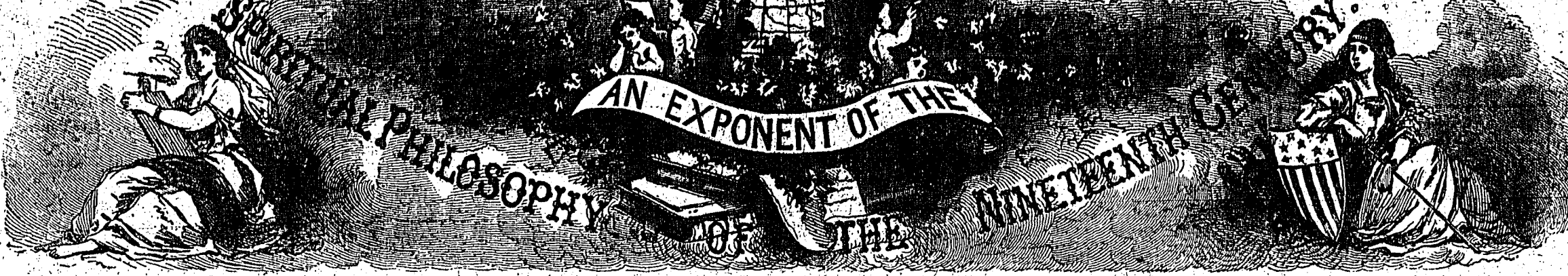


BANNER OF LIGHT.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- FIRST PAGE.**—The Anniversary: Reports of Celebration of the Forty-First Anniversary of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism.
- SECOND PAGE.**—Anniversary Reports—Continued. Letter from G. W. Bates, etc.
- THIRD PAGE.**—Pearls, Banner Correspondence: Letters from New York, Massachusetts, and Michigan. L. M. Ladd. List of Spiritualist Lecturers, etc.
- FOURTH PAGE.**—Perpetual Inspiration. Alonzo Eliot Newton. Good Words from Dr. Talbot. Translation of a Noble Colored Citizen. "Summerland," etc.
- FIFTH PAGE.**—Newspaper Notes and Fifty Points. Lost in the Storm. Movements of Platform Lecturers. New Advertisements, etc.
- SIXTH PAGE.**—Message Department: Questions Answered through the Mediumship of Mrs. M. T. Shelhamer-Lourey; Spirit Messages given through the Mediumship of Mrs. B. F. Smith. Choice, the Real Basis.
- SEVENTH PAGE.**—Poetry: An Anniversary Invocation. Spiritualist Meetings. Mediums in Boston. Book and Miscellaneous Advertisements.
- EIGHTH PAGE.**—Spiritualist Meetings in Boston, New York and Elsewhere. Societies and Mediums in San Francisco, Cal. The Anniversary in Victoria, B. C. The Home-Paths and the Law. Farewell Reception to Mrs. Ada Foye, etc.

The Anniversaries.

Forty-First Anniversary of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism: Reports of Services Commemorative of the Event held in Boston, New Bedford, Greenfield, North Scituate, Brookton, Mass.; Cleveland, Alliance, O.; New York City, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Lookout Mountain, Tenn.

Berkeley Hall, Boston.

(Reported for the Banner of Light.)

(Mrs. R. S. Lillie's Remarks Continued.)

In the forty-one years whose close we celebrate to-day, there has been more advancement in the realm of religious thought than for centuries before. There have come broader conceptions of God, brighter pictures of the future life. Even in the Orthodox churches there has been progress toward freedom. What has caused this change, this growth? You know what the condition of the world was when Christendom meant Catholicism. Protestantism was the breaking of many fetters, but it had the teachings of John Calvin and others like him. Who dared think for himself? If a Thomas Paine wrote, who, fifty years ago even, dared to read his writings? I tell you, friends, with the advent of Modern Spiritualism, and not before, came freedom of thought, giving man a right to his own soul and conscience.

In its forty-one years, Spiritualism has done more than has been done in hundreds of years before. When it first came it awakened much inquiry among professional men, judges, lawyers, ministers inquiring as to its claims. Now there are many who do not seem to consider it of much account. Many ministers deny its divine origin, and like Joseph Cook say it is "Diabolism." Such a conclusion as that could be drawn only by a man profoundly ignorant of its phenomena and philosophy, no matter how much learning he may have in other and less important directions. A man who says Spiritualism is "Diabolism" is grossly ignorant of what he speaks, or profoundly prejudiced—one or the other.

In its forty-one years of life, Modern Spiritualism has numbered among its followers some of the greatest minds of the age—scientists, philosophers, poets, thinkers of all grades and conditions of life. Some of the best ministers have been called forth from their pulpits to preach this new gospel; but, best of all, it has come a ministering angel of peace and love into humble homes; by lowly firesides it has spoken its words of comfort; it has bound up the broken heart and given joy to the despairing. It welcomes to its embrace the peasant as gladly as it does the king. The humblest mother whose tears fall upon care-worn cheeks and toll-hardened hands is as fondly cherished as the queen upon her throne. It has whispered to the little child just able to talk, and the child has looked up in your face and told you of the spirit-friends it saw around, not knowing the difference between them and mortals. You have seen this. Could there be greater proof of the reality of Spiritualism?

The strength of Spiritualism, while it is full of power to convince the intellect, yet lies, to a great extent, in the heart of the world. You see people all around seeming to refuse to investigate its claims, afraid of it because it is unfashionable, feeling in their hours of prosperity no need of it. But let trouble come; let death enter the home and bear away their dearest and best—What then? Where do they go for consolation? They may go to the church, but they will not find it there. The world can tell them nothing that can lift the weight of woe from their hearts. You see these sorrowing souls. In your compassion for them you may tell them of a place where they can hear from their lost ones, and some of them—not too much ashamed or afraid to go among those terrible Spiritualists (you are terrible, you have been told so times enough)—will go to some medium, and their questions are answered, and before, almost, they are aware, they, too, have become Spiritualists. And so the work goes on.

You remember the story of Saul and the Woman of Endor? You know how Saul ordered the destruction of those who had "familiar spirits," but when he got into trouble, once began to look for one of those poor mediums to help him out. Not much different from people in the modern days.

Some one said to him: "Well, you have killed nearly all of them, but there is one left in Endor. Let us put on disguises, and go and consult her," and in this kindly way he went into the presence of the Woman of Endor and said, "I want to consult with Samuel. Samuel—who was Samuel? He was an old man—not that Saul knew about before; Samuel was dead, but somehow it was in Saul's mind that he might help him. But the woman penetrated his disguise and said: 'Why seest thou to destroy me?' She was a spirit-medium, you know; at last, yielding to Saul's importunities, she called, and Samuel appeared, a materialized spirit. By this we learn that Spiritualism is more than forty-one years old. This ancient Woman of Endor, this materializing medium, came long before the days of Jesus, the great Nazarene medium. Jesus was surrounded by

a band of wise spirits, who prepared conditions for his coming. We are told of this by the old-time writers, who call that preparation the "Immaculate Conception"—a spirit coming to earth, being incarnated in matter. These old symbolic writers tell you what we spirits have so often told you, that all especially prepared to be leaders of the race in spiritual development are the subjects of peculiar spiritual environment even before their birth, which prepares the way for their coming. This was true of Jesus, and he grew up and went forth into the world, working signs and wonders. Are you his followers? Show me some sign, for he said that his disciples should do even greater things than he did.

Signs and wonders were the accompaniment of Ancient, as they are of Modern, Spiritualism. We point to our mediums and we say: "There are our Marys, our Marthas, our Johns, our Pauls, our Peters. These have brought back your dead; or, rather, they have brought you where you can see them. They have healed the sick—they have shown signs and wonders." Where, then, is the difference between Ancient and Modern Spiritualism, except in degree?

Now, in closing, we will briefly look over the past year—a year, it seems to us, full of meaning to Spiritualists. It seems as if there had been an especial effort on the part of the enemies of truth, in every direction, to injure the cause as much as possible. Such a degree of enmity has been brought to bear upon it that the influence must be felt in measure. Some say that it is the denial of the Fox sisters; some, the influence of Catholicism; some say both. That an enemy has been at work no one will deny. Nevertheless, we know that this, as well as everything else, will be used to serve the purpose of the higher. That vessels of clay which once held the waters of truth have been broken by the wayside is sad for the vessels themselves, but we know that by-and-by even for them will be found healing and cleansing in the bright fountain of truth immortal. Sometime, somewhere, this comes to all, and no power of evil can change the plan of the infinite.

The grand old law which makes apparent evil subservient to good has done so in this case, and we see it even now. In no year since its advent has Modern Spiritualism grown as it has this year. It has grown, it has spread. It is taking hold upon the lives of the people. It is entering into their lives, making them grander, nobler, better.

Our enemies have been at work in legislative halls seeking to pass enactments which, if they became laws, would close our places of worship and perhaps imprison our mediums; but still we feel that no persecution that may come can have any ultimate effect except to bring larger liberty to all. So, we say, whatever may be the temporary outcome, the permanent result will be progress, growth and development. Hearts have been glad and lives happy by the power of Spiritualism in this last year. Graves have been open to those who were heart-broken, and the dead have walked forth into many homes and have testified: "We are here; we live and we love you to-day as much, yea, more than we could when we were in the mortal form."

Yes, Spiritualism is spreading; it is taking hold upon the thought of the people to-day. It is entering into the literature of the period. It is doing the work which it believes the highest power above us intended should be done. I don't believe it was God's intention to make another "ism," another Church, or another great body of religionists, as much as it was to spiritualize those already here.

Before another forty years have passed, the fundamental principles of Spiritualism will have become so incorporated into the system of Christianity—or rather they will be so understood, that they are now—that people will forget they were ever anything else but Spiritualists. They will turn to their Bible, and you know is replete with Spiritualism, and say "Here it is, here it is! Peter was a trance medium; John was a seer; James was another," and you can answer: "We told you so forty years ago!"

So the baby Spiritualism born in the past, To a stalwart man has grown; Forty-one years old on this natal day, And strong its arms are ready to say The souls of men all over the earth, So with songs of rejoicing we hail the birth Of this wondrous power, and follow it down Till it wears on its head a victor's crown, A crown of rejoicing, and we hail it, Brought from the world of eternal light!

The exercises of the morning were very pleasantly closed by a test séance given by Mr. J. W. Fletcher. Nearly all the spirits who gave their names were recognized by persons in the audience. Among the spirits who came with messages to their friends were Dr. Gardner, Oliver Perry Smith of Charleston, Flora Wellington, John Wilson of Berlin, Walter Loomis of Haydensville, and others.

Sunday Afternoon.—Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a large audience early assembled in Berkeley Hall, anxious to enjoy the afternoon entertainment, which consisted of Mr. J. W. Fletcher's highly interesting and splendidly illustrated lecture, "Historical Spiritualism." The lecture was very interesting, and the views remarkably beautiful and appropriate. They consisted of copies of many famous paintings, etc., descriptive of scenes in the life of Christ; of places famous for their historical interest, in Europe and Asia; of portraits of famous mediums; and of many beautiful allegorical pictures, any one of which was an inspiration in itself.

Sunday Evening.—In the evening the hall was again well filled. On the platform were seated Mrs. R. S. Lillie, Mrs. Nellie L. Palmer, Mrs. H. S. Lake, Mrs. Florence K. Rich, and the presiding officer, Captain Holmes.

Mrs. R. S. Lillie was the first speaker of the evening. Her remarks were substantially as follows:

Friends—I shall take for the thought of a brief address the question: "For What Do We Labor?" We are celebrating the advent of Modern Spiritualism, and we ask for what has it come? For certainly it is not here without cause. In nature, nothing comes unless there is a demand for it. So we ask: "Why did it come? What are its possibilities?" First, it came to answer the before-unanswered question as to the fate of those called dead—a question men have sorely dared to ask. Those who essayed to answer this question did it with fear and trembling, feeling their inability to meet the requirements of the hour. This great need of human nature was not responded to by sacred books nor by church teachers, and Spiritualism came to answer the question before unanswered. It fitted minds for its reception, and thus made its coming possible. Though Spiritualism is as old as the world, almost its latter-day expression is new, and of this we speak. Now, what is its mission? I answer briefly: All systems of religion require reformation, and to reform them is the work of Spiritualism. It is for that we labor; not the upbuilding or the uplifting of an "I am."

We do not desire to separate the households

of faith any more than the necessities of truth require, but we must say in the words of him of old: "I come not to bring peace on earth, but a sword." So we say that the work of Spiritualism is, in a measure, to destroy existing systems; to separate the false from the true, and give, in their place, something nobler and better. It takes hold of the fundamental principles that underlie our social institutions, and shows us where they need reformation. It has touched upon all of these and been condemned accordingly. The messages brought you from the other side, in referring to the fundamental principles, have always been reformatory in their character touching all existing evils whatsoever they may be, and its work must be in a measure, at first—destructive of some existing customs and forms. Its voice is ever heard in behalf of freedom. That means the unlooming of our higher and better nature. This it asks for all mankind: yea, and for all mankind as well.

As we look upon the platform we ask you, Is not the era of Spiritualism woman's era? Bro. Holmes is here by permission—the ladies are occupying the platform. Spiritualism began with children, but they were child-women.

In this day we say that unto us the girls are born, and for them we want equal rights with their brothers. That is all we ask for them. Give woman this, and she will take nothing from you that she will not bring back with interest.

Spiritualism teaches the laws of true motherhood, through the knowledge of which is to come the elevation of the race, and it is going on with its work of reformation, whether the world smiles or frowns.

Spiritualism is as yet unorganized. Why? Largely because the powers back of you are afraid to let you go too far in the direction of organization and solidification. They see that too rapid progress would have a detrimental effect upon the cause.

Man grows very slowly. Your enemies are at work to-day in a sly, covert manner; they have not before felt it necessary to assume, and so we say the work for you is to be up and on the alert, and watchful for your privileges. Liberty, as it exists in America to-day, has made Spiritualism what it is, and so we say: "Guard well that liberty!" Look to it that no medical law, no Sunday law deprive you of it! We are working for the good of the entire human race, and we know that the highest good can come only where there is the highest freedom. And so we say again: Be watchful, and see that your rights are not encroached upon.

Spiritualism is here to make home a better and a brighter place. It has been accused of being the destroyer of homes, but like most of the accusations made by our persecutors the charge is false. It says to the inmates of the home: Your angel friends about you; your dear ones are waiting to help you; open your doors and let them in, that truth and peace and love may reign in your households, and thus make home a better and a brighter spot. If there exists that which must be torn down and destroyed before a better can arise, then Spiritualism has come to do that, laying the axe at the root of the tree of evil.

The work of Spiritualism is to remove the fear of death. It is doing this, and it is working as a reforming influence all through society. We are waiting to help you; we are accomplishing in a day, but we expect every day will do something, and lead outward to a better religion, a broader understanding of the real needs of the race, and this work must go on until it rolls away the stone from every tomb, and the world shall know what it has called Death is but the pathway into life immortal.

