War, there appeared in Harper's New Monthly Magazine for June, 1856, an anonymous article entitled "The Bear and the Basket Maker," from which I quote: "The favorite pursuit of men, civilized and barbarian, Christian and heathen, is to make hash and minced meat of each other. 'For forms of government let fools contend', and none but fools would waste their time on the subject. Autocracies, democracies, aristocracies, monarchies, limited or unlimited, constitutional or unconstitutional, when stripped of forms, words, sentiments and superstitions, and all the unsubstantial humbug with which men are obliged to drape and becloud the nakedness of their actions, are all based upon two great principles—Fraud and Force. In the end the cheats generally manage to monopolize all the profits; but in spite of them, the glory remains to the brave. Let the Model Republic rob henroosts and pilfer her defenseless, lousy neighbors until she is ashamed of it; let the Titans of the Old World crack their sinews and butt their stubborn heads together until they ache; the Muse, whose business it is to write their history, must wait with her pen behind her ear until the comedy is played out."

H. S. Petty



ABE MERRITT

ONLY FORTEAN CLERIC A PYROTIC

"Father Will Whalen", MFS 110, sometime Jesuit rector of the Church of Saint Ignatius, better known as the White Squaw Mission, Orrtanna, Pa., was found dead in a fire of unknown origin, in the Bronx, N. Y., July 15, 19FS. He was author, publisher, playwright, and the poker-playing buddy of Abe Merritt. In fact, they took each other's pictures, years ago, and sent these to YS. The papers give Whalen's age as 65.

"FRA. HILL BILL WHALEN"



THE STABLE EARTH AND THE STARRY HEAVENS

(By a Native of Strathearn)

Is it absolutely certain that the Earth goes round the Sun, and that the visible Universe is not Geocentric?—A reasoned discussion.

It requires some moral courage even to suggest that there is any possibility of a doubt regarding this matter. To the ordinary man, it appears ridiculous to suggest a doubt concerning a matter which everyone regards as absolutely settled.

Before going further, it may be pointed out that Sir George Airey, who was astronomer Royal up to 1881, stated to the effect that the positions of the heavenly bodies, eclipses, transits, occultations, etc., can be foretold just as well on the assumption that the heavenly bodies revolve daily, and also annually, round the Earth, as on the received system of Astronomy. Other fairly modern astronomical writers have said much the same thing. From these statements it follows that the use of astronomy in navigation being by actual observation of the heavenly bodies continues just the same independent of either system. Since astronomy may be taken as practically neutral regarding all these most important points, it seems to follow that a geocentric system is at least worthy of serious consideration. The reasons for its universal rejection in favour of the Copernican System, with its modern developments, seem to be by no means so conclusive as they are generally supposed to be. Most of the reasons usually adduced in favour of the modernised Copernican System really assume the point at issue. The two systems are absolutely irreconcilable, and mutually exclusive. They are based on entirely different premises, and in order to be properly compared, each System ought to be based on its own premises, and the respective points in favour of or against each, fairly brought out. It ought not to be against the geocentric system that it was once practically universally held. It is unfortunate that during the Middle Ages it was represented by the extremely defective systems of the Alexandrian astronomer Ptolemy, with its solid transparent spheres and epicycles, difficult to be accepted by the mind, and its circular motions which made accurate calculations impossible, so that it was its own defects which made the overthrow of the Ptolemaic System comparatively easy. It must not, however, be supposed that the views of Copernicus or Galileo were at once accepted by the learned. It is sufficient to point to the great names of Tycho Brahe, the Danish astronomer, and of Bacon Lord Verulam to prove this. Of the early part of the seventeenth century it has been said, that most of the philosophers were on one side, most of the astronomers on the other. Up to the time of Newton the weight of argument was probably nearly balanced. Newton and the other great astronomers and philosophers of that period made complete the victory of modern astronomy. Addi-

son, long afterwards, seems still to have held geocentric opinions if his hymn is to be taken literally:—

“What though in solemn silence all
Move round the dark terrestrial ball.”
The modernised Copernican System has now had complete supremacy for more than two centuries. We have all been educated to accept it implicitly, to applaud the triumphs of Galileo and of Newton, or of Leverrier and Adams. A great body of Astronomical Science has been built up upon it, and is being constantly added to by men of the greatest learning and ability, using the most accurate and costly instruments. In these circumstances, a system which would bring to nought modern astronomy is hardly likely to obtain an impartial hearing.

Every new discovery calls for fresh conquests, and adds to the feeling of certainty of those who hold and work upon the modern system, while the assumptions on which it is all based are never thought of, or re-examined. To most ordinary readers it is necessary to point out what a geocentric system implies, and it is almost inevitable that the following should appear to be more an investigation of, and a defence of, the geocentric hypothesis, than a strictly judicial discussion of the question.

Many years ago the writer stood beside a little woodland pond on a warm summer afternoon. The hum of insects was the only sound, not a breath of air stirred, every leaf (every grass was reflected on the still water, as in a mirror. The thought that rose to the mind was—Are we really flying through space at the rate of 19 miles per second? Thoughts of this sort must have come to the minds of most people at one time or another. Now this sense of immovable stability is a very real argument in favour of a firm and stable Earth, the centre of the visible Universe, without motion and immutably clasped within the circuit of the revolving heavens. It is evidence brought home not merely to the eye, but to our whole being, to our every sense at all times, and is therefore, not lightly to be put aside by any abstract reasoning. We live on this Earth; only the eye (including the photographic eye) takes us beyond it, and we ought to feel a different kind of certainty regarding things which happen upon the Earth than regarding those believed to happen in the distant regions of space. The modernised Copernican system depends almost entirely on the observations of the eye, including the instruments of observation.

It is rather a defect of the human mind that it “abhors a vacuum” to such an extent that it is often ready to accept, as absolutely certain, a reasoned explanation of phenomena, capable to some extent of satisfying the mind, but resting on premises which are far from certain, rather than say—“We do not know how these things happen.”

It is desirable that before discussing the matter we should form some conception of the stellar distances of modern astronomy. The nearest fixed star, Alpha Centauri (a star of the southern hemisphere not visible in Britain) has a par-

allax of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a second. Taking the Sun's distance as 93,000,000 miles, and the radius corresponding to an arc of one second as 206,265, one Parsec would be 19,182,645,000,000, and the distance of Alpha Centauri $\frac{4}{3}$ of that, or 25,576,860,000,000 miles. Such figures really convey nothing to the mind. The following may, perhaps, enable us to get a little nearer to the reality. Let the reader go to a point where he can see an object about 2 miles off. At Edinburgh, from the vicinity of Fettes College, to the National Monument on the Calton Hill. Let a halfpenny (which is an inch in diameter) represent the Earth's orbit. The Sun in the centre would be the size of a grain of dust just large enough to be seen by good eyes, say rather less than $\frac{1}{200}$ of an inch in diameter. The Earth would be a speck of dust on the circumference, much too small to be seen at all without a lens. Alpha Centauri being regarded as larger than the Sun might be the size of a mignonette seed at the National Monument. Now what has been done is this—the distance of that seed at the National Monument has been found by observations taken from opposite sides of the halfpenny at Fettes College. Moreover, on the above scale every separate inch between Fettes College and the National Monument represents a distance of 186,000,000 miles. We have been considering the nearest star, but modern astronomy teaches that there are stars thousands of parsecs distant. On the above scale these would be represented by minute objects, say, on the Ural Mountains, or, indeed, beyond the Earth altogether. In contrast to this, the solar system could be held between the hands, Neptune being about fifteen inches distant and, like the other planets, too small to be seen without a magnifier. All this is not exactly easy for the mind to accept. Yet modern astronomy calls for its acceptance.

All trigonometrical observations depend on rays of light passing in an absolutely straight line to the observer. Modern Astronomy makes the nearest star about 25,000,000,000,000 miles distant. Can we be certain that there is no way in which light rays may be deflected? Can we be certain that there is no deflecting medium through which, in their four years' journey, they may have to pass? Some astronomers believe that gravitation may deflect a ray of light, and that observations taken at a recent eclipse of the sun prove this. Modern astronomy teaches that there are dark bodies in the heavens invisible to the eye, so that if gravitation can really deflect a ray of light there may be many dark, heavy, invisible bodies between us and any of the stars, just as capable as the sun of deflecting a ray of light. Atmospheric refraction which has to be allowed for, is a very weak point in the measurement of celestial distances. Thus, the refraction, with the barometer at 30 inches, and the thermometer at 50° Fahrenheit, would be approximately, at 60° 44 times, and at 80° 13 times greater respectively than the parallax of the nearest star, which is $\frac{3}{4}$ of a second. With such varying factors

minute certainty can hardly be expected. It is obvious that a reading of the barometer and thermometer by the observer is quite a different thing from knowing the conditions all along the line of sight. A mathematical truth may be absolutely certain, but its application to a concrete case may well be quite uncertain. It is one thing for a modern astronomer to read with a micrometer an extremely minute angle, and quite another thing to measure a vast real distance. The power of minute observation becomes divorced from the natural object observed and its conditions, and so is really fallacious. The minute accuracy of the instrument is apt to become a snare to the observer.

