

BANNER OF LIGHT.

VOL. LVIII.

COLBY & RICH,
Publishers and Proprietors.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1885.

{ \$3.00 Per Annum,
Postage Free. }

NO. 14.

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eral Works and Papers published by Colby & Rich, Bos-
ton, Mass.

THE STAFF AND THE TREE.

This grew a sapling on the mountain side,
With aspirations to become a tree;
I cut it down, and in that moment's pride
I saw the glorious thing it was to be.
It might have risen to an imperial height—
And gladdened with its beauty all the hill—
With bowers of green, and spaces sweet with light,
Where birds might build and dwell and sing at will.
'Tis now a staff. Yet when the years grow brief,
And you would share with it your weight of care—
When life is putting on the yellow leaf,
A miracle will happen unawares:
For you will hear the birds that never sang
Within its unborn branches; you will see
The leaves that never rustled lightly bang,
Their banners forth—your staff will tower a tree;
And it will be the sun and wind and dew
Of other days by which that tree is made;
Then, if you call, a friendly ghost or two
May come and sit beside you in the shade.
—Samuel F. Cole, in the Oracle.

It would be pleasant to believe that Vic-
tor Hugo's picture of the twentieth century
will be realized: "In the twentieth century,"
he declares, "war will be dead; the scaffold will
be dead; royalty will be dead; and dogs will
be dead; but man will live. For all there will
be but one country, that country, the whole
earth; for all there will be but one hope, that
hope, the whole heaven. All hail, then, to the
people, twentieth century, which shall own our
children, and which our children shall inherit!"

Literary Department.

Written for the Banner of Light.

AFTER MANY DAYS.

BY M. T. SHEEHAMER.

AUTHOR OF "OUTSIDE THE GATES," "HERE AND
BEYOND," ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER III.

WARNINGS AND VISIONS.

Fifteen months passed, and the town had re-
sumed its old appearance of industry and
prosperity. Business was now considered good,
and the working people were beginning to re-
cover from their depressed condition. The little
cottage home, ever the abode of peace and
harmony, had brightened in appearance, for
new carpets and draperies adorned the floors
and walls, while the exterior rejoiced in a new
coat of paint.

Charlie Raymond, who had long since entered
school, was now in his eighth year, and had
already begun to exhibit signs of an intellect
that was insatiable in its search for knowledge.
His studies were far in advance of those of most
boys of his age, for what he entered upon he
mastered and retained with a vividness sur-
prising in one of his years. His father, proud of
his boy, had determined that he should have a
college education, and the mother, whose intu-
itive eye saw a useful and honorable career be-
fore him, desired also to give the child all the
advantages of such a liberal education. "That
will be much better than to build a house,"
John said. "We are plain people, with
simple wants, and what we have is sufficient
for us. Times are improving, and you will soon
be able to lay away something every week
again. Let us do that with the intention of
using it for our boy."

"We will see," he replied. "You may rest
easy on that point. Charlie shall have an edu-
cation. I have very little on hand to show for
all my years of labor, but I still have health,
and there is plenty of work for hands and brain.
I can keep you comfortable, and put by a little
too."

They had discussed the plan of buying the
cottage in which they dwelt. John had thought
it wise to possess a home of their own, even
though it were less pretentious than that he
had once hoped to secure; but the landlord was
unwilling to sell at the time, and so they had
put the matter by for further consideration.
The late hard times had rendered it impossible
to do more than pay running expenses, and
help the poor who were without labor, until
within a few months. Now the future of their
child was uppermost in their minds, and it was
for his benefit that they toiled and planned.

Seated in her low rocker by the open window
busily engaged with some sewing, Susie Ray-
mond allowed her thoughts to stray over the
past. Her own early life, when she was a work-
ing-girl in the factory where she had first met
John, their acquaintance, the ripening of friend-
ship into love, their marriage, and subsequent
hopes and plans, their successes and their mis-
fortunes, all passed before her mind. Her mood
was a quiet, though retrospective one. A peaceful
atmosphere filled the room. Somehow where-
ver this gentle woman moved an influence of
peace seemed to follow.

This afternoon the stillness and the calm
seemed almost holy to the thinker's heart. A
soft breeze, laden with the perfume of the
early summer roses that bloomed outside the
door, wandered through the window and
stirred the snowy curtains. The canary, tired
out with much singing, had rolled himself up
into a tiny golden ball and dropped asleep in
his gilded cage; only the soft touch of the rock-
ers upon the carpet, as Susie swayed back and
forth in her chair, made any sound.

"God has been good to me!" she whispered
to herself, still pursuing her thoughts of the
past. "We have had no heavier trials than
the loss of our money. That was hard, but we
had so much beside. Health and strength and
love have been ours. We have been spared
sickness and death and sorrow such as many
have known."

