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Written for The Watchman.

## CONTRASTS OF LIFE.

BY WATCHMAN, SPIRIT EDITOR,  
A MEMBER OF THE  
AMERICAN AND EASTERN CONGRESS  
IN SPIRIT LIFE.

H. A. Cate, Amanuensis.

### Principia.

(Continued from October Number.)

**WILL-FORCE**, the motor power of *all* existence, is reflective, subjective, and yet, withal, *ultimate*—yet never ending. This it is that controls the destiny of a Nation, and a single being.

From whence comes this *Will-force*, this *ultimate* power of life? Is it an independent force, separate from, and unsustained by **CHEMICAL** action?

Rather, is it not the effects from, and result of **CHEMICAL** activities, uniting and forming vibrations of sound and motion, giving reflection and sensation to the organs of sense; forming and developing species of organic matter, according to the complication of **CHEMICALS** and their affiliating action.

Natural Philosophy proves the fact of mineral solvents giving color and quality to Vegetable and Animal species: That, in turn, all Minerals are the reversional growth of Animal and Vegetable species. And, as the process of change of species is enacted thro' *inertia*: so, in proportion, is there evolved a proportionate degree of *ultra vitra* or final and refined action of **CHEMICALS**, void of all sublimation of lesser qualities which tend to substantial weight and depth of shade or color.

This same *ultra vitra* is so clear in its texture; so light and void of weight, that no grosser substance can be compared to it; neither can the physical senses understand its nature—still it is necessary to remember that there is this same *ultra vitra* of life, in order the more clearly to compare the **CONTRASTS** of *all* LIFE.

In relation to this *ultra vitra* or final and infinite of substance, we must be careful to remember that it is *not* as an *inactive* substance, but is of the *most active vibrations*, and is a solvent to all other qualities and degrees of substance. Strictly speaking, every thing is a substance, altho' seen and felt in varied degrees and formations. Scientists have specified these varied degrees and formations as Solids, Fluids, and Gases. That is all necessary for the mind of the young

student; yet they must finally recognize, that all spirit is substance, only of a more refined and subtle form: so, likewise, this *ultra vitra* or Soul-force is a substance so refined, so subtle, so alive and ever potent that it is Omnipresent and Omniscient. It is the Soul or *ultra* of all things. What is seen and demonstrated thro' organic beings, is not the Soul or *ultra* of life in its *vitra* or finest and perfect state, but is the result of all other **CHEMICALS** combined.

To explain in language suitable for our pupils to more definitely comprehend.

*First*. All species and organic beings comprise **CHEMICAL** qualities, of which *all* substance is composed. This same substance is dissolved into the fluidific state by soluble **CHEMICALS** and by frictional or active motion.

And from this fluidific state of substance comes the next higher or more complicated growth, which is known as Vegetation.

This same Vegetation is composed of varied species or classical types similar to the **CHEMICALS** and combination of **CHEMICALS** contained within the different species or divisions of formative substance; these certain **CHEMICALS** giving taste, aroma, and texture, as well as formation to each species or variety.

This can be traced back again to the **CHEMICAL** or mineral law and order of color, taste, and formation of crystals.

Thus the more mixed and united the different **CHEMICALS** become, the more complicated and perfect the next grade or species of formation will be. Thus revealing the sublime law of united effort in the perfecting of any thing.

Chemists are now discovering this fact, and are moved to experiment in this line, and are already well along on the regal road to more knowledge and light concerning the perfection of all species, especially the human, of which we are to illustrate further on.

Returning again to the fluidific stage, wherein the **CHEMICALS** unite, and, thro' their solvents, form fluids from crystalline bodies, which pass on to the germinal stage, forming, therein, a line of germinal species, which are, likewise, dependent upon motion and **CHEMICAL** action of mineral forces, in order that the germ-life may unfold to the fullest capacity of its species and classification.

This same growth or species of Vegetation life, throwing off by **CHEMICAL** change, germinal species in the form of animalcule

atoms, from which, thro' motion, friction, and thus warmth, comes the germinal action of gestation.

Thus the insect is formed by the union and action of **CHEMICALS** thro' the mediators or intervening stages of formative substance. In this wise will we find the growth of all higher species.

We use the term "higher", because of the more complex action of cellular formations, which, when rounded out, give organs and groups of organs, or faculties susceptible of emotional or vibrative force.

This vibrative force is the action of the different **CHEMICALS** while in conjunction with each other. This action forms a reaction which produces for itself lines of export or connecting avenues of motion, and the cause and result of that action, is gestation and fluidific solubles of parts of the main force or body.

By an *inert* action of this same fluidific substance, there becomes conglutinated parts which take on fibrous and tendril formation which are as telegraphic lines of vibration and action from one part of the organism or formation to another, whether the formation be that of a tree, plant, insect, bird, beast, or mortal. The action of the different **CHEMICALS** contained within the organism with the result of the different growth of species form what are termed "nerves, veins, cells, and tissue", all of these are not found alike within each species, but differ according to the perfectibility and growth of each species or formation.

Thus within the Mollusks are but faintly traced the tissues of the gelatine substance; while within the still more definitely constructed, combinative parts of this molecule substance may be easily found the nerves, vessels, and tissue. Whereas, if the sight were keen enough, there would be found all the necessary forces within the single molecule to attract to itself other molecules into a collective group.

Thus is formed the next stage of animal life, until, by successive co-adhesion, species after species grew to germinal existence; each species holding within its germinal organism, the power of procreation or germinal action. This same action being governed by **CHEMICAL** soluble force.