As the modernised Copernican System has held complete sway for generations, our entire astronomical knowledge is based upon it, and most of our astronomical ideas have been made dependent upon it. It is difficult to enumerate all the points upon which a geocentric system would now have to be based. We want to know what part of our received opinions would have to be abandoned as erroneous, and what part as unproved or improbable. To begin with, most of our measurements of distances would have to be abandoned. The distances of the stars have been found from the base line of the diameter of the Earth's orbit, but if there is no orbit we know nothing of what these distances are. It is, however, safe to say that although immense compared with this Earth, they would be microscopic in smallness compared with one Parsec of Modern Astronomy. Those planetary distances which are dependent on the law of the square of the period being proportionate to the cube of the distance would fall to the ground. It may here be pointed out that the velocity of light has been calculated from the eclipses of the satellites of Jupiter, and that if the distance of Jupiter under the geocentric hypothesis is no longer known, the velocity of light becomes unknown, so that although the observations of the satellites of Jupiter are just as useful as ever for the purpose of determining the longitude, the velocity of light cannot be deduced from them under the geocentric hypothesis. The law of Universal Gravitation would, of course, have to be abandoned. Newton's apple showed only terrestrial gravitation, which is not in question. Bodies fall to the Earth at a rates of about 16 feet the first second, 48 feet the second second, 80 feet the third second, and so on, at a regularly accelerating rate. Terrestrial Gravitation is natural and appropriate, to the solid, stable earth the centre of the visible Universe, around which the heavens revolve daily. Newton's demonstration of the Law of Universal Gravitation implies that the Sun is the centre of the solar system, with the Earth and planets revolving around it, while the Earth revolves on its axis daily. Universal Gravitation can therefore have no place whatever, if the Earth is stationary, and the Heavens revolve daily, and also annually around it. The double motions prove that they are not controlled by the Law of Gravitation. The abandonment of the

Law of Universal Gravitation takes from us the means of calculating the weights of the heavenly bodies, so that under a geocentric system these are unknown.

The unity of Nature forms one of the principal bases of modern astronomy. During half a century, or more, an immense super-structure has been built up upon this slender base—the evolution and development of stars, their ages and states, etc. Now our knowledge of Nature comes from this earth, a speck of dust in the immensities of modern astronomy. This is, indeed, to deduce the inconceivably great from the microscopically small, a most doubtful method. The specific gravity ascribed to the companion of Sirius, which is thousands of times heavier than lead, ought to be a warning to astronomers against assuming the unity of nature. Under the geocentric hypothesis, however, the unity of nature would have to be abandoned, and the absolutely distinct natures of the Heavens, and of the Earth, clearly recognized. This is implied by the geocentric hypothesis. The solid, stable Earth is poised in the centre of the visible universe, and is endowed, as we know, with terrestrial gravitation, while around it, the Heavens fly daily at a prodigious velocity, holding the Earth, as it were, in their grasp, and profoundly influencing it on all sides at once, although how, we do not know. The necessary rejection of the law of universal gravitation under the Geocentric hypothesis further proves the distinct natures of the Heavens and of the Earth. The Earth is subject, as we know, to the laws of Terrestrial Gravitation, but whatever the mighty forces are which rule the flying Heavens, universal gravitation cannot have a place there under the Geocentric hypothesis; the double motions make it impossible. A mysterious, and what may be called a mighty gulf, therefore, divides the Heavens, and the things that are therein, from the Earth, and the conditions which exist in it. It may be objected that the spectroscope shows a unity of nature. But the spectroscope and every other scientific instrument is upon the Earth, and is affected by the Earth's atmosphere and by all terrestrial conditions. In any case, even if there should be some apparent unity, it must be as nothing compared with the difference of a system subject to the law of gravitation, from a mighty system where gravitation does not exist, but which is ruled by tremendous forces, of the nature of which we are quite ignorant. The passage of a ray of light or, indeed, anything else, from a region where gravitation does not exist, and which is ruled by mighty and entirely unknown forces, to a region where gravitation rules, seems bound to effect some change, although what that may be we do not know. The entirely distinct nature of the Heavens, and of the Earth, must raise doubts regarding all our knowledge of celestial matters.

There is, of course, a certain overlapping of the terrestrial system by the celestial system, for not only do the Heavens revolve daily around the Earth, and exert their influence upon it, but it seems probable that terrestrial gravitation

extends to the Moon, governing its monthly motion, although the Moon is primarily a heavenly body, governed by the celestial forces and revolving daily around the Earth. The Moon will be referred to separately later.

It should be pointed out that it is much more improbable that this stable Earth should revolve around the Sun at the immense rate of the Copernican System, than that under a Geocentric System the Heavens (of which under the Geocentric hypothesis we really know almost nothing) should revolve around the Earth at an incomparably greater rate. It is not the absolute speed, but the thing that moves, that makes most for probability, or improbability. This is a most important point. Thus, the alleged orbital motion of our stable Earth, of about 19 miles per second, at once raised a feeling of incredulity, while the vastly greater rate of the velocity of light, of 186,000 miles per second, does not do so.

Under the Geocentric hypothesis the Heavens revolve daily at a prodigious speed around the Earth, holding the Earth, as it were, in their grip, and affecting all sides of it at once. The revolving Heavens must thus be expected to produce an immense effect on the Earth. Any phenomena which, under the Copernican System, would be ascribed to the revolution of the Earth on its axis, would naturally, under a Geocentric system, be ascribed to the effect of the daily revolution of the Heavens around the Earth, although how these results are produced we do not know. The Heavens revolving daily around the Earth, of course, affects all side of the Earth at once, but apparently it is their motion on the opposite side of the Earth (where, of course, it is reversed) which seems to cause these phenomena.

We will now consider the Pantheon experiment of M. Foucault, in which the retrograde motion of a free pendulum is supposed to prove the revolution of the Earth on its axis. It may be admitted that, assuming the Copernican System, it is a fairly good corroborative argument. Under A Geocentric System, however, there is also a retrograde motion. The Heavens revolve daily around the Earth. A star rises in the East and sets in the West, but it returns by a West to East motion below the Earth, so as to rise again next day. This may be seen in the circumpolar stars, where the stars below the pole are seen to move from West to East. That things on one side of the Earth do actually affect things on the other side, we may point out that there is always a high tide underneath the moon, but there is also at the same time a high tide on the opposite side of the Earth from the moon.

It may not at first sight be apparent that the law of Universal Gravitation, which is at the base of Modern Astronomy, really depends entirely on the revolution of the Earth on its axis. The effect of this is to remove the daily motion from the Heavens to the Earth. If the daily motion were in the Heavens, the daily and annual motions would prove

that Universal Gravitation did not exist. They cannot both be reconciled with Universal Gravitation.

If, on the other hand, the revolution of the earth on its axis is asserted, the matter becomes no longer a question for astronomy only. Investigations ought to be made on the Earth itself, and these ought to be regarded as of the first importance.

Under the Geocentric hypothesis we know almost nothing regarding the Heavens. All investigations regarding the Heavens during more than two centuries have assumed the truth of modern astronomy, viz., that the Earth is a planet revolving daily on its axis and annually in an orbit around the Sun. If the Geocentric hypothesis is true, our enquiries have simply to begin again, and they must now be made without the help of what have been hitherto two of the most effective weapons of astronomical enquiry—the Law of Universal Gravitation and the Unity of Nature. The following few points may be regarded as a preliminary to such an investigation. The stars, instead of being immense suns, at inconceivable distances from the Earth, must be regarded as comparatively small bodies of all degrees of brightness, some of great brightness at what would be a great distance from the Earth when compared with the size of the Earth; but at a microscopic distance, when compared with the stellar distances of modern astronomy. They must be revolving daily round the Earth at a prodigious velocity. Whatever that velocity may be it would determine their distances, and vice versa. If they were all at the same distance they would all have the same velocity. If they were at different distances, as probably they are, the nearer ones would move slower, but the velocities of all would be so beautifully regulated that all would revolve daily around the Earth, the centre of the visible universe, substantially as if they were all joined. This would not, of course, prevent small individual movements, such as Binary stars or, indeed any such individual motions as can be observed. As yet, we know nothing of the stellar distances or velocities. We are not at present in a position to make any probable estimate regarding them. The greatest velocity would be in the highest and most distant Heavens, and it would gradually decrease towards the Earth. We must also remain, in the meantime, in profound ignorance of what these small bodies, revolving daily in millions around the Earth at prodigious rates, really are. No star has yet been seen as a disc, so apparently they must be small. As regards the planets, Mercury and Venus would have a slow motion around the Sun, besides a daily rapid motion along with the Sun around the Earth; Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune would have a slow motion around the Earth and the Sun, as well as a daily rapid motion around the Earth and the Sun. Of course, all our views regarding the planets would have to be entirely altered. We are really almost ignorant regarding them.

Under the Geocentric hypothesis the Moon presents more than one problem for consideration. Under this hypothesis the double movements of the Heavenly bodies show that Universal Gravitation does not exist in the Heavens. The Moon, however, has a separate monthly movement around the Earth, in which no other body participates. Now, the Earth certainly has terrestrial gravitation, which may be supposed to extend as far as the Moon and govern this monthly revolution. If this is so, the Moon will be in the remarkable position of being partly governed by the terrestrial powers, as well as by the Celestial forces. The Moon, however, is essentially a Heavenly body, and revolves daily around the Earth at about 30,000 miles an hour, say about 8 miles per second; that is a velocity about 30 times greater than the velocity of its monthly revolution. It is to be observed that the greatest powers, and the most prodigious velocities of the Celestial System, lie in the highest and most distant Heavens, and that the velocity steadily decreases towards the Earth, so that the velocity of the nearest Heavenly body, the Moon, is only the minutest fraction of the velocity of the distant Heavens. We can see here the overlapping of the Celestial and Terrestrial Systems. We can also see here how insignificant the Terrestrial Forces, such as gravitation, are when compared with the mighty Celestial Forces which carry the Sun, the Moon, and all the Host of Heaven, daily around the Earth.

Under the Copernican System the Earth revolves daily on its axis, the rate of revolution at the equator being about 1,000 miles an hour. The Earth also revolves annually in an orbit around the Sun, this orbital motion being in the plane of the ecliptic, the Earth's average speed in its orbit being about 66,000 miles an hour, or about 19 miles per second. Now it seems strange that this immensely rapid motion seems to produce no effect on the Earth. On the other hand the incomparably slower motion of the daily revolution does seem to produce a considerable effect in the trade winds and the ocean currents. It is an argument against this system that the smaller motion should produce some effect on the Earth, while the far greater one should produce practically none. Under the Geocentric hypothesis there are also two corresponding motions—the daily revolution of the Heavens around the Earth, and the annual one. Here, the daily motion is much the greater, being 365 times as fast as the annual motion, and it is to the daily motion, which is parallel to the equator, that the trade winds and the ocean currents must be ascribed, although we do not know how this Heavenly motion acts on the Earth. This is a far more consistent result than that under the Copernican System.

