

Religio-Philosophical Journal

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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1874.

The Dark Side of Life, or What is Evil?

NUMBER FIVE.

William B. Astor is indeed wealthy. His vaults are loaded down with gold, mortgages, leases, notes and greenbacks.

This personage excels all those of earth. How grand his thoughts, and how comprehensive his intellect!

The artist may feel proud as he delineates on canvas the beautiful landscape, but when he sees this ingenious Mechanic constructing the original...

Well, who is this individual, so mighty, so grand, so powerful? The Mahometans call him Allah; the Chinese, Josh; the inhabitants of India, Brahma; the Christian, God; the Indians, Great Spirit...

with a buckler and shield; the Brahman asserts that he is living in the body of a white elephant; the Mahometan affirms that Mahomet is next to him in power.

Possessing unlimited wealth, he allows the inhabitants of Bengal to starve—to die of excruciating hunger!

Will you blame the wealthy for not relieving the suffering of humanity, when this Mighty Personage needs not the cries and piteous moans of the unfortunate?

Astor is not responsible for suffering—he did not originate the plan of creation; he did not inaugurate this system of life; he is only attending to his legitimate business.

Only a few years ago, the suffering ones of earth were calmly sleeping in unconscious matter, and must we look to him who awakened them into life, to relieve their wants?

At one time during the past winter, there were 30,000 starving Sioux Indians that threatened to make war on the peaceful, innocent citizens of Nebraska, if not relieved at once.

Dr. Hunter, a valuable authority, says that in Bengal two farthings make the whole difference between a famine-warning and actual destitution, and three-and-a-half farthings per pound the whole difference between a time of plenty and a time of famine.

Look, too, at the famines of ancient times, and see the disastrous effects thereof.

The distinguished king of Israel, Jehoram, was intercepted by a woman, one day, who stated that another woman had broken her engagements with her.

What a horrible proposition, that! What mother of modern times would for a moment entertain such a method to alleviate hunger?

There is a list of 10,000 famines that have occurred and left their deathly trail on the pages of history, presenting scenes of misery and suffering that would cause the strongest heart to pale.

Where was that wealthy ruler, that Mighty Architect, the Josh of the Chinese, the Allah of the Mahometans, the Brahma of the Brahmans, the Jehovah of the Jews and the God of the Christians, during all this time?

Ten thousand famines, yet all-power, omniscience, and infinite mercy, the attributes of this Great One to whom we have been referring!

The modern famine of Persia is still fresh in the minds of our readers. A writer in the New York Times says that in April, 1873, the people began to die in the streets of Teheran, the capital, and in Khorassan, a vast sandy province stretching along by the eastern boundary...

camels, and other eatable animals were sold. The foreign residents were those who took notes of these things and sent them westward; for the Persians did not see the use of such an exposure, looking on the whole matter as *Kismet*, or destiny, a truly Oriental word that serves them in a vast number of perplexities.

Oh, Josh, Brahma, Allah, Vishnu, Jehovah, Jove, God, we ask you if you withhold rain and the genial influence of the elements that famine may follow? If you, each of you, or all of you caused these famines, what a fearful record—dark, damning, and condemning, rises up in fearful magnitude against you.

TO BE CONTINUED.

The Necessity of a Radical Reform in Spiritualism.

The following article is from the Chicago Times, and every rational Spiritualist will recognize the fact that it expresses a deep truth.

In a very able lecture delivered to the Free Religious society, at the last session, Professor Vander Naillen alluded to the well-known fact that scientific men, as a rule, refuse to investigate the phenomena of what is termed Spiritualism.

Spiritualism or Spiritism, as it is now more frequently designated, has precisely the same claims to examination that has any occurrence, or science, whose phenomena are curious, novel, and well established with reference to their existence.

It is true, among the believers in a spiritual origin of the phenomena of Spiritism are some of the brightest intellects in this country and Europe.

The principal fact of this explanation is to be found in the character of the greater part of the people who profess to be the exponents of Spiritism.

The fault lies in the main, with Spiritualists themselves. They permit an alliance with that unclean trinity, Woodhull, Blood, and Claffin.

Let respectable, honest, conscientious spiritualists cleanse this Augean stable. Let them kick out these long-haired asses who misinterpret Spiritualism in their manners and demeanor.

