

# THE WORLD'S GREAT BAND;

OR THE

## “Order of Patriarchs.”

COMPLAINT OF

### ELIZA J. KENNY AGAINST JOHN M. SPEAR.

At a Session of the Cincinnati Branch of the HIGH DEGREE OF JUDGE, of the “Order of Patriarchs,” held in the city of Cincinnati, on the 30th day of May, A. D. 1858,—complaint was duly preferred by ELIZA J. KENNY, of Salem, Massachusetts, against JOHN M. SPEAR, of Melrose, Massachusetts, (both members of the said Cincinnati Branch,) in the manner and form following :

1. I charge Brother JOHN M. SPEAR with obtaining money, under false pretences, to carry out his purposes and projects.
2. I charge him with unkind, unfeeling, unbrotherly treatment of DAVID C. DINSMORE and family.
3. I charge him, that, as a “Medium,” “communications” are made through him, directing persons as to precise, practical steps to be taken by them, which greatly result to their injury; and that he uses his influence in a normal or natural state, to have said “communications” obeyed.

A true copy of said complaint being duly forwarded to said JOHN M. SPEAR, citation, under the Seal of the Order, was duly issued,—commanding the said ELIZA J. KENNY and JOHN M. SPEAR, that they “be and appear, personally or by authorized attorney, at our Session of the HIGH DEGREE OF JUDGE, of the said Order of Patriarchs,” “on the 11th day of July, A. D. 1858; then and there to abide such action and such decision as may be duly had and awarded.”

And at the said Session, on the 11th day of July, 1858, the said ELIZA J. KENNY and JOHN M. SPEAR being personally present, a full hearing was had; and thereupon, after due counsel, the following Decision in the case was rendered by the Worthy Chief, and by him ordered to be made known and promulgated to all members of the Order of Patriarchs:

In the history of this Institution, there has occurred no event, so important to its interests, so vital to its existence, as that which is at present before us.

It is strong evidence of the attachment of the members of this Degree to the Order, that the call for their assembling has been so fully responded to; many of us have come from distant homes, that we might take counsel, and solemnly deliberate upon the actions of a Brother.

The case presented shows that JOHN M. SPEAR has been, for some years, engaged in carrying forward certain methodic Labors,—*professedly* called to that work by the *Spirits of the Departed*. They apparently influencing him to deliver certain communications,—to perform certain acts,—in which he has been, and is now, engaged. In the course of these Labors, he consecrated ELIZA J. KENNY to assist in the work,—and she, having confidence in his calling and integrity, entered zealously into the performance of such duties as were assigned to her by JOHN M. SPEAR, *professedly* acting under *Spiritual* influence. In the course of these Labors, ELIZA J. KENNY had a full opportu-

nity to become acquainted with the Movement,—and became satisfied that JOHN M. SPEAR *did not* possess that *Moral Integrity* and *Virtue*, which she had ascribed to him; and being convinced, that, by remaining in the Movement, she was countenancing and sustaining an impracticable Scheme, promoted by unworthy means,—she withdrew from it. And, being satisfied that his conduct was not of that high standard of Virtue required by *this* Order, she has felt it to be her duty to express her convictions to us.

With this view, she has preferred certain charges, which are before us. At our Citation, both parties have appeared,—and we have heard such evidence as they have presented, and all which they have desired to say. We have solemnly counseled and deliberated together,—and arrived at the painful conviction, that the actions of JOHN M. SPEAR are not of that high standard of *Morality* required by *this* Order; and, by this solemn act, he is *SUSPENDED* from this Institution,—until reinstated by the action of a *higher* Degree duly *authenticated* as such.

### QUESTIONS REQUIRING AUTHORITATIVE DECISION.

THIS ORDER is not to be called a “*Spiritualistic*” or “*Free Love*” Institution,—such imputations are utterly repudiated and cast from it. A careful examination of its Rituals, will show that no allusions are made to such matters in its authorities. It has high and progressive Standards and Teachings of its own,—Teachings which must meet with the approval of the good of every belief;—but it *utterly repudiates* and *casts from it*, the reputation of being connected with *any other* Movement. The connection of this Order with matters with which it *has nothing to do*, has operated to its detriment. Its *own broad Principles* afford a *sure footing* for it to stand upon.

THIS INSTITUTION will not recognize, as *authoritative*, any innovations, alterations, or additions, to its Work, *unless accompanied by further reading of the TABLET*.

All members of this INSTITUTION are, therefore, strictly enjoined, to truly observe this our act and decision,—that the reputation, honor, and glory of our beloved ORDER may be firmly established, and its good effects be made manifest to the world.

Attest: J. L. HASTINGS, Sec'y.

W. H. BAYLESS, W. Chief, H. D. J.

CINCINNATI, August 1st, 1858.