Assuming the Copernican System, and the daily revolution of the Earth on its axis, we will now consider what would actually happen. At the equator the speed of revolution would be about 1,000 miles an hour; this would gradually decrease

till at 60° the speed would be about 500 miles an hour. From this latitude it would rapidly decrease, till at the vicinity of the pole it would be practically nil. At the equator, therefore, every particle of water would be actually moving eastward at 1,000 miles an hour, however much this might be concealed by the fact that everything around would be moving at the same rate. The Atlantic ocean extends from the Equator to the North Pole on the one hand, and to the Antarctic land on the other hand. In the centre its waters would be moving at 1,000 miles an hour, while at both ends these waters would be moving quite slowly. The inevitable result of this would be, that the tremendous, although invisible, current at the equator would draw all the water on the earth from the polar regions to the tropics to take part in it. It may be objected that the continents of Africa and South America each cut across the equator and would break the continuity of this revolving current and so prevent it from acting; but this is a mistake, because the continental land has the same motion of 1,000 miles an hour, and would, so to speak, retreat before the water, so that the motion of the land and the water would be all one, and this tremendously rapid motion would draw in the slower moving water of the polar regions. It is not as if this were to commence now. It must have been going on for many ages, so that all the water of the oceans must by this induced current have been drawn, long ago, from the poles to the central regions of the Earth. Even if there were any doubt of this result following from the water at the equator moving at 1,000 miles an hour, there can be no doubt of the effect of the Air moving at that rate. All the Air would be drawn from the Polar regions; there is nothing effectually to prevent it; surely not gravitation, as the average weight of air is only about 1¼ oz. per cubic foot, and the weight of the whole atmosphere is only equal to about 34 feet of water. Even if some air remained at the poles it would probably be so reduced that it might be incapable of supporting life. This is surely a very strong argument against the Copernican System. We can feel pretty certain regarding the behaviour of such common things as water and air on this Earth of ours. Pretty certain that such a tremendous current as a thousand miles an hour would in any fluid produce a great induced current drawing the slower moving part into it.

Besides the induced current above referred to, the Centrifugal Force, which would be caused by the revolution of the Earth on its axis, requires to be considered. It is said that the effect of this is merely to reduce the force of gravitation in the tropics. This may be so regarding the solid Earth, but water and air have both powers of movement, and this centrifugal force would act directly upon them, drawing them both from the Poles to the Equator, much as the induced current would do. Now, in fact, neither water, nor air, have been drawn

from the Polar regions to the Equator, as the above reasoning seems to show that they would have been if the Copernican System were true, and the Earth revolved daily on its axis.

It may be objected that the oblate form of the Earth makes the force of gravitation greater at the Poles than in the central regions, and that the centrifugal force caused by the revolution of the Earth on its axis is required to counteract the force of gravitation and prevent the flow of the water of the sea to the Poles. Further, that these two forces are now in perfect equilibrium so that the level of the sea is constant. Now, even if this had been so, with regard to water, and an equilibrium had been come to between centrifugal force and gravitation with respect to water, it seems to be impossible that there can be such an equilibrium between centrifugal force and gravitation regarding both water and air, as water is more than 700 times heavier than air. The centrifugal force which would only counteract the action of gravitation regarding the heavier body would completely carry away the lighter body from the Poles.

We can hardly avoid making some reference to the interior of the Earth, but it would be unwise to put much weight on a subject about which so little is really known. All who have investigated the subject during a long time past have assumed the daily revolution of the Earth on its axis. Very various opinions have at different times prevailed, but it is most remarkable that although all the investigators believed in the revolution of the Earth, the results which they obtained were, mostly at least, as favourable to a stationary Earth as to a revolving one. When we descend into the bowels of the Earth there is a steady increase of temperature of 1° (Fahrenheit's thermometer) for every 60 feet of descent. Writing in 1870, Dr. David Page says:—"Calculating at this increase, a temperature (2400 Fahr.) would be reached at a depth of 25 miles or thereby, sufficient to keep in fusion such rocks as basalt, greenstone, and porphyry. We know little, however, of the deportment of heat under such an enormous pressure as must exist at these depths, and can only indicate the line of reasoning that leads to the general belief that the solid or rocky crust forms but a comparatively thin film, and that the great interior mass exists in a state of high incandescence or molten fluidity." The existence of a central molten mass surrounded by a thin crust, was, as Dr. Page states, the general belief for many years about that date. Some mathematicians, however, pointed out that since the Earth revolved daily on its axis, a molten mass of the weight of the Earth would require a crust of many miles of the best steel to prevent it from bursting out, and in order to retain the Earth in its shape. This is, of course, a strong argument against the revolution of the Earth on its axis. When this objection came to be considered the attitude usually adopted was—that no matter how high

the temperature rose, the immense pressure would keep the lower strata from melting, so that the Earth, instead of having a great molten centre, was mostly solid throughout. Dr. R. H. Mill, writing about 1900, said:—"Astronomical observations, and the investigations on earthquakes and tides, indicate that the lithosphere, as a whole, has a rigidity approximately equal to that of steel." Such rigidity seems to be impossible, but if it could be proved to be true it would really be strong evidence that the Earth does not revolve on its axis at all.

Let us now look at an illustration through which we may put the two systems side by side:—A sailing ship lies completely becalmed at the Equator. It is a moonlit night, and objects which were thrown overboard on the previous day are still floating close at hand. A star is at the zenith which, six hours before was at the horizon. On the Copernican System every particle of that still water around the ship has travelled in that time a quarter of the earth's circumference, or 6,000 miles. Every particle has really travelled that distance in these six hours. This is surely not exactly easy for the mind and the senses to accept as incontrovertible. On the Geocentric Hypothesis the distant starry Heavens, of which our really certain knowledge is so small, have moved a quarter of a circle, that is all.

We do not, however, require to go to the equator to illustrate this point. Let an Edinburgh reader take his stand looking down upon the Firth of Forth either at Granton or Trinity. Five miles of sparkling water lie between him and Burntisland; every drop of that water will, in three minutes' time, be carried beyond the far horizon at the Isle of May, and this quite independent of whether the water is shallow or deep. Surely some feeling of doubt must arise that this is actually taking place.

We have now discussed our subject from different points of view. Some of these will have more weight with one reader than with another. We now come back to our original question:—It is absolutely certain that the Earth goes round the Sun, and that the visible Universe is not Geocentric? It seems to the writer that it is very far short of absolute certainty. If this is so it seems to follow that the alternative Geocentric hypothesis is well within the bounds of possibility, and although it may not be likely that many at the present time will accept it, it would not be unreasonable to do so. A convert to the Geocentric hypothesis would not have to find himself at variance with anything in the Heavens observed by the eye, at least as regards motion and position. It is the explanations of the various phenomena which have been made in order to satisfy the human mind which he would have to give up.

The whole of modern astronomy, including the Law of Gravitation, depends upon one assumption, viz., the

daily revolution of the Earth on its axis.

Our convert to the Geocentric hypothesis might state in defence of his opinions (1) that he is standing on the solid, immovable Earth, with all around him apparently immovable, and that the burden of proof that the Earth is revolving daily on its axis ought to rest on the other side; (2) that the rapid daily revolution of the Earth on its axis would (as has been pointed out) assuredly draw the waters, and the air from the polar to the central regions, which seems a conclusive argument against the revolution of the Earth. On the other hand, the Pantheon experiment, and the deflection of a body falling by gravitation* (which are the two chief arguments usually given in favour of the daily revolution of the Earth on its axis) are, by comparison, insignificant matters which may reasonably be supposed to be caused by the mighty, mysterious celestial forces which encircle the Earth daily; (3) that the foregoing discussion shows that if the Geocentric hypothesis be accepted, the Law of Gravitation is confined to the Earth, and does not exist in the distant Heavens, which are ruled by mighty celestial forces. It follows from this that there is no such thing as the unity of nature, but that the forces which rule the Heavens are completely distinct from those which rule the Earth. This alone must give rise to doubts regarding all celestial observations.

It has been claimed as a triumph of the human intellect that man, dwelling in what is proportionately but a grain of dust in the vast universe of modern astronomy, has discovered, measured, weighed and systematised a great part of that inconceivably vast universe. Alas, this proud boast would fall to the ground and would have to be replaced by a confession of fundamental error.

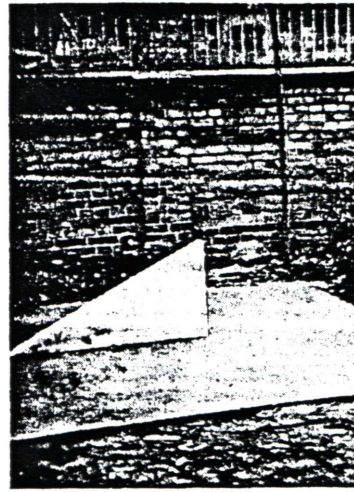
*the allowance in long range gunnery is only a particular case of the deflection of a body falling by gravitation.

The foregoing "discussion" was privately printed by the author, one John Rollo, about the year 3 FS. Mr. Rollo did not survive publication very long, and a copy of his book was sent to Charles Fort (two years after Fort himself was dead) by John Rollo's sister, Martha M. Rollo, then of Edinburgh. All efforts to reach the lady since then have failed, so we have no biographical details to add. Members who can tell us anything about the man will receive the usual 19 thanks per second.

The best comments on the Rollo-reasoning will be published in DOUBT.