At this moment a loud crash, with the whirr
of machinery and the sound of a heavy fall, re-
verberated through the apartment. Susie
sprang to her feet in amazement, then hastened
to the kitchen, thinking something had hap-
pened to the tall, old-fashioned clock that
stood in a corner there. But the old timepiece
was safe, and solemnly ticked away, as though
nothing but the crash of doom could disturb its
routine. Susie noticed that the hands pointed
to ten minutes past three, and she turned away
wondering what the terrible noise could have
been.

As she reentered the sitting-room and glanced
toward her bedroom, the door of which stood
ajar, she distinctly saw the form of a man lying
upon her bed. She was sure it was John,
though the pale, scarred face looked unnatural,
and the white shape bending above it she in-
stinctively recognized as the form of Charles
Weston. The vision lasted but a moment, but it
seemed like a year to the startled woman, who
felt all power of motion leaving her at the
sight. But as the mist cleared away and she
beheld the empty room and vacant bed, she
started forward. Diligently she searched the
entire house, but no trace of intruders was
there, neither could she find anything to ex-
plain the crash she had so plainly heard, and
which she knew must have been real, for as it
came the sleeping bird had aroused and com-
menced flying back; and forth in its cage in a
frightened manner.

"There, Chippy, don't be afraid! nothing is
the matter. Pretty Chippy! sweet Chippy!"

she called, offering a lump of sugar to the bird
and speaking in soothing tones. But her voice
trembled, and she glanced nervously around.
In vain Susie tried to compose herself again at
her work. The nervous shock she had received
had been too severe. Her hands shook so she
could not guide her needle, and her fingers re-
fused to obey her will. The writing-case in the
corner by the bedroom door, too, seemed en-
dowed with life, for little electric taps kept
coming upon it, for which she could not ac-
count.

"I cannot be still; I had better go out into
the air. I will walk toward town," she thought.
"How foolish to think anything is wrong! I but
am afraid something is going to happen."

She laid aside her work, put on a large hat
and left the house. She could not walk slowly,
and, although the afternoon sun was hot, she
hastened on as though some important errand
drew her steps. In about ten minutes she met
young Mr. Stirling, the nephew of the great
manufacturer, and an overseer in his estab-
lishment. The face of the young man paled as
his eye fell upon the woman, and he exclaimed:
"Mrs. Raymond, what are you doing here?
For God's sake go back—you must not come
any further!"

"Why must I go back? and why am I not to
come further, Mr. Stirling?" and her voice
grew sharp as with some undefined terror.

"Because, dear lady, a terrible accident—"
"To John—to John?" she wildly interrupted,
"where is he?"

"They are doing all they can for him. He is
at Dr. Jameson's office, and Dr. Carter is with
him, too," mentioning two well-known phys-
icians.

"If John is hurt my place is with him. We
have stayed here too long. Let me go to him!"
And Susie spoke with the calmness of despera-
tion.

The man turned reluctantly, and silently
they hurried to the place where John Raymond
lay. Torn and disfigured and wholly uncon-
scious, he had no word of recognition for the
wife who knelt beside him. They tried to keep
her out, but she would go in, and they were
obliged to let her have her way.

The history of the accident was a simple one.
John had been called to one of the large ma-
chines by its operator, who found something
the matter with it, so that it did not turn its
work out well. In trying to discover the cause
of the trouble, John got the sleeve of his coat
caught in the machinery, and before the belt
could be thrown off he had been whirled
around several times. When lifted by the
strong arms of the men who loved him, for he
had ever been a kind over-seer to them, his
head and chest were found terribly lacerated
and disfigured. He was unconscious, and it
was in this condition that he had been taken to
the office of Dr. Jameson. His clothing hung
in tatters to his form, and one arm fell limp
and useless at his side. All efforts to restore
him to consciousness had failed, and Dr. James-
on whispered to his colleague, Dr. Carter,
that the ambulance had best be sent for to con-
vey him to the hospital.

Mrs. Raymond refused to allow her husband
to be taken thus, and insisted that he should
be removed to his own home; and as the two
medical men were of the opinion that the man
could not recover, they finally acceded to her
request.

It was a sad home-coming to the gentle wo-
man. The little house looked as cosy and pret-
ty as before, but oh! how dreary it seemed!
Little Charlie, who had returned from after-
noon school, looked up from his play in the
yard as the mournful procession halted before
the door. The childish light died from his
eyes, as, awe-struck, he followed the little
group into the house and saw the men deposit
the mutilated form upon his mother's bed. He
did not know it was his father thus brought
home, and he asked no questions.

