

on the contrary, wholly new properties may make their appearance simply by aggregation ; though I admit that such a proposition is by no means obvious, and that it may be a legitimate subject for controversy. But into that question our author does not enter ; and even when he has conferred on the atoms these astounding properties, he abstains from what would seem a natural development : for his doctrine is that our power is actually less than that of the atoms, —that instead of utilising the attractions and repulsions, or “likes and dislikes,” of our constituent particles, and directing them by the aggregate of conscious will-power to some preconceived end, we ourselves, on the contrary, are dominated and controlled by *them* ; so that freedom of the will is an illusion.

Freedom being thus disposed of, Immortality presents no difficulty ; a soul is the operation of a group of cells, and so the existence of man clearly begins and ends with that of his terrestrial body :—