

BOOK REVIEWS.

We have just received "The Black Hills, and American Wonderland," by H. N. Maguire...

MAGAZINES FOR MAY.

THE AMERICAN METEOROLOGIST. (John H. Tice, St. Louis, Mo.) Contents: Elements of Meteorology...

THE WESTERN. (H. Morgan, St. Louis, Mo.) Contents: The Patriots (a translation); Makaria...

THE GOLDEN DAWN. (Dora Dalmore, San Francisco, Cal.) Contents: Call Me Darling; Maud's Mistake...

THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW. For May and June. (A. S. Barnes & Co., New York and Boston.) Contents: The New Federal Administration...

PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. (S. B. Wells & Co., New York.) Contents: Vice-Prez. William A. Wheeler...

ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (H. O. Houghton & Co., Boston.) Contents: Crude and Curious Inventions at the Centennial Exhibition...

THE GALAXY. (Sheldon & Co., N. York.) Contents: A Progressive Baby; The Climbing Hoop...

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY. (D. Appleton & Co., 549 and 551 Broadway, New York.) Contents: Gar-Pikes, Old and Young...

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY. (Scribners & Co., 745 and 746 Broadway, New York.) Contents: Beds and Tables, etc., chapter XI...

THE ECOLETTIC. (E. R. Pelton, N. York.) Contents: Dr. Carpenter's Mental Physiology; The Gospel of History...

ST. NICHOLAS. (Scribner & Co., N. York.) Contents: Frontispiece. "As Good as a Mother"; Red Riding-Hood...

AMERICAN SPIRITUAL MAGAZINE. (S. Watson, Memphis, Tenn.) Contents: The Key Given to the Disciples; True Conjugal Relations Eternal...

A God-Forsaken Wretch Compared with a Man After God's Own Heart.

BY H. E. CRAVEN.

Saul and David were each selected by the God of Israel to be ruler over his people. Saul is first brought to public notice in the dutiful employ of his father...

The great neglect of duty which Samuel says caused the Lord to repent of making Saul king, and which he declared him rejected, consisted in not making a total slaughter of all the cattle and sheep taken from the Amalekites...

Saul is not deserving of censure for refusing to surrender the sceptre in infancy to David without just cause, after having nominally accepted the reigns of government...

By calling Saul from his domestic pursuits, and inaugurating him king against his natural inclination, the Lord, as personated in Samuel, becomes responsible for his subsequent unhappy life...

The feigned reverence evinced for him by David in sparing his life, as the "Lord's anointed," was evidently more for the purpose of inspiring his followers with the same veneration for him as a king...

A new king was not desired by the people; hence David got none but the distressed, indebted and discontented wretches (1 Sam. 22:2) to join his standard...

David not having confidence in the Lord for protection, lied without conscience to Abimelech, and next deceived honest king Achish by acting the stammering fool...

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accumulated for the purpose of building and embellishing a house, or Temple to his war God unto whom he devotionally expressed his gratitude by saying, "Blessed is the Lord, my strength, who teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight..."

Saul fell by a desperate act on the battle field fighting them; but David, by being supplied with generals, and thus kept out of the hard fights, lived to die on his couch, after having been revealed with the traitor virgin in Israel to "get him some beer..."

In his dying confession and charge to Solomon, he expressed no hope of happiness in a life to come, but merely said: "I go the way of all the earth..."

Many of his psalms and lyric poems breathe a spirit of hostility and vengeance, more consistent with the feelings of a barbarian than a man after the heart of a God in harmony with humanity...

He also furnished us with a number of sanctimonious effusions in flattery of himself, that nothing but an egotistical religious mountebank would presume to utter...

While some of his psalms abound with beautiful and sublime religious literature, poetically blended with praise and thankfulness to Deity, indicating a life of piety and holiness, the question arises to know what such hypocritical cant in way of glorification amounts to, when the author's life was a profane and unbroken course of pillage, rapine, and bloodshed...

Whether the history of these two kings is true or fabulous we have no means of knowing; but in the disobedience and fall of Saul, like that of Adam, we are presented with a Hebrew allegory showing the imperative necessity of absolute obedience to dictators in an age of religious despotism...

THE HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT BETWEEN RELIGION AND SCIENCE. BY JOHN W. DEAPER, M.D. 1 Vol., 22mo., Cloth. Price, \$5.75.

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LOCATION

63 and 64 LaSalle street, Northwest corner of LaSalle and Washington streets.

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 12, 1877.

The Progress of Spiritualism.

Spiritualism is making steady progress everywhere, permeating the hearts of the people in a manner no religion ever did before, and that too while no national organization exists.

But still we urge now, as we have urged in the past, that more strenuous efforts should be made to form local societies where none at present exist, independent of "new departures" or side issues of any sort.

