

**SPIRITS BEFORE
OUR EYES**

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Spirits Before our Eyes by William H. Harrison

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WILLIAM H. HARRISON

**SPIRITS BEFORE
OUR EYES**

SPIRITS
BEFORE OUR EYES.

BY
WILLIAM H. HARRISON,
AUTHOR OF
"THE LAZY LAYS."

IN TWO VOLUMES.—VOLUME ONE.



LONDON:
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I inscribe this Book

TO MY FRIEND

MRS. LISETTE MAKDOUGALL GREGORY,

WHO IN FEARLESSNESS OF PUBLIC OPINION,

AND AMID QUIET ATTENTION TO OTHER DUTIES AND INTERESTS,

HAS,

DURING A LONG COURSE OF YEARS,

BROUGHT HOME TO THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MANY INQUIRERS,

BY MEANS OF THE GREAT TRUTHS OF SPIRITUALISM,

KNOWLEDGE OF

THE REALITY OF LIFE IMMORTAL.

“The simplest truths are mightiest in their force ;
The nearer to the practical men keep,
The less they deal in vague and abstract things,
The less they deal in huge, mysterious words,
The mightier is their power. God writes His thoughts
In facts, in solid orbs, in living souls ;
His revelation is the concrete world ;
He sows the earth with flowers, and shines on man
Through vital spiritual heat and light.
The theories that scale Emyrean heights
Should rest on granite ledges, solid truths,
Touched, seen, felt, comprehended by the race.
Who builds a pyramid on winter ice ?
Who spans an arch from buttresses of sand ?
The obelisk that cleaves the lofty clouds
Rises from bases massive as the world.
Bacon lives on, while Aristotle dies.
The simplest peasant who observes a truth,
And from a fact deduces principle,
Adds solid treasure to the public wealth.
Facts are the basis of philosophy ;
Philosophy the harmony of facts
Seen in their right relation. Every word
The teacher utters should find evidence
In fixed realities. So grand and large
Unfolds the dome of the new Future's faith,
Resting on all that is, and rising up
To the diviner splendours yet to be.”

From “*A Lyric of the Golden Age*,” uttered while
in a state of trance, by Thomas Lake Harris.

PREFACE.

ONE of the most remarkable features of the numerous philosophical articles constantly appearing in magazines and reviews, on the question of the Immortality of Man, is the unanimity with which writers on both sides confine themselves to speculation, and omit the usual scientific method of appealing to the proof afforded by phenomenal facts. My endeavour will be to solve this problem, of such deep interest to the human race, by evidence as strong as any on which men are condemned to death by Courts of Law.

Originally, it was intended to call this book "*Spirits Without a Medium*," and although it would have been a fair title for this first volume, in which scarcely any of the ordinary phenomena of spirit-circles are recorded, it would have limited freedom of utterance in the second volume, in which the modern scientifically-evolved phenomena are more largely brought forward,