

*Spirit Messages*

THROUGH

THE MEDIUMSHIP  
OF "JESSIE."

## PREFATORY.

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*The medium "Jessie" through whom these spirit-messages were given was for nearly two years developing before she was enabled to speak with any degree of fluency. The "messages" here collected are all that were preserved, although several others (some of which were singularly beautiful) were delivered. I had hoped to witness a fuller development of her medium-power, but, from circumstances of an untoward nature, she has not of late been entranced, notwithstanding that we have often sought communion with the Invisibles, and Truth and Justice (the spirit that frequently communicated) promised other "messages."*

*To those acquainted with "Jessie" and her surroundings these spirit-messages will, I feel assured, be acceptable.*

*They are issued in the present form at the request of a kind friend, who hearing of our intended departure for America, wished to have them as a memento.*

*J. H. Powell.*

*London, Aug. 1867.*

# SPIRIT MESSAGES

THROUGH

## THE MEDIUMSHIP OF "JESSIE."

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### Message 1.

**I** am a stranger, but I am sent for a good purpose. You do not understand me, but will do so soon. I am the companion of those you have known. We are happy. You should sit with a desire to learn something useful, and your mind should be full of pure and holy feeling. If not, you will not draw around you good influences. Pray faithfully. These words you may say when you sit:—

Father, open our eyes; open our hearts, that we may receive this great light; open our understanding, that we may know the right, and put it in it's true sense before the world. Give us that the world cannot give, and may the spirit of Peace and Love rest with us for ever.

You know not the many good and evil influences that surround you. The evil are sent for the purpose of good. If you ask, He, the Father, will

give you strength to resist the temptations of evil, and the more you resist, the stronger will be your love of the good. Listen to the voice of your conscience ; act as that dictates. I will come again. Act truly, for the eye of God is upon all. Resist the evil ; love the good, and He will guide, guard, and bless you with an everlasting blessing. Your enemies may be great, but they cannot overcome the works of the Almighty. May God bless you. May you not act like disobedient, ungrateful children. You know not the love the spirits bear you. Farewell.

October 30th, 1865.

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### Message 2.

#### Addressed to a Little Boy.

I am come. Come here. "The spirit and the voice say, come," It is to you I am come to speak this night. Tarry not, but come. The world would hold you back ; break from its bonds. Come forth : break from the net that is being cast over you. Here are many (spirits) waiting to lead you onward. Resist them not. Your future welfare depends on your choice now. There are two paths open before you. Choose. One path looks full of beautiful flowers, whose fragrance is delicious. You would like to tread this path, but there is an end to it. It looks pleasant. There souls beckon you onwards. But what are they ? They are the Will-o'-the-wisps of mankind. They strew upon the path attractive beauties to ensnare you.

There is another path; crooked, rugged, and full of flints. Where does that path lead to? If you are dutiful, and press on, it will lead you to happiness. But you cannot expect to press along this narrow path without your feet being cut with the flints upon which you tread. But each cut you receive will be, as it were, a lesson you must learn, and as you step over each flint, though it cut you, it nevertheless becomes the stepping-stone to your progress. In this path you will find many things displeasing to you. You may even meet serpents, but they cannot coil around you unawares. If you are cautious, and will heed them not, they cannot sting you. But in the path I described first, which to the eye looks so beautiful, there venomous serpents lie hidden, ready to fascinate the traveller at the moment he is exulting in the seeming beauty around him. So beware, and press along the narrow path. Never mind the flints. What if the skin of your feet gets cut! Your heart will gain strength. You cannot tread securely this difficult path without assistance, therefore you must ask God to assist you. Step firmly, faithfully, and trustfully, and He will guide you up the narrow, flinty pathway leading to Himself, and you will be as a light set forth to lead others upwards.

(To the reporter)—

Your path has been briary. You have seen that light. Pray that it may so shine on the pathway of him that shall follow after. Pray in faith. There is a battle to fight; there must be soldiers to fight it. Go forth; heed not the enemies oppressing you. Put on the holy armour of God, and you will be secure. You are needed. You

will stand forward, and your breastplate will shine brighter after the battle. Heed not the sneers and jeers of sceptics. They cannot dim the lustre of your breastplate, because it is overlaid with God's love, and the more it is fought against, the more it will shine. Fear nothing. There never was a battle fought like the one coming on now. It needs soldiers firm and true. Such soldiers God will provide. I would that I could speak more clearly, but with God's help and blessing I will come again and tell you more.

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### Message 3.

