# RELCIO JOU SNALD PMILOSOPHICA  


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## ax mor. Wx. nemtian.

Man periots to tans sam on the glote and white Ea-

















 The comet of 16890 , when at it its prrinelion, had a tanil









 Allbut spiritual texture of a comet ", (i) He comes to This conchasion because , as he says, "stars of the smallest what appears to be the densest portion of their substance; by a moderate fog, fextending only a fow yards from tho
purface of the earth.

 Such comet might, however, be composed of innumer-
ble meteoroids, and, if they varied in inize from dusto 20 miles in diameter, they would show no disisk at the distance
ht whici comets areemerally observed. It does not seem



 nd only difitering firmem these in inthe the reat eccentricity of thefir orbits,", (4) He sayy they have been seen to passo verer
the sun, round and black, ike the planets Mercauy and Teniis, Tro persons, widiely separated from each yand
saw this phenomena opn the isth of November, 1886 . The mass of Donstit' comet hasbeen, valued bi M. M.
 vell prod
Trrow the psychometric investigations of Sideros and hree grand elasses; giss, actual planets or worlds, globuts woild la all probabiltys ghow no tail during any portion of their course. These wh may cal planet comets. san, whose heat and lightare liept.up by their continual of small fragments of preeexistent worlds, cachir revolving around the sun obedientto its influenco. These are cloudmets. It is probable that comets of this charateter show Che longest tsing, and are, therefare, objects bf the greatarth, however, it wonld only result in a meteoric shower. Myridd of fragments arestrewed along the paths whioh
heverious classes of comets have traversed and are now

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traversing; too small to be seen by us, except when they
are drawn by the earth's attraction through our atmos.
phere at nilit, when we cal them shoting stars. Oo
these Prof. H, A. Newton thinks that about ten millions.
 wonld be to us most disastrous, In the track of the No
vomber meteors there must be sn immense 10 , visible to us, while occupying that track The star shower
that was seen by M. Tharand, on thatight of the 11 of
November, 1833, appears to hige continued until the November, 183.2, appears to haye continued until the
night of the 13th, for this way ine time that Capt. Ham-
mond observed a showery In Arabia. Since the earth
 Boric clond thright which the earth ploughed its way.
Bat the meteg 1 stream or cond must have been in ano Hor during the whole time, and could not haye moved
lesp thin hafa milion of miles. At a rude calulation
re have an enornous cloud three million mites-lyy ber, was that briligant shower ofneteors, to which I have
alread y refrepe, and which was sean at Salem, Mrass-
husetts hy the same Capt. Hammond, who had seen the
 moteoroids had been passing until the earth crossed thei
path again, when many of them were drawn into our at mosphere and ignitd. If this was 5 o we have a streami or
clout of meteoroids at least, 1222 millions of miles
 though diligently looked for, they were "not more num.
eroug, than on ocher nights about the same season of the
year,? (1) It was noticed in 1834 that the meteors were of smaller size than they were the year before. We have
then a meteoric eloud pussing along what r regard as the
orvit of sideros, for six years, and that probahly has a cotal length of, more than 700 minion miles,
Comets of the first class might stiow i
The second class would be less likely to show a a disk, ; and
through comets of the third clase very small stars migh be distinctly visible, Siteros was a comet of the fire
ciass the lare fragmente of sideros, hat have in um
opinion strick the earth at varioustimes, were comets on the second class, and the clouds of meteoroids which
have been frequenty seen by paychometers $~$ regard
comets of the third class, many of theim doubtess invisi ble to ns.
One of comets, is the amazing distance into space to which some of them journey. The great comet of 1811 has a period,
which was Exed by Argelander at nearly 8,000 years. Its greatest distance irom the sun, says mithell, caanot
below 160,000 million miles. But great as this distanee cven than are comets That of 1680 was calculated by Encke to et of July 1844 has beane, estimated at periodo00 yeers.
seems protable to me that we have belonging to our so nus and even Neptune; nor are they necessarily thi
abodes of cold nad darkness, Some of them may b and having lost their water, air and internal heat, they are
going back in fragnents to the sum, the largeti of tiem one being sean by us, as they revolve in their enormous
orit, approaching nearer sand nearer, until they plunge
not its sire and end their career for cver. There are many facts known to us regarding comets
that are in harmony with the views just prescnted. Those
comets to which Arazo refers, that appear round and pith well defined planettary disks, may be cometary worlds,
on some of which numan beings may now feside as tniey Biela's conet in
 ed pear shaped, aid on the 13th of January following in
it was seen doxble in America, and by the 15th, also in carope, when the bodies were farther apart. The dis
tame from each other increased till they were separated from each other about 160,000 miles. On their return in
1802 taneir tistance wa $1,240,000$ miles.
1 f this was a comet of the second class, being only If thie was a comet of the second class, being only a
fragment of pre existigg world, it is not so very surpriss the two piecest thenceforth following independent tracks.
tother comets had previously been sepe to broák into pleces, but, as they yad not reapp

