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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

PART FIVE — SATURDAY DECEMBER 14 1907 SALT LAKE CITY UTAH — FIFTY-SEVENTH YEAR

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.

SCIENTISTS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Erect $300,000 Church Without Soliciting One Cent from General Public.

RELIGION ENJOYING A BOOM.

Converts Obtained from Ranks of Aristocracy, Army and Business Circles—England Respects.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—London has had a concrete proof of the extent of the Christian Science boom here in the formal opening of the great First Church in Wilbraham Place, Sloane street. It is an imposing structure and cost $300,000. But what has produced a far greater impression than the church itself is the fact that the money to pay for it has been obtained without any public appeals for funds, or passing around of the hat. In that respect it is unique among modern churches. Another equally remarkable claim to distinction attaches to it. The subscribers of the money care nothing for the glory to be obtained among their fellows by blazoning forth their generosity. That is the reason why, a member of the committee told me, no list of the donors has been printed. This presents a striking and significant contrast to the usual procedure.

STANDS ALL ALONE.

Though none of the various denominational bodies in England extend the hand of Christian fellowship to the Christian Scientists, they all regard with envy and amazement the ease with which they raise money for any purpose that they require it. It is one religious organization in the kingdom which never begs.

CHURCH'S INTERIOR.

The new church will seat 1,600 persons, but it is as far from the ordinary conception of a church building as anything can well be. In fact, the interior reminds one more of a theater than a church. The seats are arranged in semi-circular tiers, rising toward the back of the auditorium, and every seat is comfortable. There are no stiff backed pews and there is no pulpit. The place of the pulpit is taken by an ordinary platform on which there is a beautiful reading desk by which the person who conducts the service stands.

GREAT TOWER.

The exterior of the building is rather plain architecturally, but its outstanding feature will be a great tower which when completed will be second only in height in London to the great Campanile of the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Westminster. There will be no bells, however, for Christian Scientists do not need these reminders to call them to worship. The space in the tower will be all taken up by th administrative offices of the church.

TESTIFY TO FAITH.

The scene at the opening service a few days ago was a most striking one. It really took the form of an old fashioned experience meeting. Every seat in the great auditorium was filled and fully 50 per cent of the congregation were women. The lame and the halt and the blind were there, and there were many who according to their testimony had been lame and halt and blind, and had been cured by faith. One after another they stepped up to the platform and told their experiences. One had been cured of the alcohol and drug habits, another had been relieved from heart disease, and another had shaken off meningitis, all by the power of prayer. One notable case was that of a man who said he had suffered for 11 years from blood poisoning and had been unable to obtain relief from nine different medical men. Faith cured him.

NO DEMONSTRATIONS.

There could be no doubt about the entire sincerity of the persons giving testimony, and there could be no doubt that every word was accepted at its full value by every one in the audience. There were none of the "Praise the Lord!" and other expressions so well known at the old fashioned camp meetings and experience meetings, but simply a calm acquiescence in the marvellous statements made. Obviously those who heard them regarded them as on a par with the plain, every-day facts which nobody disputes.

RESPECTED IN ENGLAND.

While Christian Science is being bitterly attacked in America—in the courts, in the press, and from the pulpit—it is flourishing like a green bay tree in England. It has been said that America is the home of new religions, and, as a matter of fact, most of them have their origin across the Atlantic, but it is in England that they receive a respectful hearing. Nowhere in the world is a man with a new idea in religion, politics, or economics surer of a fair hearing than in London, and there are probably as many preachers of new things in this great city as there are in the whole of America.

FLOURISHING, TOO.

Just now Christian Science is undergoing a boom. The London newspapers have taken it up and printed columns of letters for and against it. Society is interested in it and converts are being made in hundreds. Followers of Mrs. Eddy declare that nowhere in the world is their religion growing in numbers, power and inuence, as it is in England, where it is a plant of very recent growth.

SCIENCE'S PIONEERS.

As far as is known the first adherent of the faith to come to this country was Miss Annie Dodge, who came here from New York in 1899. She practised in London as a healer for a year, and when she went home her place was taken by Mrs. Freshman, who also remained only a year. Then came "the true apostle" of Christian Science in England. She was Mrs. Ward, an Englishwoman who had lived in America, and learned the new faith there. She settled in London and began holding small parlor meetings in her little flat in the West End. Soon the congregation became too large for her drawing-room and a public hall was engaged for regular services. In 1897, a disused Jewish synagogue was acquired and the first regular Christian Scientist Church in England was opened.

HOW IT HAS SPREAD.