Let them repudiate at once and indignantly the harlotry of Woodhull, and the loathsome teachings of her class. Let them throw out of their temple the mountebanks who, in the guise of priests, are pretending to transmit the oracles of spirit-intelligence.

Let them purge themselves of quackery, of frauds, humbug, and ignorance. When this shall be done, they will be entitled to a hearing; and they will undoubtedly secure it.

Now the beautiful doctrines of Spiritism are alloyed to an extent that renders them offensive. When they shall have been purified, they will receive popular attention, and will secure the rank and consideration to which they are entitled.

Sex in Spirit Life. BROTHER JONES.—I would be glad to see an answer in the JOURNAL, to a question that I heard asked by many: "Why are Messrs. Stebbins, Tuttle, W., and others, discussing a question that could be settled so easily by asking the spirits themselves?"

I had a paper handed to me a few days ago by a skeptic, which contained a good many questions about spirits and the Spirit-world, and was asked, "Why don't the Spiritualists make these things plain?"

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But for the evidence from observations: we see men and women upon our streets, and do not hesitate to testify that we saw them and knew them.

We converse with spirits, and they tell us that no faculty nor organ of the human being is lost, nor changed by the casting off of the physical body; as we have a physical body so shall we have a spiritual body in every particular corresponding with the physical.

We are now in spirit life as much as we ever shall be. We are clothed upon with a physical body, which blinds and renders obtuse our senses.

The writers referred to by our correspondent may be inspired to write as they do for the agitation of thought, which is said to be "the beginning of wisdom."

Life's Morning and Evening. Is the title of a beautiful picture which we have just received from the publishers, Messrs. R. H. Curran & Co.

A band of Angels are scattering flowers, typical of God's inspired teachings. One holds in his hand a crown of light.

Over the rising ground we read, "Lives of Psalm of Life," lifts the veil, and we read "Be Good Men," and Longfellow's poem, "A Yond the limits of the picture."

This picture, embodying such exalted sentiment, combined with the beautiful in nature, should occupy a favored place in every home and school where children receive instruction.

Owing to the great demand for the beautiful photographs of the Anderson Drawings, Bro. Winchester has been enabled to reduce the price very considerably, and all can now procure them. See advertisement.

WAR IN THE WOODHULL CAMP.

Dr. Joseph Treat, the Editor in Fact, of Woodhull & Claffin's Weekly, lifts the Slimy Veil.

Corruption, Deceit, Fraud and Licentiousness Most Fully Exposed—Discipline Denounced—Disease and Death Shown as the Effect of "Sexual-freedom."

Dr. Treat having become so completely overwhelmed with the horrible scenes enacted in his presence, could no longer forbear to expose the turpitude of the Moses-Woodhullites, with whom he has so long been associated.

The title of his address is, "Victoria C. Woodhull, Tennie C. Claffin, and Col. Blood, unmasked."

We have no space for publication, nor have we a taste for the nastiness exposed in the address by an adherent to the doctrine of the infamous clan.

Suffice it to say that this adherent to the "Social freedom" party, goes down deeper into the private lives, and exposes more infamy and depravity than we supposed it was possible for them to practice, and not go to a worse place than the "Ludlow Street Jail" of New York.

The paper is sent by mail on receipt of ten cents. Address, JOSEPH TREAT, M. D., P. O. box, 1285, N. Y. City.

"Startling Facts in Modern Spiritualism." The public estimate of this invaluable book by Dr. Wolfe, continues to be shown by its rapid sale, and the appreciative notices the press bestow upon it.

A NEW STANDARD BOOK. Dr. N. B. Wolfe, of Cincinnati, has published a large book of nearly 600 pages, which he entitles, "Startling Facts in Modern Spiritualism."

We have read the book carefully, and have given it the consideration it merits. We have no hesitation in cheerfully recommending it to our readers as a book that will do them good to read.

"Those I counted as 'loved and lost ones, are yet near and dear to me.' 'Over the river they beckon to me,' and say, 'we shall meet again.'"

Remarkable Works of Art. R. Butterfield, Esq., of Sacramento, Cal., has kindly placed in our art gallery, two large photographs from Anderson's Spirit-likeness of Mrs. Butterfield.