At the conclusion of Mrs. Lillie's remarks, Mr. Charles W. Sullivan sang "Only a Step Beyond," after which Mrs. Nellie L. Palmer, of Peabody, Mass., gave the following:

We are given to celebrating anniversaries. We are also given to retrospection. We are also given to an inherent curiosity pertaining to the laws which govern and control the universe of animate and inanimate nature. When the earth was encircled by the iron arms that now embrace it, enabling the electric force of the universe to be a means of bringing men and nations into closer communion with each other, the consummation of that great enterprise and its anticipated have been completed. We have so long been given of the celebration of the day known as the birthday of a Saviour, it becomes a difficult matter for us to recognize anything in that way as nearer to us than 1889 years ago.

At no time and under no circumstances would I desire to do any wrong to our fathers, our mothers, our ancestry of any time whatsoever—however remote; I have no desire to injure church or minister; but I do say to-day are celebrating the birth of a new Saviour. What is this Saviour? That is a question each soul must answer to its own satisfaction. Every one of you must satisfy yourselves as to its merits or demerits. This Saviour is a universal truth. Its first chosen instruments were two innocent children (that they are now fallen moves our heart to pray that more hands may come down from heaven to lift them up). These knocks came to the door of the human soul, asking that the light might enter in, that the new truth might come closer to the heart.

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It has come as an emancipator, a friend of liberty, a friend to every child of earth, be he saint or sinner. It was the birth of a new religion, a new philosophy, a new science. It was the coming of an old truth in a new guise, which is to live on and on through the ages. It may have spoken through Buddha, it may have spoken through Jesus; it is still immortal truth. It may have spoken through all by whom the world has been enriched and helped.

The cry has been that there is too little faith in the world, but I say the trouble has been that there has been too much faith. Faith, alone, blinds the soul. It obscures the vision, clouds the intellect, obscures the happiness of men and women; but the moment it becomes a living, active spirit, the fire that is kindled in every heart is no longer satisfied with simple belief; it has become knowledge, and is no longer faith.

This is what Spiritualism really is. It is a fire that burns so brightly upon the souls of the human family that faith must die. From the beginning it has spoken words of wisdom as well as words of love. It spoke to the world saying, "I bring unto you a light. Prove this truth. Learn for yourself how much of good there is in it. What you find false, reject. What you prove good, hold fast." Then I ask is Spiritualism any better than any other religion? and I answer, "It is superior to all others in this, that it says to all: 'Sift, sub-divide, investigate for yourselves. Apply its intrinsic merits to the wants of your own soul; no one can do it for you.'"

(Continued next week.)

Paine Memorial Hall, Boston.

(Reported for the Banner of Light by "Heath.")

(Continued.)

Mr. Joseph D. Stiles was again presented to give evidence of the continuity of life, which his control had been doing for more than forty-one years—predicting that there is to be a new birth to all in the land beyond. Although the control was known as a "Red Man," yet he had become assimilated with the white men so as to be one of them, and instead of preaching as the Methodist clergyman once did, to "keep people out of hell," he does so to keep "hell out of the people." Several names were given; among them were: Frederic Hahn and others, of Rockland, Me.; Rufus Ham, James Becker, of New Bedford; Arthur Raymond, who was once a clerk for a gentleman present (who is in the oil business, telling him that he had found an oil in the spirit-world that enabled him to pass along splendidly); Freeman Cahoon and Lucinda, his wife, were recognized; George R. Emerson and others, of Salem; Ensign Chandler of Lynn; Arva Ballard, John C. Bernard, John Dickson, Moses Pickett, Dr. Thomas M. Pray, Edward Gould, Mrs. Terry and Curtis; Dr. Charles B. Shute and John Vaughn, well remembered in Malden, were recognized by your reporter and others; Dean Charles Whittemore of East Boston, and Dr. Nichols Noyes were also given. All the names cited by Mr. Stiles were recognized.

Miss Minnie Nickerson gave a pleasing recitation, followed by a song from Mrs. Chamberlain very finely rendered.

Mrs. Mary E. Thompson made an earnest speech, giving some particulars of her early mediumship, and alluding to the fact that in ancient times "God's spirit moved upon the waters," and brought light out of darkness, and is doing the same thing to-day through spiritualism.

The meeting closed with "Farmer Stebbins at Ocean Grove," recited by Minnie Nickerson. At the evening session Mr. Cobb recited a fine poem, and added that Spiritualism is as old as the world, and that immortality is true.

After a duet from Mrs. Mary Nickerson and Miss Etta Warren, very finely rendered and heartily enjoyed, Miss Minnie Nickerson by request told "How Mrs. Higgins Painted her House." A solo from Mrs. Mary Nickerson was then listened to.

Mrs. Ada Foye of San Francisco was then presented, and proceeded to give one of her noted ballot test cases, remarking before doing so for the past twenty-three years she had passed the Anniversary in California, and appeared here for the first time on such an occasion. She was glad to find so many who were earnestly investigating this subject. Many persons are declaring that Spiritualism is a fraud, without investigating the matter as they are. In just the spirit we approach Spiritualism shall receive messages from it. There are too many fraud-hunters to-day, as many people go to the Bible to find only the errors in it.

It is impossible to satisfy every one of the reality of spirit-control. Unkind words may be spoken, fault found with us as mediums, but we must pursue the even tenor of our way, and all things will settle themselves. Mrs. Leah Underhill has stated that the 31st of March was the eventful day when the raps were given to the world, and this is the anniversary of that event.

On seating herself at the table her spirit guides wrote a message, asking all to fix their minds upon their spirit-friends.

The name of Catherine Holland was given, and recognized by a gentleman as his mother. Several names were given without touching the ballots at all. On using them, other names were given and recognized, in the same manner as has been frequently reported. The raps were very plainly given, sounding upon the rear wall of the platform. All the answers were especially clear and the ballots very closely examined.

Mrs. Foye bade the people farewell, as she was about to leave for her new field of labor in Troy, N. Y.

After a fine solo from Miss Warren, Mrs. Maggie F. Butler was called on, and related some of her early experience, remarking that there was nothing in this world of which she so proud as she is of Spiritualism.

Mrs. Lucetta Webster then gave a reading entitled: "The Prairie Belle," of "Blindness" memory. A hearty encore called out the "Maiden's Prayer."

Minnie Nickerson gave the closing piece of the evening.

It was one of the best meetings of the season, all we hope, going away strengthened for the battle of life, and sure of the support of the angel-world.

Greenfield, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

The Anniversary was observed with appropriate exercises Sunday, March 31st, by the Spiritualist Society at Greenfield, Mass., of which Dr. Joseph Beals, President of Lake Pleasant Camp-Meeting, is the presiding officer.

On the occasion referred to, the neat and commodious hall, occupied by the Society was decorated with many beautiful flowers, and despite the storm that raged incessantly good audiences attended both afternoon and evening services. Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Longley, of Boston, conducted the exercises of the day in a most acceptable and well appreciated manner.

In the afternoon the guides of Mrs. Longley selected for their subject, "The Ministry of Angels," upon which they delivered a most earnest and practical discourse. "Are they not all ministering spirits," quoted the speaker, "sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

Who are the heirs of salvation, and what salvation is to be their heritage? Every child of earth, however lowly or degraded he may be, is a child of God, and in him must be implanted something of the nature and the power of the Divine. The entire universe is the Infinite Spirit's. We can conceive of no point in space where the supreme presence is not; hence, it is impossible for any soul to be cast outside the pale and the embrace of God. We are all heirs of salvation—salvation from ignorance and error and superstition and the bondage of the flesh; and ministering angels are coming near to you every day to comfort, to instruct and to bless your lives. All who work unselfishly for the good of others are ministering angels. Such may be in your midst to-day, devoting their lives and their thoughts to your welfare. One need not be departed from the body to be an angel; there are angels on earth in the unseen world. Let us see to it that we appreciate our angelic while they are with us, and let us not reserve the praise and honor and tenderness that belong to them now, to lay upon their graves when life has fled the mortal form.

Ministering angels, unseen by the physical

eye, through your pathway and bring their helpful influence to lessen your burdens and to brighten your way. Death is a friend and deliverer to all for whom it comes—even the lowly and depraved man, though not regenerated and made holy by the change alone, though he may be unhappy and defiant still, is benefited by death, since it sets him upon a road which tends upward and never down. He may refuse to go forward at first, but when he does make the start he will find many wise and good helpers, to instruct and cheer him on, and not one single soul to sneer and laugh at his efforts to rise, or to push and crowd him down. Angel ministrants come to the weak and tempted, the forlorn and sad; their mission is to brighten human life and to uplift the world.

Preceding her address Mrs. Longley read an interesting article from the *Carrier Dove*, entitled "A Dream," which suggested why the Seybert Commission was unsuccessful in its investigation of Spiritualism.

During the session Prof. Longley rendered some of the beautiful and appropriate compositions he has given to the world—"Love's Golden Chain," "When the Dear Ones Gather at Home," "The Angel Kisseth Me," and "Beautiful Home of the Soul"—accompanying himself upon the organ, much to the enjoyment of the audience.

In the evening the exercises opened by the singing of "We'll All Meet Again in the Morning Land," by Mr. Longley, followed by a soulful invocation by the speaker, and the singing of "Open those Pearly Gates of Light," by Mr. Longley; after which the following original poem, written for the occasion, was read by its author, Mrs. Longley:

ANNIVERSARY POEM, MARCH 31ST, 1889.

BY MRS. M. T. LONGLEY.

A flame of glory from the boundless sky
Spread like a rainbow over all the earth;
And in that hour of matchless harmony
A grand, new blessing to mankind had birth.
Its splendor burst upon the waiting world,
And human hearts received the mystic light;
Within its rays Truth's banner was unfurled,
And set upon Progress's loftiest height.
Man caught the glory, and he raised his eyes
To view that banner on its mighty throne;
That summit is the goal, and Truth the prize
That he must win, if freedom he would own.
And as he thrilled beneath the wondrous force
That flamed from other worlds to this of ours,
He felt new courage through his being course,
As inspiration touched him with its powers.

In that weird hour with all the heavens ablaze,
There came a quick, electric joyous rap,
That startled Error in its giddy ways,
It was the angels' telegraphic tap.
That sent this message boldly round the earth:
There is no death, man lives forevermore.
The spirit now proclaims the higher birth,
And sends the tidings on from shore to shore.

Old Superstition then in rank dismay
Raised the loud war-cry: "Biotry to arms;
The foe is on us in its bright array,
Look to your laurels—these are wise alarms."
And Error, ignorance, injustice, all
Came forth to drown the mystic chanting out;
Roused into action by their leader's call,
They struggled long the enemy to rout.

But Knowledge, stronger than the mightiest lie,
Sped with its word afar o'er land and sea;
It smote old Error full on hip and thigh,
And throttled Ignorance and Biotry.
In one and forty years the foe was slain,
That angels brought of everlasting life.
For one and forty years the anthems sung
By spirit hosts have conquered pain and strife.

Rejoice! rejoice! ye listening sons of earth—
The grave has lost its power, and death its gloom;
Let the glad tidings ring forever forth,
Of harmony and peace and joyous bloom.
Your loved ones thronging through the open gate,
Will never leave you though you tarry late;
Their mission is to guide you nobly on.

Rejoice! rejoice! ye weak and tempted ones!
Lift up your heads with newborn hope, and learn
An upward pathway on for evermore,
That you may enter, and from evil turn.
Seek for the Right, and all the hosts of heaven
Will guard, oh! Man, your weary, faltering way;
Their love eternal unto you is given
To guide you onward to the better day!

At the close of the poem, Prof. Longley sang "In Heaven We'll Know Our Own," after which Mrs. Longley delivered the Anniversary address of "Spiritualism and Its Work in Forty Years." In this discourse the speaker traced the progress and the achievements of Spiritualism from the time of its unmistakable advent in 1848 to the present, delineating the different manifestations of its power and the various phases of its mediumship. She spoke feelingly and pitifully of the two misguided Fox sisters who had recently been tempted to deny their God-given powers for a paltry, false consideration; and then generously tributed to the faithful soul, Leah Fox Underhill, who in this hour of trial has stood firm to the faith, and proclaimed herself and her sisters as genuine mediums of the spirit-world.

Spiritualism, said the speaker, is here to stay; its power is of Truth, and cannot be quenched. It is spreading fast over land and sea, and counting and multiplying its adherents on every hand. It has accomplished much more, even than the most ardent and spiritualized of men—those to whom we call themselves Spiritualists—since by its power it has liberalized public thought and sentiment through the press. It has entered the church and spiritualized the pulpit until old worn-out creeds have been cast aside for the mantle of living truth; it has made its way into political circles and left its impress on great minds, until it has liberated four millions of human slaves, and achieved many other works; while socially it is discussing and dealing with problems and issues that affect humanity, and which need the stirring up that this strong movement is bringing from the other world. Spiritualism no doubt will be incorporated into the churches, for its divine essence of immortality is needed to revivify decaying systems of religious worship, but it will still remain a distinct, individualized system and cause in religion and philosophy, since its message is ever fresh, ever appealing to the heart of man in the name and with the identifying communication of his beloved ones who have passed beyond.

At the close of the discourse the spirit replied to the question of Dr. Beals as to what seemed to be the future of Spiritualism in Greenfield in a most encouraging and hopeful manner; after which Mr. Longley sang his exquisite composition, "Only a Thin Veil Between Us," and the audience was dismissed with a benediction of peace.

North Scituate, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

The Children's Progressive Lyceum celebrated the Anniversary by an entertainment at Gannett Hall on Monday evening, recitations, readings and songs by the members making up the programme.

After a supper, dancing was enjoyed by all present until 10 o'clock.

On Sunday, 7th April, the following officers were installed for the year ensuing, by Past Conductor D. J. Bates: Conductor, Silas New-

comb; Guardian, Mrs. Sarah J. Marsh; Guardian, D. J. Bates; John Nott; Recording Secretary, Mrs. M. C. Morris; Corresponding Secretary, D. J. Bates; Musical Director and Librarian, Abbie A. T. Morris; Treasurer, Abbie A. Smith; Secretary, George P. Smith; Librarian, Joseph Holman; Excelsior, Mrs. Lillian Smith; Walter Morris; Valley, Mrs. Carrie Nott; Ocean, Mrs. M. C. Morris, Shore.

The Lyceum has a membership of one hundred, and has held thirty-nine sessions during the past year.

D. J. BATES, Cor. Sec'y.

New Bedford, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

The Anniversary was celebrated in this place by the First Spiritualist Society in a fitting manner. The afternoon services opened with singing led by the sweet inspirational singer, Mrs. Ida Janell. Then came an address by the control of Mrs. Emma Jackson—embracing a short but concise history of the rise and progress of Modern Spiritualism.

This was followed with remarks by Mrs. A. L. Pennell of Boston, who, in her normal condition gave some of the most remarkable public tests ever heard in this city; in many instances giving the age of spirit friends present, even to the months and days. Her little Indian control, "Prairie Flower," followed with many convincing tests.

The evening exercises were of an interesting nature, Mrs. Pennell opening with a short address on "Spiritualism," which was highly appreciated. "Prairie Flower" followed with a number of tests, in every instance given with an accuracy that was a surprise to the large audience present.

[Mrs. Pennell remained with us Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, holding public circles; she kindly donated the total proceeds for the benefit of the Society. Surely she is doing a great work in the spiritual field, and we would recommend her to all Societies as a platform test medium who will give satisfaction in every instance.]

