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THE BETTER WAY

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M. G. VOEGMANN, President, J. H. WRIGHT, Treasurer, C. C. STOWELL, Secretary.

CINCINNATI - NOVEMBER 21, 1891

Terms of Subscription: THE BETTER WAY will be furnished until further notice at the following terms, invariably in advance: One year \$5.00

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NOTICE: All communications pertaining to either the editorial or business department of this paper, or letters containing money to reach us, must be accompanied by a return address.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUBS: To facilitate the handling of our 25-cent trial subscriptions, it would be of immense advantage if trial subscribers clubbed together.

WAS ABRAHAM LINCOLN A SPIRITUALIST? This volume, among literary minds, is the sensation of the day. There has been in the air not only before, but subsequent to the tragic death of one of America's greatest thinkers, statesmen, and executives, a suspicion, an uncrystallized or nebulous sentiment, a half belief, that he was subject to abnormal influence and mental impressions.

ism? It was not in the known nature of Mr. Lincoln to turn away from any source of information which would aid him in guiding the government safely through its trials and preserve its autonomy.

This intensely interesting volume opens a chapter in the life of President Lincoln hitherto unknown or only surmised. Its author, Mrs. Nettie Colburn Maynard, nee Colburn, from childhood possessed medial powers.

We had known many of these facts before the volume appeared, even before we knew that Mrs. Maynard was engaged in giving to history these remarkable records.

As previously remarked, materially symbols, ere this, should have performed the greater part of their work in piloting the individual consciousness to, at least, a partial apprehension of its relations to universal mind and life.

A comprehensive and careful reading of the initial steps of the human race, in advancing to intelligent expressions of human thought and emotions, one must be convinced that materialized thought of the universal mind, as made manifest in symbolic form, has been the great educator of the human mind in all ages and at all times.

With all symbolic gods were associated wrath, vengeance, terror, and perhaps a minimum of love. So that through the laws of heredity, the worshiping of the form with all of its hideous significations, became a part of the very being and constitution of man.

Herein will be noted a distinctive feature of evolution as applicable to mentality. Had there not been developed mind-power or mentality in man, to work in comparative unison with the uni-

versal mind, aiding intuition in giving expression to impressions, unkind to-day, as in primitive time, would be worshipping idol form.

The reader must have sensed ere this the point I am preparing to make, viz: thought, harnessed with the various prerogatives of reason, is the real engine propelling the train of human development, endeavor, and destiny.

It is a grievous error to suppose that right reasoning, and true religion are at variance. The terms are synonymous. Free religion is the result of right reasoning, right reasoning necessarily finally results in the fruition of truth, just as the generic causes of spring march on to the golden harvest of fall.

Christ is now being found, not within man-form, but in the principles of love that produced the man, and in the golden future which succeeds him. The present is a warfare of prejudice; not of piety—of presumption, of perfect promise. The advent of the Christian era, or the Christ in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, drawing near to the consciousness of the individual mind, was the most pronounced advance of mentality as to spirit interpretation, of all special periods that preceded him.

He apprehended the trinitarian relationship between man, physical, spiritual, and the universal one. Standing on the mount of intuitional discernment, with the ages of idol-worship, moaning with sacrificial distress, at his back, and the glowing sun of universal love, light, and truth in the beyond, proclaimed to the multitude—God is a spirit (not a form). I and my father are one—ye are my brethren.

These three random extracts, said to have been expressed by the man Jesus, are all sufficient within themselves, upon which to build the religion of mankind, and it is the province of modern interpretation of spirit truth, called Spiritualism, by demonstration and reason to prove that Jesus should, as a teacher, have given such expressions if he did not. All else associated with the expressions of those truths, was simply the exegesis of the teacher.

WHENCE INTUITION? In a recent number of the Journal the question was put: "Who is there in these days so bold and ignorant as to deny innate mental capacity displayed through a large well-formed brain?"

It is a question whether the brain is but the instrument of mind; whether in its throbbings it thinks *per se* or retains ideas any more than the eye sees or the ear hears and retains impressions.

entity. However that may be, it is true there is something called mind which is dependent for expression on the potency of external influence and without which mind has no existence; just as there can be no sound till vibration impinges on the drum of the ear.