The above article does great credit both to the mind and heart of Bro. Colby; too much can not be said in favor of local societies; the people of this country have inherited a strong desire for religious associations; they have come for this reason alone, to be a necessity for the continuance of any given line of thought.

We feel that we owe an apology to the large number of prompt paying subscribers for the space we are obliged to occupy in reminding those who are behind in dues, of their obligations and our necessities.

Harmonial Hall.

We have fitted up in style this Hall, 302 Main street, where we have services every Sabbath morning and afternoon.

Before the majority of the better class of Spiritualists can truly enjoy their religion, it must become popularized, and that can never be, until we have numerous local societies which will attract persons of intelligence and culture, whose example shall be as a light to those without fixed religious opinions.

but that does not alter the fact that human nature is much the same under all circumstances, and the great majority of people, other things being equal, prefer that which is popular; and it always will be so.

You

who have failed to respond to our earnest appeals, asking for the amount owing on your subscriptions, to you again we appeal in the name of common honesty and justice, in the name of him who while in the material form toiled for many years long and ardently, that the JOURNAL might be placed on its present firm and lasting foundation, and who waited so long and patiently for you to pay him what he had so dearly earned; who worked and sacrificed as none of you would have to do, to simply do your duty.

Mrs. Addie L. Ballou.

This estimable lady, who for three years has been apparently lost to the Spiritualistic world, is now residing in San Francisco, California, No. 414 6th street.

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Harmonial Hall.

We have fitted up in style this Hall, 302 Main street, where we have services every Sabbath morning and afternoon.

We are glad to learn that the Spiritualists of Memphis, have such a splendid place of meeting, to commune with the angels, and that they have secured the services of one whose inspirations are of a high order.

ALLAH'S DEFENDERS.

A Review of the Present Complications in Europe.

The following article, from the pen of M. D. Conway, of London, will be read with deep interest:

LONDON, April 14th.—We are living under the sword of Damocles, with the added discomfort of seeing the double-headed eagle steadily transforming itself to a pair of shears as it approached the hair by which alone it is kept from falling.

Turkey is not strong enough to cope with Russia, without calling to its aid the Mussulman world. The thing to be most feared is just that which appears inevitable—a religious conflict.

There is another antiquarian fact which the present situation may invest with some interest. The evil repute which now surrounds the Turkish name originated with people of their own faith, and prevailed in their own country.

But the Turks certainly do not monopolize the fanaticism of Europe. The Greeks, who will make a tremendous effort to recover their province if war should break out, and the sects of Little Russians can almost match them.

Unquestionably, we are living at the critical epoch of the close of the sixth vial (in its historical fulfillment), when Turkey, the symbolic Euphrates, is being dried up, and the three unclean spirits of infidelity, democratic revolution, and fanatic superstition are going forth to gather the kings of the earth and of the whole world to the war of that great day of God Almighty.—Rev. xvi. 13, 14.

And it is at this very juncture that Christ announces His second advent to take place. "Behold, I am come as a thief." (Rev. xvi. 15). He will descend into the air, to translate His watchful people to meet him (1 Thess. iv. 16-17) before the close of the sixth vial, and therefore before the outpouring of the seventh vial, which brings the earthquake of revolution, so mighty and so great, "as was not since men were upon the earth," and the great tribulation of three and one-half years—the latter half of Daniel's final week of seven years.—Dan. ix. 27.

THE KEY! THE KEY!

Give us the Key that Opens the Doors to the Temple of Nature.

NUMBER XVIII.

Often, gentlemen will drop into our office, to make some inquiry in regard to a question agitating their minds. Occasionally we take down phonographically, the questions as presented, and the answer we give.

Question: What do you understand by the word magic. I ask the question, having read your articles under the head of The Key? Answer: Perhaps no better definition than that set forth by Appleton's Encyclopedia: "The traditional science of the secrets of nature, embracing all knowledge and constituting the perfection of philosophy; also the art of exercising superhuman powers by the means of occult virtues and spiritual agencies."

Q.—But they claim the power to summon spirits at will? A.—That assumption, it seems to me, is not warranted by the facts in the case. If the avenue of communication is always open, then, no doubt, the familiar spirits would respond.

Q.—But the spirits that the magician summons, are said to be elementaries.

A.—We understand their position on this subject. It has been stated that Mrs. Emma Hardinge-Britten has exhibited pictures or representations of elementary spirits, on canvass. I recognize the fact that the Spirit-world is a counterpart of this, and still we know but little, yea, very, very little of its scenery or topographical appearance.

Q.—But we have maps of the Spirit-world, its topographical appearance, etc., fully described. A.—Very true! Could you recognize Africa, if there, from a geographical map of the same? Impossible. The attempt to render a perfectly intelligible description of the Spirit-world on a physical or material map, is an utter impossibility.

