



Truth wears no mask, bows at no human shrine, seeks neither place nor applause: she only asks a hearing.

VOLUME XII. CHICAGO, AUGUST 3, 1872. NUMBER 20.

SPIRITUAL PHENOMENA.

Pan, Pan, is Dead--A Wonderful Story of Spirit Manifestations at Moravia, N. Y.

"Pan, Pan, is dead!"--E. B. Browning.

O Pan, great Pan, thou art not dead, Nor dost thou haunt that woody place,

O piteous one!--in wintry days Over the city falls the snow,

Ghost-like, O Pan, thou hoverest still, An old, old face, with dull, dumb stare;

Where'er thy shadowy vestments fly There comes across the waves of strife,

And when thou passest, human eyes Look in each other and are wet--

Christ help thee, Paul canst thou not go, Now all the other Gods are fled?

EDITOR DEMOCRAT:--Having recently visited Moravia, N. Y., for the purpose of investigating the new and marvelous phase of "Spiritual manifestations,"

Allow me first to say that it was not alone to gratify my own curiosity I consented to visit the Mecca of Spiritualists,

I would not pluck a single laurel from the brow of so enterprising a man, yet I can not see that his zeal to find something novel in the animal kingdom should be counted any more praiseworthy than is the spending of time and money to find a new power in the human mind,

Learning, as I had, that thousands of intelligent men and women were making pilgrimages to the house of an old farmer in the neighborhood of Moravia, where, according to report, the returning spirits of the departed were daily making themselves visible by putting on tangible forms,

seems to me downright stupidity. I say this without any wish to cast unkind reflections upon the good people, and certain clerical gentlemen who have counseled silence with regard to what I elicited, saw and heard during my three weeks' investigation of the new phase of the occult science.

Now for the facts. Kind reader, imagine yourself at a country house, and in a plain room, about large enough to seat comfortably twenty-five or thirty people.

The medium now remarks: "We first sit in the dark, and continue till the spirits call for a light. The light is now extinguished. The piano begins to play. It is not the medium, for I am conversing with her."

During the dark seance white and purple clouds gathered above our heads and seemed in commotion. Their crimson edges now and then shed such light as enabled us to see one another, and every object in the room.

After about thirty-five minutes of darkness, a voice in the air said: "Please strike a light." Being nearest the light, I complied with the request. The medium, now rising from her chair, went into the cabinet, which is a thing looking not unlike a common wardrobe.

Upon entering the cabinet, the medium requested me to close and latch the door after her. As I did so, I was surprised to see an armless hand, white as snow, come out from under the curtain and tap me on the hand and arm, which it did quickly and several times, then darted back into the cabinet.

He bent his gaze steadfastly upon a middle-aged man in the circle, who was a stranger to me, and evidently made an effort to speak, but failing, waved his hand and drew back from the light, letting the curtain drop. The gentleman at whom the apparition had looked so earnestly, now exclaimed: "That was my father! Oh, will he not speak to me?"

Immediately the curtain went aside again, and the same face presented itself, and another effort--I thought a painful one--was made to speak. The mouth opened, the lips moved, but no sound of voice was heard.

I made the best of my way home, and the next morning related my adventure with affected nonchalance to a gentleman from Boston, a relative of my wife, who happened to be spending a few months with me for his health.

propose to give more closely. Of course I can not set down all, nor even half, in an article like this, intended to be brief, which was elicited during an investigation kept up day after day for three weeks.

I saw many strange faces at the aperture; some days from ten to fifteen or twenty, the most of whom were recognized by some one or more present in the circle. It was near a week after the appearance of the sister just alluded to, before I recognized another face, yet a number of apparitions professed to recognize me.

A few days subsequent, our mother appeared, threw open the door of the cabinet, and showed herself to us from head to foot.

A few days before I left the place a gentleman came there, bringing with him two little girls--his own daughters--the elder perhaps eight years old, the younger about six.

"Keep still," said the father in a low tone of voice; and evidently much moved; then to the apparition said, "you didn't believe in this a few weeks ago."

"No," replied the spirit, "but thank God it is true!" These words were uttered very distinctly and with a peculiar stress of voice, indicating earnestness and deep feeling.

I could give many more remarkable tests through recognition, but must close here.

ISAAC KELSEO, ALTON, ILL.

EDITOR COURIER:--Your journal for the last few days has contained accounts of some strange apparitions at a deserted dwelling in or near your city, which have been read with much interest by myself and neighbors.