Later, when all had gone save one neighborly
woman, who had remained at the doctor's re-
quest, Mrs. Raymond took her boy in her arms,
and pressing his head upon her breast as if to
quiet his ceaseless pain, told him of the ac-
cident and of his father's danger. She had
learned it all from one of the men, and had
listened as one dazed, until he said, "And it was
just ten minutes after three by the office clock
when it happened." Then she started and
pressed her hands to her head as she remem-
bered that at that very moment the crash and
whirr and fall she had heard so mysteriously
had startled her out of her quiet meditations.

Her voice was very quiet now as she talked to
her little son; she had shed no tears; there was
a weight like lead in her breast. It seemed to
her as though years had passed since the hour
of noon, and yet it was only six o'clock, and the
sun was still shining—so much can human
hearts feel and suffer in an hour or two.

The child listened, silent with terror, until at
last clinging to his mother's neck he whispered,
"And will papa never get well?"

"We do not know; the doctor says he cannot
tell if papa is hurt inside until he comes to him-
self, dear."

John Raymond never "came to himself"
again on earth. For three days all the loving
care and attendance that human affection could
devise was bestowed upon the sufferer, but all
in vain. He never moved or spoke again. Tow-
ard the close of the third day, Susie, sitting
alone by her husband's side, observed a change
pass over the disfigured face. Bending closer,
she heard the rattle in his throat that told the
end was near. With holy tenderness and love
she bent above him, gently wiping the death-
damp from his brow and praying for one look
or sign of recognition from him.

It was a solemn moment, as, in the early twi-
light of a faultless June day, the spirit of John

Raymond drifted out into the great Beyond,
leaving his loving wife speechless with agony.

Still she sat, her hand upon the clay-cold
brow, her eyes fastened upon his face, when
suddenly she perceived a line of light stream-
ing upward from the form on the bed. Around
this line tiny particles of vapory substance gath-
ered; they were like silver, soft and white and
shining. How fast they appeared! and now it
seemed as though a whole volume of them had
collected, rising as if from that inanimate body.

Soon they assumed shape, then rounded out
into the proportions of a human form. Yes,
there were the limbs, the body, the head and
face, and oh! wonderful vision, the features
were those of John—John, transfigured, illu-
minated, glorified, but still her dear old John.
Fascinated, the woman continued to gaze;
there he was, perfect in appearance, beautiful
and whole, not so much like flesh and blood and
bone and sinew in appearance as like a form of
light, awing, scintillating, vibrating. A mass
of drapery, more like a fine white vapor than
cloth material, fell around him. As she gazed,
he smiled upon her, then turned; she followed
his gaze with her eyes and saw another form,
more like flesh, approach and take her husband
in his arms. She recognized the new visitant
as their old friend, Charles Weston; and as the
words "We will come again," seemed to float
into her brain she fell in a state of uncon-
sciousness upon the bed.

They found her thus, still clasping the hand
of her dead husband with one hand, and the
other upon his brow. Charlie had come in with
the neighbor who had been caring for him, and
it was his cry of grief that revealed the truth.
All that night she lay in a stupor, but when the
morning returned she aroused to her duties as
one who had received new strength.

CHAPTER IV.

A TELEGRAM FROM BEYOND.

Until the day appointed for the interment of
her husband's remains, Susie permitted no one
to attend to or watch beside them. The last
sweet, sad offices for the dead must be her lov-
ing care, and they were too sacred to be shared
by others. She did not mention her experiences
at the hour of his transition; to her they seem-
ed too pure to be spoken of; but she moved
about her duties with a quiet serenity that was
a source of wonder to the neighbors who beheld
her.

No further visitation came to her during that
period of watching. Only in the still hours of
the night, when the light burned dim, and she
bent in prayer beside the marble form that
could never more arise at her call, a faint quick
"tap," "tap," would fall upon the desk, clear
and distinct, like the click of a telegraphic in-
strument when the wires are in operation.

The funeral obsequies were over. The last
words had been spoken over the remains, and
all that was mortal of John Raymond had been
interred in the silent cemetery.

Susie and her boy had returned alone to their
home to take up the quiet life that would now
be theirs. Mrs. Raymond was a woman of en-
ergy and decision. Her gentle ways were not
formed at the expense of a heart full of pur-
pose and individuality. With her to think was
to act, and she had ever been a woman of
thought.

It was well known that save but a very few
hundreds, John Raymond had no worldly pos-
sessions at his death, and his wife knew that
henceforth she must earn the means of subsis-
tence for herself and child. There were not lack-
ing offers of assistance from friends and neigh-
bors, but while she had health she would not
eat the bread of idleness or charity. And with
a grateful but firm voice she gently declined
all aid.

The woman was an expert with her needle.
She also possessed good judgment and accurate
taste in the selection and fashioning of clothing,
and she determined to become a dressmaker,
and to do the cutting and fitting and modeling
and trimming of such garments as she could get
to make.

