

The Spiritualism Before "Modern" Spiritualism.

BY THOS. HARDING.

No. 7.

AMERICA.

"Westward the course of empire takes its way. Times noblest offspring is the last." - Bishop Berkeley.

"Thy voice sounds like a prophet's word; And in its hollow tones are heard The thanks of millions yet to be." - Fitz-Green Hatfield.

The branch of Spiritualism which is treated of in these papers is but the outward manifestation of the presence of what are called, though erroneously, disembodied spirits, and of their power over physical laws and mundane things.

The world has advanced to that degree that it can no longer accept mere statements in regard to spiritual subjects, but demands proof sufficient to satisfy the requirements of reason.

When nature awakens an appetite she at the same time supplies that which will satisfy that appetite; for every need she furnishes an answering supply, and as her children grow in stature, like a watchful mother she clothes them with suitably fitting garments; necessity invites salvation.

Never let it be supposed, however, that outward manifestations, or what are called phenomena, will satisfy any thing more than the intellectual demand. The soul has desires which nothing external can supply, and each soul has demands peculiarly its own for which peculiar answers are vouchsafed.

When Nelson, the English naval commander, was a young man he lost one of his eyes in battle. In a sea fight some time afterwards he commanded a British frigate which, with his usual dash, he ran in between two lines of the enemy's ships, and was pounding away, right and left, when his chief officer hurried up to him.

Just so with the uncompromising materialist, when he wants (?) to look into Spiritualism, he puts the glass up to his blind eye.

But plain statements such as those which I hope to relate, coming from reliable sources, and proving that what is called Spiritualism had been in our own country before the Rochester knockings, or even the manifestations amongst the Shakers, which are said to have occurred some years before, ought to carry, at least, some weight with them to any one who really wants to get at the truth in regard to the subject.

Yes, the old American World is an unknown world to us; it is easier to trace occurrences of one thousand years ago in Europe than those of a couple of centuries old on this continent.

Lifel! Lifel! What a wonderful thing is lifel! What an endless chain it is—ever changing its subjects, yet itself ever unchanged!

It was once maintained, and some maintain still, that in some way the moon governs the weather, or is the key to the state of the weather, both now and for the future; at least till the next quarterly change.

Many readers of the JOURNAL will remember a co-operative association which existed some 30 or 40 years ago, more or less, in Northern Indiana, which was established for educational and business purposes.

"I read an article of yours recently," said Mr. Anderson, "named 'Providential Occurrence,' in which you told of having been levitated in crossing the railroad catwalk, and which reminded me of an incident in the early life of my mother.

"The evening became darker and darker as she proceeded, but she knew the road so well that she experienced no serious difficulty in finding her way. She distinctly remembered going down the incline approaching the river, then crossing the river and going up the usual path to her home.

Now here is something that cannot be gainsaid. Objections and cavillings which may, in other phases of experience, answer a skeptic's purpose, will not apply in this. It is absolute and palpable.

THE BURDEN OF SUPERFLUOUS OPINIONS.

Letter from Judge E. S. Holbrook.

I write you from the center of New England (having found my way hither from San Francisco, whence I last wrote you, by the Southern route through most of the principal cities on the way as well as the deserts and the fruitful places, and seen whatever I could of things both temporal and spiritual; and how beautiful, how wonderful, especially the latter) and I am to begin where I left off in my last (by invitation, too) and proceed with the subject of "SIGNS" as I intimated.

We pity the man who has burdens to carry, and how foolish in him if his work is worse than useless; especially, if thereby he cannot take up and carry that which is valuable that comes in his way; and how much do we see of this in humanity.

After astrology, as in my last, the supposed science of the stars after the advance of astronomy—comes

It was once maintained, and some maintain still, that in some way the moon governs the weather, or is the key to the state of the weather, both now and for the future; at least till the next quarterly change.

