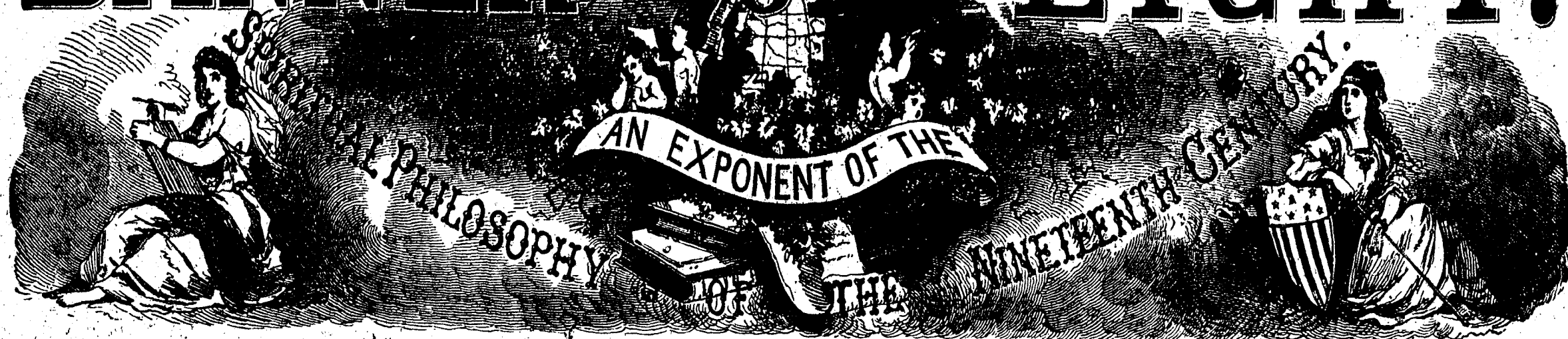


# BANNER OF LIGHT.



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## BANNER OF LIGHT'S FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY--SUPPLEMENTARY.



LUTHER COLBY,  
Founder Banner of Light, Editor 1857 to 1894.

Written for the Banner of Light.  
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

BY JULIA STEELMAN MITCHELL.

Of stone, of color or of thought—  
In all of art—man learns at last,  
Though writing sacred books of life,  
He simply writes but of the past.

While Nature—parent of us all—  
With unseen finger marks each page  
With all the future may unroll  
From year to year, from age to age.

Yet through the sparkling gems of Time,  
The flash of truth man oft may see,  
And learn from shadows of the past  
What was, what is and is to be.

Newport, Ky.

### The Banner's Founders.

The crowded condition of our columns last week prevented the presentation of a symposium of the faces of those noble workers who have assisted in making the BANNER OF LIGHT the paper it is to-day. We regret that we were unable to place these portraits upon our editorial page, in connection with the historical sketch of THE BANNER. We wish to remedy this apparent defect, so far as it lies in our power to do so, hence place before our readers in this issue the cuts of the seven devoted laborers most intimately connected with THE BANNER'S history. Luther Colby, William Berry, Isaac B. Rich, John W. Day, William White, Lewis B. Wilson, and Mrs. J. H. Conant, will long be remembered by every true Spiritualist on both continents, both for their own personal merit, and for the efficient service they have rendered the cause of Spiritualism. Five of them have gone to their reward in spirit-life, while Mr. Rich is yet at his post doing his best to uphold the standard of true Spiritualism, that was placed in his hands so many years ago by the advanced thinkers on the other side of life. Mr. Day is still numbered among the honored veteran Spiritualists in mortal form, and has hosts of friends, both in the body and in spirit, who unite in wishing him many happy years on earth.

We are positive that the arisen editor, medium and proprietors of THE BANNER are yet interested in its welfare, and are doing their best to promote its interests from their present vantage ground of observation. To each and every one of the seven, whose faces adorn this page, the Spiritualists of the world owe a deep debt of gratitude for having wrought so wisely and so well in the great field of human progress and spiritual unfoldment. We hail them as humanity's friends, and bid them angel speed in all their efforts to benefit their fellowmen.

THE PRINCE OF SPENDTHRIFTS.—A London journal of society says that the Prince of Wales is the most thriftest man in the world, as care less in money matters as a successful gambler. In thirty three years Albert, Edward, this journal asserts, has "run through \$50,000,000. The government has paid him \$25,000,000, with an additional allowance of \$5,000,000 for traveling expenses. All this he has spent, and yet to-day it is estimated he owes various tradespeople and his rich friends \$20,000,000.

Written for the Banner of Light.  
The School in Ohio.

BY A. J. WEAVER.

A school for the training of young men and women, who contemplate entering the work of spreading the religion of Spiritualism, is to be opened on the camp ground of Maple Dell, at Mantua Station, Ohio, on June 1, to continue till July 16. The causes which have led to this are many. I desire in a series of articles to put before Spiritualists some of the reasons



MRS. J. H. CONANT,  
Circle Medium of Banner of Light from 1857 to 1875.

which have influenced the Association to establish this school.

Any important movement in the world, in order to make steady and permanent growth, must adopt methods demanded by the times. Those methods which might be adequate and sufficient for one age or locality would be found deficient at another time and place.

The question before us is, What does this age require of us as Spiritualists, that our Cause may be best served? When Spiritualism started it was a discovery, and the only thing required was a test from the spirit-world. It has now become a movement, and as such, in addition to the test, its success demands other aids.

If we are a wise and progressive people, we shall hold ourselves in readiness to adopt all helps which the age in which we live make needful. The one very important aid demanded at this time, in this land of schools, is an educated lecturership.

The position of Spiritualism before the world has changed since the first rap was heard, and

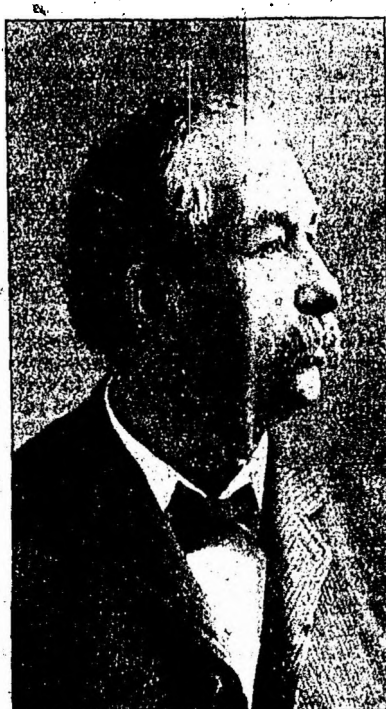
the change never was so rapidly spreading as now. We need to recognize this change and prepare ourselves to meet its demands.

The idea is dawning upon the world that "there is something in it" beside tricks and what can be accounted for by earthly means. Faster, wider and stronger is this idea growing. We see evidences of it in the increased respect which is paid it by an increasing number of the public journals.

If this is true, something more is coming upon us to do than to make converts to the bare fact of spirit-intercourse. A new duty is being added. What is that new duty?

It is to show to the world the great importance of Spiritualism as a movement; the vast consequences to humanity which hinge upon it; the points of its superiority to any other existing religion; and that it is worthy to supersede all other religions on earth.

In taking it up with this purpose in view, we must be on our guard not to lose sight of the absolute importance of the phenomena. Spiritualism is built up on, and in my opinion cannot dispense with them. Test mediumship will always be needed; needed in the future



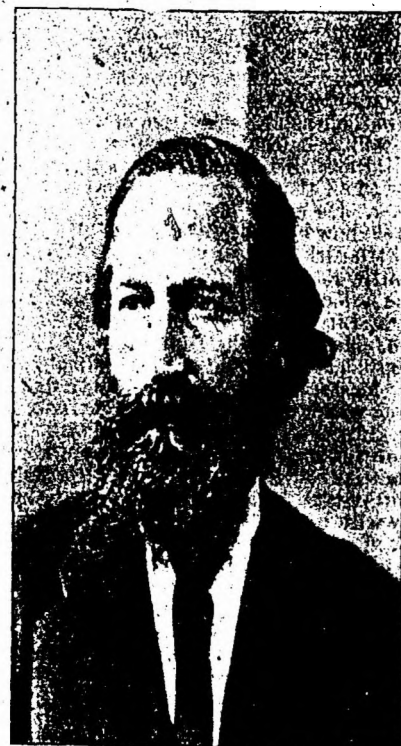
ISAAC B. RICH,  
Publisher and Proprietor, since 1861, and President  
Banner of Light Publishing Co.

as it has been in the past; needed even after the world is convinced, in order to convert the children as they come upon the stage of active life. It must always remain the foundation of Spiritualism, and any movement which would tend to weaken its importance I should stoutly oppose.

But the foundation is not the whole of Spiritualism, any more than the roots of a tree are the tree, or the underpinning of a house is the completed house.

The time has come when we must build upon this foundation the religion of the future and of the world; a religion so beautiful, so comprehensive, so complete in every part, that it will win the admiration of all good men and women in every age and in every land.

It must be a religion worthy of the foundation on which it rests. If it is such, it will supersede all religions which have gone before it. It will be the latest and the best, because



WILLIAM WHITE,  
Publisher Banner of Light, 1861 to 1873.

It will include all the truths of all previous religions, together with new truths of vast moment to man's highest welfare.

In the spirit-world names of other religions will be outgrown and become forgotten, but Spiritualism will have life there even deeper and stronger than on earth, because it originated there; its roots are planted there; it is



WILLIAM BERRY,  
Publisher and Proprietor, 1858 to 1894.

native to that country. Large numbers in the lower spheres and of recent entrance into spirit life reject it and cling to earth-made creeds and churches, but in all the higher realms of the upper world it is accepted and loved.

The question now arises, who is to build up this religion upon the foundation laid by the test medium? I answer, the public speakers and writers in our ranks. Their work is to complement the work of the seance. They follow the test medium as the carpenter follows the mason. Together they must labor in harmony, each doing his own work in his own way, and both for the good of the cause. To assist in training and preparing speakers and writers for this work is the purpose of this school.

It is not enough for the success of a religion that it have the truth. It must also have men

movement, upon a plane where it shall command the respect of the world, unless its leaders are scholars.

This school is not an attempt to eliminate from the ranks of Spiritualist workers those who have not enjoyed the advantages of education. Heaven forbid that any thought of this kind should enter the school. An educated leadership can be secured, if we will be patient, without resorting to any such unjust discrimination. Sometimes the test seems all the more convincing by coming through an ignorant child or an unlettered adult. The school will not interfere with any one in honest and legitimate work.

Its object is to furnish a place where any worker can go, and receive training as a public writer and speaker, in addition to the acquirements he already possesses. Quite a number of public lecturers have said to me they regretted their lack of education. This school is the place for them to obtain, to some degree, what they need. For them it is founded.

The teachers profess no superiority. Both teachers and pupils will enter the school as learners. The very best text books have been secured, and by their help we hope to be teachers to each other.

As public workers, whether speakers or writers, not one of us is equipped as we ought to be. If spirits use us as tools, it is reasonable to think they prefer the most improved tools. But if they do not thus prefer, even on our own account as representatives of Spiritualism before the world, we ought to feel ambitious to have all the mental as well as the psychological acquirement it is possible for us to obtain.

Old Orchard, Me.



JOHN W. DAY,  
Assistant Editor, 1877 to 1894, Editor Banner of  
Light, Oct. 1894 to January 1897.

and women equal to the task of putting that truth before the world in attractive form and as a happy and harmonious whole. Truth crushed to earth will not arise again till human souls, either in this or the spirit-world, embrace it and give it life in human form.

As an equipment for this work, in this age of schools and intellectual development, education is a necessity; the age demands it.

How long could Christianity live were it not for the fact that its leaders are educated men and women? The world respects the Church, Catholic and Protestant, not because of any special faith in its doctrines, its forms or its professions, but because its representative men are scholars. Harvard, Yale, and all the older educational institutions, were founded by the Church, and the Church is, and has ever been in America, the nursery of education. Its leaders are among the ripest scholars of the age. Because of this, mainly, it commands wide respect, even among vast numbers who repudiate its doctrines.

The world to day frowns on ignorance and illiteracy. It turns away even from truth, if it is stated in crude and "slangy" English. This may be wrong, it is wrong; nevertheless it is largely a fact, and we have to take facts as they are.

Being a fact we labor at a disadvantage if we try to place Spiritualism, as a great religious



LEWIS B. WILSON,  
Assistant Editor, 1867 to 1873.

If you have the gift of seeing, ever look for beauty; Noting faults in all your friends, is plainly not your duty.

If you have the gift of hearing, list to what is meet; Shut your ears to everything that is not good and sweet.

If you have the gift of talking, use but pleasant words; Let your speech be glad and cheery as the songs of birds.

—Emma C. Doied, in *Youth's Companion*.



Written for the Banner of Light.

### ARISE.

We hear the voice of God,  
And lo! revealed in clearer skies,  
We see a wondrous Paradise.  
We hasten, for the gates of Day  
Are opening wide, and angels say,  
Come higher, this, our word, obey.  
Cast off the mantle of the Night;  
Put on the robes of Morning Light;  
Transfigured, touch the mountain height.  
Love crowns its dear humanity,  
Till all divine it seems to be,  
And makes it from each fether free.

Oh, Spirit of our living Age,  
Wealth of the Soul's fair heritage,  
Man may be prophet, seer and sage.

ELIZABETH EWER.

## The 49th Anniversary.

### First Spiritualists' Ladies' Aid Society, Boston.

The Anniversary exercises were opened at 2:41 Tremont street, Friday, March 26, by the First Spiritualists' Ladies' Aid Society. The hall and platform were beautifully decorated with Old Glory and flowers.

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 by the President, Mrs. Mattie Albee. Mrs. Cassell opened the session with music, after which our President welcomed the mortals and spirits to the hall.

Mrs. Amanda Waterhouse spoke briefly of the dear members of the society who have passed on, and said she knew they were with us and lending their aid to make the celebration a success and benefit to the society.

Mrs. Barnes, our past President, was the next speaker, and in the course of a few pleasant remarks spoke lovingly of our President, Mrs. Albee.

Miss Amanda Bailey rendered several selections during the three sessions. Reading by Edward W. Hatch, "The Angel Escort," was very well received.

