

Religio-Philosophical Journal

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CHICAGO, March 19th, 1877.

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CHICAGO, ILL., JANUARY 11, 1879.

CURIOUS COINCIDENCE.

A Brahmin's Response to a Christian Propagandist.

SIR.—The question you ask, whether or not the evidences for phenomena supposed to be miraculous, as related in your Christian Scriptures, are proper subjects for scientific investigation, is a fair one and should have a fair answer.

A Christian Minister's Response to a Spiritist.

DEAR SIR.—The question you ask the clergy in your issue of the 30th ult., whether the so-called spiritualistic phenomena are proper subjects for scientific investigation, is a fair one and should have a fair answer.

dah in refusing to investigate its claims? What good thing cannot be abused? The curative art is good, but look at the impostures, the charlatanism and the swindles which wear its mask.

The art of printing is good, but if it helps us to spread the truth, it may help others to spread corruption and falsehood. Human nature is good, but it produces some very offensive specimens.

Now for Mr. Hoodah to try to get off from looking into Christianity by instancing the abuses to which it may be subjected, shows that he has not begun to realize the magnitude of his duties and responsibilities as a teacher of mankind.

It is but a craven and sluggish spirit which makes a teacher imagine he can justify himself in his apathy by saying to those who offer him, not their own facts, but nature's facts, God's facts, "I do not object to your facts, but to the deductions you draw from them, and therefore I will not look into your facts."

Radical Spiritualism.

It cannot be denied that Modern Spiritualism is as yet in its experimental stage. Some great facts we have established, and placed beyond the reach of question, but others are still in dispute.

Dr. Beard on the Fancher Case.

We publish this week, Mr. Epes Sargent's reply to Dr. Geo. M. Beard's denunciatory comments on the Fancher case. The reply is from the New York Sun of December 23d, and must command the earnest commendation of every fair-minded reader.

Dr. Beard tells us there are six sources of error in dealing with living human beings, and that only an expert like himself (of whom there are only six or seven in the whole world at this time!) is competent to pass an opinion on a case like Miss Fancher's.

Truly here is a big spread for a very diminutive idea. It needed no "experts of experts" to tell us all that. Reduced to plain English, the doctor's great discovery amounts to just this: (1) Deception; (2) voluntary or involuntary phenomena.

What if Christ had said to the leper, "When you will come to me with garments washed, and a body free from impurity, I will be ready to look into your case?"

A Brakeman's Experience with a Medium.

A little more than a year ago, a tall, fine looking young fellow called on Mrs. Howard, at St. Charles; while the medium was entranced, the control begged the young man to immediately visit his mother, and shake hands with her once more while he could do so.

Mediums are noted for their free-hearted generosity, and will never refuse to sit for those in poverty, but they should be careful not to be so easily imposed upon as at present.

DR. RAUCH, the Chief-engineer of the Illinois "State Board of Health," is exceedingly fond of spirits; in fact, it is asserted he loves them so deeply as to be much of the time en rapport with them.

One evening last week, there was gathered at the editor's dinner table a little group of eight; five ladies and three gentlemen; two of the ladies fine public mediums, and another a remarkably gifted medium who, however, exercises her mediumship only for friends and never for pay.

It will afford our readers great gratification to read the following extract from a letter we have just received from the secretary of the First Harmonial Association of New York:

Our society has just perfected an arrangement with Andrew Jackson Davis, to become a regular weekly contributor to your valuable JOURNAL, which is rapidly increasing in circulation in our city.

Laborers in the Spiritualistic Vineyard, and Other Items of Interest.

Mrs. Hollis-Billing has the thanks of this office for Christmas presents and kind words of cheer. A subscriber sends remittance from Bremen, but fails to sign name. Will credit when we know.

A. A. Southwick, of Charlotte, Michigan, passed through here a few days ago, on his way to Rantoul, Ill.

Dr. Rauch claims that his "Board of Health" has driven 1,400 medical practitioners out of this State. We beg leave to doubt his statement and would like to see him prove it.

Rev. S. E. Busser, of the Congregation Church in Lowell, Mich., preached a very excellent discourse Dec. 1st, 1878, on "The value of Man, or Human Nature the true basis of Christian Work."

A morning paper reports the Spirituous Rauch as claiming to have driven fourteen hundred doctors out of this State since his machine for fostering "regulars" commenced work.

C. Fannie Allyn, who is now lecturing in Cleveland, O., will start for Carthage, Mo., on or about January 27th. Would like to make an engagement for the first Sunday in February, while en route.

HONORABLE BLOOM, containing our post office, Gen. Sheridan's headquarters and many fine offices, was destroyed by fire last Saturday afternoon. This is the third time our postoffice has been burnt within a few years.

Archbishop Purcell, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who has been made the depository of funds by many in his diocese, has been found unable to liquidate the claims upon him.

HUNDREDS OF OUR READERS have, treasured up, unpublished evidences of Spirit phenomena, which should be made a part of the public record of the Movement.

THE UNIVERSAL TESTIMONY of the intelligent spiritualistic public is that, the JOURNAL is constantly increasing in value both as a literary sheet and as an exponent of the great spiritual Movement.

Mrs. H. H. Crocker was surprised by about fifty of her more intimate friends on New Year's Eve. They, as usual on such occasions, enticed their victim from home, and then took possession, very soon transforming the parlors and dining-room into a condition harmonious with the object in view.