The fashionable modistes in town were so high
with their prices that the factory girls and the
wives of working-men could not afford to em-
ploy them, and were obliged to do their own
sewing. Many a badly-fitting gown and poorly-
trimmed garment evinced the lack of skill in
its construction. Susie knew that if she put
her prices at a reasonable rate, she could find
sufficient enough to employ her time, especially as
her many friends were so anxious to aid her in
getting a living.

The four or five hundred dollars left by John
were put by for a "nest-egg," and Susie began
diligently to arrange her plans. She decided to
keep her cottage home. She could not bear to
give it up. Besides, she needed rooms for her
patrons' use, and this was the best place for her.
In a few weeks the woman was fairly launched
upon a tide of work, the accomplishment of
which gave satisfaction to her customers, and
netted her a fair pecuniary return for the time
and strength expended upon it.

These were sad and weary days to the brave
little woman. Her heart, bowed down by
the great bereavement that had fallen upon
her, refused to be comforted. She yearned for the
presence of that manly form that had ever been
such a bulwark of strength to her. She longed
for the sound of the voice, or the touch of those
dear hands that had been so much to her. Only
those hearts that have suffered a similar stroke
can understand her pain. But the work brought
to her home, and the filling of the orders, proved
good for her. This drew her attention, and oc-
cupied her time. Oh! blessed labor, that calls
mankind out of itself, and in its pursuit makes
one rise above the sorrows and trials that
would otherwise rust out the heart.

Charlie continued to advance at school. His

studies were his special delight, and he loved to
talk them over with his mamma at nightfall
when her work was laid aside for the day.
This was their blessed hour, when Susie, seated
in John's favorite chair, with her boy in her
lap, would talk over with him the lessons of the
day, and explain what he had failed to under-
stand.

And then, as the twilight deepened, and the
child would speak of his papa, and wonder if he
was near, and could see how much they missed
and loved him, those little "taps" would come
springing out of the desk almost as if replete
with life and knowledge and consciousness.
These tapings puzzled Susie, and filled the boy
with wonder, but neither could understand nor
explain, although neither was afraid of them.
Once Charlie had said, "Perhaps papa does
know, and he tries to tell us so in that way."
But his mother softly answered, as she kissed
him, "I would like to think so, darling, but papa
is far away in heaven, where he can see noth-
ing of our affairs. Some day, if we are good,
perhaps we shall go to him."

Spiritualism was but little known in those
days, and a knowledge of its significant claims
had not come to Stirlingville. The people of
this town were mostly of the old-fashioned Or-
thodox type, although there were a few liberal-
minded souls who did not accept the severe
opinions of the rest, but ventured to believe in
the boundless love and goodness of God for all
mankind.

John Raymond and his wife had been church
attendants, but they were not bigoted in op-
inion. Indeed, they were what we might well
call progressionists, for their minds were open
to the reception of truth, from whatever source
it might come. They were fond of good read-
ing, and had kept abreast with the times, as far
as they could gather information from maga-
zines or from newspaper articles.

The months rolled by, bringing the changing
seasons in their turn. Susie's little parlor was
always well filled with garments in various
stages of construction. She had been compelled
to engage the services of an assistant, and had
taken a poor young girl whose home was a
lowly one, to help her in the plain sewing. The
girl was grateful for the place, and sought in
every way to please her kind mistress. Susie
was still unconquered by her loss. She could
not cease to mourn for the dear departed, yet
she kept her murmurings safely locked within,
and no one dreamed of the wild unrest that
filled her heart.

One day in February, Sarah—the sewing girl
—received a visit from a girl cousin who had
come from a distant town to spend the day and
night with her. This girl was an operator in a
telegraph office, and had been released from
duty for a few days because of some trouble in
the company.

Mrs. Raymond was glad of this visit, as it
brought a little diversion into the quiet lives
around her. The visitor was a bright, sprightly
girl, who insisted on taking a hand at the sew-
ing plying up before her, and whose chatty
tongue kept pace with the busy fingers that flew
in and out, to and fro, so rapidly.

After tea all sat quietly in the little parlor
from which the work had been removed. A
bright fire glowed in the grate, dispensing with
the need of a lamp for those who did not wish
to use their eyes but only wanted rest. The
conversation lagged; Charlie sat upon the
floor with his head in his mother's lap; the
two girls were quiet, as if feeling the influence
of the hour. Suddenly came the "tap, tap,"
upon the desk. Laura, the visitor, started:
"What's that?" she demanded, peering into
the corner where stood the writing-desk in the
gloom.

"Oh, nothing but the cracking of the wood,"
replied her cousin; "we often hear it."

"Hush—let me listen; it is something; it is
telegraphy, and I can read it. It says: 'I am
here; I bring you love; you are not forsaken;
God is good—John.' And the young operator
read the words as the clock went on, like one
reading a message from a telegraphic in-
strument. "Why! how strange; it's stopped now.
Mrs. Raymond, have you a machine in that
desk?"