(They go further and say that planting should be done on the increase of the moon, that there may be the more surely a bountiful crop—an increase; and they will kill pork on the increase of the moon, or the full, that it may not fall away in the pot, and the like of these, but let these pass now) (and they say, too, that the moon has an effect on the mind, producing insanity sometimes and in some way, I don't know how, and this thought so strongly prevailed once that the moon (Luna, Latin), gave the name to insanity—lunacy; but let this pass now.

ANY SUCH INTIMATE CONNECTION between the earth and the moon it belongs to them to furnish the proof; and surely so as they are dealing with material forms, according to the rules of material science.

"What seems so is transition." By a change of position, regular, and by persistent law, the light of the sun creeps as regularly over the face of the moon, and we see more or less according to our position.

They are made upon too narrow a basis and for too short a time. I have hardly known of an instance where the surroundings, near or far, did not disprove the theory; for the rule is, that while it is wet in one place it is dry in another.

"THE HORN OF THE MOON IS DOWN, and will not hold water!" Now look to the north and to the south, and find a drought; and yet they have there the same moon, the same quarter and all, with only a few minutes or degrees difference in the altitude; but that is never pointed to as a factor in making the weather.

as to the weather (which is its strong hold), we may dismiss all thoughts as to influences on the crops, and on the mind, and all signs in the legends of the populace down to the chances of seeing her over the shoulder, or as to winds on the last days of a month, and forebodings as to Friday, or Sunday, and as to signs of quarrels, or marriages, and frivolous dreams, and the like, and treat them all as the merest trash

as science comes, and be no more a burden to man as he struggles to climb the hill of knowledge.

I am reminded, Mr. Editor, how often in this deceitful world "things are not what they seem;" and that that fellow they call Science is a most powerful revelator; sometimes for the better, and sometimes seemingly for the worse, at least to our feelings.

I have wondered, Mr. Editor, how THE WILDERNESS OF LEARNING about SIGNS came into being, and I have answered myself (partially) in this way: It comes of imperfect reasoning and self-asserting knowledge, but limited knowledge.

Man as a reasoning animal stumbles greatly at first. He soon finds that certain occurrences are conjunctive; that certain things are sure to be succeeded by certain other things. He thinks there is some connection, and he now conceives of cause and effect.

"Mother, what does the earth rest on?" "On the back of a great elephant."

of inevitable antecedents and consequents is the height of good reasoning. The present things, then, are truly signs (significant) that certain other things will surely be, and hence we learn the invariability of a law of nature.

No doubt, Mr. Editor, you are beginning to question, and so will some of my readers, why so much about the moon? It is this, that I make the moon and its supposititious qualities my example for all the other little myths existing in community, started before science came, and struggling for a continued existence after science has come.

also any supposed actual knowledge of the great First Cause, all pretended talks with God, or any revelations by him, or from him or his prophets, or angels, or sons, or apostles, any more than we have at the present day; my thought being that all these have arisen by stumbling reason, some true reasoning, some false reasoning, and by bold assumptions when reason failed; and must all be subject to the better knowledge and reason that we call the science of to-day, and our vastly superior spirit-communion of to-day, that we call scientific Spiritualism; this spiritual science occupying the same position, and performing the same office to spiritual and religious matters that material science does to the physical world, but I should not proceed farther now.

MR. EGLINTON IN RUSSIA.

Translated by "V." for Light.

The following phenomena took place through Mr. Eglington's mediumship in the spiritualistic circle of Moscow. On one occasion, Abdullah, a control of Eglington's, appeared, a tall, black-bearded man with a woman and a child. Another time the same spirit showed himself together with his medium to all present.

We retain this account, much condensed, from Nos. 17 and 21 of the Rebus, and append the signatures of the witnesses present in token of the truth of the statements: E. J. Tolstaja, Th. A. Lwow, P. Th. Blagorawow, A. A. Smagin, E. G. Grek, E. P. Grek, J. O. Jarkowski, D. J. Bzagoj, and N. A. Lwow.

