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THE DAILY BEE.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 16, 1857.

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday from Washington. This invariably happens on Friday. Under the administration of PIERCE the people of New Orleans submit patiently to this things without remedy and philosophically considered without cause. But Mr. AARON VAIL BROWN, the Postmaster General, is a man of intelligence and energy, and it is his bounden duty to put right the habitual violation of the Pacific Railroad daily mail to New Orleans.

A SPIRITUAL CONTROVERSY.

The revelations purporting to come from the world of spirits are the subject of a protracted and serious controversy between some of the ablest and most respectable papers in the country; the *Journal* and the *Courier*, premising incredulity touching the spiritual origin of the phenomena, treat with great plausibility the absolute indubitable existence of certain physical facts, such as table tipping, chair tipping, table moving, the locomotion of articles of furniture without apparent human agency, and other physical facts of a strange and unaccountable character. The latter meets every point with an air of unconditional "ergo:" avers that it is cool and trickery are the only forces employed: that believers consist of intelligent persons who are easily duped, or individuals possessed of a small amount of the faculty of wonder, readily said to accept every thing in a spirit questioning credulity. Further, the spiritualists as an extraordinary race are never witnessed when scientific men are present, deliberately resolved to put the phenomena to a rigid scrutiny. The famous mediums have been always afraid of the editors of the *Courier* or the *Daily Crescent*, who have shed only intelligent light upon the subject, with the awe and wonder of the admiring devoted followers of spiritualism, in which, without doubt, there is much that is false, and much that is true, and intelligent source of information, as far as the evidence of the sight and eye can be relied upon by the most intelligent observer of these phenomena, stupendous as they appear, and wholly unaccountable as they are to the knowledge of the most scientific men, on the other hand, in the unaccountable denials, of scornful incredulity, in charges of chicanery and deception on the part of the Spiritualists, and ignorance on that of the spectators, begs the question. The *Courier* and *Journal* are written admirably, with scholastic style, but unsatisfactory, and are particularly weak in argumentative power. At one moment they admit Spiritualism a gross delusion, and start from beginning to end with the admission that some of the manifestations may be elected by the Creator, with all certainty, fails to meet the argument if set up to convince the unbelieving mind.

We are absolutely ignorant in these matters. We have read Edwards and Bush, and other voluminous writers on the doctrine, but their disclosures tend to render it darkness rather than to replace obscurity with light. We have always regarded the whole matter as one of individuals possessed of a small amount of the faculty of wonder, readily said to accept every thing in a spirit questioning credulity. Further, we considered as of an extraordinary race, never witnessed when scientific men were