It may be suggested that ancestral experience imprinted on the retina may call up dim visions; probably they may do so in some peculiar cases. No one doubts that past experiences in a general way are transmitted and aid human progress. But how rare are the instances of ability or genius in lineal descent, as far as can be traced, transmitted from parent to child.

While it is pertinent to inquire if there be innate ideas, is it not equally so as to the origin of ideas and faculties, not innate, therefor acquired, and how so? And the inference comes, that where there is animation, there is instinctive emotion, feelings of pleasure and pain, which it is fair to assume are the initial premonitions of mind.

In like manner may it not be that religious sentiment, based on fear of the unseen powers, has grown? Optimistic views coming into activity that comprehended the higher purpose of life saw only manifestations of love in the universe as in the beauties of spring, in flowers, autumnal fruits, and in the many other blessings of life, for which men reverently render thanks and adoration.

So of benevolence, hope, ideality, wonder. There is that in the human mind which addresses Nature, thence obtains ideas, formulates conceptions, looking to life and mind, their origin and phenomena. It asks why do these phrenological indications have a place in phrenological inquiry? The reply is, because they are true to Nature, and that such knowledge is instructive in this: "Man, if thou wouldst understand, learn to know thyself."

At Pisa, Italy, a few days ago, a mob attacked six Austrian pilgrims to the Vatican and compelled them to shout, "Hurray for the king!" Prof. Ackler, among the pilgrims, mysteriously disappeared and is thought to have been assassinated by the anti-clericals.

The bishop of Cahors, having refused to celebrate a second mass in the church of the village of Murat, France, on Sundays, to convenience far-comers, the whole village in consequence have become alienated from Catholicism and embraced Protestantism.

NEWS ITEMS.

The waters of Lake Erie are to be piped to Cincinnati, taking in many other cities en route.

A Southern genius is credited with the discovery that a very fine article of sugar can be made or distilled from the long-despised cotton seed.

The Catholic Church in Chicago wants to make an exhibit at the Fair and has applied for 75x75 feet of space.

Three lads in Kalamazoo, Michigan, named Collins and Pfeiffer, have been accused by the Very Rev. Frank A. O'Brien, of St. Augustine's Church, of crucifying a cat.

Seventh Day Adventists are indignant, and with good reason, over the imprisonment and fine of one of their faith in Tennessee for ploughing his field on Sunday.

The Homiletic Review says that within this half century the following inventions and discoveries have been made: "Ocean steamships, street railways, elevated railways, telegraph lines, ocean cables, telephones, phonograph, photography, and a score of new methods of picture making, aniline colors, kerosene oil, electric lights, steam fire engines, chemical fire extinguishers, anaesthetics, and painless surgery; gun-cotton, nitroglycerine, dynamite, giant powder, aluminum, magnesium, and other new metals; electro plating, spectrum analysis, and spectroscopy; audiphone, pneumatic tubes, electric motor, electric railway, electric bells, typewriter, cheap postal system, steam heating, steam and hydraulic elevators, vestibule cars, cantilever bridges."

THE HOPE OF IMMORTALITY.

Allegory and metaphor at best are poor supports for the fainting soul perishing for hope in immortality. The sublime hope that lives within the heart of man rests upon a surer foundation than the delightful imagery of the poet. It is founded upon the eternal rock of truth and will grow brighter and stronger with the years.

Deafness Can't be Cured by local applications, as they can not reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies.

PERSONALS.

Contributions received: W. R. O. E. M., E. D. B., O. W. H., M. H. C., F. E. A., F. F. C., Inv., J. C. W.

Mrs. Elsie Reynolds has gone East and is now located at 36 East Thirty-second Street, New York.

The Independent Pulpit, of Waco Texas, is a live and progressive liberal paper, replete with good reading matter, and should be well patronized by all liberal-minded thinkers.

Luther R. Marsh was once a business partner of Daniel Webster. On the 24th inst., commencing at 7.45, Mr. Marsh will deliver a lecture at the Tremont Temple, Boston, on the "Life and Character of Daniel Webster."

John Wetherbee, in an article on Organization, in which he expresses himself in favor of it, closes with the remark that "any organization that may be formed must rest on sensuous phenomena, which are the only distinguishing feature of Modern Spiritualism."

A supper and social will be given by the Society of Union Spiritualists, at G. A. R. Hall, 115 West Sixth Street, Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday evening, November 25, 1891. Tickets for both 25 cents. Supper from 6 to 8; social from 8 to 11 o'clock.

