

WHAT CONVERTED ME TO SPIRITUALISM

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About 27 years ago, when a member and liberal supporter of the Methodist church in this city, my attention was first directed to Spiritualism by my son, who, with his cousin, had attended a seance given here by a Mrs. —. Their accounts of the table movements witnessed and the story told by them that with their united strength they were unable to hold a table upon which the medium's hand rested, also the accounts given by them of communications given through the table movements purporting to come from friends and relatives in spirit life attracted my attention, and I freely expressed my opinion that they were imposed upon and that, had I been present, I could have solved the problem of what caused the table to move.

With a view, therefore, of detect-

ing the fraud or finding out the secret of the thing I went not long afterwards to a seance given by the same medium, and while seated at the table raps came in answer to questions proposed, purporting to be made by my father. I was far from satisfied and asked all to leave the table but the medium and myself. I soon found that the communications came as readily and as correctly as before. In addition, in response to my request, the table would assume almost any desired position, tilting to any angle, turning completely over and becoming entirely unmanageable so far as I was concerned, as I could not coerce its movements at all. It seemed alive.

I then thought that the medium and her friends might be in collusion, and, hearing my questions, were able in some secret way to direct the table's movements. So I asked mentally: "Father, can you understand my thoughts?" and I got immediate answer, "Yes," and thus mentally I asked questions and got answers as correctly as before. My father promised in this way to manifest through other mediums and did so later.

I became quite interested in the phenomena, and in attending class meetings occasionally referred to my experiences in Spiritualism, but the leader and minister both requested me not to say anything of this in the class, and the minister warned me that the Devil was seeking to ruin me.

I desired, however, to investigate the matter more thoroughly, and concluded to spend some time and money in so doing, and, in order that I might be assured that no one connected with my investigations could have the slightest acquaint-