

RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL

ARTS, SCIENCES, LITERATURE, ROMANCE AND GENERAL REFORM

Truth wears no mask, bows at no human shrine, seeks neither place nor applause: she only asks a hearing.

VOL. XXXV. CHICAGO, DECEMBER 15, 1883. No. 16

Readers of the JOURNAL are especially requested to send in items of news...

CONTENTS.

- FIRST PAGE.—Death and Its Consequences, or the Bright and the Dark Side of Spiritualism.
SECOND PAGE.—Angelic Ministations, Their Office Under the Divine Administration...

And now what is the use to be made of this truth by its discoverers? for, remember, every mortal must be his own Columbus, and discover the truth for himself...

I expect in this lecture to take some of the facts given to us by spirits and confirmed by clairvoyance, and show you they are in full accord with all the human intellect could reasonably anticipate...

We hear much of "spheres" in spirit-life, and the term is used so indefinitely both by spirits and mortals as to have become almost meaningless...

I have stood by the casket whose closing lid was about to hide the long-loved form forever and ever. The clerical professional comforter stood by my side, and proposed to apply his artificial balm to my wound...

associations as may be most congenial, always subject to the limitations of the spheres. I don't mean the limitations in feet, acres and miles...

Spirit growth has its own laws, and one of them is, that it is dependent upon human will and desire. So the sphere has its rigid limitations as well as its privileges...

But though spire, minaret and dome sparkle in the soft rays of the spirit sun in evidence of man's power and intellect...

Amidst this life with its superior opportunities to those who have gained its shores, come many drawbacks incident to human imperfections...

It has been my fortune to be thrown much into contact with this mental monstrosity, of which our museum curiosity is a true picture...

cries aloud for murder just as your conscience may demand the self-sacrifice of brotherly love. But this human ennobling of conscience has its roots in the knowledge that the man who has not the courage to avow and uphold his opinions...

I have conversed with spirits from this sphere and have listened to their reports of sermons just preached by a minister who had occupied the same pulpit 150 years...

Nature's code of liberty for man gives freedom for manhood to become a slave if it so choose. Every sect and religion has its own heaven, its own surroundings and its own rigid seclusions...

It is time that Spiritualists awake to some of the dangers that belong to spirit-intercourse. We have been hearing for years about its glorious privileges, with here and there a tone thrown in, as if for effect, about obsession and the lunatic asylum...

"We go, and we come again," has its bright side, but alas! it is as much a truth for the lurid flashes of a horribly debased manhood. There are certain plain facts in spirit communion that even the inexperienced can understand...

There are certain plain facts in spirit communion that even the inexperienced can understand. First, that the most advanced spirit finds the greatest difficulty in entering our earth atmosphere...

consequence of this fact, those who are the least advanced can most readily control. But most Spiritualists seem to think of man on earth as at the bottom of a mountain of progress...

The law of harmony gives to the lower spirits a personal contact with matter impossible to the angels; and through the same law they gather into societies in the other life that can only be spoken of as "hells"...

It seems to me that Spiritualists most strangely ignore the very facts that should cause them alarm. They know that many spirits remain so earthy that they live in our houses, and share the very details of our lives...

When you attend the dark circle, under its usual conditions, you sit by a door that is opened wide to far worse hells than your imagination can picture, and as its inmates troop in, you may neither see them nor feel them other than as they offer you soft touches and insulting caresses...

I tell you here, that just as the yellow fever grave grows ripe with the spores of future death, so does the dark circle hide the influences that develop into degradation and misery...

And now how shall we make practical these great truths? Of all dangers the greatest to the sensitive comes from the miscellaneous, inharmonious dark circle. It is a terrible mistake to believe that your own hopes, desires and longings, can build an impassable barrier of purity around you...









Voices from the People, AND INFORMATION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

For the Religio-Philosophical Journal.

A Picture Lesson.

BY O. B. ORMSBY.

A dingy, smoky looking town With low roofed houses, turning brown And larger, brick ones, built for trade...

A breezy, cool, November day From noon to evening wears away Till night at length drops slowly down...

A night of wind, and dashing rain That plashed against the window pane; It seemed a night unfit to roam...

As sparks to tinder, so the drum Through all his fevered pulses ran; He drank, and drank, and drank again...

Who knows what fancy seized his brain While stumbling onward in the rain? Perhaps before his vision spread...

A cottage, standing in the rain With children's faces at the pane; And long they listen, watch and wait...

Sleep on, sad hearts, till morning light Poured on the earth dispels the night; For him who perished by the train...

The bitter echo of a breath "The bitter echo of a breath."

Letter from Ophelia T. Shepard.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Owing to ill-health I shall not resume my labors upon the rostrum for some time to come.

Mrs. Maud Lord has created quite a stir in Waukegan and has excited the curiosity of those who have heard of her name.

He who would fashion the clay of his dreams Into the shining marble of enduring results, And who would strive to be what he seems...

A Chance for the Cheerless, Homeless Children.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Knowing that the columns of the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL are open to those who desire to lessen the sufferings of the poor and unfortunate...