But Mrs. Raymond did not heed the question.
She had started up, regardless of the child at
her feet, and stood with pale cheek and dilated
eyes as if riveted to the spot. Her breath
came quickly, and her whole form trembled
with excitement.

Again the "tick, tick," and again the girl, as
if impelled by some mysterious power—for she
afterward said she had not to it—read: "Be
calm; I am here; do not fear; I come only in
love. Do not grieve for me, it gives me pain. I
am with you daily. We shall meet—John Ray-
mond."

As the force of that message burst upon her
strained senses, Susie rushed to the desk and
clasped it as though it were a living thing.
When she collected herself she found the girls
crying around her and begging her to be calm,
and her little boy clinging to her waist and
kissing her hand in mute terror.

A revelation had come. In the midst of
gloom and despair a light had flashed out in
her life. A message from heaven had come,
stilling her doubts, and answering the child's
oft-repeated question: "Does papa know how
we miss and love him?"

She accepted it without question, but she
must have time to think it out, and she was too
dazed now. So she sent the frightened girls to
bed, and taking her child to his room, laid down
beside him to think and pray, but not to sleep.

During the long hours of that night strange
ideas came to the woman's soul; it was as if
invisible guides were teaching her the truth.
She saw now that the dead are not far away;
that they do watch over and guard their loved

100-443887-100

OFFER The special attention of all persons who take an interest in the grand discourses delivered through the trance mediumship of Mr. W. J. Colville of this city, by his constant spirit-guides, is called to the fact that a volume is now in the hands of the printers, to contain thirty lectures, delivered in Berkeley Hall, Boston, during the current season. This handsome volume will be cheap at \$2.00, but it will be sold at retail for \$1.50.

Banner of Light.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1885.

A Genuine Case of Spirit-Grabbing! Materialization Triumphant.

At the séance held by Mrs. M. E. Williams on Thursday evening, Dec. 18, there occurred a genuine case of spirit-grabbing, at which I was present, and as it is well that it should be properly reported, I propose to give over my own signature an accurate statement of all the facts.

When I reached the house, at a little before eight o'clock, and entered the parlor, there were but two men besides myself there, both of whom were strangers to me. Mrs. Williams soon came in and entered into conversation with me. Eight o'clock came, and there had been no further arrivals, and Mrs. Williams remarked that she did not think there would be any. A moment later she said to me, as I was conversing with her: "Excuse me, but, sir," turning to one of the gentlemen present, "I see standing at your side a young lady, your sister; also your mother—no, your grandmother. Do you recognize them?" He said: "Yes, I knew that they would be here."

Just then Dr. Gross entered, and she said: "Mr. Holland says to me, 'Hold the séance, but I don't feel as if I wished to.' At this time the door-bell rang and a lady entered. She then said: "Well, there are but few of us, but we will hold the séance. We may have a good séance all the same." She then prepared the séance-room, and Mr. Genung and a young lady, her cousin, now visiting her, her young daughter, Gertrude, Dr. Gross, the two men and the lady heretofore referred to and myself entered the séance-room and took seats. Mrs. Williams then invited any one who desired to examine the cabinet, and the two men referred to examined it—one of them very thoroughly.

Mrs. Williams then said to this young man (who was a stranger to all present), "You, sir, have never been to a materializing séance before." He said that he had not. She added, "I hope you are satisfied with your examination of the cabinet. If not, it is your own fault."

The lights were then lowered and Mrs. Williams entered the cabinet. Dr. Gross took his seat at the organ and sang the chant, "Thy Will be Done," in which some of the circle joined. As the music ceased, little bright eyes spoke to us from the cabinet in her childish voice. Soon the spirit of Priscilla appeared at the aperture and called Dr. Gross to her and talked with him. Then other forms came from the cabinet, speaking in whispers to us, and soon two forms came out at the same time and each gave their name—once as Fannie and the other as Esther Hazard—both speaking to me. A spirit purporting to be the sister of Mr. Genung came from the cabinet and took his arm to walk in front of the sitters. He gave her his right arm, as usual, which brought him between her and the cabinet, but she drew back and asked for his left arm, thus placing him between her and the circle, and then came out with him.

Then Spirit Dr. P. T. Holland appeared with a spirit named Florence, and called Dr. Gross to the cabinet and asked him to look into the cabinet and see the medium in the chair, which he did, while the two spirits were visible to all. The curtains were then closed in an instant, and Dr. Gross was requested to come in and see who was there. He saw only Spirit Holland and the medium, but while he held the curtain back the spirit of Florence suddenly again stood in full view beside Spirit Holland. Spirit Holland said: "We show you this because there will be a wonderful manifestation here this evening."

Many other forms came. Among them a sister for one of the men, who said he recognized her, and that he had come by her special request, as she had informed him at the séance of another medium that if he would come here she would materialize and talk with him.