The action of the compensative **CHEMICALS** within the body causes gestative action, which centers within a group of organs, formed and kept in motion by the nature of its growth. Thus species germinate atomic life.

This same action causing the one to seek in the reflex of itself, the compensative **CHEMICALS** in order to perfect the work of gestation. And except the **CHEMICAL** properties of the two be compensative to each other, there will be no gestative action created, but disease or *Chemical inertia*. Therefore, the species are kept perfect as a species, or become as mongrel species, if gestative action be carried forward by male and female of two distinct species, yet *Chemically* compensative.

Thus is the process by which new species are formed. Two distinctly opposite species being *Chemically* compensative to each other, co-unite and procreate a mongrel; this same mongrel, in course of events, will procreate a new species distinct from itself, and the result is a new species of not only the family or group of species, but a distinct speciality.

This fact is more readily discovered among the Insectile, also the molluscan species.

This order of species formation was very marked, and therefore the more readily studied by mortals ages ago, when the earth planet was less mature in its development than it is at the present age.

The earth planet has undergone the refining—the ripening of all grades and formations of matter—Mineral, Vegetable, and Animal. Each species evolving from its predecessor; and each serving its full requirements, and then passing back to the *Fountain-head* or *Nebulous mass* to again serve in organic structure where **CHEMICAL** action may so decide.

The discovery of fossil remains, has proven to mortals the former existence of many now extinct species, which have been unearthed from sections of land which have undergone the fulfilling of that *cycle* of Animal existence, which must necessarily remain in a state of *inertia* until *Chemical* activity evolves new and renewed organic life.

Thus your deserts will become blooming gardens of life and beauty; and sections of land which are now as gardens of Paradise, will yet pass into that stage of *inertia* which renders them a desert waste and wild, but will again bloom with the vigor of higher unfoldments of life and beauty.

We have touched upon these principal laws of *Cause and Effect*, that we may be the better understood in our following work on *Man, his Origin, and Continuity of Life*; including the Force of Nature termed "Will, Instinct, Spirit, and Soul."

(Continued in our Next.)



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We open our columns to the public and invite correspondence; reserving the right to reject any communication that we deem improper to be issued in our columns. Under no consideration will anonymous letters be published: we require the name and address of the writer as a guaranty of good faith.

EDITORIAL.

DEFENSE OF MEDIUMS.

The inquiry being put to us of why we, as an Editor of a Spiritual Journal, do not defend true mediums and expose the frauds thro' our Journal—

We answer: In our present Editorial labors, we have not felt called upon to publicly declare our individual opinion concerning the genuineness of any one individual, be they medium or not.

We have always sought to avoid personal attack—remembering the injunction given us by Spirit Peace Bird: "Speak no ill of any one." While concerning the mission of this Paper, at the opening of our Editorial labors, she said:—

Surely and steadily day by day,  
This little paper will win its way;  
Into the hearts and homes of many—  
Crushing out none—No, not any.

Steadfast & true shall the watch-word be,  
Steadily on to victory—  
And victory lies in helping others.  
By uplifting your Sisters and Brothers.\*

For the freedom of speech,  
And the dare to do right;  
This same little paper  
Will traverse day and night.

\* Humanity.

This, we have tried to keep ever in view, and it has, so far, proven good; both, in our Editorial labors, and as a ministering medium to the afflicted.

We recognize that there are those who would hound the innocent victims to death's door. And we believe that such need the stern arm of justice, and the fierce tongue of candor raised against them.

And to those who are conscientiously defending the downtrodden, each in their respective way and manner, we say to them: Stand firm; be true to the truth as you see it; and be ever ready to let the accused prove their innocence.

In our past labors we have felt called upon to deal with *Customs, Causes and Effects, and Principles of good and bad in the general sense.* Attacking not so much the acts and actors, but rather to lead on to discover the causes that are at the head of these much abusive and lamentable features that call forth the need of defenders against our medium defamers; and that of every department of life.

That mediumship and Spiritualism is a demonstrable fact, no well thinking mind, after careful investigation, can deny; but that all manifestations purporting to be done by spirits irrespective of the will of the medium, are such, we, as a rational thinking Spiritualist, do not believe. For we have witnessed manifestations wherein we were deeply pained to realize deception on the part of the medium. Then, in other instances, where the medium was entranced, and, by spirit will-power, caused to do such things as were condemnable in the eyes of others; yet we did not feel called upon to libel and brand these media before the eyes of the material world.

We have sought rather to lead our readers to study into *causes and effects*, that they might recognize that they could, in most cases, do more good to the Cause of Spiritualism, and the erring ones by education, rather than by censure and exposure. None are perfect. And while the present customs of our land show us that

deception is stamped upon the embryo child, and for that reason many are subject to the acts of unprincipled, dishonest minds, not only in mediumship, but in every department of social life.

We have sought to prove that Spiritualism means not only the proving of eternal life, and that spirits do manifest thro' mortal life, altho' unseen to the physical eye; but that its advent is to establish on earth among mortals, new and higher forms of government, socially, morally, and in every way pertaining to our lives.

We have felt called upon by the spirit hosts to lay before our readers, sketches of human life as are demonstrated by present existence. Sketching such points of social inequality as will bear *prima facie* evidence to the cause of so much misery, dishonor, and unhappiness, such as we meet with day by day.

Persons, be they susceptible to mediumship or not, if born to and under such conditions as create inharmonious and unprincipled motives, will work out that degree of motor force, be they in whatever branch of labor they may.

Besides we must not lose sight of the fact that society, as presented by the leading representatives, calls for fine dress, publicity, and influence, in order that its subjects may gain hearing and acknowledgment in public favor. It is as a leading temptation, goading the weak minded on to deception and dishonor. Thus they resort to that which will call forth the greatest publicity.

