

Voices from the People.

AND INFORMATION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

Out of the Night.

BY REV. H. A. REID.
Out of the night, into the light,
And over the river of fear,
We leap, we fly, and touch the sky,
And feel its music near.

Honest Mediums.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
If there is any one thing more than another, that brings disrespect on the cause of Spiritualism and discouragement to candid investigators, it is a want of moral honesty and truthful uprightness in some mediums.

A Curious Experience.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
While in Lowell, Mass., Prof. Cadwell was giving a series of mesmeristic entertainments, in which I became greatly interested, and not having seen anything of the kind before, I could not believe it possible that one man could have such wonderful power over another.

Manifestations Through C. H. Brown.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
Thinking it may be of interest to the readers of your good journal, I will give some of my experiences in what I have witnessed in the way of spirit manifestations through C. H. Brown, the medium.

The Course of the Journal Endorsed.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
I have been taking the JOURNAL for several years, and think it is doing great good in the cause of spiritual enlightenment. I admire your course in combating the old theories earnestly and strongly, but respectfully, I also heartily approve your course in commending and exposing mediums that are frauds and deceivers.

Was it Objective or Subjective?

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
The New York World of February 8th, published a special despatch from Harrisburg, Pa., giving news of a strange and mysterious occurrence at Millersburg, Dauphin County. It appears that on Thursday morning there was a jovial crowd in the hotel.

An Appeal on Behalf of Social Purity.

CHICAGO, February 15, 1886.
To all who think that not only "Fallen Men," but "Fallen Women" can be saved.
A practical movement has been started in Chicago, which has for its motto, "Not willing that any should perish." Its object is to go out into the highways and hedges, seeking to save the lost; to reach out pure and friendly hands to the fallen, and have hope of restoration to a good and useful life.

The Ideal Man.

The ideal man expresses the moral tone of the age. The point which the aspirations of man reach, if that is his highest aspiration, will be high. If low, his aspirations will be low. In the age of chivalry the ideal man charged in fury against the villain, as a male knight. In the Elizabethan age, he became the accomplished man of letters. In the beginning of the present century, when Napoleon, Wellington and Washington rose to the zenith of their fame, he took the field as a commander in the mechanical arts, then a politician, and finally a man of science.

Independent State-Writing.

This beautiful phase of mediumship, so satisfactory and convincing, is rapidly gaining ground in the world. There are probably, at this time, more persons sitting for development in this phase than for any other; and many mediums for other phases are also anxious to add independent writing to their gifts.

A Son Appears to His Mother.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
I will vouch for the absolute correctness of the following: The mother and all the family live in Cleveland, Ohio, but the son William was in New York City for some time prior to his death, and had not been home for a number of weeks. The facts came from Cleveland to this city in this form: "Mrs. J. — has been in trouble lately; has lost her son Will. He was taken sick on the second of January in New York, with pneumonia, and died on the seventh." They did not know a word about it until a message came that he was dead.

Scientific Believed by Cocaine.

Dr. W. B. Menz, of Vidalia, La., writes to the Medical Record that he was called to see a lady, fifty-five years of age, who had been a constant sufferer from acidities for ten years. The pain was very severe, and extended along the entire length of the spine. She had run the whole gamut of anti-acidic remedies, and had never obtained any relief.

A GREAT FRAUD.

A Nevada Audience Victimized by Prof. Hume's Suicide Tricks.
The religious illustrated lecture on Spiritualism advertised to take place at Moore's Opera House, was the worst and most complete fraud ever perpetrated on the people of Nevada.
Fifteen minutes before the doors were opened for this so-called "religious" show, the steps and entrance to the Opera House were crowded with a surging mass of people, many of whom were anxious to get a glimpse of the "manifestations" to be produced at this wonderful " séance."

J. Frank Baxter in Washington.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
I have spent several winters in Washington and the idea that Spiritualism was at a rather low ebb in this city, has been quite general. There seemed to be great difficulty in getting people to attend the lectures which have been given from the spiritual point of view.

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Spiritualism in Cincinnati, Ohio.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:
We have a society of Liberal Spiritualists here. The officers are as follows: A. L. Stanford, Pres. No. 291 Elm street; Harry Strotman, Sec.; Mary Roberts, Treas. We have been organized about four months and have a membership of thirty earnest workers in the cause. We have a lyceum (the only one here) with about fifty scholars. We meet every Sunday at 2 P. M., at Eagle Hall, southeast corner of Eighth street and Central avenue. We need books and various other things for the lyceum, and respectfully ask the assistance of the Spiritualists of Cincinnati in sustaining our lyceum and getting books, etc. We have had a hard struggle to sustain the lyceum, depending entirely on a few who are blessed with only what their daily labors bring in.

Notes and Extracts on Miscellaneous Subjects.