The matter especially attracted the attention of residents in this vicinity, from the fact that for three months or more we have been favored by some extraordinary nocturnal visitors, as well as with lights and sounds which might have been imported straight from pandemonium.

You will undoubtedly remember that some time since one of those railway accidents that horrify the nation, occurred in our immediate vicinity. The event must be so fresh in the minds of your readers that it will only be necessary for the purpose of this communication, to state that a freight and passenger train under full headway, came together in a curve of the road, and resulted in the death of about thirty people.

About the middle of March, last, I was returning from a neighbor's at a late hour. The night was clear, starlight and cool, and it chanced to be more convenient for me to follow the railroad track for something more than a mile. As I neared the scene of the accident I was suddenly startled by the sound of a railway train approaching just behind me, and another from the other direction, both apparently at full speed.

I made the best of my way home, and the next morning related my adventure with affected nonchalance to a gentleman from Boston, a relative of my wife, who happened to be spending a few months with me for his health.

He seemed a good deal impressed with my account, and at his suggestion we visited the scene of the railway disaster on the following night. Just about the hour of the casualty, there was the same sound of the trains thundering over the rails, the same trembling of the earth and rush of air, the crash and groans that had startled me, and then as before all was still.

I looked, and saw seated within a few rods of me an elderly gentleman, seemingly about seventy years of age. His clothes were torn and dusty; long white hair fell from his uncovered head, and across his forehead was a deep wound, from which the blood trickled fast.

Since then, the same apparitions have been witnessed by seven or eight perfectly reliable persons. The invisible trains crashing together is an affair of almost nightly occurrence, and about the full of the moon, any curious person can witness the spectral party haunting the scene of the great disaster.

If your Professor can explain this, we should like to hear from him, or, if he is still in LaFayette, and would take the trouble, we should be pleased to see him.

I have not forgotten by any means, that you declined to publish a brief and rather vague communication from me on this subject some time since, but since the supernatural agencies have located in LaFayette, and you reported their doings, I venture to hope that I may be favored with a hearing.

It is, perhaps, not improper to add, that I am a plain, unimaginative farmer, more familiar with wheat and corn growing than with any of the modern mysteries of Spiritualism and clairvoyance, which I have never for a moment believed, nor have I ever read--save an occasional newspaper sketch--anything of a more ghostly nature than the old "Arabian Nights" and "Clarke's Life of Wesley," which latter work, however, as you are doubtless aware, claims pretty broadly that the house in which the great Methodist divine lived for years, was actually haunted, and that this circumstance threw a shade of melancholy over Mr. Wesley's life, although out of deference to this intelligent sentiment of the country, he seldom, if ever, admitted his belief in supernatural manifestations.

Respectfully yours, FAUST.

From the Springfield (Ohio) Advertiser.

We were afforded the opportunity last night of attending a Spiritual seance in this city, conducted by the celebrated physical and test medium, Mr. R. M. Sherman, of Gahana, Ohio.

The medium with his coat on, and his hands tightly tied behind him with linen handkerchiefs, the ends of which were sewed together after the knots were tied, was seated in a chair, and asked to lean back, and the rounds of the back of the chair were snugly inserted under his armpits.

Voices being heard, an egg was placed in the medium's mouth, and the writer took a seat immediately in his front, placed his feet upon the medium's, took hold of his knees with his hands, and expressed a wish to know what was up. A voice at his side expressed pleasure at seeing him, asked him to observe closely, that there might be no room to aver deception, and asked that the medium receive proper credit if all were satisfied after thorough examination.

An extended conversation was carried on, the voice announcing itself as belonging to the spirit of Anna Leece (spelling the name), a Quakeress, and occasional preacher, formerly of Madison, Wisconsin, originally of Hartford, Connecticut, and last public appearance at Racine, Wisconsin.

tleman who had just taken a "nip," entered the room, and at once a guitar flew through the air so violently as to cause considerable concern for the safety of visitor's head, and at the same time, in raised tones, the voice expressed great dissatisfaction at the habits and presence of any one addicted to the ardent. The medium explained that such demonstrations had happened before.

After various tests of a similar kind, the medium was unbound, the room lighted, and the presence of "Old Kenesaw invoked." Very soon "Old Kenesaw," as he calls himself, took control of the medium, caused him to dance, and talk in broken English, and give descriptions of persons and places with such accuracy as to astonish and bewilder those present.

"Kenesaw" represents himself as an Indian, who left the body many years ago, at the age of eighty. He claims to be the guardian and controlling spirit of this particular medium, and certainly reads character with wonderful ability for an Indian.

