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THE LIBERATOR

The Truth Shall Make You Free.

VOL. I.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., DECEMBER 15, 1898.

NO. 7

Some Extracts and Comments.

Among the many letters received in response to the sample copies of the LIBERATOR we have recently sent out are some containing criticisms of the R. P. Journal and its editor which are not very flattering to that individual. The most severe of these we refrain from publishing but mild ones like the following deserve notice. A prominent Spiritualist in Los Angeles writes many good things of our work, and speaks of the Journal in this manner:—

"By the way, what a mean little trick that is of Newman to draw the reader's attention away from the real point, to the spelling of Bundy's name and assuming such a mistake of the printer is owing to the "ignorance" of the editor. His entire comments on the LIBERATOR and on Coleman's letter, how an unfair and contemptibly mean spirit. I am surprised to see such an exhibition as he makes of himself. He falsely accuses you of "garbled quotations and distorted facts," while himself guilty of those very things in nearly every article on the editorial page wherein he makes his false charge. You ought to ask him to copy your article headed "A Lie Nailed," so his readers can see what a liar and dastard he is when he says the editor of the LIBERATOR "gives distorted matter about our spirit niece, which it is useless to reiterate as we fully explained the whole thing last week." His readers do not know that his pretended explanation was a *carefully concocted misrepresentation.*"

W. N. S.

The editor of the Journal no doubt thought he was getting off something very witty when he attributed the misspelling of Mr. Bundy's name to our "ignorance." But we knew so well how to spell it that on one occasion when we gave it to a "fake" medium as a "test" for Bro. Newman he recognized it on the slate as being "Bundy's exact signature." He also recognized Mr. Bundy at a "fake" seance Miller gave at the residence of Mr. F. Strother in this city. But Miller had consulted the writer the day before for the purpose of getting a "test" for Newman, and we suggested that Mr. Bundy might be a very appropriate name to give, and it "worked all right."

In response to private letters sent out, we have received a great many names to whom this issue is sent free.

Truth Will Triumph.

In view of the fact that the "official organ" persistently, publishes lying and misleading statements in defense of frauds; in view of the fact that it persistently slanders, villifies and persecutes all who dare to speak the truth in defense of pure Spiritualism and against the fraud element (no matter what their reputation for veracity or standing in society); and in view of the further fact that many people who did not care to "mix up in the affair" have personally or by letter informed the editor of the Journal of experiences with Mrs. Whitney similar to those published in the last LIBERATOR, (after having been presented to the "State Board"),—we submit that in view of all these facts, does it not appear as if money was being paid for those willful and gross misrepresentations? It is the old trick of lawyers resorting to the last argument, i. e., to blacken the character of the witnesses to vitiate evidence. But the trick is too old; neither judges or jury are influenced by it today.

We further submit that one-tenth of the evidence presented before the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the California State Spiritualists' Association is enough to convict before any judge or jury in the land.

Those brave souls who have championed the cause of true Spiritualism and attacked its foes in the LIBERATOR, have done so with no hope of reward in this world, and at the peril of their lives at the hands of desperate frauds who see their occupation vanishing, not to mention the slander and abuse they knew would be heaped upon them by the more ignorant and gullible Spiritualists who idolize their Gods—the fakirs. The very fact that such sacrifices have been made in this work of renovation proves that the immortal world is defending the course of the LIBERATOR.

Let the cleansing flames of reason, truth and justice blaze until the last garbage heap upon the fair fields of spiritual truth has been incinerated. Then, from the shadow of a corrupt past, like the fabled Phoenix which arose from its own ashes, true Spiritualism will arise, resplendent and glorious—the light of the world.

"Truth, crushed to earth, will rise again—

The eternal years of God are hers—
While error, wounded, writhes in pain
And dies amidst her worshippers!"

A. B.

Extracts From an Address Delivered by Will C. Hodge, in Los Angeles, Nov. 20th, 1898.

On November 20th, the evening prior to his departure from Los Angeles, for Chicago, Mr. Will C. Hodge gave a lecture on Mediumship, in the course of which he said: We cannot separate spiritual philosophy from spiritual phenomena. The two must go hand in hand. The average Spiritualist has been made such by spiritual phenomena. In the early days of Modern Spiritualism we had private family circles. There was then no such thing as a public test medium. The "almighty dollar" did not enter into consideration in our endeavor to come into communication with our spirit friends. Our search for truth was not interfered with by monetary considerations. In time we began to have public test mediums, some of whom, for their maintenance, made charge for their services. Then the number of public mediums rapidly increased, nearly all demanding a fee. Rivalry and antagonism ensued, one medium working against another. The number claiming mediumship increased until the country was flooded with them. Do not understand me as deprecating the increase of genuine mediums. I wish there were more than there are. But the simulation of mediumship, and the practice by genuine mediums of adding tests derived from mundane sources, cannot be too strongly denounced. Any medium who procures facts beforehand, who gets names and incidents, and gives them as of spiritual origin, is engaged in a business too despicable for words to fitly describe. There is no excuse for such conduct, and no honest, self-respecting Spiritualist will countenance a medium who is guilty of it.

We must demand character in our workers. The fight that is now going on in San Francisco to eliminate fraud is one in which all true Spiritualists must feel a deep interest. If we cannot eliminate fraud from Spiritualism—if that which is recognized and employed by our societies must include the fraudulent with the genuine,—then Spiritualism, so far as I am concerned, may go back where it came from. I know it to be founded in truth, but I want the truth unadulterated. Most certainly those who are guilty of fraud should not be employed by Spiritualist associations.

At the close of the address, which was full of plain, practical, good sense in relation to mediumship, its uses and abuses, Mrs. Barnett gave excellent tests, prefacing with a few words highly commendatory of Mr. Hodge's lecture, and hoping the auditors present would repeat the sentiments expressed to all their friends.

Editor Liberator.— I receive your paper regularly and must say it is finely gotten up and must be a hard blow to all the frauds; but still the suckers are not all dead yet and never will be. I think more of a road agent who demands your money than I do of a fraud medium; for fraud mediums are the worst kind of ROBBERS; they have no respect for the living, or the dead friends of the living. And if I had my way I would put them to work on the rock pile in Sacramento city. When I get through reading the Liberator I give it to friends of mine—Spiritualist and others, to read; and when they get through reading it I always get it back and give it to others to read and keep it going. Still you could not make some Spiritualists believe that there are any frauds. I send you \$1.00 for my yearly subscription and would like you to send me your book on fake mediumship; then I will have some fun with those unbelievers and suckers, for I was a big sucker myself until I read the Liberator. Bear in mind, my friends, I do not want to learn slate writing for any immoral purpose, nor for making money, for I would not accept one cent in that way; but I want to do good among the suckers. I want you to send the Liberator to a lady here who is almost crazy to be a materializing and slate writing medium. All the frauds in San Francisco know her. She believes them all genuine, and says she knows Mr. Garrison is a genuine slate writing medium for she had a sitting with him and got the writing on two slates under her feet.

Yours for truth,

FRED SWANWELL,
Sacramento, Cal., Nov. 26th, 1898.

John C. Bundy's spirit (we should say if we were a Spiritualist) has commenced the publication of a paper in San Francisco, Cal., entitled "The Liberator," and he employs Bishop S. Garrison, of "earth life," as his medium." And this new journal is the work of exposing fraudulent mediums out-Bundy's Bundy. The Liberator is published semi-monthly. Price \$1 a year.—Free Thought Magazine.

John T. Lillie Explains.

The *Philosophical Journal* contains a communication from Mr. Lillie in reply to Mr. Coleman's charge of his having assisted fraudulent mediums, and of having held up a "dummy" for Mr. Miller at his materializing seance, on the evening of November 11th, 1897.

Mr. Lillie was called up to the cabinet and he says "when the form approached me, giving the name of my sister, I conversed with it, whatever it was." If Mr. Coleman knows it was a "dummy" he knows more than I did. If he knew that the form that came out of the cabinet while I talked to what purported to be my sister, was Mr. Miller, he knows more about that than I do."

