











Voices from the People. INFORMATION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

THE MIDNIGHT PRAYER.

EMMA TUTTLE. The noon of night approaches, And yet I wait and pray, For one who, many years ago, Went silently away.

THEOSOPHY.

Another View of the Question.

It appears to me self-evident that truth is absolute and cannot include contradictions. The spirit of truth cannot tolerate a lie, an error, nor an inconsistency.

Better be Right Than President.

There are two ways of getting ahead of one's fellows; and there are two ways of using this precedence after it is attained. Have all the wealth you can get, provided you create, and not merely appropriate that which rightly belongs to somebody else, or for which you render no adequate equivalent.

Strange Noises.

The other night about 9 o'clock a large crowd was curiously excited over the strange noises emanating from a house in St. Augustine, Fla.

L. E. Odio writes: "I am more than pleased with the JOURNAL. I am simply delighted with it. My only objection to it is that it is so interesting that I have to read every line, leaving me little time to do anything else; but then I could read no book more instructing and recreating than your sound editorials, your news, and the splendid articles from your numerous intelligent contributors."

The Old Question of Eternal Damnation Coming to the Front among Catholics.

The following from a Chicago daily will prove highly interesting, illustrating as it does, that there is a single glimmer of humanitarian feeling in the Catholic Church for those outside thereof, and which indicates a little progress.

Austrian Rejoices in Spooks.

This time there can be no mistake. Indeed we know the very individuals who know the people who are acquainted with folks who have actually seen the spooks and heard the sepulchral groans with their own eyes and their own persons.

Letter from an Unfortunate Spiritualist.

I received the enclosed reminder of my indebtedness to you two days since, and as I can not pay it, I must explain why. My husband deserted me one year ago, leaving me with two small children, and with very poor health, and absolutely no means of support.

Miss Shelhamer's "Outside the Gates."

Those who desire to learn somewhat of the nature of the Spirit-World, the daily life and employments of its inhabitants, and of the influences upon its denizens in this, the middle of which, on a perusal of this admirable volume, the last published of Miss M. T. Shelhamer, titled, "Outside the Gates."

Intelligence of Animals.

I have read several articles in the JOURNAL that have for their object the confirmation of the idea that animals reason, and it seems as though many instances they do combine ideas, and that the outcome is a conclusion resulting from that combination.

The Fox Fiasco.

At last your occupation and our hope are gone. "The death of Spiritualism" is accomplished this time. Let all Spiritualistic lunatics, heretofore supposed to have deductive reason, hide their heads in shame, and declare their torments, experiences nothing but delusion, for hath not the Richmond in the field and his Foxy traitors, spoken it?

Notes and Extracts on Miscellaneous Subjects.

If this were not written by a woman it would, no doubt, be regarded as libelous: Sir Morell Mackenzie is to be one of the lecturers at the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution during the winter.

Letter from an Aged Spiritualist.

In consequence of not being able to take care of myself alone, my son, of whom I have received aid, has insisted upon my removal here. I am yet able to walk out, read and write, but my memory, hearing and sight are failing me.

Notes from Brooklyn, N. Y.

The public spiritual meetings are all fairly underway, now that the cooler weather makes in-door gatherings comfortable and thought agreeable and possible.

The Smithsonian Institution.

My attention was lately called to the Smithsonian Institution, and I think it is worth some of our readers not familiar with the history of the founder, or donor, would like to know a bit of it.

The Fourth Association.

The Fourth Association of Spiritualists of Philadelphia, Pa., are now endeavoring to build a hall on the camp meeting grounds of the First Association of Spiritualists, in Parkland, Pa.

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COINCIDENCES.

[The series of coincidences now being recorded in the RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL doubtless recall many others equally curious to the recollection of our readers...

Alexander Gilchrist, in his Life of William Blake, the artist poet, says (vol. 1, p. 13):

At the age of fourteen, the drawing school of Mr. Pars in the Strand, was exchanged for the shop of engraver Basire, in Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. There had been an intention of apprenticing Blake to Ryland, a more famous man than Basire...

On page 298, of same volume, Gilchrist speaks of Blake's artist friend John Varley, as follows:

John Varley, one of the founders of the New School of Water-Color Painting, and landscape designer of much delicacy and grace, was otherwise a remarkable man...

James Grant, in his "Rise and Progress of Superstition," says: "Dryden put faith in judicial astrology and used to calculate the nativity of his children..."

Grant also relates the following: "A gentleman holding a good position in society was awakened by his wife one night who told him she had a most unpleasant dream. She thought a friend who was in the East India Company's service, had been killed in a duel..."