Mrs. Kenyon was then introduced, and said she was happy to be with us on this occasion. She very well remembered when her father and mother used to come to Boston to the Anniversary exercises, and she would wonder what they did on those occasions. She read a poem that had been given through her organism, after which she gave tests, which were recognized.

Mrs. M. A. Brown read a selection, "The Old Wife," after which "Lulu" gave some cheering words to the audience. The session closed at 12:30.

The afternoon session opened at 2:15 p.m. Mrs. Carrie F. Loring gave a soulful invocation. The President, Mrs. Albee, then spoke in part as follows:

"Another year has rolled into the dead sea of the past, carrying with it much of joy and its measure of sorrow. Again we gather to say we are glad that the tiny raps of forty-nine years ago unlocked for us the door to that world from whence it has been said no traveler returns. But we know better. The old theology was well enough for those who knew no other, but who were born under another star at a later period in the progress of humanity, and have been baptized with a newer theology, have arrived at a point where we are reaching for something besides faith."

We were favored with a fine vocal selection by Mrs. A. L. Pettungill. Miss Etta Willis read an original poem, "Our Anniversary." Mr. George Cleveland sang a selection by the request of our ardent singer, Mrs. Cushman. Mrs. Carrie F. Loring was the next speaker, and said, in part: "This is one of the occasions that appeals to our deeper nature. It is the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of modern thought, or of the opening of that beautiful gate that brought to us the knowledge that our friends still live. Friends, this is the day that we should look over the past, and see if we are placing our Spiritualism upon a proper basis. I believe in a practical Spiritualism. Spiritualism means something more than communing between two worlds; it gives us a grander realization of how we should live, what we should be, and is a natural religion."

A very pleasant feature of the afternoon was the presentation of a solid gold chain to our past President, Mrs. A. E. Barnes, by our worthy President, Mrs. Albee, in behalf of the members of the Ladies' Aid Society, for her faithful work during the past ten years. Mrs. Barnes was greatly surprised, but responded in a feeling manner, thanking all for their appreciation of her work, and saying she would ever strive to assist the Society.

Mr. Albert P. Blinn, one of the young members of the Society, a graduate, so to speak, of the Boston Spiritualist Lyceum, read an excellent address. [This address, owing to our limited space, will appear in a future issue of THE BANNER.—ED.]

Mrs. Hattie C. Mason spoke briefly in relation to the address of Mr. Blinn. Mrs. N. J. Willis said in part: "We who are in spirit-life have gathered here to meet with you, and we outnumber you many times. We are not forgetful of the rugged pathway your mediums have had to climb to strive to prove if man dies shall he live again. We are here to celebrate life and its mighty unfolding. You are Spiritualists, by and through that evolution. We are here with you, teaching no creed, no theory, no angry God. Spiritualism is not a mortal religion; it is as old as the oldest Psalm; and hence we are celebrating the knowledge of spirit return; seek for the facts everywhere; religion is love. What are Spiritualists doing before the world? Where are your children? Where are your Temples? You need education to place before the world your religion in a true light. I would commend you to the tender care of the loved ones, and may they quicken your energy for the benefit of Spiritualism."

Miss Maude Beckwith read a beautiful selection, which was appreciated. Mrs. Annie E. Cunningham spoke briefly, after which she gave spirit messages. Mrs. M. A. Chandler made a few pleasant remarks, and the afternoon session closed with a benediction by Mrs. N. J. Willis.

The evening session opened at 7:45 with a vocal duet by Miss Amanda Bailey and Miss Ella Wakefield; invocation, by Miss Lizzie Harlow. Mr. J. B. Hatch, Sr., said he was pleased to be present; that for the past thirty years he had taken part in Anniversary exercises, and he felt proud to say that the words of Mr. Blinn had inspired him more than anything else, as it showed him the young people were growing up with a knowledge of Spiritualism, and were preparing themselves to take the platform, so when our older workers passed away we would have some one to take their places.

Mrs. Weston read a fine selection; Master Charlie L. C. Hatch rendered a violin solo; Mrs. Sarah A. Byrnes was the next speaker: "We are here," she said, "not to celebrate Modern Spiritualism but Modern Studentism. I come to give my mite. Spiritualism is the only religion with which to meet death." She spoke in regard to the education of the young, and thought if Spiritualists lived spiritual lives their children would follow in their line.

Mr. Harrison D. Barrett was the next speaker, and spoke briefly: "This, to me, is an Anniversary in more ways than one, for it is seventeen years ago at two o'clock this morning since I received my first manifestation in Spiritualism through my own mediumship; it is nearly the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of our beloved religion of Modern Spiritualism, and it is lacking a few days of the Fortieth Anniversary since our BANNER OF LIGHT first was flung to the breeze over Boston harbor."

The kind words of welcome from my foster father, Mr. Hatch, Sr., the kindly expressions that have been given me here to night, together with letters of welcome since my arrival in this city of my adoption, all betoken a spirit of friendliness and brotherly welcome that is indeed pleasant to me."

Our good Bro. Hatch has struck the key-note in saying that we can make our Anniversary of next year a great success, and all future An-

niversaries greater successes than ever before, by more careful attention to the children in our homes. Spiritualism is so broad that it will include every reform movement now agitating the public mind. Such being the case, if we would make this world better as a people, if we would leave a lasting impression upon the history of this nation, we as men and women should so lay a foundation in the minds of our children that they will do a better and grander work than we have done."

Progression is the watchword of this the closing decade of the nineteenth century more than it ever has been before, and it behooves you and me to see that that standard is placed in the hands of every child in every Spiritualist home in this grand old Bay State.

I want to extend my thanks to you for the cordial welcome you have accorded me upon my return home, and if in the future I can be of service to the cause of Spiritualism in the city of Boston, I want you to remember that I am a Spiritualist, and ready to serve the cause of truth as I am permitted by those angel messengers whose servant I am.

Master Willie Sheldon read in a masterly manner a fine selection. Miss Victoria Moore gave a fine reading.

Mr. Moses Hull was the next speaker. He said: In taking an account of stock, to see how much we have grown, and how we have progressed, I find the converts are all coming our way; nobody ever gave up Spiritualism. I have talked with dozens who have left the ranks, but they are all Spiritualists at heart. The ministers are afraid of the Spiritualists, but the churches are taking the wind out of the sails of the Spiritualists. What can we do about it? A wise general always studies his enemies. If the churches are our enemy, we want to copy any good thing they do. Let us learn from them. We must organize; our enemies want us to say we won't organize. The churches educate their ministers; the world demands an educated minister to teach it. Spiritualism must demand the same thing. I hope we will see the necessity of having schools for our young people, so we can show to the world we are a power among ourselves.

Mrs. Kate R. Stiles said she had been to the Ladies' Aid Society of Cambridge, and they sent greetings to this Society. She spoke earnestly in regard to education, and said: If we demand cleanliness of speech upon our platform, if we show greater dignity, we believe we hold the power that will yield the greatest good to humanity."

Mrs. Mattie Hull spoke of the work of the Ladies' Aid Society.

This closed the session of one of the grandest celebrations the Ladies' Aid Society ever held. We extend our thanks to all mediums, lecturers, singers, musicians and readers, who so kindly assisted in making this celebration a success. Also thanks to Mr. J. E. Hayward of Braintree for calla lilies, and Mrs. Butterfield of Chelsea for bouquets. To the BANNER OF LIGHT for all courtesies of the press.

CARRIE L. HATCH, Sec'y.

### The Massachusetts State Association of Spiritualists

Celebrated the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of the birth of Modern Spiritualism in Berkeley Hall, Monday, March 29: The platform was decorated with ferns, potted plants and bouquets. A large audience gathered to listen to the true and eloquent words set forth by the various speakers.

The morning session opened at 11 o'clock with congregational singing, and an invocation by Dr. C. L. Willis. President George A. Fuller welcomed the friends with a short address, and declared the meeting open.

Mr. A. P. Blinn was the first speaker. He referred to the Fox children, and of the wonderful phenomena which we were assembled to commemorate. We do not have to turn to the phenomena for proof of spirit return, as Spiritualism can be scientifically demonstrated. It teaches us we are never alone, and for every evil thought we have we will have to pay the penalty; that our spirit-friends know when we have done wrong. It teaches us to be good, therefore let us thank the spirits for their efforts in our behalf, and show them we appreciate all they have done."

Mr. Moses Hull followed; he said he was proud of the young man who had just spoken, for he recognized in him a student, and was glad of the practical good Spiritualism was doing for him. If there are twenty millions of Spiritualists in the world, it seems as though they should accomplish more work. The Methodists have four millions, and they have schools and churches, and are organized; hence Spiritualists must be the laziest people in the world. It would be better to have one million workers; and we can accomplish more than all the other denominations in the world. We must organize and demand education."

Mr. C. L. Willis was the next speaker. He said if the Spiritualists loved the Cause as the church people loved the church, we would not have to make such an effort for organization. He spoke at length, and said, finally, that he believed this Massachusetts State Association had been formed to place before the people one of the most beautiful philosophies that the world has ever known."

Mrs. Mattie Hull said: "Out of the fullness of my soul there goes out a prayer of spontaneity and of love. In all my work in Spiritualism I tell you we have never approached the period when there were grander promises of Spiritualism than there are to-day. There is much to inspire our speakers, if we take up our work in a practical way. I consider it an honor to work with honest Spiritualists. I am grateful because there has been this great onward step in our work. Let us remember the many victories of the last forty-nine years, and we know the spirits of mortals who labored so hard in the early days are here to baptize us with their holy influences."

Mr. A. J. Weaver closed the morning session with a benediction.

Afternoon service was opened at 2:30, the hymn "America" being rendered by the congregation. This was followed by an invocation by Mrs. Carrie F. Loring. J. B. Hatch, Jr., First Vice President, then introduced President G. A. Fuller. He said, in part: "Speaking of the birth of Modern Spiritualism, the times were ominous for a change. Unrest lay upon almost every human soul. Modern science, only recently freed from theological chains, had boldly attacked the great citadels of faith. Already the foundations of many of the religions had been undermined, and everywhere the people were seeking for new truths. Great were the preparations for Spiritualism. The old heavens and old earth had to be rolled up like a scroll and pass away. Revolution was in the air; many a battle had been fought and won. Thought met thought with such force that the very foundations of the world were shaken. Old religions were dying and new ones springing into existence. Only after a most fearful struggle dogmas yielded to the truths revealed by science, yet it was a breaking up period, and an era of great beginnings."

At the laying of the foundation upon which Spiritualism rests, the stones and timber were all carefully examined as to their soundness and fitness. Many stones, most beautiful as to their exterior, were rejected because at their heart they were unsound. Theory and speculation might do well enough for the old time, but the new day demanded certainty. Science had already advanced beyond the domain of speculation, and was rapidly invading the domain of the realm of fact. The day of miracle was well nigh over. The realm of the supernatural had already grown so small it was with greatest difficulty discerned. Myths and fables, whether of Pagan or Christian origin, hid their faces for shame, and speedily retired as the sun of reason arose above the hills of earth. Spiritualism, at its birth no bigger than a grain of sand, shone with a light all its own. No borrowed light of star or sun above its cradle."

Spiritualism and Supernaturalism cannot live in the same age. The latter hides the murky and reeking atmosphere of Superstition, over whose altar burns the lamp of ignorance and superstition. The former seeks the rose tinted dawn that heralds the incoming day of knowledge and freedom."

Psychology, as presented in our schools, only reveals the action of the mind while encased in the physical body. Spiritualism reveals the existence and action of disembodied mind."

The history of the movement during the past forty-nine years presents such an array of facts as never before has been gathered in the interest of any science, and upon these facts we build our new science of psychology that reveals immortality and spirit return. The universality of spiritual phenomena is generally accepted, even by the bitterest opponents of Spiritualism. The ministry of angels forms an integral part of the religious systems not only of the past, but also those represented by the Roman and Protestant churches of to-day. Those unwilling to accept modern phenomena accept with unbounded faith the records of such phenomena said to have occurred in the remote past."

The spiritual experiences of the Old and New Testaments are never questioned, but when we claim that these are duplicated in modern times, our statements are often doubted. It must be a strange state of mental aberration that causes a person to accept the one and reject the other. Our data must be more carefully collated, analyzed and arranged. In the winnowing process all doubtful phenomena will be thrown out."

This Association has done efficient work in this direction. Its first meeting for organization was held in Boston, Dec. 18, 1893, and it was chartered Feb. 19, 1894. It has held many mass meetings and conventions in different parts of the State, and at various campgrounds, and has been the means of impressing upon the people the absolute necessity of a more thorough and systematic organization. Spiritualism bows at no man-made altar; it cringes before the councils of no church, and acknowledges no authority but truth itself. It is a gospel that ignores all the limitations of man, free as the air of heaven that bloweth where it listeth, only content when it is ministering to the highest needs of humanity, the uncompromising antagonist of falsehood and superstition, and ever its friend, associate and ally of truth, knowledge and wisdom." Dr. Fuller was interrupted with applause several times during the discourse.

We were favored with two very fine selections on the harp by Girard Russo, which were well received.

We were informed at this time of the severe illness of Mr. Joseph D. Stiles, our grand test medium.

Mr. A. J. Weaver was the next speaker. He said: "The acceptance of any religion is the good it does us. Spiritualism is a religion, and it does us good because we have received evidence that our loved ones live again. There is not another religion that does so much to bring joy and blessing as does Spiritualism. Let us see what we can do for Spiritualism. Let us establish schools where we can educate our young people. We must arouse ourselves, and cleanse Spiritualism of all that is impure."

Miss Maude Beckwith then recited, in an excellent manner, "The Good Time Now."

Mrs. Sarah A. Byrnes was the next speaker, saying in part: "I hail and greet the coming of the new workers, but we speakers also love our co-laborers. I refer to those loved ones who have stepped beyond: Dr. Storor, Achsa W. Sprague, Fannie Smith, Rosa T. Amedy—beloved workers, whose faces are turned to us to-day. I hail you and greet you. I owe my love and esteem to the faithful ones who guided me to the path of truth. I owe you much, to mortals little, and I feel at this Anniversary time I should send out my warmest praise and highest gratitude, and to Brother Stiles, whose soul is bearing that unseen world. I send a loving greeting, hoping and praying that the passage to that higher life may be free from suffering."

