

on sensitive paper dies out, and can be replaced by another without the renewed application of any chemical agent.

(4.) Thus considered, ocular spectra are quite as much entitled to be considered as things *actually seen*, as the retinal pictures of which they are the successors, or rather remnants. It is quite otherwise with that other class of visual impressions to which I now refer, and which differ altogether from ocular spectra, not only in being for the most part (though not always) much less vivid and much more dreamy (if I may use the term without casting a doubt on their reality *as facts*), but also in having no reference or resemblance to any objects recently seen, or even recently thought of. Of course, when I speak of their reality as facts, I do so on the ground of their admitting of being watched and studied with the same sort of wide-awake attention which might be given to any faint and fugitively-presented real object: though it is no more possible to describe them accurately, much less to draw them, than it would be to do so in the case of objects dimly seen in the dusk of evening, and capriciously appearing and disappearing. But this does not preclude their being observed and described, *pro tanto*, in general terms.

(5.) I fancy it is no very uncommon thing for persons in the dark, and with their eyes closed, to see, or seem to see, faces or landscapes. I believe I am as little visionary as most people, but the former case very frequently happens to myself. The faces present themselves involuntarily, are always shadowy and indistinct in outline.