These are facts that are not to be ignored in dealing with the question of fraudulent mediumship.

We consider it the duty of all truth loving Spiritualists, while they would censure the wrong doer; still they must not forget to be quite sure of what they are saying, before giving to the world, that such and such an one has done such and such things.

We should all remember that it is a moral sin to vilify another's name.

In point of question regarding some of our late exposures of materializations where it has been proven that the media had concealed paraphernalia on their persons; we have this to say: It is a proven fact (to us by long research and study) that in a greater part of the materializations given on exhibition before large and promiscuous audiences, the form of the medium is used to represent the spirit; and, that the spirits do this to assist in the financial interest of their mediums—inducing the mediums to take these things, assuring them that it is necessary for the work. It requires nearly as much power for the spirits to transfigure the medium, as it would to materialize their own bodies, and, as such, should be recognized as spirit manifestations; yet should be called by their right name—*Spirit Transfiguration*, and not *Materialization*.

When Spiritualists will make this branch of manifestations a study; and seek less to hound at media because the form of the medium was seized while the spirit was demonstrating: then there will be better proofs given to the world and the Cause; and sensitive media will suffer less from those who now cry "Humbug, frauds, and imposters gaining money under false pretense."

*Mind and Matter* is, in many respects, correct, especially on the subject of Jesuit spirits trying to bring disgrace upon our mediums; not only Jesuit spirits; but creed-bound spirits who still desire to keep the masses in ignorance, that those forms of worship and authority that they still cling to thro' their earthly representatives, may have the sway and power as of old. And, too, the minds of mortals so

affect media, that, unless they are surrounded by spirit and earthly friends, they succumb to the evil desires of their enemies. All this we recognize, and have never failed to defend when we felt called upon to do so.

An eminent divine of Boston was heard to publicly declare, a few years ago, that he had rather see every rum-shop open on Sunday than the Public Libraries. And why? Because the poor and laboring classes are gaining, by the use of Histories such as are only attainable to them thro' the Public Libraries, such proofs of the fallacy of such teachings as many Theological creeds and doctrines are based upon—thus causing the masses to think for themselves. Is it any wonder, then, that media, sensitive and susceptible as they are, fall victims to the surging will-force of those who, in their own Souls, and to the world declare that mediums must be crushed out; and that Spiritualism and *free thought* shall not live.

We are a friend to all true and just mediums. And in order that we might not unjustly criticize those thro' whom we have witnessed uncertain manifestations, we have, even when called upon to give our experience concerning them, refrained from taking part in the *pros and cons*; Preferring to await the time when we might speak from absolute knowledge of their value and honor.

And, at all times, when we feel that our voice and pen is needed, it will defend the truth and truthful to the enemy's bitter end.

We invite the friends of truth and Spiritualism to give their experience with different mediums to the readers of THE WATCHMAN, as our columns are open to all truth.

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## QUESTIONS.

All Questions of a general character, forwarded to this Office, whether of a Social, Political, or Religious nature, will be submitted to the Band of Spirit guides; and the interpretation thereof will be published in THE WATCHMAN.

Ques. By F.—Was ABRAHAM LINCOLN taken into spirit-life by a band of advanced spirits, because he could be of more real service in the spiritual than in the physical body, as has been stated by spirits thro' several mediums?

In one case, the spirit stated that the advanced bands of spirits wanted a spirit to do a certain branch of work; and that there was not a spirit in spirit-life who could do that work: so they caused the murder of President ABRAHAM LINCOLN, that he might come into spirit-life and do that work.

What is the opinion of the AMERICAN AND EASTERN CONGRESS regarding the real cause of ABRAHAM LINCOLN's death?

ANSWER BY WATCHMAN, SPIRIT EDITOR, A Member of, and Spokesman for the AMERICAN AND EASTERN CONGRESS.

H. A. CATE, Amanuensis.

The question is a very proper one, and, as such, should be well considered by searchers after Causes and Effects.

As a member of the American and Eastern Congress, and having often met with our Brother, who is likewise a member of said Congress, we give you our acquired knowledge on the subject in question.

We first must seek the personal attention of the spirit in question, and under his diction and from our experience as a collective body we will speak.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN was, as is well known, serving in a time when two mastery principles were at a conjunctive crisis: where a new Epoch of Human life was struggling for its right of birth; wherein the fetters of the old must be severed for the next degree of Events and Causes which from the Astral force of the Universe, and events of the horoscope ruling those sections of country where this Epoch was gaining birth, determined the struggle between human lives accordingly. And as there is always thro'out all Nature the two extreme forces: so in the human it is found; and in this respect was demonstrated a struggle for right of power; and might against right.

The one Party clinging to the old—claiming their rights as custom had furnished for them by their forefathers.

The other Party representing right against might; Principles of a higher degree.

Therefore, if there is this division of Principle incarnate in mortals; likewise, is it incarnate in the minds of spirits who still revel and exist 'midst scenes and customs of which they had served and become imbibed with; therein, making up the sum total of their existence.

These same spirits were not idle while their fancied rights were likely to be disturbed and supplanted by Principles and views antagonistic to their very ingrain natures. So in spirit form they struggled to aid their side, and those within the earth bodies who represented the same Cause as their own. Likewise did they use every stratagem and available means to defeat in power, the other Party whom they considered their foes; instigating their already willing subjects to strike where the most injury would be likely to prove most fatal for their adversaries, and most advantageous to their own Cause; which they, in their blindness, supposed to

be the physical presence of the, then, leader and ample director of the opposite Party to that which they represented.