## (1) Larainer' Lectures, Meterine stones and shooting gtart.

ORGANIZATION OF THE FORCES OF REFORM
Your recent editorial. suggestions, with the con organization and co-operation among liberal thiuk
ers of all classeg, have been read by me with great in
terest as beto important direction which has long seemed desirabl Whether or not the time has arrived for a successfu
movement in the direction aimied at, the wide discus sion of the subject which you have introduced canno
fail to educate the general mind towards the poin
when surcess will In comptiance with your invitation 1 will submit
some thotghts mand suggestions on the general sub
ject-the results of muen reflection-as my coitribu tion to the discussion.

1. The harmonious ers for hamanminious co-poperation of all sircere work
for many reasons whement weem eminently deesirable net be here Such co.operation, for the beet resultt, hequiresespasocia
tion and organization in bome form,and thus division and co.ordination of labor
2. Harmonious associa
only result from

- essential untry of conviction as to three things-the objects to besought, the meth
outs by which tosose obiects shail be purroued, and the
undey ying principles 6 tright and truth which make those objects deirable. As one of your correspend "An organization, to bs worthy of the name, mus
have sone centrat thought form tis basis or life Griners, aud to which others are subservient? thes convictions as to principles, obyeets and methods con-
stitute in faet a cretd, which is as midspensable to ving, vigorous orgauzation of hmanteingy as in a
lifeprineppe to p plant or tree. Nothing but inanity and decomposition can exist without it. And on the
claracter quaity of his basic if prineiple the
creed-wil depernt the character, vigor, usefulnoss creed-will depertit the character, vigor, us
arid propetity of the organization formed. long appeared to me that the habitual inveriching ha
many spiritualists and Liberals akausl "ceed" india many spirituand and their indisposition generally to
criminately,
organize orynize on the basis of any clear statement of princl-
ples, was a shallow absurdity. No wonder then many


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tions.



 suspicion ot motives, radicara diversities as to princi-
ples.and methods, and perpetual wranging until disthine anse creads, and creads. Tho objectionable






 prinieipes controlling the heart and life. Then they
ara oporer eread will lead to seets, True. Where
mentan free
mentom and activity exist, aiverzencies of







 of all spiritualists, should be mutual aid
Your proposedylan providas for physical, mantar and











































 This centrat truth, it semm to mo, shonla ba plainly



 done ina fraternat sprititana courteous manner, thus
 manin welfare. may be asiignead to departments, com-
mittees, , oands. groups,or whatever thes may bod desig.

 its own with a defnite statement of its principese or
convietion and purposes, and of the modes in whic

 special work attempted, ear commana on op indon, con
 Members shoula be at libertyto to coneet themselve

 regular meetings of the several departments in suap
othar. as that they shall not interfere with each



 spinitual oututre
as above outlined, woula be formed bo all societies
tof
of also another that shonla have in Yiew the practical
application of brotherhood to ife-in other woras socretary reform
on the basis of fraternity, to be realized as raptdy as








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orive tons in physgical culturb or hygiene wolla prop.