We would like Mr. Lillie to give the substance of his conversation with "the form" while Mr. Miller was out of the cabinet personating a spirit. The writer positively knows that no "form" possessed of organs of speech remained in the cabinet to "converse" with Mr. Lillie while Mr. Miller was outside. As the seance was in our own parlors and we knew all the arrangements—knew no confederates personated spirits—we absolutely know that the form did not speak to Mr. Lillie after Mr. Miller went out of the cabinet. As to our selling Mr. Lillie a ticket we will state that the seance was for the benefit of Mr. Thos. G. Newman and the writer had some tickets on sale at a meeting of The Ladies' Aid Society and when Mr. Lillie asked for one ticket we asked if he did not wish two tickets, thinking of course that such an honorable man as Jack Lillie would not deceive his wife and visit places she would disprove of; but he shook his head significantly and said that "Lill, would not go." I could not even then understand why Mrs. Lillie would not attend the seance unless she believed Miller was a fraud, as she had visited, and dined with me, and was then living in Mrs. Whitney's house (or had been but a short time before, if not then) and Mr. and Mrs. Whitney were both here that evening. Mr. Lillie says that in the eighteen years of his public work, (as a singer, we suppose,) he has never been accused of fraud and considers himself greatly abused etc., etc. The writer was told by a prominent speaker from the East, that it was generally believed that Jack Lillie stood in with the frauds; but that Mrs. Lillie did not know it, and out of respect for her people would not tell her."

Mr. and Mrs. Lillie's eighteen years' service to the cause of Spiritualism has been of no greater value to the world that has been the same number of years service by the writer. For eleven years as editor of the *Carrier Dove* and *Pacific Coast Spiritualist* we did battle for true Spiritualism as far as we could know the true from the false at that time. We have lived in Oakland and San Francisco, for nearly nineteen years and raised a family of four boys, and during all that time the only and most bitter enemies we have made, have been the frauds we have exposed, and their supporters, and they are the ones who oppose, slander and vilify us now.

Sworn Statement of Mrs. N. F. Ravlin.

Mr. Wm. Emmette Coleman,
Dear Sir and Friend:—

It seems quite useless for me to add testimony to what Dr. Ravlin has written. Those who misjudge and disbelieve him will do the same by me. To others it surely is not necessary. However, most cheerfully do I submit my endorsement of all he has said. Also that Mr. Garrison's statements as they have appeared in the *LIBERATOR* concerning Dr. Ravlin's desire to then and there publish what he had discovered are true. He did then assure us there was more to follow and in due time it would appear and result in good for the Cause of Spiritualism. In regard to the Psychic Institute which Dr. R. has referred to in a letter to yourself, —I was the first one to detect the fraudulent work there that told us the story of another deception—and ourselves "the victims." All of which was made known to many at the time and denounced through the *Progressive Thinker* by Dr. Ravlin soon after, and as you well know severed our connection with the "Institute."

I do hereby append my affidavit to the truth of the above statement.

MRS. N. F. RAVLIN,
Hotel Woodstock, Chicago, Ill.

Sworn to before me this 25th day of November 1898.

D. MCK JACKSON,
Notary Public.
Cook County, Illinois

Some Scraps of History.

Some ten years ago when publishing the *Carrier Dove* Spiritualism underwent an upheaval something similar to that of the present time. It was brought about by Mr. Joseph Maguire who "got in" with the fakes at that time infesting the city and by personating spirits for them, soon learned their tricks and found out who the principals in the fraudulent work were. At that time Mr. Maguire wrote a letter for publication in the *Carrier Dove*, which was not published but which we have retained all these years for reference when needed and from which the following extracts are taken.

Mr. Maguire says:—"What enquirers and earnest thinkers want is not what some one believes but what they know. We all think and believe a 'heap.' The writer at one time believed, and honestly too, that all the forms he saw coming from the cabinets of certain materializing mediums were genuine psychic forms. We refer to such prominent mediums as Mrs. Josie Hoffman, Mrs. Elsie Reynolds, Mrs. Stoutenburg, Mrs. Patterson Jones, Mrs. Souther, Harry Wild and many others; but upon close examination found these forms to be big boys and girls who were paid from one to two dollars for each performance. We also found movable mopboards, sliding panels, and neatly cut trap doors. These trap doors are still to be seen (this was ten years ago,) at 944—1602, and 1330 Howard street. The writer upon a proper engagement will show any reader of the *Dove* just where they are to be found.

In order to prove beyond a doubt that we were not mistaken, we ingratiated ourselves into the confidence of some of these pretending saints and fraudulent mediums and secured the unenviable

position of confederate or "spook player." We played the unpardonable part of spirit not to deceive any one but rather to learn the facts in the case. We did not play "spook" for money, but for knowledge, and we got it. We know the facts and stand ready to prove what we assert. We can never assert too much about "spook varieties."

At one time we believed that all that came from these cabinets were pure spirit manifestations; but when we learned the art of imitating materialization and found that by dipping cloth into a certain chemical mixture that such cloth would become luminous in the darkness we very soon realized that a knowledge of the facts in the case (or cabinet) made us change our sentimental belief. This mixture we have in our possession and all truth seekers are welcome to the receipt."

These statements are as true of the so-called materializing mediums holding their swindling shows today as they were of those with whom Mr. Maguire worked ten years ago; and the people still continue to flock to such performances and pay their money as they did at that time. It may be that only the strong arm of the law, which should protect the people from robbers, will ever be able to stop it.

The Mrs. J. J. Whitney Fake.

"There's more in Heaven and earth, Horatio, than you and I dream of in our philosophy."

In regard to the request that I should give my experiences of Mrs. J. J. Whitney's methods, for the purpose of enlightening those Spiritualists who have sat beneath her spiritual ministrations, I have only to say that it would take me some time to prepare any statement that would do justice to the extremely interesting disclosures. To deal with her Boston performances alone would be a lengthy undertaking, and apart from the explanation of her public work in this city, the lengthy developments in the history of her subjugation of Mr. George E. White, of Mendocino county, would take many pages to do them even limited justice. Then again the peculiar connection between her and a certain medical man in this city, and her association with a lady medical student at present, in her latest development "medical clairvoyance" and the manifestation of "Revealed Remedies," open up a very entertaining and instructive lesson on the question of how far human credulity can be imposed on. During the time I have known Mrs. Whitney I have had many opportunities of witnessing her admirable nerve, I having resided for a lengthy period in her house, on intimate terms with her and her esteemed husband, my facilities, as one in her entire confidence, to observe her methods were peculiarly satisfactory. I am the only person who has seen and heard all that occurs at her seances with George White. Of course the lady was not aware of my patronage on these occasions, but as their seance room was accessible to me from an unoccupied room adjoining it, I ventured to acquaint myself with all that went on upon those wierd occasion when she gave George his "dope." Next week I will do my best to place such an account in your hands as will help your readers along the stony path of psychical research and enable them to say amen to the exclamation "What fools we mortals be."

GEO. SAWKINS.

San Francisco.

EDITOR LIBERATOR:—Please accept my sincere thanks for your defense of my name and mediumship in an article entitled, "A Lie Nailed," in your issue of THE LIBERATOR of Nov. 15th. Your explanation is clear and to the point, and the circumstances are exactly correct as you stated them. I do not see why Mr. Newman has dragged me into this and kept my name before the public along-side of that fellow Miller. In his publication he seemed to be trying to create the impression that I had done something fraudulent in my mediumship and that he was trying to defend me. God forbid that I should ever be compelled to go for any support to Newman or any of his gang. I stand alone in my work, and I am fully able to do so. I made application once in the State Association, so-called, for ordination, and was refused, and my own, and my wife's character assailed by the gag, and through and by Newman and Mullenbruch was kept in the dark and in suspense for nearly three months, then finding out the infamous slander, I threatened prosecution and my papers and money were returned to me double and I had nothing to do with them nor members of the gang and their so-called vindication is of no value whatever to me. I have lived in Oakland since 1875. About twelve years ago Doctor Schlesinger gave me a most convincing test that made a Spiritualist of me; he then predicted that I would be before the public as a medium, and in 1893 I hung out a sign and have since then been exclusively in the work both in private and as a public platform worker. I leave my work to speak for itself, as there are a great number of people who can be interviewed regarding it. Ever since last December, every Sunday night, except three, I have stood for an hour upon the platform in Giers Hall, here in Oakland, giving tests all through the audience. We are there still, and our audiences continue good, and new comers are constantly attracted. We work alone entirely. I am a member of Doctor RiNess' society in your city, was ordained by him January 10th, 1895, and for a long period was the Secretary of his society. I would respectfully refer you to him, he knows me well. In conclusion I wish success to the LIBERATOR.