Mrs. Nettie Holt-Harding then spoke briefly, and gave evidence of spirit return. Her tests were recognized and appreciated by all.

Mrs. Carrie F. Loring said she was glad to be with us; that she thought to be a true Spiritualist and live a spiritual life was the hardest religion in the world, for we must live a divine life. "What has this beautiful truth brought to you? Has it brought strength and power? Has it not led you from darkness into light, and led you into fields of culture and refinement? We must push on, put our shoulder to the wheel, and work for the advancement of our fellow man."

Miss Lizzie Harlow then said briefly: "I feel sad as I think that Mr. Stiles is lying at the point of death, and as I look over the list of old workers, I wonder where the sturdy men and women are who will take their places. The responsibility comes to me, as never before, that the divine work must go on, so I say to young workers, go on. I believe truth has won all battles, and gained all victories. If I see right, through the clouds come that motive power which will force true manhood and womanhood to stand before the world in behalf of the grand cause of Spiritualism."

Dr. J. R. Root made a brief address. He spoke along the lines of education. He thought that a fact demonstrated would do more good toward convincing a skeptic than all the education the schools could afford."

Miss Etta Willis then read an original poem, which closed the afternoon session.

Evening session opened with a piano solo by Master Louie Bennett, after which Mrs. Sarah A. Byrnes gave an invocation. Mr. Kelly, of Lynn, was the first speaker, and he expressed himself as proud to be an active worker for the cause of Spiritualism. He was very enthusiastic, and pledged himself to the Cause he loved. Dr. E. A. Smith, of Brandon, Vt., spoke briefly. He spoke tenderly of his ardent wife, Mrs. Fannie Davis Smith. He stated that he had a quiet place among the hills of Vermont that he had dedicated to the cause of Spiritualism, a place the Spiritualists could call their own after he had passed away."

Mrs. N. J. Willis followed Dr. Smith, saying, in part: "Mr. President, Fellow Students: It is, indeed, a pleasure, always, to meet people who are striving for golden truths. Mediums are born, not made, and while we reach out for growth, if you have not the inspiration, the mediumistic power, no matter how much education you have, it will be useless to try to be a medium. The future of Spiritualism is in the hands of the medium, just as the safety of the country is in the hands of those who have gone before. Spiritualism has come to redeem the world, and we purpose to send our mediums North, South, East and West until justice and peace become our watchwords. We have a right to expect your mediums to live moral lives, and they, in turn, the right to ask you to live the same. The Spiritualists hold in their hands the welfare of the nation, politically, religiously and socially."

J. B. Hatch, Sr., was the next speaker. He endorsed all that had been said by the former speaker. He spoke forcibly upon education, and told how he was converted to Spiritualism by a little girl.

"Little Eddie" then favored us with two choice selections, which were heartily received. Little Maude Armstrong gave a recitation. Master Charlie Hatch rendered a fine violin solo, accompanied by Master Louie Bennett. Master Willie Sheldon recited a fine selection, which was well received.

Mr. Harrison D. Barrett, editor of the BANNER OF LIGHT, made a short address, saying substantially: "I am a member of the Massachusetts State Association, and I am in sympathy with all progressive thought. We who think alike should act together, and I hope we will all unite with this Association and swell its ranks, so it may be able to carry out the good work destined for it. The Massachusetts State Association stands for freedom for the laborer as well as for the rich. Just so long as Trinity Church in New York is unfettered, I shall plead for the non-taxation of the Spiritual Temple in Boston. The motto of Spiritualism is equal rights for all, special privileges for none. I urge education for our mediums and lecturers, and earnestly hope the time will come when all will see the necessity of organization."

Mr. Moses Hull was then called upon. He said he wanted to see Spiritualists take a step forward from this time forth, and wished to see all our mediums educated. I have jotted down a few of our speakers who have passed through college; he then named many of our workers, among them Judge Edmonds, Epes Sargent, Thomas Gales Foster, Prof. S. B. Brittan, Harrison D. Barrett, and many others. He added: "I think by reading this list of names I have shown you the fact that education will do no one any harm. I never heard any one oppose education who did not need it

themselves. Spiritualism has come to take hold of practical questions. This is our New Year's eve; let us make some resolutions, and let us try not to break them. I will resolve to speak evil of no man or woman during the year. I have no enemies that I would wreak vengeance upon, not one. I would hold out my hand to help them. If we will adopt that resolution, put it into our daily lives, Spiritualism will be the grandest religion in the world. Let us resolve that we will entertain no envy toward any one; that we will try to help every medium. I will promise to devote myself to the cause of humanity, and to the work of the angels. I will sacrifice more for the Cause than ever before of my strength, talent and my money. We might have buildings, with stores and rentals to support us, if we had used our money wisely; we have put it into hall rent, when we should have organized, and builded for ourselves."

The evening session closed with a benediction by Miss Lizzie D. Harlow.

We take this opportunity to thank all who so kindly assisted in making this Anniversary a success, to Mr. Cohen and Mr. Hayward for flowers and palms, to Mr. Girard Russo for harp selections, and to the BANNER OF LIGHT for all courtesies of the press.

CARRIE L. HATCH, Sec'y.

### Denver, Col.

The Forty-Ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism was observed by the First Spiritual Church, Denver, in four days' meetings, commencing Sunday, March 28.

A select audience of philosophical inquiring, reasoning students in spiritual science assembled at the opening session. The church, handsomely decorated with potted and cut flowers set off effectively by festoons of the graceful smilax, bespoke welcome and peace to angel and mortal guest.

The Pastor, Dr. G. C. B. Ewell, introduced the first speaker, Mrs. M. A. Gridley, who spoke for nearly half an hour in her earnest, convincing manner, her convictions of the truth this day commemorated in its advent—convictions founded on an experience of thirty years, in revelations to her own individual consciousness. We quote her remarks in part:

"As we take a retrospective view of the past, we see how ready the world of spirit has ever been to answer the yearning inquiries of the human soul concerning its destiny or the laws governing its existence, if we but make conditions."

"What have the forty-nine years accomplished since the tiny rap announced the presence of the denizens of 'that undiscovered country from which no traveler returns.' The development in communication has been rapid to the full-form materialized, manifested in independent or automatic writing, in mental or spirit telegraphy, and the grander presentation and utterance of sublime philosophy beyond the power of mortal in his limited sphere of vision to command unaided."

The various lines of philosophical and scientific research have been extended within this period as never within a previous one, and evolution and progression have become established as the inherent nature of creative law."

"The spirit's mission is for the relief of oppression on every hand. The Indians, not understood, but living as close students of nature's laws, surpass us in our artificial building, and return to render service to those who oppressed and cruelly banished them from existence. They could psychometrically trace the veins of gold in the mountain's side, and read the language of the heavenly bodies, as well as trace their movements in their orbits, foretell the convulsive action of the elements, and were in sympathetic vibratory touch with nature. And before twelve months will pass such comprehension may be had of psychic law through our present investigations, that communication may be had between the planetary worlds, in which we may take part."

This is but the outline of an address of sublime thought."

Dr. Ewell followed in brief retrospective glance, from which we extract:

"It is but natural that the mind turns back to celebrations of anniversaries of the past—years back, when Sister Gridley and myself united with others in the good old city of Brooklyn, N. Y., and later in various places with other co-workers, now all scattered in different fields of labor."

"Our Easter tide brings us together in a 'church,' evidencing that by degrees we are establishing our standard of progress, having swept back the mists of superstition and ignorance in a degree, and parted the veil which for centuries has concealed the passage to our life beyond."

"The divinity of true fatherhood and motherhood has been revealed, and a knowledge which is to outrun centuries in the future for generations yet unborn: We are not waiting for these forms to be returned to mother earth to recognize our immortal rights and privileges, but here we are to stand beside the throne of wisdom, and according to the advancement in today enter the school of ever-advancing progress."

We celebrate to-day the death of death—we pass into another cycle of unfolding, wonderful, still mysterious life—we stand dead to the past, but alive to the present—the stone for us has been rolled away—these are the unfolding principles that are lifting us day after day; it is for this we celebrate our jubilee."

As we gather together with our songs of thanksgiving it is meet we should remember those who have struggled and passed into the kingdom of a higher life. They may have made mistakes, but they were martyrs who preserved for us this new dispensation and made possible the developments by which we to-day are made rich. Those lives stand as stars in the galaxy in the firmament of our existence, and live to-day, not for our worship, but for us to imitate and emulate in all fidelity."

We are standing on the eve of developments more wonderful physically, mentally and spiritually, and a baptism of power is now awaiting us. Do not let us lose recognition of our responsibility; let us roll still farther the stone of ignorance, of egotism, and comprehend the true dignity of the soul which is to outlive all kingdoms, all dynasties."

Grand powers than we dream of are ours; let us go forth stronger, leading lives of purity from the power the angels have brought. We shall triumph, we shall overcome and place this knowledge before the world. But let us recognize the power of spirit, and arise in that divinity which is our own and links us with systems on systems of creative life and power."

These are but the suggestions, the few skeleton selections of the address, eloquent and beautiful and practical withal, such as many, yes, most of our inspired Spiritualist lecturers are constantly giving us. If the dwellers on this mortal plane could but realize the pearls of value so lavishly afforded this generation, they would crowd our halls and provide our speakers with different conditions than they do to-day."

It is as true now as when uttered in the days of Nazareth, "There are many prophets and kings who have desired to see those things which ye see and have not seen them, and to hear those things which ye hear."

I send you these few thoughts taken down as uttered, remembering how in days when such opportunities were not mine I gladly and eagerly devoured reports from lectures found in the spiritual papers. May they prove a blessing to any hungry soul."

SARA L. HARP,

Sec'y First Spiritual Church, Denver.

### Belfast, Me.

The Liberal Spiritual Union of Belfast held Anniversary services in Memorial Hall March 28. Mrs. Andrew Clark presided.

Meeting opened with singing by quartet, "Beckoning Hands." Mrs. Clark read the resurrection in Scripture, and made very appropriate opening remarks upon the similarity of old and new manifestations, and also on the skepticism that then, as now, confronted truth. Mrs. M. J. Wentworth gave invocation. Singing by the choir.

The address was given by Mrs. M. J. Wentworth of Knox, Me., who said that Modern Spiritualism, so-called, was but a continuation

of a phenomenon that had always accompanied humanity along the ages, ever evolving the evolution of the spirit by its approximation to the divine; that it had ever been the vital power in whatever had been and is for the uplifting of humanity; that the religion of Spiritualism was to do good, and be good; that it taught that another could only be a saviour by the influence that his life and teaching had upon others; that each and all by their own life and effort for the right could rise in the moral and spiritual, etc.

A short Memorial Service was conducted by Miss A. Hicks, who referred to "our arisen sister" in pleasant tribute to her worth. She then called on Mrs. Clark to read a poem in memory of Mrs. Morse, written by Myra Wentworth Emerson. Mr. Stevens, Mr. Clark, Mrs. Wentworth, and others, gave appreciative remarks. Miss Hicks read an article from a Belfast paper that gave an interesting reference to Mrs. Morse as a woman and speaker.

The meeting closed with singing, and a benediction by Mrs. Wentworth.

### California Spiritualists Celebrate.

Prof. Loveland, Mrs. Little, John Brown, the Oldest and Most Remarkable Living Medium, and Other Notables, Take Part.

The California State Spiritualists' Association gave a fitting celebration of the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism at Scottish Hall, San Francisco, on April 1, admission to all meetings being free.

The exercises commenced at 10 o'clock A. M., by the reading of a poem by President Thos. G. Newman, entitled, "There are Angels I Know," after which he delivered the opening address, dwelling upon the methods taken by the spirit world to bring to the notice of mankind the fact of the soul's continued existence after the change called death.

Prof. J. S. Loveland followed with an able address, in which he illustrated the marvelous effect that Spiritualism had brought to bear upon the inventive genius and the religious systems of the past half century, and predicted that sooner or later it would supersede all old estate systems, whether social, political or religious."

Other prominent speakers and mediums who took part in the morning exercises were: Mrs. Kate Heussmann, Mrs. May Dryden, Mrs. Harriet Wrenn, Mrs. Lois Waidbrooker and John Brown, Sr. The latter will be remembered as "John Brown, the Medium of the Rockies," whose marvelous experiences as a medium have often appeared both in the Spiritualist and secular press for some three-score years. More than a decade before the advent of Modern Spiritualism he saw spirits and foretold future events with unerring accuracy, saving many lives from the Indians by his power on the western borders of civilization. He presented a very interesting and instructive paper, which was read by his wife, he being too old and feeble to read it himself. Sadie E. Cook presided at the piano.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 P. M., after music by Prof. and Mme. Young, Prof. J. S. Loveland again lectured, followed by Mrs. D. N. Place, Mrs. C. Mayo Steers, Mrs. H. A. Griffin, Mrs. Jennie Robinson, Mrs. Egbert Aiken, Mrs. C. J. Meyer, Mrs. F. A. Logan, Mrs. Dr. Smith, Dr. Webster Hyde and Chas. Anderson, the "Boy Medium," and inspirational lecturer, also Pres. T. G. Newman.

Tests or speeches were given, as "the spirit moved" the mediums, and there was "a feast of reason and a flow of soul." The Lyceum question came up, and was strongly supported by all who spoke upon the subject, Pres. Newman showing how important it was that children should be taught things they would not be compelled to "unlearn" in later years.

### EVENING SESSION.

In the evening some fine piano solos were rendered by J. T. Little, after which he sang some of his most soulful songs, accompanied by Mrs. Jennie Tulley. Mrs. R. S. Little then gave a magnificent lecture, followed by Edward K. Earle with his startling tests. To him the family histories of all the skeptics present seemed to be an open book. An address by Chas. Dawbarn concluded the exercises.

ERNEST S. GREEN.