S. H. E.

Brockton, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

The First Spiritualist Ladies' Aid Society celebrated the Anniversary on Wednesday, March 27th. The afternoon exercises commenced at 2:45 with singing "Nearer, My God, to Thee," by the audience, followed by an invocation by Rev. S. L. Beal, of Brockton. A song was finely rendered by Miss Bailey, of Salem.

Mrs. S. A. Byrnes was next introduced to the audience. Her address was rendered in her usual pleasing way, and was listened to by very appreciative hearers.

Mr. Frank C. Algerton, "the boy medium of Chicago," was then introduced, after a piano solo by Miss Bailey. Mr. Algerton gave many tests, the most of which were recognized.

A song by Mrs. Ellen Thayer (under control), with a piano accompaniment by Miss Bailey, preceded the improvised poem given by Mr. Algerton, which was very fine.

The afternoon exercises were closed by singing "The Sweet By-and-By."

After a short space of time the friends were invited to sit down at the tables, which were bountifully spread by the ladies. One hundred and fifty persons were served.

The evening exercises commenced at 7:15 with a song by Miss Bailey (by request), entitled "The Flag of the Union," by Mrs. S. A. Byrnes made a few brief remarks, taking for her subject: "Shall We Know Each Other There?" Piano solo, by Miss Fannie Packard, of Whitman; reading, by Miss Mabel Packard, of Easton; after which Frank C. Algerton occupied the platform, giving many tests, mainly recognized.

The audience was very large—many from the surrounding towns availing themselves of the opportunity of listening to this wonderful medium.

Mrs. C. M. Nickerson, of New Bedford, addressed the audience of March 31st in her usual pleasing manner; song, by Miss Ethel M. Nickerson and Edith L. Keith, after which a poem was finely rendered by Miss Ethel Nickerson.

The Society feels satisfied with the success, both spiritually and financially, attending its efforts to commemorate the Forty-First Anniversary.

Mrs. H. N. KEITH.
Cor. Sec'y F. S. A. S.

Cleveland, O.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

Cleveland Spiritualists celebrated the Forty-First Anniversary of the advent of Modern Spiritualism with exercises in Memorial Hall morning, afternoon and evening. The programme was a varied and interesting one, and the attendance large, the regular seating capacity of the hall being exhausted, and the audiences manifested great earnestness. The program was artistically decorated.

Prominence among the names from surrounding towns were Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Russell, Mrs. Percipie, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Geo. V. Burgess, from Lorain; Mrs. Smith Steele, North Amherst; Mrs. S. J. Kimball, Oberlin; Mrs. E. J. Beardmore, Akron; Mrs. M. A. Merrill, Mrs. E. Whitworth, Kent; Mr. and Mrs. Pereira and Mrs. Tibbals, Berea; Thos. Douglass, Warren; Wm. Watson, Lowellville; Geo. Howard, Conneaut; S. S. Russell, from Mantua, and Mrs. P. T. Rich, of Sacramento, Cal., one of our best workers of by-gone times.

The morning exercises were opened with music by the choir of the Cleveland Progressive Lyceum. The singing was good, and much of the vocal music, the recitations, prose and poetic, were compositions especially for the occasion. Opening remarks were made by Mr. E. W. Gaylord, Conductor of the Lyceum. He then requested Mr. Thomas Lees to preside during the day, and that gentleman gave a brief sketch of the origin of the celebration of the Anniversary.

The day was devoted to the celebration of the anniversary through the mediumship of James Lawrence and adopted by the Fourth National Convention of Spiritualists of Cleveland in 1867.

Miss E. Anne Hinman, a teacher of mental culture, then spoke upon "The Day We Celebrate." Her address was devoted to the later developments of Spiritualism, and especially to the phase of mental cure and healing by spirit-power instead of drugs. Following, Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, of Westfield, N. Y., discussed the spiritualistic movement, and the reason why the Anniversary should be celebrated. She referred tenderly to the apostasy of the Fox sisters, and charitably urged Spiritualists to extend the hand of love and forgiveness to them and try to win them back to the way of truth. The morning service concluded with a talk by J. J. Morse, in his normal condition, about the growth of the cause in this country.

In the afternoon, after music by the choir, "Auntie" Camp, of Cuyahoga Falls, read a short paper upon "The Basis of Spiritualism," remarking that its basis is the basis of all natural law. Miss Lizzie Emmerson and Mr. John W. Pao sang a duet from Prof. C. Payson Longley's "Echoes from an Angel's Lyre," and Master Willie Kriteh gave a violin solo. Mr. J. J. Morse then delivered the anniversary address.

He opened by referring to the custom of mankind to celebrate notable incidents in national and individual life, and referred to the day as marking a period of human life. No event during the Christian era has been so significant as the advent of Modern Spiritualism. There have been stupendous changes in these eighteen hundred years, and many upheavals of society, but in all these there has not been one equal in transcendent importance to the advent of Modern Spiritualism. Open, intelligent communion between two worlds was then established. This communion was not entirely new; the Shakers enjoyed much of it; the Wesleys gave evidence of startling phenomena. People of a religious turn of mind can refer to the records of their faith and find many examples. But there is a peculiar distinction belonging to Modern Spiritualism.

Previous exhibitions of communication were confined to a limited circle, but the day now celebrated marks the period when Spiritualism broke down the barriers and opened the spiritual world to all mankind. It was a declaration of spiritual independence, and struck dis-

may in the hearts of the foes of truth the world over.

Mr. Morse discussed the effect upon the advancement of Spiritualism in preparing the world for the reception by the sciences of the truth which ancient skepticism scorned, which taught that death ended all and was an eternal sleep broke the bonds of superstition in which the world has been held, opened the eyes of the people and enlarged the boundary of vision. The struggles resulting and the persecution and conflict prepared mankind for the reception of truth by cultivating an intellectual liberty. Then Mesmer and his teachings opened up a new realm of thought and possibilities, the ability to demonstrate the immortality of the soul. He alluded upon his audience to go back to the earliest point in their personal recollections and consider the liberty of thought which has resulted from the advances of Spiritualism. It has dethroned the gospel of the miraculous, the gospel of the necessity of a Saviour to bear our sins, and established the doctrine of the eternal progress of mankind. It has wrought a change in the established creeds, and led to a gradual abandonment of the doctrine of eternal damnation. Spiritualism has helped to make over religion and to make over mankind. We look down through the ignorance and depravity and see the divine soul pulsating and glowing in all its beauty. Death, the king of terrors, has been changed for the world. It is an idle use of words to say that friends are dead when they return and hold familiar conversations. Science has been called the realm of materialistic thought. Scientists declare they will not accept anything not capable of exact demonstration. The Spiritist says, "I do not accept as a truth what is claimed to be such, until he has tested it. Not one person in a hundred has accepted Spiritualism because he wanted to, but because he has been convinced of its truthfulness. It is sustained by an unbroken series and sequence through God and matter up to nature and the spirit. The scientist says he can go no further than the life and facts of this world, but the Spiritist insists upon knowing what there is beyond. Spiritualism brings back the dead, not as strange and unnatural angels, but in the characters of long ago; it rehabilitates the dead, rehumanizes them. The churches are accepting the doctrine rapidly, and unless the Spiritualists are watchful will soon be claiming doctrine as their own and inviting them into the church. Spiritualism not only treats of the soul after death, but of the body before death. It teaches that it is the temple of the soul—has put its heat upon the life, and insists that the body must be the seat and not the master. It also teaches that all the potencies of life are on the mental and spiritual sides of existence, and the use of drugs is an error. The social, moral and literary revolution of the world has been brought about by the teachings of Modern Spiritualism.

The address was a masterpiece of logic and eloquence, and elicited much applause. It was stenographically reported, and will be published in pamphlet form, with a lecture delivered the previous Sunday. Evolution Spiritually Considered, "one of the most remarkably profound lectures ever given in this city."

Following the address, the Lyceum scholars occupied the platform for an hour. Mr. Thomas Lees stating that no Spiritualists' Anniversary in Cleveland would be considered complete without hearing from the Lyceum children. Mrs. Laura Martin, the Guardian of the Children's Progressive Lyceum, then took charge and introduced Mrs. Ellen Gardner, who, with a pleasing ballad, Miss Winnie Breads then read an (original) Anniversary address of much merit; Miss Kate Derby and Miss Almada Welch also recited Anniversary pieces, the latter selecting the Anniversary poem lately written and published by Dr. Dean Clarke, entitled "What the Angels Came to Teach." Maurice and Laura Lemmers and bright little Lillie Root closed the children's part.

The event of the evening session was the spirit tests and dedications by Mrs. Twine. Preceding it there was singing by the Newburg Quartette, a ballad by Mrs. Ellen Gardner, of the quartette, and an address by Mr. Morse upon "The Duties of the Hour." He defined these to be the conservation of all that has been gained; consolidation, in order to increase the strength and the influence of the school; and a dissemination of liberal, progressive views and principles among all classes, old and young, to educate the masses, especially the children, should grow up in the truth. He ridiculed the "brimstonian doctrine" of the Orthodox creeds.

Mrs. Twine prefaced her tests by a talk, in which she argued equality of man and woman, and female suffrage. She said she would talk a few minutes, in order to give her auditors opportunity to know that she had command of English, as they might not think so when she was under control. She said she had been a slate-writing medium since youth, and had boasted that she always was sensible of what she did; but on one occasion her "control" took possession of her, and since then she has not been the same.

Her control, "Ikabod," then gave in his quaint and amusing way a number of names and personal incidents by which various spirit-friends of individuals in the audience were identified, much to the satisfaction of Spiritualists and the wonderment of those who were not.

At the close of Mrs. Twine's test-giving, Mr. Morse spoke of the needs of Warren Chase, and a collection was taken for him, realizing about twelve dollars. Mr. Lees, in a few well-chosen words, paid a high tribute to Mr. Morse, who, he said, was to return to his English home in a few months, and alluded to the joy the Morse family would naturally feel on placing their feet once more on English soil after their long sojourn in this country. Mrs. Emerson sang "God Save Queen," and Mr. Morse, the "union jack." Afterward Mr. Lees presented to Mr. Morse, in behalf of the Cleveland Progressive Lyceum, a handsome American flag, (silk) inscribed: "J. J. Morse, from the Children's Progressive Lyceum, Cleveland, O., U. S. A." Mrs. Ellen Gardner sang the "Star Spangled Banner," and Mr. Morse responded.

He spoke of his great respect for the United States, and said if ever he returned to America it would be to stay and become a citizen. He prayed that God and the good angels might ever keep the fair American flag free from stain. A double quartette sang a good-night song, and afterward, while singing "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," the curtains at the rear of the stage were drawn aside, disclosing a very pretty tableau. Miss Pearl Lees represented Columbia, and held in her hand an American flag. At each side of her were Maurice Lemmers and Adolph Muehlhansor, appropriately costumed as American and English sailors, bearing respectively the stars and stripes and the union jack.

Mr. Lees then returned thanks to all who had contributed in any way to the success of the day's festivities, especially to those not connected with the Children's Progressive Lyceum—such as Mrs. Lizzie Emmerson and the famous Newburg quartette of Welch singers.

Both of the West Side Societies held commemorative services at their respective halls Sunday afternoon, and the festivities concluded on Monday evening at Memorial Hall with a *Carrie Twine* séance, prefaced with remarks by Miss E. Anne Hinman, and supplemented by a "once for all good-bye" by Mr. Morse. The balance of the evening was devoted to sociability and dancing.

Thus were completed the Twenty-First Anniversary Exercises in Cleveland, marking the Forty-First Anniversary of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism.

Alliance, O.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

Notwithstanding a heavy rainstorm, the Independent Church at Alliance was crowded on March 31st, morning, afternoon and evening. The place of assembly was tastefully trimmed with evergreens and flowers—one magnificent bouquet of roses and calla lilies being contributed as an offering to Mr. Frank T. Ripley, the speaker. Messrs. Vick and Davidson sent forty flowering plants, all in full bloom.

Planting services commenced at 10:30 o'clock with the hymn, "All Hail to Thee, O Ye Saints," sung by choir and audience; a poem and an invocation were then rendered by Mr. Ripley.

The hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee" (choir and congregation), prefaced the lecture, which treated subjects taken from the audience. Mr. Ripley's remarks and answers to questions pleased all in the church, as evidenced by the hand-clapping and congratulations which greeted him at the close of the service.

Mr. Ripley, on behalf of the Church Society, gave the right hand of fellowship to six persons, under the control of his guides.

Services closed with the benediction. At 3 p. m. opened with the song, "Gathering at the River." Mr. Ripley acting as Chairman. Mr. Stratton, of Franklin Centre, O., made a pleasant speech, after which Miss Flora Vanduff recited "Nolan (Uncommon Deacon)." In a pleasing manner, the Chairman of the Society, Mrs. R. H. Halsey, told his experience, and Miss Josie Weir recited, "The Angel and the Lily," for which she received well-deserved applause; (she is a graduate of the Mount Union College, and is very popular here.) Clement Rock Hill related various manifestations of spirit-power which had taken place at his house; Mrs. Hester also told of what she had seen as to the phenomena; remarks by others, whose names were not obtained by the scribe, closed the session.

The evening services were opened with the singing of Prof. Longley's soulful composition: "Only a Thin Veil Between Us." A poem and an invocation followed by Frank T. Ripley. "In Heaven We Will Know Our Own" was then sung, when Mr. Ripley, under control of his guides, delivered the Anniversary address to a large audience. It was an eloquent, logical lecture. He then gave many recognized tests of spirit presence—with which exercises the session and the successful celebration closed.

New York City.

(Specially Reported for the Banner of Light.)

On Sunday afternoon, March 31st, at Adelphi Hall, the First Society celebrated the Forty-First Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism. The platform was liberally and tastefully decorated with potted plants and roses of several varieties, while on the speaker's desk was a large vase filled with calla lilies. An oil painting of Mrs. Fox, mother of the Fox sisters, was placed so that it could easily be seen by all. There were about three hundred people in the audience. Mr. Henry J. Newton, who has been the faithful President of the Society during the past sixteen years, presided. The exercises began at half-past two o'clock and closed at ten minutes past five. Prof. Watson and children opened the meeting with music.

The first speaker was Mr. Henry J. Newton, who said:

We have come together to celebrate the Forty-First Anniversary of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism. Forty-one years ago today, a discovery was made, which for far-reaching importance to the human family surpasses all the discoveries that have ever been made—or are likely to be made in the future. It was demonstrated that a rational and intelligent method of communication had been established with invisible and individual intelligences, that the visible could hold converse with the invisible. These facts were discovered at Hydesville, in this State, through the mediumship of the Epistolary, which has ever since been the basis of Modern Spiritualism. The dreams and hopes of vanished centuries became realities. The question that had been asked during all the past ages, "If a man die, shall he live again?" was answered in the affirmative: man is immortal and can never die.

These glad tidings—which were to be for all people, kindred and tongueless—have gone from land to land, been proclaimed in every inhabited country, and are almost universally and resistlessly working in religious thought one of the most stupendous revolutions ever witnessed or dreamed of. From the most reliable estimates the number of Spiritualists in this country reaches sixteen millions, which is larger than the aggregate of communicants of all other religious sects.