"All hail the day when fraud and error shall depart,"

All hail the coming time when truth shall set us free.

Though under shadows now doth rest the human heart,

Yet broken fetters, soon will give it liberty.

Again thanking you, I remain

Very Respectfully Yours,
JAMES R. LITTLE.

Oakland, Cal.

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Witewashed the Frauds.

The State Board has branded itself with eternal disgrace on account of its action revoking all endorsements of genuine mediums as well as the fakes in order to shield the frauds whom it had not the moral backbone to expel as did the Illinois State Association the notorious fraud, Maher Aver Jackman. The evidence presented against the San Francisco humbugs was so conclusive that it required nothing further in order to satisfy an impartial judge; but the State Board did not care to assume any responsibility in the matter, and therefore made a clean sweep—good, bad, and indifferent—all went together; and then the "official organ" complacently remarks that they are now done with the whole business and "all controversy is ended between the Board and the 'fraud hunters' and the *Journal* will resume its usual course and give plenty of good spiritual food to its many readers."

We presume the "spiritual food" above referred to will consist of glowing accounts of fake seances, as has been the custom of the *Journal* in the past. Instead of endeavoring to present facts and truth to its "many readers" it pursues the time-serving, policy-course of serving sensational reports of wonderful phenomena attributed to spirits, when the truth is that the entire business was the work of tricksters.

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The New Spiritualism.

It is not the purpose of the *Liberator* to destroy all belief in Spiritualism. As a philosophy of the future life, and of the conditions that obtain in the realm of the so-called dead, it stands without equal. As a rational, common-sense belief, it surpasses all the theories advanced by theologians of any faith or denomination concerning the origin and destiny of man. Laying aside all questionable proofs, or so-called, doubtful phenomena, there is still a residuum of evidence in support of the belief in a future life, and of the possibility of communication with those we call dead. These evidences have, at various times, been vouchsafed to mortals all along down through the history of the ages and have been like "lights along the shore" indicating "that better country" awaiting storm-tossed, shipwrecked humanity at the close of the perilous voyage called human life. But these evidences do not come through the cabinets of modern-day mediums, neither are they any part or parcel of the great mountain of fraud and imposition called the Physical Phenomena of Modern Spiritualism. What is known by that name is the work of clever tricksters, and devoid of any foundation in fact. The claim of some Spiritualists that the physical phenomena are the foundation of the whole spiritual structure is untrue. If all such manifestations were entirely prohibited by law, and ignored by Spiritualists everywhere, there would still remain the mental and inspirational phases of mediumship which alone are sufficient to warrant investigation, and belief, in a psychic force operating upon human organisms in accordance with some natural laws not yet fully understood or comprehended. The new Spiritualism recognizes all that is true, all that can bear the test of scientific investigation; but rejects with scorn the attempts of charlatans to palm off their clever tricks as manifestations of the beloved dead. This is the only Spiritualism the *Liberator* advocates or supports. It is the only Spiritualism having fact, reason, and philosophy, for its basis. The past fifty years' history of what is known by that name is a painful record of exposed frauds and consciousness pretenders since mediumship first became a purchasable commodity, and angel communion was transformed into merchandise and made the channel of financial speculation and prophetic gambling. It is time sensible people threw off the horrible incubus and united on a new and rational basis.

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Who are the Witnesses?

The following, with the exception of Mr. Hawes, are the names of those who have given testimony under oath concerning the fraudulent practices of some so-called mediums: Dr. N. F. Ravlin, ex-Baptist minister, and now Spiritualist lecturer of Chicago; William Emmette Coleman, chief clerk in the Quartermaster's Department at San Francisco; Mr. Johnson, a master mechanic in the Union Iron Works, and Mrs. Johnson; Mrs. M. A. Hudson, Mrs. Geo. Hildebrand, Mrs. Schlesinger, Mrs. Kate Griffith, Mrs. N. F. Ravlin, Miss Edna Adler, George H. Hawes, stenographer, and Bishop Garrison. Of these twelve people, none except Bishop Garrison and Mrs. Kate Griffith, have ever advertised or claimed to be public mediums, and yet the Board of Directors of the California State Spiritualists Association at the Board meeting of December 3d, passed the following as the first of a most abominable set of false resolutions:

"First: Almost all the persons making the charges have themselves engaged in the practice of fraudulent mediumship, but not having been financially successful, they show their hatred of the mediums who have been successful by attacking them.

Second: We find that the moral character and reputation for truth and veracity of nearly all of those making the charges to be not good, and that their testimony could be impeached by many reputable witnesses."

The second charge is, like the first one, a base slander upon some of the most worthy people in the ranks of Spiritualists to-day, and could only emanate from a foul source. The State Board had better see that the garments of those composing their number are spotless, before talking about the moral character of others. The question of morals has not been involved in this controversy; if it had been some members of the State Board would hardly have been competent judges. Of the two mediums—Mr. Garrison and Mrs. Griffith—the statement of "not being financially successful" does not apply. Mr. Garrison was always financially successful when he was "in the work" as a fake medium. It is only since he has been telling the truth that he has been unsuccessful financially. If he should advertise a fake "seance" to-morrow, his parlors would be crowded at fifty cents a head with just such "suckers" and fraud sympathizers as are to be found among the members of the wonderful State Board.

Before we get through with this business they may have an opportunity to "impeach" some of the testimony by their "reputable witnesses" in the courts of justice, and we will see who the blackmailers and liars are in this case.

There are thousands of Spiritualists all over the country who were readers of the *Carrier Dove* for ten years and know that Mrs. Schlesinger always opposed fraudulent mediums, and stood firmly for the honest and true. Consequently, a resolution—no matter by whom endorsed—declaring her the "accomplice of the author of all the fraud in California" is known to be a base slander and will return an hundred fold vengeance upon the traducer.

An Open Letter From Mrs. Schlesinger.

To the Spiritualists of California I have this to say in refutation of the untruths published in the *R. P. Journal* as having been the sentiments of a portion of the members of the State Board. In the first place, I never claimed to be a medium other than that involved in inspirational writing, and never gave a "sitting" nor held a "seance" in my life. I have never advertised in any manner as a medium, consequently, the statement that I am actuated by envy, spite or jealousy, or those who are thus working, is as absurd as it is untrue. In all the eleven years I was editor of the *Carrier Dove* and *Pacific Coast Spiritualist*, my worst and only enemies were the frauds I exposed. Therefore the charge that I have been the "accomplice and assistant" of Bishop Garrison as the "author of all the fraud in California," is not only false, but wicked, and cruelly unjust to one who hates and abhors fraud as I always have and still do. Bishop Garrison has opened the eyes of more people to the fraud that was being practiced in the name of mediumship than has any other individual in the State. That is why he is hated by them, and is being persecuted in the heartless manner he is by the fraud ring and their friends in the State Board. If the treatment I am receiving at the hands of professedly honest (?) Spiritualists is the reward for many years of faithful, conscientious service in the cause of true Spiritualism, then my advice to those who are working as I have done, and am still doing, is to quit at once and work among people who have comprehension enough to know honesty from dishonesty, and can appreciate the effort, of those who have devoted their lives to the cause.

Yours for Truth and Justice,
JULIA SCHLESINGER.

"The Medium's" vigorous comments on Mrs. Whitney's "Divine X Ray" advertisement seem to have a most salutary effect. The ridiculous ad. appeared a few times in all the leading Spiritualist papers in this country, the "Medium" alone excepted. We positively refused it at any price. After this paper sat down on the thing it disappeared from all the other papers pretty pronto.—*The Medium*.