Mr. Sherman is here on a short visit to Mr. G. W. Dalle and other friends, who wished to have ocular proof of the power reported as belonging to him and displayed in other places. He leaves next Monday to visit Indianapolis, but promises to return, and be present with "Kenesaw," Miss Leece, and many other communicating spirits, at the basket meeting of the Liberal Religionists, next month, at the Fair Grounds.

Almond Items.

Many of the readers of the Express have seen the pretty valley at the head of the Canisteo river, called North Almond Valley. 'Tis a lovely place. Those that see it a thousand years from now will see some improvements, without doubt; yet, still it is a pretty place. The people have a Union church, where they can "worship God according to the dictates of their conscience." We believe they never had but one fight in the pulpit, and that was by an (now) ex-Judge and the (now) Sheriff,--but there was nobody hurt.

It was given out that a Mr. Beals (from somewhere) would speak to the people in a trance state, and likewise play on the organ and sing. The trustees of the Union are as blind as Balaam, the son of Beor, who could not see what his ass saw, were led up by a spirit to shut off this great light. The high deacon of the order by chance had the keys (although the house is always unlocked), and refused to surrender, being himself a stockholder in the institution. At length Mr. Beals was led up (half a mile) by the spirit, and we doubt if Jesus with his whip drove the money-changers out of the house that Herod built any quicker than Mr. Beals silenced the three trustees; yet one of them, who thinks himself (but other people differ with him) a Paul, at least, seemed to linger with an argument; when the Monitor with one of his ponderous shots (truths), sent him reeling to post. The result was a crowded house, both evening and Sunday, when the audience were treated with sweet music, and two as high-toned discourses as can well be imagined, on the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth.

Mr. Beals is a host in himself, and was followed by the editor of the Hornellsville Tribune, Mr. Greenhow, who put in some tremendous peace-makers between wind and water; "and the sea, there was a calm."

This man, Beals, we don't know from whence he came nor whether he goeth, but this we know, it is a rare treat to hear one of his beautiful discourses, which would astonish any extempore orator in the world. His music is worth going miles to hear.--Scio (Ill.) Express.

Commencement Week.

Last week was the general "commencement week" (why do people call the closing of schools "commencement?") for a large number of schools and colleges throughout the country. It was our fortune to be present at the interesting exercises at the Belvidere Seminary, located at the beautiful and quiet little city of Belvidere, New Jersey.

The ceremonies opened on Tuesday evening by the exercises of the Adelphean Society, which consisted of dramatic representations, music, tableaux, &c. These were highly creditable to all who took part in them. The dramatic exercises were arranged in a way to point a moral lesson in each one. We can not particularize, but we regard the tableau, "Truth Unveiling Error," as one of the finest and most significant we ever witnessed, and the "Hymn to Night," deserves special mention, being sung in connection with a tableau of great beauty and significance.

On Wednesday afternoon the regular exercises were such as to show the progress in the more substantial department of intellectual training. The whole proceeding exhibited a training on the part of the teachers and talents on the part of the students, highly creditable to the institution, which is rapidly increasing in popularity and usefulness.

Among the most important features of this institution is the Gymnastic department, in which Dr. Dio Lewis's system is taught by a graduate of his celebrated school. The very perceptible effect of these exercises on the health of the pupils, is a consideration which all parents ought to take into account in selecting a school for their daughters. The exhibition in this department was one of the most attractive of the occasion.--The Weekly Epitomist.

A wit once asked a peasant what part he performed in the great drama of life. "I mind my own business," was the reply.

Our Correspondence.

Complimentary.

At the close of a series of lectures by Mrs. M. J. Wilcoxson...

Resolved, That Sister Wilcoxson is entitled to our sincere thanks...

Resolved, That her lectures have been to us as an oasis in the desert...

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL...

Waco, Texas.

BRO. JONES:—We have been greatly blessed lately with one of the best picnics we ever had.

Go ahead with your brave paper, and be assured that the Spiritualists here enjoy and patronize it above all others...

Spirit Pictures.

S. S. JONES—Dear Sir:—In company with Mr. Rose, of Rose Brothers, photographers of this city...

The third plate was coated, bathed, and on it a picture executed by myself, by Mr. Allen.

We did not allow Mr. Allen to handle the plates scarcely any. By this time he was so weakened that he was barely able to stand up from the effects of the influence.

Fourth plate I coated, bathed, and on it executed a picture of Mr. Allen and Mr. Rose sitting together...