Today there are three flourishing congregations of the cult in London, a great church in Manchester, and about 80 congregations scattered throughout the United Kingdom. It is hard to obtain an exact idea of church membership in England, as the form of church organization is so different from that followed in the United States, but the three London churches have every Sunday totalling at least 3,000 people and many are turned away. There are also hundreds of meetings in private houses and in small halls in London and the provinces which have not attained the dignity of organized congregations.

DISTINGUISHED CONVERTS.

In society Christian Science has obtained many distinguished converts. The best known, perhaps, was the Earl of Dunmore, who died recently. The Countess of Dunmore and her two beautiful daughters, Lady Muriel Gorerewn and Lady Victoria Murray, are still prominent adherents of the faith. Some of the other distinguished converts are Lady Ashbourne, wife of the ex-lord chancellor of Ireland, Lady Bath, Lady Grey-Egerton, an American, by the way, Lady Mildred Follet and Lady Shelley. Among the distinguished men who have subscribed to the new faith are the Hon. John Ashburnham, Major the Hon. William Rowley of the king's bodyguard, and the Hon. Donough O'Brien, whose father is Lord Inchiquin. The Hon. Eileen O'Brien, his sister, is also a convert to the faith.

ARMY'S CONTRIBUTION.

Perhaps the most astonishing feature of the boom of Christian Science is the way in which it has made converts among the officers of the army. The congregation at Aldershot is one of the most flourishing in England and dozens of army officers have resigned their commissions to become teachers of the new faith, and healers. Most of them, curiously enough, are drawn from the engineers, the artillery and the other highly educated and highly paid branches of the army. Among the officers who have resigned to take up

(Continued on page sixty-six.)

Mystery of "Shakespeare" May Be Solved If Search is Made at Crosby Hall

Englishman Who Believes He Has Proof That Henry, Earl of Southampton, Wrote the Works Credited to Shakespeare, Tells "News" London Correspondent that Nobleman Once Occupied Historic London Building.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—Shakespeare's bones do not lie in the famous tomb at Stratford-on-Avon, which has been gazed upon with veneration by so many thousands of American travelers. Despite his celebrated injunction to the contrary, the actor's body was taken from its burial place many years ago and thrown into a charnel house at Stratford. Moreover, if a search is made at Crosby hall, the ancient building in London for whose preservation a fund was started recently, the original manuscripts of "Richard III." and other of the plays credited to the bard will be found, since they were hidden there, and not destroyed in the Globe theater fire, as the world supposes. There is reason, too, for believing that Ignatius Donnelly, the American who asserted that Bacon wrote the works of Shakespear, may afterward have formed a different and correct solution of the historic mystery, but never have made it public.

The foregoing remarkable statements, together with others scarcely less striking, were made to me by J. C. Nicol, author of the latest theory regarding Shakespeare's identity, in the course of an interview which I had with him the other day at his home in London. Mr. Nicol is the Englishman who, as the cable dispatches announced recently, claims o have discovered a new Shakespeare cipher which, when unraveled, reveals the third Earl of Southampton as the author of the immortal works. Americans who read of his reputed discovery doubtless put him down either as a crank or a seeker for cheap notoriety, and when they saw it stated further along in the same dispaches that this latest aspirant to the role of Ignatius Donnelly asserted that he knew the exact hiding places of the long-lost Shakespearean manuscripts, the opinion that he was a crackbrained dreamer must have been strengthened considerably.

WHO NICOL IS.

But Mr. Nicol proves to be not the sort of man whose statements, however weird and incredible they may appear, can be lightly dismissed. He is a scholar of much distinction. Though only in his forty-first year, he holds exceptional certificates from various English school authorities. He is a master of education, and for several years has conducted a training school for teachers. He has gained first-class scholarships in science, special languages and advanced teaching. In art he has won the Bourke prize at the South Kensington schools, and he holds testimonials from the heads of such seats of learning as the Lancashire and Cheshire institute, Manchester, the Waterloo Organized Science school and the Central institution, South Kensington.

IS A LECTURER.

It would seem that his training has equipped him especially for the task he has undertaken of unraveling the mystery of the Shakespear authorship, for most of his life has been spent in acquiring all sorts of abstruse information. For some years he lectured on "English Literature and Poetry," and it was while giving these discourses that what he calls "the great revelation" came to him. This was more than two and a half years ago, and ever since that time Nicol has worked unremittingly in the hope of convincing the world that Henry Wriothesle, Earl of Southampton, wrote the works credited to Shakespeare.

