

**THAT OTHER WORLD:
PERSONAL
EXPERIENCES OF MYSTICS
AND THEIR MYSTICISM**

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That other world: personal experiences of mystics and their mysticism by Stuart Cumberland

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STUART CUMBERLAND



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CHAPTER I

BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION

How came I to be first interested in the so-called occult ?

Everything has a beginning ; and my interest in the mysterious and the phenomena associated with what were then termed " unknown forces " early attracted my attention. Scotch connections had told me of uncanny experiences associated with what was designated as " second sight." More than one claimed to have this gift or to know someone who had it. It was, moreover, a gift that I too might possess. In my youth I dreamt of all kinds of wonderful things I should be able to see and foretell. At that period one possesses much enthusiasm, a high imagination, and precious little logic and power of analysis. Experience alone enables one to weigh, analyse, and discriminate with any approach to accuracy. And this experience I certainly have had.

When spiritualism became a subject of general inquiry I was an early inquirer ; and, in an amateurish sort of way, sat with friends seeking for the signs which were said to come to those who sought them in the proper spirit and under congenial conditions.