V.

Before entering upon this unusual line of purely introspective contemplation, it will be interesting to return for a moment to the popularly accepted view that there are two distinct worlds or firmaments—the physical and the mental; two series of events—the physical outside of us, which comprises our own bodies, and the mental inside of us, which comprises the outer world in the form of Thought or Knowledge.

We will now note two fundamental differences in the nature of these two, as it seems to us, independent streams of events.

The first may be expressed in a second important thesis, which we wish to impress on the minds of our readers.

The outer world or universe is a continuum. It exhibits no breaks and no gaps: the inner world on the contrary is full of discontinuities, that is, of breaks and gaps.

The latter part of this thesis will probably be readily admitted. Not only does every individual consciousness begin in time and, so far as we can observe it, end abruptly, but it is characterised by periodic lapses into non-existence in the form of sleep, and though preserved by memory, even the limited duration of any individual consciousness could probably not be maintained without those periodic intervals of rest or non-existence.

And further, our waking hours are full of breaks and discontinuities, and would cease to be of any