THE CRYPTIC THEORY.

The author of the new cryptic theory was found in a cozy flat at No. 22A Furness road, Harlesden, North London. His literary sanctum was filled with books, most prominent among which—set up on an easel—was a copy of the First Folio edition of what the world supposes to have been Shakespeare's plays. Below is Nicol's own story, exactly as he related it to me, and here published for the first time:

"All my life I have been a close student of Shakespeare, and from my earliest days I was brought up to ponder over the writings of the great poet. I always have been haunted by a vague feeling that the man of Stratford was not the author of the plays, and when Donnelly's famous Bacon-Cryptogram theory was announced some years ago, I studied all the Donnelly ideas with the utmost care, fully convinced that there was 'something' in it. But Donnelly, with all his ingenuity, failed. He carried his researches to a certain point, after which his reasonings became weak, and, as mere ciphers, his cryptograms utterly break down. Whether Donnelly knew actually more than he has revealed in his cipher—whether or not he hit upon the same discovery as myself, and then deliberately decided to withhold it from the world, I cannot say. It is known that he demanded a large sum before he would reveal all he knew, and as he never obtained what he asked, it is possible he knows more than he ever told. However, of this, I cannot say. But I do know that the Shakespeare plays were not written by either Shakespeare or Bacon. I have positive proof of this.

MANUSCRIPTS NOT BURNED.

"Moreover, I know positively where the original manuscripts—supposed to have been burned in the fire at the Globe theater—have been hidden. I have learned these facts by unraveling the cryptograms in the Folio Edition.

"I shall be quite willing if any government or wealthy individual will finance me—to bring these priceless manuscripts to light; but if no one is ready to come forward and do this I see no reason why I should gratuitously give to the world all the knowledge I have obtained by hard and constant work.

"In order to prove that I am acting in good faith, however, I am willing to lay before the world some of the reasoning on which I base my claims:

CRYPTOGRAM ON FACE.

"In the 1632 Folio Edition of Shakespeare—or what we call the works of Shakespeare today—there is a verse, followed by a large engraving of a face. This face always has been considered by commentators to be the image of Shakespeare, but, as a matter of fact, the very engraving itself is a wonderful cryptogram. If one will look at this image through a glass—'with the eye aided,' as one of the cryptic readings tells you to do—he will see that it is not a regular engraving, but is nothing more or less than a mechanical drawing. Careful study of many of the lines on this drawing will reveal the writing of various words. There are letters buried in the lines all over the drawing. The lines of the forehead were evidently drawn with a compass. Through this engraved cryptogram the writer of the plays endeavored to reveal his message, written in cipher, but with all his elaborate work he failed to say all that he wished. Therefore in the verse describing this engraving, he admits that he failed to convey to the world his meaning, and advises the student not to pay too much attention to the engraving, but to look on the book itself.

THE INTERPRETATION.

"In order that there should be no doubt about the author, however, he revealed himself in a cleverly concealed signature at the base of the engraving. It is signed 'Martin Droeshout Sculpsit London.'

"If you read this from right to left you get Nodnol Tle Plucs Touh Seord Nitram.

"This, by a rearrangement of the letters from left to right becomes Tis C Henri ov Sout'ampton's Noddi L. R.

"'Nodi,' of course, stands for head, and the leftover letters at the end—L. R., may be taken to indicate the direction to be followed in making the last transposition of the letters—left to right. The substitution of V for U in this last arrangement of letters calls for no other explanation than the well known fact that in the old days V stood for both V and U. Another reading of the Martin Droeshout line gives: Erl. Sout'ampt'n—Civ't's—London—Dro—This.

"Persons who have paid any attention to studying cryptograms can easily verify these assertions. Try as you will, you cannot make any other sensible reading out of the wording except that Henry of Southampton is responsible for the drawing.

SHAKESPEARE A BLIND.

"On every page, almost, of the great Folio you will find letters showing that 'H. W. S.' wrote the plays, and these three cryptic letters denote the name of Henry Wriothesle, third Earl of Southampton, who was the actual author of the plays and poems so long and so erroneously attributed to the man of Stratford, who was merely a blind, and was actually in the pay of the Earl of Southampton. I do not deny that there was an actor named Shakespeare, but I can prove that he never wrote the works attributed to him.

"Speaking of the man of Stratford, it is not generally known that the so-called Shakespeare grave was opened some years ago. Though the inscription on the tomb says:

"'Cursed be he that moves these bones,' when actors were in ill repute in Stratford, the grave of Shakespeare was opened and his bones thrown into the charnal house. This is not known to the general public, but there is ample testimony for it, none the less.

