

Religio-Philosophical Journal

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

The RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL desires it to be distinctly understood that it can accept no responsibility...

CHICAGO, ILL., Saturday, October 20, 1883.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Subscriptions not paid in advance are charged at the old price of \$3.15 per year.

Evangelism.

It takes a great variety of people to make a world, as has been often said, and the oldest and most observing man is in a state of chronic surprise at discovering new species of the genus homo...

Of course, as Evangelism comes to be a recognized industry, a host of new appliances, unknown in immature ages of the world, are pressed into the service.

Ordinarily, when a minister in any church has preached his old sermons with as many new texts as could be made to fit them with a little stretching, when the people have got tired of listening or sleeping, and begin noticeably to stay away from church...

sure to receive applications—urgent ones—"guaranteeing conversions" for low pay, so soon as it is suspected there is a chance of engagement.

What is the result? What the effect on individuals and community? Much less than is claimed. Many are brought into the Church in a hurry...

Religion becomes a series of spasms—not a life, and the church is really weaker after each convulsion.

Dr. Talmage, of Brooklyn, is quoted as saying that out of 600,000 population, not more than 100,000 go to church, and not over 20,000 get any good by going.

And right here comes in the Spiritualist's philosophy as a solvent. Let preachers of every sect study it more and they will profit thereby.

A Kind Act.

We are glad to learn from the current news of the day that Secretary Folger has a kind heart. It appears that John Carroll, for ten years a watchman at the Treasury Department, has been going down to the grave during the last year with consumption.

"Carroll is a mere skeleton, poor fellow, and cannot live many weeks. Shall we carry him up to see you? He says he would bore you but a moment!" Secretary Folger replied: "No, do not ask him to stand that ordeal.

On the Watch.

I see in the JOURNAL an advertised watch, called the New American Lever Watch and a recommendation to the readers of the JOURNAL to buy the watch as a good time-keeper.

We know nothing of the watch beyond the information contained in the advertisement, which comes to the JOURNAL through a reputable advertising agency.

Mr. Geo. P. Colby, Mrs. Stimpson and others addressed the Spiritual Communion Meeting last Sunday, conducted by Mrs. S. E. Brown, at the West End Opera House.

J. Frank Baxter in Trouble.

On another page will be found an account which places Mr. J. Frank Baxter in a most unpleasant predicament.

To continuous readers of the JOURNAL it goes without saying that in considering cases involving the honesty of a medium no sectarian or party feeling, no personal friendship, no fear of "hurting the cause," no false interpretation of charity has the slightest weight with our judgment or colors our criticism.

The circumstances of the case are briefly these: A lecturer on Spiritualism who also claims to be clairvoyant and clairaudient, offers his services to the public; the most interesting feature in his platform work is the science at the close of his lecture, during which he describes, personates and gives names of those who have died, with dates and, sometimes, striking incidents connected with their lives.

We make it a part of our business to study the character and history of every medium, lecturer and writer who comes in any way prominently before the public.

It may be superfluous to continue; but to more completely inform the reader of the impartial character of our judgment, we will add: Mr. Baxter is not, and never has been, we think, a subscriber to, or regular reader of, the JOURNAL, neither has he ever done us or the JOURNAL a personal favor that has come to our knowledge.

So long as Spiritualists, as a body or in any considerable number, lump mediums, honest and tricky, together and demand equal consideration for each, regardless of their respective merits, just so long must Mr. Baxter, a temperate, virtuous, honest man, a gentleman, remain on practically the same footing as the hoodlum, Jas. A. Bliss, or the drunken rowdy, Charles E. Watkins.

Mr. Geo. P. Colby at Lester's Academy.

On Sunday evening last, George P. Colby, trance speaker, delivered an excellent address at No. 619 West Lake Street, taking for his subject: "The Needs of the Hour."

The controlling influence—impressed upon the minds of those present the necessity of more thorough culture, and a more complete understanding of the philosophy of our glorious cause, on the part of mediums as well as others in our ranks.

The Notorious Anna Eva Fay.

The Portage Democrat facetiously states that Spiritualism took a "great boom" "last Sunday night," when 500 people forsook their church duties and went to hear Anna Eva Fay's "religious illustrated lecture," claiming that if the "fool killer had stood at the door when the audience came out, he couldn't have found a victim in the crowd."

