

THE SUNFLOWER

AN EXPONENT OF THE SPIRITUAL PHILOSOPHY, ITS SCIENCE AND APPLIED SUBJECTS

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WHAT IS SPIRITUALISM?

A Lecture Delivered by Richard F. Trench at Homestead Park, Pa.

What is spiritualism? It is a name given to a certain class of phenomena which have been observed since the beginning of the world. It is a name which has been applied to a wide variety of manifestations, and which has been the subject of much speculation and controversy. The phenomena which are included under the name of spiritualism are of a very diverse character, and have been observed in all ages and in all countries. They are of a nature which is entirely new to the material world, and which are entirely unaccountable on the basis of the laws of nature as we know them. They are of a nature which is entirely new to the material world, and which are entirely unaccountable on the basis of the laws of nature as we know them. They are of a nature which is entirely new to the material world, and which are entirely unaccountable on the basis of the laws of nature as we know them.

THE PSYCHIC RIDDLE

By Frank C. Park, D. D., LL. D.

The psychic riddle is one of the most interesting and mysterious of the phenomena which have been observed since the beginning of the world. It is a name which has been applied to a wide variety of manifestations, and which has been the subject of much speculation and controversy. The phenomena which are included under the name of the psychic riddle are of a very diverse character, and have been observed in all ages and in all countries. They are of a nature which is entirely new to the material world, and which are entirely unaccountable on the basis of the laws of nature as we know them. They are of a nature which is entirely new to the material world, and which are entirely unaccountable on the basis of the laws of nature as we know them.

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CURRENT TOPICS

King Edward III of England
King Edward III of England was a man of great energy and ability. He was a warrior, a statesman, and a reformer. He was one of the greatest kings of England, and his reign was one of the most important in the history of the country. He was a man of great energy and ability, and he was one of the greatest kings of England. He was a warrior, a statesman, and a reformer. He was one of the greatest kings of England, and his reign was one of the most important in the history of the country.



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PHANTOM TRAIN—WEIGHING HUMAN SOULS.

A report has been going the rounds, purporting to come from Nauvoo, Ill., that a phantom train passed along the line of the Chicago & Eastern Illinois, at Watska, Ill., the latter part of February. It is claimed that the train was first seen by M. L. Burnett, a street towerman, and it stopped at Walnut street crossing for six minutes, and was so reported to the train dispatcher, who informed there was no train that could possibly be there.

Such has been reported. Now was this a story gotten up in the newspaper office? or was there such an event? The editor of the Sunflower is slow to accept such things for the reason that having investigated many reported cases of "fakes" he has uniformly found them "fakes." Will some of our readers who have friends at or near these places investigate and report to us?

It has always been our position that such things have no place in Spiritualistic literature unless they have been verified. There are enough realities without indulging in fakes, but it is also hard to determine what is fake and what not. At present the story of the "phantom train" is going the rounds. Does anyone know if it is true or fake? Next week we will publish the account of the event as reported. If true, it is a wonderful thing, even tho it does not mean that it is the weight of the soul. We do not think it is a facie evidence that it is the weight of the soul even if all the statements are true. It may be the loss of some vital principle which we know nothing of, or it may be that our learned doctors do not know what the "breath of life" weighs. We do not think they know that is to within half an inch. We fail to see how it is to be proven or disproven.

That the weight of a body should be as life leaves it is not reasonable. It is reasonable to think that Prof. Lockwood could tell us as to how this is determined. We know that ALL the papers of the SUNFLOWER would be pleased to have his idea of it, if any. But if it can be reasonably demonstrated that there is an accountable loss of weight at the moment of death of the physical, then it will go a longer way to prove the existence of a soul or spirit in man that escapes or is born again at the moment of death, than anything ever done previously. It will also be a link in the evidence tending to prove, if there is a soul how long that soul remains in the body after death of the body.

Let us hope this is true and look for further enlightenment on the subject.

THEODORE J. MAYER—HIS GIFT TO SPIRITUALISM.