 AA, traternity organzer and properly oonducted for
these objectow would beitainly perform all the useful







 submitted for what they may be worth, $\operatorname{AN}$ OLD SPRTrituansr

f JANÜARY 15, 1881.
















The Margaret Fuller Society of Chicago
is estabishod to ducate women in pilitanal
































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eibboration, true to the Tlorequine life and






RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.


| - Is Darwin Righty. | A. Clergyiuàn Promoted. |
| :---: | :---: |
| The following is an extract from the advance sheets of a nèw work by Prof. Denton, with the above title: |  |
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| came rom one or a few, frms, Minto when |  |
| dead mordid into which an exterior power |  |
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| for an invisible motwad, when the bridge would just as easily carry a man? |  |
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| The difference between the universe such |  |
| natural tree and an artificial one. In the |  |
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| arrink in fasho, made holes are boren, limbs inserted twiog put into them, and leaves |  |
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| in which its namerer sits. The nan nutural trares in wuires centuies for its perfection, but it |  |
| is ailiev from deepest radicle to topmotit |  |
| Itels and respond to the damand for mat |  |
| the living currents flow through its veins,bearing color to the blossom, honey to its |  |
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| cup, sugar to the fruit, and down for its cheek, to ward of the attaces of the insect |  |
| lel |  |
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| its beauty. No Iess alive is the world inwhich wed woll, and the universe of which ieforms to us such an important part: andit is this that rendered man a possibility |  |
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## WATSEKA WONDER

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LOGICAL study and welin LOGICAL STUDY AND WELL AU Angelic Visitation.
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 We hai ocnaiderpzole cualiositit to gige his
viems as to the phemomena of spiritualism,





 Gho plisiomeena, it was syonaparent tha
ho mide the whole subject in contempt


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 past experience, as there ara agents in the
experiment over wich we have eo control
but we are williny to mite the ote But wo aro willing to mate the attempt
Atthis poinimr Mcyitere interjeted the







 her Herman's name and his converisation
es above related, and said:-HIs, Simpson, we do not wish to dictate to yon or overpersunad you, but if yon yre disposta to ne-
eord a sittiog to Hermain for the experi-

 and produce the writing, it will tifford val.
nable proof of spirit manifstationg nuder
 ment faild it proves nothing against you
and will not lessen our conidence in your











## Mre ext hit hit

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 In the aceounit as published in the Chica-
go Times, the writer inadvertently passed
orer a point essential to give completeness to the seance as a test. After the exhibi-
tion of the trst writing apon Mrs. Simp-
son's.s.ate, Hermann was quite contident in somis slate, Hermann was quite confident in
his assertions that "no more witing would
be done." He cocompanied such assertions
 conceal from Mrs. Simpzon,
In the middt of this adverse blaster Mrs.
Simpson requested Hermant to prepare his
own slates, which he did by co eansirg them own slates, which he did by cleansing them
with his handkerchief fröm every sign of marks or pencil dust. They closed togethprobably, rever had a mark made upon
them. These two slates were placeĩ in position, elosed tigntly together under the
table. Mrs Simpson hotaugthem with one
hand and Herman's anssistant with the hand When the slates had thas been
phaced in pasition Mr. Metioker, for the purpose of making a suggestion to which
the writing to be done betyeen the slates would ke responsive, said, "Hermann, will
you stay any longer than a पeek in PittsForthwith the writing was heard wilhin the slates by all parties present, and on re-
moving and openipg them, the following
words were found written on the inside of the undermast slate. "Nol no louger than
one week in Pittsbut z ." This ended all one week in Pittsbutigh. This ended all
discussion as to whether the phenomenon was capable of tepetition. We proposed to Mrs. Maud Lord that she
as manna test seance, to whieh proposition
she readily assented. Owing to our ex-
treme pre-cecupation we were unable to treme preaccupaion we were unabe to
pin the brief spaces remainaing of Hermann's
in engacement in the city; but we have no
doubt that had the experimental seance
been held, Mrs Lord would have been as been held, Mrs. Lord would have
suceessful as was Mrs. Simpson.