Stances. The two kingdoms do not run into each other at a point where now one is undistinguishable from the other.

In the Methodist Magazine for February, 1823, G. D. Dermott of Burslem, relates the following:

"A poor widow in straitened circumstances, notwithstanding her utmost endeavor, found herself unable at all times to provide food and raiment for her children."

Professor Edward Payson Thwing, M. D., Ph. D., for four years President of the Academy of Anthropology, New York, reports the four following, Nos. 22, 23, 24 and 25:

The wife of Dr. W., a physician near Boston, had a dream or vision one night in which she distinctly saw her aunt. This lady resided several hundred miles away in a distant city.

This same person, at another time, woke in the morning with the conviction that a certain neighbor was dead, and so remarked to her husband, the physician.

The night that President Lincoln was murdered, a neighbor of mine, writes a physician, declared that the president was killed and by an assassin.

The wife of a New York clergyman made a similar statement just before this news arrived of the murder of President Garfield.

A lady residing in Chicago, was one day holding in her hand a sealed letter, that had been written and mailed by a gentleman in Georgia to one in Chicago.

On opening the letter, the gentleman to whom it was addressed, found it was a proposition to unite in forming a company, to erect a factory or laboratory, and make patent medicines; he said the description of the man seen in the mental picture, was as accurate a one of the writer of the letter as one who knew him well would give, and the picture of the buildings, and their contents, tallied with the plan the writer had in his mind when he wrote the letter.

Is Life a Fundamental Property of Matter? From an article by some writer who imagines that he is making a contribution to thought, by advancing old ideas under new names...

From an article by some writer who imagines that he is making a contribution to thought, by advancing old ideas under new names, and thinks he has ideas things that are dissimilar by applying to them all a special term which has been used to designate one of them, the following extract is taken:

"The barrier between organic and inorganic nature is broken down, and life is recognized as a fundamental property of matter. This view of the origin or rather the non-origin and eternity of life, has been pronounced in England by Mr. Huxley, and in Germany by W. Preyer, chiefly."

Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen are all lifeless bodies. Of these, carbon and oxygen unite, in certain proportions and under certain conditions, to give rise to organic acids; hydrogen and oxygen produce water; nitrogen and hydrogen give rise to ammonia.

Notwithstanding this strongly materialistic terminology, Huxley is not a materialist. He is, on the contrary, an idealist. In his address on Descartes "Discourse," Huxley further observes: "This it is an indisputable fact that what we call the material world is only known to us, through the forms of the ideal world, and as Descartes tells us our knowledge of the soul is more intimate and certain than our knowledge of the body."

In the sense in which the writer we are criticizing claims life for matter, he has no support from Huxley, nor from English and German thinkers generally.

Prof. Huxley says that if it were given to him to look back to the remote past when the earth was passing through physical and chemical conditions which it can never see again, he "should expect to be a witness of the evolution of living protoplasm from non-living matter."

Although this writer who expounds Huxley and other thinkers so strangely discards the idea of the derivation of living substance from non-living substance as mere superstition, to escape the difficulty of explaining how organic exhibiting phenomena so different from those which inorganic matter could have appeared without a miracle...

"The igneous form of life?" This life, or life "in the broader sense," is characterized as "self-motion or spontaneity" without intelligence or volition.

This is nothing but materialism, and materialism, too, of the old and crude sort. In "the broader sense" the claim is, life is the motion of the universe. Material atoms and their motions, coexistent and coeternal, are the source of all phenomena.

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That Little Ticking. You have been cautioned many times to do something to get rid of that little ticking in your throat, which makes you cough once in a while and keeps you constantly clearing your throat.

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LOG CABIN GRANDMOTHERS.

An Indiana doctor has recently discovered in a common weed whose medicinal qualities have never before been suspected, a valuable remedy for bowel disorders.

