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# THE PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL

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Devoted to Spiritual Philosophy and Phenomena.

TRUTH WEARS NO MASK, BOWS AT NO HUMAN SHRINE, SEEKS NEITHER PLACE NOR APPLAUSE; SHE ONLY ASKS A HEARING.  
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## SPIRITUALISM; ITS USES AND ABUSES.

LECTURE BY DR. J. M. PEEBLES.

A large audience, filling every seat in the Masonic Hall, Melbourne, Australia, on Sunday evening, January 17, 1897, assembled to hear Dr. Peebles' first public lecture on Spiritualism, in connection with his third advent amongst us, says the *Harbinger of Light*. A number of those who had attended his previous lectures nearly twenty years since were present, and general surprise was expressed at the slight change time had made in his appearance, whilst his intellect was as clear and vigorous as ever. The doctor said in substance:

A quarter of a century has rolled away into the past since I first saw Australia, and nineteen years since my feet pressed your soil the second time—and I can only exclaim, What marvellous changes! Your buildings have grown taller, your suburban pasture-lands of those bygone years are now dotted with beautiful homes, half buried in ornamental shrubbery, and your trams make music along the streets; progress, prosperity, evolution everywhere.

But what personally affords me the greatest satisfaction is those friendly and familiar faces before me, and hands just as warm as when they first grasped mine in the long ago. Surely unselfish friendships are eternal. And then, this large capacious hall so literally packed to-night, reminds me of those audiences of 2000 and more that used to crowd the theatres when on my first pilgrimage to your city, and thence onward around the world.

During my travels in nearly all lands and under nearly all skies, I have investigated the religions of the different nations, races and tribes; and as yet, I have never met race or tribe, however low in the moral scale, that did not have some conception of God, or gods, and some ideas, however crude, of a future conscious existence. The ideas are God-implanted. They are innate. They spring up in the soul spontaneously.

And further, in these world-wide pilgrimages, I have met Brahminism, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Jainism, Shintooism, Mohamedanism, Roman Catholicism, Lutheranism, Calvinism, Jesuitism, Presbyterianism, Congregationalism, Materialism, Methodism, Universalism, Mormonism, and other isms still; but, reduced to the last analysis, there is only one ism that goes straight to the foundation of things—that satisfies the pro-

found thinker, that demonstrates a future conscious existence, that inspires all reformatory movements and scatters the roses of peace, charity, love and good will to man along the path-way of life, and that is Spiritualism. And it is so because divinely rooted and riveted to God, who is the Spirit of all spirits. Accordingly, Spiritualism in some form, and under some name, is the oldest truth in the universe—the oldest religion of remotest antiquity.

Emerson sought to define God by pronouncing Him the Infinite Oversoul; Arnold as the Power that made for righteousness; Pythagoras as the Universal Life Essence; Paul as the All and the All; Proclus as Causation; and Jesus summing these ideas all up and putting them into a single word, said—"God is Spirit;"—and human beings, of whatever color or clime, being made in the image of God, are naturally and necessarily spiritual beings. And just as music responds to music, thought to thought, and mind to mind, so spirit responds to spirit in all worlds whether visible or invisible; hence the naturalness of spiritual communications.

Our communications with each other are spiritual communications. The spirit is the real man! The body is the shell, the tent, the tabernacle that he carries in for a season. It is neither correct nor logical to say, "man has an immortal spirit." But rather say, man is a spirit—a spirit now, a natural finite spirit vested in mortality and capable of almost infinite possibilities. Death is but a little eddy in the overflowing stream of life—a friendly hand that, opening the icy door, guides us across the crystal river to the homes of the blest. It is the golden key that, unlocking the entrance chamber to the soul, lets the flesh-entailed, chained prisoner out and up into the fairer fields of immortality. Death, in its time and turn, is beautiful; ever remembering, however, that our good deeds here, our generous self-sacrificing lives construct our future paradises, beautify our lawns, make the winds more musical, the far-away stars more visible, and our immortal clothing more bright and golden. God is good, and his angels are our guardians.

The Brahminical and Buddhistic sacred books,



like our Bible, abound in the history of spiritual manifestations. Zoroaster and Socrates were spiritual mediums. Thales, Zeno, Epimenides, Cicero, with other of the philosophers and most brilliant orators of ancient Greece and Rome, were Spiritualists. Jesus, standing upon the very pinnacle of Hebrew Spiritualism, conversed with Moses and Elias; and he chose his apostles, not because they were scholars or learned Rabbis, but because they were sensitives having mediumistic gifts. The early Christian fathers had visions, the gift of tongues, and like the disciples of Jesus fell into trances. Swedenborg for twenty-seven years held open communion with spirits and angels. George Fox, the Quaker, and the Wesleys were mediums. The Shakers of America, were Spiritualists from the first. The Fox sisters near Rochester, N. Y., neither invented nor created the "rappings." They simply discovered them. They interpreted the language of those delicate telegraphic tickings from the other side of the great divide. Otherwise, being by organization psychic sensitives they *re-discovered* one of the lost methods of conversing with the dwellers in eternity.

Spiritism, as Alfred R. Wallace wisely said, "is quite as well proven as are the facts in any of the other sciences." That spirits in the body can converse with spirits out of the mortal body is now an absolutely demonstrated fact, and the fact is God's living witness of a future existence. But *Spiritualism*—mark the suffix *al*—while accepting the phenomena and encouraging them, mounts one step higher into the moral and spiritual realm, manifesting—manifesting in daily life the "fruit of the spirit,"—which the apostles described as "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, patience, faith, meekness, temperance"—all moral and spiritual qualities of the soul. Consider, remember that Spiritualism is a divine truth, that neither Popes, priests, bigots nor ignoramuses can destroy. Its allies are investigation, research, freethought, free speech and a free press. Every enlightened country to-day has its mediums, seances, lectures, weekly journals, monthlies, and quarterlies; and it is honey-combing the churches with the gospel of the living Christ, and angel ministries.

Though Spiritualists acknowledge no *one* infallible leader; though they have no fixed confession of faith; though they are chained to no church-encrusted creed; they generally teach the Fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, the present ministry of spirits, the certainty of punishment, the progress of humanity, and the

One far-off divine event  
To which the whole creation moves.

Omitting the doctor's experiences in entrancing young Atkins and transferring his own thoughts to the subject's brain, willing him to speak them; his relations of a wonderful Masonic test through a lad of sixteen, entranced; his reference to and old vegetarian Quaker, who had already "lived in heaven fifty years," and other interesting illustrations, he continued:—

Spirits are only men and women divested of their earthly bodies. They have taken with them consciousness, memory, reason, sympathy, character. They walk by our sides often, and yet unseen. Some are angelic, others deceptive, selfish and evil-minded. Here comes in one of

the abuses of Spiritualism. No matter what name is signed to the spirit communication—exercise your own reason, rely upon your own calm judgment, "try the spirits!" Another abuse is these promiscuous seances in ill-ventilated rooms, and still another is the calling upon spirits to locate gold mines, trace criminals, find Captain Kidd's buried treasures and forecast matrimonial adventures—all of which are worldly, selfish, unspiritual and utterly unworthy the candid seeker after heavenly truths and teachings. It is the frivolous and vicious conduct of this kind that opens the door to the denizens, the earth-bound denizens of the lower spheres, resulting in obsessions and deceiving communications. It is unwise to trifle with Spiritualism, hypnotism, or any of the finer invisible forces surrounding us.