Under the title of "some new and curious experiments in the office of Dr. George M.
Beard," the New York Sun gives an account of the mesmerizitity of three subjects by
Beard and of the usual phenomena result. ing. The subjects were completely under sensations, but those he told them to feel, though subject to influences which in a
normal state would have caused the most severe pains or the most lively sengations. The experiments are nither new nor curifact conneeted with them, is that they are
conducted by an sllopathic physician who bazalds his standing among his more bigot-
ed brethren by conducting or announcing ed brethren by conducting or announcing and are part of a wide range of phenomena indicating the supersensuous action of
mind or spirit power. Dr. Beard hedges gainst this theory by assuming in advance that the mesmerle condition is a nervous
ailment on the part of the subject superin.
duced by his own imagination. According to Beard's new theory the only function performed by the opgrator is to induce in
the mind of the subject the expectation the mind of the subject che expectanion phonomen will happen pud
that they are forthwith experienced by Hes sub-
jeet whether they oceur not. He makes
an ostentatious display of the use of words an ostentatious display of the use of words
in producing this detasion in the mind of his own theory he were afrain neither the use of words nor the performance of any external act by the operator is necessary to
produce the eftect. Mesmerism can often, subject without spuken words or plysical acte. It does not depend upon the creation
of the fale impression upon the mind of he subject first, but before any impressio whatever is created the subject may be
surpused by the sensation itself. A mes he possesses the power in question by ex ercising it on persons at a distance, For
instance, sitting in a large audience, he
vils that a certain lady whose back is turned from him, should turn so that h can see her face, or shall look directly
toward him. Sitting in a large compay
he wills that nome persoon in a distart part
Own.
IED.
If Dr. Beard will not hold himselt back in a very truths he is in search of, le will vers easily and early lud out that in mesmer
ism there is a transfor. of spirit-powe ism there is a transfor of spirit-power
from the operator to the subject, which
may often be accomplished mentally, and
which is sometimes effected by spirits may often be accomplished mentally, and
which is sometimes effected by spints
which no longer dwell in the body, as well
as by those which do. Having arrived at this point, te can secure his expulsion from
all regular medical faculties, and when he all regular medical faculties, and when he
has done this be will be in a position to has done this he will be in a position to
acknowledge the just results of what he
sees, however it may limit or lessen the number of those to whom his observation
and conelusions will he acceptable. A Liberal College.
A writer in the Soymour Times expresses many liberals, that a nuiving to be felt by or eulege
shall be founded, in which in addition to many hoeraks, hata universty or cilege
shat be in which in adition to
the education that shall best fit students the education that shall best fit students
for practical tife, the truth of histor con-
cerniag relicions of every kind shal be cernibg relligions of every kind slall be
taught, Sueh a project may not be launch-
ed into working opera'ion in a day, but it
 to gradually, The suggestion that practi-
cal scienee, or seience in the serviceable and usefulstage, shall bs taught more, and
in its abstrati and theoretic stage, less, is
one of geat importanee. In our schools, ellemistry is taught in the abstract stage
irst, and into the praitical staze. And yet the ab.
siract alone is useless nuless consummato ed in the practical. For instance, in
chemistry a student hears mueh of atoms,
attractions, oxygen, nitrogan, carron, hyarogen, ete,
but does, not learn how ink, paper, yeast, bread, dye staifa, leather, cuapowder, or
melicinal drieg of any kind are actualconverted into piam or piss into ohars, or bars
into steel or bow or constructed or the acisis mattery or how to
test adulterated milk, or to refine petroleum 1, or convert corn into sustar, or any thing has gone through all these books has no
move idea of the commerial methods in use in converting cane into sugar ha a re-