2006 Market street, San Francisco, Cal., April 2.

### First Association of Spiritualists of Philadelphia, (Founded 1852).

This Association celebrated the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism on April 4 in a manner long to be remembered, not only by the members of the Association, but by the strangers who came to listen to the inspired lecturers who gave utterance to the truths and philosophy of Spiritualism. Warner's Music Hall, with a seating capacity of eight hundred people, was resplendent with beautiful palms, flowering plants and cut flowers, while towering above all was "Old Glory," the pride of our Association.

The Helping Hand Society connected with the Association was indefatigable in its efforts to make the occasion an honor to the cause of Spiritualism, and the superb decorations were entirely owing to the efforts of its members. Mrs. E. L. Haslam, our efficient leader, with her competent corps of assistants, made the music one of the finest features of the occasion. The well-drilled voices of C. L. Smith, Francis Fray, Misses S. Jackson and Katie Brown, together with Mrs. Annie Benner, Mrs. Haslam, and Prof. J. W. Caume and wife, filled the hall with melody, so that on every hand were encomiums showered upon them for their services.



# LYCEUM AND HOME DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. J. S. SOPER.

## SPECIAL REQUEST.

Will Conductors of Lyceums throughout the United States send to this Department an outline of their method of conducting their Lyceums, as applied to the younger Groups?

Written for the Lyceum and Home Department.

### IN APRIL.

Among the Fells of Middlesex,  
What time the vernal showers  
Fall softly through these April days  
To wake the sleeping flowers,  
The timid firstlings coyly spring,  
In nooks and sheltered places.  
Ah! sweet is April's offering,  
Ere Maytime lends her graces.

Among the Fells of Middlesex  
The blood-root lifts her chalice  
Just where, mid haunts of dead and fern,  
The wailing south-wind dailies;  
Hepaticas peep shyly forth  
And show their mignon faces—  
Ah! sweet the April of the North,  
Ere Maytime lends her graces.

Among the Fells of Middlesex,  
Beyond the damp, green grasses,  
The pale anemone awaits.  
The troop of lads and lassies;  
With saffron the air is sweet;  
The brooks are running races.  
Ah! sweet is April—complete,  
Ere Maytime's lavish graces.

WILL H. WAITT.

### "The Spiritualists' Easter."

Subject Given and Discussed before the Boston Spiritual Lyceum Sunday, April 4, 1897.

Angels, or messengers from the wisdom-spheres of the spirit-world, spiritual mediums, prophets and seers have always existed; and the records of their visits and ministrations are recorded in the Christian's Bible; also in all written history; and these facts are occurring at the present time, and are just as capable of proof as any other fact in nature.

A peculiar form of Spiritualism, based upon scientific experiments and indisputable evidence, arose in these United States in the year 1848, and has spread with the most remarkable rapidity over the entire civilized world; and this particular movement has received the name of "Modern Spiritualism," and we have, since March 21, been celebrating this modern advent of Spiritualism—"The Spiritualists' Easter."

The phenomena which took place on March 31, 1848, at Hydesville, a village forming a part of Rochester, New York, through the mediumship of the Fox sisters, Margaret and Kate Fox, popularly known as the Rochester Knockings, consisted of communications with the deceased by means of raps, or what Prof. Crookes terms "percussive sounds." A code of signals was by this means established, and by using the alphabet intelligent messages were received from the immortal world of spirits.

Now, friends, this really was not the first introduction of Spiritualism to the mundane world, any more than it is strictly true to state that Christianity, as a religion and a form of Spiritualism, was first presented to this world at the birth of Jesus of Nazareth; for it is recorded that on the morning he was born the angels sang the song of "Peace on earth, good will to men." And regard "Modern Spiritualism" to be the same truth based scientifically upon the fixed and immutable laws of nature, which is the result of evolution; and considered in this light, Spiritualism, whether ancient or modern, had its beginning, so far as this planet is concerned, in the mineral kingdom, and has developed through organic matter in the vegetable, animal, human, and all other spiritual kingdoms, into our present civilization, with all the vast resources for future development to higher spiritual planes.

This movement, known as the "Advent of Modern Spiritualism," was commenced in the year 1848, about the time of the vernal equinox, the beginning of spring, when grand Easter celebrations were taking place in the spheres of the spirit-world in advance, of the earth-plane.

This latest presentation of truth, now popularly known as "Modern Spiritualism," is a scientific religion, and the result of all the spiritualistic theology of the ages. It is designed by the highest intelligences in the spheres of wisdom to be a practical, every day religion, in which is carried out all the principles of reason and morality.

There are many persons among us who have the clairvoyant powers so fully developed as to be able to discern spiritual beings in the various spheres in the spirit-world; and they can actually take part in and know and describe what is transpiring in those spirit spheres; they can describe many beautiful scenes where spirit children and others are taking part in the grand Easter celebrations that are there actually occurring, and where the full significance and importance of the Easter festival is really and truly understood.

All Easter celebrations, from the most remote antiquity, have been celebrated at about the time of the vernal equinox, probably at first among fire and sun-worshippers, nature-worshippers, later in the worship of the goddess Ostara or Eostre, the Goddess of Spring, a goddess in the Anglo-Saxon, North German and Scandinavian mythology, commemorating the passing away of winter and the awakening into life and beauty of all nature in the spring, later in the Jewish Passover; the Paschal Lamb celebration, the feast of unleavened bread, and later to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth after his crucifixion; and later still to commemorate the spiritual resurrection of every soul to the immortal spirit world.

The origin of Easter, like Christmas, can be traced far back into antiquity. At the winter solstice, commencing December 21, the North German and Scandinavians have for very many centuries held their great Yule feast to commemorate the return of the fiery sun-wheel. Yule time is still used as another term for Christmas time. The burning of the Yule log testifies to the use of fire in the worship of the sun. So the great festivals of Easter and Christmas are really re-implications of very ancient customs to suit the religious beliefs of modern times.

We "Modern Spiritualists" have been celebrating our Easter this year ever since Sunday, March 21, which was the vernal equinox, the first day of spring.

The ancient title of Easter is "The Great Day," and, as observed by the Christian world, occurs on that Sunday which follows that fourteenth day of the calendar moon which falls upon or next after the vernal equinox, March 21, so March 21 governs the dates of all Easter celebrations.

The "calendar moon" is the ecclesiastical moon, a fictitious moon, invented by the early Church Fathers, and now used by the Christian world in determining the date of Easter Sunday. It is purposely made in order to depart from the natural month, to avoid the possibility of the Christian's Easter occurring at the same time with the Jewish Easter or the Jewish Passover; but on several occasions this very thing has happened, and will happen again in the next century. The Christian's Easter, however, corresponds with the "Passover" of the Jews, the Paschal Lamb celebration, the feast of unleavened bread; and this festival is once called Easter in the King James version of the Bible, Acts XII, 1st to the 4th verses inclusive: "1. Now, about that time, Herod the King stretched forth his hand to vex certain of the church; 2. And he killed James, the brother of John, with the sword;

## Banner Correspondence.

Our friends in every part of the country are earnestly invited to forward brief letters, items of local news, etc., for use in this department.

### New York.

**DURHAMVILLE.**—Peter Pfeiffer says: "We have just organized and applied for a Charter from the National Association. Officers elected: President, Wm. Berge; Vice-President, Peter Pfeiffer; Sec'y, Mrs. Lucy Cramton; Treasurer, Mr. Benedict Mayer; Trustees, Mr. Cramton, Frank Mayer, Henry Kingsley.

Bro. Sprague from Jamestown, N. Y., has been with us for two days. He gave us some splendid talks. Hope Bro. Sprague will visit us when convenient. We have held meetings in a private way several years; some have been public. Quite a number have developed under my controls. Hope that the spirit friends will assist us in our new opening under a charter.

I feel it a duty of all to become a part of the National Spiritualists' Association, for unity is power. At this present time we must be of one mind for our benefits in legislation. The opposers of spiritual truths are trying to close our doors of holy communion with spirits in every corner. Now is the accepted time to organize, and become one flock and fold in one doing, and save our republic, our country, from falling into the hands of our enemies. Healers have troubles and need help. I was called by the spirits to heal for some six years; then I was called to locate mines for the purpose of building temples, homes, sanitariums and schools, where the old can have a home under spirit guidance, and the poor can be healed free of charge.

I have spent six years in geology, and I am surprised that my guides have located some forty mines; the lowest assay on them is seven dollars, while some of the ores have reached nine hundred dollars, all in New York State.

My labors have been hard and tiresome. Now if I could get some of our wealthy capitalists to buy some of these mines, I could do a noble work. I have locations of places for the mentioned buildings, also the Central Camp Grounds for New York State, which will be a success when properly opened. I wish some true spiritual being, with means, would buy part or the whole of these mines, so that this good work might be opened to help the Cause. I have made this more lengthy than need be, but I felt like writing as I have. It may open a way to dispose of the mines, which lie in the open country, easy to get to, and near the railroads, also lots of water power to work the ores. Any correspondence on this subject will be promptly answered.

I have mines enough to build a temple in every State, and a fund to fight all legislation against Spiritualism and mediums; if the mines were sold for one half what they should bring, if this could be done it would relieve many of our poor people who are in need of all the help which can be given at the present time.

I will dispose of mines at very reasonable prices to aid me in my work. Many members in this State talk of opening a camp-ground at Oneida Lake, one of the finest sheets of water and its surroundings. The lake is twenty-seven miles long, and seven miles wide; average depth, five miles. This work should not be delayed. This work must go on. Could I dispose of one or two mines I would put the money in a camp-ground, so as not to tax the people. Times are hard all over our land, and the mines and the storehouse of nature, opened by spirits, really should pay all of such expenses, and I am one who will do it as soon as I can raise money on the valuable mines. They are as good as Western mines, and I can prove all that I state.

I found the free gold in rock last season under control of the Chief Mohawk. I could give some experiences in my life of the genuine demonstrations which have come under my controls.

### Louisiana.

**NEW ORLEANS.**—Mabel Kline says: "The Forty-Ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism was duly celebrated by a grand and appropriate lecture of nearly two hours duration. The flow of inspiration through the media powers of our pastor, Mrs. Dr. Hilligoss, was unchecked by repetition, iteration or recitation. A history of the Hydesville rappings, in verse, elicited a storm of applause and other expressions of delight.

The afternoon had been chosen by the Association for the annual election of officers, and as an evidence of their appreciation of the work being done in this city, and of their personal esteem for Mrs. Hilligoss, she was unanimously chosen as President of the Society, to serve one year. Mrs. Hilligoss was employed by our society to serve them for the month of January only, then was retained to work until the 1st of June, and two months before the expiration of this second term they showed their great wisdom in securing her continued services from the 1st of June, 1897, to the 1st of June, 1898, making in all a continuous lecture course of seventeen months.

The following are the names of the new official board: Mrs. Dr. Hilligoss, President; Mrs. Porter, Vice president; Mr. Humphrey, Secretary; Miss Kline, Treasurer; Mrs. Rowley, Mr. Kline, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Stumberg and Mr. Shultz, Trustees.

The Ladies Aid is doing effective work. Has one hundred and twelve dollars in its Treasury, and is only two months old. They will give a literary and musical entertainment soon, all to go for the one purpose of raising a Temple Fund.

Mrs. Hilligoss visited all the newspaper offices in the city, and secured free insertions of her meeting notices in the religious columns of each paper, which before has been denied by some of these papers, while notices out of this column in all of the papers have cost the society fifty cents per week, for each paper.

### Canada.

**TORONTO, ONT.**—F. I. York says: "Spiritualistic matters in Toronto just now are very quiet, although there are many who are enjoying circles at the family altar.

Mrs. Prior's series of meetings during the past fall season has awakened a general interest, and several very good mediums, notably Mr. Nichols as a psychometrist.

Plans for the future are freely talked of, and active operations in the direction of public teaching will, no doubt, soon be inaugurated. Toronto is a delightful summer city, with a population of two hundred and twenty thousand, a large number of Spiritualists, and not a single professional medium. It is currently estimated that a medium who was here recently earned between fifty and sixty dollars per week, and this important field is absolutely unoccupied.

I would be glad to give any detailed information to mediums with a view to their coming among us. A platform test medium could get an immediate and permanent engagement, and I would be especially pleased to hear from Charlie Barnes, the other member of the 'Vicksburg Twins.' This is a field rich in inquirers, and workers will find a warm welcome and a wide field of usefulness. Please address 408 Yonge street, Toronto, Can."

### Maryland.

**BALTIMORE.**—Miss Maggie Gauls writes: "My work in Columbus, O., having closed on last Monday evening, I feel it a duty to state that it was a season long to be remembered. February, in connection with Prof. Peck, the meetings were well attended, and during the month of March Columbus had a rare treat in listening to Bro. Willard J. Hull. The hall was crowded and packed long before the hour to begin. Spiritualism never was as now in Columbus. I met with many kind friends, and all was in perfect harmony. My work with Bro. Hull seemed to be well appreciated. The general President, Mr. J. D. Arras, does all in his power to harmonize and build up the Society, and I have no regrets at having served the Columbus, O., people.

Monday evening, March 29, we held Anniversary exercises that were interesting and appropriate to the occasion. Miss Margaret Dent and Miss Annie Forthoff sang with much feeling.

I hope some day to return to Columbus, and see and know the grand work will still be kept up."

### Ohio.

**CANTON.**—E. J. Bowtell writes: "The Spiritual Research Society of this city has now organized, with the following officers: C. C. Barriok, President; C. E. Yaley, Vice President; W. B. Slutter, Treasurer; C. W. Hartong, Sec'y. In addition to the above John V. Yolkey and Mrs. Hannah Kinsler have been elected Trustees.

The first public meeting of the Society was held on the morning of April 11, the speaker on that occasion being the writer."

### Cleveland Anniversary, and Other Notes.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

Permit me, first, to congratulate the BANNER OF LIGHT Publishing Company on its happy and wise selection of a new Editor-in-Chief, and then to congratulate the new editor himself on his advancement to that honorable and prominent position so worthily filled by his two previous predecessors, Luther Colby and John W. Day. May the staunch old BANNER wave more prosperously than ever with its new and younger standard bearer.

**Public Meetings.**—The impromptu course of Sunday evening spiritual lectures, inaugurated by Mr. Thos. A. Black, who, chafing under the stagnant state of spiritualistic affairs on the East Side of the river, resolved once more to try to revive the apathy among Spiritualists, and if possible to bring about reorganization from the present chaos, culminated in a very prosperous celebration of "Anniversary Day."