I will not particularize the various spirits that came, but I will say that some of them were of a startling nature. One of them called Mr. Genung to her. She took his right arm, thus placing him between her and the cabinet, and started to come out to the circle. Coming about half way she stepped back and asked to have the light lowered.

This being done, she again came forward, holding the right arm of Mr. Genung, and was led up to Mrs. Williams's cousin and was being introduced to her, and at the same time was standing directly in front of the tall young man, and not more than two feet distant. Suddenly, and without any warning, he sprang from his seat, and grasped her by her right arm near the wrist; at the same instant Mr. Genung grasped him with his left hand partly by the shoulder and partly by the side of the neck, and with his right hand seized the hand with which he held the spirit. The spirit-form glided instantly to the end of the cabinet where the medium sat, and where there is no opening, and dematerialized once and for all.

The young man showed a disposition to be ugly, and I went to Mr. Genung's assistance, and taking hold of his shoulder we forced him to take his seat. His action had seriously frightened Miss Gertrude and her cousin, and the daughter screamed and cried, fearing that injury might come to her mother.

A powerful and very incisive voice was now heard from the cabinet, saying, "We have our medium all right; she is not injured. Make the man keep his seat, and we will convince him that it is the spirits; I will come from the cabinet, and bring the medium with me."

It was difficult to quiet the ladies, and all this time this strange but powerful voice kept speaking, and asking us to be quiet, and he would bring the medium out.

I took my seat, and asked Dr. Gross to play something, and Mr. Genung still held the young man by one of his wrists. He had now become terribly frightened, and was begging to be permitted to leave the house, but the voice forbade, and he said he would be quiet. Just then the spirit Montanus, the father of the spirit Priscilla, who had been talking from the cabinet since the attempted seizure, appeared in front of the cabinet, the head and shoulders only materialized, and fully seven and a half feet from the floor, and again spoke to the young man with that powerful and incisive voice, and with a countenance that was terrible in its expression of indignation.

This was more than the young man could stand. Thoroughly frightened, with loud and repeated cries of murder, he sprang from his seat and dashed into the parlor, and toward the front door, partially freeing himself from the grasp of Mr. Genung, who was holding him with one hand while turning half around to reassure the terrified ladies. I again went to him, and told him to stop his screaming. As he would not, I quietly placed my hand over his mouth, and he stopped. He was so badly scared that out of pity we let him go, and he would not stop for his coat or hat, seemingly having but one desire in life, and that was to get outside the front door. I tried to persuade him to return for his coat and hat, but he would not, so I carried them out to him.

Returning to the séance-room, I found Miss Gertrude hysterical, and her cousin barely conscious. The cabinet spirits had succeeded in getting the medium on her feet, and had pushed her just outside the cabinet, where she stood in a dazed condition, asking what had happened. I took her hands, and tried to make her comprehend, while at the same time Spirit Holland stood in the cabinet behind her, with his hands on her shoulders, and was also talking to her and me.

He wished her to come back into the cabinet, but she was afraid to go. It was quite a new experience for her to hear Spirit Holland's voice and feel the pressure of his materialized hands while in her normal condition. He asked to have some water brought to her, and when she had drunk a few swallows she again entered the cabinet, and I went to a seat, when all being seated, Dr. Gross began to play, and soon we heard from the cabinet the childish voice of Spirit Eyes.

I then asked Spirit Holland if any harm had come to the medium, and he said no; that there were four spirits who came, of whom Gertrude Miller was one, who had acquired the ability to both draw and return the vital forces from and to the medium so quickly that she would suffer no serious injury from their being

seized; but had it been a spirit manifesting for the first time the consequences would have been serious. He then said that they had often urged their medium not to permit strangers to enter the séance-room unless their honesty of purpose was properly vouched for, and he hoped in future she would heed their advice. He said that before she entered the cabinet he had informed her that that young man had never before been at a séance, thus intending to caution her. He said more, but it need not be repeated. They did not continue the séance longer than to enable him to express what he had to say.

I have read this report to a number of those present at the séance as I could reach, and they all agree that it is a true statement of the facts.

JOHN FRANKLIN CLARK.

Spiritualist Meetings in Boston:

Banner of Light Circle, Room No. 9, Beesworth House, Every Tuesday and Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Admission free. For further particulars, see notice on sixth page. L. B. Wilson, Chairman.

Boston Spiritualist Temple, Hibernian Hall, Lecture every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. H. Holmes, President; W. A. Dunlop, Treasurer.

Berkley Congregation, Permanent Lecture, W. J. Colville, Public Service in Berkeley Hall, Odd Fellows Building, Tremont street, every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M.; also Friday, 7 P. M. Weekly meetings in Langham Hall (adj. to the Odd Fellows Building), every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. Musical and Literary Society, Saturday, 7 P. M., Lecture and Conversation. Everybody welcome.