LONC MONUMENT

In memory of his son, Frank A. Lonc, shot down over Italy, Frank Lonc, who applies his Cosmic Constant (1.618+) to everything, has had this monument erected in the Neukolln section of Berlin, in the Friedhof d. St. Michael, between Hermann Strasse and Mittel Weg. It is in the shape of a triangle, embodying the "key" to the Lonc pyramid. The base is 1.618+ times the height.



SPIRITUAL VAMPIRISM

By George Christian Bump

"Spiritual Vampirism: The History of Etherial Softdown and her Friends of the 'New Light'" by C. W. Webber, published in 1853, describes *reality*. This book tells in factual detail what the writers of horror-fiction only hint at.

The author sets forth his theses in a long introduction and then demonstrates them through the story of "Etherial Softdown." He shows that the myth of vampirism has a basis in reality, that there actually are human vampires who live by draining the vitality of others.

To explain the phenomena of vampirism, Mr. Webber postulates "the nervous or Odic fluid—the sympathetic element" which, he says, is "the vital force—the active principle of life." He conceives that this fluid behaves somewhat like electricity, so that a man of excess vitality can discharge a portion of his vital force "into the organization of a being more negatively charged." He also conceives that the Odic force is "the sole medium of communication with the spiritual and invisible world."

Communication of the Odic fluid can be influenced through "manipulations which bring the thumbs and fingers of the hand, which are properly Odic poles, in contact with certain great nerves... These manipulations... may be traced very clearly through the most important ceremonies of religion and the secret orders of fraternization." However such manipulations are "by no means indispensable to the exhibition of the Odic phenomena."

Great spiritual leaders such as Mahomet and Joseph Smith had an excess of this Odic force. They "begin by filling the individuals in immediate contact with them... with the superfluity of the Odic force in themselves... the circle gradually enlarges... until... the apostle finds himself surrounded by thousands and thousands of human

beings, whose volition is swayed through his Odic force... as if they were but one man."

Vampirism is "a disease of the nervous system... the nerves lose their balance. They must have the Odic fluid restored... The sympathetic *rapporte* being once established, they can... enjoy... a surreptitious vitality." The spiritual vampire "feeds not alone upon the living but upon the spiritually dead... it too comes forth from its sensual charnel to feed upon the soul-blood of mankind." The author confesses, "We dare not reveal all that we know of this thing."

Webber maintains that "the existence of... the sympathetic element... has been partially known to all ages" but "knowledge of this powerful secret, in moving and controlling mankind, has been professionally and almost exclusively confined to the adepts of all sects, religions, and periods; through it has occasionally... leaked out."

Why is such knowledge usually restricted to secret cults? Vampirism must be organized in some way to keep mankind in ignorance. This would explain the campaign of ridicule against the study of psychic phenomena. For to the extent that these things are understood it becomes difficult for vampires to practice their arts.

If, as Fort hazarded, we are owned and exploited by a hidden entity, these "human vampires" may act as media by which the vitality of the human race is drained off to support the life of the supreme vampire which holds humanity in thralldom.

ON THE OTHER HAND

Now comes non-member Stanley MacClatchie to say that nobody discovered America. America discovered them, which—as Fort once said—"is typical of a great deal of human experience."

MacClatchie writes:

Sumeria, the lower part of the plain through which flow the Tigris and Eu-

phrates, was settled previous to 3500 B.C. by colonists who brought with them an already highly advanced culture; one reckoned by present authorities to have been then already untold thousands of years old. Our only now known clue to the identity of these mysterious colonists is a tradition handed on by the Babylonians to the effect that they came from overseas. This plus the fact that the newcomers built their temples and palaces on great mounds or artificial hills. Which latter fact has led to the assumption that they came to the flat plain of Sumeria from a region of hills or mountains.

The Babylonians took over from the Sumerians the practice of creating artificial hills for sacred and regal purposes. Best known example of this is "the Tower of Babel"; a vast mould-like structure built in historic times, whose form and dimensions are quite well-known.

So also did the Egyptians take over such practice. They created the artificial hill as a sheer pyramid.

However, in regions where natural hills were available, it was unnecessary to create artificial ones. Such was the case at Athens. Here was the Acropolis; and upon it the Athenians built the Parthenon, sacred to their patron goddess.

Now this demand for hills atp which to set temples and palaces is a curious trait; one directly traceable to the colonists from overseas who brought civilization to Eurasia by way of the plains of Sumeria. Heretofore, consideration of this remarkable trait has halted here.

I, however, have been able to trace these extraordinary culture-carriers back to the land whence they came; and that with geodetic and mathematical precision and certainty. And with such certainty one can even fix the precise location of the original sacred hill—even of that original which eventually brought about the Parthenon on the Acropolis.

This original is located not far from the center of Mexico City. It is a natural

hill of roughly pyramidal form, formed of volcanic stone. There are upon it, however, no remains of any ancient structure.

On the other hand: Those people of the Valley of Mexico, who carried the seeds of civilization to the "Old" World, had a way of creating works adapted to last almost eternally. The Egyptians imitated this way in building their vast pyramids of solid rock—thereby building into these structures enormous galleries and chambers. Though temples of the Nile now lie in ruins, these rock-formed chambers still survive, after nearly five thousand years, in substantially their original form.

Now it is highly probable that the original sacred hill, formed of a natural exudation of volcanic rock, has excavated within it a vast gallery, like "the Grand Gallery" of the Great Pyramid of Egypt. To determine whether this is so or not would involve cutting into that hill a passage; which would not be very difficult, since the rock is so fractured that a way may be forced simply by prying out pieces with help of a crowbar.

The cost of the suggested operation would be a few thousand pesos (with pesos at 4.85 to the dollar).

The reward to anyone undertaking it would be like the one by that German who devoted the early part of his life to winning a fortune, in order that he might devote the latter part of it to unearthing the remains of Troy. There would, however, be this difference: That no fortune at all is required for present undertaking—that the operation involved is extremely simple—that what is to be encountered is a prime product of the world's original civilization in practically perfect state of preservation—and, finally, that the renown to be derived from successful execution is incomparably greater than that achieved by the business-man who worked so hard merely to uncover flattened remains of the little town of Troy.

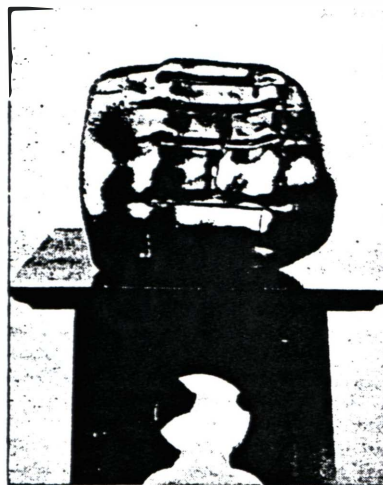
HI-SPOTS IN MAIL

From Helen Knothe:

"About the last sources of food we should ordinarily think of are the dry, juiceless, gray, drab or brown lichens, often mistakenly called "mosses", which carpet sterile ground or expand their flat or crisped surfaces on rocks, fences or trees. But several of the lichens have been important food and in a number of cases man has fought off starvation by their use. The famous lichen-manna of North Africa and Western Asia would certainly seem as unpromising a source of food as could be imagined, being mere small lumps, often no larger than a pinhead or a pea. Yet the following extract from Lindsay's most helpful *Popular History of British Lichens*, from which we have drawn much of our information regarding the edible species, certainly indicates its importance in emergency.

"Two foreign species of this genus, *Lecanora esculenta* and *affinis*, are of great interest, from having repeatedly, under extraordinary circumstances served as the food of large numbers of men and

cattle, in various countries lying between Algeria and Tartary. They are said at various times and in divers places to have appeared suddenly, covering with a layer, sometimes from three to six inches thick, large tracts of country; and the inhabitants believing their origin to have been from heaven, have designated them a species of manna, and have imitated their flocks, in times of scarcity of food, by eating them . . . Several 'rains of manna' . . . have been described by travellers . . . The manna is usually found in the form of small lumps, from the size of a pin's head to that of a pea or small nut, which are greyish or whitish, hard, irregular in form, inodorous, and insipid . . . As an illustration of the circumstances under which manna-rain is said to fall, Ancherloi states that in 1829, during a war between Russia and Persia, a large tract of country round a town of the south-west shore of the Caspian, whose inhabitants were in a state of famine, was suddenly covered by a Lichen which fell from heaven. The sheep were noticed to eat it with avidity; the idea immediately occurred to the famishing inhabitants that this substance might prove equally agreeable or nutritious to themselves, and accordingly it was converted into bread."



From John Atkins:

Some time ago I told you about a number of curicous stones that were picked up in Wales after a storm. You asked me to obtain more information which I have tried very hard to do but with little success. It is rather strange. The stone I saw is now at the Prince Llewelyn Inn, at Cilmerly near Builth Wells, Breconshire. I wrote to the proprietor who kindly sent me the enclosed photograph. She said the news story was in the Western Mail and South Wales News of Saturday, 2 Dec. 1939. I wrote to the paper and asked for a copy of this item but they said there was no such report. Then the lady at the Prince Llewelyn said she had made a mistake and that the story was in the Western News. I wrote to them and discovered that this is apparently the same paper.

I then asked the proprietor to lend me her own cutting so that I could make a copy, but I have had no reply. I am sorry this is so unsatisfactory but until I am in that area again I don't think I can get any further. Anyway, here is the picture of the stones (which I have to return, so perhaps you would have it copied if it interests you.) As far as my memory serves me, several of these were picked up after a storm in that vicinity.

From Jack Campbell:

I have been prowling about in Sunday supplements. I realize that this is a derided and discredited field, and, oddly enough, one which I have not touched since I was a child. I have not abstained because of disapproval, but rather because I never bother with newspapers at all. They are full of matters of national importance which one always hears about anyway, and matters of no importance which one forgets immediately, of book reviews for the gay illiterate, advertisements for the monied bourgeois, and crossword puzzles for the feeble-minded. Now throughout this period of hearsay consciousness, I have always understood that a certain low form of journalism, known as the Sunday supplement, was wont to twist perfectly ordinary phenomena into ghastly stories of horror and sentimentalism, dubbing this presentation "Popular Science". This institution is regarded with no small contempt by the literati, and is read, forgotten, and ignored by sensible people. I never bothered to form an opinion.