It gives me pleasure to be able to inform all interested Spiritualists thru the medium of your valuable paper that our late, Treasurer and beloved and lamented Friend and Brother, Theodore J. Mayer of this city, did not forget to bless and honor Spiritualism in the distribution of his estate. As is well known, Mr. Mayer was a self-made man. He did not acquire any of the large fortune he left, by inheritance or gift, but he made it by unflinching toil of hands and brain and by his judicious investments. He was essentially a clear-cut mentality, sound financier and staunch Spiritualist. While he did not bequeath anything to our Cause by will, he still did nobly towards the Spiritualism that was so dear to him. Several years ago, Mr. Mayer caused to be executed a Deed conveying three houses to the N. S. A. This deed was not recorded at the time but was held by the attorney of the donor with instructions to hand it to Mrs. M. T. Longley at the time of the demise of the giver. Mr. Mayer confided this matter to me with strict injunctions that as soon as I should be informed of his demise to visit his lawyer, secure the deed and at once carry it to the District office to be recorded. For years this has been the compact between us and during his last illness Mr. M. again mentioned it to me; as a sacred charge I held his injunction and as soon as I received notice of his decease I hastened to attend to his request.

The property thus coming to the N. S. A.—without restriction or condition—consists of numbers 300 and 302 Sixth St. S. E. and number 302 Pennsylvania ave., S. E., this city. It adjoins the Headquarters of this Association on two sides and is bounded by Pennsylvania Ave. Sixth and C. Sts. a valuable possession for our National body.

It will be remembered that a year after Brother Mayer presented the N. S. A. with its fine Headquarters building, he proposed to donate the next building, a large brick structure of thirteen rooms, 602 Pennsylvania Ave., to the N. S. A. provided the Spiritualists at large would contribute to the exchequer of the association the sum of ten thousand dollars—the same had been done when he gave the Headquarters for an N. S. A. home. But there came no response to this offer, only about fifteen dollars was collected and he was saddened; he loved the N. S. A. for he considered it a grand institution worthy the aid and attention of every Spiritualist, he believed it was needed as a bulwark of strength to our Cause and to carry on its national affairs, send out missionaries, maintain a pension fund, distribute free literature and protect our mediums against the attacks of courts and of antagonistic organizations. He knew that to do this the N. S. A. must have a fund for its work, so he called on the Spiritualists at large to give it ten thousand dollars and he would give it Headquarters worth the same amount; in time we secured the amount and that is the fund the association has been working with. Mr. Mayer gave the building—of course he never got a penny for it and did not ask it.

He next offered the other building that the N. S. A. might have it for revenue, but his conditions were not met. He then made the deed herein mentioned of the three houses with the instructions to me to have it recorded after his death. This was the grand work of a Grand Man—A Spiritualist—All Honor to Him. He will be a living spirit in our work and usefulness as the years go by. We hail him as co-worker, benefactor and friend.

Mr. Mayer left by will the sum of seventy-nine thousand dollars to be distributed among hospitals, benevolent homes, and other beautiful charities in the District of Columbia. These works are his monument. MARY T. LONGLEY, N. S. A. Secretary.

To me remains nor place nor time, My country is in every clime; I can be calm and free from care, On any shore since God is there. While place we seek, or place we shun, The soul finds happiness in none, But with God to guide our way, 'Tis equal joy to go or stay.

EASTER ACCORDING TO THE GREENBACKER.

The other day I got a post card—you know that is different from a postal card—that said on it, "Easter Greeting" and I thought of the wonderful things that had been said about Easter, and wondered if people knew what they were celebrating. Well, I was thinking it over and I asked a boy what Easter was. He said, "The time we eat eggs!" That settled it, I knew Easter would last just as long as there was something to eat.

I commenced to wonder why they ate eggs at Easter, and I asked a number of friends, and none of them seemed to know. One man said they ate eggs "because they were good to eat." Well, that was a good reason, but I asked an old Freezer, "I suppose, and he said, 'The egg was a symbol of life to the people, it was out of a snake's egg, and sometimes a snake.' He said, 'The egg was a symbol of life to the people, it was out of a snake's egg, and sometimes a snake.' He said, 'The egg was a symbol of life to the people, it was out of a snake's egg, and sometimes a snake.'