The year that we are now taking leave of has been one of the most eventful to the cause of Spiritualism, which has ever been experienced. The assaults upon it from its foes were without and from its foes within have been of the most determined and reckless character. Never has Spiritualism been so thoroughly and gratuitously advertised as within the last twelve months. Its foes without and within seem to have come into the same relations which Pilate and Herod did on a former occasion. They seem to have supposed that Spiritualism, with all its beautiful and impregnable fortified bastions, could be swept out of existence. These people are learning something, and they will learn more as time goes on. They will be brought to realize the fact that the basic rock on which Spiritualism is built is the solid granite of fact, and is therefore immutable truth, and indestructible.

Spiritualism, unfortunately, is encumbered with a class who have crowded themselves into its ranks for the sole purpose of doing it all the damage they possibly can. These people are trying to make a party out of the cause of Spiritualism. They insinuate themselves into its ranks—not for the truth, but to gain a position so that they can betray the truth. From the ranks of this class we find self-elected judges, who want also to act as jurors and witnesses.

The teachings of Spiritualism, on our duties and relations to each other, are very plain and explicit. Toward the ignorant, unfortunate and vicious, we must be kind and charitable. Our duty toward such is to use all the means in our power to save them. Toward the Spiritualist, we must teach what you know that shall you surely reap, which is also an ancient doctrine; and yet these people seem to think that by some trick or device some of those whom they have judged and condemned may escape the penalty fixed by the Infinite Law-maker, and therefore elect themselves detectives and proceed unsolicited to attend to the business of the Infinite and Omnipotent. If these people could be made to realize that they by these acts are actually doing the work of the devil, they would be more careful in their striving.

But we are marching on! Time was when *The N. Y. Herald* would not insert our advertisements of meetings except under the head of amusements. This morning it contains a nearly five-column article on Spiritualism, by the Rev. R. Heber Newton. And not only this article, but an editorial by Rev. Mr. Hewitworth, that the matter of the *Times Herald* now. You will find what is the matter if you will read its editorial. It has its finger upon the public pulse, and it knows what the public wants. But you do not care so long as we have fair play. That is all we ask or have asked. *The Press* (newspaper) gave us our first real fair chance to have a hearing, and it has had something to do with forming public opinion. In that paper of to-day there is a very interesting lecture, which it will pay you all to read.

Let us part of my address to-day to see that the speakers do not speak too long, and I must commence with myself!

Mr. Newton then introduced Miss Lily Runals, who sang so beautifully that nothing but an encore would satisfy the audience. Prof. Baldwin followed. "It almost seems to me a violation of the true, the beautiful and the good to come down from such sweet song to speech. And as I sat here and looked on these palms and lilies, it seemed to me that we had a materialization of beauty and sweetness that ought itself to be a demonstration of the relation of spirit to matter, of mind to matter, of beauty in the invisible to the exterior which we admire. Instead of looking around here and there for a demonstration, we are ourselves a living, moving demonstration of the law that unfolds from spirit to matter, from thought to thing, from the invisible to the materialization of it, so that the materialization conveys form and color, and hence matter is only the normal trend of the power that is over all and through all and in all.

I come simply to say I am glad to meet with you, and to thank the friends who asked me to come. While I am due in Brooklyn to speak in about half an hour, I am so material myself that I cannot go by mental telegraphy and take my body along, so I must simply say the grand question of the time is the relation of spirit and material mind to the materialization of matter. The philosophy is quickening its thought; it is lifted by this great fact of

spirituality, which is moving and sweeping errors away, penetrating into every little nook of society, so that now we stand upon a high point, and inquire: "What does it all mean? What are we treading? What is the polarity of the soul, and what is its objective value? For man to accumulate cash and the right to write his name under it? To own this house, or that, or the other? To be represented by a bank account—or by real spirituality?"

Mildness is a form of that power which was demonstrated by the little raps, which proved that an intelligent power was back of them, just as thought is manifested in that ally, and has directed every part and parcel of man and of it. Law is the unfolding of thought; so this spiritual Philosophy in its highest sense and in its deepest and truest objects will lift us out of all sectarianism, out of all denominationalism, take us out of the narrowness of any sect. But I must keep my speech within the limits prescribed, and close, tendering you my unbounded sympathy and good-will.

Master Watson came next, with a selection from the Opera "Ermine," upon the guitar. Mrs. M. E. Williams was then introduced, and said:

Ladies and Gentlemen: I think the President called your attention to the fact that we are convened here to-day to celebrate what is known and understood by us as the advent of Modern Spiritualism—while we Spiritualists are keenly alive to the fact that Spiritualism is as old as the history of man.

Forty-one years ago the angels prepared the way to visit the children of men by reaching down and through little children, conveying their messages through telegraphy. I think that it was a wise way, inasmuch as all demonstrations before that time by grown people had caused them to be tortured. The organism of the little ones was adapted to the raps, hence the rappings commenced at first faint, and then louder and louder, until the family's attention was attracted to them, and afterward that of the neighbors. You know where the Cause stands to-day. The whole world stands in rapt attention, seeking to know and understand Spiritualism. I am sure that only the old history of the Jews is full of spirit manifestations, from Genesis to Revelation; and all the phases of spirit manifestation that have occurred are therein portrayed. It is accepted by theologians and churches throughout the world, while that which stands before us to-day is often rejected. What does it mean?

In looking over the newspapers to-day we find that they no longer hesitate to mention Spiritualism; it is often discussed *pro* and *con*. This shows the progress that this sure to make. Truth in the words of the old prophet, is strong; it conquers and liveth forever. Hence the Spiritualists of to-day have reason to rejoice, for Spiritualism is known in all nations, and the immortality of God's truth is made manifest through mediumship. The intelligence of to-day understands it as it was never before understood. When we think of the various mediums throughout the world and think how they have been opposed and ridiculed and persecuted, and do not wonder on the contrary, we are surprised that Spiritualism stands where it does to-day.

There are millions of Spiritualists in the United States—I do not know the number beyond the water. Has this New Revelation made you better and wiser? Certainly! It has robbed you of the dreadful fear of death; who is the giant walking in your midst to take from you your loved ones? When their bodies are laid away what can your ministers say to comfort or console you? Can they answer to you who seek to look into the eyes of a child? That is the only expression from God to man that you can give; through the human heart, through Nature's divine laws, we read his revelations. Through her expression we find God—no longer praying to a God so far-off and misunderstood that his children cannot reach him in thought, action or deed, but to a God of universal law and love, expressed through you and the angels.

We have also the philosophy of Spiritualism. Paul has a practical, earnest man; Paul was a philosopher, a student, a logician, a deep scholar, well versed in Hebrew history. In journeying from Damascus he saw a light from heaven, even the brightness of the sun that shone upon him. Paul was a master mind who would justify himself; so stern that the stoning of Saint Stephen brought no tears to his eyes; and yet he says he saw the light from heaven and heard a voice calling, "I am Jesus." Now, friends, let all theologians and all churches throughout Christendom accept this as true, while the valuable manifestations of the present day are rejected by prejudice and ignorance. And yet I thank God and the angels that bigotry is fast fading away. If in no other way, the law of evolution pushes you through these truths into the broad, heavenly realm of divine expression.

We have the various phases of mediumship, and we have begun to understand and receive them through Nature's laws; they will be folded to us great things. We have had inspirational speaking, slate-writing, manifestations of all kinds till we have arrived at materialization, where we look into the faces of our loved ones, and listen to their voices. Are we mistaken? No one person can psychologize five hundred people at a time, and these manifestations have actually been demonstrated to hundreds of people at a time.

(Concluded next week.)

Brooklyn, N. Y.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

The celebration of the Anniversary held by the Brooklyn Spiritualists at Conservatory Hall, Fulton and Bedford Avenues, Sunday, March 31st, was an occasion long to be remembered for the fervor and earnest interest manifested by all who participated in it.

The exercises of the morning were introduced by the reading of a fine poem, by George Delaire—chairman—as given by his spirit guides through his medial powers.

Prof. A. D. Deane and Mr. Chas. R. Miller—whose warm sympathies and steady adherence to the Cause have endeared them to the hearts of many—gave earnest expression to their varied experiences. Remarks were made by others, and the season was very enjoyable.

At the evening gathering a large audience (filling every seat) manifested by its absorbing interest the heartfelt pleasure afforded by the lengthy programme which had been so ably provided. The opening address was made by Judge Daley in a forcibly and catalytic effort. After which Col. John C. Bundy—editor of *The Religio-Philosophical Journal*—followed in a few well chosen, glowing and practical remarks.

Mr. E. W. Capron, an old-time defender of the Fox sisters—he being the first to bring them before the public—spoke of the hostile attitude in which the New Revelation was received and the many persecutions which assailed it; expressing his sincere loyalty to the truth of the phenomenon and his early years had honestly investigated, and which had now attained a world-wide interest.

Mrs. Leah Underhill, the eldest of the Fox sisters, then arose and spoke in a vigorous, convincing manner, endorsing the address of Mr. Capron—her inviolate convictions of the Truth as expressed so forcibly by the "unseen world" through the mediumship of herself and sisters; remarking that she could not understand why her two sisters should seek by their public manifestations to draw forth the unfavorable proofs of principles which they had in the past so ably cooperated with the unseen world in bringing to the attention of humanity.

Mr. Mark M. Pomeroy—editor of the *Advance Thought* of New York—then delivered a telling address, which was one of his happiest efforts, holding his audience in close attention, as he criticized with ready wit the Church in its old-time dogmas and its influence as an educational factor to him in his earlier years. He spoke of his later experiences with Spiritual phenomena, which, after a careful scrutiny and practical investigation, had convinced him of the truth of a higher and wider scope of life here and in the hereafter.

Prof. Watson, of New York, accompanied by his son and daughter, elicited warm applause by the sweet strains they drew forth from their instruments. Musical vocalizations cheered the occasion, as sung by Mr. Houghtalin, Mr. Debus and Mrs. Edwards.

Spiritualism, in the fulfilling of its blessed mission, has steadily ascending the ladder of progress since its advent, and will surely attain a position which shall command the respect and attention of the entire world of educated thinkers—establishing for itself a basis and foundation which cannot be overthrown. Let us, in the love we bear the Cause, manfully sustain the sentiments it promulgates, realizing our individual responsibilities, and kindly cooperating with our unseen and ardent friends in their labor of love? So that all humanity shall realize the grand facts of individual immortality and unending progression.

Yours fraternally, SAMUEL D. GIBNEY.

Lookout Mountain, Tenn.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

For the first time in the history of old Lookout, the Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism was celebrated on its lofty summit Sunday, March 31st.

Beautiful mountain flowers and branches of laurel and holly decorated the parlor of the Natural Bridge Springs Hotel in profusion, where the afternoon gathering of the Chattanooga Society of Spiritualists was held. The attendance was of goodly size, and most enthusiastic in sentiment.

The day proved clear, and afforded opportunity for rambles about the grounds, now almost summer-like in appearance. Before the regular services a bountiful collation was served in a dining-room, which presented an attractive and animated picture as the large party gayly seated themselves at the numerous tables laden with choice and appetizing viands.

The services of the afternoon were opened by an invocation from Dr. Fuller, who subsequently gave a brief résumé of the history and purpose of Modern Spiritualism.

Among the local mediums present were Mrs. M. D. Higley, Mrs. Clanney, Mr. and Mrs. Weigle and Mr. and Mrs. Toyner. Mrs. Higley was in control and spoke at some length, afterward giving each person present some test or word of comfort from the spirit-world. "Red Jacket" made his presence known through his medium, Mrs. Clanney. Miss Weigle was entranced by a male spirit and sang very melodiously. Mr. Toyner, under control, spoke eloquently on the mission of Spiritualism to humanity. Mr. Higley, President of the Chattanooga Society of Spiritualists, gave out some advanced ideas on the development of the soul, and the movements of divine purpose and human evolution.

Among the members of the Society present were Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Albert and Mr. and Mrs. J. Seeman, the first named gentleman being the well-known manager of the New Opera House, Chattanooga, and President of the Lookout Mountain Camp-Meeting Association. Mr. J. Seeman is Treasurer of the Chattanooga Society of Spiritualists and above-mentioned Association.

Late in the afternoon the party left by the incline and narrow Gauge Railroad.

In the evening Dr. Fuller addressed a large audience in Chattanooga. The interest is certainly increasing here, and we feel that the spirit-world is blessing our efforts. Truly it is a pleasure to mingle with the genial and whole-hearted elements we find here.

Our hotel will open May 1st, and of course we are very busy.

One feature of our decorations of the 31st was a display of the various Spiritualistic journals and magazines published in this and other countries, with Mrs. Barker waving over all.

I will close with cordial wishes for your prosperity and happiness.

GEORGIA DAVENPORT FULLER.
April 5th, 1880.

Letter from G. W. Kates.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

I feel that both pen and voice are inadequate to express the soul-emotions, and there are times when the heart-throbs are of such volume that we cannot control external effects. Expressions of heart and soul seem to be infrequent amidst all the cares and toils of life, yet such beautiful oases occasionally cheer and refresh the toiling traveler. The spiritual worker and medium finds much of life's pathway lined with thorns, but he likewise calls many beautiful flowers, is cheered by many souls and warm-hearted friends. Jealousies, bickerings, selfishness and coldness of heart, are being relegated to the past history of mediums, and mutual love and public esteem ushered in. The toiling laborer in the spiritual vineyard has met with frequent unappreciated results, with unpaid efforts, with the coldness of criticism and the slanders of both fellow-workers and the public at large. A tendency toward a loving regard for themselves seems to be in process of generation. Members of local societies and officers thereof are learning to bestow the influences of love and appreciation in such cheering modes that the toiler is lifted and forgets the smarts of thorn-pickings in the ecstasy of heart-warmth and emotions.

I write this because Mrs. Kates and myself have had such good cheer given us in many places that we have visited, and feel the debt of gratitude which life-consecration to duty in the service of the Cause has entailed upon us. Particularly to the Society of Spiritualists in Pittsburgh, Pa., we owe thanks for the many manifest tokens of oneness with us in the efforts to uplift humanity mentally, morally and spiritually. That society of workers are truly individualized spirits of exalted character. For their helping hands and cheerful hearts, for their gratitude to the controlling spirits that employ my companion as their medium, and for our personality, we shall ever be grateful. We have served them on several occasions, and during the month of March just passed we have had a continual ovation tendered by friends and acquaintances, and in the good work for which spirits are co-operating with us. By their influence we are strengthened and made more devoted to the advocacy of truth as we see it, or are impelled by the spirits to voice.

Fraternally, G. W. KATES.
Philadelphia, Pa., April 3d, 1880.

New Publications.

THE WORLD OF CANT, A Companion Book to "Robert Elsmere." 12mo, paper, pp. 348. New York: J. S. Ogilvie.

By many this book is claimed to be superior to "Robert Elsmere," and will, doubtless, be thought so by those who are accustomed to radically progressive thought and its free expression. Its portrayal of some of the methods of church folks, of the canting hypocrisy and mechanical piety of those who profess but do not practice good works, and are ever ready to condemn the innocence of childhood if it does not make a profession similar to their own, is sufficient to shock the sensibilities of all whose feelings are not calloused by an inheritance of erroneous views respecting the nature of man and the ruling Power. It abounds with incidents and personal experiences illustrative of its theme, and the comparison made between those and such as are the product of a better faith are vividly set forth.

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laud, Iowa: The Author.