So that it was with no great expectation nor bitterness that I opened this day the pages of the *American Weekly* of 22 October 1944. Naturally there was a variety of material there, some amusing, some innocuous, some silly, some trivial. I also noted: Fort Benning, Georgia, paratrooper jumps and hovers motionless with open chute for half an hour. Released suddenly. He reports an "hot draught of air". Presumably caught in an upward current. No name, no date. Apparent lack of vertical or lateral translation unexplained; yet it were odd indeed that he meet an updraught so nicely calculated to intercept the arbitrary area of his silk with precisely the force needed to support his weight, neither lifting it nor merely retarding it. Though could be, of course. If he was caught in something else, then we have a new brand of poltergeist, one which grabs and holds rather than snatches and runs.

Navy blimps so terrified a pair of bitches belonging to farmer Kenneth Miner of North Bend, Oregon, that one of them "keeled over dead". Chickens went mad, but whereas the dogs gave "yelps" of "Terror" the poultry seemed animated by something closer akin to narcotic exhilaration. "One rooster flew to a high post, emitted a mighty crow, and dropped dead." No more details are given, so that whether the other livestock share this triumphant attitude is unknown; but: "it's impossible to calm the animals when the blimps sail over . . ."

Of course this may be the normal re-

action of lower animals to U. S. Navy blimps, even though one never hears of it. On the other hand if it is odd then it is damnably odd. Naturally I do not know how odd you have to be to get into the *American Weekly*.

Archaeologists report three ton pigs, or rather evidences of them, in prehistoric eastern Africa. And Lake Nicaragua, 105 feet above sea level, we note to be full of large sharks, only sharks so far reported dwelling in fresh water and liking it. Geologists suggest, of course, that the lake was once a Pacific inlet, later landlocked by earthquake and freshened by streams. Lake Managua close by shows no sharks. I'm an old Mu man myself, but it could have been a bay in the Atlantic. That's not important. Ever since that man in Maryland dug him a ditch and came back and found it full of perch I have stopped wondering how fishes get where they get to. We need not bother, anyhow. The Smithsonian is investigating the matter.

Another article relays Lord Dunsany's complaint that the Little People, being all out conscientious objectors, have black-listed him as a bloodthirsty war-monger. There is here printed a picture, a photograph, endorsed by the late Conan Doyle: a photograph of a little girl, taken by her sister, surrounded by "the fairies we play with every day." Frankly I don't think much of it, though they're a shapely bunch of wenches, but I thought you would like to know of the existence of such a photograph, however doubtful its credentials. There are five of them, all brunette, four of them with Cupid-optic wings of various cut and design and clad in flimsy flowing drapes. Of these four one has short hair and a knee-length skirt. The other sprite wears a dime's worth of nothing draped about her middle and blows upon a double pipe resembling a clarinet. If you will pardon the expression, they are very corny; of course in a newspaper reproduction one cannot judge the validity of the photograph. With your facilities a print should be easily come by.

I am getting off a letter in this mail to the old farmer asking about all the particulars. Will let you know.

Time of 12 March 1945 relates the case of Laurence K. Whipp, American organist and choirmaster at some Episcopal Church in Paris. The dean left in 1940, he took over the church, held it during the occupation, was interned for ten months. When we invaded Paris he gave the joint back to the dean, got his passport ready, and on Sunday 11 Feb. went off to lunch at Auteuil. Bade his friends a casual adieu at 1600 and hasn't been seen since. Of course, war is war...

From Anonymous:

I think the society might be interested in something that happened today. At least it is further information along the line of "The Socratic Method".

Our training today was under the headings of "Field Fortifications" and "Defense versus Mechanized Attack".

The course in "Field Fortifications" was digging one and two man foxholes.

"Defense versus Mechanized Attack" was crouching in the foxholes while an M-3 Light Tank, weighing about 14 tons, ran over them.

The days course was no doubt intended to inspire confidence in the fox hole as a means of protection and to minimize the psychological effect of attacking tanks.

The trouble was that the soil was sandy and the foxholes caved in rather badly.

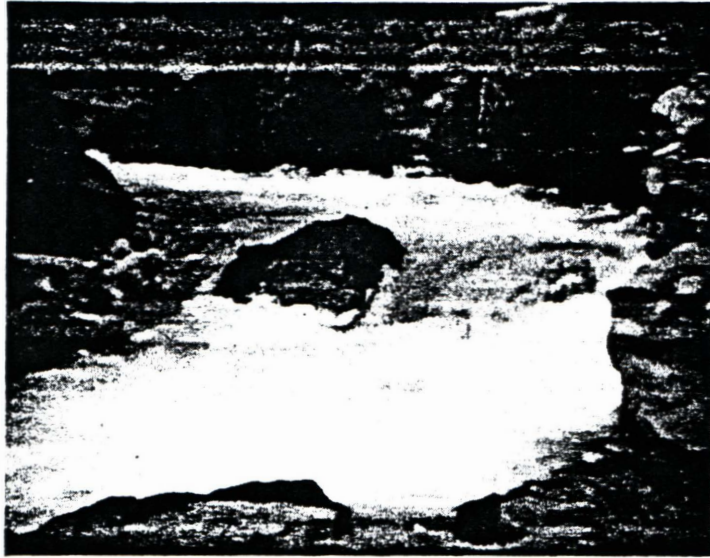
Several men were buried up to their shoulders and had to be helped out.

Four men were covered completely. Two were missed and dug out immediately, with no serious injury.

The other two were not missed until after chow, when the two shovels they were using could not be accounted for.

When found, they had been buried about 1½ hours. They did not survive.

This evening a collection was made for flowers.



From Emison:

In DOUBT 24, page 370 appears an article on Crater Lake, Oregon by Vora Sowers. In same she put forth a tentative request for information on the head waters of the Rogue River. Well here it is. I must say first, however, that it seems just a little unfortunate for Vora to so definitely condemn and classify the booklet on the origin of Crater Lake and in the next breath make a statement that is just as much a 'limit in fantastic tales' as was the story of the origin of the lake to her. If the booklet is the one that I have read it is not nearly so fantastic as the legends that have been handed down in some of the Klamath Indian tribes. In fact the booklet that I have reference to was based upon these same legends. The reason that the booklet did not tell the whole legend was because it was indeed too fantastic in legend form. It would take up too much space to repeat any one of the many versions, but suffice it to say that in them all there is reference to a SUPERIOR AND ELDER race. The same expressions are used in the old legends and stories that tell of the ancient remains found south of Klamath Falls—but those are two other stories.

About the fantastic statement that Vora makes. She states quite emphatically that any one who thinks that pumice is anything but talcum powder and flour should have their head examined. To

quote—"Pumice is not porous; it is a combination of talcum powder and flour, colored light grey etc., etc.!"

I do not know upon what such a statement was based. Maybe the stuff they have in that territory (Rogue River and Crater Lake) is not really pumice. Could be that every one has been calling it by the wrong name for fifty years. However if one were to tell a native of that country that pumice was a powder composed of talcum and flour he would call the wagon for you. Not that it might not be so in some places, but the opposite is true for the Rogue country. There are mountains of the stuff. It comes in rock form. It comes in powder form. The rocks can be cut like a soft brick. The powder offers no difficulty for roads that are built over and of it. It looks like spun glass and has some of the characteristics of ground glass when it is pounded into a powder. In a powdered condition it is not too light. On the enclosed pictures, picture #7 shows enough pumice to scour the whole universe. The roads on it. The whole mountain is made of the stuff. The country is lousy with Pumice. Picture #8 shows a weird place. In and around here (in fact any place will do) hunks of pumice in a very solid form can be had for the picking up. It has been seen floating in irrigation ditches 30 miles down in the valley below. It floats very nicely. Picture #9 shows another fantastic part of the same country. Even the trees will



not grow straight up.

As for the head waters of the Rogue River, please note picture #1. This is the river coming up out of the ground. #2 is another of the same, different angle. #3 shows the 'TINY' mountain stream LEISURELY' going its way. Even in this poor picture it can be seen that the extreme opposite is the fact. Lord knows how deep the water is, but it is going like a mill race. Picture #4 shows the river boiling and churning along the quarter mile or so to the tunnel under the bridge. Not once does the water become calm enough for the air and foam to clear out. Picture #5 shows the natural bridge and even here it looks like a fabricated affair. I have seen this bridge completely under water until nothing but the brush and whirlpool could locate it.

As for the place where the river comes out again I shall have to leave for another. The Sc. Ore. Power Co. picks it up at this point with, or in, a tube and transports it for some distance and over the rim of a canyon and into a tounded eminent scientists of Europe and



these fraudulent schemes of recent years was the notorious Keeley motor, built to deceive prospective investors and enrich its inventor until the fraud was exposed after Keeley's death. It is preserved in the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia.

"For twenty-five years Keeley as-power house. The pictures were taken in August when the water was at its lowest point of the year.

From Clouser:

"Perhaps the most widely known of America with the machine which he claimed had solved the problem of perpetual motion. The inventor of the machine would start his device going, apparently, by playing a tune on a mouth organ. He convinced many clever men that he told the truth, and stock in the new concern sold freely. To the day of his death Keeley declared that his discovery was a genuine one.

"It was only when the house in which the machine was placed was thoroughly remodeled that the colossal fraud was discovered. Keeley had run his machine by a high pressure hydraulic system which was installed in the walls of his building. When the wires attached to the machine were the subject of an investigation Keeley would file them to show that they were solid and could not be used for any purpose other than to stabilize the machine. Pieces thus filed are to be seen at the Franklin Institute. The broken pieces show that the wires were hollow, and that the inventor of the wonderful machine carefully stopped short of filing to the center."