RESPECTED FRIEND HARDING: I cannot help feeling for the sufferings of people West, by floods, cyclones, and losses by fire.

Meeting of the State Association of Spiritualists of Minnesota.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: The State Association of Spiritualists has just closed one of the most successful sessions ever held in this city.

The afternoon session commenced with conference, Mr. Morey leading with a discussion of his forenoon's remarks on the soul, and its probable condition after this life.

The evening session commenced by a voluntary song by Mr. Colby, followed by A. B. French in reply to Mr. Morey's materialistic and theosophical utterances in previous meetings.

Mrs. Shepard-Lillie followed. She alluded to the contest between Spiritualism and materialism, and substantially sustained the position of the former.

Sunday morning session opened at 9 o'clock with a regular meeting in singing. Mrs. Leyer gave an inspirational invocation, following with some friendly remarks in the interest of harmony.

At 11 A. M., Mrs. French presided at the services by reading one of Ella Wheeler's poems, entitled "Progress." After a short invocation, the speaker took up the question, "Is Spiritualism dying?"

At 1 P. M., a conference or medium's meeting was held and attended by some Spiritualists and the amusement of others.

The evening lecture was given by Mrs. Shepard-Lillie upon the question, "What are the Best Evidence of the Truth of the Spiritual Philosophy?"

A Query.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Why does God bring opposites together? Why does he create evil to annihilate it at the supreme or seemingly final moment of triumph...

The Want of a New Religion.

Felix Adler apparently finds that foundation on which he placed himself with such confidence and enthusiastic devotion some years ago is not sufficient for his purposes; that it does not offer the basis for the improvement of the race which he had so fondly and confidently looked for.

The discourse, sermon, or lecture, according to the taste of the reader, which Felix Adler delivered lately at Chickering hall, New York, on "The Want of a New Religion," seems to have excited a considerable interest in the orthodox world.

The Christian church, among its other superstitions, had believed in a personal devil, that had great power and influence over the souls of men, and when the spiritual phenomena became common, it attributed the manifestations of the unseen intelligence to his satanic majesty.

Mr. F. Haslam gave some interesting personal experiences, detailing how he had rid himself of the fear of the devil, and how in his investigation of Spiritualism he had made him a thinker.

In connection with our Fraternity meetings, on the second Friday evening of each month we hold a medium's meeting. Mrs. T. B. Stryker, one of our best public mediums, has the management of these meetings, and the tests given through her mediumship are startling and convincing.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: I desire to inform the many readers of the JOURNAL of the most remarkable reception which I received at the lecture of the Michigan Spiritualists during my sojourn among them this past summer.

Several articles in the last JOURNAL, showing the prevailing new interest in the facts and phenomena of Spiritualism, remind me of what has taken place here within the past few months.

There is considerable excitement in Powell county just now over what some people choose to call the return of a spirit to this earth.

A Spirit Voice.

Mrs. Lou V. Wheeler writes: I should have to die spiritually, if it were not for the JOURNAL. Living in the country, we are deprived of the pleasure of the society of Spiritualists.

The Telegraph. The Veritas Naturkunde of Gwickau, Saxony, in a circular addressed to German scientific associations, calls attention to the fact that in the year 1882 the first year of the invention of the electric telegraph by Prof. Wilhelm Weber...

The Brooklyn Spiritual Fraternity.

The announcement that Prof. Henry Kiddle, of New York City, would lecture before the Fraternity, Friday evening, Dec. 8th, attracted an appreciative audience. The subject selected by the speaker was, "Spiritualism and Christian Superstition."

Another superstition of the church is its deification of Jesus as God, which is contrary to the teachings of the Bible. It separates false beliefs and superstitions of the Christian church with the revelations of modern Spiritualism, and the beneficent effect of the new revelation in obliterating from the minds of men these superstitions, and as men and women come more closely in rapport with the Spirit-world and with spiritual beings, it had a marked effect upon the individual and the race.

Mr. John Jeffreys was the next speaker. Mr. J. was formerly a lay preacher, the Methodist church, and said that he could remember the time when he believed the Bible to be the very word of God, every word and line.

Mr. F. Haslam gave some interesting personal experiences, detailing how he had rid himself of the fear of the devil, and how in his investigation of Spiritualism he had made him a thinker.

Brooklyn, N. Y. S. B. NICHOLS.

The Labors of W. A. Mansfield.

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Remarkable Appearance of a Spirit.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Several articles in the last JOURNAL, showing the prevailing new interest in the facts and phenomena of Spiritualism, remind me of what has taken place here within the past few months.

Many years ago I commenced to investigate Spiritualism. In the year 1861, I made my home with my sister and her husband. She never was a rugged woman. In the fall I went on a visit to an adjoining county for two or three days, and on returning home my sister did not know me.

Mr. Cook's Strange Death.

Further investigation of the strange death of Lafayette Cook, of Auburn, emphasizes the remarkable features of the case. The coroner has made careful examination and finds the medical facts to be as stated. He found the body lying as Cook had laid himself out, and the most life-like corpse he had ever examined.