While there are thousands and tens of thousands of trustworthy royal-souled mediums—message-bearers bringing tidings from our loved ones in the higher spheres—there are, sad to say, pretenders, imposters and travelling frauds who leave an unsavory slime in their crooked winding tracks. I am speaking especially of America where, in many cities and lesser localities Spiritualism is decidedly popular, these impostors are promptly exposed, and generally, as it should be, by Spiritualist themselves. It was well that Judas went to his own place. The abuse, however, implies the use; the wrong implies the right, and the false implies the true; just as counterfeit coins indicate the genuine.

Spiritualism is of God and has come in the culture and very blaze of this nineteenth century to stay. In the year 2000, or before, embracing and encompassing the good of all phenomena, the good of all sciences, and of all philosophies, Spiritualism will be the acknowledged religion of the world. Already it has inspired the grandest reforms of the age, such as the emancipation of 4,000,000 of slaves by President Lincoln, the comparative freedom of millions of Russian serfs by Alexander the Second, and the construction of that magnificent University in America by Senator Stanford.

Further, it has given us a new geography of the heavens and the hells, assuring us that mortals enter the future world with as absolutely substantial bodies as we have here, only more refined and etherialized. That there are different degrees of happiness there. That memory is the undying worm. That there is intense mental suffering in those dark Cimmerian spheres. And yet God builds no hells; He burns no man's fingers here; damns no souls there. Men are the architects of their own hells; they reap what they sow. Every child born into this world is a possible archangel or a possible demon; his head touches the world of light, his feet the world of darkness. Man is a rational moral being, having the power of choice. Suffering follows sin; there is no escape. Divine punishment is disciplinary in all worlds. Jesus, the living Christ, still preaches to undeveloped, imprisoned spirits. The angels call, and souls are constantly coming up through tribulations deep. The door of mercy is not shut; there is ever the opportunity of progress from darkness to



light. God is love. And heaven's rest is not idleness: the soul's activities are intensified by the transition. The future life is a social life, a progressive life, a heavenly life of growth, of love and of truth. Involutions and evolutions are universal laws spanning all ages and all worlds. The future is afire with hope and aflame with progress.

All thinking, reading and really intelligent persons know that there are now over 25,000,000 of people in England and her colonies, in America and other enlightened countries, noted for their intelligence, conspicuous for their honesty, famous for their scientific attainments, distinguished for their good moral character and scholarly adeptship in psychic research, who solemnly testify that on scientific principles they have critically investigated and demonstrated the fact of a future life through spirit manifestations. Their testimony is as direct and overwhelming as it is unimpeachable! And Spiritualism—this gospel of life, light and truth—is sustained by the higher intuitions of all races. It is in harmony with the great law of evolution; it is in agreement with pure reason; it is in accordance with the heart's sweetest hopes; and in consonance with the soul's divinest aspirations. It is found in the inspired teachings of all sacred books. It is God's living witness of a future conscious existence, and those who war against it, war against God and immortality. Oh! that Atheists and Agnostics could be induced to drink from this ever-flowing fountain of spiritual truth, and that Sectarians could be induced to renounce such "seducing spirits" as fashion, pride and worldliness; and such "doctrines of devils" (using Paul's language) as "total depravity," the "fall of man in Adam," "election and reprobation," and "endless hell torments." These "doctrines of devils," mentioned by Paul; or, when rightly translated, these *devilish doctrines*, have been so fruitful of Agnosticism and scoffing Atheism that the true Spiritualist feels to exclaim with the old Hebrew prophet: "Oh, priests, ye have been a snare on Mizpah."

Spiritualism is most opposed by Roman Catholic Popes, Protestant priestcraft and vulgar prejudice. It is unpopular only, in dens of ignorance, in institutions for weak-minded, in lunatic asylums, State penitentiaries and sectarian creed-cursed churches. It is popular with thinkers, artists, poets, scholars, authors, and the world's *literati*. It is the only religion of Heaven.

#### OLD CREEDS ARE PASSING AWAY.

[Automatic Writing through Mrs. Dr. Yorke].

Here I will give a leaf from my experience, a lesson it took me long to learn, but it has impressed itself upon my mind as an incontrovertible fact that to produce minds capable of grasping the grandest truths here—minds which could reflect the brilliancy of great truths, it was necessary, as in the formation of a beautiful picture, that the background should be in the dark.

Friends, shrink not, for it is one of Nature's laws. I am not upholding crime as you see it, but merely stating a fact in the lives of many. Be-

cause a man or woman has lived a life of sin and crime in earth life—has left earth perhaps from the gallows, does not prove they were necessarily beyond reform or progression—for some of the grandest characters I have known here have left earthly scenes in disgrace, and have been consigned by the church to lives of endless misery and woe. Many such I know to-day who chose for their life-work to again return to earth as white-robed ministers of mercy, carrying blessings and helpfulness to those who are walking in the paths they once trod.

Conditions produce results—look at your soil—some places are capable of producing one species of tree, plant or shrub. The soil is incapable of producing other of the innumerable growths which adorn and beautify the earth. The soil lacks the fertilizing conditions requisite to produce other than that one specie. So in the mental, the soil requires conditions for development. Pure surroundings and liberal educational facilities will in most instances produce a high and noble type of manhood, while a soul springing into existence surrounded by vice and crime must, according to the laws of nature, partake of what nourishes it.

Thus have I answered a question which in earth life was a burthen upon my mind—who or what makes men so different. I could not then see the answer I have given here. It is not found in the Bible, but the knowledge has existed through ages past and men have sought a remedy, and they have immortalized a medium who once lived and was controlled by spirits wiser than himself, and claimed that through his death and sufferings all could be saved. It was, on the part of those in power, an effort to obtain power; but for the masses, a step to enable them to rise higher in the scale of humanity. Thus has Jesus been a stepping-stone and a help to many minds. The human mind has always felt the need of a support—hence have arisen the many forms of religion which have both blest and cursed the world—blest where it has supported and sustained, and cursed where it has striven for power and aggrandizement.

The Christian religion is fast losing its hold upon the minds of its followers. The object of its leaders is power, and with the masses an ambition to appear fashionable, hence the saving spirituality, which was once its life, is departed and it is dead.

The church of to-day is a whitened sepulcher; its glory has departed. Upon its walls are written: "Thou are weighed in the balance and found wanting!" and it must go its way in the march of the long line of religions which have marked the progression of the ages. They have done their work and been laid aside, like old garments no longer of service to mankind.

Does man need a religion? In the light of the centuries past, we reply Yes; in the light of the centuries to come, we say, No.

The light of a new era is dawning upon the world. Man, as in the feebleness of childhood, has needed to be rocked in the arms of a nurse, cradled in the church and soothed with its lullabys, but the childhood of the world is passing away, and the strength of young manhood is now beginning to be felt, and those in the van are delving



into science determined to solve the mysteries which have held them in bondage through the past ages.

As we read the records of the past, we see that with each generation new rays of light have been discovered gradually developing the mind to the fact that there were truths in nature which were not disclosed in the so-called sacred works. Evolution has been slow in the past, and her course has been marked with opposition and blood. The priest has stood in the way and has thundered from vatican and pulpit: "Thus far, but no further!" and to-day *the Church*, as she has dogmatically styled herself, is making herculean efforts to still keep her hold upon the minds of the people. Her great hope is America, and in her secret councils are being discussed plans, which, could they reach the ears of the masses, would shake the continent as no mental upheaval has ever done, but it is in the course of events.

Evolution, the march of progression, has never been stayed, although the fagot and the stake have appalled, the love of truth has burned brighter in the hearts of the martyrs than did the flames which encircled them, and to-day Bruno looks down from his pedestal built in the hearts of the lovers of truth and calmly defies the Vatican. Who can deny the great truths which evolution is giving to the world? Look at the rapid strides she has taken since the discovery of America! Was it chance that led the storm-tossed mariners to her shores? Nay, it was evolution in her grand march, leading away from the bondage and superstition of the old world!