finfy, or qrain into alopan in a distilery, or grease into soap, or mill into eheese,
than from rading Casar, he cen tell how
an American citizey is cotiverted into a member of Congress.
Now, in the evolutions of history the
practical neeessarily compes befere the theretical. Why should it not do so in educa-
tion? tions soap making came hefore a knowl.
edge of the chemical distinctions between akalies and acids. Iron was converted into
steel before it was discovered that in this Glass noting preceded an analyis of the
chemical qualities of silex. Why, then, do our edueators teach the theoretical and
never reach the practical in our scliools never rfach the practieal in our schools
and colleges? The actual reason is because
it regures more knowledge in the tacher to teach the practical than to teach the thea class recite in chemisury, who could not smelt an ounce of iron or make a bar of
soap. The arts are generally so useful that nny person who has atan make far more
knowledge of them, can knowledge or them, can make far more
money by praciicig them than by teach-
ing them. Teachers will, in defence of ing them. Teachers will, in defence of
their profession, give other reasons for this
fact, but the real reason why they teach litthe that is practical is because, they know-
litte that is practical little that is practical.
There is a half truth in Richard Grant school systenn ongreat as is the indignation it has provolked The common schools teach
the same things to all, and knowled .ll possess nobody can sell. So with our
colleges. They consume the yearsin which colleges. They consume the years in which
the student must learn how to become a bread winner without teaching him any art
by which to win his bread, except, perhaps, by which to win his bread, except, perhaps,
the teaching of what he has already learned, or the parasitic professions-law, medi-
cine and preaching If our public setools cine and preaching. If our public schools
taught practical arts in some degree, they -would render their graduates more sécure cated "n the three R's' in a publie school, when he came a refugee to America, be
would have starved, Bat as he had been would have starved, But as he had been
taught how to make soap, he sived. The America ever produced, Benjamin Franklin, learhed industry frst and literature
afterwards. We hope to see the time when American education in all grades of sehools, ary; when boys will be taught trades and arts, and giris a thorough knowledge of
cooking, garment.making and the domestic cooking, garment.making and the domestic
economies. No change would do so much furnish every young person with some kind the earliest finoment.
It is also true that there should beat least one college in a country like this wherein the myths and superstitions of religious
history shonld have justice.done them, both in unfolding their causes and their effects. But we must check the tendency of the writer in the Soymour Times in one respect.
He wants grounds to be selected and a building erected as the first step towards beginning would kill it dead, as it has killed hundreds of similar onterprises, A cul-
lege no more needs to begin by putting up lege no mote needds to begin by patting ug
a building than does a grocery or a news on brick and mortar the funds needed to be xpended for educationalpurposes. A col lege should start exactiy us Paul started $180,000,000$ commanicants, now numbers hired house. Whan a college by a prudent purpose of educating youth, has built up a
respected faculty and a large attendance of
students, it is then time for it to seleet its
locaticn, location, and then the funds for building,
purposes will come. Even the existence of purposes will come. Aven the existence of
dormitories for students lowers a college armitories for students lowers a college
into a cheap boarding house and gives rise
to a che to a chronic feeling of disrespect on the
part of the studenty toward therr faculty. part of the students toward their faculty.
Stude ths Bhould know their college Presi.
dents and Prosesoris not as caterers, or feeders of the body, In most American towns the students can get
boarded mrie satisfaetorily away from the college than in it and the moral and educa-
tional induences are better. The fist es sential, therefcre, in founding
to avoid erecting a buidaing.