"We do not know that the general public of Portage are to be blamed for being humbugged by this Annie Eva Fay Combination, but there are very many intelligent Spiritualists in that city who certainly are blameworthy for not exposing the real character of this notorious spiritual fraud."

Death of Prof. Wm. Denton.

Just as we were going to press this week, we received the following note from Mrs. E. M. F. Denton:

"I just received a cablegram from the East Indies, announcing that Mr. Denton is dead. My sons are coming home."

With deep regrets we read the announcement of the transition from earth to spirit life of Prof. Denton. Eminent as a geologist, eloquent as a speaker, widely known as an author and profound thinker, and universally esteemed for his many sterling qualities, his premature demise is a great loss to Spiritualism and the world.

Cremation.

When the Belgian chemist M. Creteur was charged with the purification of the battlefield of Sedan, he was compelled to resort to cremation in order to dispose of the heaps of half-covered bodies.

The Denver (Col.) Republican publishes a lengthy article upon cremation, giving the views of physicians and others of that city upon it as a sanitary measure.

GENERAL NOTES.

Notices of Meetings, movements of Lecturers and Mediums, and other items of interest, for this column are solicited, but as the paper goes to press Tuesday A. M., such notices must reach this office on Monday.

Dr. E. D. Babbitt has removed to 143 Cutter St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Macon, Georgia, has a somnambulist who is only two and a half years old.

English church dignitaries are interested just now in the work of evangelizing the people of Terra del Fuego.

Mr. John McDougall of New Orleans, passed through Chicago last week on his way home, having spent the summer in the North.

A lady in Augusta, Me., possesses four kittens, a few days old, which are connected together in somewhat the same manner as were the Siamese twins.

G. B. Stebbins spoke at Whittier Grange Hall, near Gurnee, Ill., on Sunday last at 11 o'clock, to a good audience, notwithstanding the storm and bad roads.

The Theosophist for September is to hand and contains the usual amount of interesting reading matter upon Oriental philosophy, art, literature and occultism, mesmerism and other sciences. Price 50 cents a copy; for sale at this office.

Mrs. O. E. Turner is the name of the author of the "Sturta-Stiles Tragedy," instead of Mrs. O. G. Turner, as announced in the JOURNAL. The book can be obtained by addressing the author at Fredonia, N. Y. Price \$1.00; postage 9 cents.

The Rainbow is the name of a paper just started at Sydney, New South Wales, and devoted exclusively to the interests of the Children's Progressive Lyceum.

A social meeting was held under the auspices of the Glasgow Spiritualists' Association, on the evening of the 11th of September, on the occasion of presenting Mr. David Duguid with a testimonial, in acknowledgment of his long and valuable services on behalf of Spiritualism.

The Liberal says: "The progress being made by the Australian Secular Association is of the most gratifying nature. Although not yet a year old, its member roll now numbers 500, and fresh candidates for membership are constantly coming forward."

Wm. C. Bowen will lecture for the Brooklyn Spiritual Fraternity in the Church of the New Spiritual Dispensation, Clinton Avenue below Myrtle, Friday evening, Oct. 19th, at 7:30 P. M. Subject: "Spirit Mediumship."

On Saturday evening of last week, Mr. Geo. P. Colby gave a séance in the editor's library. Mrs. L. B. Sayles being present. Three spirits controlled, gave their names, fully identified themselves and spoke at considerable length.

Appropos of Matthew Arnold's visit to America, Professor Beers, of Yale, will discuss, in "Open Letters" of the November Century, Matthew Arnold's curious criticism on American civilization, published nearly two years ago.

The Edmunds plan of putting an end to polygamy by disfranchising those who are guilty of it has not proved a success, and is doomed to further failure.

W. S. Pettit, of Alliance, Ohio, writes: "Lyman C. Howe at Alliance, Ohio, was greeted to a grand surprise Sunday morning, 7th inst. Our janitor, Mr. Jos. Osterstock, surprised every one by his beautiful decorations of the platform at Independent Church."

Mr. Irving Bishop, September 15th, gave his farewell performance in Liverpool, Eng., which consisted, says the Post of that city, of some conjuring experiments, a little thought-reading, and a superabundance of egotistical description and wholesale vituperation ament the recent Labouchere challenge.

