

relatives of Cain, claiming to be Abel himself, and saying that Cain was forgiven and that he had un- wittingly conferred a favor by slaying Abel, that God was far too merciful to take vengeance for any cause, and that the hereafter would all be smooth sailing, except for old bigots like Adam and Eve who troubled God with their prayers and offerings.

That so-called psychological science (excepting hypnotism, animal magnetism, etc.) which is supposed to deal with the souls of men, is usually termed modern spiritualism, and which, besides many intricate phenomena, involves table-tilting, rapping, trance-mediumship, etc.

But it really remains to be proven that those various phenomena are produced by the bona-fide departed. Just here the reader must bear in mind that those evil spirits who were cast out of heaven have had ages of time in which to develop arts and sciences more deceptive than our combined arts of statuary, painting, photography, talking machines and automaton or mechanical figures who walk, talk, play, or whistle, and that thus these spirits could produce an automaton (materialized spirit) having apparently all the peculiarities and features of the deceased which it is intended the automaton (or false spirit) is to impersonate.

Let us for a moment lay aside these strictures and see if "modern spiritualism" is really what it claims to be with regard to its name, "modern."

In the "forties" of this century "modern spiritualism" was either comparatively or entirely unknown, and it remained so until the sisters M. and K. Fox developed a mediumship until then unknown, which consisted in visions and rappings. This was, I think, in '48, in the State of New York, hard by the spot where more than twenty years before the American angel—the once dead Moroni—conversed with the Prophet Joseph. This was in our age, in modern days, and was the first case of authentic and legitimate spiritualism, and consequently might be properly called the origin of the only genuine modern spiritualism; but thanks to the revelations of the Holy Spirit we have a better and more comprehensive name for this branch of theology.

Spiritualism of any true sort is after all but a diminutive item of the Gospel. We will abide by our name of Latter-day Saints and let the others call themselves as they will, but we may investigate the reliability of modern spiritualism.

I could write chapters about spiritualistic phenomena which have come under my personal observation—I was raised as a spiritualist—but I will only refer to a late instance typical of spiritualism in general.

Young C., while in New York city, called upon two female relatives, sister and stepmother, from whom he had been parted only a few years. His reception was warm, and as he sailed off the adieux were tender.

In France, C. called upon his fa-

ther and mother sister at a winter resort and parted from them.

At Naples, C. took passage to Athens and Egypt. This was the 11th of January. The two ladies at New York, as was their custom, went to a circle (on the 12th of January). Materialization was expected. Many things happened uninteresting to us or the parties referred to, but after awhile the materialized form of young C. appeared. There he was, natural as life, tall and handsome, they claim; and even the moles on his face were visible; yes even that small mustache of which they had suspected him to be proud while in life. Others at the seance remarked: "What a bright spirit that is!"

The sister and step-mother of C. sprang up with tears in their eyes and fell upon the neck of their beloved C. and wept, groaning "Oh C. what has happened?" C. answered in low but gentle tones, "Don't mourn for me; I am not unhappy in the spirit world. Yesterday I took a steamer from Naples and today it sank with all on board. As soon as I recovered my senses I flew to you to let you know. Break the news gently to father and sister in France, or it may kill father—farewell," and he vanished or dematerialized in their arms.

The testimony of those two New York ladies I consider entirely reliable. They have seen humbug and "materialized spirits" and can distinguish between the two. They even recognized the clothes of their brother and step-son, C., and his accent, or intonation of speech, eyes, etc. The letter which relates the occurrence is full of tender sentiments and interesting particulars, and the cautious and consolatory way in which the news was broken to the father of C.—is extremely worthy and touching. The date of sailing and other particulars are correct, and such evidence would be often sufficient to convert stubborn sceptics if left in that light.

Let us have more light. Those two ladies at New York are my own relatives whom I love dearly (and those in France likewise). The person styled as young C.—is myself—the writer of this article. But I am not dead, nor did the steamer sink, although I and it left Naples on the eve of the 12th when that lying spirit materialized a (living) likeness of me, correct, apparently, in all particulars.

Such is the power for deception of modern spiritualism. May we not justly conclude that it is the *Gospel of Satan*?

C. U. L.

ADEN, Arabia, June 2, 1890.

#### COMMISSISONER BOREMAN.

The following official document has, we understand, been sent to the county school superintendents of the Territory:

To the County Superintendents of District Schools:

I have sent each of you one or two copies of the new school law, bound in with the biennial report of the commissioner, made to the last legislature. I have also sent you enough copies of the school law to

enable you to furnish one copy to each school district. The copy should be preserved by the clerk and brought with his minutes to every meeting of the board. It was my desire to furnish every trustee with a copy, but the number allowed to be printed will not justify this. The new school law is somewhat indefinite and confused in its requirements and provisions, and it will be very necessary that each of you, and each trustee, study it with care, so as to comprehend its general scope and its various requirements. In endeavoring to reach correct interpretations of its different sections and provisions, and to reconcile and harmonize the whole, it is necessary that there be kept constantly in view the fact that the law was intended to give and to establish free schools throughout the Territory. That is the first solid rock upon which to build any interpretation of the various parts of the law, and we must conclude therefore at the outset that under no circumstances can tuition be required for the admission of any child of school age in the district or city where he or she lives, and no child can be refused admission to, or discriminated against, in any district school of the Territory.

The greater part of the school year of 1889-90 has been under the old law and consequently the statistical and other information has been gathered under it. I have therefore deemed it proper to use the old forms of statistical and financial reports for this year, and the blanks therefore have heretofore been forwarded to each of you. Section 51 of the new law requires that the financial report shall be sworn to by the trustees. This oath could be endorsed on the back of the report. The form of the report as to the school population (commonly called school census report) is made somewhat different from the old form. This is so done in order to comply with the requirements of the new school law, which provides that the report shall show the color of every child of school age, and whether the child can read and write. In the column regarding the latter, in the School Board's report, I have suggested that the words "yes" or "no" could be used in answering the question, as the word "and" connects the word "read" and "write" in the question. In your reports to the Commissioner, you may give only the number who can read and write. All not so counted will be deemed unable to read and write. As to color, you can follow suggestions found at bottom of School Board. It is a tedious work, but it is a requirement of the Legislature and should be performed with conscientious ease and should be made full, complete and accurate.

It will be necessary for the enumerator to visit every home and habitation in his district, and by personal inquiry and observation obtain the necessary information. The census is by the new law to be taken immediately after the 15th day of July and be completed before the last of the month. It should be placed in your hands at the earliest moment to enable you to comply strictly with