Was it chance or accident which led to the discovery of the printing press, making it possible to diffuse knowledge among the masses? Was it accident which led to the discovery of steam as a motor power, dotting old ocean with mighty palaces and mingling all nations as one? Has there not been one succession of evolution, from the dug-out evolved from the brain of primitive man, and fashioned from the tree of the forest by fire and the stone hatchet to enable him to float upon the water to more easily capture his daily supplies of food? Has all this been chance? No, no! The age of the earth has made it possible.

The world is not going backward, as many suppose, but conditions govern—all these must pass away and mankind will arrive at a higher, nobler standard of manhood.

Reason should be the guide of life, and as it is developed and becomes more powerful the superstitions of the past will fade away.

We see before the manhood of to-day a wide field of work—for what? For the benefit of man on earth—not fitting them for heaven at some future time, in some unknown sphere, but raising the masses to a higher standard of thought, making heaven here and now.

The arts and sciences which are opening up new fields for development, all tend to lead away from the superstitions of the past. Nature has always used the best she had for the benefit of her children, and the cry that the people will not attend church is answered, in the fact that other trains of thought are now in the ascendancy with the masses.

Many of the occupations of life are either sedentary or in close confinement, hence the need of Sunday recreation. It is a demand of nature, and the easy facilities which science is now offering for moving the masses rapidly from wide, diverging points, is popularising the muscular games and out door exercises which will help to lead away from the saloon and the gaming table.

Onward and upward has been the watchword of nature through all ages. But in the dim past progression was of necessity slow, but nature was using the best she had; so to-day nothing can check her progress.

Let us retrospect—we find man to-day an intelligent being, endowed with powers capable of searching out and analyzing the secrets of nature.

Her vast store houses which for ages have been a sealed mystery which no man could know, for has it not been thus declared from the pulpit?

But time passes, and lo! the key is found, and one by one these mighty secrets are being revealed to the gaze of man, and every one is to benefit and uplift humanity. The lightnings which were supposed to be the thunderbolts of high heaven have now been harnessed to the car of science and is propelling it forward to still greater discoveries.

And is this all? No, 'tis but the beginning. Vast and mighty secrets of which man has never conceived, lay just beyond the threshold in this vast storehouse of knowledge, through whose labyrinths, unborn nations will wander discovering untold treasures, for the benefit of humanity.

How does all this comport with the teachings of the past—that God had made man, had lost his power over him, and had to send his only son born of a woman, to suffer death upon the cross to appease his own anger? Who can listen to such doctrines in the light of the nineteenth century?

In the past, when nature gave but a feeble light it was a support and staff to the suffering and downtrodden. But the darkness is fleeing away, and the broad clear light of science is diffusing her beams broadcast over the world and reason is asserting herself in the minds of the masses. People are learning to think, and thought is the leveler of creeds and dogmas.

Look, for example, at the dry and musty creeds of the church founded by John Knox. Thought has broken through the barricade and some of the devotees see the absurdities of the doctrines so long held by that church, and in their synods are demanding the expunging of certain articles of faith from their creed. It is only the work of time when the whole creed shall be relegated to the tombs, wherein are stored the relics of the past; and though their churches rear their tall spires towards their supposed heaven, they shall yet be re-dedicated to humanity—for mythical as the dream of Edward Bellamy may appear, the U. S. government is tending in that direction.

Not only will the Presbyterian doctrine be modified so as to embrace all mankind but all other creeds and dogmas, which have in the past been so earnestly insisted upon, shall in like manner be laid aside—and love towards man shall be taught, for man is the only representation of God, that we know anything about, if we take the Bible for



authority; for in that it is plainly taught that he made man in his own image. And in the light of reason he is the one who should receive the richest stores of love enshrined in the human heart, for as saith the scriptures: "If ye love not him whom ye have seen, how can ye love him whom ye have not seen?" We claim this to be carrying out literally the plain commands of Jesus. If Jesus was God, which the church to-day holds, he in his humanity should be loved and adored—that brings us into the sphere of this world—love to man.

If there is in some far-off sphere, a being called God, and he is the actual maker of the Universe he is perfectly independent of the creatures he has made—he neither requires or needs our love or adoration—he has purposely secluded himself beyond the ken or knowledge of man—hence, as we are not cognizant of him, our duty is to our fellow creatures here and now, and instead of building costly churches—build homes for the destitute—build factories to give employment to those who are in need.

Charity is not the proper way to alleviate the poor—it does so only temporarily—but work helps every one to be self-sustaining and consequently independent. Provide labor for all and see that justice is meted out to them. Instead of grinding down labor to a miserable pittance, allow each one a sufficient amount to live comfortable. In that way will peace reign on earth.

The government of the United States owes a debt to her people which she is slow in paying. The vast plains which only need the reviving influence of water to enable millions of families who now inhabit miserable attics and underground cellars, in squalid poverty—by the help which the Government might give them, could find comfortable homes—becoming respectable and honored citizens.

The United States government was founded by honest, earnest men, who had bared their breast to the storm and stood at last upon free-soil from which the usurpers tread had been driven. The women did their full share and how have they been repaid? Has justice been meted out to them? If so, what means this wail which is constantly arising, demanding equal rights with their brother man? Why is this? It is because women are thinking for themselves. They are not the puppets the Bible represents them to be. They see the injustice done, not only to themselves but to man and the rising generations. If they are fitted to be the help-meet and counsellor of man in the home, why not in the government? Bring the earnest, thoughtful women into the government counsels and give them the ballot, and many wrongs, now so heavy to bear, will be lifted.

Equality is only justice; usurpation is crime, whether in private individuals or in governments, and the government of the United States is guilty of the crime of usurping and denying to one of its subjects their rights bestowed upon them by nature, equally with man. But 'tis coming. Woman shall yet enjoy equal rights and privileges, under the laws of the United States Government, with man. By the laws of progress it must come, and thus shall come one of the greatest blessings to the people of this nation.

The Father Nature alone is inadequate to produce a high order of government; the Mother Nature is required to bring order out of chaos, to more evenly balance the scales, that justice may more surely be meted out to all. Thought is the lever which is moving the world, and right thinking comes from a well developed brain—brain power develops with conditions—hence how necessary that right conditions should be furnished surrounding motherhood. When the world awakes to the importance of true manhood and womanhood more care will be taken in the selection of life partners in the marriage relation. The idea of selection has gained a foothold in the minds of those interested in the culture of animals, because a high order of horse or other domestic animal brings financial profit.

The world is moving, and greater or more rapid development than the world now sees could not have been accomplished in the past, but in the near future great and mighty results are in store. The age of the world is making it possible, and with the growth of thought, reason will become enthroned in the minds of the masses; then will superstition, like the mists of the morning, flee away before the rising sun.

### THRONGING TO HYDESVILLE.

BY MRS. E. P. THORNDYKE.

AIR:—"Marching Through Georgia."

Bring your aspiration, friends;  
We'll sing another song,  
With a ringing chorus that  
Will move the world along:  
Sing it as the angels sang it, fifty years ago,  
While they were thronging to Hydesville.

CHORUS:

Hurrah! hurrah! we'll bring the Jubilee!  
Hurrah! hurrah! the TRUTH will make us free!  
So we sang the chorus from the mountains to the sea  
While we were thronging to Hydesville.

"Philosophy and science will  
Never lead the way;"  
So old superstition said,  
And heed well what we say:  
They strove to block our progress  
With error old and gray,  
While we were thronging to Hydesville.—*Cho.*

Then bring your aspiration, friends;  
We'll sing a grander song,  
Commensurate with the glowing years  
That move our cause along:  
Sing it as the angels sang it, fifty years ago,  
While they were thronging to Hydesville.

