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## FOULKE SAID TO BE A LUNATIC.

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THE THEOSOPHISTS DENY THAT HE IS  
BLAVATSKY'S SUCCESSOR.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 25.—The publication in the Philadelphia *Times* of the claim advanced by Henry B. Foulke of this city, backed up by a number of his friends, that he is now the head of the Theosophical Society of the World, having become at her death the earthly successor to Mme. Helen P. Blavatsky, has stirred up the Theosophists.

Two letters were received the other day by the editor of the *Times*. One was written by Annie Besant from the headquarters of the Theosophical Society in London and the other by Countess Wachtmeister, Mme. Blavatsky's intimate friend. In her letter, Annie Besant expressed her opinion of Mr. Foulke and his claims in the following terms:

"Will you permit me in your columns to state that Mr. Foulke's allegation that I support his claim is wholly and deliberately false. I regard him as a madman and would not take any notice of his ravings were it not that his assertion that Countess Wachtmeister and myself support him may—where we are not known—cause some trouble and annoyance."

The Countess Wachtmeister speaks of Foulke in much the same terms as Annie Besant, and adds that both she and Mme. Blavatsky regarded him as the victim of his own silly delusions. In regard to Foulke's claim to the Theosophical Society to be recognized as Mme. Blavatsky's successor, the Countess says:

"We treated Mr. Henry B. Foulke as a lunatic, whose self-conceit and vanity overtopped his reason. In the plainest terms we told him that we declined his proposition, and I thought the whole matter had ended, but, seeing in your journal that his self-delusion is still so great that he persists in making the most absurd statements about himself, Mme. Blavatsky, myself, and my co-workers, I beg most emphatically to state that Mr. H. B. Foulke's assertions are falsehoods and his pretensions humbug."

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