"*Profession of Faith of a Saragoyra Viceroy*." Translated
from the French of Jean Jacques Rousseau, Citizen of Ge-
nova. Also, "*A Search for Truth*." By Olive Schreier,
16mo, pp. 124, with portrait. New York: Peter Eckler,
Fulton street.

"*The Bible Inquirer; or, A Key to Bible Investigation*.
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ha: J. A. Jacobson.

"*Three Sister Lunatics*." A Collection of Views on
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Thompson; with an Appendix containing Report of
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Mrs. M. T. SHEPHERD-LOVELL will occupy the platform on Tuesday afternoons for the purpose of allowing her spiritual guides to answer questions that may be propounded by inquirers on the mundane plane, having practical bearing upon human life in its departments of thought or labor. Questions can be forwarded to this office, or may be asked to the Chairman, who will present them to the presiding spirit (or spirits).

Mrs. J. P. BARRIE, the excellent test medium, will on Friday afternoons, under the influence of her guides, give incarnated individuals an opportunity to send words of love to their earthly friends—these messages are reported at considerable expense and published each week in THE BANNER.

It should be distinctly understood that the Messages published in this department indicate that spirits carry with them to the life beyond the channels of their earthly lives—whether for good or evil; that those who pass from the mundane sphere in an undeveloped condition, eventually progress to a higher state of existence. We ask the reader to receive no doctrine put forth by spirits in these columns that does not comport with his or her reason. All persons as much as spirits are free to receive no doctrine.

It is our earnest desire that those who recognize the messages of their spiritual friends will verify them by information from the guides of their own spirits.

Natural flowers for our tables are gratefully appreciated by our angelic visitors; therefore we solicit donations of such flowers as the guides of our spirits may desire to place upon the altar of spirituality in their mortal offerings.

Letters of inquiry in regard to this Department may be addressed to Mrs. J. P. BARRIE, proprietors of the BANNER OF LIGHT, and, in any case, to the mediums.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED, THROUGH THE MEDIUMSHIP OF Mrs. M. T. Shepherd-Lovell.

Report of Public Séance held Jan. 20th, 1889.

Questions and Answers.
Q.—If God is omnipotent, where is space for beings who are not included in him?

A.—We know of no being, nor can we possibly conceive of any, that is not included in the divine intelligence. To us, the term God is only a name, convenient for use, for infinite goodness and divine wisdom; and we believe that this infinite goodness, this divine wisdom, this eternal intelligence, is omnipresent; that it permeates every part and portion of the vast universe; that there is no point in space, however infinitesimal it may be, but what is impregnated by this great supreme spirit called God. Most certainly do we recognize the fact, for we believe it to be—that this supreme spirit moves and dwells within and throughout every human being; and this is a strange assertion to make, when we remember how lowly and depraved are some of the human beings that come under our notice; yet it is an assertion that we make, with all reverence, that no human creature can possibly exist, to our mind, but what is moved and acted upon by the Divine Intelligence. It is true that some of these human beings, so lowly and depraved as they are, are crowded upon and crushed by the conditions and surroundings of this outward state, do not recognize nor understand the Great Spirit that is a part and portion of their being; and it may be a long while before they have so sloughed off the carnal and have become so spiritualized in the interior state as to recognize, understand and feel this moving influence; but, nevertheless, we believe the time will come to all such, when they will realize their divine state and strive to aspire toward it.

Well, friends, if we cannot conceive of any human being not acted upon and brought within the dominion of the Supreme Spirit, neither can we conceive of any point in space or any object in Nature, insensate as it may seem to be to you, that is not also permeated by this supreme, superior power. We believe that the very atom beneath our feet, the finest grain of sand which we can measure or handle, is endowed by this spiritual force. We believe that the starry orbs above our head, flaming and flashing with light and brilliancy as they move along their accustomed path, are vitalized and moved upon by this same supreme intelligence and power. Therefore we reply to your correspondent, we certainly know nothing of any space, any being, any object, any atom, any element or invisible force, that is not a part of that is not acted upon and permeated by and made possible by the great supreme intelligence, omnipresent and omnipotent, which man calls God, but which we call the Spirit of all Life.

Q.—[By J. W. Brown.] When a table is tipping, if I place my hand on it it stops. What is the cause of its tipping being interrupted by my touch?

A.—We should judge that the electrical current set in operation by the spirits attendant upon the séance where the movements of the table are made, is interfered with and suspended in its action by the touch of your correspondent, he probably bringing a counter force to bear upon the work, therefore we should most certainly advise the individual not to place his hand upon the table if he desires to receive communications through the instrumentality of unseen intelligences, or if it is the purpose and desire of others present to receive such communication.

Your correspondent may be mediumistic, and may possess certain qualities which can be acted upon by unseen spirits in making their purposes known, but most certainly not in this line of communication through the movements of a tangible object, his own magnetism and possibly his own electrical force, being opposed to those which are employed by the spirits in their work, and therefore his touch is only an interference in place of being useful to the operating spirits.

Q.—[By Mrs. L. J. Fuller, McMinnville, Oregon.] What treatment would you advise as most likely to dislodge typhoid fever and effect a cure?

A.—We look upon the cause of this most malignant form of disease as to be found within the blood and circulatory system of the patient. We believe that the blood has taken upon a poisonous element, which must be eliminated and cast off. It is the struggle of nature and the effort of nature to cast this poisonous element out of the system which produces this form of disease called typhoid fever. It is more difficult to outline a cure for this than to give a preventive; for if one can so place himself as to be surrounded by pure, unvitiated air to live upon high ground, and in the sunlight as much as possible, to partake of food that is easily digested and is not poisonous to the system, then will he be free from this as well as other forms of malignant disease. We do not believe that anyone who keeps himself in a sound condition, so that he can withstand the encroachments of disease, will be affected by this or any other disease, however much his fellows may be stricken by it. To keep the physical body up to a state of positiveness is to keep it resistant to the attacks of any form of disease. Should the mind become depressed, from any cause whatever, the nervous system will suffer in consequence; there will be a general letting down of the entire tone of the system; it comes into a negative state, becomes absorbent, and will take up whatever elements or encroachments may attack it at the time. Therefore one who is depressed, who has from any cause lowered the tone of his physical system by improper habits or by unhealthy surroundings, will become so negative that he may indeed fear contagion should it exist around him.

On the other hand, if he maintains a positive state, lives in accordance with nature's laws, keeps a clear mind and a sound nervous organization, he need not fear any contagious disease. Had we patient suffering from that form of disease called typhoid fever, we should place him in an apartment high up from the ground, one well ventilated, yet of course properly warmed, one that would admit the sunlight and free air. We should give him as slight covering as would sufficiently protect him from any chill, but at the same time such as would

not bear heavily upon his person. We should give cooling drinks, and have him freely take any kind of medicine. We should give drugs of any kind whatever, but should endeavor to keep up the general strength of the system by such slight and simple, yet nutritive food, as eggs well beaten and administered at frequent intervals.

There might be suggested to us, in our method of treatment, as the case was prolonged, other simple means, other forms of food to be administered, but we should certainly not add any fire to that burning within the system, nor should we allow any drug or mineral substance to enter into the stomach.

It would be our desire and our work to frequently sponge the patient with warm baths, allowing no outside current to strike any part of the system at the time, passing the sponge under the bed-clothes, and also under the fabric with which we drape the system.

We should not only administer such treatment to the typhoid patient, but also to those suffering with other malignant forms of disease, such as smallpox. We should have large quantities of onions, sliced and placed in different parts of the room, that they might absorb the poisonous elements passing off from the patient, which would thus not be in danger of entering into the system of any one who might approach.

It seems to us that when humanity comes to study the simple rules of health, it will understand not only how to care for such diseases as these, but there will be much less disease of any form. Yet we must first purify our surroundings, see that our homes are properly drained, that they are well lighted by the natural sun, that the fresh air shall play within and around them, and we should also take proper measures to destroy any putrefaction which might arise, or which might be brought forward in our vicinity.

We believe the time is coming when the disposition of the dead will be studied more closely than it is at present, and that the process of cremation will not only be allowed, but will be practiced on every hand, because it is our opinion, and the opinion of scientific minds who have studied this matter, that effluvia, poisonous elements of putrefaction and forms of disease very often arise from such places as contain the decomposing bodies of the dead, and that they are distributed throughout the atmosphere sometimes for a long distance, and are taken up into negative, receptive systems, where they do their deadly work over and over again.

Q.—[By A. C. Cotton, Vineland, N. J.] Is it true, as claimed by some, that currents of electricity pervade the earth as rivers of water do its surface; and that houses in close proximity to these currents are liable to be struck by lightning, while all others are in but little if any danger of being struck?

A.—We have no doubt that the earth is pervaded by electrical forces; that the earth itself is a great reservoir of energetic power not understood by man, and yet which, appearing in the advancing age of progress, will be studied and comprehended. The great forces of electricity that play throughout the atmosphere are, perhaps, as we have heard it claimed by spirits giving this special matter their study, the counterparts of currents within the bosom of the earth, and respond to those currents, which sometimes produce such stupendous results as come within your experience, but the source of which is not understood. We believe that the bosom of the earth contains within itself ever active and every force that the universe contains, and that it is a great reservoir of power. We believe that its elements provide sustenance, strength and growth to all the various forms of life and of vegetation which this planet can produce; that certain elements and energies are supplied to each variety of activity in the vegetable world, as in the animal and human kingdoms, by these forces which exist within the earth. We know that moisture and sunlight and air upon the surface of the earth do an important work in developing the various forms of vegetation, which spring from the soil, but we also believe beneath the surface of the soil, within the very bosom of the earth itself, there are forces and elements and supplies, which enter into every form of growth in the vegetable world, and which, in a great measure, determine just the character and the office of each form. Thus, the strawberry, growing in a certain spot, will draw those elements and forces from the bosom of the earth necessary for the unfolding of its fruit and the perfection of its own individual flavor and color, while perhaps some other form of life, growing in the same locality, will draw from the earth those special elements and qualities and supplies which will determine its certain and peculiar purpose, formation and flavor, and which will be very different from those of the fruit first mentioned.

Now what have these electrical currents or forces, of which your correspondent hints, to do with these things that we mention? We believe that these electrical currents have a special purpose and office to perform, and that they do reach these various forms of life and growth, supplying just the right degree of energy and vital power, so to speak, that impels them into life and gives them the possibility of being.

Your questioner wishes to know, if such currents exist, if they have an effect upon the houses and homes in their vicinity. The conclusion would be that they have, and we should judge so; yet, so far as we have learned any thing of this, we know that there have been instances of habitations affected by the electrical current in certain localities, that may have drawn the power from the earth itself, yet other dwellings have not been in the least affected which have stood in the direct pathway of the operations of like currents, in their response to those electrical flashes in the atmosphere which you perceive. Therefore we should say that it is a law operating unerringly, it is one to be studied and to be more fully understood before it can be explained. We think that your scientists will not only study more closely the forces of the atmosphere, and those which play about the surface of the earth, but they will turn their attention to the laws and conditions and electrical energies of the interior of the earth, discover and learn more of them.

Q.—[By A. C. Cotton, Vineland, N. J.] Are rods a protection to a house against lightning? If so, what precautions are to be observed in placing them?

A.—We do not consider that what are called lightning-rods are of any special protection, although human experience may claim that they have been so to certain dwelling-places. And yet, as we look over the vast expanse of the country, we find that there have been cases where these lightning-rods have seemed to attract the electrical current rather than to retard its progress. We have no especial advice to give upon this subject, not feeling ourselves competent to give counsel. It seems to us, however, that in human experience there are very few dwelling-places acted upon by lightning, and very few individuals injured by these electrical currents making their way through out the universe and manifesting their power in the summer storm.

It is wise always for man to seek such protection, from visible or invisible forces, as will insure him safety; but one should understand and know thoroughly, before he attempts to explain or to give advice. It seems to us that a great pretension has been made by those who have put the lightning-rods on conductors upon their roofs, that they have been so to certain dwelling-places. And yet, as we look over the vast expanse of the country, we find that there have been cases where these lightning-rods have seemed to attract the electrical current rather than to retard its progress. We have no especial advice to give upon this subject, not feeling ourselves competent to give counsel. It seems to us, however, that in human experience there are very few dwelling-places acted upon by lightning, and very few individuals injured by these electrical currents making their way through out the universe and manifesting their power in the summer storm.

Q.—[From the audience.] How can one who has been possessed of a disagreeable propensity to talk incessantly for more than two years throw it off?

A.—We should consider this a case of obsession; that is, that some individual spirit had attached himself magnetically to the person who is annoyed, and that this spirit had taken

such control of the organism for its own purpose, as to compel it to talk incessantly, and thus perhaps put an order upon itself, and thus perhaps put an order upon itself in contact with external life. The best method to pursue in such a case is to bring the afflicted one under the strong magnetic positive power of some congenial and sympathetic person who is willing and anxious to break the spell and free the afflicted patient from its control. The spirit itself would thus be brought under the dominion and psychological power of the operator, and perhaps be forced to loosen its hold upon the mortal, thus freeing that afflicted individual from his annoyance. There is no medical treatment that can be pursued to advantage in such a case, only quiet magnetic applications such as may be supplied by a healthy, congenial, sympathetic person, male or female; and these treatments should be followed up for some time, that the nervous forces may be allowed and assisted to distribute themselves equally throughout the body, and that the vital fluid and the various parts of the system may be brought into a harmonious state.

SPIRIT MESSAGES, THROUGH THE TRANCE MEDIUMSHIP OF Mrs. B. F. Smith.

Report of Public Séance held Feb. 15th, 1889.

(Continued from last issue.)

Mary Jane Cunningham.

We are all God's children, the colored people, the red men, and the white. And how thankful we should be that all are privileged to come into this place and speak for themselves. I look back upon the time that I saw the red men, the old chiefs, crowding into your room. Why do they come here? It is to give strength to you. There are those to-day, who sit opposite me, who feel stronger for coming into this room, because these children of nature give out power to you, while you give magnetism to them. As you enter the room, leave outside home and its surroundings, and bring all the passive, quiet feeling that you possibly can, and give out your magnetism to those who need it so much; then spirits and mortals may work together, and it is a wise provision of the Great Spirit that they should do so.

I have wished so many times that I could send out a word or two, which would convince Sarah, but I know I must wait patiently; in the angels' own good time will the scales become thinner that are over the eyes.

Now, dear loving sisters, I know you will not place me away with the dead, but will hope I am in heaven. Heaven is but a step from you. So I will say to you, that I am able to give my name in a happy, untroubled, restless, thinking I must do something to convince them. Mary Jane was able not only to give her name, but also a short message.

Oh! it is good, it is kind in you mortals to open your doors, that we may come here and speak through this channel. I know many have been able to reach their dear ones from this place, when they would say: "I do not believe it was he or she"; yet down deep in their spirits they knew better, for a voice within in testifies to the truth. One of my dear sisters has learned considerable of this side, but there is still much more for her to learn. My words are more particularly to Sarah to-day.

I am happy in being able to bring influences for good to you all, and some I find need them more than others. It is, as has been said, more blessed to give than it is to receive, and we do feel happy in bringing comfort and cheer to loved ones here; and when we come and find that we have done some good, how much freer do we feel. But when you approach spirits with the feeling: "I do not believe it is they," you place a bar between yourselves and them. Oh! how hard it is, how it crushes our spirit when you do so.