"Why Perpetual Motion Won't Work" by Robert W. Heinze, SCIENCE DIGEST, August, 1948, p. 46. The article is condensed from THE NORTHWESTERN ENGINEER, March, 1948.

No reference is made to THE BOOKS OF CHARLES FORT, p. 1059 et seq.

From Washbourn:

Now Li Shih-Chen himself takes the word: "The Book of Lightning (Lei

Shu) say: "The so-called thunder-axes are like ordinary axes made of copper or iron. The thunder washing-blocks (lei chen) resemble those of stone in real use; they are purple and black in color. The thunder hammers weigh several catties. The thunder gimlets are over a foot in length, and are all like steel. They have been used by the God of Thunder and have subsequently fallen down. The thunder beads are those which the divine dragon (shen lung) had held in its mouth and dropped. They light the entire house at night."—In the Po Wu Chi (a work by Chang Hua, 232-330 A.D.) it is said: Fine stones in the shape of small axes are frequently seen among the people. They are styled axes of the crash of thunder (p'i-li fu) or wedges of the crash of thunder (p'i-li hieh). In the Huan Chung Ki (by Kuo-Shih of the fifth century) it is narrated: West of Yumen (near Tun-huang, Kansu) there is a district with a mountain on which a temple is erected. There the people of the country annually turn out gimlets to offer to the God of Thunder as a charm against lightning. This is a false practice, for thunder partakes of the two forces of Yin and Yang (the female and male power) and has accordingly a loud and a low voice, so that it can produce in fact divine objects (shen wu). Thus, numerous objects come to light out of hidden places, like axes, gimlets, washing-stones, hammers, which are all real things. If it is said that in Heaven conceptions arise, and that on earth forms arise, we have an example in stars falling down on earth and being stones there. And so it happens that it rains metal and stone, millet and wheat, hair and blood, and other queer things assuming shape on earth. There are certainly in the universe (Lit. the great void) divine objects which can be utilized. There was, E.G., Su Shao at the time of the Ch'en dynasty (557-587 A.D.) who had a thunder hammer weighing nine catties. At the time of the Sung (960-1278 A.D.), there lived Shen Kua who found during a thunder storm under a tree a thunder wedge resembling an axe, but not perforated. The actions of the spirits are dark and cannot indeed be fully investigated."

(The above is quoted from the book, JADE, by Berthold Laufer, 2nd edn., p. 64. Published by Westwood Press, Calif. 1946 old style.)

From HFFS Hammett:

(We asked Honorary Founder Hammett to review for us, Jaworskie's *Le Geon*, and he complied.)

LE GEON: ou la terre vivante, by Dr. Helan Jaworski is a most ingenious and ingenious dissertation on the thesis that the earth itself is a living organism. Ungeant to make a pun punditally. The author starts off with presentation of classical plates of man's dissection according to the heavenly astrological mansions; goes on to discuss the sex of the earth with the conclusion that it is androgynous. He considers the earth as a cell composed of a nucleus, or a nuclear membrane, and protoplasm. The central fire is the nucleus, the terrestrial crust is

the nuclear membrane. The atmosphere and the oceans are the protoplasm. We humans are the particles gathered close to the nucleus and participants in the grand rhythm of its life. We are the mitochondria of the Earth-Cell. Then he goes on in the next chapter to say that the earth is more than a cell; it is an organism; a man. The rocks, the stones, the mountains are the skeleton. The water of the surface, the rivers and the sea are the lymphatic system. And so on. To the end that Humanity is the brain expressing the thinking of Le Geon geant. Comparison is made between the earth and living things on the basis of expression of cyclic activities. And so on and so forth. The whole is a very amusing whimsy. And if not taken too seriously by those whose background does not enable them to see the refutations is worth some hours of attention.

From Hoernlein:

Just received DOUBT #21 . . . and read it promptly . . . and found myself disturbed by MFS Brady and his metaphysics.

The way it looks to me, Brady's beating a path through the tough part of the jungle. He's a good man gone astray: only a good man could go so far astray. Why is it that these good minds keep getting lost in the Cloudcuckooland of multiordinal abstracts? I've done the same myself, many times, and for many years . . . even with Fort to keep me "straight." The only answer I can come up with is based on the quote from Henri Pieron given in "Science and Sanity" and in A. E. Van Vogt's novel, "World of A." (That's Korzybski's A with a bar over it: null-A.) But the quote:

The thalamus is an apparatus for effective reactivity to sensory stimuli; the cortex is for discrimination.

The answer I find? That the major known function of the cortex is to interpret Brady's "raw material furnished by the senses." That to do so, it must abstract from these "stimuli" and correlate the abstracts into patterns . . . perhaps "identifiable patterns" would be more appropriate. And the "good mind" abstracts *too much*: it develops abstracts from abstracts from abstracts and keeps on wildly stewing in its own juices without attempting to co-relate the developed patterns to the limitations of the organism itself, and to *unverbalized assumptions* all the way down to the engram level.

In short, over-functioning . . . with consequent lack of organic balance.

This, I say, is the only reason I can see for all this cloud-drifting. I do it myself, all the time. It drives me almost nuts at times. Because, if this is an accurate evaluation of the processes going on within the organism I call "me", then I am faced with this: The cortex is overly-active. How do I slow it down? What have I got to work with? Answer: the cortex! So I must sharpen the perception and abstracting ability of

the cortex in order to reduce excessive abstracting! By damn—don't we people have fun!

This may or may not be the "answer." Who knows? But it's the best I'm capable of at the moment . . . and methodology based on this theory seems to be working out, to the better functioning of this organism I call "me."

But back to Brady.

You will undoubtedly receive many letters pointing out such little items as:

(By Gadget-Worship I mean the idolization of some element or facet of Reality as ultimate and significant. Bax escorts us down to the Roots of Reality . . .

The conclusion that the Universe is nothing else but the Experience of Man the Subject . . . casts man in the role of Hero in the Drama of all Dramas.

How was that again? Oh, come, now, Brother Brady!

These things, TT, are obtrusive, and you will hear much about them. As a novice semanticist, I would like to also point out the one eternal problem Brother Brady and friends could tackle is that of communication. Find the referent. I don't know what you're talking about till you do, Brother. And while the finding of referents is difficult with the type of concepts to be communicated, it is wonderful mental discipline to try. Most times you'll find 'em, provided the other guy is making some effort to understand. But until there are referents which I can identify, no communication comes through.

Myself, I'm a stupe. I have read no philosophers, unless you want to tack that horrendous label on Fort and Korzybski. I've tried a bit of page-dipping here and there, but quickly abandoned the process. No communication. Then I discovered that one of the James boys once defined philosophy as "Just words, words, words!" I never page-dipped again . . . So when Brother Brady drags in Kant, Bergson, Bax, and such-like: Well, I don't know 'em Brother. Use referents I can understand without having to stumble through twenty volumes of cloud matter to find those few stones that are going to fall from the sky. (That particular figure of speech, by the way, is what I mean: It is almost completely meaningless to anybody unfamiliar with Fort: I can only use it with Fortians.)

All of this, of course, you will probably hear from some of the expert semanticists in the Society. Too many multi-ordinal abstracts. Inadequate communication.

But now I call to your attention a real stinker.

Paragraph, top of page 322, right hand (third) column . . . and I quote only part:

" . . . will continue to do so until the Magician becomes completely self-conscious and deliberately regulates and restricts manufacture to his own interest."

Minor point: While I probably agree with Brother Brady generally on his concept of "Underlying Oneness," I can't be too sure because inadequate communication fuzzes my grasp of what he's talking about. We would, however, probably disagree on his concept of "Self-conscious as applied to this Oneness. Although I wouldn't argue that point too hard. How the hell could I prove it?

But — —

His.

HIS!!!!???

Brother Brady! Why should the Magician or the Underlying Oneness or whatever be a "HIM"? Wherever could you have gotten that idea? Been going to church again?

And there is your stinker. "His." Great flying discs, what a world of unverbalized assumptions lie in the use of that particular label. Brother Brady here differs no more from conventional "religious" mythology than Communism differs from Capitalism. Communism offers no new concepts: it merely offers a different slant on the same concepts. Question of degree, not kind.

Brother Brady proceeds to do likewise. All of the patterns, thought-methods and continued-conditioning of the "Christian" orthodoxy are implied by his use of "his." Semantically speaking, Brother Brady used the label that was most appropriate to both association paths in his cortex and "conditional reflex" (gotta read Pavlov for that one) patterns below the thalamic level. Maybe his engrams are mixed in there too—if anybody has yet "proved" that engrams exist. I suspect they do, but don't saw that limb off yet.

At that point—the use of "his" — I stopped struggling so hard to follow Brother Brady, shook my head sadly, and said with Somerset Maugham, "The mixture as before!"

None of this, however, is particularly practical from Brother Brady's point of view. And so I suggest: read Chase, Hayakawa and Korzybski. Not once: but several times. Then try again. And better luck next time.

Because—the hell of it is, I think Brother Brady and I would be in general agreement if only he would iron the orthodoxy out of his views, and then communicate in terms I can understand!

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

The material on this page and those following comes from the MSS notes of Charles Fort. The notes begin with the year 1800 AD, and we are printing them chronologically, transcribed to the best of our ability. As you have observed from the several we have produced in facsimile—life size—the handwriting is difficult, to say the least; many are written in symbols and code, a personal shorthand. Each date is on a separate scrap of paper. They fill 32 boxes. The boxes are in two series, one numbered, one identified by letters of the alphabet. The numbered boxes contain records of non-human phenomena, the others, records of persons. It is our device to alternate the two series so that the printed record is chronologically consecutive.

The letters BA refer to Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which many US libraries have. The numerals, such as '11 or '64 etc., in connection with BA sometimes refer to volume number, sometimes to year. In applying for this material at your public library, mention that to the attendant and you should have no difficulty.