Christmas.

INSPIRATIONAL POEM, BY MRS. BERENA MILLER.

In heaven it known no Christmas day. With earthly customs it hath passed away. We own but one God, the Infinite soul, Which, in all nature, we daily behold.

A Parallel Case to the "Wateoka Wonder."

LOTTSVILLE, Penn. I send you a copy of a letter, it being a compilation of facts addressed by Rev. Timothy Alden to Dr. Samuel I. Mitchell, of New York.

before the expiration of the twelve weeks, one must not expect a revelation, especially when it has passed through several hands. As any errors found will be corrected in the second edition, now going to press, they cannot constitute an objection to the work.

Mr. Graves has the full privilege of answer, as above. He admits several errors of his scribe; some grave ones, as the putting of Gautama instead of Salavahana.

He says he left out of his list the Buddhist Dharmapala, and other sacred books, but his error was to include books of small moment, and yet leave out this and other most important, ancient gospels.

Notes on the Cause of Spiritualism in Michigan. I have been requested to give my views on the cause of Spiritualism in Michigan, and in traveling during the past summer, and lecturing.

The real condition of Spiritualism in so large and good a field as Michigan, will be interesting to know by all reformers in the field of progress, and I shall try to state it as it appears to me from a careful study of the subject.

The Bible of Bibles.

To the Editor of the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL. As some errors have recently been pointed out in this work by a reviewer, and reference made to some features of the same which seem to require some explanation, the author deems it proper to occupy a brief space in the JOURNAL to set the matter in its true light.

1st. The reviewer objects to the statement that "the whole of the Vedas is being translated into the English language." In some of the earlier issues of the JOURNAL, it was stated that the whole of the Vedas is being translated into the English language.

2d. The statement that "Gautama was cotemporary with Christ, it being an error of the translator" and also the use of the word "Buddhism" in the same sentence in the original work, are both errors in the author's possession, in the place of Gautama he finds it reads Salavahana, and for Buddha he reads Avatars.

are infinite, and who actively governs all universal laws, and who is the source of all power.

4th. A general disbelief in the Bible as a book that contains anything of value for mankind in our day; instead of looking upon it as a book or work containing a series of writings which on the whole are the most remarkable world-possessors.

5th. General disbelief in Jesus of Nazareth as a teacher of any truth of more value than can be found in the teachings of Confucius, Zoroaster, Pythagoras and other ancient and modern sages.

6th. The recognition of the Hebrew scriptures as a vast storehouse of important spiritual truths given through inspired mediums at different times in the past, some of which were local in their application, and some general, and some of which were general, and some of which were local, and some of which were general, and some of which were local.

Brother Bundy, these are some of the primal principles which it seems to me must be recognized and acted upon by Spiritualists, before Spiritualism can be seen to shine as the light of the world.

Conclusion, permit me to say that while I have expressed myself freely on the condition of Spiritualism in Michigan, I am also happy to know that there are many, very many, earnest and good workers and friends there, large-hearted and kind, ready to do all in their power for good, and who deplore as deeply as any can the present unsatisfactory condition of Spiritualism.

Spiritualism in Philadelphia.

The roster of the First Society Academy Hall, 8th and Spring Garden streets, for the month of December, is filled by Mrs. Elizabeth L. Watson, of Titusville, Pa.

Among the mediums that have lately visited Philadelphia, are Laura V. Ellis and her brother. They have expressed much interest with but moderate financial success.

After about fifteen minutes of very harmonious singing, during which the concert was with white, with a white turban on his head. A little more singing, and another figure appeared, but not so well developed as the first one.

James, who can rest contented for a while as the state of spiritualism which he submitted to test conditions in this city.

I am informed that Mrs. Thayer, the flower medium, will be in Philadelphia about Jan. 1st. She is ever welcome, for we believe her to be genuine beyond question; and in these winter months spirits will bring us flowers fresh and crisp as the very lap of spring.

The musical and theatrical worlds have met with a great loss in the removal to spirit-life of the great magical artist, Robert Heller. I am creditably informed that he was a firm believer in Spiritualism.

In my article under the head of "Christian Spiritualism," in a late issue of the JOURNAL, in referring to the resurrection of the Spiritual body of Jesus, you thought, perhaps, I intended to have used the term physical body instead of the spiritual, as I intended. Now, if Jesus was resurrected in his physical body that was crucified, then is the doctrine of the general resurrection of the physical body established.

The angels rolled the stone from the door of the Sepulchre, could and did spirit away the physical body. The whole transaction was a dark scene, until Mary Magdalene first saw Jesus, whom she mistook for the gardener. It is an absurd proposition in Orthodox theology, to suppose the spirit of Jesus, on the third day after the crucifixion entered into a new body.

Dr. A. B. Barrett, who sends us the following characteristic letter, was for many years a Universalist minister. Having an active and exploring mind, he early became interested in the teachings of Mesmer and turned his inquiring mind to the investigation of psychical phenomena.

What we have said and written about French Journalism.

Here is one of its vagaries—a paper called "Revue des Pensees." It is edited by a priest, and informs the public what souls in Purgatory are suffering, and exactly what must be done to relieve their sufferings.

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We know that when we work for others, we are at the same time laying up riches for ourselves, and when we know this we, of course, do our best for others, and so increase our own store.

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