Be ye not as many that have gone before you, who make a garland of roses and put a net under it to catch the unthinking ones. Men make a garland of roses for themselves, that they may **APPEAR** to the world good. But a net is under it, ready to catch the wayfarer's foot. Thus, instead of implanting good, and letting mankind know that they mean well, they conceal the net under the garland. This garland of roses is the seducing smile and flattering tongue—the net, the deceitfulness of the heart. Men make a garland of roses and put a net under it, delighting to entrap their fellows, and care not what they cause them to suffer. Seek you the wisdom of God, and your eyes shall be opened; then you will fail to heed the garland, because you will see the net. But you must ask for wisdom, that your eyes and understanding may be opened. What use are eyes that see not, and ears that hear not? The wheat must be separated from the chaff. God

hath given you knowledge and instinct. You may know by the latter when you see the garland if the net is beneath it. The wicked flourish only for a time. While they are flourishing, they dig deep pits and strew them with roses. But by men's fruits ye may know them. Do fig-trees bear thistles? Do thistles bear beautiful fruits? I say again, by men's fruits ye shall know them. If you wish to understand you cannot be deceived. Are not the lives of the wicked, though garlanded with roses, full of bitterness and sourness, which set their children's teeth on edge? Farewell; my time is limited; I am called elsewhere. Farewell! and may the blessing of God rest upon you. May He aid you in that work you are called upon to perform. May each step you take be guided by Him. May you ascend the ladder which reaches to heaven, and know perfect peace. May all good things descend upon you, and may the Spirit of God pour his love and glory around you, so that nothing can harm or make you afraid. Seek, and you will find peace; knock and the door of happiness will be opened for you. I come from God. My mission is to do good; therefore let your hearts be opened and your bodies pure. Then indeed the spirit of peace, love, and justice will dwell with you, making your pathway truly pleasant. When you sit, ask God to give you the spirit of peace, truth, and righteousness.

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(A spirit purporting to be the brother of the medium influenced her to speak as follows):—

Oh! if you knew what I have suffered for my transgressions, you would pity and pray for me. Did I not go with my eyes open step by step into

sin? Did I not close my ears to the warning voice of those who went before me? But I am happier now, but not so happy as I wish to be. I have not yet attained to where my child is (alluding to his little son who died some years before him.) The ties of earth drag me down. I sinned, and my sin was visited on my children. If you will comfort and try to lead in the right path those I left behind, then would my spirit rest. But the hearts of my forlorn ones cry. They are as it were, a veil of blood before my eyes. They retard my progress. Why does foolish fear act as a barrier 'twixt me and happiness? I will, if possible, this night make myself known and seen by that one who is a mother to them, (a sister of the spirit who has charge of his surviving children, and who has once seen him since his decease.) Oh, God! may thy blessing be as a curtain, to shield her from all harm. You must see her and make known my wish. Tell her to fear not. I would not harm her. I come in love to my destitute forlorn ones.

Question. Are you really more contented where you are than you was on the earth?

Spirit. I am contented with many things, but the sins I committed draw me back. You would say, How? It is this. If I had not sinned I should not have been summoned so quickly, and have left my children so helpless. Are not the sins of the parent visited upon the children? Have I not sinned, and has not my sin fallen as a black cloud, and rested upon my children?

Q. Do you hold the same ideas of religion you entertained when you were with us?

S. Do I not? Yes. Did I not believe in God and in Christ as a Saviour, and put confidence



in Him? and did I not, through the troubles of the world, instead of clinging closer to Him, step back from His protection?

Q. Do you believe the same doctrines?

S. No. What did I tell you? Did I not represent a hell with fire and brimstone? Did I not say of God, though His love was so great His hatred seemed greater? (alluding to a conversation held with the questioner when the spirit was in the flesh.) No. God is a God of love and justice, and being a God of love, if we in return love Him, not because of fear, but really love Him, then is our reward sure. But still He is a God of justice. Our reward is as we make it; and His wrath lasts not for ever. He cannot destroy; His love is too powerful. He will punish, but not in fire and He will not punish for ever. Is not His arm strong to save? It never shortens or fails in strength, or grows weary. He, the All-Powerful, will overcome obstacles that appear as mountains to your eyes, because His love never wanes. He is All-Powerful and All-Wise.

Q. You now know that sects are not essential to true life?

S. Sects! God looks at the heart.

Q. Do you ever see Christ? (The medium's face brightened.)

S. No; I have not yet advanced enough to see Him. Oh! I would sacrifice very much to see Him; but the recollection of my sins keeps me back.

Q. Do spirits retain their memories in the spirit-spheres?

S. Spirits near the earth remember all the events of their earth-life; but as they rise in the

spheres they lose their memory, and realize the glory of God.

The spirit then sang, through the medium, one of his favourite hymns, commencing—

Hozannáh to the Prince of Life

and concluded the sitting with the following

### Invocation.

Father, may Thy grace so enlighten these, Thy children. May Thy glory shine around their path. May Thy love be as a bright star, beckoning them onward. May they take no false step, but may they be firm and sure. May Thy strong arm encircle them. May Thine eye watch over them; and may Thy Holy spirit be with them and guide them onward. Amen—Amen.

Nov. 4, 1865.

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### Message 4.

“It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves. We are His children, and the sheep of His pasture.” If we are His children, and the sheep of His pasture, why do we wish to go outside the fold? Why do we wish to mix with those that are outside, that aim to annoy us? Is it because they are outside the fold that we do so? Let us rather try to draw them into the fold. You should not return evil for evil. It is peace you want, the peace of God. If your hearts were full of divine love and wisdom, you would be as a light set upon a hill, where many a wanderer’s feet will be drawn. Those that are cast upon the way, and cannot get

on know not who to ask for help. The cruelties of mankind choke up the avenues of Faith. Be you as a light set upon a hill, to guide the wayfarer to the temple of Truth. If you were travelling, cold and comfortless, along a dark road with many turnings, would you not be cheered by a light set upon a hill or anywhere, which, as it were, said to you, Come, there is warmth and comfort in store for you? I say unto you, heed not the seducing voice of those who are outside the fold; only strive, to make your light burn brightly.