The physical demise of the late President ABRAHAM LINCOLN was the result of opponent minds, both in spirit and on earth, who held him no personal enmity, but for the furtherance of their Cause, realized in him the main and primal instrument of attack and removal.

Too blind were they to see that the physical demise was but a slight attack upon the vast armies of spirits who were also leading on the new Epoch or advancement of Human Life: too blind to look beyond the narrow limit of their selfishly contracted sphere, and see that the Cause for which the man served, would still retain his services tho' the physical be not recognized.

So it is in all struggles of life. Those in the wrong, thro' the contraction of selfish aims, are rendered oblivious to the true extent of power and command that those serving the Cause of right before might have over those who exercise might before right. Why? Because the Cause of right is of a higher and more powerful research than might over right. Altho' might pays more attention to the individual's present needs, yet those in the right aim for the ultimatum or victory over the masses, gaining thus greater percentage thro' apparent vital losses; yet in the final, loosing naught but gaining all.

So it is with the spirit of ABRAHAM LINCOLN, tho' he was painfully thrust from his physical body, and for a time after entering the Spiritual Spheres, was encumbered with the effects of the minds of those still opposed to his work, and those in spirit allied to them, still he gained a knowledge of the higher life, and realized that the Cause for which he served was indeed for the best good; gaining also an intimate acquaintance with those spirits who were and are in Congress to advance the higher, equal forms of government.

Was he the only spirit who could do a certain work? No, except that he, as a mortal, then held a position, such as, when attacked by the arm of might, aroused the masses to a fuller sense of right; which was the means of giving those in spirit laboring for right, and the observance of right, an opportunity to deeply impress many with the dawning light who had hitherto been in darkness from misdirection and selfish predominance.

My kindred brother in spirit, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, now jocosely remarks

"It reminds me of the child who got angry with a pet canary, and opened the door of its cage and gave freedom to the captive, who, afterwards, mourned for what had been done."

He also says,

"I recognize a great mission overshadowing the people of America; and I am earnestly laboring to fill my part well."

To the question whether an advanced band of spirits caused the murder of ABRAHAM LINCOLN; We answer No, it was not, but was as we have previously stated.

It was not prevented by the more advanced minds of spirit-life, because it was seen that altho' sorrow came as a result, yet a greater good would be the result to the masses.

He, like many others, lived in the physical long enough to become martyrs to the ignorance and baseness of the lower in intellectual growth of right and might, that the many might be benefitted by arousing them to the realization of the higher fulfillment of the Principles of Right.

A Fountain of Light, as a periodical, has been discontinued. It is now sold in book form at 50 cents each.

## MESSAGES.

We invite all who receive spirit messages, and are desirous of publishing the same, to forward them to this Office, and they will receive due attention. We require that the name of the medium, thro' whom the communication is given, be published therewith.

We also invite all who recognize any of the messages published herein, to forward statements of verification also to be published, to establish the truth of the messages and vindicate Spiritualism.

H. A. CATE, Medium.

Passages in Italics were spoken by the Chairman.

### Invocation.

By PEACE BIRD.

Deep within the heart of Nature dwells the infinite power of Soul, permeating every atom of the earth. Then to the Infinite and to Nature, let each mortal bow; drawing thus a recreation and a solace for each thoughtful brow. Unto Nature and the holier powers of life, let your thoughts in holy searching, turn this night. All Nature gives her bountiful supply, unto whomsoever may apply. It is by Nature's laws we spirits come to you to-night; some with thoughts bedimmed and clouded; others clear and bright.

We now introduce spirit

Martha Kingsley.

She does not quite understand where she is. We have introduced her to our spirit group, who have encouraged her to come to the medium to be recognized. She came from Bellefontaine, Ohio. She says that she is very anxious to meet with her loved friends of earth. She is of a very gentle nature. She has a dear friend, Hiram, in Bellefontaine, Ohio, as near as she can tell. She is 42 years old, and has not been gone from earth very long, she cannot remember how many years. She is very anxious to tell Hiram's folks that there is a dawning light shining for them soon.

Hally Mayo.

Peace Bird says, Here is the spirit of a little boy, he has brown curly hair and bright blue eyes; and is between 7 and 8 years old. He says, I had the measles and a lump in my throat too. I was awful sick. My papa used to bring me oranges, because they made my throat feel better. I don't know why, but I spoke to my papa when he was crying, and papa didn't answer me, but said I was dead. I had a little sister. Mamma had a little baby. Baby had the sore throat, but didn't come where I did. My mamma wanted to come, too, and find me, but she didn't, she lives with papa. (What is your name?) They called me Hally Mayo: I was named for my papa. (Where did you live?) I was so young I can't remember the name of the big place. My little cousin comes with me.

Georgie Morrison.

Georgie Morrison says I didn't like the nasty medicine, it made me sick. I had the whooping cough, and was awful sick. The medicine was black, nasty stuff and made me sick. I was 4 years old, and have been gone 5 years. Papa is a big man, and lived in the big city of Boston, (Mass.), in papa's big house. Georgie is happy now—no more nasty medicine. Aunt Laurie comes with me, she tells me papa's name is Charles, and mamma's is Florence. Aunt Laurie found me. I shake my curls; I have got them now. I am going back with Aunt Laurie to see my mamma. I love my mamma and papa.

Pearlie.

Guide Pearlie brings four little girls hoping to find their friends of earth. Their names are

Lulu Watson, 9 years old.

Alice Wetherbee.

Sadie Fleischmeier.

Monie Fairfield.

Each are very young, and are dependent upon a guide who will search for the relatives of these little ones, as Pearlie says, by the magnet of the mind of each little one. Any person recognizing any of these spirits will give great assistance to the guide by acknowledging it.