Back numbers of DOUBT contain all the notes to the point where we begin below. Subsequent issues will continue them until the 32 boxes are printed.

1852

Box 2 (Continued)

- May 2 9 p.m. rain at Paris, from cloudless sky CR 44-786
- May 11 bet 8-9 pm large meteor detonated like cannon fire Alsace. (Reverse) Le Monieur May 20
- 23 Freshford is 8 miles N W of Kilkenny
- 23 Ac to Rev. James Meave of Freshford Nat Hist Rev 1/1247 / Freshford Kilkenny, Ireland / several years before (over) a peculiar black cloud and fall in th storm of black rain / Year of Tuesday - May 13
- 29 Noon / Waterspout of Darjiling Tom. Asiatic Soc. Bengal 29-373
- Box A (Resumed)
- May 29 Spon Comb of the Carter / See July 29
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- before Black rain Kilkenny (Kilk Moderator B.M.) Sc. Am. 7-336 See May 23 '54
- July 1 Quake - polt. / ab 7:30 a m / quake South Wales windows shaken violently and bells ring. LT p 8
- June A / Am J. Sci. 2/14/131

15/55

- Summer Unknown insects in great numbers found on mountains in Yorkshire near Settle - flies somewhat shorter than the honey bee, dark thorax, abdomen marked with alternate (reverse) rings of black and red; wings grey marked with a black transverse line near the tips - forceps like jaws of caterpillar but at the tail
- Summer Unknown insect - The Naturalist N S 8-93 See Out Mo. Mag., Dec 1881, p. 159, Jan. 1883, p. 188, Jan. 1882, p. 189.
- July Aug -
- Sept L T index great thunderstorms
- July 7 Italy and Jamaica quakes BA '11 8th Asia Minor (reverse) indecipherable q's Feb 18, 1889
- 7 7:30 a m rumbling sound and quake Jamaica Timbs '53-249
- July 8) Rhodes etc Light quake) BA '11
- 7) W. Indies and Italy
- 8 Wedde, Holland / Stone / BA 60-104
- July 11)
- &)
- Dec 4) Rumlblings Liv-) TT This is) orno / It /) all on same) Sounds) note
- Feb 1) (1853)
- Jan 27) Rise and fall of)) sea See 1816)
- Nov 10
- July 3 Carlisle Met BA 52/232
- 16 Evening quake and th. storm Athens The Geologist 4-145
- 20 Venus inferior conjunction Sun A 1
- 21
- 24 Great quake Armenia BA '11
- Box A (Resumed)
- 24 LT p.4 Singular Ch.
- 24 LT p.6 Myst. dth
- 29 Spon Comb / the carter / see May 29
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- Aug 3 Pconah, India / Fish. Liv.Age 52/186
- 7 M. Chacornac saw a star of 7th or 8th magnitude / 21h 36m R.A - 14°, 33' Decl. / On 20th looked for it and it had disappeared. C.R. 40-836
- 7 List of other disap. stars
- Dec 30, 1852
- Jul 5, 1853
- Oct 5, 1853
- Dec 27, 1853
- Dec 30, 1853
- Jan 10, 1854
- Jan 26, 1854

Jan 1854

Oct 26, 1854

Dec 1854 (last of)

Jan 25, 1855

- 11 Ext hail at Thourout / Bull Ac Sci Brux / 19-pt 3-28
- 15 (about) / At Reims red rain. Sample sent to French Acad. Examined by M. Cahours who said it was colored by minute organisms - spores of mushrooms or of a fungus and of minute organisms of the class of monads. C.R. 35-832
- 20 (A newspaper clipping: apparently from the Port of Spain Gazette, 24th September, 1852.) DESTRUCTION OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA BY AN EARTHQUAKE
- The packet has brought the terrible news of the almost total destruction of the City of Santiago de Cuba by a series of awful earthquakes commencing on the 20th August last and continuing at divers intervals until the 25th instant. We have seen a copy of "El Correo" of the 27th ultimo, which states that there were altogether twenty-nine distinctly felt shocks, most of them very severe, and that all building, public and private, with the exception of wooden and tapia houses, had been levelled to the ground. The vessels in the harbor were crowded with the wretched inhabitants flocking on board for refuge from the frightful calamity. The earthquake appears to have been but slightly felt in other parts of the island.
- Box A (Resumed)
- 20 LT p.6 / Spiritual manifestations
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- 21 Etna - last 9 months / one of greatest recorded/ "Etna" / Rodwell
- 28 Crieff / 5:15 / quake & loud rumbling noise like distant thunder / Timbs 1853 - 249
- Sept (first week) Th. stone of Andover, Hants / LT Sept 16, '52
- Box A (Resumed)
- Sept 2 LT p.8 Ext story a fasting girl
- 3 LT p. 3
- Box 2 (Resumed)
- Sept Va Severe quake Bull Sci Sci Amer 13/129
- 4 Meteorite Mezo-Madaras, Sie-

- benburg, A J Sci 2/22/272
- 4 F / Transylvania / Met stones closely resembling those of May 13, 1855 See (F)
- 9 Moon / Brilliant star like meteor from 4:15 to 4:45 a.m. varied remarkably "Venus and the moon were curiously in the same region. E Mec 90/188 See 11. wrong date.
- 11 B Assoc 1853/8'35 said that after the disap. one observer saw Venus in nearly the same place (reverse) Lord W says that a drawing that he had received giving position rel to moon makes me doubt whether it could be Venus at all. Seems was widely observed. He mentions
- 16 7 p m Quake Manilla then volcs at Albay and Taal A J Sci 2/17/135
- 16 Quake Manilla nearly destroyed. Others to 22nd then Oct. 11-13 / An. Reg.
- 20-21 Night Etha starts long duration several months Cosmos See 2/55 Feb 10 '53
- 24 L T p 8 Etna L T Nov 15 p 8
- 25 St. Ives / meteor listed by Lowe as "large and curious" Rec. Sci., 1/137 8-35 BA 53-14
- 25 Th stone India See March 18
- 25 Quake Philadelphia BA '11
- 28 8:45 a.m. / Met seen all over Silesia BA 60-92
- Oct 5 Namur Belgium / Met streak lasted for a long time BA 67-417
- 11 A nebula discovered in Taurus. Toward end of 1861, announced by Prof d'Arrest of (reverse) Copenhagen that it had vanished. A J Sci/ 2/33/437 2/35/108.
- 13 Quake Manilla see Sept 16
- 13 3 p m / Meteorite of Berkut, Hungary/ (F) A J Sci. 2/26/299 (reverse) BA '60
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 25 LT p 6. At Hull "haunted House" sounds - dull heavy sound and sometimes a scratching sound for 4 weeks.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Oct 31) Etna detonations / LT Nov
- Nov 1) 15 - p 8.
- Nov 9 4:30 a.m. Quake Liverpool etc. A. Reg.
- 9 Quake Manchester M. Post Oct 9, 1863
- 9 North Wales / Morning / quake and a sound "more fearful than the most violent thunder" Timbs 153-248 - from letter in Times.
- 9 Fort Yuma, Arizona began quakes that continued almost daily for (reverse) many months BA 1911-42
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 10 L T p 4 Sup. Ext. Blackley
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 20 France and Java quakes BA '11
- (reverse) See quakes Feb 18, 1889
- 23 Ab. midnight / quake and thunder & lightning / California / Smithson Misc. Collec. 37/39 / probably a meteor.
- 26 Moluccas and Cuba quakes BA '11 (reverse) See quakes Feb 18, 1889.
- 27 11 p m (Mass) quake sound of explosion and roar Am Sci. 1854-326 D
- Dec 2 Jena Large Met BA 69-282
- 2 Bustee NW Province India (F)
- 6 See Aug 15 / Meeting of French Academy (C.R.35-833) was discussed a fall at Rheims of liquid like blood or of highly colored iron rust. (reverse) A chemist had found in it little globules of organic matter. They appeared to be "sporules of a fungus." Having a commission appointed to examine the substance.
- 6 Substance Rheims See Aug 15, 1852.
- 11 8 a.m. Silesia & Germany det met BA 60-104.
- 17 California quake BA '11
- 17 Met cloud in storm / Gt. Brit. D-97
- 17 From the report of Lieut. Higginson, R.N., of the Coast Guard service 5:30 A.M. That he saw the main body fall in the sea near Dover, and, searching on the beach, found several hot meteoric stones. L T Dec 29, p. 8, 1863.
- 18 Yellowish dust in China Ref May 16, 1846
- 30 See Aug 7, 1852 Star of 9th mag 8° 47m x 17°44 It disappeared.
- 1853
- Norfolk, Va. / Fishes / D-175
- (about) Light like Coggia's at Paris. C Rendus 73/755
- Box A (Resumed)**
- Sleeper Susan C Godsey near Hickman, Ky. See Oct 27, 1873
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Feb 10 Girgenti, Sicily / A drawing of it in L'Astr 2/131 with "veinules noires" traversing the pate. See Dec 5, 1846.
- 10 Stone in Girgenti, Sicily. L'Astro 2-131
- 10 Stone, Sicily / See Etna Sept 20-21.
- 26 LT p 5 Singular meteor at Lincoln.
- Mar 4 L T p 6 Quake Inverness
- 6 Segonlee 17 miles east of Bettiah / meteorite J As Soc Ben 30-132 See Aug 25, 1865.
- 6 Segonlee India 1861 May 12 Butsurra neighboring st(ate?) C R 85-678 (reverse) Widge-stone D-118
- 12 Lowville, N. Y. bet 2 & 3 a.m. shock & great explosive sound not known whether quake or meteors. A J Sci. 2/16/294
- 13 ab 5 a.m. or twice? / Quake Niagara Toronto Timbs 54-268
- 16 Lowville, N. Y. loud explosive sound and shock Am J Sci 2/16/294.
- 20 ab 5 a.m. 4 shocks and rumbling sounds / Niagar Timbs '54-268
- 24 LT p 8 Met.
- 28? March late / shock at Hereford Times Ap 4, 1853
- 30 L T p 5 Quake Wales.
- Apr 1 (Fr) Sevres and Avranges / Ronnes & Laval / quake C.R. 36 / 661 / 699 / 748 / 800
- 1 10:45 p m Jersey & Guernsey quake and rumbling L T Ap 5, p.7 Also Havre L T Ap 5 p.6
- 8 Rain as black as ink near Croyden. Gardener's Chronicle Ap 16.
- 12 L T p 8 phe
- 21-22 Persia great quake 20,000 lives lost (BA) '11.
- 24 Det met Ragusa had been preceding phe. See 1805.
- 24-25 11-20-1-22 Aurora and other phenom / Nottingham Aurora - red haze on horizon all night. 2 mock moons / Streamers moved easterly then moved westerly (reverse) whole time a patch of orange light on Leo, (reverse) L T May 27 p 7. Feb. 21, '52.
- May 25 bet 10 & 11 a m / Croydon Sun appeared to be partly obscured by a dark cloud of almost circular form with prismatic outlines. LT May 28. p.4; L T May 30, p.8; L T June 3, p. 3.
- 28 Weld, Maine / between 9-10 p m / great numbers of vivid flashes of lightning sky slightly smoky or orangy at horizon. Smithsonian Inst. Rept.1855-280
- 31- Night. Larvae / in gardens of
- June 1 Louvain, after a rainstorm appeared enormous numbers of "vers" four to five "pounces" long. Of several hundred examined, all were (reverse) females, full of eggs - all very lively. In 1841, worms of the species had been named Mermi's Nigrescens.
- Jun 1 4:30 a.m. sun rise / obj or spot N of sun like small new moon other obj ab. ½ degree beyond first like a large star reported by Prof A C Carnes of Burr. College, Tenn. Sci. Amer. 8/33
- 22 Cl. burst at Ahmedabach Times of India Aug 26, 1868
- Jul 5 Star 9th mag 16h 8m - 22° 8m Looked for mag next year had disappeared See Aug 7, 1852
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 8 L T p.8 Spon Comb
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 9 "Little suns in sky" / An Soc Met de France 1853/227 (reverse) like little suns - great numbers of red points in sky at Aurrugne.
- 9 Hail Rouen / C R 37-612