LAST CHORUS:

Hurrah! hurrah! we bring the Jubilee!  
Hurrah! hurrah! the TRUTH will make us free,  
And so we'll sing the chorus from the mountains  
to the sea,  
As when we were thronging to Hydesville.

Hydesville, N. Y., was the first place where any systematic method of communication was established between the seen and the unseen world.



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The Editor is not responsible for any opinions expressed in the communications of correspondents.

Any Newspapers sent to this office containing matter for inspection, should be marked by a line drawn around the article or articles in question.

Rejected Communications will be returned only when stamps for that purpose, accompany them. They will not be preserved more than 30 days, after being received at this office.

MARCH 27, 1897.

## Will Science Explain This?

Last week Mr. Lynn R. Cody, book-keeper for, and a member of a large mining company at Guanajuato, Mex., was in San Francisco, on business, and called at the JOURNAL office to purchase some books to take back to Mexico.

While in the office Mr. Cody incidentally told of his conversion to Spiritualism two years ago at Fresno, Calif., his former home.

At that time Mr. Earle was holding meetings in Fresno. Mr. Cody, who is a bright young man of superior intelligence and education, had heard so much concerning Mr. Earle's wonderful slate-writing, that he decided to test him. Accordingly Mr. Cody secretly purchased a pair of slates, fastened them together and went to one of the meetings. Upon arrival at the door he noticed that no one else had slates, and so kept his concealed under his coat until his return home.

During the meeting Mr. Earle gave some of his startling verbal tests, but no public slate-writings on that occasion, nor did he come near Mr. Cody.

However, upon his return home, Mr. Cody was impressed to open his

slates; why, he knew not. His amazement may be imagined when he found both slates written full of messages, signed by relatives whom he supposed to be dead.

The next day he hastened to tell Mr. Earle what had occurred, and found that gentleman as much surprised as himself when informed of the circumstance.

We defy science to explain this on the hypothesis of "cerebral excitement," "muscular impulse," "auto-suggestion," or anything else but spirit presence and power.

Mr. Cody's standing and reputation for veracity in Fresno society was such that the local daily press gave an account of the affair, copying the messages from the slates.

Thousands of equally unexplainable tests are given through, Earle, Evans, Dr. Schlesinger, Mrs. Freitag and many other mediums; yet the know-it-alls—the "Dr. Parisots"—who fear to investigate lest they should be converted, will sneer and try to look wise, though in their hearts they know themselves to be playing the role of assumptuous fools.

Truth, crushed to earth, will rise again.

## Pres. Lincoln's Presentiment.

The following account of a presentiment felt by President Lincoln a few hours before his assassination, is given in Sir M. E. Grant Duff's recently published book, "Notes from a Diary." It was told to the author by Charles Dickens, who had it from Staunton. Dean Stanley, who had also heard Dickens tell the story, corroborated the accuracy of the present version. Staunton had been called to a Council at the President's, but arrived somewhat late:

After the Council was over, I walked away with the Attorney-General, and said to him, "Well, if all Councils were like this, the war would soon be at an end. The President, instead of sitting on half-a-dozen different chairs and telling interesting stories, has applied himself to business, and we've got through a great deal of work." "Yes," said the Attorney-General, "but you were late. You don't know what happened." "No," I answered. "What did happen?" "All the rest of us," rejoined he, "were pretty punctual, and when we came in we found the President sitting with his head on his hands, and looking very unlike himself. At length he lifted his head, and looking around us, said, 'Gentlemen, in a few hours we shall receive some very strange intelligence.' Very much surprised, I said to him, 'Sir, you have got some very bad news.' 'No,' he answered, 'I

have got no news, but in a few hours we shall receive some very strange intelligence." Still more astonished, I said, "May we ask, sir, what leads you to suppose we shall receive this intelligence?" He replied, "I've had a dream. I had it the night before Bull's Run. I had it on some other occasion" (which Mr. Dickens had forgotten), "and I had it last night." This was stranger than ever, and I said, "May we ask, sir, the nature of your dream?" He replied, "I'm alone—I'm in a boat, and I'm out on the bosom of a great rushing river, and I drift, and I drift, and I drift." At this moment came your knock at the door. The President said, "But this is not business, gentlemen. Here is Mr. Staunton." Five hours afterwards Lincoln was assassinated—*Light*.

## Moody's Falsehood.

At a public meeting in Boston, Mass., recently Evangelist Dwight L. Moody stated that the Prince of Wales had withdrawn from the Masonic fraternity because the Freemasons did not believe in the Bible. A Mason, believing that such statement was not true, addressed a letter of enquiry to His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. A reply has just been received from Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, in which he denies this statement in every particular. He says:

Your letter addressed to His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, has in due course been forwarded to me, and I am desired to state in reply that any report that His Royal Highness has withdrawn, or contemplates withdrawing, from his position of Grand Master, is a pure fabrication. The statement made by the religious teacher to whom you refer is utterly untrue.

"Utterly untrue," and yet stated in public by a religious teacher, relying upon idle rumors! Every Mason would know that it was a falsehood—for nothing in the lodge is more conspicuous than the Bible and its teachings. What can we think of the morality of the times, which will allow a prominent minister to make such false—such unreasonable—such unnecessary statements, "utterly untrue," and without the slightest foundation in fact?

**They Live.**—There are many instances given in the records of Psychical Research Societies of spirits appearing to their friends immediately after death and announcing their own demise. This would indicate that some spirits, at least, are alive enough for that purpose.—*Ex.*



**Spiritualism and Mormonism.**

The *New World* for March contains an article on "Mormonism To-Day," by David Utter, in which the author shows that Mormons have much in their creed in common with Spiritualism. Article 7 reads:

We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, etc.

In commenting on this article, Mr. Utter says:

Every Elder can tell of the miracles that have been wrought in attestation of his ministry; every Mormon has seen the signs and wonders that have continually confirmed the faith of those who were willing to "do the will of God that they might know of the doctrine." Not all the miracles, however, had for their *raison d'être* the confirmation of the faith or of faith; many were wrought simply in answer to prayer, or for the good of individuals to whom God was somehow willing to show especial favor.

"Why do you doubt?" they ask: "is it any harder for God to heal this child than for him to create a world?" In the early days, doctors were not much consulted, and there lingers even yet a prejudice against those "who seek not unto the Lord but to the physicians."

Revelation is, of course, held to be continuous. Not only was the "fullness of the gospel" given to the world through Joseph Smith, but the head of the church has been ever since a mouthpiece of the Lord, through whom the divine will is communicated to the church of the saints on earth. While this is really believed by all good Mormons, there is also the opinion widely prevailing, or perhaps universally held, that there is room for human mistakes to creep in among the utterances of even the most perfect high priest, even the head of the church. Always there is the principle that, if a "revelator" or seer should become corrupt in his life, his prophecy would be tainted with error and untruth.

Besides these revelations given in public, and for public purposes, through the seer or "revelator," each individual is privileged, according to the purity of his life, to receive revelations, for his own comfort, instruction or benefit.

The gift of tongues seems to be unused, or held in abeyance, at the present time. A number of years ago it was rather a popular gift, indulged in, or exercised, rather more by women than men. To the unbeliever it always seemed, as the exercise of the same gift among the Irvingites seemed to Carlyle, a mere senseless "la-lal-ing," but, to those who believed, it was a divine manifestation. It is not improbable that the exercise of this gift was discouraged by the authorities on the common-sense principle enunciated by Paul, that five words with the understanding were better than ten thousand in an unknown tongue. There was, moreover, a

certain danger from the interpreter who was apt to arise after the deliverance of the message in the unknown tongue, and who might give an explanation even less edifying than the communication in its original form. Speaking in tongues is firmly believed in as a phenomenon and a sign by all good Mormons, but not as a generally useful or profitable gift.