The last issue of the *Liberator* devotes five pages to an expose of Mrs. Whitney's alleged fake mediumship. Affidavits are presented from several reputable persons, including Dr. Ravlin, Wm. Emmett Coleman, Mrs. Irene Smith, and others, making a very strong showing. In fact, we don't see how, under the evidence adduced, any one can doubt that the person accused of fraud is guilty as charged. The *Liberator* promises another batch of testimony, in following issues, affecting other so-called mediums. Whatever may be the general opinion of Spiritualists regarding the work of the *Liberator* in exposing the fraudulent practices of certain alleged mediums, it cannot be denied that the paper is stirring things up according to promise, and making the weather rather sultry for some folks.—*The Medium*.

The Liberator

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Subscription - - \$1.00 per Year

Bishop S. Garrison - - - - - Publisher
Julia Schlesinger - - - - - Editor

Entered at the San Francisco Post Office as
Second Class mail matter.

San Francisco, Dec., 15, 1898

Who Is The Blackmailer?

In the *Philosophical Journal* of December 8th, in Secretary Newman's report of the proceedings of the State Board of Directors he says that a communication was received from Mrs. J. J. Whitney "offering rebutting testimony, and particulars concerning the attempted scheme of blackmail, offering to suppress the charges of fraudulent mediumship if she would give five hundred dollars, etc." Upon our demand for a copy of the communication, for the purpose of learning upon what grounds Mrs. Whitney based her charge of blackmail, we received the following extract from Mrs. Whitney's communication which Mr. Newman certifies is a "true extract from the original letter." It reads as follows: "If such a ring existed as they claim, why am I singled out as the butt of their animus is strange to me, excepting that some things have transpired which throw some light on the subject. One instance is that to which Mrs. Schlesinger refers when she says that the story I have circulated that she tried to borrow five hundred dollars of me is 'absolutely and entirely false and has not a shadow of foundation.' The fact is this: Kate Griffith came to me in August, a stranger to me, and I at first supposed she had come to have a sitting. When asked, she said, 'No, I have come to you as a friend and medium. There is going to be a paper published tearing down Spiritualism and mediums, and they intend to rip Spiritualism up the back and kill mediums,' (these are her words.) 'But,' she says to me, 'if you will give five hundred dollars, your name won't be mentioned.' I said, 'Who is publishing this paper?' She said, 'I am not at liberty to tell, but they are no friends of yours.' I said to her, 'You come tomorrow and go with me to my lawyer, which she refused to do. She then said to me, 'Mrs. Whitney, you will lose a great deal more than five hundred dollars.' This woman was then living with Mrs. Schlesinger and Garrison, and as Mrs. Schlesinger and Garrison prove to be the publishers of the paper, I think it is plainly apparent that they tried the blackmailing scheme on me through Mrs. Griffith.

"As for Mr. Coleman, I want to say, as all can see, that his testimony is all hearsay evidence, and I also wish to state that I never knew him personally, and never spoke a word to him, and he never had a sitting with me. I don't know who Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are, and have not the slightest acquaintance with

them."

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the original letter sent by Mrs. J. J. Whitney to the Board of Directors of the California State Spiritualist Association, and read at the meeting held on December 3, 1898.

THOS. G. NEWMAN, Secretary.

After reading the above, we went immediately to see Mrs. Kate Griffith, and hear what she could say in self-defense against such a damaging charge. She indignantly denied the accusation, and went at once to a Notary and took oath to the following statement:

I, Kate Griffith, do hereby solemnly swear and affirm that the statement made by Mrs. J. J. Whitney against me is as **black a lie** as could possibly be told; I never asked Mr. Whitney for money, or spoke to her in any way concerning the paper that was to be published denouncing her mediumship, as I have neither seen or spoken to Mrs. Whitney within the time that the paper was first thought of and talked of publication. I remember that I talked with Mrs. Whitney was in March, 1898, about six months *previous* to the publication of the paper previously alluded to, and so far as I know there was no thought at that time of the publication of such a paper.

KATE GRIFFITH.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 9th day of December, 1898.

ADDIE L. BALLOU

Notary Public, in and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

Armed with Mrs. Griffith's affidavit, we went to the *Journal* office and showed Mr. Newman the document. He read it over and then looked up innocently and said: "Why, this is strange; they contradict each other." We replied, Of course they do. To our request that as an act of justice he publish Mrs. Griffith's affidavit he said, "I don't know whether I will or not," and then we said he *would* do so or stand a suit in the courts for criminal libel. Not caring to trust the article, of which we had no copy, with a man who was so ready to accuse innocent people of "stealing," we brought it away with us. We have the testimony of several witnesses who heard Mrs. J. J. Whitney say that "Mrs. Schlesinger tried to borrow five hundred dollars of her," and when our sworn statement contradicted *that lie*, Mrs. Whitney immediately shifts her position and says it was "Kate Griffith" who tried the blackmail business. The truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, as clearly proven, is that Mrs. Whitney's entire tale of blackmail is a *diabolical lie*, and could only be conceived in, and emanate from the brain of a person so steeped in deception and fraud, that her *only defense* when exposed, was to endeavor to paint the exposé as black as her own black self.

When Newman published that letter of Mrs. Whitney's he carefully refrained from mentioning that it was Kate Griffith who was charged or that it had been denied under oath.

EDITOR LIBERATOR:

I thank you for the copy of the LIBERATOR sent me, and I glory in the work of purification which as it is no respecter of persons and fair and just to all who are concerned, will inevitably save the people from the octopus of fraud which is smothering the angel babe of truth in the cradle of modern Spiritualism.

Sincerely,

P. C. F. GRUMBINE,
Editor *Immortality*.

A Review of Philosophical Journal Lies.

As the editor of the *Philosophical Journal* has published columns of abuse of the LIBERATOR since we have had an opportunity of replying, we will not attempt to review all the misleading and untrue things Editor Newman has said but touch upon some of the most important points. In the issue of November 24th, under the heading, "What She Wants to Know," Mr. Newman replies to a question concerning the LIBERATOR's statements as follows: "The fact that any statement is made in that paper is *prima facie* evidence that it is not true, for it abounds in false assertions, misrepresentation, garbled quotations and distorted facts." When Mr. Newman penned those lines he knew that every word he wrote was false. *Not one word* has ever been published in the Liberator that was not absolutely true and borne out by the testimony of as reputable witnesses as can be found in the ranks of Spiritualists. Newman not excepted.

Another false statement appears on the same page which reads thus: "Last Spring Mrs. Schlesinger boasted that any test she desired she could have given out on the public platforms of this city by several mediums as the mediums all used one another's tests."

We never told Mr. Newman any such thing about any medium in this city except Mrs. J. J. Whitney; and we did not say that the mediums all used one another's tests. We did say, and proved our assertion, that Miller and Mrs. Whitney exchanged tests as was demonstrated at the seance on Nov. 11th, 1897, when Miller gave the Annie Newman test. We said that the frauds worked together and exchanged tests from Maine to California. We have never said one word against the honest mediums of this city.

The point however, where mendacity reaches the climax of villainy appears in the *Journal* of Dec. 8th, where Newman, as Secretary of the State Association, makes a report of the proceedings of the "California State Board meeting" in which is presented an abominable document embodying a series of Resolutions said to have been "unanimously adopted" but which we now know was *vigorously opposed*, and protested against, and *voted* against by at least *one third* of the members of that Board of Directors.

Another false statement, which furnishes sufficient ground of itself for the prosecution of the editor for criminal libel, is that portion of his report where he says that a communication was read from Mrs. J. J. Whitney "offering rebutting testimony, and particulars concerning the attempted scheme of blackmail, offering to suppress the charges of fraudulent mediumship if she would give \$500 etc." A certified copy of Mrs. Whitney's letter appears in this paper with the *sworn denial* of Kate Griffith to the charge made against her of endeavoring to get her (Mrs. Whitney,) to pay \$500, for the suppression of the charges of fraud preferred by the Liberator. Mrs. Whitney *first* tried to make people believe that the writer attempted to get the money; but when she found her falsehoods refuted under oath she dropped

that scheme and said it was Kate Griffith who did it. Any person can see the situation Mrs. Whitney has placed herself in at a glance. By her own words she has convicted *herself* of being the author of the entire diabolical plan to attempt to shield herself and her outrageous fraud behind the cry of "blackmail." The editor of the *Journal*, eager to aid his *financial benefactress* (as we have good reason to believe Mrs. Whitney is,) rushed into print with his damaging report, hoping thereby to destroy public confidence in the Liberator and its publisher, and make the raud gang his paper represents appear like persecuted angels, when, if they had their just deserts, they would all be in San Quentin penitentiary working for the State.

