

## THE SPIRITUALISTIC CONCLAVE.

### An Attitudinizing Oratress—Mrs. Hardinge Demolishing Christianity.

A heterogeneous mass of humanity assembled yesterday morning at the Everett Rooms to listen to the wonderful words of wisdom that were expected to fall from the inspired lips of that noted expounder of the mysteries of "Spiritualism," Mrs. Emma Hardinge. The fair lady entered leaning on the arm of a gentleman. She was attired in a magnificent black velvet dress, white opera cloak and white boa, hair curled *a la mode*, point lace cuffs and collar, an elegant watch and chain, and many brilliant rings adorned her fair hands. When one saw her approach the thought suggested itself, "What a length of train behind." This train, by the way, seemed to occasion her much anxiety, for she was constantly adjusting it while speaking, reminding one of Ione Burke in the play of "The Duke's Motto."

While the "choir" executed some really fine music the lady sat, "her eyes in fine frenzy rolling," and at the close of their song, when she offered an invocation, she looked like "Pythoness possessed." She ought to be told the story of the little boy who decided that "the preacher prayed too much." Undoubtedly the fair lady knows that she has a fine physique and omits no opportunity to show it off. In truth one feels as if she was all the time attitudinizing. It was all like the Fourth of July oration of a country orator, full of "glittering generalities," a sort of spread-eagleism, and the speaker never for one moment lost sight of that wonderful letter "I." Some of her hearers seemed to be very much composed. They slept very sweetly. One, named "Lazarus," seemed to feel as comfortable as if he were already reposing on "Abraham's bosom." She said some fine things, but their beauty was destroyed by the extreme "staginess" of the manner. There seemed to be no heart in them.

She spoke as though she deemed it her mission was to demolish all the forms of religion that had ever been established on earth. Catholicism was declared to be an enormous assumption of power, and poor St. Peter—whom we all suppose to have had at least a little goodness and favor with his "Divine Master"—was declared to have been one of the meanest and most despicable of all the saints. Protestants were declared to be time-servers, worshipping with lip and eye service, having no spirit of godliness. Unitarianism was a mere religion of negation. Spiritualism is the religion, *par excellence*, that will stand.