

The Dividing Rod.

A writer in "Blackwood's Magazine" has been furnishing a series of letters on the subject of the truth contained in popular superstitions.

Proceeding upon the very first ground, that nothing purely and entirely without foundation or reason could command for any great length of time the popular belief, he has sought to explain upon philosophical principles the manner in which various opinions have arisen and spread, and how much actual truth they contain.

Amongst others which he examines, is the very general belief in the efficacy of the Divining Rod, in the hands of particular individuals, in the discovery of veins of metallic ore, or underground springs of water.

In the mining districts of Cornwall, it is used, more particularly for the former purpose. In this country, we have known of its being used to ascertain the proper place for digging wells. In many parts of the country, faith in its virtue is very general.

The instrument, and the mode of using it, is thus described. A twig, that forks naturally into two equal branches, is first stripped of its leaves, and then cut up into the length of three or four inches, and each branch being about a foot long.

The end of a branch is held in each hand, the knobby projecting straight outwards, and the fingers of the operator are bent, the forearms and hands advanced, the knuckles downward, the ends of the branches being in a horizontal position.

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MEDICAL.

TO THE SICK AND AFFLICTED. GREAT DISCOVERY. A new and powerful medicine for the cure of all kinds of fevers, inflammation, and other acute diseases.

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AND ALL NEURALGIC AFFECTIONS. A new and powerful medicine for the cure of all kinds of neuralgic affections.

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