



THE GREAT SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT.

BY SELDEN J. FINNEY.

(CONTINUED.)

And how blessed will be that hour when it shall be seen by the world...

IV.

PHILOSOPHY: ITS POSSIBILITIES, ITS FUNCTIONS, AND ITS FUTURE.

I do not mean by philosophy those fragmentary efforts called Kantian Philosophy, or "Cartesian" Philosophy.

First: The discovery of truth—the explanation and the elucidation of the problems which lie around us in the outer world...

Second: The application of that Philosophy to the practical affairs of the world. I know that if I were standing before a theological audience...

It is, therefore, not an abstract possibility, it is a very concrete possibility—it is practical, this matter of Philosophy.

But it is, second, the effort of man's reason to so construct society and national existence that they also be in perfect harmony with the constitution and course of things.

But here it becomes us to consider the question, How is Philosophy possible to man? On what ground can he plant his feet...

How is this effort possible? Suppose for a moment that man was made up of some different kind of stuff from which worlds are made...

Unless man was made of the same identical stuff of which the universe is made, the universe would make no impression on him.

But suppose that man is not thus spontaneously related to the universe of form and force...

We are to know that we are never without a pilot. When we know not how to steer, and dare not hoist a sail, we can drift.

A White Rose Bush.

BY ENNA TUTTLE.

Again, my love, your white June rose Has bloomed in sweet perfection...

But you, in Heaven's eternal June, Have seen such high perfection, I sometimes fear you will forget...

I press its blossoms to my lips, I pray above their whiteness, That God will let your soul come back...

Ah! not in vain has been my prayer, God bend his ear to listen: This side the gate I cannot see...

We bend above the blossoms white, She in her spotless raiment, I in my somber earthly gown...

MRS. PICKERING'S SEANCE AT WESTFORD.

Forms Seen and Recognized—Skeptics Puzzled.

EDITOR JOURNAL.—Will you please publish in the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL the following account from the pen of the reporter of Lowell (Mass.) Daily Times...

Westford, Mass.

On Saturday evening last Mrs. Hannah Pickering, of Rochester, N. H., whose exploits as a materializing medium have created such excitement in spiritualistic circles during the past two years...

The circle was then informed as to the conditions necessary to be observed, which were simple, merely being that no one should touch the spirit forms...

I am aware that there are those who regard it as quite improper to impose any restrictions or test conditions on mediums...

The object of going into a circle or seance, with a materializing medium, is to get manifestations of materialized character of such a nature as will convince us that they are produced by Spirit-power...

smiling. As it retired, the curtain was held up and two forms beside that of the medium were distinctly seen...

But suppose still further that such materializing medium is not only suspected but has been actually detected in fraudulent practices...

Materializing Mediums.

There is no form of mediumship that is attracting so much attention at the present time as that through which materialized forms appear. This is natural, for, to the physical senses, there is no phase of spiritual manifestations so complete and so satisfactory as that of the materialized form of some departed friend...

Chicago, Ills.

Christian Spiritualism.

Investigator writes.— Christian Spiritualism as generally understood, teaches the existence of a Supreme Spiritual Intelligence...

It teaches that man is the spiritual offspring of God, "made in his image and likeness" with God-like attributes, individualized and immortal.

Conrage, mediums—conrage, oh, my faithful co-workers! The fig-trees has put forth, your redemption draweth nigh. True, there is work, trying work, to be yet done.

and temporal interests, while the former affect our spiritual and enduring interests, and being therefore more serious in their consequences...

No special pleading from pretended spiritual sources, or any logic from any in the form, can screen such a one from the just execration of all honest minds...

But there is a point just here that needs further elucidation.

Spiritual science teaches us, anthropologically, that there is an atmosphere around each individual, as indeed, there is probably around every known substance in nature.

Now when a materializing medium is acted upon by a spirit or spirits, to produce a materialized form, they draw largely from this atmosphere for the purpose...

But the materials drawn from the personal atmosphere, as we may call it, will inevitably partake of the individuality of the person or medium...

Because under the imperfect conditions, the spirits have not the power to overcome the individualism of the materials they draw from the personal atmosphere...

The ideas expressed in the last two paragraphs were given recently through the mediumship of a lady from whom I have received much valuable scientific information...

How then we have opened up before us an interesting field of inquiry and it shows us the importance of studying the science of Spiritualism as well as its philosophy.

While we have thus endeavored to explain how it is that certain materialized manifestations which seem to be fraudulent are not so, which explanation seemed to be required...

The sifting process will go, however, on with keener discrimination than ever, and humbugging mediums will be taught the important lesson that they are not needed...

Honest mediums have nothing to fear, but everything to hope for, from the cleansing processes now going on. In conclusion, let us hope that the day is not far distant when Spiritualism will be lifted up and purified from the false practices and false theories attached to it...

Chicago, Ills. MILTON ALLEN.

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