Now, dear friends, you deceive yourselves in closing your doors against us. Dear mother has repeated these words many times to me: "The Master materialized in a form; then he must have returned to earth to do it. And so do we for the same reason come to you, the great I Am. He gives it out to us, that we may come into your homes and make our forms visible under the right conditions. Be careful, mortals, what you speak in regard to the instruments of the spirit-world, for they are sensitive, or we could not use them. I am very grateful for the few moments allotted to me to-day. My name is Mary Jane Cunningham. I have friends in Lynn, also some in the northern part of Massachusetts.

Alvin Hubbard.

As I was standing here listening to what the spirit had to say, I thought I might through my spirit, would it be well for me to speak for myself? The answer came to me immediately: "Make the attempt." Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I shall speak but briefly. I am happy to say that, although it is many years since I left, I shall be well remembered by some who will see these words, as having lived in Acworth, N. H. I know that another has lately joined our number on the spirit side of life, and I know the sorrow that he has in the spirit of the dear father, when his loving daughter was transplanted to bloom in heaven. Ah! once, twice, did they rap at the door, and now she has joined the mother, who came to meet her. It was a beautiful reunion.

Henry is here and wishes to be remembered. Father and mother also stand a little way from me, asking me to give out a few words for them. Dear brothers and sisters, it is true. You may ask me if I knew anything of my father. I have not written you, but I am blessed with you to-day.

I have often felt, as I have come into the homes which the dear ones have made for themselves; how I wished they knew that we whom they call dead people were there with them. It seems to me now, as I look back, that I should have learned something, although not having the privileges granted me I feel to be something of an excuse.

Oh! how much I did love music. As I look into the audience here, I see some familiar faces that I have known many years ago. I know my name will be remembered when it is announced. Oh! how much I do love music, and I did years ago, especially that of the band. It was my delight to go with the boys, and to take part on special occasions.

Mr. Chairman, I intended to speak only a moment, but my coming en rapport with a number of spirits in the body has given me courage to say more. I wish them to know I am one else but Alvin Hubbard.

These spirits were recognized by parties in the audience.—Reporter.

Richie Bartlett.

Can I come? How do you do? I pretty well, an' I got to bring sometime a big basket full. Can I set 'em right up on this table? You've got a grandpa and grandma, haven't you? There's your four 'em. I've got six, that's more than you've got. Do you want me, some day, to come to your house? [Yes, indeed.]

[A gentleman in the audience brings a beautiful vase and presents it to the little girl, who is very much delighted with the flower.]

Oh! thank you, thank you! [The child takes the flower. To the Chairman:] You can smell it, but don't you get the leaves off. [To a little spirit:] You can smell of my flower, but don't you carry it off; that's my very own. You're a nice gentleman. I'm going to tell your grandma all about you when I see her.

I go to school every day. My papa felt bad because I didn't say anything when he was talking. Papa said he didn't believe grandma came, because I didn't come with him. Truly, I did; but I couldn't talk.

I had a name just like my grandma; it was Richie. Don't you think that's nice? Now, Bernie, don't you go; you've got to wait till I do!

Grandpa is here, and Grandma Bartlett—we call him Grandpa Bartlett. Wait, I'm coming. I'm going to give my flower. That's mine, you can smell it, you can't have it for your own.

I want to tell Aunt Dora that grandma is here, and I want her to tell my papa, 'cause she'll see him, that I was in the meeting. Grandma's got a table most as big as this. I want them to know I came right here.

Papa lives in Kingston, N. H. I was little

when I went away. I want papa to know, and mamma, too, that I was with Bertha and grandma. Grandma says grandma ought to go and stay with Aunt Dora, because she's all alone—only just the baby. Richie Bartlett. My name is Richie.

Mary Jane Stanley.

Beautiful, beautiful children! You must know there is no loneliness, no sadness to us in spirit life when these sweet little children come to the time, as they come laden with flowers. We do appreciate the flowers you bring here in the mortal life, for it shows the kindness of your spirits. That flower is worth more to the child than gold.

The dear little girl stands by the little boy and says: Put it down that the kind gentleman gave him the flower; he don't want it left out. He does appreciate it, although we have all the flowers in the spirit-life that we desire given us freely.

To see the little children gathered together in groups, their lips filled with flowers, twining them together, is a blessed sight. Oh! how many times have I thought of what the Master said: "Suffer little children to come unto me," and have felt that we should love them. When one is plucked out of the home the heart sorrows; the spirit reaches out for the child; but they are cared for in spirit-life. They are all taught, and it is a perfect education that is given them.

Mary Ann is with me to-day and sends greetings to all the loved ones in the home; for more than one, I know, will be glad to hear from us.

Will you be so kind, Mr. Chairman, as to record me as from Toledo, Ohio? I have wished so much they might know that Mary Jane was not dead; and still further, that we have the power given us of coming into mortal life and speaking for ourselves. We cannot be debarrd from coming, but you can prevent our manifesting to you.

Then I would say do not do it; open your doors, and we will come in and give you words that will comfort and cheer you. Mary Jane Stanley.

Frank Bartlett.

Often have I been in this room, never thinking for one moment that I wished to speak in public; but as I find it may have some weight with mother, and also with my dear brothers—I do not say father, for he understands much of my coming; now, I wish them to know I have spoken here, and as the Spirit Chairman has assured me it will be recorded, I feel satisfied.

Mothers, I have often heard you say to father: "You fool, it is for you to think you can hear from Frank, or any of the others. You are only wasting your money." Mother, dear, for that name is sweet, I wish to-day you could learn something of this for yourself. You would be happier, and father would be much happier, if you would learn a little and go hand-in-hand spiritually. I know, as you have said, there are so many wrongs, so many faults, one do not know what is true and what is not. Then let reason be the judge, and follow her guidance; receive wisdom reasonably and not one-sidedly, what does not. Our Frank lives to-day, and it is true that I come into your homes. I go to brothers' often, for I know, as I have seen them apart from the home, they have thought of me.

Twenty-two years I passed in mortal life, and then was called up higher. I shall be remembered by my own people, and also in Newton Lower Falls I shall be remembered, although many miles I did go, and then came back to make the exchange of worlds. I possess a body similar to that I had on earth, but am freed from all aches and ills.

Father, come and talk with me whenever you see a channel open. I would be glad if you would come into this hall, that you might listen to what other spirits may say; it will feed your spirit, which demands such food, more, perhaps, than mother's does.

I am happy to-day. I am happy in my spirit-home, yet through the laws of attraction strong ties bring me back again to you. Mary Clark is here, and sends greetings to you all in the home. Frank Bartlett.

Alvin Hubbard.

Dear ones are waiting to receive a word from me.

I would not have ventured to speak here if that young gentleman had not come in before me. I was not as old as he, only fifteen; a little while longer, and I would have been sixteen. I should have thought then I was pretty big. I did not stay quite long enough on earth. I wish father and mother to know that their boy is no dead.

I have heard people talking to them, and heard them talking back again. Oh! how hard it was for them to part with me. I should say I had not been gone one year, but it troubles us a little to keep track of the time.

In Walpole, N. H., they will know who I am, also at Bellows Falls. I wish there was some way I could speak to them long enough there. I have spoken as loud as I could when I have stood by the side of father and mother, but they have not noticed me. I could not see who I talked to, they didn't hear. They didn't know anything of this coming back when I went away. They have got to learn when they get where I am, unless they make an effort in this direction before they pass on.

They have been pretty good to me on the spirit side since I went there, and I do not have any desire to come back to stay; but I do wish my folks knew that I was alive and could come here. The Chairman said this was Boston; that's what he told me; and you see I have come quite a little ways. I came pretty quick, though.

I want mother to know that I do not suffer any now, neither do I suffer in passing over. But they thought so. And I've seen a good many that have passed away—some were neighbors, some, as they tell me, are my relations, that I never knew here. I guess in time I shall find out about how they are connected with us. Alvin Hubbard.

Controlling Spirit.

The time is up. We would thank the gentleman for the flower given to the dear little spirit. The child treasures it dearly, and it will be spoken of by some one connected with the family, in after-time. Thanks to you, dear mortals, for your quiet attention.

SPIRIT MESSAGES TO BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK.

March 1.—George W. Pierce; Jane T. Adams; Charles Edmonds; Noah Glynn; Clara Wellington; John Nutter; Mary A. Evans; Elizabeth Gannon; Cora Bridges; John Moore; Emma Stiles; Zilpha Stiles.

THE MESSAGES GIVEN (THROUGH MRS. B. F. SMITH) AT PER DATES WILL APPEAR IN DUE COURSE.

April 5.—Henry Sumner; Martin J. Ross; Henrietta Chittenden; George Hardy; Mrs. John Hardy; Alvin Hubbard; Freddie Tansy; Nellie Kenyon; Mattie Hopkins; William Graves; Grace Gleason; Hannah Curtis; Mary Flint.

To the Liberal-Minded.

As the "BANNER OF LIGHT Establishment" is not an incorporated institution, and as we could not therefore legally hold bequests made to us in that name, we give below the form in which such a bequest should be worded in order to stand the test of law:

"I give, devise and bequeath unto Luther Colby and Isaac B. Rich, of Boston, Massachusetts, all the property I have lawfully acquired, and that they shall appropriate and expend the same in such way and manner as they shall deem expedient and proper for the promulgation of the doctrine of the immortality of the soul and its eternal progression."

Passed to Spirit-Life.

From South Dedfield, Mass., March 13th, after an illness of only two weeks, Asa M. Fisher, aged 64 years and 6 months. For forty years Spiritualism has been his faith and comfort, and sustained him in the parting from parents, children and friends. He was for many years a subscriber for THE BANNER OF LIGHT.

He was a kind and loving husband and father. To those who loved him, he was a life—a wife and five sons—Spiritualism was his consolation.

Mrs. C. H. Barnes conducted the last services, which were grand and beautiful, and comforting to the friends.

[Obituary Notices not exceeding twenty lines published gratuitously. When they exceed that number, twenty cents for each line. No poetry admitted under this heading.]

(From the Providence (R.I.) Journal, April 19th.)

Choice, the Real Deal.

ADDRESS BY HON. SIDNEY DEAN.

After a piano solo and a song, Presiding Officer E. H. Whitney, of the Providence Spiritualist Association, introduced Hon. Sidney Dean, of Warren, formerly a Methodist preacher and later editor of the Evening Press of this city, to the large audience assembled in Blackstone Hall last evening.

The speaker of the occasion offered prayer. Then there was another vocal solo, when Mr. Dean began as follows: I wish to express a thought or two as a prelude to my subject. Is it not surprising that for over two thousand years the world has been struggling with the great problem of the immortal continuous existence of man, and during this time the Church has met with the stubborn refusal of man to stand at the altar of the eternal and not in the spiritual? In the last century the intellects of men have been following the divine. The animal has been relegated to the lower plane. There are not so many beasts. The man with the big basic brain and the low forehead has given way to the man with the small basic brain and the massive forehead pregnant with thought. In Germany there is great intelligence displayed. The animal, does not preponderate, the intellect does. While the Christian Church has been battling with the sensual seeking to place its hand at the altar of the grave, to proclaim man's immortal existence, is it not surprising that the moment there is a naturally philosophical disclosure of man's existence before the grave, consistent with reason and marked with power, the Christian Church rises up with materialists to crush it? I present it as a startling phenomenon, as a strange comment upon the followers of the Nazarene, who was himself a teacher of humanity. I call it a mental phenomenon.

This disclosure is founded upon the great truth of man's immortality. It is not long before that great veil will pass before your face and life. If you take a leap in the dark for God's sake get out of the Church. [Applause.] Has man as a moral being any right to place an obstacle in the way of intelligent investigation? Why not take a single fact and learn the laws of that fact, and if it leads you into the eternal realms give God the glory?

Continuing, the speaker said: Man carves for himself an image. He may be an atheist; he may be a theist; he may be a Christian. It will be formed of the sensitive and reflective plate of his inner consciousness that he may work out in the material. But the material embodiment of the conception is always far below, in beauty, symmetry and detail, the fact or form created by the mind. The reason for this is that the spiritual creation is the real, the original, and its outworking in matter is a crude copy.

The earth flower is no more to be compared with its spirit type than is the work of the artist painter to be compared with the model which nature gave him, fresh from his baptism of dew. How dwarfed and insignificant our power and our knowledge appear even to ourselves, when we consider for a moment that possibly and probably more manifestations of creative wisdom lie beyond the horizon of our highest and deepest consciousness than are to be found within it.

Within the orbit of our consciousness we, as artists, study and work out designs. Our conceptions are mostly the antitypes of things as they are in spirit-realms. There is less originality in the human mind than is generally acknowledged. We are largely copyists, and our copies, in execution, are far inferior to the originals to be found in the pure realms of spirit being and intelligence. In passing from the lowest to the highest plane of knowledge and spiritual perception, each person materializes in his own life his perceptions of truth and reality in the spiritual. An atheist finds no supreme creating deity woven into the fabric of his earth-life. The life of the Buddhist, Mohammedan, follower of Confucius, Christian or heathen, is made up of the distinctive philosophies or creeds which have been accepted by them. The Christian conception is better than that of all the others named, because it is the most enlightened, the most spiritual and the least material and sensual.

The speaker took the ground that transposition was not really essential to the Christ-philosophy. The spiritually natural was the true basis of all the Nazarene's teachings concerning life here or hereafter. It took hold of the very fundamentals of man's spiritual nature, swept into its philosophy of life all the better and higher attributes of man's nature, taught him the laws of their highest and most harmonious development, and relegated the lowest, including the passions and appetite, which by their very essence impregnate the spirit, to a full subordination to the imperial liberty of the real man, the soul.

He spoke of the true Christ-philosophy, not the theology built upon it, not the modern creeds through which the modernists and modern sectaries. The forces of spirit are not material in themselves. These forces are based upon and work from the interior, from the spirit itself. Back of the spirit in the mortal is the great reservoir of spirit-life and power. It surrounds the earth, infiltrates the earth and is the sustaining power of life in earth. But for the spirit of life in earth's atmosphere it would become an omnipresent pestilence and death, sweeping all forms of life, save the spiritual, from off the face of the globe.

But it was in the spiritual life embodied in human personality that spirit forces of life are most felt, and for the reason that each human life has its own environment, it is a self-herd. It has its own attributes, its own tastes, aspirations

N. Mattison, Secretary, No. 8 Pearl street.

New York Advertisements

pal, Magnetic Institute, Grand Rapids, Mich. 1m

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 30 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 15 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996).

the 1990s, the number of people in the United States who are 65 years of age or older is projected to increase from 20 million to 35 million, and the number of people 75 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10 million to 17 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 85 years of age or older is projected to increase from 2 million to 4 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 90 years of age or older is projected to increase from 500,000 to 1 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 95 years of age or older is projected to increase from 100,000 to 200,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996). The number of people 100 years of age or older is projected to increase from 10,000 to 20,000 (U.S. Census Bureau, 1996).

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Banner of Light.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1880.

Spiritualistic Meetings in Boston.

Free Spiritualistic Meetings are held in the BANNER OF LIGHT HALL, No. 105 Washington Street, regularly twice a week, on Tuesday and Friday evenings. The public is cordially invited. For further particulars see notice on sixth page.

