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Jesuit Priest Exposes 'Psychical asserts the existence of miracles, and asserts the existence of miracles, and years of most careful investigation before the will accept any one of the wonderful "facts" as miracles. But some say we have the enthanting and asserts the existence of miracles, and years of most careful investigation before the will accept any one of the wonderful "facts" as miracles. But some say we have the enthanting the continuous continuous careful investigation before the will accept any one of the wonderful will be continuous. **Phenomena**

Washington, D. C.—To expose the acter of the phenomena. Please tell tricks which mediums represent as me who are those scientific ment The spiritistic manifestations. Rev. Fa. names of twenty or twenty-five scientific there charles J. Herridia, S. J., of Holy tific investigators of psychism are rether Charles J. Herridia, S. J., of Holy the investigators? of psychism are re-Cross College, Worcester, Mass., gave a peated in every Catholic and non-Cath-series of public performances which are clie book ad nauseam. Because Conan-said to rival the feats of the greatest Doyle, a novelist, or Sir Oliver Lodge, magicians of the stage.

The psychist, or Hyslop, a retired pro-when requested to tell how he be fessor of philosophy, or Crooks, the came interested in "magic" and indi-chemist—all anti-Catholics—tell us cate the purpose he had in giving lec-that the phenomenar exist and are tures and exhibitions, Father Herredia wrought by the souls, we Catholics wrote the following:

The properties of psychiam are re-appeared in every Catholic and non-Catholic an

By Rev. Charles Herredia, S. J. Go to Harvard, go to Yale, to Co-Since earliest boyhood I have seen lumbia or Stanford, and if you ask nany frauds in the realm of the occult real scientists whether the bulk of that I determined to set about expos scientists admit spiritism, they will ing them. And this is how I began the laugh at the very question work I am now engaged in.

When I was about 18 years old, I not produced at 50 cents, five nights a

when I was about 18 years old, I not produced at 50 cents, are nights a heard a priest say in a pulpit that a week, in the back streets of our one certain great mind-reader was in the hundred largest cities. And yet this collusion with the "Old Boy." The is the brand of spiritism experienced nextnight the theatre was jammed by 95 per cent of its enthusiasts. To Everyone wanted to see how the devil write or talk of such spiritism as answorked. Then with my brother I did, thentic, coming from the devil or from the approximately and the resurge but the alginory and the support of the sup at a public lecture, the same wonders any other source but the clairvoyants that had been performed by the mind and mountebanks who make a living

That was thirty years ago. Since ously the nonsense emanating from the then, on account of a great attraction "other side", all this certainly profor tricks and some little familiarity duces worse effects among our Catholic with the method of their performance, people than if we do not talk on the with magicians and their tricks.

Since that time, too, in four differ. Realizing this, I thought it would be Since that time, too, in four different countries, I have observed the wave a great lesson for, our Catholic comof spiritism rise and fall with the pass munities to see how easily the so-called
ing years. In California eighteen phenomena of spiritism could be reproyears ago I had a great chance to study duced by a priest who is certainly not
mediums and their methods. The same in collusion with the devil. Audiences
in Italy twelve years ago. Again in are mystified. They witness the pheMexico, during the regime of Midero, homena produced much better than by
who was a Spiritualist, I had much to the ordinary mediums; they cannot dedo with the mediums. Finally, during tect nor explain the method, and yet
the last six years of my residence in they are sure it is all a deception. As
this country, especially in Boston, the a consequence, they laugh at spiritthis country, especially in Boston, the a consequence, they laugh at spirithotbed of spiritism, I have had person-ism, they laugh at their own guillibilal experience in the matter.

And so for thirty years I have given "spirits." "What fools we mortals
lectures in the United States, in Mex. be" they say going out from the lecico, Italy and in England. In Rome, tures. "No more spiritism for me."

In Vice Rector of the South American.

as Vice Rector of the South American And it seems to me that this conclustrated in the students, at which two Car ion they draw from some other lectures dinals were present (one of them dear and books. "Maybe it is the devil," old Cardnial Vives.)

The Power of Suggestion

Our Lord not allow the souls of the

For the last thirty years, too, I have dead also to produce the same effects?" cen reading books on Spiritism in I have been asked this question many English, French, Italian and Spanish times and to the best of my knowldge I find that they continually copy one there is no apodictical reason why Our I find that they continually copy one there is no apodictical reason why Our another and repeat the same things Lord could not permit the souls as well over and over again. Do not forget as the devils to produce them, especially the power of suggestion. When a fal. if we consider the case of genuine spir-

the power of suggestion. When a fall we consider the case of genuine spiritive is tree and repeated and itism mentioned in the Holy Scriptures printed and reprinted as a fact, we be (Cf. 1 Kings xxv-iii 7-20. . . . Witch of gin to believe it is true. That is what Endor).

