

Voices from the People.

AND INFORMATION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS

The Inclination to Religious Thought.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: There are certain times in every man's life when he has a desire to know all that may be known in regard to a future state.

This is the one sublime office of fear. We may be spurred on by apprehension of personal safety (illustrating the fact of self-preservation being the first law of nature), or be awed and intimidated by the crosses of a present life.

We come now to the divine phase of religious animation—open to the fearless and the childish, that universal bond which connects the mortal with the immortal.

THE CREED OF CREEDS.

- You're a Christian: Love that Jesus Who has perished on the cross, For the star of golden Juda. Is a light that needs no gloss.

IMPULSE TO THOUGHT.

Friend you must die! Perchance the thought Comes o'er you like a lightning's flash; You recall the life is caught.

will relate in a few words an incident that occurred about two years ago. One day, about nine o'clock, A. M., I went to the well for water, and looking up the road I saw a man coming towards me.

Remarkable Appearances. will relate in a few words an incident that occurred about two years ago. One day, about nine o'clock, A. M., I went to the well for water, and looking up the road I saw a man coming towards me.

Spiritualism in Washington, D. C.

I take the liberty to enclose you for publication a "Declaration of Principles," intended for the First Society of Spiritualists of this city.

The undersigned, accepting as facts: First, a continued existence and personality after the change called death; second, intercourse with the Spirit-world; and third, individual responsibility.

1. Spiritualism, in its broad sense as a philosophical system, embraces whatever relates to spirit, spiritual existences, and spiritual forces.

2. We deny the right of any person or organization to dictate what any person shall accept as truth in regard to the infinite or finite.

3. We acknowledge a universal, beneficent Power governing the universe. That manifest as the part of this Universal Power its highest representative on this planet.

4. That man, as the part of this Universal Power its highest representative on this planet, the most perfect individual being the most complete embodiment thereof.

5. That we have a continued existence after the change called death; that that existence is but a continuation of the present life, as proved by the return and identification of those who have passed on.

6. That the Spirit-world is as real and tangible to spirits as this world is to us. That the Spirit-world is not far off but nigh, around and interblended with our present state of existence.

7. That communications from the spiritual world, by mental impression or any other mode of transmission, are not necessarily infallible; that on the contrary no inspired communication, in this or any age, is authoritative any further than it expresses truth to the individual reason.

8. That inspirations, or influx of ideas and promptings from the spiritual realms, is not a miracle of the past, but a perpetual fact, the ceaseless method of the Divine economy in the elevation of humanity.

A Rattlesnake Bite Cured.

The Remarkable Experience of Aiden Davis, of Damascus, Pa.

Aiden Davis is a young farmer living in the town of Damascus, Wayne county, Pa., five miles from Calcoo Depot, in Sullivan county, N. Y.

The instant the cold, slimy scales of the reptile were felt he jerked his hand back. But nothing can escape the deadly spring of the rattlesnake when it strikes, and its poisonous fangs were instantly fastened in the ball of his thumb.

By this time, in spite of the tightly drawn cord around his thumb, the poison had made its way into the hand, wrist and arm, and John Geer, Dr. Kemp and Davis had taken but two small drinks of the liquor and Geer promptly forbade the use of more.

The swelling began to diminish, but he complained of a feeling of numbness that pervaded his hand, arm and shoulder, which, however, was soon succeeded by an intense pricking sensation that Geer ascribed to the action of the properties of the violet in overcoming the effects of the poison.

As soon as it was known that a man had been bitten by a rattlesnake and was at John Geer's to be cured, a great many people from the village went down to see him and were greatly surprised at the thorough and complete working of the simple remedy applied.

This remedy has been known and used in this place and vicinity for over eighty years. It was first obtained by Joseph Geer (John's father) from a variety of the blue violet (V. agnata) commonly known as the "arrow-leaved" violet.

In 1879, I found myself in the Rocky Mountains, in Granite Canyon, twelve miles from Virginia City, Montana. I was occupied in hunting and prospecting for gold and silver.

I will now relate some of the phenomena which happened in our family. My father and mother knew nothing whatever of Spiritualism, and were devout Catholics. My mother, I think, was a medium and natural healer; people came to her to be cured.