Take heed. Pour fresh oil into the lamp of your faith; let it burn vigorously. Remember the brighter your light the more radiance it will shed around, but it must be a strong light, or it will soon get extinguished. I say unto you, let your light so shine that it will attract men to you, then you may glorify your Father which is in Heaven.

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### Addressing a friend.

Dear Friend,—I would say a word to you. Be not weary in well doing. In all your difficulties, in all your perplexities, look to Him for guidance and protection. Seek nothing of yourself; ask Him. Seek Him, and be not weary in well-doing.

Question. Can you inform me if the doctrines inculcated in a work I am reading, entitled, "Jesus of Nazareth," are true.

Spirit. Is He not your friend and brother? Do I not love Him?

Q. Has the communicating influence there given, presented the true character of Jesus?

I know not what you have been reading, but this I know, He is God's beloved Son. If you tread in His footprints you cannot do wrong. He was a noble, holy, more than martyr, whom God loved.

Q. Was Paul the holy man he is said to have been?

S. Was not Paul at first a wicked man? Did he not start to persecute Christ? Was he not converted, and did he not afterwards become a good man?

Q. No; this work says not.

S. I do not think it is true.

I am higher than I was at first. I wish and hope still to be higher. Set a watch on thine own heart. Trust in no book that is written. Ask His guidance, and you cannot do wrong. I will try another time to speak more clearly.

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To the reporter.

I would speak a word to you. Remember your duty, and let love shine around your path. Serve the Spiritual Cause, do what you can for it, and try, if possible, to realize that you have no feeling of your own whatever, to interrupt your course; then the arrows of the unfeeling ones will pass by as the idle wind, which you heed not. But if you allow each idle murmur to cast a shadow over your soul, it will place a barrier between you and that you are striving to perform, therefore remember and hold fast to that which is good.

Q. Does the spirit speaking know what I have been thinking of doing for the future?

S. That which you think is best, do; but trust not alone to your own thoughts.

(To a little boy)—

Trust to the warning voice of one who would guide you aright. Put faith in God then you will gain happiness. Remember if you do not put faith in Him, you will grow up as an idle weed, to be plucked and thrown on one side, to make room for some flower. May God bless you forever.

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### Invocation.

May the holy spirit of God so dwell in our hearts, that we may not grow up as idle weeds that only obstruct men's paths, but that we may grow up as beautiful flowers whose fragrance is delicious. May His spirit soften our hearts, so that we may bring forth the first-fruits of righteousness. May we be enabled to shed a light over men's paths, that shall lead them to Thee. May we all possess feelings of brotherhood, and may we seek and find that which was lost. Grant, oh, Heavenly Father! that this, Thy great Truth, spreading far and wide, may be so brilliant that people cannot help coming beneath its rays. Bless and protect the unhappy and forlorn! Lead them to see Thy true light. Make them happy. Give unto them that which the world with all its vanities cannot take away—Thy peace, love and protection.

November, 13, 1865.

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### Message 5,

Be ye not as a fountain that is choked up with

noisome weeds, but be ye as a fountain pouring forth clear water. Let your thoughts and your actions be as pure as that water. Mind there is nothing to obstruct its progress. Let it spring forth plenteously. Let it water the earth, that it may bring forth good fruit. Let the fruit be such as the children of earth can gather and taste, that they may understand the flavour of that fruit. The water of that fountain is Truth. The fruit that will grow because the water of Truth moistens the ground is, Justice. Truth and Justice go hand-in-hand. Truth has been trampled under foot. Deceit hath grown up in its stead. Deceit and oppression have leagued themselves together to crush Truth and Justice. But they cannot succeed; they must fall to the ground; and if you so water the earth with the waters of Truth, good fruits will spring up. Hear, then, what I say; understand what I say. Trample oppression and injustice under foot, and always let Truth reign, and it will be a shield to all that place themselves under its defence.

Remember and hold fast that which is good. Clench firmly the banner of Truth and Justice. It cannot be wrested from you if you take a firm hold, and ask help from Him that rules the earth. Be of good cheer; be not cast down, but trust in God. Ask His guidance, seek His favour and His love, and hold firmly to Truth and Justice. Then, though your enemies be ten thousand strong, you will never be trampled under foot.

Is not He All-Powerful that is all Truth and Justice? Cannot He protect you? Can He not, I say, deliver you, and all who help to unfurl that flag, from all oppressors? Fear not, but trust. Can you not understand?

Question : Is this the same spirit that generally speaks through the medium ?

Spirit. Yes.

Q. Can you give me a name by which I may know you ?

S. Truth and Justice.

Q. What is your mission ?

S. My mission is to lead, or try to lead, all into the way of Truth, for without Truth it is impossible to do any good thing. Truth is the stepping-stone to goodness, happiness and God. It ought to be your guiding star, or the rail that you hold upon, or the staff that you hold in your hand as you travel through life. Truth and Justice cannot be separated; they go hand-in-hand. They are, as it were, the one link in the chain of life.