"Cook dead," exclaimed he. "There is something singular about that. He has been saying for two weeks that he was going to die Monday morning. Two weeks ago he went into a trance and made the announcement. My sister came over to our house last week and said that her grandfather was getting ready to die and that he was going to die Monday morning."

About two months ago Cook's daughter-in-law died. Among the most sincere mourners was her father-in-law. He accompanied her remains to the grave and expressed the sincerest solicitude toward his grandchildren. It was just after the death of Mrs. Cook that Cook made his first statement in regard to his coming dissolution.

Unitarianism. To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: I have read with much interest Bro. Stebbins's article on "The Aspects and Opportunities of Modern Unitarianism."

Mrs. Emeline S. Fairchild, of Newton, Conn., writes: I renew my subscription to the faithful JOURNAL which has for long years paid me its weekly visits, and I have learned to prize it above any other spiritual paper.

A Sunshiny Husband.

A Sunshiny Husband. A sunshiny husband makes a merry, beautiful home, worth having, worth working in and for. If the man is breezy, cheery, considerate and sympathetic, his wife's life in his heart over her windings, and her mending basket, and renews her youth in the security she feels of his approbation and admiration.

A E. Stanley writes: The tone of the JOURNAL and the character of the communications I like. Tiffany, Tuttle and Stebbins are good supporters to the cause. They are able and candid.

Westminster Abbey. The acrition in favor of an enlargement of Westminster Abbey is growing rapidly, and plans are being submitted for the proposed extension. The discussion of the condition of the cloister has revealed some unpleasant facts.

Prediction of Death. To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Many years ago I commenced to investigate Spiritualism. In the year 1861, I made my home with my sister and her husband.

Four-Winged Chicken. The Coffee County (S. C.) Gazette writes: "We have in our office on exhibition a young chicken with four legs and four wings, which was sent us by Mr. E. H. McDaniel. It has two bodies, which intersect at the wings, forming but one head which answers the purpose of the two bodies. When the chicken is in a certain position we have body No. 1 corresponding with the head; turn it over and we have body No. 2, which claims the same right to the head as the first mentioned body."

The Hand That Rocks the World.

Blessings on the hand of woman! Angels guard her strength and grace In the cottage, palace, hovel,...

Discovery of a Buried Village. A buried village has been found by the Hon. Amado Chavez a mile from his house near Socorro, N. M. Mr. Chavez writes to the Santa Fe Register: "It is built of stone. The outer walls are three feet wide, and the city is large enough to have accommodated 3,000 souls."

Kind Words. Children think much more deeply than we imagine, we should therefore answer their questions to the best of our ability, and with kindly interest.

Prayer. The extraordinary facility that has recently attended prayer has not frightened the praying women of a town in Connecticut which rejoices in the picturesque and fertile vale of Westgate.

The English Poor. The Saturday Review (Tory) referring to the condition of the English poor says that the discussions on this subject have made three things clear enough: "First, the existing rookeries must come down as soon as possible."

Cause of Atheism. The Rev. Arthur Griffiths, Congregational clergyman, said in a sermon at London that "much of the atheism of the present day among English workmen arose from the fact that the church had never championed the cause of the oppressed against the oppressor."

A Female Miser. A female miser, 83 years of age, was found dead in London a few days ago. She owned several houses, 100 acres of land and \$6,000 in cash.

Two Bottles of Ely's Cream Balm cured the wife of a well known U. S. General and also a army officer in Arizona of Catarrh. Price 50c. Pleasant to use. Apply by finger.

Contentment swells the mitre into a talent, and makes even the poor richer than the Indies. "My wife had fits for 35 years," says Henry Clark, of Fairfield, Mich. "Samaritan Nervine cured her." Your Druggist keeps it.

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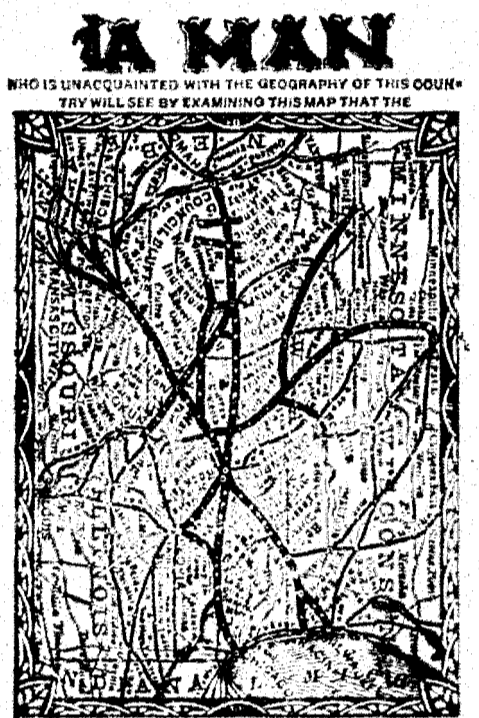
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Table with columns: Leave, Arrive, and train routes like Chicago and Rock Island Express, Rock Island and Pacific Express, etc.



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