A.—But why not the statements of Mrs. Hardinge as reliable as those of Mrs. Richmond, or hundreds of others in the ranks of Spiritualism? Why are not her descriptions of elementary spirits as nearly true to life, as the maps of Andrew Jackson Davis?

A.—I am not prepared to pool down any statement any person may make. Mrs. Hardinge is entitled to candid hearing. If her statements are false, they will soon find their proper level beneath the truth. Humanity should calmly investigate every conceivable subject, and not point the finger of scorn at those who claim to have assumed an advanced position.

A.—I do not say their statements are false. The microscope reveals to the investigator a world of life, of which the eye, unaided, can take no cognizance. Supposing you should tell me that I was laboring under an hallucination, and all my statements were false. Not having a microscope at hand, I could not convince you of the truth of my observations.

As demonstrated by Messrs. Pasteur and Jaubert, of Paris, infinitesimal animals and plants, invisible to the naked eye, exist, disputing with each other, as it were, for space. Each particle of dust has its landed proprietor, and each drop of water is more densely crowded with living, moving animals, than the loftiest imagination can conceive.

satisfaction that there are untold numbers of animals invisible to the naked eye, while all the rest of the world would call her a fool, when in fact she would be wiser than all the rest.

Q.—Then you admit the existence of elementary spirits?

A.—I don't admit anything of the kind. I don't know. It is foolish to cry impossible, and denounce others, when they may have a key that you do not possess yourself. There are animals, evolutions from matter in the human system, invisible only by the aid of a powerful microscope; and there are plants, also, in the system, of the cryptogamous variety, on which they feed.

Q.—But they charge the numerous false communications given through mediums to elementary spirits?

A.—That false communications are often given through mediums, we admit, but is it not more likely that they rise from the mal-organized brain of the medium, and the spirits who communicate that have not risen off of the lying plane, instead of elementaries. The investigator is very often confronted with lying messages.

Q.—Were not those elementary spirits?

A.—No! The perverted messages arose, we think, from a malorganized brain and perverted impulses. As well expect to remain clean by bathing in a muddy pool, as to get a truthful communication from such a brain. The process of spirit communion is much more difficult than you conceive; investigators are frequently set back by contradictory communications, and yet there is a fascination about the whole thing that they can not resist.

Q.—How is this?

A.—To illustrate. The spirit guardian of little boy residing in Kansas, sees that an accident is to occur to him; he is to be shot. They impress the same on his mind in a dream, but the message is distorted this much—the boy dreams that he is shot by a play fellow, and he awakens terribly frightened, runs down stairs to his father, relates to him what occurred in his sleep, and the poor little boy crying as if his heart would break, cuddles in his father's arms, and is so nervous that he can not be quieted.

Q.—You are correct, no doubt, in your statements.

A.—We state a truth recognized by all advanced Spiritualists. Light passes through glass, partakes of the color of the same, and every communication transmitted through the brain of a medium partakes largely of the idiosyncracies of the same.

Delayed by Removal.

Owing to the immense labor involved in the removal of our business and fitting up and getting in order in the new location, our correspondence and book orders have been somewhat delayed, but by the time our readers receive this paper, we shall be in good working order in our new offices on the northwest corner of LaSalle and Washington streets, where we shall be pleased to see or hear from all our friends.

Voices from the People.

That Musical Medium.—Miss M. L. Bartlett, of Green Spring, Ohio, writes—My attention was attracted to the mention in the last issue of the Journal of a "musical medium."

Remonitions.—They are curious, indeed, remonitions. They are often the precursor of some important event in one's life; foreboding a change, good or bad.

Conversion.—J. A. Dickson, of Salem, Kan., writes—What is the philosophy of what is called Christian conversion? It is a fact, that there is an immortal spirit that is being developed in this mortal body.

The Turkis.—Mussulmans have a very special reverence for the rainbow as an actual renewal, whenever it appears, of the promise of God not again to destroy the earth at any time.

A Prophecy.—James Monroe, of Peoria, Ill., writes—The present complication between Russia and Turkey will result in war, and the result of the same will be the annihilation of the Turkish government.

have been enabled to trace the forecast and parallel of the great events of history from the time when the ancient visions were recorded up to the present time, and also to make a prediction of announcement for the immediate future.

Our good brother says he is not a prophet, only an interpreter of the symbol language of "dreams and visions." We have but little confidence in "floating" prophecies.

In twice two hundred years the Donr Crescent will assail, But if the Crook and Bull unite The Bear will not wane.

Religion and Ignorance.—Never shall I forget my extreme astonishment, one still winter evening, to hear a sudden voice among the Turks, and a running backwards and forwards in the streets, with shouts and noise, and to discover that all this excitement was occasioned by the people having perceived that the moon was being eclipsed.

What is a religion worth that ignores science, and inculcates the idea that when an eclipse occurs a monster is devouring the moon or sun?