[We would gladly receive and publish such recognitions.—Ed.]

Capt. Thomas Litchfield.

Spirit Capt. Thomas Litchfield, of Quincy, Ill., reports pretty good fighting; no blood shed; plenty of ammunition; open field; and the enemy full in view. Reports himself highly pleased with the country he has found—heavy cannonading, and hell covered up. Tell my good wife not to worry any thing about me; I am all right, and she too. She will come over and I will shake hands with her pretty soon.

Lucelle Weston.

Spirit Lucelle Weston says she is interested in the earth's great good; highly interested in the unfoldment of life such as she represented while on earth. She is interested, with a band of spirits, to bring out a reformation in her line of business. She says, something that will thrill the people to represent life more perfectly.

Eliza Burke.

Eliza Burke is 27 years old, has not been gone over 10 years. She lived in Swett St., at the point, at Robinston, Maine. Her father's name is Thomas Burke.

J. Howard Warren.

J. Howard Warren, of Winchester, Mass., died of pneumonia in March, 1865, was 32 years old.

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## QUINCY, ILL.

(Reported by Mrs. Minerva Merrick.)

CHADDOCK COLLEGE—LADIES' ASSISTANT EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY—ENTERTAINMENT.

On the 18th of Oct., there was a meeting of ladies, citizens of Quincy, at CHADDOCK COLLEGE, for the purpose of organizing a *Ladies' Assistant Educational Society of Quincy*; the object of which shall be to assist young men and young women to acquire an education.

MARY C. PENFIELD, Professor of Music of the College, entertained the ladies with some fine selections which were very finely executed upon the piano; the rich and effective rendering of *Mendelssohn's Capriccio Brilliant, op. 22.*, was a treat to the lovers of music. The President of the College made a short address appropriate to the occasion, and stated that he considered the staff of Professors of the College, equally as perfect and well qualified to fill their positions and instruct in the respective branches of education taught by them, as had been demonstrated to the audience by the excellent execution by the Professor of Music.

The College is an elegant building, three stories high, octagon in form, and stands in a most delightful situation; its surroundings are beautiful, elevating, and refining—rich private residences in the near vicinity, grounds in order, all harmonious—a place where youth, purity, and innocence may learn the Philosophy of Life in the glorious light of Progression; no shadows to retard the onward march of *Progressive Thought*, unless prejudice has drawn a veil that obstructs the light from the *Celestial Spheres*.

The showers of intelligence that are sweeping down the vale of earth, will, in the near future, raise a flood that will submerge superstition, bigotry, and ignorance; and the dark clouds of prejudice will break away, and rays from the Sun of Liberty, Love, Mercy, and Justice will shine into the minds of Humanity; and evil will disappear—be cast out, burnt with the fire of remorse and regret—the dark cloud will pass away like the mist and fog of earth before the brightness of the morning sunshine.

### SPIRITUALISM—PHYSICAL MANIFESTATIONS.

We have a fine physical medium in Quincy, who is but partially developed: the spirits give independent slate-writing; carry watches and other articles from one room to another while the doors are closed; materialize forms of friends in the circle; bring moss, apparently from distant lands, and lay it under a curtained table; ring bells beneath the table; and shake hands with the sitters thro' openings in the curtain.

Now we have common sense around here, and can hear, feel, and see, and are as capable to judge as are people living in any other place.

The phenomena that takes place here corresponds with what was called miracles 1800 years ago, and are produced by the same law.

Jesus said, You can do greater works than I have done, yet, whom but Spiritualists believe His words, or show one sign of what He said should follow?

[We shall welcome reports of the progress of Spiritualism and Free Thought, and all branches of Educational interest sent us for publication. Also all suggestions respecting the ways and means suitable to be adopted in prisons and penitentiaries, that they may indeed become reformatory Institutions.—Ed.]

## LAW OF PROGRESSION.

EDUCATION AND REFORMATION

vs.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

By MRS. MINERVA MERRICK.

"We say unto you, Oh ye men in authority! The sifting time hath come, and the power of God shall be felt. Puny man cannot retard the onward march of progressive thought, or hinder the Queen of Equity from sitting upon the Throne of Justice."

Justice and Mercy sit weeping by the willows on the banks of the sorrowful waters, where barges laden with the morally deranged mortals of crime and bloodshed are floating by. One in spirit says, "Father forgive them, they know not what they do." One loving friend says, "Neither do I condemn thee, where are thine accusers"—those who have sent out millions of murderous thoughts that have overcome the weak children of our Father—the lower members of the great body of humanity: upon those members that we think are less honorable we should bestow the more abundant honor; and our comely parts then would have more abundant comeliness.

To pity, to feel commiseration for criminals, pour wine and oil of loving kindness into their wounded Souls, and labor to bring them into harmony by restraining them—surrounding them with sympathizing influences, and search for the diamond that is so deeply buried in the mire of their misdeeds that they have inherited from their forefathers, and the evil influences that have been thrown around their lives that they had not the power to avoid.

Who can judge righteously between Jesse James and his murderers? Who can say which one was the greater criminal, he, or those who bargained for money and laid in wait to take the life of him who had done them no harm? Altho' he had injured others, vengeance did not belong to them. As we sow, so shall we also reap. Retribution will be meted out to those who kill under any circumstances.

"A few more Talbott boys and other innocent ones may have to be sacrificed, before the blind God of Ignorance openeth its eyes. A few more mothers' hearts may have to be broken, and sisters' eyes become red with weeping, before the lawmakers can be persuaded to even try on the spectacles of investigation."