Article 9 expresses a belief in a continuous and unending revelation.

**Fear** is not the right element for thinking man, said Dr. Wendt, recently at Oakland, Cal. He gave two "word pictures" of Jesus, compiled from the New Testament—one the *avenging* spirit in the book of Revelation, and the other the *loving* spirit of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. He contended, quite reasonably, that the two were not reconcilable. Dr. Wendt is a learned Unitarian divine, and of course does not believe in the divinity of Jesus. He said:

Unquestionably, the notion of Jesus as an angry and implacable judge of the world is foreign to the real spirit of the gospel. Yet this religion of fear is preached daily in our midst. The Salvation Army makes its main reliance in its religious work. The Seventh Day Adventists are a most excellent people, but their doctrine of Christ and the last judgment is not based on the gospel of Jesus, but on a Jewish-Christian perversion of his character and teachings.

.....No man was ever truly converted by fear. Hell is a fiction of theologians an invention of priests, a "scare-head" of revivalists. Let this "raw head and bloody bones" of theology be relegated to deserved and odious oblivion.

**Spanish Liberalism** has scored a victory in the courts of that country. Doña Belén Sárraga de Ferrero, the lady who publishes *La Conciencia Libre*, (The Free Conscience) was arrested, imprisoned, tried, acquitted and awarded 3000 pesetas for false imprisonment. She has applied the 3000 pesetas in the establishment of an anti-ecclesiastical library in Valencia, and in awarding a prize for the best drama of a socialistic character. So says *La Union Espiritista*, of Barcelona, Spain.

**Sir Isaac Pitman**, the inventor of phonography, has passed away in the 85th year of his age. His great fame came almost exclusively from the very general adoption of his method of rapid writing, so as to secure every word from the speaker.

Few of us realize until we stop to consider it, how much we are individually his debtor. The Queen of England recognized it and a few years ago conferred on him the distinguished title of Sir, as she also did later upon the distinguished hygienist, Dr. B. R. Richardson.—*Journal of Hygiene*.

**A Prophetic Dream.**

The following circumstantial story has been quoted by *Il Vessillo Spiritista* from a book on Pathology by Dr. Catalani, a distinguished physician of Fermo:

On March 25th, 1825, Countess Vinci, related to her friend, Countess Montani, a dream which she had had on the previous night. A murderer had pounced upon her during her sleep, and, seizing her by the hair, had plunged a dagger in her throat. She only caught sight of the assailant, but was enabled to identify him as a *valet de chambre* who had been serving her for years with much faithfulness and devotion.

No importance was attached to this occurrence until six months afterwards, when, on September 25th, the papers related the murder of Countess Vinci by an unknown assassin. Countess Montani applied at once to Dr. Catalani and told him the story of the dream. The doctor communicated with the police, who proceeded to arrest the *valet de chambre*. The latter had remained in his situation as if nothing had happened, but a large quantity of jewels which had disappeared from his mistress's safe on the night of her tragic death were found in his lodgings. He collapsed under the weight of the evidence and made a full confession of his crime, admitting that he had been contemplating it for three years. He was sentenced to death, and executed on February 25th, 1826.

**Is this cheap enough?** Fifty-two sances for one dollar. You get these by subscribing for the PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL for a year.

**Samples** are sent of this issue to those interested in the philosophy of Spiritualism. If it pleases you, we invite you to subscribe for it.

Willard J. Hull has resigned from the editorial staff of the *Light of Truth*, on account of "legal complications of a domestic nature."

☞ The JOURNAL is a grand publication. I have read it ever since it was edited by S. S. Jones, and it is now the very best it has ever been.—MRS. A. C. STANTON, Blackhawk, Col.



## The Reviewer.

**Primitive Christianity; Vol. 1,** contains the lost Lives of Jesus Christ and the Apostles, and the authentic gospel of St. John, with engravings of St. John, St. Peter and John the Baptist, by Prof. Joseph Rodes Buchanan, San Jose, Cal. Large octavo, 314 pages. Published by the author, and for sale at this office. Price \$2. Postage 20 cents extra.

The author says that it has largely exceeded the number of pages originally allotted to it, on account of the ever-increasing available matter, which the spirit world provided for the work.

Professor Buchanan remarks thus concerning his labors in getting up this book: "The world has always hated and fought against the truth, that would save it. Socrates and Hypatia, Galileo, Harvey, Galvani and even the pioneers of railroads and steam navigation have suffered as well as a long list of the martyrs murdered by the old church from which I would relieve the world by establishing the truth. In doing this I have faced a powerful opposition, all my life, when no one else dared, yet every reform that I have introduced as a pioneer has gained a large following in thirty years, and I shall witness this last triumph over the despotic superstitions of ten thousand years from the higher world, for the flag of freedom unfurled in "Primitive Christianity" which will find a million readers, will lead the grandest revolution the world has ever seen, destroying all ecclesiastic, political and social despotism by justice and universal brotherhood which came as an aurora borealis in the time of Christ, but will come as the rising sun of an endless day in the coming century."

The production of the last-gospels of apostolic men, the author says, is the most important achievement of Psychometry, just as the discovery of America was the most important achievement of navigation.

The aim of the work is to restore the Gospels to their original condition and to the satisfaction of their authors, Spirit St. John being the first to call the author's attention to the necessity of doing it, and he says that myriads of interpolations have obscured the real teachings of the authors, and the spirit world felt it a duty to give a correct version, and he says that the time will come when all humanity "will realize the immense importance of our communications, and to the world we give these, our words, as the true history of our lives and work when in the earth-life."

The lives, labors and travels of the apostles, as given by themselves from the spirit world, are intensely interesting, as is the whole volume. We never read a book in which we were more absorbed. The messages come in such grandeur and eloquence from the high spirit spheres that they

not only command attention but engross the entire thought.

The widespread interest in public affairs in this country is well illustrated by the large sale of the March issue of the *Atlantic*, which contains John Fiske on the Arbitration Treaty and Woodrow Wilson on President Cleveland. The third edition is now ready.

### The Open Portal.

In the dim draped hall an image is lying,  
A beautiful image, serene and white—  
Folded in silence—a mystic palace  
Left tenantless in the hush of night.

This is not he—this house of marble—  
That you drop, as you pass, your tears upon,  
That you deck with palms and pallid lilies—  
The noble prince whom you loved is gone.

"Gone," did I say? Midst your quiet footsteps,  
That slowly pace by the side of the dead,  
Hear you no stir of his trailing garments?  
Mark you no sound of his royal tread?

He moves among you, unseen and unnoted,  
He lays his hand on the still cold face—  
The cast-off mask he had worn among you—  
Beside the mourners he takes his place.

He speaks, but no soul is turned to listen:  
He whispers into his loved one's ear.  
"My love, my love, why are you weeping?  
Know you not that I am here—"

"Here by your side? Dear eyes behold me;  
Dear ears bend low to my yearning word;  
Dear heart lean to me. What! still you weep?  
Have you not seen? Have you not heard?"

"I fell asleep one night, and I dreamed, dear,  
That I snapp'd the limits of earthly clay;  
That my soul unfettered climbed dazzling moun-  
tains;  
That I crossed the heights to the golden day:

"And I dreamed by limitless fields I wandered,  
Far, far away in a flood of light;  
And with me (did you mark the smile on my lips,  
dear?)  
With me—it was not night.