A SAMPLE LETTER.

What He Wants to Know.

ED. LIBERATOR:--Enclosed find \$1.00 for a year's subscription to your paper.

I have decided to substitute the LIBERATOR for the *Journal*, and will discontinue the latter when my time is up. I am disgusted with a paper which professes to be honest and to be fighting fraud, when the facts are that Mr. Newman has published eulogies of all the noted tricksters that have operated on this coast, beginning with Elsie Reynolds, and then W. W. Tatum, Ben Barney, Lizzie Fulton Tuley, C. V. Miller A. B. Coonley, Mrs. J. J. Whitney, and Bishop Garrison. All of these people have had flattering notices in the *Journal* as genuine mediums. Yet this editor has the audacity to say he is "fighting fakes."

Again he claims to be defending "honest mediums." If Mrs. Whitney, C. V. Miller, and others of like calibre, are honest mediums, then perhaps that is true.

BANQENO.

December 2d, 1898.

EDITOR LIBERATOR:--Please find enclosed \$1.00 for subscription to the LIBERATOR, supplying back numbers if convenient. I admire the position you have taken, and hope you may be able to not only prove the frauds such, but that you will show how their seeming phenomena are produced.

Respectfully,

A. H. F.
Conn.

Editor Liberator:--I read a little notice in the *Philosophical Journal*, issued Dec. 1st, 1898, headed—"Used to Light a Fire." The writer of this important notice or item, must be a very *brainless man*, for if he was *not* he would never have written that item; but *brainless men* make mistakes once in a while and we must EXCUSE them, for I think our friend, Mr. E. E. Gillis, of Sacramento, will some day see his mistake and open his eyes wide *open*, and thank the editor of the Liberator for EXPOSING frauds and tricksters--and liberating him and others from *impostors*. Amen.

FRED SWANWELL,
Sacramento, Cal.

A subscriber of the Liberator.

Letter From Mr. Coleman,

To the Board of Directors:
California State Spiritualist Association.

I am informed that it has been proposed that you reject the testimony of Dr. N. F. Ravlin submitted by me to you Nov. 5th, last, on the ground that, knowing that the "Psychic and Spiritual Institute" in this city was run by frauds, in the interest of fraud he engaged himself to lecture for it, at a stated salary. How does the Board know that he knew it to be a fraud when he engaged himself to the Institute? Has it positive, sworn evidence to that effect, or is it mere surmise?

The Board demands proof in the cases of mediums accused of fraud. The same proof is demanded in the case of Mr. Ravlin. A stigma of this kind should not be cast upon Mr. Ravlin's character without proof. The same evidence that is required to prove a medium guilty of fraud should be required to prove Mr. Ravlin guilty of being in league with known frauds. Unless there is good proof that Mr. Ravlin was thus guilty, I protest against his sworn testimony being rejected.

Mr. Ravlin told me of his experiences with the "Institute" and of how he discovered the fraud there. At a seance attended by his wife, Mrs. Ravlin found out the fraud. She saw the slates being passed through an opening into the next room, and then passed back again after being written upon. She was much shocked by this and told her husband of it. Soon after this he went to the Institute and kicked in the door where the panel was.

The "Institute" was opened August 15th, 1897, (see advertisement in S. F. Examiner of that date) and on August 28th, 1898, Mr. Ravlin made an affidavit of his belief in the genuineness of a slate writing seance held by him with Mr. Garrison. His affidavit accompanies this paper. Dr. Ravlin gave me a full description of this seance, describing to me how cleverly Garrison deceived him. He was sure that the seance was genuine until Garrison explained to him how the trickery was performed. This affidavit shows that thirteen days after the opening of the Institute, Mr. Ravlin was a believer in the genuineness of Mr. Garrison's mediumship.

Accompanying this paper is an affidavit from Mrs. Ravlin testifying to the truth of the affidavits of her husband and of Mr. Garrison in the matter of Mrs. Whitney; and also testifying that her husband found out the fraud at the Institute through her discovery of the fraud. Will the Board charge Mrs. Ravlin with perjury as well as her husband? In a letter to me Dr. Ravlin says: "The charge that I affiliated with the Psychic and Spiritual Institute for a salary, knowing them to be frauds is absolutely false. I did not know they were frauds. My connection with the Institute lasted two weeks, when Mrs. Ravlin informed me of the crooked work she saw at a seance, I immediately confronted them with it, and when it was denied I put my foot right through the loosened panel of the door and the undeniable evidence of fraud stared them in the face. I de-

nounced them in emphatic terms and left the Institute forever."

Respectfully Submitted

WM. EMMETTE COLEMAN.

Editor Liberator:—Your excellent, fearless exponent of truth has reached me in the sunny south. I have perused it columns with interest, and fully endorse the statements made therein. I know whereof I speak and will sustain you in your endeavors to dislodge the base frauds that now infest the sanctuary of modern Spiritualism. I have been one of the dupes, have believed in every phase of so-called spiritual phenomena until I was forced beyond all cavil to acknowledge that I was basely deceived; I cannot go into details and particulars, suffice to say that I now know that I have never received one genuine slate writing during the years I was investigating. I also know that I never saw a genuine materializing seance, nor a fully materialized spirit, once during the years, I then, was so sure that I did. But under my observation has come the beautiful etherealized form of my own beloved child, my boy. I know that clairvoyance is a fact, and also other phases that the occult world makes plain to the psychic. I was taken into the confidence of two of the arch frauds now in the field of operation in San Francisco, and asked to assist them in their nefarious work, many of the garments for illuminated spirits was made and painted in my presence. They always have to be exposed to the light previous to their use which has no meaning save in the darkened room, filled with anxious believing people. I have been asked to obtain tests for the "high priestess" of all frauds, but not being an expert in that branch of business was excused. I have examined the hand of the "dear little child" that so often appears in a certain would be medium's circle, and the dear little thing wears a kid glove over its sawdust hand! Mr. Garrison borrowed it once upon a certain evening, for the purpose of convincing his friends that they were gently touched by a spirit hand. I was introduced into the *modus operandi* of slate writing, and of gently falling into a trance so dead that it was almost impossible to return to earth,—limbs rigid as in death! I was told of the "blue-book" and the ring or chain from continent to continent, and I found the same state of affairs in the East and western states, as on this coast, and I came to the conclusion that physical mediumships is not what it appears to be, and that unprincipled people who call themselves mediums are like parasites attaching themselves to the beautiful mantle of Spiritualism for the purpose of sustenance under the guise of respectability. People without any visible means of support, hangs out a shingle with the all magic word "medium," and make a very good living out of credulity.

As soon as perfectly convinced that all was not "gold that glitters" I dropped my name from the roll of believers in "fakeism" and I am quite sure that were it not for my own experiences in clairvoyance, I should doubt the truth of another life. We all have our own experience, and some of mine have been independent of any living thing on the mortal side; and were it not for these truths, life

would be desolate indeed. But private experiences have nothing to do with the grand noble stand for truth that you have taken in defense of the most glorious light that has ever illumined this planet. When we meet I will tell you more concerning some of these high-toned high principled mediums that have come under my own observations, *who have always given such good advice to their dupes*, and now feel no repugnance of conscience, to defy the world! Go on Mrs. Schlesinger, in the good work, all true Spiritualists will join heart and hand in exterminating these impostors. Please find \$1.00 subscription for the Liberator one year. Please send roll of papers, and I will forward to friends right and left. May the blessings of true friends rest upon you.

Very sincerely yours,
ROSE L. BUSHNELL.

State of California,
City and County of San Francisco. } s. s.

G. H. Hawes being duly sworn deposes and says: That he has known Mrs. Julia Schlesinger for the past seventeen years. That during that time he furnished a great many shorthand reports of lectures and meetings for her paper, the *Carrier Dove*, and acted with her in an official capacity in Spiritualist organizations. That through these relations he became thoroughly acquainted with Mrs. Schlesinger in her home life and in her public work, and had opportunity to observe her closely.