**Lyman C. Howe.**—Starting out with this veteran inspirational speaker, who spoke during February on both sides of the river (at Wieber's Hall in the afternoon, and Army and Navy Hall in the evening), the meetings at the latter place grew from a rather small attendance to very fair audiences. The friendly exchange of speakers with the Akron Society the last Sunday in the month, gave the Cleveland friends a good opportunity of hearing the popular Akron speaker and medium, Dr. F. Schermerhorn, and the Akron friends showed their appreciation of the highly inspirational speaker, Mr. Lyman C. Howe, by completely filling the hall. Mr. H., during his stay in Cleveland, was tendered several social receptions.

**Hon. O. P. Kellogg.**—This humorous, and likewise worthy veteran was with us during March, increasing the attendances steadily until they culminated in a large turn-out at all three of the sessions on Anniversary Day, Sunday, March 28. The morning session at Army and Navy Hall was presided over by Mr. B. F. Bellows, Conductor of the Children's Progressive Lyceum. The Lyceum children rendered a very enjoyable program, assisted by a trio of blind instrumental musicians, and a very fine soprano singer. The other two sessions were presided over by Mr. Thos. A. Black, with Dr. F. Schermerhorn as speaker in the afternoon.

Mr. C. W. Taylor, Agent National Spiritualists' Association for Ohio, followed with a brief talk on "Organization," nearly a hundred names of those in favor of it being obtained. What will come of it remains to be seen. In the evening the Hon. O. P. Kellogg spoke to a large audience, and gave a very concise and clear statement of the first intelligent spirit raps, or "Rochester Knockings," through the Fox children. Thus the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of the Advent of Modern Spiritualism was celebrated on the East Side of the river.

On the West Side three successful meetings were also held. Mr. Fred Hayes presided. The speaker in the forenoon was Hon. O. P. Kellogg. In the afternoon Mrs. H. S. Laky, who has been in retirement the past year or so, was the speaker, creating some little consternation among her listeners by the position she took against "Individual Spirit Control of Speakers."

In the evening the Lyceum children, under the conduct of Mr. N. B. Dixon, gave an excellent musical and literary entertainment to a large and highly interested audience. It was a pleasure to report the presence of many friends from a distance at our celebration, Painesville, Willoughby, Euclid, Loraine, etc., the Akron friends chattering an electric motor car for the trip, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Keck, the president of the Akron society and his wife.

**Angell Prize Oratorical Contest.**—Sunday eve, April 4th, the long looked for contest took place, by ten members of the "Lyceum Band of Mercy," the Hon. R. E. McKisson presiding and three prominent citizens acting as judges.

**Physical Mediums.**—The most prominent ones operating here, at present, are Mrs. Elsie Reynolds, the materializing medium, who has been holding some very satisfactory seances in the homes of investigators; Mr. Fred Taber, a comparatively new medium for full form materializations, of whom report so far speaks well, is located at 103 Bolivar street, holding tri weekly seances in connection with his friend, Mr. C. C. Curtis, the telegraphic medium, and is giving private sittings daily.

Another new candidate for public patronage for independent state-writing is Mr. E. S. Menough, late Advertising Agent for the S. S. R. R., located at 652 Hamilton street, the few reports so far received are certainly very favorable.

Mrs. Melissa Kemp, the local medium for materialization, is still holding public seances at 247 Locust Avenue. William A. Mansfield, M. D., the well-known psychographic medium, while gradually building up a fine practice, is still exercising his phenomenal spirit gifts, giving private sittings at his residence, besides holding himself in readiness for private seances at the homes of those who may desire him.

**"The Humanitarian."**—Just a word to call the attention of those of your readers who may be unaware of the fact, that this at one time leading reformer in the country, Victoria (Woodhull) Martin, whose home is now in London, Eng., is still at work, along reformatory lines, and publishing a highly literary magazine called *The Humanitarian*. The address of Mrs. Martin is No. 17 Hyde Park Gate, London, Eng. Specimen copies can be had of the BANNER OF LIGHT Publishing Company.

**The Lake Brady Company** announces the opening of its picnic grounds June 1, and of the camp meeting season, Sunday, June 27, with Moses Hull and the Hon. O. P. Kellogg as the first speakers. For further particulars apply to Chas. Thomas, 2762 Broadway, Cleveland, O.

Fraternally yours, THOS. LEES.

April 6, 1897.

### After a Day's Hard Work

#### Take Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

It makes a delicious drink, and relieves fatigue and depression. A grateful tonic.

### April Magazines.

THE REVIEW OF REVIEWS has as frontispiece portraits of "President McKinley and his Cabinet." "The Progress of the World" is full of timely information well illustrated, including "President Cleveland and his Cabinet." "Record of Current Events" is replete with portraits of Senator Earle of South Carolina, Gen. Powell Clayton, and other notables, including the late George S. Mallory. All the other departments are well cared for, and the usual contribution of instructive news making this number an exception to the usual high standard of this magazine. The Review of Reviews Co., 13 Astor Place, New York.

RECEIVED *The Coming Day*, edited by John Hoppes, London, England. *The Dawn*, 44 Lansdowne Road, Bhowanipore, Calcutta (March). *The Hypnotic Magazine*, The Psychic Publishing Co., Chicago. *The Humanitarian*, Brentano's, 31 Union Square, New York. *Scribner's Magazine*, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

### For Over Fifty Years

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

### Waverley, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

Now the beautiful sunshine has come, making all nature smile and rejoice. The Veteran Spiritualist Union Home looks inviting, and makes one anxious to have the Home furnished and full of those so much in need of a home where they can rest after years of labor for human reforms.

We are constantly being asked: "When will the Home be open to receive inmates?" It would not take long, if every Spiritualist in the United States would send one dollar, and thus become a member of the Veteran Spiritualists' Association, ere the Association could carry out all its noble desires in not only filling the Home with happy inmates, but erecting other buildings for homes for the children of mediums and Spiritualists, who are now sent to both Catholic and Protestant homes supported by their charity and labor.

It is well to advocate Spiritualism, but it is better to clothe and feed and house the needy. It is only by deeds of love and charity that we can make for ourselves a home in the spirit realm.

Let every Spiritualist send a dollar to Mrs. Mary F. Lovering, No. 63 Chandler street, Boston, Mass., and you will see that question answered to your complete satisfaction. She will send you a beautiful certificate of membership in acknowledgment.

J. W. KENON, Caretaker of Home.

### Passed to Spirit-Life.

April 18, 1897, M. S. BECKWITH, for many years President of the St. Louis Spiritual Association.

We have lost our earnest worker in the good Cause, one who has never faltered nor turned back, though often beset with difficulties and trials which would have deterred many whose heart and soul were not wholly devoted to the work before them. Modest and unassuming, he seemed sustained by the angel-world, for without pretence he often accomplished tasks where others would have abandoned the effort. We have lost his material presence, but he will be with us. His spirit will be felt in its accustomed place by many who are sensitive to the influence from the world beyond; and the good work to which he had devoted the closing years of a blameless life, he strengthened by it. Could we see beyond the veil, what a glorious vision would be revealed to us.

The angel world, whose messengers attended his closing moments, gathered to usher him to his reward with the glad summons: "Good and faithful servant, come up hither."

From Duxbury, Vt., Dec. 13, of heart trouble, ARNOLD SIMON, aged 61 years.

He was a soldier in the civil war, and lost a leg on the battlefield. He was a good citizen, the duties of life, with an affectionate husband and father. A wife, four sons and one daughter, and three step-daughters, survive him. The writer conducted the services at the funeral, with the assistance of the G. A. R., of which he was a member.

From Duxbury, Vt., Jan. 14, ELLEN, wife of A. B. Smalley and step-daughter of Arnold Simon, aged 42 years.

She had been a great sufferer from asthma, and gladly welcomed the Angel of Death, who would guide her to a higher life.

From Duxbury, Vt., April 1, of pneumonia, JACOB ROSE, aged 61 years.

He leaves a wife, three daughters and a son, to mourn the earthly loss of a kind husband and father; yet they do not mourn without hope of a reunion in a better land, where family ties are no more broken. His 2nd mother, eighty-two years old, three sisters and two brothers, were in attendance at the funeral.

The writer conducted the funeral services, and the son and son-in-law were the bearers.

MRS. ANNIE W. CROSBY.

From the home of his daughter, No. 151 6th Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., Sunday morning, April 11, NATHAN BLANCHARD, aged 77 years, formerly of Avon, Mass.

Mr. Blanchard was well known to Spiritualists generally; he has been an attendant at the Onset Camp Meetings for several years past, and previously attended Lake Placid. He has always been a firm believer in the Spiritual Philosophy. The funeral services were private, and the body was brought to Brooklyn, Mass., for burial.

From New Boston, Mass., March 29, 1897, MRS. ETNA (DELMING) RAGE, aged 24 years.

She leaves a husband, and two children—Everett Leon and Arthur Lucien—four sisters and one brother to regret her earthly loss. She well performed the duties of life, with a strong faith that the friends gone before were waiting in the sweet beyond to receive her. A strong believer in Spiritualism from early childhood, its philosophy was comfort, strength and happiness to her. But she was called to a higher plane to be reunited with loved ones gone before. We will say farewell, dear friend; we shall meet you again and clasp your hand in that beautiful land of love.

M. B. M.

From her home in Champlin, Minn., April 6, MRS. ABRAHAM J. SPALDING.

She was born in Newburyport, Mass., June 28, 1812. She was a daughter of Joseph N. Jackson, one of the oldest Abolitionists. She and her late husband were members of the Middlesex County Association, and were active in Anti-Slavery and other, investigating Spiritualism in its early days. From that time it was not only her belief, but to her it was knowledge.

The funeral services were held at her late home on a beautiful sunny afternoon. Among the friends and neighbors were two Methodist ministers, who listened to the words of inspiration given through the mediumship of Mrs. Lowell of Andover and Mrs. Lepper of Minneapolis.

Obituary Notices not over twenty lines in length are published gratuitously. When exceeding that number, twenty cents for each additional line will be charged. Ten words on an average make a line. No poetry admitted under the above heading.

### A SIMPLE CATARRH CURE.

I have spent nearly fifty years in the treatment of Catarrh, and have effected many cures than any specialist in the history of medicine. As I must soon retire from active life, I will, from this time on, send the means of treatment and cure as used by my practice, free of charge, to every reader of this paper who suffers from this loathsome, dangerous and disgusting disease. This is sincere offer, which any one is free to accept. Address Prof. J. A. LAWRENCE, 88 Warren Street, New York.

Mar. 6.

### FREE To Sick People

A positive, quick and lasting cure for Constipation, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Kidney and Liver Diseases, Poor Blood, Rheumatism, Corns, etc. Thousands of testimonials from grateful people who have been cured. We send a full and authentic free, and post paid. You run no risk and save Doctors' bills. Good Agents wanted. Address EGYPTIAN DRUG CO., New York.

Mar. 6.

### Laugh at the Sun

Drink HIRES Rootbeer.

Keep Cool-Drink HIRES Rootbeer.

Keep Well-Drink HIRES Rootbeer.

Quenches your thirst HIRES Rootbeer.

DOESN'T PROGRESS. BY MISS LIZZIE

DOENES, author of "Poems from the Inner Life." In this book will be found many of the beautiful Inspirational Poems given by Miss Doenes since the publication of her first volume of poems. Illustrated with a fine steel engraving of the author.

Price \$1.00, postage 10 cents; full gilt, \$1.50, postage 10 cents.

For sale by BANNER OF LIGHT PUBLISHING CO.

TELL A Critical Review of Rev. Dr. P. E.

FEELER's Sermon upon "What is Hell?" By DR. J. E.

FEELER.

Price 10 cents.

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DEAFNESS & HEAD NOISES CURED.

Our NEWLY INVENTED TUBS cures deafness when all else fails.

Send to F. H. W. Co., 554 E. 7th St., N. Y., for Book and Free

Oct 10.







Lake Pleasant, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

We are rapidly completing the arrangements for the publishing of the camp meeting circulars, and by the first of May they will be mailed to those who have written for them. The first week's meetings will be unusually interesting and attractive.

On Sunday forenoon, Aug. 1, President A. H. Bailey will formally open the convocation of 1897 with an address of welcome, and will be followed by Mrs. T. U. Reynolds, who has been engaged as test medium for the whole session.

In the afternoon Dr. Charles W. Hidden of Newburyport will occupy the platform.

During the whole session of thirty days the services will be interspersed with music by the well-known singers, the Ladies' Schubert Quartet of Boston. A feature which will be entirely new to any camp meeting, and which will be peculiar to Lake Pleasant, will be a "healing festival."

During the past year the daily papers all over the country have been teeming with accounts of the wonderful cures performed by Dr. C. W. Hidden, Mrs. Anna Lewis, Mr. George B. Sanborn (the Western healer of Aspen, Col.), Mr. Samuel A. Cheney, Mr. R. E. Fowler of Danbury, Conn., and Mrs. Alice Newell Hunt, a sister of the blacksmith healer, Bradley Newell, of Vermont. These healers have been engaged, and in the forenoons and afternoons of Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 2 and 3, a "healing festival" will be held in the Temple, and all these healers will participate. Dr. Hidden will have charge of the arrangements, and will also heal personally in conjunction with the others. Such a festival has never been attempted before, and surcharged as our Temple is with spirit power, the conjunction of these powerful healers will undoubtedly result in some wonderful cures.

On Wednesday forenoon Dr. Hidden will deliver a medical lecture to ladies, and on Friday and Sunday following Prof. Wm. M. Lockwood of Chicago, Mrs. T. U. Reynolds, and Edgar W. Emerson will occupy the platform.

The Fitchburg Military Band will give concerts daily. Those who have sent me bids for the restaurant, boating privilege, news-stand, hotel and baggage, will receive answers as soon as the Directors meet in May.