Q. Can you give diagnoses of disease ?

S. All you require is less study; less trouble about things that need not concern you. I tell you, let oppression hold sway for a time; Truth and Justice will overcome it.

Q. How is a man to get rid of his natural temperament ?

S. Natural temperament! indulgence in weaknesses! You know not that you make your own temperament often by fancying that you do not. Seek to have a healthy mind, then you will have a healthy body. Let not your brain be too active. God has given you reason; exercise that reason, and fret not yourself because of those who set traps to catch your feet in. But be you as a fountain pouring forth fresh waters. Then where will the traps be? Will not the waters overflow them? Truth and Justice hold sway and those who set the traps themselves be caught in them?

Q. Could the spirit give a definition of Honesty?

S. Do unto others as you would have others do unto you. What can be better? Never receive more than your due, but give freely where it is needed; and what you lack ask for, and it will be given.

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### INVOCATION.

Father, God of Love and Light, give unto these, Thy children, peace, justice, truth, wisdom, grace, and love. Give them to understand and to choose good from evil. Give them Thy love, and may it entwine around and about their hearts, and may Thy holy spirit sprinkle with the dews of Thy grace, so that their love may grow to Thee abundantly, and, oh! may nothing of this earth turn them from Thee. May they be fast and sure. May Thy wisdom shine round and about them, so that they may be like wise men. May Justice take firm root against the world's tyranny; and, I beseech Thee, may Thy eye be ever ready to guard and guide, and shine. May they see the lustre of Thy eye. Give them all that they need; take away all that hinders their progress; and may Thy peace, that passeth all understanding, that peace the world cannot take away, rest for ever with them. I thank Thee, oh Father, that Thou hast permitted me to come and to speak. Give it, oh Father, to me to unfold these Thy mysteries. I thank Thee—I bless Thee!

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### Message 6.

Would that ye were wise. Be ye as the deaf-adder,



that heedeth not the charmer, charm he never so wisely; and be like Mary, who chose the good part, which shall not be taken away. Charmers are they that stand on high mountains; they shout and make a great noise. Their shoutings are as tinkling brass. The tinkling sound of their music is the world's idolatry—is what the children of this world worship—gold. They seek to lay up treasures for themselves here, because their hearts are full of deceit and greediness. They care not to seek that which Mary sought, but like Martha, are cumbered about many things. This that you call Spiritualism is the gift of God. It is given for a use, but is received and used not as it should be. Many, I say, abuse the gift of Spiritualism. They take it as if it came as a legacy or a fortune from their parents, and they abuse it as they would a fortune. Understand me rightly; be as Mary was, and choose the good part. The world would take that good part from you, but hold it fast. Be firm and faithful, and true to your God. Heed not the petty tyrannies, the sneers and jeers of those that abuse this great gift. Let them fall as hail-stones on glass, making no impression thereon. When you are out in a storm, and the wind blows fiercely at the time, it is very unpleasant; but when you get under shelter, you think it a mere trifle. Let the slanderer, and those that speak ill of you, not disturb you. Remember the shelter after the storm. I know it is very hard to bear, but with the breastplate of Truth and the shield of Uprightness, and the helmet of Peace, you cannot hurt. You will then be as the deaf-adder, and heed not that which tinkles in the distance, which, if cared for or troubled about, will seem close, and make a louder noise. Let the

tinkling still go on in the distance. Still wear your helmet and your breastplate, and that will be choosing the good part, which cannot be taken away. Hold fast that which is good, let no man take it from you.

Question. Is Truth and Justice here?

Spirit. I was a pilgrim on earth for many years.

Q. Any more to say?

S. I sought and obtained that you must seek and obtain—the crown of everlasting life.

Q. Have you a name?

S. You must be patient; things come not so quickly as you expect. The seed put into the ground in one day, does not spring up into a beautiful flower the next.

The time is coming; the time has verily come. We will manifest ourselves. Be patient; be faithful to your God and to yourself; be firm, and we will reveal unto you what we have to reveal. Patience, patience, courage, tread down the thorns under your feet; don't let them grow up.

#### Invocation.

Father, thou whose love dost fill this world with light; Thou whose truth dost strengthen the arms of thy children; Thou whose grace dost elevate their thoughts and fill their hearts with love for Thee; Thou whose mercy is boundless and deep as the ocean; Thou who art all-powerful, a God of love and justice—to Thee we humble, penitent, and contrite children of the earth would bow with submission, trusting to Thee, not in fear but in love—to Thee, great and good, just and true as Thou art, we, weak, erring, sinful creatures as we are—great as Thou art, we know Thy love is full of mercy, and we dare look up to Thee, suppli-

cating Thee to hear and help us. We know we are sinful, and deserve not even a look, much less a smile from Thee. Yet, knowing we are such, we dare ask Thee for Thy protection. Bless, I beseech Thee, Father, the down-trodden sons of the earth; those who try to look up to Thee, while the troubles of the way, and the persecutions of their so-called brethren assail them, even while they look up to Thee, as it were with stones. Give such faith, deep and strong; give such hope that they may be firm, and quiver not at the idle blast. Give such Thy grace, and throw around them Thy arms of compassion. Pour down Thy love upon them; let it refresh them as the dews refresh the earth.