NOT SHAKESPEARE.

"When I began investigating into these matters, it did not take long to convince me that the man of Stratford had nothing to do with the plays. I also demonstrated to my own satisfaction that Bacon did not write the plays and sonnets, though I have evidence to prove that Bacon did assist the Earl of Southampton in the preparation of some of his ciphers.

"In order to understand why the Earl of Southampton took such elaborate precaution to conceal his identity, it must be mentioned that in his day the earl stood in great danger of losing his head. He had become mixed up in the Essex rebellion and spent two years in the Tower of London. Certain portions of his works signed 'P. T.'—do not mean 'Thomas Thorpe,' as commentators have supposed—but 'Tower Taught.' In those days, it was forbidden to teach the masses, and the king did all in his power to discover the authorship of the plays. It was generally known that the actor Shakespeare was not the one who wrote the plays, and hence the king didn't trouble about him. The Earl of Southampton was the leading wit and scholar of the day. Besides this, as his property was obtained mainly from the breaking up of the great monasteries, he came into possession of immense libraries, and had a command of more knowledge than any one else of his time.

WROTE ESSAY AT EIGHT.

"There is ample evidence of the wonderful intellect of the young Earl of Southampton. He composed a remarkable essay at the age of 8, and at 16 got the degree of M. A. When 29 he says of himself that his soul was "adult." The Earl of Southampton was one of the greatest travelers of his time, and spent many of his years out of England. He used his sonnets and other writings as secret correspondence in writing to his friends at home. For instance, in one of his sonnets he mentions the fact that 'we crossed safely in the queen's barge to Holland.' Looking at the sonnet from a mere exterior viewpoint, the person not in the secret sees nothing at all.

SOME INSTANCES.

"It is thus with many of the other passages. For instance, 'in the Folio we have the words: 'Upon the Lines and Life of the Famous Scenicke Poet Master William Shakespeare,' which words contain the Richard Burbage cipher of Crosby Hall, London. It must be borne in mind that Henry Wriothesle, Earl of Southampton, was a member of the Antinomian Order and lived at Crosby Hall, where he sequestered some of his manuscripts. I have written to the lord mayor of London concerning these Crosby Hall manuscripts, and perhaps some discoveries will be made.

"If the plays of the supposed Shakespeare are placed in the proper order in which they were written, they give the name of the real author, and also throw light on the exact date on which they were written.

"After discovering that Henry Wriothesle wrote the plays, I next turned my attention to ascertaining if the life of Wriothesle fitted into the authorship of the plays. I found they coincided in a very remarkable manner. For instance, in the play, 'Romeo and Juliet,' the names of the two great houses are Montagu and Capulet. These are not Italian names at all, but simply refer to the undoubted fact that Wriothesle was a Montagu, while his wife was descended from Capel, Lord Mayor of London. Other plays correspond with different events of the earl's life, while the Stratford man had no life of adventure or romance. The life of the Earl of Southampton was full of exciting adventure. He was mixed up in hundreds of court plots and intrigues, and they are all embodied in his plays. At the age of 18 he engaged as his secretary the famous Italian master, Florio, who came to him from the Duke of Bedford's family. The following year Florio produced 'The World of Worlds' under the patronage of Southampton. At this time his friendship with the Earl of Essex began, and he wrote the 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' to immortalize it. At 26 he went to Ireland with Essex, and is known to have included poems in his dispatches to the court. In fact, every event proves that it was the young earl who produced the plays and sonnets.

SOUTHAMPTON A PAINTER.

"The Earl of Southampton was also a painter of much skill, and he mentions in his cipher that in fourteen of his paintings of himself the letter H will be found if the pigment be removed from the eye. One of these paintings has recently been discovered near Darlington, and I could point to the hiding-place of several others.

"In the play, 'Hamlet,' Southampton wrote his own life. The town of Southampton was built on what was then known as the River Hamble, and in the first production of the play it was called 'Hamlet.'

SOUTHAMPTON A TRAVELER.

"While Southampton was one of the greatest scholars and travelers of his day, Stratford Shakespeare was neither. Shakespeare died years before the plays were published, while Southampton died in the year following the production of the great Folio. His immense labors were complete, and he died at Bergen-op-Zoom, in Holland, from brain exhaustion, or lethargy.