Short Sermon.—The Fruits of Spiritualism.—Thomas Cook writes—The fruits of Spiritualism will be civilization upon the earth, and civilization will be spiritualization, or that condition of the mind which is free from all material attachments.

Prayer.—Some of the Christians of Minnesota have been quarrelling as to whether the Governor shall appoint a day for prayer for deliverance from grasshoppers, or whether the people to set apart the value of one day's labor for the sufferers from the locust.

It is difficult for the human family to believe that all the operations of nature come within the domain of law—immutable law! Acknowledging that God made all things, from the cent edes to man, they believe that all visitation of storms, pestilence, etc., are caused through his direct instrumentality.

Telephone, Etc.—Please publish the following letter from one of my converts from Methodism through family spirit tests.

Telephonic.—James Monroe, of Peoria, Ill., writes—The present complication between Russia and Turkey will result in war, and the result of the same will be the annihilation of the Turkish government.

hence our rapid progress in all the sciences of life, physical and spiritual. I believe the world is passing through a new and marvelous era, and that the further development of the Philosophy of Life, in fact a new era is dawning upon this little earth of ours.

A Spirit Gives an Over-Pond Mother Some Good Advice.—The Oswego Times has a long article going to show that visits from spirits are by no means impossible or unfrequent.

Sidney, New South Wales.—J. B. Wilson, writes: Since I last wrote you Spiritualism has been quietly working its way among the educated and thinking portion of the population.

Deity in Africa.—In the closing chapter of his book, Col. Long sums up his impressions of "Central Africa" in the following energetic language: "Central Africa is no Paradise, but a plague-spot; and the negro—the product of this land of pestilence and death—is a creature devoid of all tradition or belief in a Deity."

Superstition.—Thirteen at Dinner.—The London Spiritist writes—The Journal brings thoughts ever fresh, vigorous and sparkling, with the gems of truth.

A New Commission Demanded.—Joel Peffley, of Colburn, Ind., writes: One of the most exciting protracted meetings has been carried on at this place.

Public Mediums in California avoid the law by not calling themselves clairvoyants.

Home Experiments.—No Com.—Test table-rapping at home with no Spiritualist present. Let from three to seven persons of both sexes sit on the floor.

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suggestion, that commission be appointed from the two great parties now existing, that are contending for the mastery of the world.

Turkish Superstition.—On the recent eclipse of the moon the Turks at Constantinople were reported to have fired guns, according to tradition, in order to frighten the dragon devouring that luminary into releasing its prey.

It seems from a communication in Corahill Magazine, that the Turks are very superstitious. It appears from that, that the Crescent is not a chance representation or symbol of the Mahometan faith; the new moon is inseparably connected in the Mussulman mind with special acts of devotion.

Spiritualism in New York.—A. A. Thurber, of New York, writes: We are having many wonderful things with us, as well as others. We have had Maud Lord with us, and she was well received and done the cause much good.

Chloroform.—On Saturday evening, between 9 and 10 o'clock, in the course of less than an hour's walk down a crowded London street, I saw a white light emanating from the sky.

Bro. E. Vogl in his work on Development says: "Prayer is one of the best means of getting positive; the writer of this never sat for development or held a circle, without first engaging in earnest prayer to his God for light and help through the assistance of good and benevolent spirits."

Brief Mentions.—What Next?—Julia H. Appleton, of New York, writes—The Journal brings thoughts ever fresh, vigorous and sparkling, with the gems of truth.

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Me, writes: "It is with deep regret and sympathy I write these few lines relative to Bro. Jones' sudden exit to the Spirit World."

The Davenport Brothers, accompanied by Prof. E. J. Austin, "The Harbinger of Modern Mediums and Daybreak," have been unanxiously settled in Australia.

A MENTAL QUESTION ANSWERED.—The Rev. Joseph Parker, D. D., writes, in a journal called "The Christian," "I have a question which I have never seen answered in any of the papers."

It seems to me I never felt so plainly my own nature as when I was in the presence of the death of our lamented brother, S. S. Jones.

At the Baptist Ministers' Association in New York, Bro. George B. Swedborg, of Swedenborgianism, as erroneously called by Wm. C. Dray, Iowa, writes: "We have had a feast, Dr. E. W. Stevens, of Janesville, Wis., commenced a series of lectures here March 25th, and continuing until April 2nd."

George Cross, of Big Creek, Ill., writes: "I have no man living, I had a greater respect for than S. S. Jones, and was capable of filling any position."

Each of our present subscribers should secure one new subscriber for the JOURNAL before 1877 expires, thus doubling the number of subscribers, and aid the cause of Spiritualism.

The Spiritual Scientist says: "Mrs. Harding Britton, reading a lecture on East India Magic, attracted a large and intelligent audience at New York Hall, last Sunday night."

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LIST OF BOOKS FOR SALE BY THE RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE CHICAGO.

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