At the first of these sances direct spirit writing was obtained in sealed ordinary slates and in cardboard slates, tightly screwed together, belonging to Professor Butlerow. Morsels of pencil had been previously inserted and the slates marked by all the professors present.

Professor Dobrostawin took from his pocket a book, "Bernay's Chemistry." The book was not shown to Mr. Eglington, and from this book, without looking in it, Professor Butlerow selected the forty-sixth page, Professor Wagner the twelfth line, and Professor Dobrostawin the fifth word to be given.

At the second sance at Professor Butlerow's rooms, the spirit of a female of middle height appeared in voluminous white garments, with a round face and black hair, arranged after the fashion of fifty years back. The spirit came before the curtain, and Frau E. D. Pribytkowa recognized her aunt who had died ten years previously, the recognition being confirmed by Herr Viktor Pribytkow. Then Abdullah showed himself (who is said to have been a Persian prince in the sixteenth century) and disappeared before the eyes of the spectators, becoming smaller and smaller.

The witnesses to this and the following sances were:—E. D. Pribytkowa, W. J. Pribytkowa, A. N. Aksakow, M. P. Gedeonow, Prof. N. P. Wagner, E. P. Wischniakow, and Prof. Butlerow.

A hand was seen to write and then disappear, then the same thing was done by another hand. Afterwards Abdullah came forward. Herr Aksakow asked him to show that his left arm was missing (which he had lost in battle). The spirit seized the hand of Barbara Iwanowna Pribytkowa and let her feel him on both sides, and she remarked that he had no left fore-arm.

"Science explains much, but it will never with its bold grasp comprehend the laws which enable us to manifest and to show ourselves to you. This secret belongs to the future, not to the present."

On the same sheet was likewise writing with the red pencil, in English, by one of Eglington's controls, named "Ernest."

A tambourine, the surface of which was covered with a luminous preparation, raised itself slowly from the table and approached Frau Saburowa, then was thrown upon the floor. A musical box played and ceased playing at a wish expressed and then played only three notes when wished to do so.

I have only given the principal occurrences in these sances, extracted from the accounts in the Rebus, Nos. 23 and 26. L. P.

Protestant Episcopal Church.

Once more "The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America," to give its full name, has refused, through the House of Deputies of its General Convention, to drop from its nomenclature the words "Protestant Episcopal." The resolution introduced by Chancellor and Postmaster Judd and voted down yesterday did not specifically propose to insert in lieu of those words the term Catholic, but it was understood that the question presented was simply this: Shall the American branch of the Episcopal Church cease to be a protest against the Papacy and become the American Catholic Church?

It is nine years since the late Dr. De Koven introduced this Judd resolution into the General Convention at Boston. He was a man of rare eloquence and high personal standing, but his motion received only three affirmative votes. The road which he marked out was declared to lead to Rome, and those who were not Protestants were bidden to make their way to the Vatican. But very few took their departure. They persist in trying to do what George William Curfiss and his clique tried to do at Chicago two years ago, with this difference: that instead of seceding these church mungwumps will go right on with what they are pleased to call "educating the church up" to the new departure.

This new-departure element has strength enough now, especially among the clergy, to be formidable. Its success would mean the division of the church. That parent diocese of Virginia, which claims to have been founded as long ago as 1607, is still Protestant to the backbone and cannot be swerved from its original moorings. The same is true of a great many other dioceses of this denomination. If Mr. Judd and his sympathizers wish to drive a wedge through the church they have only to expunge the term Protestant Episcopal from its name.—Chicago Tribune.

The Rev. S. P. Merrill, Secretary of the New York Baptist Educational Society, claims he was the first white child born in the Territory which now constitutes the State of Nebraska. His father was a missionary among the Indians, and Mr. Merrill was born on Platte River in 1835.

Woman and the Household.

BY HESTER M. FOOLE. [106 West 23rd Street, New York.]

COMPENSATION.