has happened in the case of thousands , Real Purpose of Lectures , of the so-called spiritistic phenomena. My conclusion them was this: Show But I had the courage to read all the the Catholics (perhaps also the bona volumes of the Journal and the pro-fide spiritists later on), how easily they conduce of the Lordon Society for Pay, can be decrived. Duplicate the spirit. ceedings of the London Society for Psy- can be deceived. Duplicate the spirit chical Research, and I have taken the istic phenomena and they will laugh pains to examine the principles and at spiritism and have nothing to do most wonderful phenomena of Spirit-with it in the future. This is the real ism at the original sources, and I came purpose of my lectures. I do not contain the principles of the secure of the secure of the real secure of the secure of the real sec to this conclusion: "There is almost sider spiritism from the religious or always some 'leak' in each of the phe-moral point of view, but take it rather

That does not mean that I deny the ous work of investigation not to the existence of genuine phenomena. I masses, but to honest, religious, comadmit then, because I have seen some mon-sense theologians to whom that of them myself. But I do question the task really belongs. We do not pub-explanation given by the "Spiritist" lish moral theology in the vernacular, and by the advocates of the "diabol-but in Latin, to limit such knowledge ic' theory. Lightning was a phenom to those men who have to know it, T enon since the beginning of the world, give such treatises to the common peo-and yet for sixty centuries civilized ple would do more harm than agood, and uncivilized nations explained it by Finally, in my lectures, I do not per-the devil, the gods, or by some practer form tricks, but reproduce one by one natural powers. Then came an Americall the psychical phenomena produced lean, Ben Franklin, with his kite, and by the greatest mediums on earth, from proved it to be electricity. So it has the raps of the Fox Sisters to the levibeen with spiritistic phenomena,—only tation of Daniel Douglas Home. If in we are still waiting for an adequate ex-so doing I seem to be merely perform-

planation.

Spiritism as a hypothesis, as a pos-because I am faithfully reproducing sible explanation of the phenomena, I what they do, foolish though it may find no difficulty in admitting, but I seem to one unacquainted with the certainly deny that it has clearly estab-whims of the "spirits," lished its claims. So, too, I admit that certain reservations the "Satanic" theory as a possible explanation of phenomena wrought through a medium.

(There is no question here of spontancous phenomena, e. g., possession of he devil; unsought apparitions, etc.) But leaving aside for the present the explanation of the phenomena, let us look at the phenomena in themselves. When you see a field in the cinematograph and a storm, a wreck, or a flood, you are not able easily to distinguish between the scenes that were taken in the studio and those taken from real nature. In the same way spiritistic phenomena can be reproduced so easily by trickery (I have done so), and in such a mystifying manner that even much began, all through the minutes hours. a mystifying manner, that even most began, all through the minutes, hours,

learned people are deceived. For an days of your lifeordinary person it is practically im-possible to distinguish the true from

such. He says what he thinks, he is ordered half a dozen of their shirts. truthful, but veracity is not enough; The salesman represented the goods to positive knowledge of facts is absorbe the best of their kind and "warlutely essential. Unless I am convinced not only of his veracity, but also of his penetration, I will not accept his testimony, understanding as I do, first, how readily I can reproduce He received for his trouble a bundle. on these same witnesses similar im of cold excuses. The store sent away pressions; secondly, because of the a dissatisfied customer—the worst adpower of observation in this kind covertisement in the world. phenomena is so diminished by the my-sterious surroundings, etc.., that in the ninety-nine cases out of one hundred, kind of store that is known wher-

champion trickster and most shrewd a clerk is not allowed to dispute with woman, Madame Blavatsky: She says: a customer. If there is dissatisfaction, I have not met more than two or three and it appears reasonable to the clerk, men who knew how to observe and see and it appears reasonable to the clerk, men who knew how to observe and see an immediate adjustment is made even and remark on what was going on around them. It is simply amazing. At least nine out of every ten people are entirely devoid of the capacity of observation and of the power of to membering accurately what took place. Mind the trifles!

Priestess of Isis, p. 136.) surely knew her business. How careful the Church is in espect. She most gladly admits and

But some say we have the authority

mony to be up-to-date.

selling fake spiritgrams; to take seri-

on its ridiculous side leaving the seri-

Trifles-

By GEORGE MATTHEW ADAMS

Mind the trifles!

There exists in New York City store for men that, because of its ap-Hence it is not enough for me to have the testimony of one or two men, no matter how honorable, in order that I may believe that to be a real, genuine phenomenon which he claims to he want to the city. ne phenomenon which he claims to be went into their establishment and

Mind the trifles! There exists in Chicago another the good man tells me not what has ever merchandising is known. It is what has occurred, but his own impression of the greatest store of its kind in the world. Here is one of the reasons for Let me quote here the words of that its marvelous success. In this store

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