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### No 7.

#### Invocation.

(Holding the hand of Mrs. H.)

Father, Thou who art so high and mighty, King of all kings, Ruler of all things, pour down Thy love upon these Thy dear children. May they look to Thee, full of faith and holiness. May Thy grace inspire them to trample over all difficulties. May Thy holy spirit descend, and scatter its beautiful influence round and about. May Thy strong arm protect them. May they see Thine eye of compassion, and know that Thou art a God of mercy. Oh! Father, forgive when they turn their feet astray. Set Thy lamp, O Lord, as a beacon before them. May they feel the full assurance of Thy kindness, and walk in the steps of Jesus. Protect them from all influences that

are not good for them.

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(To Mrs. H :)—

He will reward and bless you. His Holy angels are hovering round and about you. Oh! be guided. Oh! bless Him that He has permitted them to come down and shine about you.

(Holding the hand of Mr. H. and pointing upward):—

He will—He will.

(Taking the hands of Mr. and Mrs. H.):—

Thou faithful workers in His vineyard, go on your ways rejoicing. Fear not; He is your God. He will bless you with an everlasting blessing. Put your trust in Him; He will protect you. He is your God and your guide.

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(To the company :)—

Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make His paths straight. Open, as it were the gates, and shed the light of Spiritualism along the paths. Endeavour to remove all things that obstruct its progress, so that many may enter, and find it not so crooked or so dark as they fancied they would. Put in each one's hand the lamp of Spiritualism. Tell them not to let the winds of the world dim its lustre. Tell them to go hand-in-hand, each helping the other, and each pressing forward. Tell them to be faithful and firm. Tell them to be watchful and wary, and, above all things, to keep their light brightly burning, so that its rays may illumine the darkness that reigns in the hearts of many of the children here below. Tell them they must not faint by the way; they must not even feel weary.

(To Mrs. H.)

You have travelled up Truth's avenue. You took your light with you, and you let its beams shine upon many that were outside the avenue. Many have felt the influence of the beams of your light; many have been led to believe through it. There (pointing upward) are your treasures; there will be your reward; Don't you know me?

Mrs. H. Who are you? Can you tell me?

Spirit. Through your own hand.

Mrs. H. How?

Spirit. With the *planchette*.

(The *planchette* was here used, and a spirit, C—, gave its name, which was correct. The following was then given with the *planchette*):—

You have been accepting the truths of Christ's love and God's eternal wisdom. Trust in Him, and he will direct your steps. More another time. Take leave now. We shall come soon, and bring G—. Adieu.

### Message 8.

Seek and try to find that that some of earth's children have found, and some would not try to find. When you have found it, try to keep it fast. That is, the faith and the simplicity and Godliness of Christ. Be meek and humble. Some have sought for it, and have found and retained it, and it has led them to the rock; others have thought they wanted to find it, and have looked another way. Avoid such; they are destroyers of mankind. They are whirlpools leading to destruction.

## INVOCATION

Father, wilt thou give unto these Thy children that faith and hope they so much need ; and wilt Thou give them that grace which is so essential to their spirits ? Give them a desire to do as Thou would'st have them do. Oh ! may their hearts be full of love and pity to their fellow-creatures that have not this great light before their eyes. May they be enabled, by Thy grace, to lead forth such into Thy beautiful bright path ; and oh ! may Thy light so shine that none may go astray that strive to seek after Thee. May they try to follow Him that suffered and sinned not. May they become as little children, meek and lowly, wishing to be taught of those who know more of this light.

Question. May we ask a question ?

Spirit. Yes.

Q. Can you give us information about the spirit-spheres ?

S. When it is necessary for you to understand the spirit-spheres, then you will know. What good will it do you to go and tell earth's children of the spheres ? What good would it do them ? It would not be pouring oil on this great light to make it burn more bright.

Q. May we ask what sphere we ourselves dwell in ?

S. Some are in one sphere, some are in another on this earth. They may be in different spheres, though their bodies are in the same sphere. A very bad man, though he is in the same house as those who follow Jesus, is yet not in the same sphere.

Q. Is it prudent to ask the sphere I myself dwell in ?

S. You are in the fifth sphere on this earth, if you can understand that. But you may still progress further by faith and perseverance.

Q. What can I do to advance myself?

S. Endeavour to lead your fellow-creatures into the right path, and ask His guidance and His protection in all things.

Q. I do strive, but I meet with many rebuffs. Shall I persevere?

S. Each rebuff you meet with, remember Christ. You have not had so many rebuffs as He had. He was scorned and despised. Was He not led as a lamb to the slaughter? But He knew He was doing the will of His Father, and leaving foot-prints behind Him as a guide to others.

Q. Is audible prayer beneficial to our souls.

S. "Prayer is the soul's sincere desire." If it proceed from the heart, there is no need for others to hear it; but if it is for their good, pray aloud. You know the prayer of a righteous man availeth much. And forget not to pray for the poor of this earth.