Union Park Hall, The Shawmut Spiritualist Lyceum meets in this hall, corner of Union Park and Washington streets, every Sunday at 10 A. M. All friends of the young are invited to visit us. J. M. Hatch, Conductor.

Palme Memorial Hall, Appleton Street, near Tremont, Children's Lyceum No. 1. Sessions Sunday, at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M., and all are cordially invited. Benj. F. Weaver, Conductor. Francis B. Woodbury, Cor. Sec., 45 Indiana Place.

First Spiritualist Temple, 175 Tremont Street, and Exeter Street, Services every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock and every Wednesday evening at 7 P. M. All are cordially invited. Cecil Lee, Conductor.

West Washington Street, First Spiritualist Ladies' Aid Society, Meetings every Friday at 7 P. M. and 7 P. M. Mrs. Henry O. Torrey, Secretary.

College Hall, 34 Essex Street, Sundays, at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M., and Wednesdays at 7 P. M. E. B. Cobb, Conductor.

Engle Hall, 616 Washington Street, corner of Essex, Sundays, at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M.; also Thursdays at 8 P. M. Able and quiet test rooms. Excellent music. Prescott Robinson, Chairman.

Spiritualist Phenomena Association holds meetings every Sunday afternoon in Berkeley Hall, 4 Berkeley street, at 5 P. M. and 7 P. M. J. M. Hatch, Conductor.

1031 Washington Street, Ladies' Aid Society, National Developing Circle meets every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. J. M. Hatch, Conductor, assisted by other good developing mediums. Admission free.

New Era Parlor, 175 Tremont Street, Developing Circle, 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. and 7 P. M. E. B. Cobb, Conductor.

Waterside, 175 Tremont Street, 13 Fenbentworth Square, Room 3, Meetings second and fourth Thursdays of each month, Service of Silence on Saturday evening. The Messenger will be at the room from 5 A. M. till 2 P. M., to give information respecting the Order.

Chelsea, Spiritualist meetings at Pilgrim Hall, Odd Fellows Building, Sunday, at 3 P. M. W. J. Colville, subject for discourse, "The Relation of Mind to the Body." The Relation of Mind to the Body, at 7 P. M. J. M. Hatch, Conductor. Dodge and Logan, Managers.

Berkley Hall Meetings.

Sunday last, Dec. 13th, the attendance at Berkeley Hall was unusually large. At the morning service W. J. Colville's inspirational discourse, on "Jesus in the Modern World; or, The Work of the Religious Reconstructor," was a powerful presentation of advanced spiritual ideas, in which the work of those who were building the true spiritual temple for humanity was clearly shown. Though the work of the religious reconstructor is not a new thing, it is not always possible for those engaged in pulling down to realize the purely preparatory nature of their work. Many sensitive spirits felt wounded when they saw the old religiously based and groping groping groping groping groping their cherished idols. No one who has spent happy days of childhood in an old house likes to see it taken down; but the purpose of demolition is not to leave people without homes, but to supply them with better ones. It is with the old and new in religion. Man has spiritual needs more pressing than his material requirements. These insist upon being met. The law of human nature is such that the material is the more spontaneous demonstration of spiritual power is in answer to some inward prayer. Whatever the spirit needs it will surely obtain. Only the false can be satisfied by constant material gratification.

In the evening, Colville's lecture on "Materialization" was a broad and comprehensive statement of the theory and survey of the present stage of the materialization of the human mind. It was heard and read as a whole to be comprehended, therefore no abstract is here appended. The speaker was greeted at times with deserved applause. On Sunday next, Dec. 20th, the subject of discourse will be, at 10:30 A. M., "How Does the Spirit Disappear from the Body?" at 7:30 P. M., "The Next World Interviewed" (with reference to Mrs. Horn's new book).

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worthy of the profound attention it received during the entire reading.

Mr. Mahony was next listened to while eloquently discussing and enlarging some of the principles so ably presented in the essay.

Prof. Carpenter followed, supporting facts that had come under his own observation, supported by a few vigorous remarks in defense of truth.

After a few brief remarks by the Chairman, with much by Mrs. Clapp, the audience was dismissed.

Next Sunday the discussion of independent clairvoyance will be continued.

SHAWMUT SPIRITUAL LYCEUM—UNION PARK HALL. The services of last Sunday's session were introduced by Messrs. Milligan and Gardner, who gave an overture, followed by reading and singing by the school. Calisthenics were led by Arthur Rand. Conductor Hatch made an appeal to all Spiritualists to ignore the claims of the "mediums" and to bear in mind that when they withhold the beauties of our philosophy from them others will impress their dogmas instead.