Berkley Hall, 4 Berkeley Street.—The Boston Spiritual Temple services at 10 1/2 P. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. H. Holmes, President; J. A. Shelburne, Treasurer; J. A. Shelburne, Secretary.

First Spiritual Temple, corner Newbury and Essex Streets.—The "Spiritual Fraternity" Society will hold public meetings every Sunday at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. School for children meets at 10 1/2 A. M. Afternoon service at 2 1/2 P. M. and Wednesday evening service at 7 1/2 P. M.

Spiritual Phenomena Association, Lyceum Hall, 1051 Washington Street.—Lectures at 2 1/2 P. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Solid correspondence with mediums everywhere, through whom interesting phenomena may occur suitable for a public platform. J. H. Hall, President; J. H. Hall, Secretary.

Children's Progressive Lyceum.—Sessions every Sunday at 11 A. M. in (large) Faneuil Hall, Appleton Street, near Tremont. All seats free. Every one invited. Prof. J. W. Felt, Secretary.

1031 Washington Street.—The First Spiritualistic Ladies' Aid Society meets every Friday. Mrs. A. E. Barnes, President; Mrs. J. L. Bates, Secretary.

Berkley Hall.—The Independent Club meets every Friday at 7 1/2 P. M., followed by entertainment. J. W. Fletcher, President; Mrs. Ada Simmons, Treasurer; J. W. Fletcher, Secretary.

College Hall, 34 Essex Street.—Sundays at 10 1/2 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Eben Cobb, Conductor.

Eagle Hall, 616 Washington Street.—Sundays at 2 1/2 P. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. and Wednesdays at 7 P. M. Dr. E. H. Mathews, Conductor.

A Public Social Meeting will be held every Thursday evening at 7 1/2 P. M. in the Office Parlor, Evans House, 113 Tremont Street. Eliza J. Bennett, Manager.

American Hall, 724 Washington Street.—Services each Sunday. Dr. A. H. Hall, Conductor.

Chelsea.—Spiritualistic meetings are held in Pilgrim Hall, Old Fellows Hall, each Sunday at 7 1/2 P. M.

—Meetings are held at Grand Army Hall, Sundays at 2 1/2 P. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. All mediums invited. G. F. Slight, Chairman.

—The Ladies' Aid Society will meet every Friday afternoon and evening at 106 Chestnut Street. M. L. Dodge, Secretary.

Cambridgeport.—Meetings are held every Sunday evening at Old Fellows Hall, 44 Main Street. H. D. Simons, Secretary.

The Boston Spiritual Temple—Berkley Hall.—Last Sunday morning Mrs. Little at the opening of her remarks spoke upon "Life and Death," saying, "One of the old workers in the spiritual ranks has recently arisen from the mortal to the immortal. His influence has been given for the uplifting of humanity. He has been a mortal, but he has been a mortal of earth and treads the paths of life. Not a week or a day, scarcely an hour, passes but someone of you is called upon to sympathize with those who with tear-stained faces are mourning for those who have been taken from the mortal. Death is ever among us. We have an abiding here for but a short time at best, and looking forward to a future state of existence, we are taught that we shall pass thither empty-handed, possessing there only the results of the deeds of kindred here."

Beyond the borders of this life we shall find ourselves as we have fitted ourselves to become by our earthly course. Death is but the opening of a door through which we pass to a new and better life. Progress, and to that end our Brother A. E. Newton has gone to follow out the line of duty he so fearlessly and efficiently pursued in this life."

In answer to the question, "Is Tobacco injurious to the human system?" All those who use tobacco meet with reaction. Tobacco in any form or sense is no benefit to a spirit in or out of the body. I would apply the same remark to intoxicating liquors. Heaven is a condition of peace, purity and happiness. It is the true kingdom of heaven within the body. It cannot be enjoyed with the effects of either of these stimulants. Be pure in thought and in habit, aspiring ever to be noble, grand and true."

Subject: "The Influence of Home versus the Influence of Saloons." Spiritualism is an all-embracing theme that reaches out to the promotion of everything that benefits humanity. From the first all genuine spirits have advocated the principle of peace and morality. The work of temperance is a work that needs encouragement. We believe in temperance to be the chief evil of the present time—greater, perhaps, than all others combined. Legislation has effected a little, but it has been inadequate. We ask ourselves what can be done? In looking over the mass we find some advocating the entire abolition of the manufacture and sale of all intoxicants. Others advocate license, but to license a power more terrible than the thing we are in sympathy with prohibition, our method of attack would be to work directly with the individual. Those who indulge in intoxicants to excess become lunatics, and there should be hospitals for those who by such means have become deranged. The home is the first place in which to commence reform. Out of the depths man must come sooner or later. Progress from iniquity and wrong is secured only by avoiding the evil and applying for the good.

Mrs. Little will occupy the platform next Sunday, at 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

O. L. H.

First Independent Club, Berkley Hall.—The exercises of the Club on Friday evening, April 12th, were opened with the ever acceptable music of Mrs. Case—followed by very interesting remarks by Mrs. Fletcher, President, and a most enjoyable trip last week to New York, Philadelphia and other cities.

Mrs. Wellington spoke briefly and pleasantly, as usual. Also Mrs. Hull and Mrs. Mason.

There were more than a dozen ladies who by the welcome voice of Mrs. Fletcher, who for several weeks has been absent. She always has something good to say, and says it as nobody else can; her remarks this evening were particularly earnest and welcome.

As there are to be but two more meetings before the summer adjournment, an effort will be made to render them especially enjoyable.

The afternoon session will be given next Friday as usual by Mr. Case, to be followed by supper at 6 o'clock and the entertainment at 8.

H. LOUISE K. Cor. Sec'y.

American Hall, 724 Washington Street.—The Echo Spiritualists' Meetings were held here on Sunday last—Dr. W. A. Hale, Chairman. Large audiences were in attendance throughout the day. Dr. Hale, L. L. Willock, Mrs. L. E. Manning, Mrs. E. E. Lynde, Mrs. L. E. Manning, Mrs. E. E. Lynde, Miss Nettie M. Holt, Mrs. A. A. Smith, Mrs. Nellie Thomas (Burke of Plymouth), Mr. Tuttle, Mr. Fuller, Samuel D. Tharp and Mr. Fernald joined in the remarks, which were very interesting. The evening service was given through the organs of Mrs. Downing, Mrs. Burnham, Mrs. Smith, Miss Holt, Mrs. Burbeck, Mrs. Conant, Samuel Tharp, Mrs. Pease and the Chairman. Good music by the usual talent. A fine list of test and singing. The Club has been secured for next Sunday.

M. H. H. Sec'y.

Eagle Hall, 616 Washington Street.—Sunday, April 14th, three successful meetings were held at this place. In the afternoon exercises were opened by an address from Mr. Tharp, of Philadelphia; subject: "What is Mediumship?" Mrs. Burbeck, of Plymouth, spoke, and gave some very good tests, which were readily recognized. Mrs. Conant, Mrs. Burnham, Mrs. M. W. Leslie, Mrs. Hancock, Mrs. Lewis and David Brown participated in giving tests and readings, which were well received. Remarks were made by Mr. Tharp, and a most enjoyable evening. Miss Jennie Rhind spoke in her typical manner; Mrs. Maggie Keating-Cutter gave tests and closing remarks. The music, furnished by Mrs. M. F. Lovings, was excellent.

F. W. M.

The Ladies' Industrial Society met at Room 4, Berkley Hall Building, Tuesday, April 14th. The circle in the afternoon at 4 was well attended, and good tests were given. Mr. and Mrs. Little were with us in the evening. Mr. Little opened services with a song. Mrs. Little gave a poem on "Lost Arts." Remarks were made by Mrs. Little, Mrs. Luther, Mrs. Mason and Capt. Holmes.

Mrs. H. W. C. Sec'y pro tem.

Brockton, Mass.—Prof. Peck gave the second of his present course of lectures Sunday night, (14th inst.), to a large and deeply interested audience. His subject was: "Evolution Contrasted with Creation and was a most interesting and logical exposition of the scientific theory of the development of life. Miss Mary L. Packard again delighted the audience with her soul-stirring singing. Not only has she the advantage of a fine voice, but she has the advantage of a powerful inspiration by the angels. She should be heard in Boston. Prof. Gurney's accompaniment on the piano was well in perfect.

Mrs. H. N. Kirtin, Cor. Sec'y.

Troy, N. Y.—The First Society of Spiritualists meets every Sunday evening in Room 18 Keenan Building, corner Broadway and Third Streets. Mrs. Ada Foye gave the evening service on Wednesday, April 15th—before proceeding with her developing circle—and all were well pleased. On Thursday evening, 11th, Mrs. Nellie J. T. Brigham (as usual every four weeks) gave a very instructive lecture.

Sunday evening, 14th, Mrs. Foye held the audience for an hour and a half with her marvelous tests, which were universally recognized.

E. M. O. Sec'y.

Spiritualistic Meetings in New York and Brooklyn.

Columbia Hall, 476 4th Avenue, between 40th and 50th Streets.—The People's Spiritualistic Society meets every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Mediums and speakers always present. Frank W. Jones, Conductor.

Metaphysical Hall, 1051 Washington Street.—Meetings of the Progressive Spiritualistic Society are held every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Reliable spiritualists and mediums are present to give spirit phenomena and gifts. Prof. G. W. Van Horn, Conductor.

Meetings for Spiritual Manifestations will be held at Adelphi Hall, corner 7th Avenue and 23rd Street, New York, every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Admission free.

Adelphi Hall, corner of 7th Avenue and 23rd Street.—The First Society of Spiritualists holds meetings every Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7 1/2 P. M. Admission free.

Johnston Building, Flatbush Avenue, near Fulton Street.—The Spiritualistic Society meets every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock. Samuel Bogart, President.

The First Society of Spiritualists.—At the opening of the morning service the President, Mr. Henry J. Neyton, related an interesting experience concerning the development for materialization of Mrs. Etta Roberts, of 235 West 53rd Street, this city.

Mr. Neyton said, that upon the suggestion of the medium's brother-in-law, he consented to invite a few friends to his house to test the genuineness of the manifestations. The result was so satisfactory that a table was turned out for the purpose of having a sitting in the test cabinet that was used by Mrs. E. A. Wells, the two compartments of which are divided by a network partition. The medium was removed from one compartment to the other. Not being satisfied with this, she consented to have the table moved from one to the other. A wire door to the medium's part of the cabinet was then made and the medium locked in, and again she was moved. Mr. Neyton was asked to hold the table for her. He said, "Her control could be tested, and in a few moments Lawyer E. H. Benn was asked to go in. There was nobody there. This was done three times in one sitting. Her control was not afraid of snakes, or anything else, and invites the test conditions, and sketches to make the most searching examination and inquiry."

Questions were submitted, in reply to which Mr. J. J. Morse said, "I admit that there is a fraud, but it seems to us that many are more anxious for fraud than for fact. The phenomena of to-day are very much like those of ancient days. If you deny these you must deny those. Then what proof have you of a continuity of the beyond the grave?"

In the evening Mr. Morse discoursed upon "The Phenomena of Spiritualism a Vital Necessity to its Philosophy." He said: "A desire for immortality has characterized man through all ages. We assert that the phenomena are absolutely necessary to the development of Spiritualism, for without them you have nothing to convince humanity."

The meeting for Spirit Manifestations in the afternoon was opened with piano solo by Miss J. H. Fernald. Mrs. H. E. Newton extended remarks upon the development of Mrs. Roberts as a materializing medium, substantially covering the position taken in the morning. Mr. L. F. Deming, one of the sitters at the table, corroborated what Mrs. Fernald had said. Mrs. Newton made some remarks endorsing the same, saying it was almost too wonderful to be believed, unless seen with one's own eyes. Miss Maud F. Pleasant sang a song. Mr. J. J. Morse related some of his experiences in the test cabinet, and gave several tests that were well received. Mrs. A. C. Henderson gave a large number of readings, to the delight of the audience. Miss Maudie Horton gave a whistling solo and encore.

This evening the exercises were opened by a piano solo by Mrs. H. E. Newton, who said that she had been pleasantly and profitably entertained.

New York, April 14th, 1880.

The Ladies' Society of Mercy.—The meetings of this Society, held every Wednesday afternoon, at Columbus Hall, 878 Sixth Avenue, near the 90th Street Elevated Railroad Station, this city, are attracting much marked attention, from opposers as well as friends of Spiritualism, as to merit a brief notice in the columns of the Banner of Light.

The audience are composed of persons of all sects who are equally delighted with what they hear and see. Upon entering the hall, each person usually lays upon the speaker's desk a handkerchief in a sealed envelope, and after some musical, literary and spiritual exercises, a medium of surpassingly wonderful psychometric power enters, and for nearly two hours gladdens the hearts of her hearers by reading from the different handkerchiefs names and addresses of persons who are in the presence of their loved ones, and exclamations of joy and wonder are quite general.

Mrs. M. A. Tingler is the President of the Society, as well as its medium. The Society has been in existence about three years, and its meetings were formerly held in the parlors of its President, who has devoted her time and property exclusively and gratuitously to its benevolent work.

A home for aged and indigent persons has recently been started by the Society, and with a view toward insuring the permanency of the institution, it was asked to be changed from a further consideration of the hall, where a larger number of persons could be accommodated. The audience are increasing steadily, and the Society's efforts are evidently destined to receive the support which they deserve.

CON.

New York, March 23d, 1880.

People's Meeting.—Mr. William C. Bowen, of Brooklyn, delivered an admirable discourse before the People's Meeting in Columbus Hall Sunday afternoon, April 14th, upon the "Attitude of Rev. R. Heber Newton toward Spiritualism." It was a review, not a criticism, and also a comparison of Mr. Newton's candid and rational article as published in the New York Herald of 31st ult. with the sentiments expressed so often ago by the same gentleman in the same paper.

Brooklyn, N. Y., April 15th, 1880.

Buffalo, N. Y.—"Veritas" writes: "A few months ago Willard J. Hull and O. S. Garretson invited the Society of Natural Sciences of this city to cooperate in an investigation of spiritualistic manifestations. At a regular meeting of the Society, the invitation was formally accepted, and a committee appointed to complete the arrangements for the investigation. The committee, it seemed as though the matter would be harmoniously consummated; but the committee, at the last meeting of the scientists, dodged the issue because they could not leave things at their own way, and made speciality of the investigation by the Society of Messrs. Hull and Garretson's proposition. So ended the laudable efforts of those gentlemen to obtain an impartial presentation of mediumistic phenomena under scientific inspection. President Hull was the only one who stood by the Society, and favored its rapidly increasing organization with an able and pleasing address."

[Mrs. E. Cutler writes us from 1142 West Avenue, that she arriving in Buffalo she has found plenty to do—she having been engaged by the First Society to speak for it in March. March 15th she organized a Woman's Progressive Union, to raise money to build a spiritual Temple in Buffalo, to be used for lectures and spiritual work. The Union has been taking in the work, and new members are admitted at every meeting; its officers are: Mrs. S. A. Armstrong, President; Mrs. H. M. Smith, Vice President; Mrs. M. F. Pfeiffer, Treasurer; Mrs. L. C. Brainerd, Secretary.]