Brother Sidney Dean passed his seventy-third mile-stone during the past week; and while we most heartily congratulate him, we must say, we have never met one of his age so full of mental vigor with the accordant physical constitution accompanying it. May he bours a while yet in the mortal.

Dr. J. R. Monroe, editor of the Iron-clad Age of Indianapolis, Ind., passed to the beyond on the 9th inst. His doubts concerning a future life will have been removed ere this. He died consistent in his belief as a Materialist, but was a worker in the cause for the uplifting of humanity, and will be rewarded in his new birth accordingly. We extend our sympathies to those who mourn his loss.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ANTI-ARTIC SEAS.

The Antarctic seas are well known to whalers for their sharp gales of north and northwest winds, and the difficulty of navigating these ice-bearing seas is intensified by the dense fogs which so frequently obscure surrounding dangers, and the almost constant precipitation of rain and snow also tends to increase the miserable surroundings of those ill-fated mortals whose lot in life marks them out to battle with the elements so far from comfort and civilization. To accentuate by contrast the extreme coldness and loneliness of these dreary wastes, nature has bestowed on it a brilliant burning mountain over 12,000 feet in height, which has been named Mount Erebus. It is situated in seventy-eight degrees south latitude, near the supposed location of the southern magnetic pole.

FROM A GRATEFUL PATIENT.

Dr. A. B. Dohson, Maquoketa, Iowa: You, without doubt, think me either dead or else without gratitude or true appreciation of what you have done for me. You no doubt remember me as the man given up to die with a combination of diseases from head to foot, who wrote you from Miltonville, Kan., while you were in Florida last winter. Well, I had been suffering with kidney, bladder, lung, head, and skin diseases for nearly six months and was almost a walking skeleton when I applied to you for help.

Are you with us? Remember THE BETTER WAY is the cheapest and best Spiritualist paper in the world. Read it, subscribe for it, circulate it.

Correspondence.

Brooklyn, N. Y. The semi-annual memorial services of our conference took place Saturday, November 7th.

Mrs. Gridley offered an invocation, which was followed by singing of the "Home Quartette" of "Bringing in the Sheaves."

Mr. W. C. Bowen gave the opening address, dwelling on the words and sentiments of Alfred Russell Wallace, who maintained that at times it was impossible to conceive and believe in a spiritual existence.

Mrs. Walton, the oldest Spiritualist, of Brooklyn, "our Mother Walton," as the conference pleased to call her, made a few touching remarks.

Mr. Charles R. Miller, another veteran and well-known worker in the spiritual field, again gave to the audience the message received and read the week previous of Henry Kiddle.

Mrs. F. O. Hyer opened the meeting at Convent Hall, Sunday morning, November 5th, with questions from the audience, and as she has a happy faculty of selecting one principal question for her lecture.

On Sunday evening Walter Howell delivered a lecture before the Brooklyn Spiritual Home Association at their hall, 230 Fulton street, taking for his subject "Generation and Regeneration."

Mrs. Clara H. Banks discussed for the first Society of Spiritualists on "American Modern Spiritualism." The lecture was a fitting tribute to the knowledge that all Spiritualists have of immortal life.

Mr. Newton made an opening address on the phenomena of Spiritualism, commencing first with the primitive man down to the present day of Modern Spiritualism.

St. Louis, Mo. Reports of meetings in St. Louis this month were very encouraging. The audiences have greatly increased under Moses Hull's ministrations.

Detroit, Mich.

I took a week to play and plague the people after my work closed in Detroit, and took in the various doings of spiritual interest.

After an extensive correspondence and several meetings held in Chicago, extending over the past six months, the Spiritualists of Illinois, through representative men and women, have organized a State association under the laws regulating religious and educational societies.

Being desirous of forming a religious and scientific association under section 35 of the corporation laws of the State of Illinois for the year 1891, we announce that the objects sought by the Illinois State Spiritualist Association of are: The advancement of its members in the practical knowledge of life and its duties.

The following persons constitute the present board of directors: George A. Black, Canton, Ill.; L. P. Wheelock, Moline; S. M. Seelye, Sterling; J. L. Clover, Gardner; J. P. Ransom, Wilmington; Hiram Eddy, Dekalb; O. J. Howard, McHenry; Edward Green, Lacon; Mrs. M. C. Newton, Rockford; W. D. Jones, Jr., Francis, George McIntyre, James Bruce, Roy Van Horu, all of Chicago, Ill.

