

**OUTLINES OF TEN YEARS'  
INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE  
PHENOMENA OF MODERN  
SPIRITUALISM, EMBRACING  
LETTERS, LECTURES, &C.**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649502509

Outlines of Ten Years' Investigations into the Phenomena of Modern Spiritualism, Embracing Letters, Lectures, &c. by Thomas P. Barkas

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**THOMAS P. BARKAS**

**OUTLINES OF TEN YEARS'  
INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE  
PHENOMENA OF MODERN  
SPIRITUALISM, EMBRACING  
LETTERS, LECTURES, &C.**





OUTLINES  
OF  
TEN YEARS' INVESTIGATIONS  
INTO THE PHENOMENA OF  
MODERN SPIRITUALISM,  
EMBRACING LETTERS, LECTURES, &c.

BY  
THOMAS P. BARKAS.

---

"Believe not every spirit, but try the spirits, &c."—1 John, iv., 1.

"If an angel or a spirit hath spoken to him, let us not fight against God."—Acts, xxiii., 9.

"In the latter days some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons."—1 Timothy, iv., 1.

"Star unto star speaks light, and world to world  
Repeats the password of the universe  
To God; the name of Christ—the one great word.  
Well worth all languages in earth or heaven."—Bailey.

---

LONDON:  
FREDERICK PITMAN, PATERNOSTER ROW.  
NEWCASTLE:  
T. P. BARKAS.  
1862.

250. g. 219.



## DEDICATION.

---

To truth seekers everywhere, this sincere but imperfect attempt to evolve the truth, contained in the profusion of mysterious phenomena, popularly designated Modern Spiritual Manifestations, which, during the past fifteen years, have presented themselves for investigation to candid and enquiring minds in all countries, is respectfully dedicated by the Author, with the hope that it may be the means of directing the attention of honest and capable investigators to a subject which embraces within itself many extraordinary physical and psychological phenomena, the proper analysis and classification of which are of the utmost importance, in order that the cause, or causes, may be properly understood, and unjustifiable scepticism be removed on the one hand, and pernicious credulity on the other.



1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and government operations. This section outlines the various methods and systems used to collect, store, and analyze data, ensuring that information is readily accessible and reliable.

2. The second part of the document focuses on the challenges and solutions associated with data management. It identifies common issues such as data redundancy, inconsistency, and security risks, and provides practical strategies to address these concerns. The text highlights the need for robust security protocols and regular data audits to protect sensitive information and maintain the integrity of the data systems.

3. The third part of the document explores the role of technology in enhancing data management processes. It discusses the adoption of cloud-based solutions, data analytics tools, and automation technologies to streamline operations and improve efficiency. The text also addresses the importance of training and skill development for staff to effectively utilize these technologies and maximize their benefits.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the importance of data governance and compliance. It outlines the key principles of data governance, including data quality, privacy, and access control, and provides guidance on how to implement these principles in practice. The text also discusses the requirements of various data protection regulations and how to ensure compliance with these legal obligations.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the future of data management and the emerging trends in the field. It highlights the growing importance of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and big data analytics in driving innovation and improving decision-making. The text also discusses the need for continued investment in research and development to stay at the forefront of data management technology.

## INTRODUCTION.

---

Without controversy this endeavour to describe the truth, and expose the errors contained in the physical, physiological, and psychological phenomena, designated "Modern Spiritual Manifestations," and the inferences drawn from them, will be received with indifference, if not with contempt, by the majority of those who open the pages of this work. That reception will not surprise any one who has studied the histories of remarkable discoveries.

Truth has invariably to fight its way into favour. The course of probation may be long, but success is the inevitable result of patient and well directed effort. The writer of a leading article, in the "*Times*" of March 3rd, asks a very pertinent question when he says, "How often must a great truth come forth to light, and be revived and overborne, and lapse back into obscurity, before it achieves general acceptance?" Cuvier boldly withstood the theory of Buckland, that mammalian animals existed in a low form of sedimentary rock; and Cuvier in his turn was opposed by the *savants* of Paris, when he contended that opossum-like creatures had, in remote ages, lived in the neighbourhood of that city, and that the teeth of them had been found in Montmartre Quarries. Both facts are now universally admitted. In the present work I have endeavoured to condense a description of ten years' enquiries into mysterious phenomena; and now for the *first time* I express my convictions as to their specific origin, the personality, and identity of the agents producing the effects, and the value of these modern events as moral and religious agencies.

Having, ten years ago, heard much of the marvellous occurrences that were reported to have taken place in the United States of America, seeing that the phenomena were authenticated by the testimonies of many reputable and capable persons, and knowing that the more elementary manifestations were making their appearance in England, I resolved to enter upon a full examination of the subject, and determined not to bend to one side or the other until I had obtained a sufficient number of facts, heard the testimonies of all with whom I was acquainted, who had examined the question, and read all the best works, *pro* and *con*, which my means and time would enable me to compass. During eight years of close investigation I carefully avoided committing myself to any theory, and, for the last two years, despite the attempts of friends and opponents to drive me to the expression of definite views respecting personality and identity, I resolved to have my convictions firmly matured before venturing to express any opinions.

Those opinions are now contained in this work. A colloquy between Dr. Fenwick and the female attendant of Margrave, in Sir E. B. Lytton's "Strange Story," aptly illustrates my own case in this matter. "Do you believe in that which you seek?" she asked in her foreign, melodious, and melancholy accents. "I have no belief," was my answer; "true science has none; true science questions all things, and takes nothing on credit. It knows *but three states* of mind, DENIAL, CONVICTION, and the vast interval between the two, which is not belief, but the suspension of judgment."

The effect of the conclusions, to which I have at length arrived, will perhaps be to alienate ardent spiritualists, who think they have good reason for believing that they are in frequent intercourse with the spirits of their departed friends; to draw down the scorn of those who are learned in materialistic philosophy; and to be pook-pooked by sciolists and smatterers in natural, psychological, and theological lore, who are conceited enough to suppose that they have reached the truth in all these matters, and that anything beyond their limited experience must be false.

The phenomena that are adduced in the following pages, as having come within my own observation, I have been