"O! closed, locked doors! O, harp-strings broken;  
O perishable, fleeting breath!"  
These are the words you murmur, murmur,  
While I—I know not death.

"These are the words you murmur, murmur,  
While I stand apart in a strange surprise:  
O, could I tell what your ear unheeded:  
O could I tear the veil from your eyes!

"Life's song has lost no note of sweetness;  
Across life's harp sweeps a living breath—  
My only pain is your pain—your blindness—  
I live! I live! I know not death."

In the dark, hushed hall, those who had loved him  
Drew near the pale form, speaking low of his worth.  
Of his honor, his grace, his high exaltation;  
But not one of them all heard this message of truth.

The singers, with tremulous voices, sang softly  
The hymn he had loved, then with reverent tread  
Tenderly, lovingly, sadly they bore him  
Away The bells tolled: "He is dead, he is dead!"

But somewhere—none heard it—a holler choir  
Chanted lowly of life—but the dull weary tread  
Of the mourners alone made sound in that cham-  
ber.  
And the bells tolled again: "He is dead, he is dead!"  
ANNIE J. C. NORRIS.

### Mrs. Freitag's New Development.

The First Spiritual Society is on the upward road to prosperity, due to Mrs. Maude L. Freitag. Grand and convincing demonstrations, by ballot tests and independent slate-writing. You have seen her ballot tests, but as yet have not seen any of the slate-writing coming through her. She is

creating quite an excitement, for every body on the streets and everywhere else are talking of her wonderful gifts.

She gave the first of her independent slate-writing last Thursday evening. Last evening she invited all those who had slates to come to the edge of the platform. About a dozen ladies and gentlemen responded, most of whom were skeptics. Each one held their own slates. She merely touching the corners of the different ones. One lady whose slate was nearly concealed with twine, tied on all sides, held her slates, Mrs. Freitag touching one corner, and in less than one minute three loud raps came and Mrs. Freitag told her to untie the slates, and she found both sides of the slates full of messages for different ones, and also a bouquet of flowers was drawn in different colors—red, white and blue pencil. Then Mrs. Freitag took her fur cloak and threw over a pair of slates belonging to Mrs. Benson, and when uncovered and opened no writing was found, Mrs. Freitag asked the lady to take the slates with her to her seat which was about the center of the hall. The lady stood holding the slates, a lady beside her holding to one corner and in less than one minute, loud and distinct raps were heard. The slates were opened and all of one side was closely written with a message signed by some relative of the lady; the other side had a few messages and a beautiful flower—all in colored pencil. The audience shouted with satisfaction. All were more than pleased.

MRS. CLARA A. BECK.  
San Diego, Cal., March 15, 1897.

**The Anniversary Celebration** of Modern Spiritualism will be given, under the auspices of the California State Spiritualists' Association, on Thursday, April 1, at Scottish Hall, San Francisco. There will be meetings in the morning, afternoon and evening—all the local societies and mediums co-operating. All mediums desiring a place on the program must notify Mr. Norton, 1203 Market St., at once. An elaborate program will be printed and circulated at all the meetings previous to the Anniversary Celebration.

**Victorien Sardou**, the great playwright, is a medium, and has made automatic drawings of the palaces in Jupiter occupied by Mozart, Zoroaster and Bernard Palissy, one of which was published in *Revue Spirite*, in 1858. He still has the original drawings.

Mr. William Worthy, of Forest City, Ill., and Miss Minnie Brown, of Peoria, were united in marriage Thursday evening, March 11, Rev. Dr. Benton officiating.

See our Book List on page 191.



## Spiritualist News.

In this department may be found the cream of the current Spiritualist news of the day, culled from every available source.

The Editor must not be held responsible for the opinions expressed, nor for the estimated talent or reputation of the persons mentioned.

Readers are requested to send us short items of news. Interesting incidents of spirit communion and well authenticated spirit phenomena are ever welcome, and will be published as soon as possible.

Mrs. A. E. Kibby is located at 1616 Ruth avenue, Cincinnati, O.

Geo. H. Brooks is in St. Joseph, Mo., at 417 S. Ninth street.

J. C. F. Grumbine is at 309 Green avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mrs. Rozilla Elliot is now at 51 16th street, San Diego, Cal.

Julius Steelman Mitchell is at Milwaukee, Wis., for March and April.

Frank T. Ripley can be addressed at 717 Huron street, Port Huron, Mich.

Moses Hull speaks every Sunday in April and May, with the exception of the first Sunday in April, in Lima, O.

Theodore F. Price will be in Grand Rapids, Mich., during March and April. Address 178 N. Ionia street.

Mrs. Kate Hoskins, test medium and healer holds a test circle at 136 Oak street, every Tuesday evening.

Cora M. Carpenter, speaker and test medium, is permanently located at 718 Broadway, Hannibal, Mo.

Mrs. M. J. Roberts, slate-writing medium, is permanently located at Elendale, St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. Evaline Goodman, a well-known medium in Saginaw, Michigan, passed to spirit life on Feb. 22, 1897.

Mrs. Maxwell-Colby holds a circle next Saturday evening, at 122½ Oak street, San Francisco.

Clara H. Scott of 1351 Lexington avenue, Chicago, has issued a new hymnal entitled "Truth in Song."

The annual midwinter meeting of the Northwestern Spiritualists' Association was held at Minneapolis, Minn., last month.

Willard J. Hull is engaged by the First Spiritual Church of Columbus, O., to lecture during March. Maggie Gaule will give tests.

Anniversary Celebration will be held at Decoto, Cal., on March 31st. Mrs. Thorndyke has invited quite a number from San Francisco to attend, and the event will be duly celebrated.

Mrs. Lillie's appeal in behalf of Ferdinand Fox Jencken, led Minnie M. Soule, of Boston, to suggest that an independent penny collection be made on anniversary day for him.

Next Sunday, March 28, Prof. Fred Evans will give a slate-writing and test seance, at Golden Gate Hall, on Sutter street. Seats may be reserved at Prof. Evans' office 1242 McAllister street.

"The World of Spirit and Man's Relation Thereto," was the subject of an inspirational lecture by Mrs. R. S. Lillie, at Scottish Hall, San Francisco, last Sunday evening. Mr. Lillie furnished the music.

The First Spiritualist Society of the South Side, Chicago, Mrs. Ada Foye, pastor, will celebrate next Sunday March 28, as the 49th Anniversary, at the Masonic Temple, 3120 Forest avenue. The ladies will give a supper in the banquet hall.

There is a ghost scare at Kingston, N. Y., penitentiary. Some time ago several of the guards resigned because there was a mysterious ringing of bells in the hospital, and an apparition has been seen by some of them which they declare is the spirit of a convict named Howell who was shot by Chief Keeper Hugher.

A training school for speakers and workers at Maple Dell Park, Mantua Station, O., will open on June 1, 1897, under the supervision of Moses Hull, Mattie Hull, A. J. Weaver, and others, as teachers, and will continue to July 16. The regular camp session of the season will open July 18, and continue until Aug. 23. Mrs. L. J. King, Cor. Sec., Box 45, Mantua Station, O.

Last Sunday evening Mr. Earle gave another of his remarkable seances a Metropolitan Temple, San Francisco, in which many startling tests were given and recognized. His peculiar phase seems to be to give in full detail strange and unusual scenes in the lives of individuals, which occurred from 20 to 50 years ago, giving full names, and often descriptions of all persons connected therewith; the scene being located far away, and often in a foreign country.

