



adelma von vay



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FRIENDLY UNION AMONG SPIRITUALISTS*

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Prispevki k odkrivanju zgodovine ezoteričnih tradicij - v izvirniku

I CANNOT tell you with what disgust I read Mr. Howitt's articles in the *Spiritual Magazine* against our society, which consists only of most honourable, religious Christians; he attacks therefore *each one of us*. I have already had my pen in hand with the intention to write to that gentleman, and I would have told him: "Sir, I also am a Christian; I believe in God, and in our Lord Jesus, and try to follow His first commandment of love to God and to our neighbour. Charity is, I believe, a true Christian's first virtue. Jesus never condemned; but in the moment of greatest affliction healed the ear of the soldier who came to seize Him; and when the disciples told Him, 'we saw some who healed the sick, but not in Thy name,' He answered, 'Let them alone; they who are not against Me are for me.' I, though a foreigner, soon found out that the National Association spoke first as our Lord Jesus spoke. 'Let them *all* come to Me; the afflicted ones, the Christians, the heathens, let them all come, and in the bosom of a society consisting of honourable men and women, speak out their wants, their thoughts, and their experiences. We will hoar and love them all, and not only the orthodox Christians.'"

So speaks this Society, and we thinking people of different creeds are most thankful to the British National Association for her true Christian feeling; and for us, who cannot find such a platform for speaking out on the Continent, we shall gather round her and tell all our opinions and experiences, so that we may learn the truth by collecting and comparing the experiences of all. And, Mr. Howitt, we shall not be a house of fools, nor of heathens, nor of swindlers; but we will be one in the wish of doing good and seeking the truth after the example of Jesus. We shall have no feeling of hatred, such as you show, against those who are not orthodox Christians. Jesus knew no orthodoxy; he did not despise reincarnationalists; he did not even despise the outcast women nor the murderer on the cross; but it is as true that Jesus was badly treated for this liberalism and love. And so we, members of the British National Association, a society which deserves the name of the National Society of Christian love and justice, we will cast out nobody, no fool nor erring one; such as these are spirits, and require especial care and love, and above all, a home wherein to rest their aching hearts and find relief.

If you think well to give publicity to this outburst of my indignant heart against the coarse attacks of Mr. Howitt, who calls himself a Christian, then pray do so, and give my name with it.

* Extracted from a letter by the Baroness von Vay to Miss Kislingbury.