Do you know, I bought an egg that had a lady's name and address on it with the inscription, "Please write." I was going to write her, but I got so nervous in anticipation that I dropped it and broke it. Then I knew there was no use of writing. It had been of old age long before.

Do you know I got an encyclopedia that had a lady's name and address on it with the inscription, "Please write." I was going to write her, but I got so nervous in anticipation that I dropped it and broke it. Then I knew there was no use of writing. It had been of old age long before.

What a fearful strain it must have been not to have had new hats on Easter to the primitive days! But then, the poor ignorant creatures didn't know it was the style! What a loss we miss by not knowing it.

When I wondered why Easter always came on Sunday, my friend Lockwood said that the Christians supposed that Christ was crucified on March 23 and rose from the dead on March 24 and Easter was supposed to be the day of resurrection. I was born on Friday, (that was unlucky for me) and I have never been sick since. When I asked him about that he said, "Greenbacker, you don't stop or you wouldn't ask me such questions. Easter had no more to do with Christ than it had with the sun."

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March and that will make it as early as March 22 and as late as April 25." Now isn't that stretching three lunar months quite a little? Maybe he said "three looney months," and I misunderstood him. These things are too much for my brain. I try to comprehend them but it is hard to do so. I will just take Easter as a feast day and if I can get any eggs I will eat them, but if any of my friends send me some for that occasion, I hope they will get a certificate of good character from the hen that laid them before they are sent.

A. GREENBACKER.

A Line From G. H. Brooks.

I am very thankful to state that I am gaining rapidly and expect to be able to resume my labors about the 25 or 26. I have been very ill and it will be some time before I shall be myself once more, but I shall get there in time.

Owing to my sickness I was unable to send in the report of the memorial services held in White-water, at the Pratt Institute, in memory of our arisen brother, Moses Hull, in which I took part, or to send in a report of our mass meeting held in Milwaukee in February; but just as soon as I can, I will send in a short report of both of these two services.

I wish to announce that the State society will celebrate the 58 anniversary in Milwaukee on Saturday evening the 30th, a party at Severance hall, and Sunday the 31st by an afternoon and evening service in the same hall. Severance hall is 421, Milwaukee St., and I hope there will be a large attendance from out of town.

On April 16, 17 and 18 the State society will hold its seventh convention in Ethical hall, 558 Jefferson St. Fine talent has been secured, and business of importance will come up before the convention, and it is most earnestly hoped there will be a large attendance. I will write more fully later.

Truly the friend of all, G. H. BROOKS, 114 President St. Wheaton, Ill.

THE EARS.

MYRTLE HYDE DARLING.

The superstition relating to the burning sensation in the ear is very ancient. Pliny says, "When our ears do glow and tingle, some do talk of us in our absence." Molineaux, an ancient writer, says, "If his ear tingle 'tis a sign that they speak of him." Shakespeare speaks of it in "Much Ado About Nothing." "What fire is in mine ears?" Herrick refers to it,

"One ear tingles; some there be That are snarling now at me."

As early as 1598 a writer says, "If their ears tingle they say it is a sign they have some enemies abroad that are, or are about to speak evil of them." Sometimes the allusion mentioned which ear might be affected. One writer says, "When his right ear tingles he will be cheerful; but if his left, he will be sad." The Scotch have a query, "Right lug, left lug, which lug loves?" In one English county it is said that evil is spoken of you if the left ear burns, good if the right do so; but in Lancashire this is reversed. The Dutch say that someone speaks praise if the right ear itches and blame if the left ear.

A gentle bite of the ear was an ancient form of endearment, as in Romeo and Juliet, "I will bite thee by the ear for that jest." The ear in Egypt signified obedience. Also the saying, "Walls have ears," is very old, and Chaucer wrote that "Fields had eyes and the wood hath ears." To "set people by the ears" referred to a pothouse custom of stringing pots by the handles or ears and clashing them in carrying them. For weather lore an old meteorologist says, "Singing in the ears portends a change of weather."

HOTEL FOR SALE.