That throughout all these years her actions and conversations in his presence have been above criticism, and such as would cause any fair minded person to regard her as a woman of intelligence, integrity and truthfulness. Her manner has always been candid, earnest and sincere, and she has continually shown an unflagging zeal for what she considered to be the best interests of Spiritualism.

Deponent further states that the making of this affidavit is unsolicited and unknown to Mrs. Schlesinger.

G. H. HAWES,
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of December, 1898

ADDIE L. BALLOU,
Notary Public,

In and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

The Liberator's Position.

As so many falsehoods have appeared in the *Philosophical Journal* relative to the LIBERATOR's work and those who are at the head of it, we wish to have our position clearly understood and the question settled in the minds of our readers. When we commenced the publication of the LIBERATOR we had no thought of antagonizing the State Association or any body of *honest* Spiritualists. We knew the whole movement was honey-combed with fraud and that some of those who were ordained ministers, holding certificates from State and National Associations, were ring-leaders in the fraud gang. It seemed a great undertaking to expose all this villainy, and clear the ranks of Spiritualists of the

monstrous incubus of humbug that was destroying it. But with the zeal that animated the boy who shot at the sun—and thought he would come nearer hitting it than those who did not try—we opened fire upon the great octopus of fraud which has fastened its tentacles upon every Spiritualist society throughout the length and breadth of the land, and is feeding upon their vitals. We supposed that the great body of Spiritualists claiming to be *honest investigators* and searchers after truth would welcome every ray of light that could be thrown upon the mysteries of the cabinet and dark circle performances. We did our duty. We told the truth as we positively *knew* it. We backed our assertions with sworn testimony sufficient to convict in any court of justice the persons charged with fraud. We had no *personal* feelings of spite or antagonism towards any of the frauds exposed. Our relations with them had been solely to learn their methods.

Instead of uniting with us in this work *some members* of the State Association (for reasons best known to themselves,) opposed the work from the beginning, and have spared no efforts to destroy the LIBERATOR, its publisher and editor. We have done our best to enlighten the people and are willing to abide by the *people's verdict*; but are *not* willing, and will *not* submit to the infamous charges of fraud-teaching, and blackmail, with which the fraud ring subsidized *Philosophical Journal* abounds. If there is such a thing as justice in the courts of law these criminal libelers will get their just deserts. *We can wait.*

That "McCullough Act."

On the evening of March 28th, 1897, Fred Evans held a public seance in Golden Gate Hall, in this city, during which a very dramatic scene occurred. While Evans was on the platform he announced that the spirit of McCullough, the famous actor was present trying to control him; but he objected and told the spirit to go away. Suddenly he exclaimed—"There, he has taken that man," pointing to the gallery. Instantly the young man designated arose and in a tragic manner recited a portion of "Virginius" with great effect, and closed by personating the last moments of the mad actor and shrieked "I'm mad!!" "I'm mad!!" several times and felt back apparently almost lifeless in his seat. The effect upon the audience was of the most startling and sensational character, and Evans suddenly became famous. Mr. Newman published in the *Philosophical Journal* an extended report of the wonderful demonstration accompanied with Evans' portrait and biographical sketch.

Now the young man who did that clever piece of acting is a "professional," and was hired by Fred Evans to take the part he did. His name is Edward Williams and he is a resident of this city. He signed a statement as above, which was presented to the Board of Directors of the State Association at the meeting of Dec. 3d, by Mr. Wm. Emmette Coleman. And yet that wonderful body declares that no evidence of fraud has been presented which

SWORN STATEMENT.

MRS. JULIA SCHLESINGER:

RESPECTED LADY:—In accordance with the request of many friends, and also that I may aid you in your laudable work of exposing the many frauds that have, and are now, posing as "Spiritual Mediums," I deem it my duty to lay before you a few facts relative to certain (so-called) mediums, some of whom are still practicing their nefarious business in the city of San Francisco. I do so, in the hope that this article may open the eyes of honest investigators to the truth.

In 1885, on the 14th day of Nov., I leased the premises known as No. 681 Mission Street. It was in this house that my eyes were first opened to the fact that there were persons so low, who did not hesitate to impersonate the departed dead for the purpose of deluding the public for the sake of the almighty dollar, and I am sorry to say that one of the principal ones engaged in this business was very near and dear to me.

In 1886, a woman, (I will not call her a lady) named "Mathews," I believe such was her name, engaged a suite of rooms known as "room 6," and in course of time advertised herself as a Materializing Medium; she came to me, told me her plans, and desired my aid in constructing traps and secret exits from room 6, as aforesaid, into adjoining rooms, through which she could pass as a supposed spirit. I constructed the traps, and was paid for my labor. On one occasion, and while this woman was absent on a visit to Sacramento, Mrs. A. M. Jones, (known as Mrs. Patterson) conceived the idea that she, too, could make money as a medium with the aid of her two daughters, Maud and Birdie, but the traps which I had constructed did not suit her, so she secured the services of a Dr. Geo. Tylson, who improved and otherwise altered the traps. Subsequently, Mrs. Jones secured the services of a carpenter named Wernzer, who made several cabinets for the use of the "dear spirits." In these rooms, in these cabinets, I met many of the persons whose names, acts, and remarks, I will hereinafter give you. It would be impossible for me to recount all the incidents that I witnessed in these rooms and in the cabinets. Suffice it for me to say, that I had no desire to encourage such trickery, and very rarely entered the seance room, and when I did so it was only to avoid a domestic scene with Mrs. Jones. I need not tell you of the many love feasts that were furnished the beloved spirits by the lamented Mr. Gunnerson, or of the pyramids of flowers which he furnished, I need not tell you of the dress patterns that Mr. Soule gave to the Egyptian Queen "Birdie," of the walnut chairs, organette, black curtains, etc., that he furnished, of the canaries he bought. You see, the spirits had told him (Soule) that if he wanted better manifestations he must surround the medium with better conditions, and he did so.

In this cabinet, I have seen that "only true" medium, Mrs. Reynolds, playing her part of "Effe" and "Old Gruff," (on her knees in the former character.) I saw her clap her hands together so as to make it appear that she had received a slap from "Old Gruff." Months afterwards she sent "Wernzer" (as aforesaid) to me, who stated that she desired to see me; I accompanied him to her residence. Upon seeing her, she desired to know if I was her friend. Did I intend to speak in her favor or against her. She expected to be arrested at the time. I told her I should tell the truth; then it was that she defied me, and had the audacity to tell me to my face that I had never been her practice fraud, though I had seen her crawl through the trap many times, and had heard her say, "We might as well have the dead fools money as anyone else to have it."

I could tell you many other facts relative to her in those rooms, but it is unfit for print, so let her drop.

It was in those rooms that I first met, and was introduced to Fred Evans, he came to get "pointers" from Mrs. Jones so he could impart them to some of his dupes. I also met Dr. Stausbury there, who came on the same errand. Mrs. Stoutenberg was another genuine medium, who lived on Turk street. I made a trap for her. She paid me for it. The following frauds constituted the corps of spirits who operated with Mrs. Jones exclusive of her two daughters, Maud and Birdie: Mr. Colby and daughter Ida (or Ada), Harry Wild, Percy Clifton, Mrs. Reynolds, Mr. Wernzer, also the night-watchman of the house, and Mr. Peter Neilson (a roomer), and, in addition to those named, several dummies were used, which were held upright when placed in the cabinet by means of fine black thread which was stretched across the cabinet and attached thereto. In this seance room I have seen that upright judge, Solomon Heydenfelt, weeping over his dearly beloved departed wife "Maria" (Birdie Jones). I have seen Mr. Guptill kissing and caressing his departed early love "Alice" (Birdie Jones again). I have seen Mrs. Jones and her daughters at work washing their cheesecloth dresses in a solution of luminous paint, which I bought for them at Sanborn & Vail's in this city; these dresses were placed in the sunlight on the parlor carpet to gather light, and when dry they were rolled up until used at night, when they adorned the forms of Birdie and Maud Jones, also Mr. Harry Wild, the Spirit from Jupiter.

Of the visitors I need not say a word. Some I pitied, others I condemned. Some were fools but the most of them were knaves.