**The Peoples.**—At the Scottish Hall, San Francisco, California, a very earnest gathering of people meet every Wednesday night to listen enraptured to the eloquent addresses of Mrs. R. S. Lillie the well-known Boston lecturer, and who takes her subject from the audience. Last Wednesday the chief theme dealt with was "What effect is the cigarette, morphine and other existing vicious habits going to have upon the future American race, if unchecked?" The lecturer most ably led the search-light of psychic teaching directly in upon this burning question in a most comprehensive and convincing manner.

Dr. Louis Schlesinger, the veteran medium, 534 Page street, besides giving tests, also contributed some forcible remarks upon the necessity of studying self control against the debasing nicotine appetite. Prof. M. C. Gee another well-known old medium gave several good tests, and Mrs. Hattie Wrenn of 215 Larkin street, gave readings in her usual pleasing and exact manner.

Mr. Lillie and Mrs. Winter supplied first-class music. Altogether the go-ahead president and management of the People's Society deserve support of believers in the Cause at stake, and all genuine seekers after truth will

also be well repaid for a visit to these meetings to enjoy proofs of the beauty revealed there of both the philosophy and phenomena of spirit existence and power to manifest.

Mrs. Lillie and Dr. Schlesinger are both announced for next Wednesday.

## San Jose Items.

Since you, Mr. Editor, was here on Sunday, Feb. 14, and gave a good address in the morning at the First Spiritual Union, and the excellent lecture in the evening on "The Existence of the Spirit World Demonstrated," Sister Seal occupied the platform of the Union for the three following Sundays, and I must say that a more eloquent speaker would be difficult to find. Since then we have had Dr. Kaynor, who has been quite ill, but is slowly recovering. Last Sunday Dr. Schlesinger came, and when he is expected we always have a good attendance and most satisfactory results. We expect to have him with us the remainder of the month on Sundays and a part of the week.

Our evening meetings are very interesting.

The Ladies' Aid Society is prospering, its meetings very interesting and we know that suffering humanity is very thankful for the little we can do. Our semi-annual election of officers took place on Friday last, with the following result: President, Mrs. E. P. Anderson; vice-president, Mrs. M. J. Holtum; secretary, Mrs. H. L. Bigelow; treasurer, Mrs. C. Phipps, the two latter being re-elected.

Sister Seal will be with us whenever she can, but business often detains her. The ladies of the Aid Society gave her a surprise party at the close of the last meeting. As many as could, slipped away and prepared her rooms, decorating them with smilax, and when she returned gave her a welcome. All brought a substantial repast, which was served by the ladies. In the evening the gentlemen came and a very enjoyable time was spent.

The First Spiritual Union will have their annual election of officers on the last Sunday in this month, and the anniversary exercises and all-day meeting on the first Sunday in April, in which all can participate in the good time we are assured of enjoying.

Mrs. H. L. BIGELOW, Sec.

**E. E. Ingram**, of Robinson, Ill., is a Spiritualist, convinced by the philosophy alone. He writes thus: "I do not see how I could possibly get along without the JOURNAL. I must confess that it is one of my greatest comforts. I am one of those believers who has never attended a seance, never seen a spiritual manifestation of any kind, never even seen a medium controlled in any way whatever, and yet I am a believer."

**Furnished Rooms** (sunny), with or without board, in a private residence, at reasonable rates. Apply at 136 Oak street, San Francisco.





### Theosophical Temple.

#### TO THE EDITOR:

As the JOURNAL gave a very interesting account of the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Temple at Point Loma, Cal., I have prepared the following horoscope of the face of the sky at the time—Feb. 24, at 2:30 p. m. (local time):

Then, the celestial sign Cancer with the Sun, Moon and the eight planets, placed in the degree and minute of the signs they occupied, were in technical language, a harriing figure for the event, and this is supposed to prefigure the outcome of the special work then begun.

By an examination of the map of the sky, in accordance with the rules laid down and verified in thousands of instances in the past, I find it very unfavorable.

It is true that the ceremony was begun with a trumpet blast and blaze of glory, as indicated by the radiant planet, Venus, shining in splendor in the heavens, though unseen,—but another phase is altogether unfavorable, indicating delay, disappointment, financial losses, endless annoyances, vexations and ultimate failure.

One thing noticeable as favorable, is the character of the movers in the work; they possess a large amount of intellectual energy, and at the time Jupiter, lord of the finances, appears sufficiently to open the way to the enthusiast, but as enthusiasts are not noted for wisdom, they may run against a stone-wall illusion, when they least expect it.

I could give a reason for the unfavorable appearance, which does not spring from prejudice, but the general reader would not be interested in the technical terms it would be necessary to use.

JOS. TILLEY.

Los Angeles, Cal.

### New Society in Oakland, Cal.

#### TO THE EDITOR:

Since "all things come to those who wait" the Spiritualists of Oakland have embraced a long-delayed opportunity to build a genuine spiritual organization named the "Union Spiritual Society." The "corner stone" of which was laid by T. G. Newman, President State Association; Mrs. Drynan, missionary of the N. S. A.; Mrs. Cowell and Mrs. Wrenn, local mediums of note, on Sunday, March 14, 1897. Each of whom did their work with much credit to themselves and with general satisfaction to the audience assembled.

This society was organized at Mr. S. Palinbaum's residence on March 10, with 19 members, and the promise of many more in the near future.

Officers were elected as follows: Prof. B. K. Lowe, president; Mr. L. M. Martell, vice-president; Mr. S.

Palinbaum, treasurer; Mrs. L. W. Knott, organist; Mrs. M. E. Van Loven, secretary and Mrs. Dunham, Mrs. Baldwin, Mr. H. B. DeMooy, Board of Directors. Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-Laws and Charter will soon be adopted.

The order of Sunday services held at 1169 Broadway, will be a general conference in the afternoon with lectures and tests in the evening for which the best talent attainable will be engaged. Mediums and all workers in the field of labor are cordially invited to attend. Those wishing engagements will please correspond with the secretary and unless universally renowned must appear before the officers and directors before the final engagement.

The angel world has waited long and patiently for this united effort to be made and the parents of the coming generation of Spiritualists have as anxiously waited for the right opportunity to establish a Progressive Lyceum in which to teach the children ethical culture and a knowledge of the living truth, therefore we believe that the Spiritualists of Oakland desire more than all else to have one good liberal society where all can have a voice in its management, and in which all will feel the liberty which the religion of Spiritualism demands. The hour is fully ripe for this movement and none too soon to prove a grand success.

President Newman stated that there is no such word as "fail" to determined, united efforts. If we combine in one harmonious band, materially, financially and spiritually, fully realizing that "in unity there is strength" we could not help but succeed.

Mrs. Drynan's remarks were full of sympathy for the world's poor. She said: "Since heartrending scenes are a daily occurrence, and the rich are rolling through the streets in chariots while the starving poor are footsore and weary, with no work nor where to lay their head at night, it is high time that the bigotry and superstition of dogmas and creeds should sink into the shadows of the dark ages and the light of Spiritualism take its place. MRS. E. VANLUVEN.

1261 Jefferson St., Oakland, Cal.

### A Sign of the Times.

As five years training in a college will not make a shoemaker, therefore it cannot make a physician—i. e., a healer.—Dr. Dixon, author of "Fallacies of the Faculty."

#### TO THE EDITOR:

Reading in the San Francisco Chronicle of the 27th ultimo, *re* how many hundreds of the "Barrel organ" variety of college made "Quacks" were turned out yearly in Wisconsin, I was also naturally, as a healer, deeply interested in reading the very necessary note of warning in your last issue of the PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL *re* the unholy alliance being attempted by those who, like the Ephesians of old, realize that "their craft is in danger," and so are offsetting still further from the *strait* course of using nature's simple remedies by the proposed coercion over the will of the people in this part of "free" America, in trying to create underhand methods of dictat-

ing who shall, or who shall not minister to their physical welfare!