At Lily Dale. 20 rooms, parlors, two dining rooms, kitchen, office, etc., will be sold furnished or unfurnished. Good location for business. Address, Hotel, care Sunflower, Lily Dale, N. Y.

THE SUNFLOWER'S Spring Campaign. Spring is here. Summer is coming. CAMP SEASON WILL SOON BE HERE. You will want to know about them. THE SUNFLOWER WILL TELL YOU. So do not fail to renew your subscriptions, or if you are not a subscriber, send in your subscription at once and get all the news of the different camps. Good things are in store for our readers from the pens of some of the most prominent writers in Spiritualism. "You will miss it if you miss them." NEW SUBSCRIBERS. To induce you to try the SUNFLOWER for the summer we will make this proposition: Send us 25 cents money order, (not postage stamps) and we will send you the SUNFLOWER weekly, until September 1, thus giving you all of the camp announcements and news for a trifling sum. At this rate our readers can afford to send it to their friends, as it will save them writing letters. DO IT TODAY! DO IT NOW! ADDRESS Sunflower Publishing Co. LILY DALE, N. Y.

METAPHYSICAL.

Conducted by FIVE P. BUCK

THE WORLD HAS SPURNED AND SCORNED... The world has spurned and scorned...

FROM THE MOUTH OF THE... From the mouth of the... The world has spurned and scorned...

DO NOT ASK WHY... DO NOT ASK WHY... The world has spurned and scorned...

THE MORE MIND THAN... THE MORE MIND THAN... The world has spurned and scorned...

WHAT IS SPIRITUALISM? D. A. V. & P. R. R.

Table with columns for location and price. Locations include London, New York, Philadelphia, etc.



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VIEWS OF LILY DALE... THE OCEANIC MYSTIC AND WESTERN

THEODORE J. MAYER.

IN MEMORIAM.

A Tribute of Love to one of Earth's Noblest Sons.

HARRISON D. BARRETT.

A telegram from headquarters, Washington, D. C. lies open before me. It brings sad tidings, which, even if not wholly unexpected, are yet hard to bear. It tells me that the generous hearted, whole souled, treasurer of the N. S. A., Theodore J. Mayer, has taken leave of earth to return to the home in the sphere of the soul, whence he came, when he elected to make this planet of ours a visit of two and sixty years in order that he might add to the sum total of the soul wisdom by the experiences he gained here. He has left us when the shadows of earth were only beginning to fall lightly toward the west—left us when apparently our need of his services was greatest, when our cause most required his valiant defense and support. The void made by his exit is indeed great and our people everywhere will now see for themselves what this noble life was to them and to the religion in which he so reverently believed. Words from the truly inspired pen of Lizzie Doten, regarding Henry B. Kingman of Springfield, Mass., in 1860, come to my mind as I think of Mr. Mayer's return home. "He left us when his manly heart, with earnest hope was beating high. Too soon it seemed for us to part. Too soon, alas! for him to die."

We know that Theodore J. Mayer is not dead; we realize that he has only made an exchange of dwelling places, and gone back to the home he left in the long ago. Reflecting upon this change, we can readily see what it means to him. He has gone home to the loved ones of his heart who left him in the far away past, the gentle wife of his bosom and the tender babes, the pledges of their love, who preceded him more than a quarter of a century in their exchange of homes. Gone home to enjoy their companionship, to take up life's activities anew, and carry on to a successful finish the work for Spiritualism which he began so well and so enthusiastically carried onward while in the mortal. He loved his religion and stood ready on all occasions to render it faithful service. He never did things half way, nor did he believe in hiding his truth from the gaze of men. It was too precious to be concealed, too reverent to be scoffed at, too inspiring to be cast aside for the seeming things of life.