The wife of Jesse James is mourning for her husband in the true spirit of remembrance—doing what she can to restore the property he had unlawfully taken from persons when under evil influences or controlled by evil spirits—and allowing, by her love, a ray of light to penetrate the dark Sphere of his Soul in the spirit realm.

The seeds of murder were planted when slavery was established on this Continent, and the spirit of tyranny, cruelty, and oppression were the fruits produced. Children born in an atmosphere of atomic vibrations that produces such bitter fruits will generate murder and vicious propensities in the brains of certain organisms: as wheat, planted in suitable soil, will yield an abundant harvest.

Jesse James, being born under that cloud, has demonstrated the fact in the result of his life. He has fulfilled his destiny—suffered in the tormenting flame of remorse, fear, and regret—one like Pharaoh, raised up to teach the world of Souls, by his errors and sufferings, how to correct their own lives.

When men and women learn to govern themselves, their thoughts, and their actions; then, crime will diminish.

When Christian people are willing to show mercy instead of condemnation, they will raise themselves up into the Sphere of love for one's neighbor, and the heavenly influence will bring peace and good-will into the minds of humanity—which, at present, they do not apparently feel or practice.

That most exalted teacher, Jesus of Nazareth, taught lessons of perfection and fulfilled them: lived and was executed to prove the possibility of man living a perfect life in this Sphere of existence.

There is no death of the Soul, but a new birth into a higher Sphere, where we shall know ourselves as others know us: where we shall wear the crowns that we have made for ourselves while dwelling in this rudimental Sphere.

If our deeds have been unselfish for the love of goodness, we shall enter that circle of bliss where youth and beauty dwell together, on the banks of the river of life, where the pure in heart rest in the presence of the sunshine from the Spiritual Sun—our Father—that Divine Influence from Whom we receive the inspiration of our spiritual lives here on this plane and thro'out eternity, always living by inspiration in harmony with our development and organism.

To inspire thoughts, wisdom, and understanding is life, is to live, and every brain draws life from the great Soul, as the magnet draws the bar.

All life is produced by the same law.

If the receptacle is pure, the thoughts will produce deeds corresponding with good, sweet bread; and if foul, will be the reverse. The sunshine will be the same. As the rays from the solar orb shining on a bed of roses produce a most grateful perfume; while shining on a bed of offal a stench is the result.

Love is the essence of all life; and every little stream that flows down from the Great Fountain, helps to swell the flood of love to one's neighbor, refreshing the flowers of goodness and mercy all over the land. Altho' the seeds were planted in grief and sorrow, these showers of love from the Celestial Spheres will produce peace and harmony; and the deserts of evil will blossom with roses and lilies of justice, mercy, peace, and good-will towards each other; and the Kingdom of Heaven or happiness will have come, and the gate to the inner temple will be opened for all the children of the Supreme Soul to enter.

### UNHEALTHY FOOD.

What is one man's meat is another man's poison. Some of our leading physicians say that pork is unhealthy food—but, unless prejudiced, not one will insinuate that Swayne's Ointment is not the best remedy for Tetters, Ringworm, Scald Head, Barber's Itch, Prairie Itch, Piles, Erysipelas, and all Eruptions of the skin. Every druggist in the land keeps Swayne's Ointment. Try one box and you will never be caught without the remedy in your family afterwards.

Persons sending money to our address, 993 West Polk St., Chicago, Illinois, and not receiving a receipt within a reasonable time (allowing ample time for transportation to and from), will please notify us of the fact, that we may ascertain the cause of the delay; as we always send acknowledgment of the receipt of funds, by return mail. Per order of Boston Star & Crescent Co.

All persons desiring to aid in erecting a national home to alleviate the sufferings; and provide for the sustenance of needy, worthy mediums who have given their life forces to the spirit world for the benefit of the public; can do so by contributing any amount from 10 cents to \$1000 or more.

HATTIE A. CATE, Editress of THE WATCHMAN, is a duly authorized AGENT to receive contributions for the

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State c. Randolph St.—Meeting Sunday at 7½ p. m.

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2730 State St.—Meeting Sunday at 11 a. m.

55 S. Ada St.—Meetings Sunday at 10½ & 7½ o'clock.

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## EVENING PRAYER.

By Frenocia.

The following can be sung to the tune of WEBB—  
The Morning Light is Breaking—it is appropriate  
for Circles.

Sweet spirits now immortal,  
Come to me while I pray;  
Come from your spirit portals,  
Endow me day by day.  
For I am truly needy,  
And wish thy loving care;  
Then bless, and thus endow me,  
Is now my evening prayer.

If strength to me be given,  
I'll cast it o'er the land;  
And help the poor and needy,  
By word and clasp of hand.  
Then gentle loving spirits,  
Be with me night and day;  
Lend me thy magic presence,  
To wipe all pain away.

### TRUTH.

By A. O. DOAN.

Truth is a gem worth more than gold—  
The "King of Kings" whom Judas sold  
For paltry gold, and worldly gain—  
Ofttimes is the truth by Judas slain.

The men of old the truth did tell,  
When they said "Judas, Christ did sell;"  
Yes, sold He is by Church and State—  
'Tis the truth I now relate.

Did not the truth once speak and say,  
"I am the life, the truth, the way;  
The bright and guiding star of old—  
Have ever lived—and ever will,  
And the truth have ever told?"

The rock upon which Moses smote,  
Whence living waters came—  
And whomsoever builds on this rock,  
Finds truth ever the same.

Truth yet shall rule triumphant,  
And her banner be unfurled;  
To triumph over ignorance,  
In this benighted world.