Q. Can you change the laws of our Heavenly Father by prayer?

S. He is a God of Love and a God of Mercy. If your prayers are good in His sight, then He will answer them, for He desireth not that any should suffer.

Q. Are our feeble efforts in spiritual matters effectual?

S. We do encourage you, and you do advance. By-and-bye you will see how you advance. It is impossible to hold a light up without shedding its beams around.

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## Message 9.

Dear Friend,—Listen and try to profit by a few words of advice, and it will be given to you from one who wishes your eternal welfare. Firstly, never sit to hold intercourse with spirits until you have first asked the protection of the Spirit of God. Secondly, try the spirits that come to you; for many will come in His name. Prove such. Thirdly, trifle not with the invisible ones that surround you. That is the great evil of the so-called spirit-meetings. You should all sit with one accord wishing for the truth. Pray faithfully, earnestly, that He will give you such communications as shall be necessary for you. Pray also that He will enlighten your understanding that you may be able to discriminate and to separate the good from the evil. I have no more to say now, only go on your way rejoicing, holding fast that which is good. Farewell.

May He send peace, comfort and health. May you in return give Him your whole heart. Ask what you wish.

Question. How am I to prove the spirits?

Spirit. Doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit? By their communications ye may know them. A truthful spirit will not, cannot tell a lie. A good spirit cannot deceive, or jest about, or make fun of this sacred light.

Mr. E. Have I received communications from purely good or high spirits?

S. You have.

Q. How am I to distinguish the good from the bad?

S. Ask Him to give you that power and you cannot fail to distinguish the good from the evil.



There are good spirits always with you. All that is wanted in you is confidence and trust in His power, so that they can approach you.

Q. Are the spirits who influence my wife to draw good spirits?

S. They are happy spirits. They bring consolation, happiness, and love.

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Q. What spirit controls the medium?

S. Truth and Justice.

Q. Would Truth and Justice say a few words to Mr. B?

S. Friend, why do you tarry by the way? You are needed. Your lamp is lighted ready for you. Pass it not by unheeded. Carry it manfully. Hold it high, and keep it bright. The brighter it beams the more it will entice. If you persevere and press on with a prayerful spirit, you will do great good. You must not fear what the world will say to you. You must not mind the stumbling-blocks in your path. Many will come within the beams of your light if you keep it brightly burning. Do you understand the meaning of this great light which is let down from heaven? Each faithful follower lights his own lamp from that light. Put your trust not in man. Pray that you may understand it rightly. More another time. And may He, in the abundance of His love and mercy, give you that you need. Trust in Him and all will be well. Farewell.

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The following was given on another occasion, Mrs. H—, who has lately lost a child:—

Gone, gone, gone, but not lost; separated only

for a time, that which may bloom more beautiful in its Father's garden. Weep not, nor grieve when you see your dear fond ones laid low in the grave. Rather rejoice that they are free from the troubles of this world. Could you behold the shining angelic creatures round the throne of God, it would fill your souls with happiness. You think it is hard to have that taken from you which you prize so dearly; but remember it was not given you to keep, it was given you to be taken—to be taken, that the chords of love that entwined round about your heart, should draw you up nearer to your Maker.

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#### Invocation.

Father, Thou dost give, Thou dost take away, give unto the bereaved ones peace of mind—that peace and happiness of mind that cannot be selfish. Give them to feel that Thou hast a right to take away that which Thou dost give. Pour down Thy love and protection on Thy children.

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#### Message 10,

It is all glory, all brightness there. Would that I could open the spirit vision—would that I could do as I would like to do—would that conditions were more favourable! If you could but see the glory and the brightness of the beings that are here—if your spirit-sight could be so opened that you could give one glance at our beautiful spirit homes! But no; if it was necessary for you to behold the happiness of our spirit-homes, you would be dissatisfied with this earth-

life. It would not do ; wait a more fitting time, then shall you see. There is no distress there ; all is peace, joy and happiness, such as cannot even be fancied. Why do not earth's children try to make earth-life more happy ? Why do not those that have more than enough help those that have not sufficient to carry them through life's journey ? Are they not all brethren ? It is because they do not aspire to anything beyond earth-life ; they are too selfish, too worldly, too ambitious. It would not do for the high-born to stoop to the low-born of earth ; they would feel contaminated. But He that went before, was He afraid of the poor and lowly-born ? Did he despise those of tattered garments and worn-out bodies—worn out because they could not obtain the necessities of life ? Did He cast them aside, and seek for the high-born ! No, He loved the poor : He despised not the beggar ; He turned not a deaf ear to the suppliant cry.

He that was chosen of God—He that suffered so much and bore His cross so meekly—He, our Father's beloved Son—if He loved the poor, should these earth-children so bury themselves in their own riches, their own comforts ? Should they, I say, that are not worthy to tie His shoe-strings, should they forget that He is the Father of the poor as well as the rich, and that He gave them their riches to distribute among the poor, to shield and protect the orphan, provide for the widow ? I tell you it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah than for such.

