











Voices from the People. AND INFORMATION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS PERTAINING TO THE HARMONIAL PHILOSOPHY.

For the Religio-Philosophical Journal. Theosophical.

By Mrs. F. O. HYZER.

Take no thought of the morrow. - Jesus. An page by page eternal life unfolds its record to my sight. New correspondences I draw From points where living truth unite, Of the true essence of the one Whose burning words of wisdom shone With the effulgence of the sun. That radiates the great white throne.

Letter from Maine.

By D. HOWLAND HAMILTON.

RESPECTED RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL: I say respected, because there is an innate tendency in human nature, however faulty at times, to respect fidelity to truth and principle. Candid, intellectual straightforwardness makes a Lincoln, a Washington, a Garrison, a Franklin, a Jefferson, a Palmer. Intellectual crookedness makes an Alexander, a Bonaparte, a Jeff Davis, a Bennett and all the minor tares that choke the wheat of usefulness and progress. The human world is not entirely rotten at heart, and when human crookedness is brought face to face with itself it ignores the evil and dilates to the good. Men in false careers are often so blinded by their selfish temporary success that they call evil good and good evil, but the law of compensation will, I believe, sooner or later, bring them to the God element of their better natures, and they in repentance and chagrin will begin to build on the more foundation of truth. Oh, no! build on the same thing that Jesus did-on the everlasting truth-the eternal fitness of things-on the rock of principle, which is the rock of ages. Coming to Jesus, if we must continue to be hampered by the use of mysterious Bible phrases, is simply coming to one's honest self-coming to the spirit of truthfulness-to the centerance-the holy of holies-the chamber of sincerity where pure thoughts and pure purposes are born. This being "born again" is simply giving conscientious reasons the right to hold the reins of the soul, to be out of animal self into the spiritual realm where the spiritual man can take the lead and govern at the helm. Then harmony shall dwell within, for justice will be done-then peace shall spread her goodly wings and heaven below begin. When a man is only half a man, and his lower half at that-he lives a kind of dying life, fit emblem is the bat. He sees not that his happiness lies in direct proportion to the number of his faculties he keeps in good condition, and so he gropes in animal life-he God but filthy lusts, and dies out at last, near dawn of day, unfitted for the future, while he who strives to be a man in spite of all temptation, gains capital for future use, which gives him just distinction.

True religion knows no priest-hood; Follows reason day and night; Calls no man master on earth, Heirs no command save this-do right.

Meeting of Spiritualists in Michigan.

The first Quarterly Meeting of the Michigan State Association of Spiritualists and Liberalists, was held at Fenton Hall, Flint, Genesee Co., commencing Friday, Nov. 28th, and closing Sunday, Nov. 30th. Friday, 1:30 P.M. there were present the officers of the Association, Dr. A. B. Spinney, President; Miss J. R. Lane, Secretary; I. A. Burdick, Director; Mrs. R. B. Bennett, and others. Dr. A. B. Spinney presided during the entire meeting. There were present the following speakers: J. H. Burnham, Saginaw City; Charles A. Andrus, Muskegon; Mrs. L. A. Pearce, Disco; Mrs. M. C. Gale, Flint; Mrs. H. Moore, E. B. Wheelock, and Dr. A. B. Spinney. The afternoon was spent in a general conference, short speeches and discussions, with songs by Mrs. Olla Childs. The afternoon passed off very pleasantly, and at 4:30 the audience was dismissed to meet again at 7:30. Friday evening session Dr. Spinney was the first speaker for the evening. He said he did not expect to speak, and had no subject, but in the course of half an hour's talk, perhaps, he might find one. He spoke for nearly an hour on general topics, the taxation of church property, religion in the schools and the subject of education, and gave some very thoughtful thoughts. After a song, he was followed by J. H. Burnham, of Saginaw, who took for his subject, "What shall we do with our thoughts." His address was short, but as ever with him, whatever subject he takes, he always makes it interesting, and his hearers feel that he was speaking to be remembered. The evening exercises closed with a song by Mrs. Childs.