CLOVERDALE, CAL., Oct. 9, 1882.

Editor of The Watchman.

As the voices come bringing words of  
cheer for you, also the human family, I  
write; the spirit bearing witness with my  
spirit, that these things are true.

Purity is our only Savior; So Spiritual-  
ists and Spiritualism must go up, up, on,  
on, ever and ever to attain that Christ pu-  
rity which was bestowed on our "Elder  
Brother, Jesus," in all Truth.

We are building ourselves up in all pu-  
rity, for that home, that "New Jerusa-  
lem." We should be strongly impressed  
to build of the strongest and best spiritual  
material; and combine such refined ele-  
ments as alone insure spirit growth.  
Our own efforts combined with the sym-  
pathy and strength we receive, aid our de-  
velopment. And by gaining strength to  
live pure sexual lives, we also gain  
strength and broadness of spiritual life.  
Blessed be God Who giveth us the victory  
thro' that pure and holy channel, Jesus,  
Who was endowed with the Christ Prin-  
ciple, or perfect purity, which, as shown  
me, is our only Savior, thro' which, and  
to which we alone worship that God of  
Love and Perfection.

Truly, this one loving principle was in  
the "Bosom of the Father" before the  
world was.

Spiritualists must now step forth and  
avow their belief or not in that truth  
which alone can make them free; and  
raise higher the superstructure of a true

Religious Philosophy that shall save all  
Nations of the earth. And unto whose  
blessed portals can be gathered in from  
the highways and by-ways to the marriage  
feast of the Lamb of Purity which was al-  
so slain from the foundation of the world.

These truths are not altogether new to  
Spiritualists, but we need a revival of  
earnest spirit, as well as many more work-  
ers to come forward to push up and help  
raise so wonderful a structure as true pu-  
rity, both sexual and spiritual, alone can  
build—it being the Christ of our salvation.

How have we erred? Has it not, in  
many instances, been like the blind lead-  
ing the blind?

And now before this Love be again  
dragged down into the pit by such foolish  
virgins who borrow oil to illuminate  
their darkness; let us all, with both pe-  
and voice, acknowledge this true light  
that lighteth every man who cometh into  
the world.

Truly, this light is in the world, and  
the world knows it not; it comes unto its  
own (the Churches), and its own receives  
it not; but to as many as receive it, to  
them it gives the power, thro' pure and  
holy living, to become the Sons of God.

Oh, ye great and glorious truth; arise  
ye Daughter of Zion—true spirituality;  
put on your robes of purity, and be ye  
ready to meet the Bridegroom when He  
cometh to judge thee in spirit, in lust,  
and worldly living.

### THE FATHER, SON, & SPIRIT—THE TRINITY.

Guide us, bless us, save us every one,  
God the gracious Father, Christ the Son,  
And the Holy Spirit, three principles in one;  
A perfect law of liberty and love.  
Giving unto us the law of purity,  
So the living Nations may and will be free;  
Living nobler lives thro' the law of chastity  
Governing ourselves by Thy will—  
Peopling the earth with a healthy, holy race,  
Keeping law, order and the serpent in its place;  
Living for knowledge, wisdom, power, & right,  
Dispelling all the clouds of error's night.  
Of the Tree of Knowledge whose fruit is good,  
If in ripeness taken for our spiritual food;  
But if eaten green, what sad effects we see,  
Bringing forth diseases and impurity.

First—we must have knowledge,

Second—have the law;

Third—we peace and comfort,  
From true wisdom draw.

Thus by truth is our heaven paved,

Altho' the way is narrow—

Many Souls it has saved,

And opened wide the portals for to-morrow.

MARY BARLING HUNT.

J. J. Pennington, of Henryville, Law-  
rence Co., Tenn., writes us, "I am a seeker  
for knowledge. I am so glad to learn  
that I do not have to die and go into non-  
entity till the resurrection of the body.  
I have learned more in the four years that  
I have been a Spiritualist, than I did in  
the forty-eight years I served as a Meth-  
odist. I thank God and spirits for free-  
dom, and the brothers who set me free by  
turning me out of the Church for this  
truth."

It is better to tread the path of life  
cheerfully, skipping lightly over the thorns  
and briars that obstruct one's way, than to  
sit down under every hedge lamenting one's  
hard fate. The thread of a cheerful man's  
life spins out much longer than that of a  
man who is continually sad and despond-  
ing. The best thing to be done when evil  
comes upon us is not to give way to lamen-  
tation, but to seek action; not to sit and  
suffer, but to rise and search for the reme-  
dy.—*The Lexingtonian*.

Subscribe for THE WATCHMAN.

## LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

By ESTHERNEVA.

Those who would love you,

Love them again,

Those who would hate you,

Love them the same;

Those who would injure you

By words most unkind,

They are but ignorant,

They are but blind.

Take them by the hand

And guide them aight,

Throw into their darkness

Some bright ray of light;

Show to them how

And where they did err,

That they may watch

Themselves with more care.

Pray unto them

All blessings from above,

Pray that their being

Be penetrated with love;

The true Godly love

That elevates man,

That can forgive and forget,

And love all the same.

Would'st thou but stop,

And think how it would be,

Were God once to withdraw

His love from thee;

Thou could'st not breathe,

Nor live, nor move,

Thou could'st not

Enter heaven's door.

Therefore ever cultivate this gift

That unto you is given,

Exercise it every moment

On those with whom you're living;

Think it not a shame your friend

And brother rightly to love,

Know it and no more forget it,

Love was created above.

## SWING THE GATES AJAR FOR ALL.

By SPIRIT PEACE BIRD.