The word Shenandoah means "the daughter of the stars."
The greatest depth of the ocean is said to be 7,706 fathoms.
Manitowish, Mich., has an orchestra composed of fourteen young women.
The Mexican Government supports 10,000 public schools, with facilities equal to many of our colleges.
The prospects for a greatly increased yield of bullion from Colorado in 1886 are said to be very promising.
George and Martha Washington were arraigned on the same day recently at a police court within sight of Mt. Vernon.
In a cemetery in Ohio there is a tombstone with the following inscription: "Christiana Haag, died Feb. 31, 1869."
Los Angeles, Cal., rejoices in the possession of a black Morocco grapevine which has produced three crops of fruit since May last.
One of the latest "fads" for preserving health and beauty is to drink a glass of hot water before breakfast, and it is largely practiced.
The oldest and largest tree in the world is a chestnut near the foot of Mount Etna. The circumference of the main trunk is 212 feet.
A mathematician who had a little spare time recently weighed the earth, and found it tipped the scales at exactly 5,855,000,000,000 tons.
Mrs. Desdemona Wadsworth Fuller Smith, who died recently in Salt Lake City aged 76 years, was one of the first of Prophet Joe Smith's wives.
The vitality of widows astonishes the Pension Bureau. There are now on the rolls the names of 17,212 women, widows of soldiers of the war of 1812.
There were 40,712 persons employed in the oyster interest in Maryland last season, and 9,000,000 bushels were taken from the waters, the aggregate value of which was \$2,250,000.
A fond father was greatly surprised the other day to find that his daughter, who had been attending the public schools of Louisville, Ky., for a number of years, has never heard of Gen. Robert E. Lee.
There is a small little girl (in Cod) Rapid, Nebraska. She is nine years old, and the other day she wrote an account of a children's party, set it up in type, and corrected the proof and the work was well done, too.
The extent to which steel rails are taking the place of iron rails is illustrated by the fact that the production of iron rails has fallen in the United States from 500,000 tons in 1880 to less than 15,000 tons in 1885.
A Texas editor is one of the curiosities in Washington at present, by reason of his extraordinarily high salary. He was a Whig in 1844, and made a vow that he would never shave his beard or cut his hair until Clay was elected President.
George Leib, a colored carpenter of Savannah, Ga., fell backward from a third story scaffolding the other day, turned a complete somersault, struck squarely on his feet, looked around to see if any one was hurt, and quietly climbed back to his work.
Several citizens of New Haven, with worthy forethought, have had their graves dug and tombstones erected. The graves are stoned up and sealed over, to protect them from the weather, and the stones are all lettered, except the date of death.
"Too the boggran slide" read the signs attached to a sleigh that led a funeral train at Saratoga. The solemn procession had proceeded about two yards when a bystander called attention to the printed cards, which were quickly removed by the driver.
A Maine farmer astonished even the natives by ingenuity in keeping warm. On the forward part of his sled was rigged a small tight shanty, in which were a comfortable seat and a hot stove. Two small holes admitted the reins and a pane of glass let him see whether he was going.
A few years ago the Montreal Witness, being a strong temperance journal, refused to publish advertisements of saloons. One day, however, it printed an advertisement headed "Schooners for Sale," and giving time and place. It was an announcement of the opening of a larger beer saloon.
Canadian lumber dealers are now glad to buy the black walnut fence rails which farmers split and used as they would any other timber twenty or thirty years ago. The long exposure has seasoned the wood thoroughly, and it is valuable as material for chair legs, spindles, and other small articles.
Capt. Tom Gregory of Winchester, Tenn., has a unique pair of gloves. They were made by Miss Nannie Phillips, who snared a lot of rabbits, carded and spun their fur as if it were wool, and from the same she knitted the gloves. She treated the back of each glove with the ear of a full grown rabbit.
One of the novel signs seen about the docks on a recent morning, observes a Jacksonville, Fla., paper, was a schooner discharging a part of its cargo here, which consisted of orange crate material manufactured in Baltimore out of Florida yellow pine, which had been shipped from Jacksonville previously in bulk.
A writer in the British Medical Journal advises people to be careful not to slip up a pineapple with the same knife they use in peeling it, as the rind contains an acid which is so strong that it is likely to cause a swollen mouth and sore lips. In Cuba salt is used as an antidote for the poison of pineapple peel.
Doorkeeper Date of the Connecticut House of Representatives has ten cartridges that were carried by Judge B. Gage in the retreat from New London in the war of 1812. They are hand made, the wrappers being pieces of newspapers, and the round balls are kept in place by tow strings. Mr. Gage when 90 years old gave the relics to Mr. Date.
A photograph of the American breech-loading rifle gun which has successfully passed the ordeal at Sandy Hook represents it as looking like an immense champagne bottle. "It makes a louder pop, however," says the Boston Transcript, "as with 255 pounds of powder it sends a projectile weighing 800 pounds whizzing at the rate of 1,340 feet per second."
William Rowley and a gang of men were working in the gravel pit of Biddford, Me., when a cave-in began. All managed to jump out except Rowley, who was buried up to his neck. The accident was his share as far as he could. The accident saved his life for every other shovel was buried by the slide; but working with Rowley's shovel and their hands the men dug him out, not much hurt, but very badly scared.
Samuel J. Piper and Albert G. Herndon were life prisoners in the Albany penitentiary for robbing a mail coach in Texas. When the recent epidemic of typhoid fever broke out in the jail they volunteered as nurses, and both rendered valuable services until Piper himself was taken ill. He is just recovering. Their heroic conduct induced Albany officials to ask for their pardon, and a telegram was received on Thursday saying the pardons had been granted.
An English stage manager is said to have invented a method of preparing a stage army without the use of too many supernumeraries. He had eight wax heads carefully modeled, and these were fixed on dumplings of wicker work clad in suitable uniform or armor. Each "sue" in the company carried two of these figures attached to a sort of frame work, so that it was as if three men were acting as one. As this army marched past, with all the paraphernalia of war the audience was completely deceived.
Mr. Newman, an English resident at Antwerp, in order to test the theory of migration, made two new ponds, and stocked one with pike and the other with small, fresh water fish, such as dace, perch, barbel, etc. After two days he had both ponds emptied, when it was found that some of the pike had traveled by some means or other from their own pond into that of their neighbors, and had devoured the greater part of them. That these pike should have taken more than two days to think out their march, and put it in practice is an additional proof that the water world is at least possessed of a prompt, decided character.
A new boy evangelist has appeared in St. Louis. His name is Louis Mysonheimer, and his age is twenty-two. His pulpit manner, and his description are unlike, not to say ludicrous. "One moment he is calmly reading a passage of scripture and the next he is shouting, 'Hallelujah! Hallelujah!' and he is holding the people to turn from their evil ways and be saved ere it is too late." "What are your terms?" asked a reporter of the evangelist. "I have no terms," was the answer. "I require no salary. The preacher and the Lord attend to that. I go by the sixth chapter of Matthew."