The general exercises were participated in by Gertrude Rich, Harry Cook, Jennie Foreland, Nellie Welsh, Eva Cook, Grace Thorp, Louise Irvine, and Gracie Ryan. Allen Francis spoke to the children very ably, and the light that has guided his life so many years is the earnest radiance of Truth's brightest star, and all that life has brought to him is proof of his own immortality. Mrs. Leslie also favored us with excellent remarks—both speakers being listened to with rapt attention.

The Christmas Festival of this Lyceum will be held in Wells Memorial Building on Christmas (Friday) night, the same place we occupied one year ago. It will be a grand affair, and we hope to see a large attendance.

ALONG WASHINGTON STREET, COR. OF S. E. L. 23 Windsor street, Dec. 14th, 1885.

PAINE HALL, BOSTON SPIRITUAL LYCEUM. Musical, Banner March, Responsive Readings and Instructor Lesson opened a well-attended session last Sunday. The Lesson included selections from A. J. Davis's "Philosophy of Spiritual Intercourse." Mrs. Francis Plunket to a recent satisfactory interview with three questions she had asked of two of her loved ones in spirit-life. Mr. Mansfield is giving sittings through this entire week in aid of our school.

Bertha and Olive Johnson, Margaret and Jessie Haynes gave excellent readings. Instrumental selections were given by Barrows's Orchestra; vocal by Miss May Waters, Hattie White and Rachel Aze.

Arrangements have been perfected for the usual Christmas Festival. Contributions suitable for the Children's Supper will be thankfully received on the afternoon of that day at Paine Hall.

FRANCIS B. WOODBURY, Cor. Sec. C. P. L. 45 Indiana Place, Boston.

THE SPIRITUALIST PHENOMENA ASSOCIATION.—G. O. Paine, Corresponding Secretary, writes that this society opened its meeting in Berkeley Hall, Sunday afternoon, Dec. 13th, with singing by Mrs. Hattie Mason and daughter, followed by an invocation by Miss Gordon. After the reading of the minutes and the report of the Executive Committee, the speaker, Mr. Paine, addressed the meeting upon the subject of "The Relation of Spiritualism to Human Reform." The remarks of his guides held the close attention of the audience for over an hour, and at the close of the address.

The speaker commenced by saying, "Whatever tends to the amelioration of human suffering; whatever promotes the elevation of mankind from a condition of bondage or of ignorance; whatever helps to the progress of the human race, and the refinement of life, is a reformatory measure and worthy of all attention."

It is the province and privilege of one generation to lay the foundation for the progress of the next, for the maintenance of peace and for the promotion of the best interests of its members. It is the privilege and duty of that generation to abide by those laws and to extract the best possible benefit from the spiritual world, and in the evening, the privilege of the succeeding generation, profiting by experience, to so far improve upon the laws that govern the predecessor as to enlarge them according to the growing needs of humanity, or, if necessary, to reject them in order to rebuild, it is not always possible for those engaged in pulling down to realize the purely preparatory nature of their work. Many sensitive spirits felt wounded when they saw the old religiously based and groping groping groping their cherished idols. No one who has spent happy days of childhood in an old house likes to see it taken down; but the purpose of demolition is not to leave people without homes, but to supply them with better ones. It is with the old and new in religion. Man has spiritual needs more pressing than his material requirements. These insist upon being met. The law of human nature is such that the material is the more spontaneous demonstration of spiritual power is in answer to some inward prayer. Whatever the spirit needs it will surely obtain. Only the false can be satisfied by constant material gratification.

In the evening, Colville's lecture on "Materialization" was a broad and comprehensive statement of the theory and survey of the present stage of the materialization of the human mind. It was heard and read as a whole to be comprehended, therefore no abstract is here appended. The speaker was greeted at times with deserved applause. On Sunday next, Dec. 20th, the subject of discourse will be, at 10:30 A. M., "How Does the Spirit Disappear from the Body?" at 7:30 P. M., "The Next World Interviewed" (with reference to Mrs. Horn's new book).

At LANGHAM HALL during the week the meetings have been of a most interesting character. On Monday, Dec. 14th, Colville's discourse, "The Relation of Mind to the Body," was a powerful presentation of advanced spiritual ideas, in which the work of those who were building the true spiritual temple for humanity was clearly shown. Though the work of the religious reconstructor is not a new thing, it is not always possible for those engaged in pulling down to realize the purely preparatory nature of their work. Many sensitive spirits felt wounded when they saw the old religiously based and groping groping groping groping their cherished idols. No one who has spent happy days of childhood in an old house likes to see it taken down; but the purpose of demolition is not to leave people without homes, but to supply them with better ones. It is with the old and new in religion. Man has spiritual needs more pressing than his material requirements. These insist upon being met. The law of human nature is such that the material is the more spontaneous demonstration of spiritual power is in answer to some inward prayer. Whatever the spirit needs it will surely obtain. Only the false can be satisfied by constant material gratification.

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