We'll swing the gates ajar for all,

To let the weak and poor come in;

We'll answer quick the sorrowing call,

For all are liable to err or sin.

We'll swing the gates ajar—wide open,

And stand not back nor timid be;

But lean upon the power named *Hopeful*

Which is strong and mighty—see

We bring to earth a band of forces,

Around earth's people one and all;

Easing thus the cares and crosses,

Raising weak ones when they fall.

We wash all sins in truth's deep waters,

That go rushing, swelling by;

We lift the Soul to higher quarters,

And teach anew "Thou can'st not die."

All Nature is a vast symbolism; every  
material fact has sheathed within it a ma-  
terial truth.—*The Lexingtonian*.

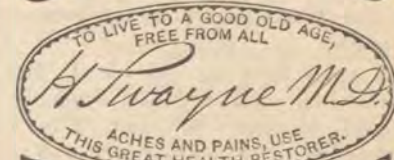
The body is the tool of the spirit, and if  
we keep it in imperfect condition how shall  
either Soul or intellect do good work with  
it?—*The Lexingtonian*.

He who does his best, however little, is  
always to be distinguished from him who  
does nothing.—*The Lexingtonian*.

Let us work while the Lamp of Life  
burns steadily on; and truly shall the  
coming generations rise up to bless us,  
and the results of our labors.—*Frenocia*.

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*Publishers of The Watchman.*

I thank you for the copies duly received. Please find enclosed subscription for the whole volume. I have made a covenant with THE WATCHMAN, to be my companion for life.

The notes from my old friend, Mrs. Merrick, I have read with deep sympathy. She needs somebody to stand by her in her fiery trials. She does not need an Alexander, or a Napoleon, but she needs a Joan D'Arc to stand by her side when the enemies array their forces in battle to fight against her; then she would be surrounded by fiery spirits, like Elisha on the Mount, and her opponents would not dare to approach her.

If we were not protected by invisible guardian angels from the Realm of more elevated Spheres, we would soon be vanquished out of existence by the legions from the dark abyss which surrounds us.

If the first Sphere of the spirit-world is in our atmosphere and is the abode of evil, imperfect spirits; then, I say frankly, without hesitation, that we cannot expect better times than we have, as long as the legions and millions of such spirits are the majority among whom we live and move. We have not only to fight against Kings and Principalities but against the evil spirits. If our righteousness does not exceed that of the Scribes, Pharisees, and hypocrites, we cannot enter the brighter Spheres.

We should heed the warning given us by our Elder Brother, Jesus, and be vigilant as the *Eagle*; wise as the *Serpent*; and harmless as the *Dove*.

The great forerunner of our heaven-born Spiritualism, Emanuel Swedenborg, often had to heed the discipline of Christ in his dark times when he re-lighted the beacon light that Christ had erected on the Spiritual shores, and which the Theological egotists had eclipsed by their dogmas and creeds. So total was the eclipse, like a black mantle spread over the world, that the Sun of the Spiritual world could not penetrate it before the spirits had built a bridge over the awful gulf, which, in ancient times, was impossible to cross. Now spirits can come and go—ascend and descend—and they can talk to us and we to them.

Oh, how many aching hearts have, in our time, been relieved and turned to rejoicing and happiness by our blessed Spiritualism, that is a sweet child, born of heaven, beautiful, innocent, and lovely!

It is a blessed Era we are favored to see and live in.

If our Spiritualistic believers would bind themselves together in a more compact Brother and Sisterhood and Society, and be known to each other as children in a parental family, the angels from the more elevated Spheres would descend with more power, and would delight to camp around us; and the infernal hosts would be driven back to their craggy abode; and in so doing, we would build an *ante-chamber* of heaven on earth. And the fountain of life, of love, of truth, of sympathy, and of fraternity would flow more freely; and we would drink of the sweet nectar of life-giving water that is given to all.

Why not organize, as well as so many spurious denominations that are bound together by the cord of Brotherhood, to promulgate and speed their growth, and increase in strength.

By union we will be strong as a tower, and as unmovable as a pyramid. By combination we would draw more strength from the great magnetic God, by whose magnetic power myriads of systems and worlds are kept in their proper orbits. By vital force is the Universe built—it is a

part of our existence—every human being has more or less. Vital force draws bodies together as two magnets draw each other. Vital force is the cord that binds brothers and sisters together, and builds Societies.

We find Spiritualists strown broadcast over the whole world. Some live in the outskirts of civilization in solitude and want—none care for them—they are often denied what is necessary for life to keep Soul and body together; while many live in superfluence and luxury; many are denied to read a good book or Spiritual paper, for lack of means to pay for it, because they have to pay the same price as the millionaire. Who feels the price the heaviest, the millionaire or the pauper? Who are the advocates of these struggling, needy ones; who will plead their cases? They are denied the privilege of visiting the communion of their sympathizing friends.

Man is a social, loving being, he is drawn irresistibly by the magnetic love cord to the society of his kind. Isolation cramps and narrows his mind; stunts his intellect; and dries up the natural fountain of his affection that should ever be allowed to flow out freely in love toward his brother man.

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"Don't slop over," the old man said, As he placed his hand on the young man's head,

"Go it by all means. Go it fast; Go it while leather and horse-shoes last; Go it while hair and hide on horse Will hold together. Oh, go it, of course—Go it as fast as ever you can— But don't slop over my dear young man."

"Don't slop over. You'll find some day, That keeping an eye to windward will pay. A horse may run a little too long; A preacher may preach a fraction too long; A poet who pleases the world with rymes May write and regret it, in after times. Keep the end of the effort ever in view, And don't slop over whatever you do."

—Selected.

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