Theodore J. Mayer was a self made man, and in every respect a most remarkable character. He was a native of Switzerland and was twenty years of age when he took up his residence in America. Single handed he set bravely forth to carve out his fortune in a strange land. He was not afraid of hard labor, and he did not spare himself in the discharge of any duty that came to his hand. He made his work a part of himself, and by putting his very soul into his efforts, he was soon able to produce results. In all of his business dealings he was a man of his word, hence won and retained the confidence of his fellowmen. His word was his bond, and his standing soon became a synonym for integrity throughout the nation. He was a man who "did things" and did them for a purpose. Idleness he hated with all of the ardor of his impetuous nature. He believed in hard work as an essential part of true religion. He exacted nothing of others that he did not demand in full of himself. He began life in a humble position with the well known firm of W. M. Galt & Co., of Washington, D. C. Promotion came as he earned and deserved it, hence he rose steadily in position and influence until he stood at the head of the great house with whose interests he was identified all his life. He held this place for nearly twenty years prior to his transition.

Prosperity came to him, and the goddess fortune smiled encouragingly upon his effort, and ever inspired him with the desire to do good with that which was entrusted to his stewardship. He was prominent in Masonic circles, likewise in many fraternal orders, as well as in corporations of great influence. He was a director in a score or more of prime movers in the work of organizing our national body, and has always been its heaviest financial

supporter. His benevolent actions did not stop with the N. S. A. He helped to establish our Pension Fund, contributed generously to the Morris Pratt Institute, and gave liberally to the support of not a few local societies, the First Association of Spiritualists of Washington, D. C., being of course, his first love. His munificent gift to the N. S. A. of the headquarters building and the lot on which it stands, is or should be fresh in the mind of every Spiritualist in America. He has contributed large sums for the support of the various activities of the N. S. A. ever since it became a body corporate. I believe I am making a conservative estimate when I place Mr. Mayer's donations to Spiritualism in general, to meadumship, to the N. S. A. and to local societies at \$100,000, in the last twenty years. This testifies emphatically to his love for and belief in his religion. Had other Spiritualists done as much as he has, in proportion to their means, Spiritualism as a movement would stand in far different relationship to the thot life of the world than it does today. Mr. Mayer's benefactions should be perpetual inspirations to his brethren to emulate his example. If our people fail to carry his good work forward they will be recreant to their duty, and be most ungrateful to the generous man who has set the pace for us all, and led the way. His monument will not be of marble nor granite, it will be rather the good he has done thru his willing service to his fellow men.

Mr. Mayer had his faults, but he ever sought to overcome them, and stood ready to correct his every mistake as soon as the error was made known to him. Other men, out of prejudice might remain wedded to their mistakes. Not so with him. The frank admission of a fault was to him payment of the debt. This rule he applied to himself, as well as to others. He has been known to apologize to a negro, when shown that he had been hasty in his judgment of him. It takes courage of a high order to do this, even with white men. I confessing a fault good grammarians tell us that we should speak the personal pronoun "I" first, then refer to our associates afterward. I have reason to know that rule was observed by Mr. Mayer. We did not always agree in our views, yet we had the motives were laid bare we had the same purpose in view and worked together with a will in perfect harmony. There was no difference as to the principles involved; we did not always study them from the same angle of vision, but he was too broad to cherish any resentment over a mere difference in opinion. I always found him sincere, straight forward, honest to the core, and earnestly desirous of being just in all he said or did. His great worth, his noble nature, became more and more apparent to me as the years slipped past us. He was more to me than my friend; he was my brother my comrade-in-arms, my helper in all of the affairs of life. Emerson says, "A friend is a person with whom one can be sincere" and every one who really knew Mr. Mayer always found him to be sincere, therefore a friend in the best sense of the word.

He has gone back to his soul-home at the early age of sixty-two years. No doubt over work had much to do with undermining his splendid constitution. It would almost seem as if he should have had another score of earth years, yet it was not to be, and he has gone to that life in spirit which he enjoyed so much in anticipation. His is now the realization, after his busy well spent life. A giant oak has fallen among us, leaving a great gap in the forest of being, an aching void to our tear dimmed vision and there is no one who can fill his place. We have his deeds to inspire us, his words of kindness to cheer and comfort us. He is not dead—this great hearted, whole souled philanthropist, but he lives on in our very midst to inspire us to continue the work to which he so willingly devoted his life.