I saw other mediums who came there whose names have escaped my memory, but there was one I cannot forget. She used to come under the cover of darkness. Why? Because her deeds were evil. She was a favored one. She was a favored guest in our sitting room. She dressed in the finest raiment, and wore the costliest of gems.

Her first question would be, "Mrs. Patterson, do you know Mr. or Mrs. Blank? Do they come to your seance? They were at my house (or at my seance) but I could not give them a jest, I did not satisfy them, but they are coming to night and I must give them something. Did you find out anything about them? Oh, yes, then give it to me." Which would be done and she would depart cocked and primed to deliver a loving spirit message to Mr. and Mrs. Blank. This matter I have personally witnessed. I was introduced to her by Mrs. Jones, and heard her say on one occasion to Mrs. Jones as follows:

"You are too smart a woman to be tied down to housekeeping, why don't you do as I do?" On another occasion when Mrs. Jones admired her diamonds, she said, "Do as I do and you can sport diamonds also." Now I will confess that I never saw her in the cabinet, but I do know that she came to Mrs. Jones to solicit tests for her victims and was visited by Maud Jones and Birdie Jones in the interest of Mrs. Jones for the purpose of getting tests from her in return to be used at Mrs. Jones' seance. That woman, that pure medium, was, and is, Mrs. J. J. Whitney.

I well remember the time when Mr. Joseph Maguire was investigating Spiritualism for the purpose of exposing fraud. I knew him, and his object, he (Maguire) on a certain occasion used my name to M. DeYoung, which resulted in my calling on Mr. DeYoung in regard to the deeds of Mr. Colby. Mr. Colby, as you may remember, suddenly left town, and was next heard of in Vancouver Island, in Victoria. I personally know that Maguire was honest in his endeavors to expose the fraud which he found existing among the mediums, in which I heartily co-operated during those sad and unhappy times. I have often been asked "why it was that I did not believe in Spiritualism when I had such proof of it, as my wife was such a fine medium." I became so disgusted and soul-sick of it all that I came to the conclusion that all mediums were frauds, but now I know better, I console myself with the thought that when there is a counterfeit, there must be a genuine from which to copy.

Be courageous and cheerful in your unequal struggle to eliminate frauds from the ranks; in the end you will receive your reward; the right and truth must prevail.

Ever yours for the truth,

WM. PATTERSON.

San Francisco, Cal.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this sixteenth day of December, 1898, at my office in San Francisco, Cal. F. C. FORD,

NOTARY PUBLIC.

In and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California.

Instructions given in Physical Phenomena, with Demonstrations of the same, every Tuesday evening at 584 Page street, by Bishop S. Garrison. Liberator subscribers FREE.

NOTES.

The little pamphlet giving Instructions in the so-called Physical Phenomena of Spiritualism is now ready for delivery, and will be sent to every yearly subscriber to the Liberator free of charge. To non-subscribers the price of "Instructions" is fifty cents.

If you want to know "how it is all done" send for our pamphlet of Instructions and you will never be fooled by "take" slate writers or materializers again.

The great "Whitewash of Frauds" is the latest act of the Board of Directors of the California State Association. Not having moral courage to expel the fakes they dumped them in with the honest workers and revoked the endorsement of them all.

How many self-respecting, honest mediums, in the State of California, whose endorsement has been revoked by the State Board will ever apply for re-endorsement at the hands of a body of men who are not sufficiently square themselves to deal squarely with others?

There are three members of the State Board who are honest, and true, and not afraid to declare their convictions. They are the ones who voted against those vile resolutions, notwithstanding editor Newman says they were "unanimously adopted."

How could Mr. Garrison be the "author of all the fraud in California" when he has only been in the State a little over three years, and his whole experience as a medium was less than that time, as he has not held a seance or given a sitting for more than one year. The State Association has been organized three years and yet claims that most of the proofs of fraudulent practices by the mediums accused, dated back long before the State Association was in existence. At the time the fraud was being practiced by those so charged, (who are still in the work) Mr. Garrison was living in Kansas, and occupying a prominent judicial position respected and honored by all. "FAKE MEDIUMS" destroyed his business, his home, and almost crushed his manhood, and sent him out a wanderer. All this happened while fraud was holding high carnival in San Francisco before Bishop Garrison was heard of in California.

AMUSEMENTS

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Commencing Monday, Dec. 26th, The Great Naval Drama

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A WORLD'S RECORD—During Mr. Morosco's managerial career in this city he has given 5,620 consecutive performances. Popular prices, 10c, 25c, 50c

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Seats by Phone, Main 254
Week of commencing Monday, Dec. 26th, an elaborate holiday production of
A MIDNIGHT BELL
Magnificent scenery, Strong Cast, and Specialty. Prices, 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c

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Week of commencing Monday Dec. 26th, the hit of the season
COON FOLLOW
Prices—evening, 15c, 25c, 35c, 50c
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AN EFFECTIVE PARABLE.

General Joubert's Story Saved the Lives of the Jameson Raiders.

A most interesting account of the manner in which the lives of Jameson and his men were spared, after the surrender to the Boers, is told by the Nieuws Van den Dag of Amsterdam:

The stern old Boers, when they had Jameson and his fellow officers in their hands, determined to execute the leaders of the band at daybreak. The meeting took place in President Kruger's house, 20 being present, of whom the great majority, wild with indignation at the sudden inroad into their territory, were for shooting the British officers at once.

President Kruger opposed this summary plan and used all his eloquence and all his influence on behalf of the prisoners. For a long time his efforts were vain. It was 4 o'clock in the morning, and the president's opponents were still for execution. The lives of the foreigners hung by a thread.

At length General Joubert, one of the few who agreed with the president, had recourse to the old time Boer method of convincing his hearers. He made use of a parable.

"Friends," he said, "will you not listen to my voice once more? Suppose that close to my farm lives a bad neighbor who keeps fierce hounds in his house, worrying my sheep exceedingly and also killing some. What, then, would you have me to do? Should I kill the hounds to be free of this worry? Truly my neighbor would say unto me: 'Thou hast killed my hounds, yet their value is greater than the value of your sheep. Pay thou me!' Is it not better that I should take the hounds and going into my neighbor's house say, 'These are thine; now pay me for the harm they have done my flock?'"

There was silence, and the general continued: "We have caught the pack. Is it not better to send them to the British government with demands for reparation, lest the British send more hounds to worry us anew?"

The old form of argument proved successful. The wisdom of moderation became apparent, and the council of war accepted the advice of their chiefs.

SERVANTS' EXCUSES.

One Woman Who Was Clever Enough to Circumvent Them.

We have heard the story of the Canadian mistress who, with seven servants in her house, was obliged to go to the garden and pick berries for the table. Each of the servants declined the task with the stereotyped excuse, "It ain't my place to pick berries." Ord, in his "History of Cleveland," relates an anecdote of Margaret Wharton, who, while accepting her servants' excuse, yet made them do her will.

In one of her visits to Scarborough Mrs. Wharton, with her usual economy, had a family pie for dinner, which she directed the footman to convey to the bakehouse. This the man declined to do as not belonging to his place, or rather, as derogatory to his consequence. The lady then moved the question to the coachman but found a still stronger objection.

To save the pride of both Mrs. Wharton resolved to take the pie to the shop herself. She ordered one man to harness and bring out the horses and the other to mount and ride behind, and thus the errand was done with all honor and ceremony. Then in due time the coachman was ordered to put to a second time and the footman to mount behind, and Mrs. Wharton brought back

the pie in the same dignified state.

"Now," said the lady to the coachman, "you have kept your place, which is to drive, and you yours," to the footman, "which is to wait, and I mine, which is to have my pie for dinner."

Continuous Steel Pipe.

The West Australian government has taken a contract to lay 150 miles of water pipe of a novel character. This pipe is to be made of steel spirals packed in concrete. Sheet metal is cut into strips of the required width. These are fed into a machine and welded into one continuous strip. As the strip is fed into the machine rivet holes are punched; then the edges of the laps are brought together by machinery and held during the process of riveting, which is all done by compression. The lap is thrown on the outside of the pipe, rendering the inner surface smooth and even throughout its length. A tenacious hydraulic cement is packed around the laps, making the pipe absolutely water tight.—New York Ledger

She Loves Birds.