My little sister died when three years old. My father was over 50 miles from her then, and while eating supper with five or six other boarders, somebody rapped on the door.

An Inquiry.

To the Editor of the Religio-Philosophical Journal: Did the narrative now being published in the JOURNAL, entitled "Heaven Revised," emanate from Mrs. E. B. Duffey in the Spirit-world, or was it written by some one in earth-life, by drawing upon the imagination for the facts?

You wish me to make a "brief statement," for the benefit of inquirers, as to whether "Heaven Revised" was written under spirit control, or, as you express it, whether I gathered these ideas from various sources, and woven them together into this story.

It was written in the fall and winter of 1884-5, and I occupied upon it the little spare time I had at that period, seldom more than a single evening in a week.

The reader must decide for himself. If he be credulous he will accept my own belief, and think that "Heaven Revised" was written inspirationally. If he is a skeptic, and hesitates to do this, he will be only sharing the doubts and questionings which sometimes possess myself.

I am about forty years old. About three years ago I commenced writing poetry. I began writing in circles (with four others twice each week) for investigation, for some time we got nothing, but finally one of the party began to see clairvoyantly and describe spirits, often very accurately, and I began to feel as if a cool breeze was blowing over me.

John Reitdyk, a laborer, of Paterson, N. J., who was of a saving disposition, buried his money in his garden. Persons to whom Reitdyk owed money ascertained that Mrs. Reitdyk was spending money quite freely, and even made loans. They investigated and learned this story: Mrs. Reitdyk was very anxious to learn where her husband concealed his money.

Mr. Carpenter's letter is all that can be desired. It is telling and timely. Spiritualists ought to feel grateful to such people for the real service they do the cause.

E. T. Ahrens writes as follows from Paola, Kansas: There was two colored children here who promise to become excellent mediums. One of them gives excellent tests now. I have a little boy about five years old, who had a short time ago both sides of his hands covered with warts.

Speaking of Mrs. Alice J. Shaw, the American whistler, the Saturday Review of London remarks that she had been asked out to hear her regarding the whole thing as a joke, and have come away in simple wonder at the unlooked for display of her powers.

Maurice Kelly died in Auckland June 21, aged 104 years. He boasted a few weeks before his death, that he had drunk all the whiskey he wanted for eighty-seven years, and had never experienced any sickness.

Notes and Extracts on Miscellaneous Subjects.

The total output of coal from Iowa mines last year was 3,864,490 tons. Mosquitoes have become so troublesome in Worcester County, Md., as to endanger the lives of cattle.

At Worcester, N. Y., a bad day, black and close, with a drizzling coal rain, has been struck. It is thought to be potter's clay, such as is used in Wales.

The amount of patent medicines received at General Sheridan's cottage at Nonquitt, from well-meaning admirers, would, it is said, fill a small apothecary shop.

The paper money of Chili is so depreciated in value that a guest at a hotel ordinarily pays \$600 a day for his accommodations. At one time only a few years ago calico sold at \$2,000 a yard in these depreciated bills.

A masseuse who has practiced her profession largely among families of wealth makes the statement that in many years she has administered massage to only one woman whose ribs had not been displaced by corset-wearing.

Victor Brocca, an Italian engineer, has completed the survey of a proposed canal across Italy from near Castro on the Tyrrhenian Sea to Fano on the Adriatic. It will be 180 miles long if it is ever built, and will cost \$100,000,000.

George Kennan, the well known writer on Siberia, has received over 500 invitations to lecture in Europe and America, but has declined them all, preferring to continue his literary work. He says he will some day discover the North Pole.

Mrs. Ann Hardin, the first woman married in Texas after its annexation to the United States, has just died at the age of 80. She was a cousin of Gov. Rector of Arkansas and Jeff. Davis, and was known all over the States as "Grandma" Hardin.

A large lump of pure copper weighing eighty-three pounds was recently found near Northport, Rich, in a field remote from any ore-bearing rock. It showed signs of having been worked by means of rude tools a long time ago, and is supposed to be a relic of the prehistoric mound-builders.

A tramp, who lately made the rounds of Hartford, Conn., has an ingenious scheme—not new, though—for "raising the wind." He exhibited a letter which, he said, he wished to mail at once, and asked for a stamp to put on it, explaining that he had none himself.