Mr. Butterfield says these pictures have made him a confirmed Spiritualist. He also appends the following certificate for publication:

This is to certify that in May, 1873, I applied to W. P. Anderson, Spirit Artist, then in Sacramento, for a picture of my wife, who died at Nevada, Cal., twenty-two years ago, and of whom no picture had ever been taken.

After this picture was in my possession and where Professor Anderson could have no access to it, I requested a duplicate, and obtained a second picture, a perfect copy of the first, with the single exception of the dress and collar, which were changed for others more usually worn by her and equally familiar to me.

I hereby certify, that the above described pictures were taken as purported, under spirit control, and independent of my own will or knowledge of art. W. P. ANDERSON, S. A.

Dr. D. P. KATNER, by request, of numerous citizens of St. Charles, delivered on Saturday evening, April 3d, in the Congregational Church of that city, to a large and intelligent audience, a scientific lecture on temperance.

The Supreme Court of the United States has recently decided the suit of the Florence Sewing Machine Company against the Singer, Grover & Baker, and Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Companies, involving over \$350,000, in favor of the Florence Co.

A Letter to Elder Leech, of Reedsburg, Wis.

I take this method of requesting you to give me some information out of the redundancy of your (to us) unaccountable knowledge...

True, you have given your own experience as an infallible pattern, and are as sure that your "Mother also is in peace, as you are that God exists..."

I would say to you, "receive thy sight," not by anointing with clay, but with a little common sense and the development of the present glorious age...

THE PHILANTHROPIST.

Letter from L. Day.

Bro S. S. Jones:—Seeing a desire expressed in the "Editorial Department" of the BANNER or LIGHT, that I would, after getting back the full amount, make public the full details of the case in the Colchester trial...

In the Spring of 1855, Charles Colchester, a true and reliable medium, was arrested in the city of Rochester, N. Y., under authority of the U. S. for refusing to pay for a license to carry on the trade of a juggler...

Original amount, \$622.00
One year's interest, 43.54
2 do do 49.85
3 do do 49.84
4 do do 53.83
5 do do 57.07
6 do do 61.35
7 do do 64.88
8 do do 67.40

Total, \$690.94
Room-rent and other expenses for Colchester, not here included, I freely give...

A TOUCHING CASE. Singular Death of a Husband and Wife. The following is from the Indianapolis (Ind.) Journal, and it will be read with thrilling interest...

were drowned on the 21st of February, 1864, precisely ten years before the day of Mrs. Salisbury's death.

This double affliction almost broke their hearts, and henceforth they lived for each other alone, concealing their great grief as those only can understand who have been similarly bereaved...

Voices from the People.

SWANVILLE, ME.—Mary Ford writes.—I must say that I heartily commend the course you have taken in regard to the Woodhull theory.

GRAVEL RIDGE, ARK.—T. H. Montgomery writes.—The "Clock Struck One" has had a telling effect in this neighborhood.

DEB MOINE, IA.—H. Morse writes.—The clock will ring, and thousands will bless you for the light you are sending out to the world through its pages.

IOWA FALLS, IA.—J. O. Bump writes.—We can not get along without the JOURNAL. I will try and secure some more trial subscribers as soon as I become able to go about the neighborhood.

LINCOLN, NE.—S. P. Davis writes.—Your paper comes regularly every week, gushing full of interesting matter which furnishes me food for argument, and thrusts a ray of light upon the darkened places.

MORRISONVILLE, ILL.—E. Grandy writes.—I for one shall not try to cheat, wrong, or defraud you of a cent of subscription money...

EDINBURG, IND.—A. Downes writes.—The Edinburgh circle send their thanks for the continuation of such high-toned communications as in the last two or three numbers, will melt all opposition.

WAYNESVILLE, O.—Chesterfield Meyer writes.—Our spirit guides have never taught "free love," (or "free hell" as they call it) through us...

BRIGHTON, MISS.—D. Baxter writes.—It is now about five years since I first subscribed for your paper, and I am happy to say that it is for your paper and no other paper that I have had the pleasure of reading...

BAKER CITY, OR.—A. C. McClelland writes.—Here I come again with thirty odd names, making over fifty names that I have sent you recently...

ST. LOUIS, MO.—M. McGeed writes.—I thank you, dear brother, for your kindness in answering my letters, and in honestly saying that to you I owe the journal...