O sweet the dropping dew, the blush of morn, The starry sky, the rustling field of corn,

In that new world toward which our feet are set Shall we find aught to make our hearts forget

O beauty manifold, from morn till night, Dawn's blush, noon's blaze, and sunset's tender light!

O happy earth! O home so well beloved! What recompense have we, from thee removed?

Mrs. M. F. Leland has become the sole owner of the Bloomington, Ill., Leader.

Mrs. Emma Garrett Wilson is local editor of the Lodgea, Ind., Leader.

Miss Alice R. Neal is editor and publisher of one of the Washington weekly papers, the News.

The Woman's Standard is the title of a neat monthly publication just issued at Des Moines as the official organ of the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association.

Mrs. A. E. Whitaker has edited a Woman's Department in the Southbridge, Mass., Journal, for fifteen years.

Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway has written a serial story which began September 2nd, in her paper, the New Northwest of Portland, Oregon.

The Woman's Tribune, published by Mrs. Clara Bowick Colby, Beatrice, Neb., is a large four-page monthly journal, costing only one dollar a year.

Mrs. E. B. Duffoy, formerly editor of the Vineland Times, Vineland, N. J., now has charge of the Clarion of Troy, N. Y., a bright weekly paper devoted to the interests of labor.

Miss Hirata, a Japanese lady, has just entered Western Maryland College for a three years' course.

Mrs. Helen M. Gougar has returned from her European trip. She continues her interesting letters in the Inter-Ocean.

Mrs. Oliphant is writing a series of articles to appear in The Century during the coming year, describing some of the celebrated men and women of Queen Anne's reign.

Mrs. Bell Ball has been appointed assistant secretary in the Kansas State Historical rooms at Topeka, and has taken up her residence in that city.

To the Empress Eugenia, it is said, women are indebted for their opportunity to study medicine in France, she having secured by favor the conferring of a degree on Madame Madeline Bres.

Miss Lucretia Crocker, a member of the board of supervisors of public schools, and a lady prominently identified with educational matters in this city for the last dozen years, died Saturday evening, aged fifty-five.

Miss Crocker took the course at the State Normal School at West Newton, at which institution she was subsequently a teacher.

All who are interested in the higher education of women, will be glad to read of the healthy progress of the Harvard Annex, Cambridge, Mass.

A NOTABLE OCCASION.

Miss Frances E. Willard, President of the W. C. T. U., was selected by the good people of Evanston, Ill., to give the address of welcome to the Rock River Conference, which met in that town on the 6th of October.

Let me, now, in a most natural order of sequence, welcome you to a town which is a paradise to women.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (Boston.) The Peckster Professorship which treats a question of the day will attract much attention.

THE MAGAZINE OF ART. (New York.) With its November number the Magazine of Art ends the tenth year of its existence.

THE QUIVER. (New York.) The opening paper is on the Divine Generosity Arthur Gore writes on the Epistles of the Captivity.

BOOK REVIEWS. [All books noticed under this head, are for sale at, or can be ordered through, the office of the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.]

HISTORY OF THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO, with a preliminary view of the Ancient Mexican Civilization, and the life of the Conqueror, Hernando Cortes.

PRESCOTT'S ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY EDITION, in two volumes, presents to-day as clear and concise a history of the invasion and conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards as it seems possible at this day to give.

HAND-BOOK OF ENGLISH HISTORY. By M. J. Guest and Francis H. Underwood, A. M. Boston: Lee & Shepard; Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

A most interesting condensation of English History based on the lectures of the late M. J. Guest, and brought down to the year 1880, with a supplementary chapter upon English Literature of the Nineteenth Century by Francis H. Underwood, A. M.

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TWEED'S GRAMMAR FOR COMMON SCHOOLS. By R. F. Tweed, A. M. Boston: Lee & Shepard; Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

The leading principles and facts of English Grammar are here given in a little more than one hundred pages, by one who was for several years supervisor in the Boston schools.