The place of next meeting occurring in March has not yet been designated. The following resolution was unanimously adopted. Resolved, That this conference recognize in the person of Rev. A. J. Fishback an able exponent of progressive thought, an eloquent and effective speaker, and a gentlemanly and thoughtful friend of Spiritualists, and cheerfully recommend him to Spiritualists and Liberalists generally as a zealous worker in the cause of truth and humanity. F. A. GROVE, Kirkeville, Mo.

ANTI-RELIGION.

A Talk With One of the Most Prominent Exponents of Modern Liberalism.

HIS OPINION OF THE POLITIC LIBERAL PARTY CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED BY COLONEL BOB INGERSOLL. [From the Inter-Ocean.] Passing through this city to all lecture engagements, a reporter of the Inter Ocean intercepted B. F. Underwood, Esq., who is one of the leading exponents of anti-religion and liberalism. He is a man of wide culture, a writer on subjects requiring large metaphysical powers, and possesses a mind thoroughly capable of wielding logical weapons. On the lecture platform he is at home, and, with a full appreciation of the difficulties and the comparative unpopularity of his views, and those of the large and rapidly increasing party which he represents on the subject of religion, he brings to his aid all his remarkable argumentative resources, which constitute him a powerful and dangerous foe to religious conservatism. In person he is a fine-looking, well shaped, man of good address. The well shaped head and massive brow betoken the original thinker.

ATTACKING RELIGION AND ITS PROFESSORS.

"But," queried the reporter, "was not the liberal party in sympathy with the outspokenness of Bennett, and did not they endeavor to protect him?" "That depends," he replied, "on what you mean by the liberal party. If you class the advocates of free-loveism and the 'tag rag and bobtail' who are generally arrayed against the demolition and the care for nothing which should supplant the old creeds, I suppose it would be correct to say yes. The party I represent, on the other hand, and which is entirely distinct from the before mentioned, were as utterly opposed to the man, on account of his offense against the laws of decency, as were the most conservative Christians in the country."

Conference of Spiritualists and Liberalists.

The first meeting of the North-east Mo. Conference of Spiritualists and Liberalists was held at Kirkeville, beginning Nov. 28th and continuing three days. Rev. A. J. Fishback delivered several excellent discourses. A good interest was manifested and harmony prevailed throughout. A constitution and by-laws were adopted setting forth the objects of the organization, etc. The preamble or introductory part is as follows: Whereas, The times seem to demand that a well directed, organized effort should be made in North-east Missouri, by the friends of liberal and progressive thought, in the domain of morals and religion, to the betterment of the best interests of society, and promote the well being of humanity; therefore, Resolved, That this meeting proceed to effect an organization to be known as the North-east Mo. Conference of Progressive Spiritualists and Liberalists.

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Anna T. Wild, of Clinton, Iowa, writes: Mr. Peck and his talented and estimable wife, Mr. Henry S. Lake, came here last May and have enlightened themselves into the hearts of the few Liberalists and Spiritualists of this place, he as a medical man and healer, and by his earnest untiring ways, and she by her earnestness and eloquence a lecturer. He has also given us several lectures, and through their instrumentality we have broken through the stronghold of orthodoxy and established a Liberal Society, and considering that there has never been one here before that could be sustained, or even exist for any length of time, we feel under very great obligations to them. As to Mr. Peck's domestic matters, I have only this to say, that knowing his wife as I fully believe that she never would be a party to wrong-doing on his part. As to his melodramatic powers, he has never failed when I attended his stances, in doing all and even more than he proposed.

Notes and Extracts.

Riches got by deceit, cheat no man so much as the getter. The wounded heart heals, but the ear remains forever. It is claimed. Materialism never refines, because it follows in the same old ruts, year after year. There are more mediums to-day than formerly, because the people are becoming more spiritual. If there is anything that keeps the mind open to angelic visits, and repels the ministry of Ill, it is human love. - Watts. Spirits out of the flesh with power to manifest to mortals, are not necessarily in any sense the superiors of those whom they visit. Sydney Dobell said: "I know of no difference of rule for living here and living hereafter; and I look upon life, therefore, as a glorious, a happy, an estimable thing."



the powers of government emanate from their trust and legitimate sources.