Nobhing ean better indicate hov degply ated with Materialisen than the answers received by the editors af The christian at
Work to a treular leter, inguiring or vari-
ous elergymen whether miracles ceasee ous clergymen whether miracles ceased
with the apostolic age, or whether Caris tians may expect mixaculous phenomena in
answer to prayer. Imacine a Ohristian praying "o olord, vilit thou hol the laws
"of natare so fixed and irevocable that "there shall be no departure from them.
Let mot the taet that the bleatiag Lamb "has just bean shori of his veot, be any
"reason whatever why thy cuting winds "the specific gravity of the sparrow, rela. "tively to the air in which he endeavorst to "on his part greater than his anatcrical
"organism is fited toput forth, wilt thou,
"0 God omitotent "earth, regard his loss of vitality os and dence that he is not fitted to survive, and his fall to the ground as a more addition
to the fructifying properties of the soll. And as for $\sin , 0$ Lord, let every one get pension of the dessending sword of jus"trusted her life on the ocean stieamer in ignoracee of the fitw in its boiler, or the
"rot in its timbers, go to the botom, just Lord-she ought to examme the steamer "tickets, Let the frail young mother who-
'rises like a dying martyr from her conch "of pais, and struggles forth into the street "or the park, to give her child a breath of "juath recovering trom meats with thever or
"spall-pox - let, 0 Lord, the foolish creaz small-pox-lat, Lord, the foolsh creax
sture suffer for her temerity. Lse thy reases, have full sway, and if the yousg spantlong pet is big erough to hold a case
"of scarlet fever, tet the hot agony of the "like members. Why not? Is not the "communication of disease by cortagion "part of nature"s sacred law, and wilt thous ithy divine beneficence in any of its forms,
not er mysterious or paradoxical they "may seem to us, 0 Lard! And to thy
name be all the glory and hopror. Amen", This is the kind of prayer we should hear
from every pulpit if preachers believed in a reign of natural law, or rather fieh views of the di
would
pertinen pertinence. But everything that is not
law, is miraclel And yet in answer to the the following preachers certify that the whit is under the reign ant relizion, prayer; special providence aad the Deity him-
self have ino particular function to seli have no particular fanction to perform
except to look on and draw their salaries of money and praioe, for an administration which would moveon as well without them. These are President Wm. H. Campbell, of Raptist: President James Mivah Hovey, ton; President E. G. Robinsm, Brown Presbyterian; Prof. Gror R. Orooks, LL. D. Drew Theologicetl Seminary; Prof. Wm. ram Mead, Oberlin; T. W. Chambara, D. D.; W. . Grat, Pa. D; Dr. Johnn Hall, Presby-
terian; Rev. Geo. E, Horr, D. D, Baptist: James.M. Ludlow, D. D., Presbyterian;
Prot. A. R. Peabody, D. D; Dr. E.S. Porter, Reformed Duteh; ĆS. Rubinson, D. D, byterian; Geo. W. Samson, D. D, Buptist,
and Henry J. Van Dgke, D. D., Con grega: tional.
The following on the other hand believe divine or miraculous powers may, and exceptionaly do occur, viL: S Smuel W. Duf-
field, D.D., Preshyterian; A. J. Gordon, D D. Baptist; J. S. Jones, D. D., Presbyterian, Gm. Ormiston, D. D., Raformed Dateh;
Geo. Pentecost, D. D.; Congregitionalist; n, D.D.; Letormed Chureh; ist; J. Le Withrows, D. D. D. Congregregational. ist. A Eew divines sueh as Rev. Dr. Whe,
don, Methodist, and Rev, Dr. Elyar on, Methodist, and Rev. Dr. Elward Jud
son, Byptist, have not yot made up their minds upon the question.
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addational power and bring it nearer to perpetual joy. $\begin{aligned} & \text { And onething like this seemed the soft } \\ & \text { spech of that Decem her day. When we } \\ & \text { turned our faces homeward, a bouquet of }\end{aligned}$ turned our faces homeer bayd, bouquet of
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