Lovell, Mass.—Our Spiritualistic Society observed Anniversary Day at our regular place of meeting on Sunday, March 21st. That refined lady and excellent inspirational lecturer, Mrs. Juliette Yeaw of Leominster, lectured, afternoon and evening—her themes being: "The Day We Celebrate" and "The Mission of Modern Spiritualism." A fine programme of music was rendered by the chorus choir, with the occasion was made specially interesting by appropriate selections by the speaker's daughter, Mrs. Kate Pope, a most charming elocutionist.

A peculiar feature of our meetings is that the bulk of the audience is drawn from the country, there being a large and increasing number of the explorative realm of spiritualistic thought and demonstration.

There seems to be a special demand for test mediums. Mrs. E. Clarke Kimball of Lawrence, Sunday, April 11th, called on our Society. Her tests were many, complete, and all recognized.

Aside from organized effort, Spiritualism is, within church lines and without, constantly gaining converts, though in many cases antagonistic environments prevent open avowal.

Ed. S. VANNEY.

Newburyport, Mass.—April 14th Bishop A. Deas, of New York, occupied our platform, this being his last Sunday here. He gave an interesting discourse on Spiritualism and Mediumship. His singing was well received; his character-readings were correct. He is a courteous gentleman and has made many friends during his stay here.

Next Sunday Mrs. Leslie, test medium from Boston, who is well known here by reputation, on Sunday, April 26th, we are to have Frank Algon, the boy medium.

F. H. F.

Societies and Mediums in San Francisco, Cal.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light.
SOCIETIES.—The Progressive Spiritualistic Society meets every Sunday afternoon in Washington Hall, 35 Eddy Street. The exercises consist of occasionally a paper read by one of its members, followed by general discussion.

The People's Spiritual Meeting occupies the same hall on Sunday evening. They have recently enjoyed the services of Mrs. E. B. Crosscut, who is a new medium in the lecture field. She is a finely organized lady, and we know after a few years of use by her controls, will become one of the highest order of inspirational speakers. She is a native of California, and has always made this her home.

The Metaphysical College, located at 105 Macgregor Street, is presided over by W. J. Colville. He lectures every Tuesday and Friday, mornings and evenings. His classes are well attended. Sunday morning in Metropolitan Temple and evening in the College, his audiences are large. Besides the work in the city he delivers lectures in Oakland, Alameda and San Jose every week, and generally gives a musical entertainment on Saturday evening.

He is engaged for the Eastern camp-meetings, and will, I understand, leave this city in June.

Meetings for Lectures, Tests and Spiritual Healing—a new departure in the field of spiritual attainments—have been inaugurated by Dr. J. R. and Mrs. Edith E. R. Nickless, of New York, who have lately come among us to remain for a few months, after an extended tour through the States. These meetings are held at St. Andrew's Hall, 111 Larkin Street, every Sunday evening, and consist of lectures and tests by Mrs. Nickless, and spiritual healing by Dr. Nickless. Her success thus far has been wonderful; the hall has been crowded. Mrs. Nickless is a brilliant speaker and wonderful test medium. The Doctor's instantaneous healings are causing considerable interest.

These meetings are free, thus giving all an opportunity to attend who wish. We bespeak for them success in their undertaking, and know their labors will be crowned with reward.

The Spiritual Circle of Harmony meets Sunday morning and evening at St. George's Hall, No. 909 Market Street. This is of the conference order. It is presided over by Mrs. F. A. Logan.

The Union Spiritual Society meets on Wednesday evening at St. Andrew's Hall, No. 111 Larkin Street. Mrs. E. B. Crosscut answers questions, followed by tests or remarks by some of the mediums present.

The Children's Progressive Lyceum is in a very flourishing condition at the present time. It holds its services in Fraternity Hall, No. 909 Market Street, Sunday mornings. The attendance is good and its numbers are constantly increasing. At a recent entertainment given by the Lyceum much talent was displayed in the recitations, songs, etc. Mrs. Churchill, Mrs. Michener and Mr. Wardsworth are at the helm of this grand and much-needed work among the young. The Lyceum should receive the support of every Spiritualist in this city.

MEETINGS.—John Slater is taking the city by storm. His lectures are given at the full seating capacity on Sunday afternoons and evenings to listen to the many and varied readings and tests given through his mediumship. He frequently brings his audience into a roar of laughter at the comical reading of some episode of an individual's life. This is all intermingled with remarkable tests of spirit-presence. He is reaching the hearts and opening the eyes of many who have never before given a thought to Spiritualism. He is doing a grand work.

Among other mediums on this coast is the veteran J. V. Mansfield. He is comfortably situated in two nicely-furnished rooms on the corner of Market and Fifth Streets, and has plenty to do, his hours being nearly all engaged ahead. The Doctor looks as hale and hearty as he did twenty years ago, when we had a sitting with him, and we do not see but he is good for another twenty years.

Mrs. M. J. Whitney's rooms are thronged during her office hours with those seeking communications from their friends. Her public work she has given up for the present. It is her intention now of visiting the Eastern camp-meetings the coming season.

Among new arrivals from the East, we notice that Mrs. Higgins of New York is located on Turk Street. Mrs. Lizzie Fulton, the slate-writing medium, is soon to leave for the North. From there she goes to Kansas City, where she has many dear friends, and are ready to welcome her back to her old home.

These are only a few of the many mediums in our city; all are doing their work well.

Charles Dawbarn has been busily engaged in building a residence in the vicinity of Oakland.

"OUR CAMP-MEETING."—It looks now as if we may skip this year. Some think the feast of last year sufficient for some time; others are in favor of holding it at some convenient cable-road point in the suburbs of this city.

CYRUS.

Montreal, Canada.—On the 31st of March, the day everywhere celebrated as the Anniversary of the advent of Modern Spiritualism, the Spiritualists of Montreal held their first meeting in the new, handsome and commodious hall, 245 St. Catherine Street, to which we had removed a few days previous. Another important move that deserves to be noticed is the change of the name of our Society, which occurred simultaneously with the change of hall. The Association for the Investigation of Spiritualism, we have now the "Religio-Philosophical Society," a name considered more euphonious as well as more expressive than the old designation.

Sunday evening, the 1st inst., we had the pleasure of listening to Mrs. Fannie Davis Smith, who delivered one of her soul-stirring discourses to a large, intelligent, and appreciative audience. The new hall was well filled, and the exercises were most successful.

Although the audience was composed of the most heterogeneous elements imaginable, including Spiritualists, free-thinkers, agnostics, Calvinists, Unitarians, evangelists and high-churchmen, everybody seemed pleased with the discourse, and the commendation were heard on all sides at the close of the meeting. Mrs. Smith has the happy faculty of talking up Spiritualism without making useless, irritating and offensive allusions to other forms of religion.

We have arranged to have Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Kates with us during the month of June, and are anticipating a good time while they are here. It is beginning to be evident to all observers that Spiritualism has at last taken deep root in Montreal, and is growing.

GEORGE DAVISON.

Norwich, Ct.—Our society was favored Sunday, 14th inst., by the appearance on our platform of Mrs. Elsham-Longley, well known to all readers of the good BANNER OF LIGHT. She was accompanied by her husband, Prof. Longley, to whom we are indebted for so many happy hours of instruction.

The address she gave was "The Unwritten Law," and was treated in a spiritual manner. At the evening service Mrs. Longley responded to questions presented by the audience in a clear and philosophical manner, showing much practical wisdom.

Mr. J. Wm. Fletcher will occupy our platform the remaining Sunday of the month.

Mrs. J. A. CHAPMAN, Sec'y.

Haverhill and Bradford.—The British Hall meeting Sunday, April 14th, held by the Union Spiritualist Fraternity, was a large and interesting one, being addressed by Mrs. Lizzie B. Manchester, of West Haverhill, whose efforts were of the highest order of interest. She was followed both in the afternoon and evening, by Mrs. M. Louise Chase, of Merrimackport, in a succession of interesting and convincing exercises in test mediumship.—Mrs. Chase, a native of Haverhill, will occupy the platform next Sunday.

P. H.

Haverhill, Mass.—Unity Hall.—Mrs. N. J. Willis, of Cambridge, Mass., spoke for the First Spiritualist Society of this city Sunday, April 14th, at 12 and 7 P. M.

The lecture of the afternoon was upon "The Spiritualism of To-day, or the Needs of the Hour"; the subject at the 7 P. M. lecture, "Knowledge and Faith in this Nation." She presented much practical thought upon the life issues now before the American people.

Mrs. B. F. Smith will occupy the same platform next Sunday.

W. W. CURRIER.

Providence, R. I.—The Conference and Mediums' Meeting was well attended and much interesting shown. Mrs. Sarah A. Byrnes delivered a very interesting, concise and logical lecture, using as a subject "The Day We Celebrate." Her lecture, using as a subject "The Day We Celebrate," was well received. The light in her lecture being liberal thought.—Next Sunday evening her subject will be: "The Chemistry of Thought." E. H. WHITNEY.

The Anniversary in Victoria, B. C.

The Victoria (B. C.) Daily Times, of March 20th, states that the Forty-First Anniversary was celebrated on the evening previous in Harmony Hall, a full house in attendance. The first number on the programme was an address by the President of the Society, ex-Mayor Fell.

He reviewed the history of Spiritualism. Forty-one years ago that night spiritual manifestations occurred which astonished the world and which had mystified science ever since. In spite of the contumely which had been heaped upon these manifestations, the growth of Christianity had not been faster in the same length of time. Orthodoxy now, which pretended to scout spirit phenomena, had the same humble beginnings—not one iota more of the ocular evidence to support it.

Speaking of the attitude of the clergy to Spiritualism, he compared them to the chief priests and scribes who, when Christ was before them, could cry nothing but "Crucify him." It was the fate of all beliefs to go through an ordeal like this. The belief, in fact, which could not stand it should fall. The President's remarks were received with generous applause.

Mr. Fell was followed by Prof. Sharpe with a piano solo, "The Mocking Bird," with variations. "Prof. Sharpe's abilities as a musician," says The Times, "are so well known, in this city, that the fact of his playing carries the stamp of excellence, and comment, therefore, is superfluous."

"Ehren on the Rhine," by Miss Farrington, was nicely given. Miss Underhill recited the "Beggars Girl" in character, and this was followed by a solo from Mr. Phillips, while a trio by Mrs. and Miss Dodd and Mr. Foster was the next musical performance.

The chief feature of the evening was the recitation "Oster Joe," by Miss Hyams. Of this youthful reciter, The Times remarks that she possesses the faculty of dramatic rendition to a high degree. Her effort may be said to be unexceptionable in so young a person, and when she shall have added to the flexibility of her voice by elocutionary practice, Victoria will have an excellent exponent of the recitative art."

Mr. Freeman sang "Stick to your Mother, Tom," in good form, and was followed by Prof. Sharpe in a vocal solo.

The concluding feature of the entertainment was a musical number by the Victoria Harmonists, a most excellent thing of the kind, and from which may be gathered that amateurs give approximately better music than professionals.

So soon as the President announced this portion of the programme complete, there was a general movement to clear the room of benches, and in less than ten minutes parties were engaged in dancing.

The supper prepared for the guests was something to be remembered when The Times reporter left. It was perfectly clear to his mind that "everybody was having a mighty good time."

THE HOMEOPATHS AND THE LAW.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:
Dr. Talbot, Dean of the College of Homeopathy, has of late made an address before the Massachusetts Society which shows thought in the right direction.

The homeopathic fraternity, however, evidently do not see that with medical colleges, which have three ordinary modes of practice, viz.: the allopathic, the homeopathic and eclectic—allowing each society to examine and license its own respective members, without any interference from the others; but they do seem to be afraid of medical colleges or by a word in magnetic treatment, clairvoyance, and mental and mind cures—also faith and prayer cures.

I do not see how any statute law can be devised to "regulate" the practitioner who does not gain his knowledge of his art from medical colleges, but who is the recipient of the gift of healing which comes to him if he be fitted by nature to receive it—he be educated or the reverse. Hence as Spiritualists, and recognizing these spiritual gifts of healing as of old-gifts that cannot be obtained in medical colleges or by book knowledge—we should protect all honest individuals who are engaged in healing the sick who can show that any practical degree of benefit is derived from their use of their powers.

There is much of truth in what Dr. Talbot says, but at the same time I have no hesitation in affirming that he cannot name a misdemeanor connected with the medical profession concerning which the present generation of homeopaths would not be glad to act effectively to punish the practitioner and protect the people. Why not enforce the laws now enacted which will reach such cases as he refers to?

I agree with Dr. Talbot that each and every practitioner should be held responsible for what he does, and she really is. I do not approve of any one's aping the "Regulars" in medicine, and attaching the M. D., or doctor, to his name, if such a one is not a graduate of an established college. I believe that all should hold under license. Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over old methods of medicines—methods which he is at the same time continually attempting by either a course of three years' study in the public mind a false impression as to his plans and intentions? Why not acknowledge his gifts at once? Why should magnetic healers, clairvoyants, who are notably successful in diagnosing disease and curing with the Allopatics, and the exponents of all natural powers whatsoever for the benefit of the sick, practically ignore their gifts under the style "M. D., or doctor," thus placing themselves on the same footing with those who hold under license? Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over old methods of medicines—methods which he is at the same time continually attempting by either a course of three years' study in the public mind a false impression as to his plans and intentions? Why not acknowledge his gifts at once? Why should magnetic healers, clairvoyants, who are notably successful in diagnosing disease and curing with the Allopatics, and the exponents of all natural powers whatsoever for the benefit of the sick, practically ignore their gifts under the style "M. D., or doctor," thus placing themselves on the same footing with those who hold under license? Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over old methods of medicines—methods which he is at the same time continually attempting by either a course of three years' study in the public mind a false impression as to his plans and intentions? Why not acknowledge his gifts at once? Why should magnetic healers, clairvoyants, who are notably successful in diagnosing disease and curing with the Allopatics, and the exponents of all natural powers whatsoever for the benefit of the sick, practically ignore their gifts under the style "M. D., or doctor," thus placing themselves on the same footing with those who hold under license? Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over old methods of medicines—methods which he is at the same time continually attempting by either a course of three years' study in the public mind a false impression as to his plans and intentions? Why not acknowledge his gifts at once? Why should magnetic healers, clairvoyants, who are notably successful in diagnosing disease and curing with the Allopatics, and the exponents of all natural powers whatsoever for the benefit of the sick, practically ignore their gifts under the style "M. D., or doctor," thus placing themselves on the same footing with those who hold under license? Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over old methods of medicines—methods which he is at the same time continually attempting by either a course of three years' study in the public mind a false impression as to his plans and intentions? Why not acknowledge his gifts at once? Why should magnetic healers, clairvoyants, who are notably successful in diagnosing disease and curing with the Allopatics, and the exponents of all natural powers whatsoever for the benefit of the sick, practically ignore their gifts under the style "M. D., or doctor," thus placing themselves on the same footing with those who hold under license? Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over old methods of medicines—methods which he is at the same time continually attempting by either a course of three years' study in the public mind a false impression as to his plans and intentions? Why not acknowledge his gifts at once? Why should magnetic healers, clairvoyants, who are notably successful in diagnosing disease and curing with the Allopatics, and the exponents of all natural powers whatsoever for the benefit of the sick, practically ignore their gifts under the style "M. D., or doctor," thus placing themselves on the same footing with those who hold under license? Why, indeed, should a practitioner who considers that the facts achieved bear out his belief that he has an improvement over