Why, then, is woman denied an equal voice and an equal participation in all the affairs of life? Many thousands of women are thrown upon the world and compelled to fight the battles of life alone.

In the year of 1630 the institution of negro slavery was established in the colony of Virginia, and for many long years our wisest statesmen and legislators believed it to be just and expedient to hold this race of people in bondage.

No government—no institution can hope for the brightest prosperity as long as it holds any race or any part of a race of people in physical or mental and political bondage.

I can cheerfully say with Mr. Ingersoll, "If the ladies wish to vote, I am too much of a man to say they shall not."

Mr. Parkman, speaking of the failures that women have made, and the ruin which he claims that they have brought about, says: "The queen mother of Charles IX.

Again, should this prove to be an argument worthy of our consideration, how much more convincing it is against the men, as it must be admitted that the persecutions they have instituted, and the crimes they have committed, have been a thousand fold greater than those of women.

It is said in this reform by throwing women more in the conflict of actual life, would blunt their modesty, and make them less amiable. We do not think so.

These are wrong ideas, and to reconstruct them, is a part of this reformation. I believe woman should be refined and accomplished, and should when circumstances warrant, enjoy a season of recreation and pleasure, but they should not give their entire attention—they should seek as well to make themselves practical and useful.

That magnificent civilization which existed in Continental Greece long anterior to the Christian era, was marked by the influence which woman wielded in the affairs of government.

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stones, and hung with Tyrian drapery, were accustomed to comb and spin wool, and weave garments, and assist their servants in carrying water and in washing.

For many years it was the law, even in this country, that married women could not hold separate property. Under the old common law, all her property vested absolutely in her husband—she had no control over it.

The Government of Europe will ever be a failure as long as her present system of descent and hereditary succession is tolerated.

With the exceptions of a few puny republics, history furnishes no example of a so-called democratic government that has stood the test of six centuries.

Standing upon the shore of the great historic river that rolls its turbulent waves throughout the ages, we behold its current far away in the limits of the future, sometimes lost in shadow or enveloped in storm.

All things are now brought before the bar of common sense, to receive their final judgment. Men now believe that search after truth can never be offensive to the God of Truth.

Will you permit a word in reply to your esteemed correspondent, Mr. A. J. Davis. He says, I "succeeded in conveying" a "mistaken impression" concerning his views of the Children's Progressive Lyceum.

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tion of his friends; I will not now discuss them. The sweeping assertion that the "Spiritualistic Sunday Schools" (as your correspondent styles most of the Lyceums now in existence) turn their classes into circles for spirit manifestations, etc., must be the assertion of a fact "evolved" from the "inner consciousness."

Jesse Shepard at Aurora, Illinois.

During an evening not long since, a company of Aurora ladies and gentlemen assembled in the parlour of the Fitch House, to witness the marvellous music which we were advised often came through the mediumship of Jesse Shepard.

The dark circle playing was a marvel. It presented various selections from the masters, but mostly from the Opera of Marzha, some of which I recognized.

At the close of the séance, a gentleman present who is reputed to be a musical critic, found fault with the pretension that Mozart had presided over some selections from Marzha, attempting to refute the possibility of such a performance.

I have thus written of this séance as an opportunity for the enjoyment of a musical treat by an expert. That the expert part of it had a supermundane origin, does not necessarily follow.

I fear this will always be the result of dark circles, which do not fulfill their announcements, even where the medium may not be at fault.

ANTIQUITY OF MAN.—Prof. Mudge has presented some interesting evidence relating to the antiquity of man in the Kansas City Review of Science.

Some have been observed over twenty-five feet in diameter, and one contained 5,700 annual rings. In some instances these huge trees have grown over the stumps of others equally large, and such instances occur in all, or nearly all, the ten forest beds.

TO BE KEPT AT THE HEAD.—Each of Warner's Safe Remedies—the Safe Kidney and Liver Cure, Safe Pills, Safe Nervine, and Safe Bitters, is asserted to be the best in its class, and the intention is to keep it so.

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