

dead persons. It is hardly possible that this should be the case if they had the origin that is claimed for them. While, therefore, we do not believe that Spiritualism is all a fraud and imposture, and that the manifestations are always, or generally, the work of trickery, yet it is equally clear to our mind that they do not emanate from disembodied spirits, and have no foundation which can be made the basis of a new religion, or which need shake our faith in the old.—*New York Republic*, Nov. 23.

A PAIR OF PRECIOUS CARPET-BAGGERS.

HESTER AND BEACH'S OUTRAGES IN ALABAMA—THE TWO OUTRAGE MANUFACTURERS RETURN TO WASHINGTON—A BRIEF HISTORY OF THEIR OPERATIONS.

Washington, Nov. 20.—Messrs. Hester and Beach, the two government detectives who were sent to Alabama for the purpose of furnishing "outrages" for the use of the Administration party during the Autumn campaign, have returned to Washington, although they repeatedly reported that they were upon the track of the murderers of Ivey; that they had the evidence to convict them, and that they would arrest them as soon as they were furnished with cavalry. The actual amount of work done by them may be summed up in a few words. They arrested between forty and fifty men for conspiring to murder a negro legislator, Bob Reid, and to obstruct the passage of the U. S. mail, and the U. S. commissioner discharged them all without examination on giving bonds in the sum of \$100, to answer any indictment that might be found against them. They arrested the sheriff of Sumter County and a negro named Scip Coleman, accusing them of being accessory to the murder of the mail agent Ivey, and after keeping them in jail and under close military guard nearly a week discharged them without examination, the former on a bond of \$1,000 and the latter on his own recognizance. The U. S. commissioner before whom they were finally brought was in his office, within a stone's throw of the jail, at the time these men were arrested, and might have taken the bond just as well then as five days later. The popular indignation against the U. S. officials for keeping men in jail without examination became so great that orders were telegraphed from Montgomery by U. S. marshal Healey for their immediate release. Hester also arrested four men for conspiring to injure him, used forged subpoenas to secure the presence of witnesses, and took them to Mobile before the most bitterly partisan Commissioner in the State for examination. The Commissioner heard the testimony for the prosecution, and then discharged two of the prisoners before the defense began. When the testimony for the defense was in, he postponed the case until after the election, and then discharged the remaining two prisoners without hearing argument by their counsel. The U. S. Court is now in session in Montgomery, and Hester and Beach, instead of being before the Grand Jury with their proof to procure the indictment of the men they have arrested, and put under bonds, have returned to this city. Perhaps indictments found against them in the State courts for illegal arrests have caused them to cut short their visit to Alabama.—*New York Tribune*.

The Clergy and the Black Crook.

SOMETHING OF A JOKE.

The Kiraflly Brothers have reproduced the "Black Crook" at the Grand Opera House, New York, with improved morality. That this is so they are ready to prove by ministers of the Gospel, to every one of whom in New York and vicinity they have sent the following challenge under the disguise of a polite invitation to go and investigate for themselves—

"GRAND OPERA HOUSE,
NEW YORK,
November, 23, 1874.

"REVEREND SIR—The renowned spectacle, 'The Black Crook,' is now being presented in this house (undeniably the most elegant the-

atre in the United States), and we would be pleased with your presence at any performance that would best suit your convenience. You have but to give intimation of a desire to honor us by your presence and the most desirable seats, either prominent, or in a section not subjecting the occupants to general observation, will be assigned you. Adverse criticism based upon the alleged immorality of this superb spectacle has been so general that we seek the unbiased and competent judgment of the clergy to be declared from personal knowledge.

"In order that nothing shall be hidden from a free investigation a strict rule of the establishment will be modified and permission will be given to visit the stage during any performance. We are, with deep respect, your obedient servants,

"KIRAFLY BROTHERS,
"Managers."
—*Omaha Herald*.

The Beautiful Children of England.

There is a singular freshness and beauty in most of the English children that one meets rolled usually along in pairs in the parks and streets in little wagons that seem to overflow with their rosy and laughing occupants. The moist climate is favorable to all kinds of animal and vegetable life, the island seems formed to become the parent of nations, and one chief source of the wide expansion of the English race is the fostering and gentle influence of its misty air and temperate skies upon the young. They flourish like its trees and flowers, and are ruddy, stout, and healthful from the cradle. Something of this is due, no doubt, to the natural excellence of the Saxon or Belgic family, from whose marshy home at the mouths of the Rhine Mr. Freeman has traced their origin, but the beautiful children of whom England has so large a proportion are the real foundation of its national prosperity. They come usually from that ever-extending middle class of the people, which is endowed with comparative ease and comfort, and is yet not altogether free from the necessity of labor. But even the children of the poor, where want and vice have not wholly eradicated the excellences of the race, show the same well-rounded forms and something of the fresh bloom that mark the members of the Saxon family. Oppressive laws and hopeless indigence have stolen from many of them their birthright of health and full development, but it is easy to see that a more humane legislation and a just reward of labor might readily cover England with a happy and prosperous population, capable of still greater achievements in the cause of civilization than all their ancestors have yet performed.

The recent census shows that the English people increase in numbers with unchanging steadiness; that emigration, famine, wars, oppression, have not checked their rapid progress; that England, which has already founded a chain of nations in Australia, America and the East, is still advancing in population with accelerated speed. France, which sends out no colonies except perhaps those of political convicts and of active republicans, is perishing of internal decay. Its population is slowly dying out. Of the various European nations only Prussia, and perhaps Russia, equal the steady growth of England. And this increase takes place in that portion of the empire where the Saxon element of the people most plainly prevails. Ireland within the past twenty years has lost one-third of its population, the Scottish Highlands have been thinned by emigration, but England and Wales have grown in a rapid ratio that has preserved the progress of the nation. It is not improper, therefore, to assume that the British Islands must for many generations form the swarming hive from whence America and Australia will draw their chief supply of labor and of immigration, and that the character and the destiny of all the Saxon nations will be affected and perhaps determined by the degree of education their foreign population has attained in its native land. **

Nor is it likely that we have so much to fear from the agricultural laborers of England itself, who are just entering upon an era of emigration. Yet as one surveys the fair and well formed children pro-

duced in this prolific climate, full of health and mental excellence, it is impossible not to feel that the chief aim of the English legislators should be to provide them with sufficient food and a liberal culture.—*Harper's Weekly*.

Germany has adopted a law by which the holder of a railroad ticket may stop at any point on his journey, for any period, the ticket remaining good till used.

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