The families of Mr. A. C. Carey, Dwight Hilliard, Mrs. Geo. Marble, Mr. C. L. Fisher, Thos. Gordon, C. E. Rice and Mrs. N. J. Morse are already at the Lake, and Fred Haslam and family, and Mrs. M. J. Stewart will open their cottages this week. It has been definitely decided that the Lyceum will be held each Sunday evening in the Temple, and that Russell's Orchestra will furnish the music for the march. On the last Sunday evening of August the Ladies' Improvement Society will cooperate with the Lyceum, and will hold a Memorial Service in the Temple.

Aug. 9, 10 and 11 the Ladies' Improvement Society will hold its annual Fair. We ask the many friends and members not to forget this occasion, but to assist, as they have in the past, with as liberal donations of articles as possible. The Society is always a friend indeed, as many of the less fortunate in this world's goods can testify, and those who assist can depend that they are working for a good cause. Any one desiring information or circulars, can address, with stamp,

ALBERT P. BLINN, Clerk.

603 Tremont street, Boston, Mass.

New York Convention.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

The First Convention of Spiritualists of the State of New York is ended; and while the number of delegates was not as large as we had a right to expect in our Empire State, yet I am safe in saying that a more harmonious and successful Convention never met; in fact, the unanimity of feeling and the spirit of kindness and brotherly love was so marked that we in reality had a three days' "love feast"; and those who were strangers to our Cause commented upon the wonderful unity that was manifest in all our deliberations. The strongest praise cannot do justice to our worthy President of the N. S. A., Bro. H. D. Barrett, and the State Agent, Frank Walker, for their untiring efforts to make our Convention the grand success they did, and the Spiritualists of our State realize that they owe these brothers a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid; and I can only say, on behalf of those earnest delegates and the societies they represent, that we will try to prove by our earnest co-operation that we appreciate their labors.

I also from a word of praise, which is justly due to each and every delegate, for the earnestness and singleness of purpose in desire to make a State association an accomplished fact.

Yes, dear old BANNER OF LIGHT, we now have a "State Spiritualist Association," in our Empire State, and we each one feel it the greatest honor that we have had the privilege of being a "Delegate" in the first Spiritualist Convention ever held in New York State.

The officers elected to govern the State Spiritualist Association for the coming year are: Frank Walker, Hamburg, President; Mrs. Carrie E. Twing, Westfield, 1st Vice President; Mrs. Tillie U. Reynolds, Troy, 2d Vice President; Herbert L. Whitney, Brooklyn, Secretary; H. W. Richardson, East Aurora, Treasurer; Trustees: 1st, Dr. E. F. Butterfield, Syracuse; 2d, W. Wines Sargent, Butternut; 3d, Jas. R. Stone, Waverly; 4th, Dr. W. B. Mills, Saratoga Springs.

Great thanks are also due to Prof. E. A. Whitelaw, violinist, of N. Y. City, the Marsh Ladies' Quartette, Syracuse, Master Clifford Walsh, soprano, Syracuse, Mr. Weeks, tenor, Binghamton, the Cecilia Ladies' Quartette, Binghamton, for the delightful manner in which they entertained us during the Convention. It is impossible in the short time at my disposal to make a more extended report at this time, but will send full report next week.

HERBERT L. WHITNEY, Sec'y.

Greetings.

To our new Editor, Prof. Harrison D. Barrett: We extend cordial greetings and hearty cooperation with his new work as editor of the grand old BANNER OF LIGHT, where he will come closely in touch with its readers through that process of fraternal reciprocity that unites us in the interest of human welfare, as understood by a knowledge of the truths expressed by the Spiritual Philosophy. We hold the BANNER OF LIGHT in high esteem, as one great and important factor in the promulgation of spiritual truth, and we appeal to our Spiritualists and investigators to strive to a better realization of the benefit derived from reading its pages of valuable matter from week to week. Send in your subscriptions, dear friends, and encourage those loyal souls, mortal and immortal, who are striving so earnestly to educate and benefit humanity.

Norwich, Conn. MRS. J. A. CHAPMAN.

HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian HAIR RENEWER.

The best hair grower, color restorer, dandruff eradicator, scalp cleanser, falling hair and baldness preventer and curer known to science. A fine hair dressing. Physicians recommend it.

R. P. Hall & Co., Props., N. H. Sold by all Druggists.

In Memory of George A. Shufeldt.

BY GEORGE A. BACON.

We have to make record of the translation from his physical body of another veteran worker for Mental Liberty and Spiritual Knowledge—Bro. George A. Shufeldt of Chicago.

He passed from his mortal tenement on the morning of March 29, the immediate cause of his death being rheumatism of the heart.

He was prominently known in business circles, having made his home in Chicago for the past thirty years. He may be remembered by some of the older readers of this journal as one of the original owners and developers of the famous Chicago artesian well. During the later years of his life he was much interested in mines in New Mexico and Montana. He was on a temporary visit home from the latter State when his sudden and fatal illness occurred. He was sixty-seven years old.

Bro. Shufeldt was known as an ardent advocate of Prohibition and other reform questions, in behalf of which he wielded a trenchant and vigorous pen. Becoming deeply interested in the Spiritual Philosophy nearly a third of a century ago, he was ever after a valiant and consistent "defender of the faith" to him a conscious truth. A man of quick sensibilities, large sympathies and unsparring generosity, his unnumbered practical deeds of goodness must now shine as stars in his crown of rejoicing.

The writer became acquainted and associated with him in spiritual matters thirty odd years ago, since which, through correspondence, more than a brotherly bond of affection has existed; and few, if any, will miss and mourn his physical departure, his big hearted nature and genial influence, more than he who pens this hasty and imperfect tribute to his worth and memory.

Washington, D. C., April 7, 1897.

The Connecticut State Spiritualist Association

Hereby extends fraternal greetings to all Spiritualists, Liberalists, investigators and thinkers, earnestly inviting them to cooperate in the grand work of presenting the truths of the Spiritual Philosophy and phenomena before the people. Let "love for humanity" lead us out into broader fields of investigation, and unite us in bonds of fraternal reciprocity, thus enlarging our usefulness by promoting a grander expression of life here and hereafter.

The Eleventh Annual Convention will be held at Unity Church, Pratt street, Hartford, Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2. Speakers for the Convention are: Prof. W. M. Lockwood of Chicago, Ill.; Prof. H. D. Barrett of Boston, Mass.; Mr. A. E. Tisdale of New London, Conn. Mrs. Nettie H. Harding of Somerville, Mass., has been engaged as test medium, to fill the vacancy caused by the transition of Mr. Joseph D. Stiles.

Program.—10:30 A. M., business meeting. 2 P. M., address by the President, Mr. C. E. Bingham; lecture, "The Spiritual Forces of Nature, and How They Promote the Visible," by Prof. W. M. Lockwood. 7:30 P. M., lecture, "The Philosophy of Co-Relation; or, How Natural Principles Relate Us to a Realm of Invisible Intelligence," by Prof. W. M. Lockwood; tests by Mrs. Nettie Holt Harding.

Sunday, May 2.—10:30 A. M., conference at Odd Fellows Hall, Main street. 2 P. M., Unity Hall, lecture by Prof. H. D. Barrett; tests by Mrs. Nettie Holt Harding. 7:30 P. M., lecture by Mr. A. E. Tisdale; tests by Mrs. Nettie Holt Harding. The musical part of the program will be conducted by the "Rose of New England Quartet"; recitations will be given by Miss Lillian F. Thrall.

Secretaries of societies or individuals conducting meetings are invited to send reports of the year's work.

MRS. J. E. B. DILLON, Secretary.

Philadelphia, Pa.

The Philadelphia Spiritualist Society celebrated the Forty-Ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism in its hall, northeast corner of 8th and Spring Garden streets, on Sunday, March 28.

The meeting was opened at 9:30 with a Conference. Mr. Thomas M. Locke, the President, made a short address suitable to the occasion, followed by Mr. Samuel Wheeler, Vice-President, Mrs. Story, Mr. Reed, Mr. Hoover, Mr. Thorne, and others. Mrs. C. Fannie Allyn followed with a very eloquent address, which was listened to and appreciated by a large and intelligent audience. The afternoon was devoted to the Lyceum, conducted by Mr. E. Myers and Mrs. Lillian Heasley, the exercises, consisting of recitations, tableaux, and drills. Among those assisting in these exercises were Miss Fannie Reed, Miss Mamie Snyder, Miss Bessie Wainwright, Miss Helen Stauffer, Misses Bessie and Laura Myers, the Misses and Master Garlick, Miss Myrtle Phillips, and Master Bien. Mrs. George Corbin gave a fine vocal selection. Prof. Frank Bacon, who is the Musical Director, had charge of the program. Mrs. C. Fannie Allyn gave us a very fine lecture in the evening. Prof. Bacon, Mrs. Yocum, and Miss Emma Rehrwieder, violinist, furnished the music.

The hall was handsomely decorated with the American flag, and flags of other nations, also flowers, palms, and flowering plants. Great credit is due to the Committee of Decorations, Mr. William Hahn, Mr. Charles Hammar, and Mr. William Heasley, also Mrs. Joseph Shuster, Mrs. J. Hinds, Miss Galloway and Mrs. Story. Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Thomas M. Locke.

Mrs. M. W. Leslie.

On Wednesday evening, April 7, the spirit of this estimable lady took its flight from earth. She had been a faithful medium, true and tried, for more than twenty-five years, and was ever ready to voice the sentiments angel-friends had to offer. She often spoke from the platform at Cassadaga Camp, in the famous conferences there, and always had a seasonable word to offer upon the thought of the hour. She was frequently visited by those who were privy to the loss of their dear ones, and her sensitive organism was often the channel through which the arisen spirits sought to alleviate the suffering of their loved ones on earth.

Mrs. Leslie filled many lecture engagements very acceptably in different sections of the country, and made hosts of friends wherever she went. Mediumship to her was a sacred trust, and she sought to use it solely for the good of others, not for adulation nor self-aggrandizement. Her ministry has, therefore, been a noble one, and her mission grandly filled. She had been an invalid since last October, hence the end was not unexpected. She welcomed the approach of the Silent Messenger, misnamed Death, as she would the approach of an old and valued friend. She fell asleep with a sweet smile of joy upon her face, while listening to the songs of the angels who had come to take her home, and whose forms she saw about her bed.

Three daughters, one of whom is Mrs. P. L. O. A. Keeler, one son, four sisters and one brother are left in earth life to miss for a time her presence in their midst. She has but gone before to welcome them home.

In accord with her request, the vocal music was rendered by Miss Amanda Bailey, of Salem, and Mrs. Wakefield, of Boston, while the address was delivered by H. D. Barrett, preceding which some appropriate selections were read by Alonzo Danforth.

The Massachusetts State Association of Spiritualists

Will hold its Quarterly Convention at Labor Church, Oxford street, Lynn, Mass., Tuesday, May 4, 1897; morning at 10:45, afternoon at 2:30, evening at 7:30. Admission free. Collections taken at each session.

The following speakers will be present on that occasion: Harrison D. Barrett, Dr. Geo. A. Fuller, J. M. Kelly, Carrie F. Loring, Nettie Holt Harding, Mrs. H. A. Baker, J. B. Hatch, Sr., and many others. Names will be added each week.

N. B. PERKINS, Committee of Arrangements.  
J. BROWN HATCH, JR.,  
J. M. KELTY,

MEETINGS IN MASSACHUSETTS.

LYNN.—T. H. B. James writes: The Arthur Hodges First Spiritual Society held very interesting services Sunday, with good attendance, at 33 Summer street. 2:30 appropriate selections by Mrs. M. K. Hamill and Prof. C. L. Walker, of Salem. Invocation by Mrs. D. E. Matson. Dr. I. A. Pierce, Capt. J. Balcom, Dr. S. M. Furbush, W. H. Rounseville, Frank Neate, Dr. E. F. Murray, Albert Sawin, of Chicago, Ill., spoke on timely subjects. Many tests and spirit messages were given by Mrs. Matson, Mrs. Lefavour, Mrs. Herriock, Mrs. Butler, Miss Hancock, Mr. Neate, Dr. Sawin and others.

At 7:30 Lena and Elsie Burns sang appropriate selections. Invocation by Mrs. Matson; also remarks by Dr. Pierce and Dr. Albert Sawin. Tests and messages, Mrs. Alice M. Lefavour and Mrs. Annie J. Brennan.

Next Sunday, at 2:30, tests, healing and remarks by Mrs. Bishop, and other mediums. At 7:30 Mrs. Bishop will lecture and give tests. Also other good mediums will take part.

The good work still continues at Mrs. Dr. Dowland's, 130 Market street. Last Tuesday, Mrs. C. H. Clarke, of Boston, gave fine remarks and many tests and readings. Friday evening, Mrs. A. Woodbury, of Boston, gave tests and readings. We hope soon to have them again.

Cadet Hall—Lynn Spiritualists' Association, J. M. Kelly, President.—Mrs. A. A. Averill, Sec'y, writes: Sunday, April 18, Mrs. Judge Pettigill of Malden was with us, and gave good satisfaction with remarks, tests and psychometric readings. Mrs. Annie E. Cunningham of Boston and Mr. Lamont of Wakefield were present, and assisted in the exercises. President Kelly and wife sang "No Night There" very sweetly.

Next Sunday we shall have Mrs. Abbie N. Burnham of Malden, assisted by Mrs. Dr. Caird of Lynn, with automatic writings and tests.

SALEM.—"N. B. P." writes: First Spiritualists' Society, April 18, the vacancy caused by the death of our brother and co-worker, Joseph D. Stiles, was filled by Mrs. Nettie Holt Harding. She made some fine allusions to him as a man of excellent reputation and character, and said that he would be missed by many, not Spiritualists altogether, for he had many friends outside the ranks.

Subjects: in the afternoon, "Down Through the Valley of Life there shall be Truth"; evening, "From Shadow-Land how much Better They Are." She spoke beautifully on both subjects, in her very eloquent and convincing way.

April 25 Mrs. May S. Pepper of Providence, R. I., one of the most wonderful test mediums on the platform to day, will speak. Her tests are always very accurate.

Subscriptions taken for BANNER OF LIGHT. Annually, \$2.00; semi-annually, \$1.00; quarterly, 50 cents.