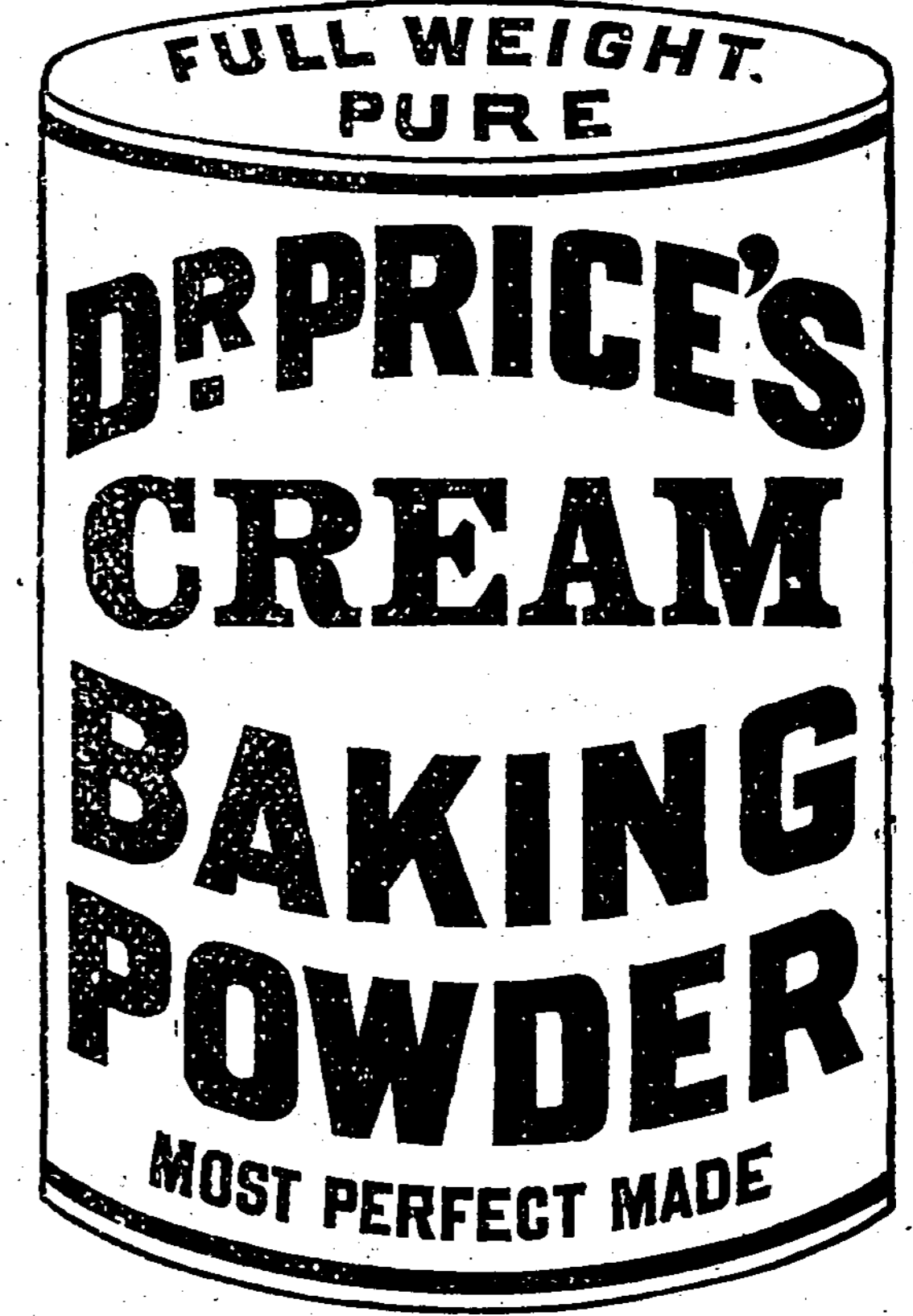
And let the very simplicity of the new discovery would, with some, seem to throw just doubt upon its power. To make it one has only to pour hot water over the leaves of the plant.

Is it to be wondered at since such plainly prepared remedies are accounted as of such great merit in these days, that such wonderful results attended our grandmothers, whose tea and infusions of roots and herbs and balsams, have exerted so great an influence in the maintenance of health and life?

The secret of the success of grandmother's remedies was their freshness and simplicity. Every autumn found the little Log Cabin abundantly supplied with fresh leaves, roots, herbs and balsams, which were carefully dried and prepared and laid away for use.

The old Log Cabin grandmother, in cap and high tuckered gown, and perchance bespectacled in rough silver, her weary feet encased in "hum made" slippers, the dear sweet nurse who rises to the view of many a man and woman to-day as the early years of life passed in retrospect.

They are a noble inheritance which we of to-day may enjoy to the full as did our forefathers, and using, reap, as full of usefulness, the harvest of a life full of days and all of usefulness.



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A. C. McLURG & CO'S Stationery Department.

The STATIONERY DEPARTMENT is prepared to furnish the correct forms of Invitations, Reception Cards, Announcements, etc., for Autumn Weddings.

By calling the motions of the inorganic world—the union of two elements, for instance—life, does not help us to understand how the motions of atoms—that is, their change of space relations—can give rise to feeling and consciousness.

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