

"On life's curtain  
Is written this one certainty—that naught is certain."

What is the test? Is it the common experience of men? Then sure the sun moves round the earth, and there are no such things as molecules, and there are such things as spirits.

Is it the common experience of the instructed and competent among mankind?

The men who designed and built Luxor and Anahuradapura bore witness to gods visible and tangible. Lombroso assented to Eusapia Palladino, A. R. Wallace believes in spirits, Newton thought Euclid proved the existence of God, and Kelvin relied for the same proof upon biology. Worse, Newman "worshipped idols and a piece of bread," and I (who am hardly likely to allow that any one is more instructed and competent than I am) believe in the Great Brotherhood, and the certain heritage of man in the Holy Kingdom. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church (not Christianity), the communion of saints; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

This conviction is not to be shaken, for it is based upon the same rock as Hassan's conviction about the sun. It is my experience. Like any other experience, it comes through the senses; but it takes place in some unknown fortress within the five out-lying towers of sense, in some secret cave of the heart and brain that even Ernst Haeckel has not dissected out.

Let him say that "as your mind decays (though I don't see how it can decay any more) you will lose this assured knowledge of your immortality."

"Yes, and I lose the sun, and the heat of the sun."

"But your Holy Guardian Angel is only a phantom of your diseased brain."

"But in that same brain is the sun."

"But other men testify to the sun."

"But other men testify to the Angel."

"But the majority of men accept the sun and deny the Angel."

"I am not a democrat. All the men whom I respect testify to the Angel, and don't care twopence about the sun."

"But I can show the sun to any man who had never seen it, and he would add his testimony to its truth."

"For 'sun' read 'Angel' and you have my exact position."

"Show Him to me! This instant!"

"Patience a moment; it requires a little trouble, even a little work."