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#### INVOCATION

Father, Thou who did'st in the days of old rain

down manna for the children of Iseral, like manna pour down Thy grace on this earth, that it may be fruitful and multiply. Oh! may thy servants increase in number and in power. May the influence of Thy Holy Spiri sink deep in their hearts. May they have strength, bodily and spiritually, to go forth conquering and to conquer. May they lead forth whole armies into this great field. May each one have his whole armour complete. May they fight manfully, but may they fight in love. Many step forward and draw back; they think it is not right. Oh! Father, give unto such Thy power. May they feel Thy protection. May they feel strong, knowing that Thou art the head. May they know Thy grace is sufficient for all their weakness. Give them true courage. Give them faith, that they may depend and trust solely upon Thee. Give them hope, that their pathway may look bright and beautiful. Give them charity, that they may deal with their fellow-creatures as they would wish to be dealt with.

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To Mr. O.:—That is a boquet from a spirit-friend, from one who loves you.

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Faith, patience. Fear not, little flock; in your Father's own time all things shall be shown unto you.

Question. May we ask a question?

Spirit. Yes; it is a delight to answer anything that is in our power.

Q. Could you offer the instructions requisite for the medium's development?

S. It will be better for her to sit with other mediums in harmony with herself. Influences

that are round and about this place are uncongenial, and retard her progress. If you touch pitch it adheres to your hand, though you do not want it.

Q. The influences at the present sitting, are they congenial?

S. Yes, they are very harmonious. It would be wise to continue such sittings.

Q. Have you any prophetic knowledge relating to the medium?

S. I cannot say through her.

Q. Could you through any other medium?

S. I could influence any other medium that was in harmony with her.

Q. What spirit is it?

S. "Truth and Justice," that is my name; the name you will know me by.

Q. May we ask the sphere you are in?

S. The sixth sphere.

Q. Have you nothing to say further as to the way to improve the medium's power.

S. Loosen the ties of earth, then will her spirit soar and gain knowledge.

Q. How is that to be done?

S. You must wait events. He moves in a mysterious way, and He will work for the best. I will tell you more if I get a medium congenial to her.

Q. Could you fix a time, and give us a discourse on a given subject through this medium?

S. Not yet. We cannot work quickly; all things take time. It is a work of time. But *that* He has given us to do, *that* we must accomplish.

Q. But have you no settled idea of the purpose for which the medium is used by you?

S. Our desire in the end is this—she has a work

to perform. We are sent from Him, instruments of His. We make her, as it were, our instrument. She is destined to go forth among the people, and to pour forth these truths that are dawning upon the earth. She is to be one that is to lift the veil and show the inner temple. There is much to overcome yet, more than you can understand. We work diligently to do that work He has set us to do. She will have to fight many battles for this great Truth. She must be in a place congenial to her nature, that her aspirations may be very bright. The brighter her aspirations, the more faith she puts in the Great Ruler of all mankind; the more she will trample down prejudices.

Q. Can you advise me what I should do to place the medium in favourable conditions?

S. As I said before, remove her from these influences.

S. Do you mean that I should give up my position?

S. Not yet. You know not what a day may bring forth; so be watchful and be ready, with your lamp trimmed. By-and-bye she will be able to speak much better. But fear not; if I do not speak to you I do not forsake you. It is my mission, with God's help, to help you. There are many clouds hovering round about which you think not of; but you need not fear, but trust. When the cloud comes and looks thick before you, heed it not, it will pass away. It is His mysterious purpose. We cannot understand, but we can yield and obey. So fear not; have Him for your Father and your guide.

Q. Can you give us a verse or two?

S. Your path may be beset with thorns,  
And dark the clouds above your head;

Then trust in Him whose love ne'er wanes,  
 But on His bosom rest your head ;  
 For though the clouds be black as night,  
 Your beacon then shall look more bright.

Any time when it his convenient to sit, ask for me. Ask Him. But never sit without prayer. Let not your heart be troubled when you feel cast down, then go and lay your burden at His feet, and faithfully prayerfully, humbly ask his guidance and protection.

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### Message 11.

Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your God. What a deal of meaning is in that little word, Comfort? We often try to comfort our dear sisters and brethren on this earth, and we often succeed; but sin, that ugly monster, sin, what does it do? It steps in, and obstructs the way. Its hideous form throws a black shadow, where, had it not come, there would have been a halo of happiness.

I would say a little to you; you have passed through many difficulties and overcome many obstacles. Be not cast down; have faith and hope, and cast thy burden upon Him, who will sustain you. He gives not more to bear than you can bear. Try to be patient, calm, and resigned, and the cross that is given you to carry, bear it nobly; bear it as He did who has gone before you. He is your elder brother; God is your Father. With such a Brother and such a Father, though your path may be flinty, If you trust implicitly on that Father and that Brother, what have you to fear?

### Invocation.

Oh! Thou who art ever ready and willing to help Thy suffering children here below—Thou who dost hear their every cry—send down the spirit of comfort and love. May it take possession, and dwell herein. May thy grace which is all-sufficient, be cast round about her path. May she pour forth her griefs into Thy bosom, and in return wilt Thou shower down Thy love and protection. Farewell—Farewell.

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To Miss C. :—

Press on, press on. Fight the great fight.

Miss C. She shall be helped by us, and God the Father, her Master; and we will help you also.

Jessie. May His love be your beacon.