SPIRIT MANIFESTATIONS.

Sudden Appearance of a Spirit in the Forest. -The Spirit of a Little Girl.

BY DR. R. P. WRIGHT.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Am I a Spiritualist? Well, I am sure I do not know, because I am not certain that I clearly understand just what is meant by the term. Why? Because I have never tried to inform myself on the subject, and, until recently, it has never been my pleasure to hold conversation with those who claim an acquaintance with the Spirit-world.

Just why all men and women cannot or do not come in contact with the departed I cannot say; I am inclined to think they do, but know it not; but here is what I would call attention to: We of America are indeed a free and independent people; we are ever surrounded with personal liberty and political freedom, in every respect our own masters and guaranteed the privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of our own consciences.

If the Bible teaches anything it certainly teaches what I suppose is Spiritualism, and Christ and the Apostles taught it in the most unmistakable terms.

SPIRITUAL MANIFESTATIONS.

Five years ago I was in the pine woods district of Louisiana with a party of camp-hunters. One dark, cloudy afternoon, while in quest of game, I suddenly realized that the sombre curtains of night were rapidly unfolding, and that I was - lost. I sat down on an old hickory log to listen for some noise at the camp.

Four years ago I was prospecting for gold in Mexico. At the close of one long summer day, not feeling well, I withdrew from my comrades and sought the hospitality of an elderly Mexican whose thatched hut hung on the southern slope of a mountain overlooking the green valley below, the vineyard and onion patch.

was at first astonished, but I soon, almost in an instant, became satisfied that what I heard was the voice of a spirit. The poor child cried most pitifully and began coming down. A short ladder reached against the tree, and until the crying child reached this ladder I saw nothing.

Denison, Texas.

CHRISTIANITY AND SPIRITUALISM.

BY W. N. DAVIDSON.

Much truth is couched in the adage, "Once a priest always a priest," and it would be as true to say, "Once a sectarian, always such," so prone is the mind to continue in, or to return to, its old familiar ruts.

The writer is a plain man, unlearned in the Greek, ignorant of the various shades of meaning which may inhere in the word *Kristos*, and he may be considered obnoxious to the charge of "illiterate iconoclasm"; but to him the term Christian Spiritualism seems very like an invasion of the proper order of words; rather it would appear as though the Christian world should be heard to insist upon projecting into their religion a liberal ingredient of modern Spiritualism.

The proposition that there is any great similarity between modern Spiritualism and the Christianity known to the world's experience, is based on a total misapprehension, or a monstrous perversion of the facts.

Of all the actors in the great drama of earth the bloodiest and most implacable has been Christianity.

