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AN EXCOMMUNICATED MEDIUM

A Mrs. C. W. Stewart, known in the spiritualist world as Mrs. J. N. Folsom, has long been a leading light among the Spiritualists of this city. She has been the head of the local congregation, one of the largest in the United States, and for years has been the boldest climber of the spiritualistic Alps that the country could produce. Her venturesome forays into the spirit land have been the delight and consolation of the brethren throughout the whole country. She did a regular exchange business with the invisible world, keeping up a system of correspondence that rivaled in swiftness, if not in economy, our national mail service; she had the entree into the most exclusive set in the spirit world, with whom she exchanged cards and visits, and there were no particular days or hours of the day when the spirits were "at home" to her. She just could drop in for a private chat at any moment. By means of the confidential relations she held with all the great ones who shone in the financial, social or literary world while on earth, she could obtain very valuable information on the most important issues of the day and benefit of the experience of the "great ones gone." It was this excess of familiarity that brought her into trouble. Visiting cards were her undoing. She would pass up the card of any inquirer, and in a few seconds receive a written answer from the person called upon. She often exchanged photographs with the departed spirits, the work showing that the spirit photographers were possessed of the latest secrets of the photographic art.

In all these manifestations from au dela she was assisted by an attendant. It seems this attendant was a confederate in a wholesale system of fraud and deception of which Mrs. Folsom was the author and inventor. There was a dispute and a falling out between the two, and the public was treated to a series of disclosures as amusing to the incredulous as they were shocking to the faithful. The statements of the attendant were so circumstantial and convincing that a committee of the National Association was appointed to visit this city and report upon the case. That committee reported to the National Association in session in Minneapolis this week that they found all the allegations of the attendant true, and they declared Mrs. Folsom "a false medium and guilty of fraudulent manifestations." The evidence taken by the committee in this city was revised at the National Assembly, and the findings thoroughly approved. Mrs. Folsom has been expelled from the National Association and all the faithful are warned to have nothing to do with her.

This is not the first, nor the hundredth, nor the thousandth time that these mediums have been detected and exposed. From the days of the famous Rochester Sisters the history of mediumism has been one unbroken recital of dupery and fraud. But the more Spiritualism is exposed the more it grows. People would seem to have such a grudge against truth that they welcome any fraud or lie or imposition that makes the world open its eyes in astonishment. Spiritualism is not dead by any means in this country, while in Europe it is taking like wildfire in places which were proof against the deception heretofore. The German Emperor has publicly declaimed against the imposture, and the English press have done their utmost to forewarn their readers. But Spiritualism is the fad among the smart literary set to-day in England and the Continent. In London, there are more Spiritualists than in the rest of Great Britain, and their numbers are growing amazingly.

We do not say that all Spiritualists are deceivers; the number of the deceived vastly surpasses that of the deceivers. People who have no faith and who are at heart materialists are astonished at what they call spirit manifestations. Man is a spirit as well as a body, and he who studies the ways of the spirit will be rewarded by strange discoveries. The spirit is the life and action of the body. Human life is a spirit manifestation. But the action of the spirit is normal and directed by the Creator. We know much of that action, and to some it is given to see more profoundly the ways of the soul. But those who pretend to regular and ordinary intercourse with the invisible world are either impostors or are in league with the Evil Spirit; mostly the former. In all these things the words of the Apostle are fraught with warning; "Be not more wise than it behooveth to be wise." When death removes the veil of mystery "then shall we see even as we are seen."—St. Louis "Western Watchman."

How Puenmouia Starts.

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An infidel and his little girl, a child of some seven summers, were walking one day, and the child, being of an observing and inquiring disposition, noticed a great many things, and asked her father about them. As they walked along, she stopped to pick a pretty flower, and after examining it a moment she said:—

"Papa, who made this flower?"
He answered promptly: "Nature, child. Nature made the flower; nature makes everything."

"Walking along a little farther, she stooped again to pick up a piece of some kind of shell or pebble. She again asked the same question as before about the flower.

"Who made the shell?"

The father answered again as before: "Nature, child; nature made it."