Miss C. May His love to all His children make them faithful unto Him, and may they work diligently in the vineyard in which He has placed them. May God help you in your work. May He pour down the Holy Ghost upon you; and, oh! may He make your work more spiritual still. This old year has been to you a year of great learning; a year in which you have seen and heard many things, and many truths have been opened up to many beings; and, because the new year is coming, let them not despise the old one; for they were happy to receive this year, and they are looking forward to the happiness with which they will receive the next year. May the new year bring God's blessing on all His children, and may they learn greater and nobler things which he hath done, than they have in the past year; and not only may they learn these things, but may they be richer, far richer in spirit than they have been



## Messge 12.

(Offering a Bible to Mrs. Berry.)

If it (the Bible) hath been thy comfort, let it now be thy guide. Remember He that protected Daniel in the lion's den will protect thee if thou wilt trust in Him. Fear not what man shall do unto you. If he smite thee turn thee not again; for if thou art of Christ follow His example. For a little while you must be tempted and tried.

Pray that His holy spirit may guide you. Pray for strength of mind and body. Pray for wisdom. Pray for charity. Trust not to your own strength in anything. Be united, all of you. Let brotherly love continue.

## Invocation.

Father, Thou in Thy wisdom dost draw around us that which looks dark and full of trouble, Thou dost, as it were, draw a dark curtain between Thy children and Thyself. And why dost Thou? but that Thy love and beauty might shine more glorious when that dark curtain shall be drawn aside. May we feel, oh, Father, that it is Thy work, and that Thou art doing these things in Thy own way. Forgive each murmur. Receive, oh, Father, each aspiration; and oh give an assurance of Thy love, that each of these, Thy earthly children, may feel Thy holy love and confide in Thee, and lay their heads upon Thy breast, and say "Thy will be done."

March 1st. 1866.

## Message 13.

Truth and Justice is here. Not only he, but a host of willing spirits, each endeavouring to do their utmost. Time alone will give them the power to perform the mission their Heavenly Father has sent them to fulfil. Our time is in the future. There is a great work to perform. We are, each of us, doing our duty. The dearly loved and fondly remembered one is with you trying to impress you. Oh, receive her holy kiss and blessed embrace. Listen to what she is saying:—  
 “Father, dear, let not your thoughts linger, or your mind be troubled. I love you. My Father in heaven loves you when you trust in Him. You will not need to fear life’s journey.”

She has brought you a beautiful rose, an emblem of her purity and love. The rose withered but the fragrance remained. She says—

“I will come again and talk to you; I will write to you through W.” Oh, that you could see her! Take it” (the rose), from her. Ask God to guide you, and protect you from influences, both in and out of the flesh, that may mar your progress. Follow your impressions, but not until you have placed your trust in God, feeling His protection, seeking his guidance, relying upon His love, remembering that He is all-powerful, able and willing to serve them that love Him and put their trust in Him. When you can feel assured of all this, and feel safe in His protection, fearing not the frowns of the world, and not till then, can you follow the dictates of your own brain. The brain, or mind of man, is a talent given unto him to use for good, but some, alas! hide that talent in the earth. Some because they have got riches, think that that talent is of no value. They hide it in the earth, and think at a convenient time they will call for it. Some hide it in the earth because they are indolent, and think if they lay it by it will grow, whilst they glide carelessly on even with tortured souls.—Read the parable of the Talents, Matthew, 25th ch.

Good night.

Here another influence took possession of the medium, purporting to be a Quaker spirit—

“Thee may say what thee like, I shall not say ‘Good night,’ I shall stay with thee; I shall comfort thee; I will move thee to speak; I know thee, friend.”

Q.—How have you found yourself in the spirit-world?

S.—I have found myself better than I thought I should.

Q.—Do you talk in the Quaker dialect where you are?

S.—We do that that gives us most happiness. We would wish to make ourselves known, and we say things that we said in days gone by. By-the-bye, friend, didst thou ever go to one of our meetings,

A.—I have no recollection of having ever gone to one.

S.—Thee should go then.

Q.—What shall I learn there?

S.—Learn that the spirit moves us, that we speak not until we know of its presence. Know that we speak from inspiration. We are laughed at. Dost thou know we are laughed at, pointed at, and called Quakers? But we do not quake with fear. We wait in love. I wish thee to do me a kindness.

What is it?

S.—They may not believe. Canst thou, wilt thou, bear what wilt be said unto Thee.

A.—Yes.

S.—Wilt thou bear insult?

A.—Yes.

S.—Then thou shalt go. Go with my blessing—with my love. Tell them in the name of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In His name I have sent thee.

Q.—To whom am I to go?

S.—To the dear ones that are left behind; thou must go there; thou must lecture upon Spiritualism there; thou must draw them out from earth, for they are very earthy;

Q.—You mean that I must visit your relations?

S.—Yes. If they laugh, fear not. Persevere. If the medium goes too, they will have more faith.

In reply to a question about the medium's development the following was given :—

All we want for her is a congenial place, quietude, harmony, and regular sittings with regular friends. One thing we would impress fixedly upon you so that you cannot forget it never sit without prayer, and, if possible, sing.

April 14, 1866.