BRIGHTON.—D. H. Hall, Conductor, writes: Sunday evening, April 18, Mrs. Greengrove M. Chapman gave a very interesting lecture on "The Resurrection." At the close of the lecture she answered mental questions with perfect satisfaction, and gave readings. Mrs. Chapman's work as an honest medium is attracting to our meetings a respectable class of believers and investigators, and goes to prove that a settled speaker and medium can accomplish the best results.

Sunday evening, April 25, 363 Washington street, at 7:30, speaking and phenomena.

G. A. R. HALL, 573 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, CAMBRIDGEPORT.—A correspondent writes: Patriotic Spiritual Meetings Sunday. Morning circle at 11 A. M. We had a large attendance, and it was filled with spirit power. Many were controlled. Afternoon and evening sessions were well attended. Mediums who took part during day: Mrs. L. J. Akerman opened with prayer; Mr. Nichols, invocation; Mr. D. S. Clark, Katie Butler; recitation, Mr. Hardy. BANNER OF LIGHT for sale.

WORCESTER.—Mrs. D. M. Lowe, Sec'y, writes: Sunday, April 11, our platform was occupied by Mrs. May S. Pepper, who was greeted by large and enthusiastic audiences.

April 18 Mr. Oscar A. Edgerley was our speaker, and will also be with us next Sunday. The Women's Auxiliary will meet on Thursday afternoon and evening, April 22, with Mrs. Mary Wicks, 84 John street.

BANNER OF LIGHT for sale at each session.

FITCHBURG.—Dr. C. L. Fox, President, says: The First Spiritual Society observed Easter Sunday with appropriate services. Pythian Hall was crowded to its utmost capacity to hear the speakers and test mediums—Mr. Wood of Boston, Mrs. Sherwin of Lynn and Miss L. E. Smith of Fitchburg. The musical selections were finely rendered by Miss Maude Whalley, mandolin soloist, Miss DeCosta, cornetist, and Mrs. Dr. Whalley, organist and accompanist. The hall was finely decorated with flowers and foliage.

WALTHAM.—Mrs. M. L. Sanger writes: April 18 our speaker was Mrs. Effie Webster of Lynn. The short address she gave us was so full of mannerisms that many in the audience recognized the controlling spirit, and when he said he had only been gone a few weeks, we felt certain that Mr. Joseph D. Stiles was with us. His address to us was most excellent; he said organically by all means. Her tests were also very good.

Tuesday evening the Lyceum children will give an entertainment; both old and young have worked hard to make it a success.

Next Sunday we have Miss Josephine Webster.

FALL RIVER.—John J. Connolly, Sec'y, says: Prof. George Burdett of New Bedford, an old-time medium, now in his seventy-eighth year, lectured and gave tests for our society after-noon and evening, April 18.

The lectures were listened to with rapt attention by all present. After the lectures the professor gave numerous tests, which were all recognized without a single exception. There would be a constant demand for the Professor's services as a platform speaker if his abilities were more generally known.

Next Sunday, April 25, C. Fannie Allyn will be with us for the third time during the season. Standing-room will be the rule. Will J. Clegg Wright kindly send me his address?

HAVERHILL.—"O. H." writes that large audiences listened attentively to interesting lectures by Mrs. C. Fannie Allyn last Sunday. Dr. C. L. Willis followed with excellent readings. A developing circle was formed last Thursday, a large number being in attendance, who will meet regularly every Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

Tuesday, April 27, the Union will give an Oyster Supper. Cake and coffee will also be served, to be followed with a social dance. A sale of fancy articles will be held during the evening.

Sunday, April 25, the popular young medium of Lowell, Miss Blanche Brinard.

THE CAMBRIDGE SPIRITUAL INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY, M. A. Sawyer, Sec'y, writes, held its meeting Friday, April 9. The speaker, Mrs. Nettie Holt Harding, was interesting, and well received, Mr. Harding, cornetist, assisting. The next regular meeting will be held in Cambridge Lower Hall. Friday, April 23, Mrs. Kate R. Stiles will lecture and give psychometric experiments. Good music. Supper served at six o'clock. Public invited.

WAKEFIELD.—James G. Hunt writes: Sunday, April 18, Mrs. Mary E. Thompson, of Onset, was with us again, taking the place of Mrs. Charlotte Buttermann, who has not yet recovered sufficiently to take the platform. Mrs. Thompson's lectures, tests and delineations were all of the very best.

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that will last, and a suite for \$65.00 that is as good as many that are sold for \$90.00, and another for \$75.00 that is really a \$100.00 suite, and you will say so when you see it; and some pretty Odd Pieces, from \$5.00 to \$12.00, that you will be delighted with. Do not forget our line of Sideboards, Dining Tables and Chairs, and our HIGHLY POLISHED, FINE GRAINED QUARTERED OAK CHAMBER SETS, with large French Plate Mirror, for \$25.00. Carpets in the greatest variety, at the lowest prices.

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Walter Wellington Currier.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

Walter Wellington Currier entered spirit-life April 18, at half-past ten, from the home of J. M. Davis, 213 Groveland street, Haverhill, Mass., at the age of seventy-three years.

In compliance with his wish, I enclose a copy of instructions to be observed at his funeral, to be held Wednesday, April 21, at 2:30 P. M. CHARLES H. BRADLEY.

LAST RITES.

My heartfelt and earnest request is that when the day arrives to lay my body in its last resting place beside my companions at Hilldale, that there should be no funeral in the common acceptance of the term. There shall be no praying, no singing, no preaching, no speech-making, no reading of the Bible or burial selections. All personal friends are to be welcomed to the house, and may engage in general converse, and in honest criticism of my past life and its earthly termination.

My honest belief is that matter and force are both eternal; and as I am composed of matter and force I also am eternal. And I fully believe in a continuity of life after the dissolution of the body. I have had demonstrable evidence of this fact, consequently I feel that I am to join the great majority of kindred and friends who have preceded me to the realm of continued and everlasting progress.

With love and kind greeting to every human being, I would bid you all adieu until we meet beyond the river.

(Signed) WALTER W. CURRIER.

And I desire Mr. C. H. Bradley to take full charge, and see that the above is strictly adhered to.

Movements of Platform Lecturers.

(Notices under this heading, to insure insertion the same week, must reach this office by Monday's mail.)

Mr. J. Frank Baxter, lecturer and medium, having changed his residence, his permanent address hereafter is 46 Tudor street, Chelsea, Mass.

Mrs. Gladys and Mr. Moorey will be at "Single Tax Hall," Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, on the evening of April 26.

Mrs. J. W. Kenyon lectured and gave tests in Malden the 5th inst., in Salem the 11th, and Lynn the 12th. She has open dates. Address Waverley, Mass.

Mrs. J. W. Kenyon lectured and psychometrized in Boston, in Eagle Hall, April 4 and 11, afternoon and evening. Address him at Waverley, Mass., for open dates for camp meetings and the season of 1897.

Mrs. Lizzie Kelly would like engagements with societies to hold meetings for inspirational speaking, platform tests and psychometric readings. Address 823 Washington street, Boston.

Mrs. Julia E. Davis gave tests in Providence, April 11; Sayville, 13; Chelsea, 18. Will be in Lynn 25. Open dates in May. Address 49 Dickinson street, Somerville, Mass.

F. A. Wiggin of Boston, Mass., concludes his engagement with the First Society of Washington on the 25th inst. He is to speak for the Berkeley Hall Society, Boston, the Sundays of May; Saturday evening, May 1, for the Psychical Research Club, Lowell; May 26, at Hillsboro bridge, N. H. Societies desiring his services for week-evenings removed May, address in care of BANNER OF LIGHT.

Mrs. M. A. Keeler has removed to 1008 K street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Maggie Waite can be addressed at 328 Grand River Ave., Detroit, Mich., for the present.

Old and New Psychology.

W. J. Colville is now busily engaged in preparing for speedy publication a very important and intensely interesting series of twenty-four essays, grouped under the above title, the substance of these papers being the essence of many lectures recently delivered in different cities of America, for which there has been, and still is, a loud and continuous call. The volume will extend to about four hundred pages, and will be clearly printed on good paper, and substantially bound in cloth. The price will be one dollar per copy, but for the next six weeks, i. e., until May 1, 1897, the offer is made to send the book, immediately it has issued from the press, to any one who sends seventy-five cents with full name and post-office address to BANNER OF LIGHT.

The following is a partial list of the special topics treated:

- What is Psychology?
- Relations of Psychology and Physiology.
- Views of Plato, Aristotle and Swedenborg.
- Have we Two Minds?
- Subjective and Objective Consciousness.
- Telepathy and Thought Transference.
- Moral and Educational Uses of Psychology.
- Hypnotism and Ideal Suggestion.
- Concentration of Thought—How Developed.
- The Strongest Proofs of Immortality.
- Dreams and Visions.
- Seership or Prophecy.
- Normal and Super-normal Mediumship.
- Will.
- Intellect.
- Emotion.
- Imagination.
- Instinct.
- Intuition.
- And many other topics of equal interest.

Everywhere if they will send us the names and full addresses of such Spiritualists in their immediate localities as are not regular subscribers to THE BANNER.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Dr. F. L. H. Willis may be addressed at 243 Alexander street, Rochester, N. Y. Jan. 4.

John Wm. Fletcher, No. 1654 Broadway, New York City, agent for the BANNER OF LIGHT and all Spiritual and Occult Literature. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

J. J. Morse, 26 Osnaburgh street, Euston Road, London, N. W., is agent in England for the BANNER OF LIGHT and the publications of Colby & Rich.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

TO

Old Subscribers

OF THE

Banner of Light.

The management of the BANNER OF LIGHT PUBLISHING CO. take pleasure in announcing to all their subscribers who are now receiving the BANNER OF LIGHT that they have concluded arrangements with the Manufacturers of the celebrated

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which will enable them to make the following liberal offer:

To any old subscriber who will send us one new yearly subscription to the BANNER, and a year's renewal for him or herself, together with \$1.00 to pay the subscription of both, we will send one of the WATERMAN IDEAL FOUNTAIN PENS, which retails at \$2.50.

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- The first pen mentioned in history was a split reed, used by the Egyptians more than five thousand years ago.
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- The foregoing offer applies only to REGULAR SUBSCRIBERS, who receive THE BANNER DIRECT from our office not to those who purchase from Newsdealers.

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Apr. 17. 111s

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## Message Department.

### SPECIAL NOTICE.

Questions propounded by inquirers—having practical bearing upon human life in its departments of thought or labor—should be forwarded to this office by mail or left at our Journaling Room for answer. It should also be distinctly understood in this connection that the Messages published in this Department indicate that spirits carry with them to the life beyond the characteristics of their earthly lives—whether of 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 express as much of Truth as they perceive—no more.

It is our earnest wish that those on the mundane sphere of life who recognize the published messages of their spirit-friends on this page, from time to time, will verify them by personally informing us of the fact.

### SPRIT-MESSAGES,

GIVEN THROUGH THE TRANCE MEDIUMSHIP OF



MRS. JENNIE K. D. CONANT.

Report of Seance held March 26, 1897.

[Printed in advance by special request of Chairman of Message Department.]

#### Spirit Invocation.

Father divine, as our highest conception of Deity we approach thee this morning; we approach thee in love, and try to place ourselves in such relationship that we may be worthy of thy divine teachings. We learn, as the springtime is now approaching, and nature is taking on its new birth and bringing forth its buds of experience, a wonderful lesson. As we approach the various spheres of life, and pass through different experiences, realizing new opportunities, seeking for light, for consciousness that thoughts are like buds upon the great tree of life, the tree of knowledge of good and evil, we are reminded that we are approaching the anniversary of Spiritualism. While we have watched the bud as it blossomed from the tree of ignorance, it has grown beautifully, and has brought forth much fruit, and has helped us to expand the brain and search more diligently the laws of light and humanity. When we look back over the history of this planet, we find the spirit predominating and felt; it comes in contact with matter; but we feel this morning as we approach the earth-sphere the need of putting new life into our veins, new energy to stir those who have lain still, so that their friends can return—satisfied because some one has been instrumental in giving them a communication that has proved to them that the spirit lives, and that there is a life continuous.

Oh! draw near unto us, and as they celebrate the fortieth year of Modern Spiritualism, may all realize that they are not children; that after forty-nine years of experience they are supposed to be developed and matured to reason; that the time has come for us all to cooperate, mortal and immortal, to make the coming year a year truly to be remembered by all.

Oh! spirit of love, draw near us this morning; open the eyes of the weak, strengthen the spirit to penetrate more deeply and more accurately the true laws of spirit-control. Oh, as we have entered the Circle-Room this morning, the golden gates are wide open, and those who have passed the experience that they called death, and have become conscious of the new birth, are waiting to send forth their thoughts and love-messages on the wings of love. Let each one concentrate, come closely, and be near one to the other, and thy name shall be praised now and forever. Amen.

### INDIVIDUAL MESSAGES.

#### William Palmer.

Well, Mr. Chairman, it is sometimes harder for us to control the material brain than I think the mortal has any conception of, and of course if we are reasonable we shall know it is harder to control another brain than our own faculties, but as our good friend was giving that invocation this morning, and he speaks of the Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism, my mind was thrown back to many years ago when Spiritualism was then new as far as the mortals understood, and to the anxious few that had become conscious that the spirit could manifest and work for the elevation of humanity. My good wife and companion on earth-life is with me, for we worked together in mortal, and how many times I have walked miles and miles perhaps to be instrumental in helping some poor soul to realize their loved ones were around them.

Well can I remember the excitement that it made when it was reported that a paper would be published demonstrating spirit return, and how curious the multitude would look on the loving messages that were established in the BANNER OF LIGHT, and remember how hard it was to struggle through the darkness and superstition; we were truly budding like the trees in the springtime.

It seemed almost impossible for your paper to exist under the conditions, but the good spirits that controlled the instrument that filled the chair that this instrument now fills gave assurance to the editor, Mr. Colby, and its manager, Mr. Berry, and a few that were anxious to see it progress, and yet how many times have we as mortals shook in our boots not knowing what the consequence would be, but I am glad to say to be one to be identified with you here this morning, and I come to congratulate you on the progress that Spiritualism has made, and the BANNER OF LIGHT has been instrumental in scattering the seeds by the highways and byways.