After walking some distance further they stopped under a stately tree to enjoy its shade. Looking up into the tree the little girl asked:—

"Papa, who made this tree?"

He answered: "Nature, child; nature made the tree, the flowers, the birds of the air, and everything else we can see."

The little child paused in thought for a moment, and then said:—

"Papa, may I ask you another question, please?"

"Certainly, child."

"Papa, who made nature?"

The father, surprised at this unexpected question, said: "Oh, never mind, child: I'll tell you some other time."

He had just returned from a Continental trip, and was telling his adventures.

"And, above all," he said, "I actually had the honor of playing whist with a king."

The man in the overcoat had listened in silence up to this point, and now his lip curled scornfully as he replied:—

"That's nothing; I once played with four kings."

"Really?"

"Yes, Four kings and an ace."

Regina Notes.

The new church is nearing completion and before another month passes Rev. Father Suffa expects to be holding services in the completed building.

St. Mary's Altar Society intends holding a Bazaar in aid of the church this Fall. Already arrangements are being made and it is to be hoped it will be, as before, a great success.

On Thursday evening Prof. Buell gives an entertainment under the auspices of St. Mary's Altar Society.

During the past week the Grim Reaper has entered the congregation of Regina and chosen for his prey Mrs. P. M. Egan, nee Hanley, who died on Monday morning, Oct. 16, and Mr. Doherty of New Brunswick, who died in the Hospital on Saturday night. Mrs. Egan but four short months ago was married to Detective Egan of the N.W.M.P. After the inauguration of the Provinces he was called away with Inspector McGinnis and had to travel by canoe away inland from Rat Portage. All that kind friends could do for Mrs. Egan was done, but God had willed otherwise and she succumbed to typhoid fever twenty-four hours before the arrival of her heart-broken husband. Though Mrs. Egan was only a short time in the city, all who met her spoke highly of her. Fortified with the rites of our Holy Church she died most peacefully, resigned to God's will. She was attended by Rev. Father Suffa, O.M.I., who also conducted the funeral services. Mrs. Egan became a Catholic this year and was a most exemplary one. There were many offerings, spiritual and floral, laid on her bier, among others being a very beautiful wreath from the N.W.M.P. A very pretty cross of Pansies from Mrs. Ryan; Masses and a lovely wreath from St. Mary's Altar Society. There were a great many present at the funeral services. Officers and men from the Barracks; St. Mary's Altar Society attended in a body. Mr. Egan is a very highly efficient member of the N.W.M.P., coming from Halifax, Nova Scotia, some six years ago. Your correspondent joins with his many friends in Regina in tendering him heartfelt sympathy in this hour of deep affliction.

Mr. Doherty was a comparative stranger, taking sick a few days after his arrival. He, accompanied by his wife, came west to buy land, but was taken to Regina Hospital a few weeks ago. His grief stricken wife leaves this evening for New Brunswick, whither she takes her husband's remains. Mrs. Doherty has the sympathy of all who met her. Rev. Father Kim, O.M.I., attended Mr. Doherty in his last moments. We trust the Queen of Heaven in this month especially dedicated to her as "Queen of the Rosary," may comfort these bereaved ones and obtain from the Divine Son consolation and resignation.

Every evening this month there is the Recital of the Rosary and Benediction in the church. These services are well attended.

GENA MACFARLANE.



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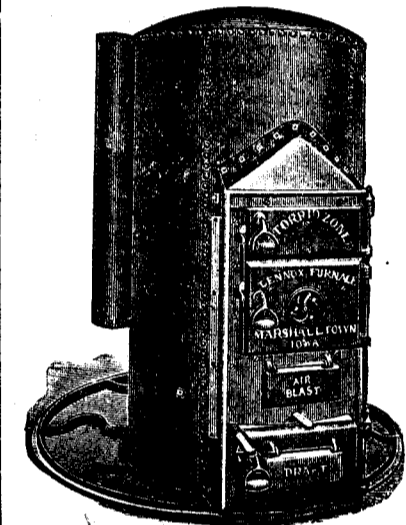
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