All of this is plausible, but why insist on adopting as an adjective to qualify Spiritualism a foreign word meaning, as is alleged, the aggregate of all perfection, while the fact remains that the word whose qualification is desired means all of that in itself?

Why not allow the term Christian, so suggestive of memories of discord, enmity and carnage, to sink into desuetude, and be laid away among the useless lumber of the past, in the garrets of the ages, never more to become the fruitful parent of disorder?

the man, and Christ the divinity. For the most part they have never heard of it, but have supposed that Jesus and Christ were but names of one and the same individual.

Will the calling of Spiritualism Christian hasten in the least degree the glad time when philosophy shall be freed from superstition, and religion from dogmatism? Would that course aid in building up the cause we have so much at heart, making it mighty to the pulling down of the walls that bigotry has reared between man and his brother man?

Against Jesus, the son of Joseph and Mary, there is no reason for bias. According to the collated accounts he was a man at least fully up to the level of his contemporaries in ethics and morals, comparing favorably with any of the reformers who had preceded him, and his memory ought not to suffer for the misdeeds of such as committed wrongs in his name.

What is a Christian? What is Christianity? These questions, propounded to the reverend doctors themselves, would, if responded to at all, receive as many irreconcilable answers as there are sects.

Luverne, Minn.

BROOKLYN SPIRITUAL DIARY.

Experiences with the Controlling Spirit, Jimmy Hicks.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:

As promised, I forward you a few extracts from my journal. It was the last seance I witnessed at the residence of my friend, Mr. Nelson, although I attended many through the preceding winter.

"Oh no," he replied, "I had a good deal to do."

"Well, Mr. Bryan, did you bury his body deep enough, and sod it down workmanlike, and all that?" said Jimmy.

Recent excavations at the Acropolis at Athens have resulted in the discovery of six mutilated female statues in marble. These fragments, which are colored and belong to the period before Phidias, cannot fail to be of great importance in the history of art, as no museum in Europe possesses works of this period.

ism within me; and I must say I looked forward to the meeting of this present seance with great anxiety, as I had something to request.

I here gave a statement to the company of what occurred. Every night for a week past I had a different species of manifestation, the first night two large and powerful hands were pressed upon my mouth so hard, indeed, as to be hurtful.

He promptly promised to do that, and has so done, as I have not been startled by them since. These are to me remarkable occurrences, and if necessary could be verified by many still living witnesses.

Not by Our "Will," but While We Live.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal:

Rev. James Freeman Clarke says many beautiful things. He gives the following: "Mrs. Oliphant, in one of her stories, has described how an old lady, whose only fault was a modest self-indulgence, saw after she had entered the other world how wicked she had been in neglecting to make any provision in her will for one whom she ought to have taken care of; and Mrs. Oliphant tells how the old lady tried to come back and rectify this error, but only succeeded in frightening some persons by her helpless apparition.

"I am afraid that if persons are to suffer hereafter for not making a just and good disposition of their property by will, there will be a great deal of misery from that cause. Too often a man's testament is just what the name implies - it is his will, not his conscience, not his reason, not his heart, only his will. He says: 'Shall I not do what I will with my own?' He forgets that he must answer for the use of this power, as of all others. He seeks to find some way by which he can still hold his property after death. This feeling produced by all those abuses which the law calls by the expressive word mortmain - the dead hand. The statute of mortmain was intended to prevent the very abuse which Jesus denounced as practiced by the Pharisees, who allowed persons to alienate their property from their relations by dedicating it to the Temple, and calling it *corban* - that is, a gift to God. Dying persons were persuaded by priests that their sins would be forgiven if they gave their property to the church and disinherited their heirs. There was at one time danger that a large part of the land in England would go into the possession of the church, and the English law of mortmain declares that land must not be given for such purposes by a deed or will executed by a dying man. He must give his land for charitable objects in his lifetime, or not at all.

"When our friends leave for another world, how often we say, 'Why did I not do differently during all those years when I had them?' Why was I not more considerate of their feelings, more attentive to their needs, more thoughtful of ways in which I could have made them happy? Why was I so cold and selfish, so hard and overbearing, so irritable, so determined to have my own way? Why was I not kinder? Why did I not appreciate more their goodness? Alas! I see it all now, when it is too late. How often I wounded the feelings of that dear friend who was to me so true and faithful, so loving and tender, so conscientious and pure! Too late! Too late! If it were all to do again, how different my conduct would be?"

"If I had thought so soon she would have died. He said, I had been tenderer in my speech, I had a moment lingered at her side. And held her, ere she passed beyond my reach, if I had thought so soon she would have died."

"When we ourselves go away, leaving our work undone, or badly done, will there be needed any greater punishment than to see what good we might have done and did not do, or what lasting evil we have caused, which we might have avoided."

There is a beautiful, practical sentiment permeating the above that can not fail to have a beneficial influence. J. O.

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