Accordingly, Mr. Editor, I, with many other readers, agree heartily with your honest and outspoken article under the head of "Threatened Trouble," in drawing public attention to, and so rightly denouncing the disreputable tactics of a body of men whose ability must be far below par, indeed, when they have to seek the aid of a State "crutch" to enable them to *try* to keep up a monopoly of the gentle art of healing, especially in this advanced age when *all free* thinking men and women are well able to judge what is best for themselves, bodily as well as spiritually, through being tired of subsidizing a system of treatment which requires that "the medicine should be changed" so often, i. e., the subject experimented upon in order to find out what really is the true nature of the many existing diseases, and so *beget others in turn*, that are almost as numerous as the law-made "regular" practitioners. Is there not a subtle connection in this fact?

The term "quack," i. e., an impostor, like all terms, had an origin, and dates back to the days of Hippocrates, when the original and natural method of ministering to the ailments, both physically and spiritually, was—as it should still, *and will be again*—in the hands of the spiritual advisers, or mediums of the people, as history teaches the fact that the clergy of those days cultivated, culled and cured for use the various medicinal herbs around the mountains, and dispensed their products to, and thus healed the sick speedily and *successfully* long before the regular M. D.s' like ignorance of nature's laws and diseases, became so common throughout the civilized world, by the institution, even then, of wily schemes to create a monopoly of medicine and introduction also of mineral poisons by this founder of the present so-called "regular medical practice," as it then was, that the mysterious ciphers upon prescriptions were, with inorganic compounds, first invented to the disgust and dissatisfaction of the populace of those days and who, in derision of the illicit practice of Hippocrates and his colleagues—other students of alchemy, white and black magic, monopoly and "faking" generally in their line—there being "nothing new under the sun,"—*dubbed them all as quacks!* Strange, is it not, Mr. Editor, how history repeats itself? But "a word to the wise is sufficient." I will conclude with the following lines:—

#### WAS JESUS A QUACK?

We read in the New Testament  
That Jesus upon his mission went  
To cure the lame, the deaf, the blind,  
And people to their beds confined;  
But, according to the Holy Writ,  
The Nazarene did not see fit  
To use mineral poisons nor drastic pills,  
Wherewith to treat all human ills.

But simply by his will and touch  
He cured, because his gift was such  
That on one occasion, as we read,  
The only means he seemed to need  
Was dust and spittle—nothing more—  
The sight to blind eyes to restore,  
Altho' no college "faked" diploma had he—  
This gentle, holy healer of Galilee.

DR. DON MCLEAN,  
Thompsonian Herbalist Healer.



**49th Anniversary.**

[The following poem was given several years ago through a medium whose name I have lost—its phraseology changed somewhat to fit our Forty-ninth Anniversary.—A. H. NICHOLAS.]

Of gala days men write as great,  
On Time's memorial arch,  
We hold in highest estimate  
The thirty-first of March.

And now we meet to celebrate  
The day the "raps" began,  
In eighteen hundred and forty-eight,  
To bring good news to man.

Those mystic raps the silence broke  
Of near two thousand years:  
'Twas then the Sphinx of death awoke  
And spoke to mortal ears.

There came to earth, that "dawning day,"  
A messenger of love  
With news from spirits passed away  
To realms of light above.

Across the ether waves that roll  
Upon our earthly strand,  
The tidings flashed "from pole to pole,"  
And spread o'er sea and land.

Those startling sounds have since been heard  
For nine and forty years,  
And millions have by them been stirred  
To wipe away their tears.

The world shall greet this heavenly guest  
And gladly own its power;  
From North to South, from East to West,  
'Twill bless its natal hour.

The fear of death we feel no more,  
Nor dread the silent grave:  
We've heard from those who've gone before  
And that now makes us brave.

The "still small voice" of those we love  
We hear in pleasant home,  
And angel watchers from above  
Protect where'er we roam.

They haunt our homes and give us "tests"  
To prove they are not dead;  
And oft they answer our requests  
And bring the "living bread."

They teach us how we ought to live,  
And why this life was given;  
And many precepts do they give  
To point our way to heaven.

This mortal form evolves the soul,  
Which is with spirit rife;  
Through death we reach a higher goal  
And gain eternal life.

Through evolution's spiral way  
We then shall upward press:  
From sphere to sphere, as best we may,  
Forever we progress.

God speed this truth throughout the world  
Till all shall know its worth;  
Till Error from its throne is hurled  
And known no more on earth.

Though press and pulpit both assail,  
The truth shall firmly stand;  
"The gates of hell shall not prevail"  
To stop its progress grand.

Its hour of triumph is not far,  
Its foes are now at bay;  
The hosts that come through "gates ajar"  
Will surely win the day.

Exultant joy fills all the earth  
This day of Jubilee,  
For millions know that death is birth  
And life eternity.

Then strike your harps, ye angel choirs,  
And wake seraphic strains;  
Let earth respond with tuneful wires,  
From mountains, seas and plains.

As angels sang when Christ was born  
Among the sons of men.  
So may they greet this joyous morn  
When he has come again.

As morning stars in primal time  
Sang at Creation's birth,  
So let them now in strains sublime  
Greet this "new heaven and earth."

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 To render all people happy  
 Who worship at her feet;  
 But the cry of poverty  
 Is ringing through the land,  
 And children pine in misery  
 On America's famed strand.

The Father's gracious bounty  
 Has filled this world with good,  
 Yet thousands sicken daily  
 For want of needful food.  
 The treasury of Nature  
 No meagre store doth hold,  
 But the trustees of the people  
 Their heritage, the land, hath sold.

The laborer toils from morn till eve  
 His children to maintain,  
 Yet scarce for them the shelter  
 Of a home can he obtain.  
 For why? Because the gift of God  
 To usurers is lent,  
 And so the fruit of honest labor  
 Is swallowed up in rent.

Do you ask me what is heaven?  
 And what to me the bliss  
 That this bright world's freedom holds?  
 I answer simply this:  
 To live in loving fellowship;  
 To bask in truth's bright ray;  
 To labor for humanity,  
 And have no rent to pay.

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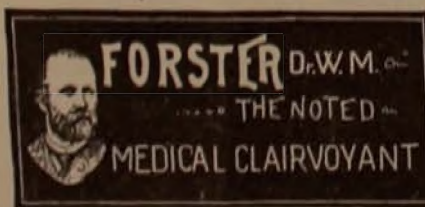
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Where spring, or summer, never dies.  
Brighter here the sunlight smiles,  
And angels from their home above  
All the cares of life beguile,  
And to teach the laws of love.

Welcome, welcome, to our State,  
To proclaim the light of love,  
And to open wide the gate—  
Light the way to worlds above—  
And to teach the laws of life—  
That the garments we will wear  
We must in the world of strife  
Make to dress us over there.

Angels on your brain impress  
Truths to print, and learn the way  
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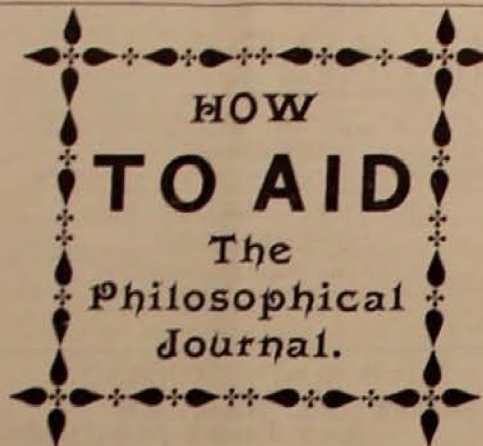
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