Fifth plate was coated, bathed, and placed in camera by friend Rose, and exposed by Mr. Allen, Mrs. Allen as subject.

Sixth plate was coated and bathed by myself, and taken from the bath by Mr. Allen in my presence, and a picture executed and developed by Mr. Allen, without any favorable result...

Now, in conclusion, I would say, in justice to Mr. Allen, that he gave us every chance to make a thorough trial...

Evil—Its Cause and Cure.

BY EDWIN ARNER DAVIS.

I do not intend to attempt a philosophical dissertation on the cause and cure of evil. I am no society-tinker...

will have as much effect in curing evil as the Indian who stood before the approaching locomotive...

Evil, though general, is only felt individually, and individually it must be handled. Like charity, the cure must commence at home.

Reformers can make little progress toward the world's millennium, while they teach the doctrine of forgiveness for evil.

Let each one work for his own salvation, for his own reformation, and leave the world to take care of itself.

Is Spiritualism Superior to Christianity?

BY ASA FORREST.

The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord.—Matt. x, 34.

Our opponents are wont to say of us that we seek to substitute Spiritualism for Christianity. I do not believe...

If Spiritualism is better than Christianity, will Mr. Owen tell us that it should not be substituted as quickly as possible for it?

Will Mr. Owen take Christianity, as defined and represented by Spurgeon, and Spiritualism, as represented by the author of "Man, Know Thyself," which appeared in the JOURNAL...

But Mr. Owen says: "Christianity has been so [such] perverted from its original simplicity by dogmatic commentary."

Yes, I think I have read, sometime, some of these dogmatic commentaries; yet they are not such as would pervert "the original simplicity."

When I was a thoughtless boy, I went to a circus, and I saw a man ride four horses at once; that is, it was called riding four horses, but he only straddled two and rode two...

Do you suppose, that if Christianity only had one advocate, who at now has thousands, and if those few were poor, and without influence in society, there would be a Spiritualist in the world...

Testimonial of Cure.

The following correspondence shows the power of spirits to cure disease, through proper media:

Mrs. A. H. ROBINSON, 148 FOURTH AVENUE,

CHICAGO—DEAR MADAM:—Being a subscriber of the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL, and reading with much interest the cures therein performed through you...

The medium diagnosed and prescribed for the patient, and in due time received the following:

Mrs. A. H. ROBINSON—DEAR MADAM:—I received your prescription, and followed the directions to the letter.

P. S.:—He has had considerable fever for a few days, and complains of pain in his side this morning.

A second diagnosis and prescription resulted in a cure, as appears from the following letter:

Mrs. ROBINSON—DEAR MADAM:—Please excuse my delay in writing about my little boy. He seems very well, and I hope he may continue so. I am, Respectfully, Mrs. S. S. NUTTING.

THOMPSON'S WEAKNESS. Second and Final Fall from Grace of a Prominent Clergyman.

We have been for several days in the possession of facts which we now feel called upon to relate, since the painful subject has become common talk...

It will be remembered by most of our readers that Dr. Thompson was for about ten years pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in this city...

There was in Jamestown a French music teacher, by the name of Anistelle or Anistella, who had a wife residing in the adjacent town of Sherman.

HEALDSBURG, CAL.—O. W. Beeson writes:—Your valuable JOURNAL continues to make its ever welcome weekly visits, bearing on its bosom the tidings of an immortal life...

MEMPHIS, MO.—Chas. W. Stewart writes:—We have had a grand time here of late. Dr. A. H. John lectured in Memphis and awakened considerable interest.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Mrs. A. L. Chamberlain writes. On Sunday I had the pleasure of attending the two Lectures,—"The Progressive Lyceum of Chicago and The Children's Progressive Lyceum of the First Society of Spiritualists."

WEST LAFAYETTE, O.—J. S. Burr writes.—Perhaps you would like to hear how the cause progresses hereabouts. Until within the last six months, nothing was known as to practical Spiritualism.

NEW HALL at Ashley, Ohio. We are informed by Bro. H. P. McMaster, that the Spiritual Hall, which was burned on the morning of July 2, 1871, at Ashley, Ohio...

CHAS. H. READ, the celebrated medium, gave us a call while en route from Houston, Texas to New York.

Mrs. M. M. MUMFORD writes. I have lost one of my eyes, and my eye-lids are swollen, and I have a great deal of pain in my eye.

Voices from the People.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.—A. M. Lyman writes.—The cause of free thought is steadily on the increase here, and is yielding its fruits of joy to emancipated souls.