"Various scholars recently have attacked the idea that the man of Stratford wrote these plays. For example, a German savant—Herr Bleibtreu—attributed the plays to the Duke of Rutland. So far as they go, these theories are in the right direction. But Rutland was a friend of Southampton, and the latter used any name that occurred in order to conceal his identity. Most persons who have investigated these matters have not proceeded far enough in their studies. Personally I have an admiration for the German students of Shakespeare. In fact, they seem to know him better than our English men of letters, and have made a closer study of his life.

BURIED NEAR SEA.

"As to the exact spots where the originals of the play are concealed, I have stood within a few yards of their present burial place. I will say this much: They are buried in lead near the seashore, and on one of the estates belonging at that time to the Southampton family. In the cipher telling me the exact location of the treasure, I have read that the Twelfth Proposition in Euclid is to be used in making this discovery and the exact spot is to be located from a certain church steeple 'in those loved estates.' The cipher reads, in part, 'No one knows of this except my host Allen—one place enough 5th May. . . . Do not attempt to remove. If not known you can keep them safe.'

"The original MS. of 'Romeo and Juliet' was for a time buried in a certain tomb of Dulwich cemetery. The king had the gates of this tomb renewed, and for a time Southampton trembled that the discovery would be made, but it was not.

"In the Richard Burbage cipher, which appears in the words supposedly written by Hugh Holland, the MS. of 'Richard III' is indicated as having been hidden in Crosby hall, London.

NICHOL QUITE POSITIVE.

"As to bringing the MSS. to light, I already have approached certain authorities in the matter, and if the government does not take the investigation up with a view to restoring the long lost documents to the nation who should own them some private individual may help toward this object. Meantime I shall continue my deciphering of the Folio with a view to publishing my researches eventually to the world. I shall have no difficulty in satisfying the

(Continued on page sixty-six.)

INDIAN SPOOK SHOOTS HIMSELF

Weird Story of the Ghost of a Man Who Committed Suicide.

READS LIKE A KIPLING TALE.

Self Murder Repeated—Strange Experience of An English Couple Sojourning in Tirzapur.

Special Correspondence.

BOMBAY, Nov. 1.—An amazing spook story told by a contributor to the Indian Daily Telegraph has aroused much interest here. It is the tale of a ghost who shot himself. The woman who relates it had accompanied her husband to Tirzapur. He had been sent here to undertake the duties of an agent who had been sent home on sick leave. The only accommodation they could find when they arrived on July 29 was an inspection bungalow.

They retired about 10 o'clock, but Mrs. S—— remained awake for some time reading a novel by the light of a lamp. She was just thinking of turning it out when suddenly a man holding a revolver appeared in the room. She continues:

"Before I could move or speak, he said, 'Don't stop me, I am going to shoot myself.' As he put the revolver to his head, I shut my eyes, and was nearly defeaned by the report that followed. My husband jumped up, wide awake at once, with a cry of 'Who fired?' and I opened my eyes expecting to see a ghastly heap on the floor.

NO SIGN OF TRAGEDY.

"To my amazement, the room was empty—there was no stain on the matting—and no sign of the tragedy that had just taken place in front of me. My husband said that he had been wakened out of sound sleep by the noise of the shot, and when I told him what I had seen, we searched the house together. Neither the punkah coolie, who was sleeping in the verandah, nor the servants, whose houses were close by in the compound, had heard anything. Even the dogs chained in the verandah had not been disturbed. It all happened so suddenly that I had no feeling of fright or terror. The man seemed to come from the direction of my husband's office, where there was a door connecting with the bedroom, in front of which we had placed a heavy wardrobe. He was a shortish, unpleasant looking man, and he held the revolver in his left hand. Neither my husband nor I were at all nervous people, and when we could find nothing to explain what had occurred, we decided that it must have been imagination, and that our being in strong sympathy with each other had caused us to share the same hallucination. We refreshed ourselves with iced drinks and biscuits, and then we went to bed and slept soundly after having decided to keep our own counsel about the affair."

A STRANGE SEQUEL.

Now for the sequel to it. Shortly afterwards the writer accompanied her husband on a tour of the district. Among the bills they met a Madame de Bevery, who had been a widow for several years. In the course of a conversation with her, Mrs. S—— discovered that at one time she had lived in the bungalow at Tirzapur where the spectral suicide had manifested himself.

"On hearing that she knew our bungalow and had actually lived in it," the writer adds, "I was impelled to relate our strange experience there, which hitherto my husband and I had kept to ourselves. She listened without comment, but when I ended my narrative by saying that we had come to the conclusion it must have been either indigestion or imagination, she turned very pale and said, 'You have related something that really happened; my husband shot himself there

(Continued on page sixty-six)