BUTTEVILLE, OR.—Chas. C. Pillow writes.—The RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL and LITTLE BOUQUET are thrice welcome at our threshold...

The people know her under the name of Victoria C. Woodhull. She once claimed to be the wife of a man by the name of Woodhull...

To carry out her peculiar doctrine of "sexual freedom," Dr. Harvey, alias Col. Blood, is admitted to her festive board, untrammelled by matrimonial bonds...

GREENVILLE, ARK.—Geo. H. Horn writes.—Some here believe Spiritualists to be the work of demons, and others believe it to be something other than Magnetism...

CRAWFORD, KAN.—J. H. Waterman writes.—I have been in the ranks twenty five years; have never taken your good paper before...

DENVER, COL.—B. L. Ford writes.—I used to be a member of the First Spiritual Society of Chicago. My wife and self were officers in the Progressive Lyceum...

LENA, OR.—J. S. Vinson writes.—I am glad to see that the public mind is being educated in regard to the large amount of church property in our country that is exempt from any taxation...

EAST WESTMORELAND, N. H.—Elliot Wyman writes.—The RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL has such a multitude of readers, its influence for good must be powerfully effective in purging Spiritualism from the soul stain that its enemies have attached to it...

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Richard Roberts writes.—I notice in your last issue received yesterday that friend Erhardt writes that Woodhullism has created a ripple in the society here...

MIDDLEBURY, IND.—S. L. Hixon writes.—Now, friend Jones, must tell you how the little affair happened. There has been something to write of for some time, telling me to do something. Well, what shall I do?

Thanks, venerable brother. Good angels prompted you to make the effort, as they are prompting thousands of others.

There was never such an outpouring of the spirit of inspiration as now. Thousands are daily awakening to a spirit of inquiry into the Philosophy of Life.

The JOURNAL leads the way, and only has to be offered to be received by tens of thousands who one year ago would not have a Spiritual paper in their house.

PRESTON, MINN.—Wm. M. Taylor writes.—Last evening closed a course of lectures delivered by Capt. E. H. Winslow, which was a grand success...

WASHINGTON, D. C.—John Mayhew writes.—In your last issue, you noticed a letter from F. Dehaene of this city, who states vaguely, "That Woodhullism has caused a ripple" in the Spiritual society here...

COLUMBUS, PA.—Mrs. Ewer writes.—We have a large society of Spiritualists here, and are eager for the truth—not only on the part of the parties who are present, but on the part of the parties who are absent...

HONEY GROVE, TEXAS.—J. A. Rutherford, 75 years of age, writes.—Permit me to quote nine lines from the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL of March 14th, 1874...

TALLEYRAND, IA.—A. A. Noe writes.—Please allow sufficient space in your columns to insert one of the most remarkable cures on record. Honable L. Beall, near Lancaster, Keokuk Co., Iowa, was taken sick the fore part of Dec., 1873, with paralysis...

Attention Optimum Enters! Mrs. A. H. Robinson has just been furnished with a sure and harmless specific for curing the appetite for opium and all other narcotics...

The Household Panacea and Family Medicine is the best remedy in the world for the following complaints: viz: Cramp in the limbs and stomach, pain in the stomach, bowels or side, rheumatism in all its forms...

Healing Institute and Gymnasium, 244 WABASH AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILL. Chronic disease incident to both sexes a specialty. Send for Health Journal, mailed free.

A NEW BOOK WOMAN, LOVE and MARRIAGE, BY F. SAUNDERS.

I like the mystic wire who now begins the globe, do not those golden links—"Woman, Love and Marriage," encircle us with an electric chain...

Moses-Woodhullism in a Nut Shell. Read! Read! Read!

The above is the title of a 16 page pamphlet, gotten up by the New Hampshire Association of Spiritualists, showing from Victoria C. Woodhull's and Moses Hill's own writings, just what the palmetto of both is...

1847 GILMAN NURSERY Has a surplus of No. 1 Osgo orange plants, apple-trees 2, 3 and 4 yr., which they will sell very low...

TEA. TEA AGENTS wanted in town and country to sell TEA, or get up club orders, for the latest Tea Company's selection...

AGENTS WANTED! To sell direct from the publishers, the AUTHORITY HISTORICAL FARMERS' MOVEMENT.