"Not dead! Oh no, but lifted Above all earthly strife— Now first he knows the meaning And feels the power of life." Let us, therefore weep no more for our dear one, but transmute our tears into deeds of love for his sake, knowing that all is

well with him, and that all things are ordered wisely for the best. Let us help him to pass on to nobler heights, to win greater and more glorious victories for the cause of truth in the land of light and love where he now dwells. Let us further remember that this earth of ours is the better because of his having lived in it, and that the soul realm is richer because he has entered there. Theodore J. Mayer, my friend, my brother, I greet thee in spirit! Peace, eternal peace, be with thee! All hail! and a brief farewell until we meet again in the Morning Land!

Your attention is hereby called to the Third Annual Convention of the Indiana State Spiritualist Association, which is to convene in Indianapolis, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 29, 30, 31, 1907. The meetings will be held in Orpheum Hall, 135 North Delaware St. As there is much important business to be transacted, it is especially urged that all Spiritualists be in attendance. Aside from the business features of the Convention, there has been prepared a most excellent program for the edification of the visitors and delegates alike. Among those who will participate are, Miss Elizabeth Harlow of Ohio; Mr. Will J. Erwood of Peru, Indiana; Mrs. Anna Thronsdon, Mrs. Josephine Ropp, Mrs. Ruddick and Mrs. Mattie Hayden. In addition to those already mentioned I would say that the Wattles Quartette is expected in the city at that time, and will participate. Spiritualists, this is your convention—will you not aid it by your presence? It will be profitable to you as well as to all concerned—come and join in the spiritual feast which awaits you.

E. A. SCHRAM, president. CARRIE H. MONG, secretary. If it be my lot to crawl, I will crawl contentedly; if to fly, I will fly with alacrity; but, as long as I can avoid it, I will never be unhappy.—Sydney Smith. The devil can always make room for one more.

Important Notice to the Spiritualists of Indiana.

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THE TODD HOUSE.

This fine fifteen room brick residence is for sale. It overlooks the Assembly Grounds and three of the lakes. Is about fifty rods from Assembly entrance and Lily Dale depot. Has running spring water piped to cellar and first and second floors. A frame barn, about 23 acres of good land, sloping toward middle lake, with about 30 rods frontage on same.

Will sell buildings with less or more land joining up to about fifty acres, by special arrangement. For particulars, address H. F. TODD, - - - - - LILY DALE, N. Y.

Spiritualist Badge The Sunflower Jewelry. READING OF THE EMBLEM. The center of the design represents a human face, the highest type of intelligence, the face is encircled by the band of darkness symbolizing the ignorance and superstition of humanity; this is broken by the rays of light from the center of intelligence which pierce the darkness and join the light of the golden leaves beyond. Each leaf symbolizes one of the principles of nature on which progression is based. This design is set in the center of a pure white field, symbolizing purity, while its position in the center of the square is a symbol of justice. The whole is enclosed by the solid band representing the unity of humanity, while the ornamentation of the band symbolizes the kindnesses extended to others. As the sunflower turns its face towards the sun, so Spiritualism turns the faces of humanity from darkness and superstition towards the Sunlight of Truth and Progression. 5c. Each. 50c. per doz. \$3 per 100. BADGE PIN, \$1.50 LAPEL BUTTON, \$1.50 CELLULOID PIN. The Maltese Pendant is one of the neatest ornaments ever designed. The Emblem, mounted on the finely chased background, is suspended by rings from the bar pin above. It is very popular for presentation purposes. It can be worn as a badge or a breast pin. The back is plain and can be inscribed if desired. Price, \$5.00. MALTESE PENDANT. MALTESE WATCH CHARM. This is a very neat charm. The back is plain and any desired emblem may be mounted on it or it can be inscribed. Many think the Maltese Cross is a strictly Masonic emblem; such is not the case, as it is used by many orders. Price, \$5.00. The Sunflower Brooch is a very fine badge or breast pin. Between the five fluted points showing in gold are five sections of white enamel, the combination making a very beautiful background for the emblem. They are very popular with the ladies as a brooch or breast pin. Price, \$4.00. SUNFLOWER BROOCH. FOR SALE BY The Sunflower Publishing Co., Lily Dale, N. Y.

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