At a regular meeting of the association held in Chicago recently, Prof. J. H. Randall and Mr. George A. Black were appointed State missionaries. The Spiritualists throughout Illinois desiring lecturers or mediums and are willing to co-operate with this association by organizing and having public work done for the cause of Spiritualism, are requested to make their names known to President Jenifer, or to the undersigned.

Clinton, Iowa. We wish to have the readers, especially the mediums and speakers of THE BETTER WAY know that we have a spiritual society here, which meets every Sunday evening.

Walla Walla, Wash. Jules Wallace, the Australian medium, writes that his meetings were not as well attended as they might have been in the above locality, and thinks it mainly due to the fact that a bogus medium preceded him by a few weeks and carried off the harvest, thus throwing away money that might have been devoted towards raising a fund for the building of a temple.

Salt Lake City. John Stubbs writes that Mrs. A. E. Donay is lecturing to intelligent audiences there, and is much appreciated. The local organization, known as the "Progressive Spiritualist Society," is working harmoniously and in accord with the teachings of the cause.

Testimonial. B. F. Poole, Clinton, Iowa. Dear Sir—After I received your circular I at once ordered your spirit-magnetized remedies. Your Catarrh Remedies and Magnetized Compound for the eyes, etc., have performed a wonderful cure for me.

Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Adah Sheehan lectured for our society Tuesday evening, November 10th, in the parlors of Mr. H. Colt on South Third Street.

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Bethel, O.

C. S. Musgrove writes that while in Cincinnati recently he attended one of Mr. Willis' sittings and had unmistakable evidences that he communed with his parents and a brother.

Bethel also has a spiritual circle where friends of the cause congregate to enjoy the blessings of spirit-communication: and like other places has its opposers and antagonists. But this does not deter them in their investigations, as they have a fine trumpet medium, Mr. John Addy, who holds regular circles and gives satisfactory proofs of the presence of spirit friends.

Springfield, Mo. The work here is progressing finely. Prof. J. C. Wright is here, and is creating a deep interest in the minds of the people.

Oakland, Cal. The Mission Spiritual Society, which was recently formed, is a success in every way.

Elgin, Ill. Brother G. H. Brooks writes, that after getting settled into his new home, 35 Lawrence Street, he looked around for a congregation.

Fort Worth, Tex. The Spiritualists of Fort Worth have organized under the name of United Spiritualists of Fort Worth, Tex., and would like to be recognized by our spiritual friends in all parts of the United States.

Greenfield, Mass. The Spiritualist Society here assembles at Union Hall, every Sunday in the year, except during the month of August.

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DR. F. L. H. WILLIS, May be Addressed Until Further Notice GLENORA, YATES COUNTY, N. Y. DR. J. C. PHILLIPS, After his summer vacation is again located at 315 W. Van Buren St., Chicago.

MRS. M. E. WILLIAMS, 232 W. 46th St., New York City. Enclose stamp for information.

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Women's Department.

Written for The Better Way.

How the Devil Got Into Heaven.
ST. JULIAN.
One evening at the party gate...

Who applicant, then somewhat coy...
I'm the printer's office-boy...

THOUGHT—AN ESSAY.

One will ask, What is thought?
Whence comes it? And again, who ever saw a thought?...

Written for The Better Way.
Winter.
Cold and dismal is the river...

MY IDEA.

Glancing up we perceive numberless meteors dashing in many and opposite directions across our spiritual sky...

creation, so in the same order out of chaotic conditions, was and is the first creation carried on through chemical action or motion in the atmosphere...

Again we say thought is and was, before it was clothed, in the flesh. It is a living germ and stands first, hence thought in accordance with the mystic signification of numbers stands 1, 1, 1...

God is both matter and ether, else there could be nothing, no power or force of gestation. Spirit and matter, defy separation. Yet spirit is not matter but becomes an individualized entity in organic matter...

We have endeavored to be plain, as explicit as possible. Hoping exceptions will not be taken with terms or words used in this essay, we promise more anon...

Written for The Better Way.
WINTER.
Cold and dismal is the river...

MY IDEA.

Glancing up we perceive numberless meteors dashing in many and opposite directions across our spiritual sky, disturbing its serenity and beauty somewhat...

weigh their merits, adopting such for our luminaries, as seem plausible, and peculiarly adapted to our inclinations and necessities, rigidly denouncing all such as are not in harmony with our views as useless and spurious...