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ALDEN'S CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL LITERATURE. Vol. IV. New York: John B. Alden. Price, cloth, 60 cents a volume.

THE fourth volume of this admirable work is just from the press and is found to carry out the excellence of the project as promised in the first volume.

CASSELL'S NATIONAL LIBRARY. New York: Cassell & Co. The publication of this series of weekly volumes continues, and has now reached the thirty-seventh volume.

THE CHILD'S BOOK OF HEALTH. Easy Lessons for Schools. By Albert F. Blaisdell, M. D. Boston: Lee & Shepard; Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

THE LITTLE MASTER. By J. T. Rowbridge. Boston: Lee & Shepard; Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

LIVES OF THE ENGLISH POETS. By Samuel Johnson, LL. D. Cassell's National Library. New York: Cassell & Co.; Chicago: S. A. Maxwell & Co. Price 10 cents.

COMPLETE POETICAL WORKS OF BENJ. F. TAYLOR. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co. Price, cloth, \$1.75.

IDEOLOGY. By Dr. La Roy Sunderland. Boston: J. P. Mendum. Price, cloth, \$1.50.

WHOOPING COUGH. Dr. Barlow, in the Lancet, expresses the opinion, after a very thorough investigation into the nature of whooping cough, that it is to be classed among the diseases which are caused by the irritation excited by the presence of parasites.

THE President of the Cambridge, Mass., Fire Ins. Co., recommends Hood's Sarsaparilla as a building up and strengthening remedy.

According to the forthcoming "Life of Lincoln," in The Century, the grandfather of the President, who bore the same name, was massacred by Indians just one hundred years ago—1785.

THE smallest book in the world is in the possession of the Earl of Dufferin. It is an edition of the sacred book of the Sikhs, and is said to be only half the size of a postage stamp.

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ABSENCE OF DESIGN IN NATURE. In this Lecture, which was delivered before the Chicago Philosophical Society, the Author shows that the existence of an "over-ruling Providence" cannot be proved from Nature.

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WASH PRIMITIVE CITY NOV. 15. 45 Randolph St. Chicago, Ill.

(Spiritual Philosophy)

I was gazing upon them with no little admiration, the cause of their disturbance made itself manifest. It was a detached hand, and it laid itself upon the head of one of the figures, but was immediately thrown off by the offended beauty. It was projected out of the frame, and alighted upon my reading-table.

These good old Spiritualists clasped hands, and sat long silent in communion. Each had afforded the other a welcome insight through the gates of Beulah Land, and they knew the lesson it implied. Their thoughts were doubtless more eloquent than words, for such thoughts are of the possibilities of the ineffable life, which no man can describe or imagine.

As I was awake and in my right mind? Yes; and the chairs were overturned, various articles on the table were jumbled together, and some were even thrown down upon the floor, so it could not have been a dream, luckily the gas was yet burning.

Special information imparted to them just then would not have soothed the fatigues of the day, and even I retired to bed only to spend the night in unrest and conjecture.

Willie Brough, twelve years old, who created an excitement among superstitious people near Turlock, Cal., by apparently setting fire to all objects by his glance on one Sunday lately and who is held responsible for the destruction of \$9,000 worth of farm property, has been expelled from the Madison county school near Turlock, on account of his wonderful freaks.

my present standpoint the forms that materialized in that frame were ministering angels, and they came to assist dear mother to reach her son. I have seen the same frame floating about in mid-air on three several occasions since, and the countenances of the portraits are always brilliant with joy.

THE CELEBRATED DR. W. A. HAMMOND, of New York, formerly Surgeon-General of the U. S. Army, lately lectured upon this subject, and advised all medical men that of these ancient and healing arts the most remarkable cures he had made, even in cases which would seem hopeless.

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Mrs. Cornelia M. Stewart, the wife of the late millionaire dry-goods merchant, died suddenly on the morning of Oct. 25th.

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