- 9 or 5 Ice Rouen Fr. (D-180)
- 11 Persia great quake 10,000 lives lost (BA) '11
- 13 Mayan volc Phillippines Rep Feb 1, 1814
- 15 Quake, darkness, rain. Cumana, Venezuela "on the Spanish main" quake and "frightful noise and deep darkness". Timbs 54-260 (reverse) An Reg 1853.
- Aug 6 Eruption of Mountain of Korabelott, near Taman in the Crimea Timbs '54-267
- 9 England Mets mostly from Casseopeia BA 53/26
- 11 A Am J Sci. 2/16/288
- 12 Ab 8 p m Cornwall, Liskeard to Tavistock quake and sound like thunder Times Aug 20 p.7.
- 16 Waterspout over Leghorn Timbs '54-280.
- 18 etc.) quakes Greece C.R. 42-24
- 29 etc.) Timbs '54-270 (reverse) There had been no volc activity, (indecipherable word) that, as said by Paris papers, had been due to smoke.
- 20 etc New Comet bet Leo and Ursa (about) Major LT 23, p. 7; 24, p. 8.; 26, p. 7:30, p. 9.
- 23 Met "curious" / by Lowe Highfield House Rec. Sci. 1/137
- 26 Mazzow Met train 10 minutes BA '60 N.M.
- 26 7:51 p.m. / bolide / Constantine, Algeria C R 37-431
- 26 Mazzow Met train 10 minutes BA 60-17
- 30 Vulcan / M. Jaennicke of Frankfort on the Main had seen - not sure of date - black point on sun (reverse) round well defined and no penumbra - next day not seen. Cosmos 20/64 / Webb Cel. Abjs. p. 44.
- Sept Hurricane in Atlantic Am J Sci. 68-1, 176
- 2 A Am. J. Sci. 2/16/446
- 3 Maidenhead / Met like star that expanded to size of moon was seen in London. Detonated at Cardiff and Dolgetty Times Sept 4, p. 6
Times (undecipherable word) with Oct-Dec.
- Sept **Box A (Resumed)**
ab 8 p m one evening on Loch Seavig, Scotland, told by Mr T K Edwards (reverse) to Dr. Phipson "Familiar Letters" p. 21, he in a boat a luminous obj that moved toward him but then curved away visible 2 minutes
- 9 L T p.7 Shot Chelsea L T 12, p.5.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 10 L T, p 9. New Comet
- 11-17 Comet - nebula in Great Bear Am Sci. 1854-360 D
- 30 Ascend(ing?) met / Gt. Brit.
- Oct 5 See Aug 7, 1852 Star 12th mag oh 44m/8° 46' Star not catalogued. It disappeared
- 7 New comet near B Vergo on 7th LT Oct 7
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 18 LT p 7 Ext.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 26 Large met in Pomerania left a spiral train that contracted into a ball and then passed into a Z. BA '53 60-16
- 28 Det met Eng / Stones Hanover BA 60-92
- 28 Dederntstaart, Holland / meteorite fell / LT Nov 5 p7.
- 28 Sound det met / 3:57 p.m. grey daylight Met. Beeston / BA 54/414
- 28 Beeston 3:57 p m met seen det like distant thunder LT Nov 1, p 5 Nov 3, p 10
- 29 Violent eruption at a new island off coast of Formosa. Trans China Branch Roy Asiatic Soc. 1855-147
- Oct 31 Cherbourg Aurora CR 37/746
- Nov 2 LT p.8 Rara Avis
- 7 6 p m / Pembroke-dock (London?) luminous band in sky stationary 20 minutes from 5 principle stars of Cassiopeia to "I" star Kaprak Ursae Majoris L T Nov 11 p 4.
- 25 Comet in Cassiopeia Am. Sci 1854-360 D
- Dec 10 4:45 p m. Rev. N. Straton minister from Aylestone Rectory for inform of comet he had seen near venus. There was a new telescopic comet at the time. LT 13, p 7.
- 21 Germany, det. met BA 60-92
- 27 See Aug 7, 1852 / Star 10th mag. 4h 14m x 23° 58' looked for following March - had disappeared.
- 30 Star 11th mag / See Aug 7, 1852 3h 33m x 20° 51'. It disappeared.
- 1854
- Box A (Resumed)**
Sleeper Susan C. Godsey near Hickman, Ky. See Oct 27, 1873. Village of Swanland, near Hull. Proc. S.P.R. vol. 8 / according to notes dated in the year 1854, by Mr. John Bristow. (reverse) A master joiner of Manchester, who was then working in a joiner's shop in Swanland and told in the year 1891, pieces of wood flying about the shop. No girl here (Note 2) pieces of wood cut off, and falling to floor would leap up on bench and dance among tools, move as if borne along on gently heaving waves.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Jan 3 Wels / Large Met / BA 69-282
- Jan See Aug 7, 1852 / Star 9th mag 21h 28m/ 12° 53' in following July had disappeared.
- 5 L T p.7 Aurora
- 10 See Aug 7, 1852 Star 11th mag 4h 26m/ 21° 24' It disappeared.
- 13 Spain and Mexico Sim quakes. 14th Chile BA '11
- 20 Brandon, Ohio / Tornado / Finley's Report.
- 20 Holmes Chapel Macclesfield etc. / Whirl (N) Athanaeum Jan 28, 1854
- Jan 22 Aerial soldiers / Buederich C-2-11
- 26 See Aug 7, 1852 2 stars 23h 27m / 4° 15' Looked for in July following. Had disappeared.
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 29 Woman found Bantry Ireland / Devoured by dogs - supposed to have fallen and injured self LT Feb 6, p. 5.
- Feb 7 Supposed wreck.
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- 11 & 12 phe & quakes Italy See 1805.
- 12 Cosenza Quake preceded by explosion in the day which was clear See 1805.
- 15 Hurricane Gorallan Field March 4 (reverse) 349, 732, 900
- 14 Harrison, Ohio / Tornado / Finley's Report
- 25 Turin / 7:20 p m great met seemed to fall from Canis Major CR 38-511
- 26 Op Mars (a I)
- 26, 27 Heavy rain Hobart Town Proc Roy Soc Van Dieman's Land 1855-1
- 28 LT p.1 Venus inferior conjunction with Sun (A - I)
- Mar 1 Switzerland and Tyrol det met BA '60 - 104
- Box A (Resumed)**
- Mar Disap City of Glasgow O'Donnell Shaye Sea Mysteries p. 12 VXCE
- 7 LT p 8 Sup. Ext. Devonshire
- 16 Paris / psycho-tube like town ghost Owen "Footfalls" p. 282
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Mar 16 Strange sounds / Cosenza (It) and Ap. 6 see 1816
- Mar 30 LT p 7 New comet
- Apr 1 p 11 and April 14, p 8
- Apr 4 France / falling stars in a fog morning of 5th / odorous fog / Cosmos 15-36
- 5 Paris odorous dry fog / Cosmos 15/36
- 16 City of San Salvador destroyed by a quake / A.J.Sci etc. 2/18 /277 rumbling sounds from 12th
- 25 quake Lake Ontario doubtful / Canadian Jour 2/278
- May 11 LT p.12 Met
- 18 p.9
- 15 Horbourg near Colmar (Haut-Rhin) Red rain
Ret - May 16 - '46 (reverse) See March 1862, Ap.1863
- 22 A Vulcan / various objects reported by Greg by "a friend of his" BA 1855/94 (N)op (Ch) C-29 plus (In addition to the Report of the British Association reference, at least one of the symbols probably refers to Cosmos, p.29 and ff, or p.291 or p.294. TT)
- Jun 23 Manteno, Ill. Tornado / Finley's Rept

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