Might not those golden moments occupied in gazing at those moving balls of speculative conjecture, be put to more practical use? In the meantime might not a procession of needy souls pass our doors, to whose hungry hearts...

Dear readers, do not consider me as opposed to organization, nor to any means whereby the greatest good to the greatest number may be accomplished. But I believe a general organization, under the present incomplete spiritual unfoldment, is premature...

STRAY THOUGHTS.

Who is the crank—the one who refuses your advice or he who forces his own on you?
An unwise law is sometimes made because proposed and given prominence by a talented individual...

MEETINGS.

- SECRETARIES of societies will please forward as the names, place and hour of meeting of their societies...
London. DAVENPORT HALL, Trenton street, opposite Broadway, Spiritual meetings at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m....

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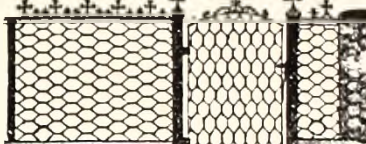


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Address: THAD. ROWLAND, Oberlin, Ohio.

Written for The Better Way. TOPICS OF THE TIME.

Dr. Richardson declares in the Asclepiad that memory is often a good test of age. He thinks that when a person begins to find the recollection of current and recent work failing, and when he finds the recollection of events of the early part of his life acutely perceptible, "and by a kind of spontaneous recurrent," the evidence is certain that the mind of that person is aging.

in spiritual things, and strives only after the great, does not build up the kingdom of God, but undermines it. The man who in the commonest walks of life applies all his talent and powers to the immediate object of his presence, furthers the work of God, and if one wish could be made and realized, it would be the prevalence of this industry and patience in little things amongst us, and in this way become a people who are progressing on the peaceful path to its destined perfection.

Almost upon the heels of the decision of the Andover case comes the decision of the New York Presbytery, dismissing the charges against Dr. Briggs by a vote of 94 to 50. Dr. Briggs, it will be remembered, delivered an inaugural address at the Union Theological School to which he was called, which threw a live coal of fire into the dry-as-wood circle of orthodoxy.

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ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.—THE SPIRIT AND SOUL.—Embodied man is a trinity. The spiritual body substantial. Exceptions to the rule that all men are immortal. No sub-human or semi-human being in the spiritual world. Accidents to spirits. Death, the birth of the spirit. The changes that death produces. Effects of narcotics upon the spirit. Spirits are born naked into the next life. Treatment of mortal remains. Temporary desertion of the body by the spirit. Mr. Owen witnesses such a case. His description of it. It is attended with danger to the body. Not a common occurrence.

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By Mrs. Adah Sheehan, was beyond the power of the pen to describe. Every seat in the hall was occupied, and each occupant was hushed into silence by the matchless eloquence of this truly wonderful medium and orator...

MOVEMENTS OF MEDIUMS.

Moses Hull speaks in New Orleans during December. He can be addressed by Camp St. Mattie E. Hull spends the last two Sundays of November in Chicago...

REMEMBRANCES OF EDWARD S. WHEELER.

During one of the lectures held at Neshaminy Camp, and where the First Association of Spiritualists were holding their summer session, considerable noise and commotion was made by the passing trains and by the chattering of some people in the audience...

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Teacher—Keep your hand down, John Billings, when I am ready I will call upon you. Ten minutes later now, John Billings, I will hear what you have to say.

MONSTROUS LITTLE TIME.

A colored preacher was called upon to attend the funeral of one of his chief members, who had come to his death by falling from a tree in which his neighbor's fowls roosted.

Table of Contents.

FIRST PAGE—Editorial. SECOND PAGE—God—Spirit, C. F. Kittredge. Preparatory to a National Convention.

THOUGHT AND FRAGMENTS.

I value very highly the physical phenomena of Spiritualism, as being the only sensuous proof that man consciously survives the death of his body.

PSYCHIC RESEARCH SOCIETY.

There are so many pleasant things to say of our work in this report, that my pen is eager to begin. An increased membership for the society, is one of the first things that claims our attention.

WHY IS THERE SO MANY VINEGAR VINEGARD CHRISTIANS?

"Why is there so many vinegar vinegared Christians?" "They keep their religion over for use on Sunday only, and it sours."

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