PORTLAND, MICH.—J. Boswell writes.—If some good speaker and test medium would come here I think much good might be done in this benighted land.

LANSING, IOWA.—S. Elmendorf writes.—I, for one, could not do without the JOURNAL, even if it cost six dollars.

OSSEO, MINN.—C. Ellsworth writes.—There are a few earnest workers here. We have lost one hall by fire, and our Lyceum books.

GRANT'S HILL, MO.—W. M. McElvain writes. We need a lecturer here, but are not able to pay the amount necessary to procure one.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—G. Danford writes.—Our city of Milwaukee is gaining ground steadily in the true and only true natural religion.

STACYVILLE, IOWA.—T. Wardall writes.—E. V. Wilson has been among us and gave an impetus to many who were "hauling on the fence," and strengthened the hands of many who are doing battle for liberal ideas and universal liberty.

ASHLAND, NEB.—H. A. Wallis writes. We shall organize here this fall, and shall want to employ lecturers and test mediums.

MECHANICSBURG, PA.—A. Seifert writes.—I feel like sending a present to my brother, and I know of nothing that may be of more lasting good than a knowledge of the laws of life and immortality of the soul.

GRAND JUNCTION, IOWA.—Mrs. Copeland writes.—The JOURNAL is still appreciated here by its many readers, who seem to be rapidly increasing.

WESTFORD, MASS.—J. W. Fletcher writes.—I wish to thank Judge E. S. Holbrook for that letter of his which appeared in July 13th of the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.

VARNA, ILL.—E. B. Green writes.—We want some more of your papers to come to our place. Those we have are doing a good work.

NORTHAMPTON, N. Y.—Eliza Dunbar writes.—I have just laid down your more than valuable paper. It is precious, containing truths of great interest to every earth child.

GOLCONDA, ILL.—Thomas P. Wilson writes. I would write "discontinue" if I should consult only my pecuniary condition, but I have been a reader of the JOURNAL so long, and like it so much, that I can not give it up while I can raise the means to pay for it.

HALF-MOON-BAY, CAL.—Wm. S. Downing writes.—Exeter Hall is doing its work in our valley. One of the dozen copies I have circulated only one was returned.

MEMPHIS, MO.—Chas. W. Stewart writes.—We have had a grand time here of late. Dr. A. H. John lectured in Memphis and awakened considerable interest.

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MORRISTOWN, MINN.—Mrs. Harriet E. Pope writes.—Thinking that you would like to hear again from the Northwest, I write you a few lines.

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from West to East. I prevailed on them to call on me. They lectured in Coshocton, Port Washington and New Philadelphia.

RUHLAND, O.—J. B. Holt writes. Does Mr. Mumler claim to take pictures of departed friends or spirits? If he does, will I have to go there?

You can send your photograph to Mr. Mumler, which will answer the purpose that your presence would. He will return a photograph, with your miniature copied from the photograph you send.

If you send to Streight or Fayette for oil paintings of your friends in spirit-life, give their names, ages at death and length of time since death; and be sure and inclose ten dollars.

MARYVILLE, MO.—A. A. Noe writes.—On the 5th day of December last, I left Ohio for this place (Maryville, Mo.) to give my parturition.

LOS ANGELOS, CAL.—Dr. D. W. C. Franklin writes.—It is wrong to be too exacting in demanding an unreasonable amount of proof when coming from the Divine law of nature.

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All orders, with the price of books desired, and the additional amount needed for postage, will meet with prompt attention.

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THE FOLLOWING ARE EXTRACTS FROM A FEW OF THE NOTICES OF EXETER HALL, THE THEOLOGICAL ROMANCE: 'The plot and passion in Exeter Hall show an experienced hand in their delineation.'

RAILROAD TIME-TABLE.

Arrival and Departure of Trains.

Table with columns for 'Arrive', 'Depart', and 'Time'. Lists various train routes including Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, and Rock Island.

New Advertisements.

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IN the following list, the total number of cures of different diseases, which have been performed by PROF. SPENCER'S POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE POWDERS, is indicated by the figures which follow the name of the disease.

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THE BIBLE IN INDIA. HINDOO ORIGIN OF Hebrew and Christian Revelation.

FOOTFALLS ON THE BOUNDARY OF ANOTHER WORLD.

THE MAGNETIC TREATMENT.

STATUVOLISM.

OLD THEOLOGY.

THE TEN THOUSAND!

SPIRITUAL TRACTS.

MEDIUMS & MEDIUMSHIP.

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