The dowager empress of China is devoted to birds of all kinds, and innumerable bird pets are kept about the palace. She is reported to have wept copiously about the death of a favorite nightingale not long ago. Upon being told of a Chinese girl who had complained bitterly of the dreariness of life this exalted lady remarked sagely that a woman ought to take so much pride in her home that it could be a heaven to her, adding, "There are always birds and flowers." She is a clever artist and delights in painting from nature.

Can't Hold America Down.

"Why, sir," said the geologist, "the ground you walk on was once under water."

"Well," replied the friend, who is nothing if not patriotic, "it simply goes to show you can't hold America down."—Washington Star

A southern man says that the difference between yellow fever and dengue fever is that when one has the former he is afraid he will die and when the latter attacks him he is fearful that he will not.

According to the latest statistics, the population of Greece is increasing more rapidly than that of any other country—namely, at the rate of 1.87 per cent per annum.

Crete has lost through political disturbances of recent years olive trees to the value of \$10,000,000. It will take 40 years to restore the orchards to full bearing condition, and in the meantime 200,000 Mohammedans and 300,000 Christians will have to starve.

In Australia spring begins Aug. 20; summer, Nov. 20; autumn, Feb. 20 and winter, May 20.

There are said to be fewer suicides among miners than among any other class of workmen.

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Mrs. S.—Are they to eat fruit with?

Dealer—They are souvenir spoons, madam.

Mrs. S.—Gimme a dozen. Our new French cook makes elegant souvenir.—New York Weekly.

ARE YOU WEAK?
STUDY YOURSELF.

Do you realize that you are not the man you should be at your age? Do you find your strength failing you, exposing the great drain that has been sapping the very life and ambition out of you? Does this knowledge mar your life? Then it is time for you to look seriously to your health. You need such a remedy as Dr. Pierce's Electric Belt, from which you can absorb new strength and vitality. It is a grand remedy for any one who is weak from whatever cause. Read what it did for this happy man:

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Publish this letter or show it to any one who wishes information regarding your justly celebrated Belt.

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INSTRUCTIONS

IN THE SO-CALLED

PHYSICAL PHENOMENA

OF MODERN SPIRITUALISM.

PREFACE

It is the object of this work to educate and enlighten the public in general and Spiritualists in particular, in regard to the methods of a horde of swindlers who are robbing the people by pretending that they are mediums through whose instrumentality the spirits of the dead are enabled to produce wonderful manifestations—even to the taking on of apparently tangible, material forms capable of walking, talking, eating, and drinking as real, live human beings.

It is not the purpose of the authors of this book to deny any well established, scientifically demonstrated fact. It is our purpose solely to expose the fraudulent nature of much that passes current among Spiritualists as genuine mediumship, and believed to be the work of the spirits of the dead. When everybody is informed no one can be deceived. For more than twenty years we have been earnest believers in a rational philosophy of the future life, and for more than ten years advocated that philosophy in our publication called *The Carrier Dove*. During the past two years we have become familiar with the work of "fake" mediums, and now give publicity to their methods with the same candid, earnest desire to do good, and advance the cause of truth, right and justice, that inspired our efforts when we wielded our pen in the same cause, through the columns of *The Carrier Dove* and *Pacific Coast Spiritualist*. If this little book will serve to remove the scales from any eyes now blinded by the horrible iniquities of fraudulent pretenders who play upon the most sacred feelings of the human heart in the name of the beloved dead, the efforts of myself and co-worker Mr. Garrison—will be fully rewarded.

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MAKING WOOD ALCOHOL.

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It is necessary first to convert wood into liquid. The strongest hydraulic pressure would not squeeze one-half of 1 per cent of the moisture from dry wood, but by putting the same material into an iron retort and converting it into charcoal by means of heat the gases and smoke, to the extent of fully 65 per cent of the weight of the wood, may be condensed into pyroligneous acid, from which are obtained wood alcohol, acetate of lime and wood tars. A cord of wood weighing 4,000 pounds produces about 2,650 pounds of pyroligneous acid and 700 pounds of charcoal. The pyroligneous acid from one cord of wood produces 9 gallons of 82 per cent crude wood alcohol, 200 pounds of acetate of lime and about 25 gallons of tar, besides 35 bushels of charcoal. After the pyroligneous acid is neutralized with lime the wood alcohol is distilled off, the lime holding the acetic acid in solution. After the separation of the wood spirit the remaining liquid is boiled down in pans to a sugar, which is dried, and becomes the acetate of lime of commerce. Acetate of lime is used for making acetic acid.

Fully three-fifths of all the wood alcohol and acetate of lime produced in the world are made in the United States. Over 15,000 acres of forest per year are cleared in the United States. Wood alcohol affords a perfect substitute for grain alcohol for manufacturing and mechanical purposes, and at less than one-third the cost. It is used principally as a solvent in the making of shellac varnish and in making celluloid and photographic paper. It makes beautiful dye tints, is antiseptic and is used for liniments and for skin rubbing in bath-houses. — Wine and Spirit Gazette

LOCATING A COUPLET.

A Familiar Quotation Ascribed to
Butler is Placed.

Few popular quotations have more engaged the pens of critics than the following:

For he that fights and runs away
Will live to fight another day.

These lines are almost universally supposed to form a part of "Hudibras," and so confident have even scholars been on the subject that in 1784 a wager was made at Bootle of 20 to 1 that they were to be found in that inimitable poem. Dodsley was referred to as the arbiter, when he ridiculed the idea of consulting him on the subject, saying, "Every fool knows they are in 'Hudibras.'"

George Selwyn, who was present, said to Dodsley, "Pray, sir, will you be good enough, then, to inform an old fool, who is at the same time your wise worship's very humble servant, in what canto they are to be found?"

Dodsley took down the volume, but he could not find the passage. The next day came, with no better success, and the sage bibliophile was obliged to confess "that a man might be ignorant of the author of this well known couplet without being absolutely a fool." Butler has indeed two or three passages somewhat similar. The one that comes nearest is the following, in "Hudibras," book 3, canto 3, verse 243:

For those that fly may fight again,
Which he can never do that's slain.

The fact, however, is that the couplet, thus erroneously ascribed to the author of "Hudibras," occurs in a small volume of miscellaneous poems by Sir John Mennes, written in the reign of Charles II.—Exchange.

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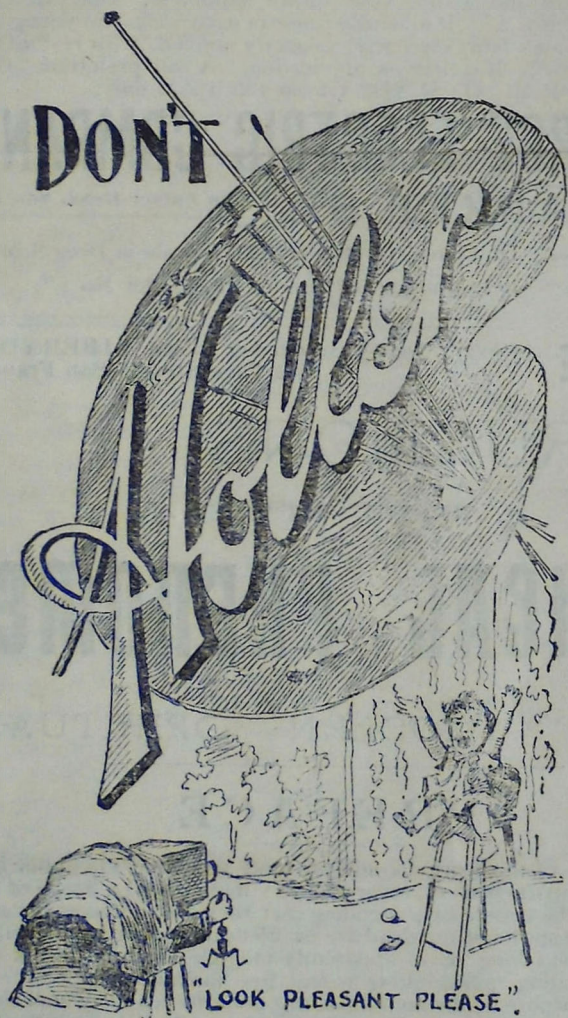
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