Forty years have elapsed, and yet it was said at that time it could not live a month; forty years have passed, and we are still progressing, and in more demand to day than ever before. Now, Mr. President, I do not wish to monopolize too much of your time, but I wish to be remembered in Elmira, N. Y., and many other places in the surrounding country, where we have labored together. I am still interested in my co-workers, and I have seen many who have joined us in spirit life; there are many with us this morning who can be witnesses to what I am saying. We have seen others rise up and fill our places, and we wish them God speed. We hope that all will blend in harmony, sympathy and good-will. And one more thing: I wish to thank this progressive age. The idea of organizing now will take a new interest, so as to be identified as a people, as a power, and realize our rights both in legislation and demonstrations.

We wish to say that we join you all in the up-building and growth of humanity and every step of progress. I do not wish to speak of any one individually, for it seems impossible for me to name all. I wish this to go as our Easter greeting, and to say that, while we have been disrobed of mortal faculties of recognition, we are still with you, and will love and guide and encourage you in our feeble way, as we did while in the earth-life. Just say, Mr. Pres-

ident, that William Palmer is here this morning, and says he sends greetings to all. I left the body in what we call the Big Flats of Chemung County, N. Y.

#### Capt. William Snipes.

Well, I suppose, my friend, it is well to introduce ourselves when we make an appearance in a new party, and I am Capt. William Snipes, and you will find my home a good way from here, because I went out of the body in Virginia, but I have got a good many relatives and friends around about here, and I should like to be remembered, although I have been out of the body quite a long while, and of course during these changes and conditions there have been many changes. There are those that have joined me since I passed on to spirit-life. I would like to say also, that I have still an interest in progression, and I would like to see the world grow better.

I like to see advancement, and I hope that selfishness is somewhat departing, but it does not seem to me that we get entirely free of it. I was also for Spiritualism and for advanced ideas, and I am still feeling that I wish to learn more and study more, and I desire to help my fellow men, and I wish them to know that after the voyage of life was over and I had entered into the harbor of peace, and had received the greetings of those who had gone on before, it was a happy greeting, for it was a good deal to be remembered, but I have been interested of late especially in my own family, for there are those that have not been very well, also have been troubled by the depression in-trade, and sometimes they wish the spirit was around them and able to assist and help them, yet they do not seem to be able to thoroughly comprehend the reasonable side, that all things come out well.

I am not much of a hand to make a long speech, and hence it is hard work for me to condense my ideas this morning on-rating through this instrument, but I would like to send words of encouragement to all, and especially those that shall be remembered by, for I feel that there are many yet in earth-life that I am not forgotten by, and I wish to say that wherever I can, and wherever I have an opportunity to make myself known to the dear ones of earth life, I will, and say that I am plotting you on to the spirit land, where all sorrows and shadows are over, and that is where we will explain things that we cannot do to-day. I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this privilege, and say that my companion and all loved ones are with me this morning, and would like to voice their sentiments also, but as time will not permit they will try it some other time. You will locate me at Staunton, Va. Thank you. I will now bid you good-by.

#### Justin W. Hungerford.

Well, Mr. Chairman, since you are putting names down, you might as well put my name down. It is Justin W. Hungerford, and this morning seems to be a sort of veterans' morning, for it seems that all who have operated this morning seem to have been familiar with the past conditions; and I, too, might say I was interested, and I remember well when this Message Department was first brought together and established for the communications of spirits and the work that it had been destined to do. I think I was pretty well advanced in years before I passed out of the body, and I have also been gone some time, although I don't know as I can give you the exact year, but I should judge from experience I must be here from sixteen to seventeen years, and I know that through those last years in spirit-life I have watched the progress of life, and it has been wonderful. It has been really astonishing to see how it has been brought forth, and how much more popular it is to-day than it used to be; but we can see them seeking silently, going privately, and many are seeking sweet communion with the dear ones who are gone, that the soul has not the moral courage to say, "I am a Spiritualist"; yet I do not think it is necessary to speak of belief, for we make a mistake, for there are so many beliefs, and circumstances and conditions oftentimes change our conception of the belief, hence it is well for us, instead of passing our ideas on belief, to pass it on knowledge; we want the facts; we want to understand natural laws.

You mortals that are still struggling through the environments of ignorance, if you would stop to study the natural laws of things, and study your own spirit, understand your own self, and comprehend what the faculties within you mean, and how to be used, and not abused. I feel daring my experience in earth that I tried to be useful, I tried to understand things the best I knew how, and I know when a man or woman does the best they know how it is all that can be expected from them, but I do not feel this morning that I have come back merely to give somebody a test; I have not returned to gratify some idle curiosity; I have not come back to satisfy some person that it is my ideal me, but I wish to be identified with a consciousness that the spirit lives, and can return. I have that experience, and because I have it I wish to send it to those in earth-life, so that others when they approach the step to be taken between the river of those left and the spirit—we will not call it death—for when I was living in the body I was satisfied that when the boatman called me the dear loved ones would be waiting for me on the spirit side, and I wish to say to all, be of good cheer, many things are not yet explained, but to those that are near and dear to me by the tie of relationship and memory, although you may not believe that grandpa has returned, you may not believe it, it is me just the same. I want to say that there are others with me this morning, and I do not wish to intrude too much on your time, Mr. Chairman, so I will say good-by, and may God bless each one, is our desire this morning.

My home, my friend, was in Appleton, Wis., where I think I shall be remembered in years gone by.

#### Andrew Vickery.

I suppose I might as well try to make the best of this opportunity, and you can put me down as Andrew Vickery, and my home as Auburn, Me. I, too, have been out of the body many years. I have oftentimes watched the progress of things, and been around your circle-room as in years gone by; I was quite well along in years—nearly eighty—before I passed on to spirit life, and I had a vast experience in earth-life. I had many who were closely attached to me, but there were many who had gone on before. It is only when we commence to lose our friends we ask, Where are they? It was the death of my dear mother that caused me to seek out Spiritualism, to understand where the soul is, and as to whether we should meet

again. It was a great comfort to me in the latter days of my life, because I could see, with inner eyes, that I should have consolation; that they were around, watching for me to finish my work; and then, when they called me home, I was ready to go.

I was glad that I had seen so much and understood the little I did, for truly when we get to the spirit world we often wish we had understood more; but this morning I wish to come back and thank the good angel friends of the mortal. I hope all will cooperate and benefit, for truly it is the most beautiful religion that ever came to the souls of men.

I wish to be remembered by all. I hope I am not forgotten, for once in a while only have I had an opportunity of manifesting to those whom I have met before, and they have often wondered why I have not made myself known more through the BANNER OF LIGHT. I wish to say to them all that I have been interested, just the same, and wish them to know I am waiting for them; and if I can assist them in any way I shall be more than pleased to do so. I don't feel like sending too long a communication this morning, because there are so many waiting to come in. I am thankful for this little crumb. Good by. I wish you success, and hope all will assist you.

#### Robert Rutherford.

Well, friend, it seems time is going, and time is precious; but I felt, as the good chairman said this morning that I might follow next, that my soul was too full for expression, for I would like to come in contact with the dear ones once more. It seems good to have the privilege, and especially when we hover around you so many times when you really do not seem to be conscious that we are with you; and this morning there has been so much said on the advancement that mortal has made, and I, too, feel satisfied with what has been done. I have more on the spirit-side than on the mortal, and there are so many of us together that it seems now like home, and there are those I still have an interest in—especially the one who has not been physically well lately—and I wish to strengthen all and encourage all.

I feel as if I shall be remembered in Rochester, N. Y., as I remained there many years and was familiar with many people—mostly business people—and I should like to say that I, too, have enjoyed the progress of Spiritualism, for well do I remember when the Rochester rappings came, and how great the excitement was at that time, and how we used to enjoy the communications that were oftentimes sent to us through THE BANNER and through all the other sources, for we were then anxious to test the power. Why, fellow-men, to-day it is nothing to get a spirit-communication, for the spirit is much more familiar with the chemical laws that manifest through matter, and they can make you understand things more distinctly; but I can remember how many hours we used to sit for one tiny little knock, one letter, and as they were spelled alphabetically, how patiently we would wait for every one and every sentence that we got; and now the spirit can talk with you, and can manifest in so many ways; yet there are doubts, and there are times when it seems the more plain the spirit comes, the more they try to demonstrate to the mortal ones, they do not seem to comprehend; but we are now conscious that it is the awakening of the spirit that has caused it, and that is why we wish to unite with you this morning in sending forth our thoughts and cooperating with you so that all will come out to advantage, and you will understand the laws that govern matter. Thank you very kindly. My name is Robert Rutherford.

#### Lorena French.

Well, Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that the male element of our circle predominates this morning, and I just said to the Chairman, were they all going to send their thoughts, and wondered if I could have a word also, because I too am a veteran, as the word might be expressed, for so many long years have I listened to the voice of the spirit. My physical body was a long while ailing, and it seems almost as though my earthly garments were not strong enough to hold the progressive spirit, and yet I wanted more assistance when I became conscious that the spirit could help me, help me both physically and spiritually, and I know they prolonged my earthly career, and I tried to keep back the pain, and make myself as comfortable as it was possible. I know also that they had assisted me wonderfully, and I did not realize it half so much as I have since I have been in spirit-life, and I feel this morning in coming back after all these many years—for I too lived until I was seventy-one years old, and I have seen my large family grow up, and I have seen many of them pass on to the spirit-life, also had them join me since I came to the spirit—that I had many blessings while in my earthly career, for there was nothing left undone. To-day I have worked with them, and I return through your Message Department this morning to see if I can assist, and start up a little bit more confidence, start up a little more encouragement, and let them know that grandpa has not left them, that I am still interested in the welfare of children and grandchildren.

I am also interested in humanity at large, and as my own family are mostly on the spirit-side, yet I have got so many of my children yet in earth-life, it seemed that I was mother and grandmother to so many, not all tied by the laws of relationship, but I feel I used to extend a hand of sympathy to all. I want to send glad tidings of immortal joy, and say to them as the Easter morning seems to be approaching, and we can see the emblem of the destroyer called death, and can say as one of old, conquered death and the grave, so have we rested triumphantly, and can say truly in our hearts to day, "Oh grave, where is thy victory? Oh death, where is thy sting?" And I wish all to remember that I have not come this morning merely to wake up an interest, so that those that will recognize it will think and know that I have done what they wanted me to do, for your paper goes many ways and in many families. I want to say also, that those in Vermont will remember me and my dear companion, and my husband's name was Spencer, and my own name was Lorena French, and I wish them to know that there are so many around us this morning, but as the time is limited we will not approach too much into personality, but if they will give us an opportunity we will try to assist them more. I lived in Gayville, Vt.

#### N. W. Bonney.

Well, Mr. President, I only want to say a few words. I would like to be identified this morning as another who has recognized THE BANNER

since its first publication, and has understood much in connection with the surroundings of life, and the knowledge that Spiritualism gives comfort and consolation to the soul which nothing else does. I feel that I would like to send forth a few words to those who may yet remember me, for truly time changes the conditions much, and it is hard for us sometimes when we are out of the body to keep present with the time. It is hard sometimes to realize that it hangs heavy around mortal shoulders, it goes so quick and rapidly in spirit.

I sometimes wish I could give my experience as I have found it in spirit, although in life we have not always spent our time diligently. When I look over my earth life it doesn't seem possible that this old BANNER has waved over our country forty years. I can remember when I sent in my first subscription, and I always looked out that it was paid, for THE BANNER was my Bible, and it gave me so much courage! I used to say that when I went on to spirit-life what a beautiful thing it would be if I could come in and take control in the circle and see how the spirit could manifest; but I find after coming into the spirit-realm that there are many things we feel we would do, just the same as we did in earth life. We sometimes think we will do a thing, and afterward we find conditions are not always right.

I have not been a stranger to your Banner circles, but I have been a stranger to many of the instruments, for it has been almost impossible for me to control the ways of those I come in contact with, and that is the reason you don't hear from me more often, but this morning I have been assisted here through the great power that has been raised from the old co-workers, as we wish to bring forth new encouragement, and draw the line between the times when we first started, and the progress that we are making to day, and I wish to say to all, work faithfully, work honestly, and you will know that the spirit can cooperate with you. I have most of my friends in spirit with me, that is as far as relationship goes, but I am interested in my brothers and sisters of humanity.

You can put me down as N. W. Bonney, Hill City, Tenn.

#### Messages to be Published.

March 12.—Rhonda Parker; Thera M. Kingsley; Charles Ayer; Greenleaf Kelley; Charlie LeStoddard; Dorothy LeStoddard.  
March 19.—Dr. H. B. Storer; Mary E. Hilton; Capt. Robert Burns; Lily Moore; Charles Heiknap; Freddie Holland.  
April 2.—Clarence P. Clark; Charles H. Faulkner; Hannah Mitchell; Caroline Woods; Sarah Field; Capt. Clarence Elmer.  
April 9.—Mrs. Harriett Gott; Zelotes Perrin; Rachel Farrington; Mrs. Charles Edmonds; Absalom Palmer; Albert Loveley.  
April 16.—John Close; Dr. Edwin Seefeld; Perry Boulard; Francis R. Reed; Phineas Field; Bessie Wells; Carrie L. Shepard.

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

GIVEN THROUGH THE MEDIUMSHIP OF



W. J. COLVILLE.

QUES.—[BY A. A. Cate, Haverhill, Mass.] How would you treat a case of stammering? Kindly answer through the columns of THE BANNER.

ANS.—Stammering, or any impediment in speech where there is no directly organic difficulty with any of the vocal organs, is invariably due to some abnormal condition of the nervous system; and as mental suggestion is invariably of the highest use in conquering nervous difficulties, we should strongly advise making suggestion to the child or adult, whichever it may be, to the effect that he or she is perfectly able to command the entire faculty of speech, and to give full and easy expression to thought in language.

With children the most aggravated cases of stuttering are often due to painful self-consciousness coupled with positive fear of meeting strangers, hearing certain seemingly harmless subjects discussed, and sometimes with no greater cause for alarm than the mere mention in ordinary conversation of the names of certain persons who, for some unexplained cause, have suggested something formidable to the afflicted patient.

Suggestion can, and whenever practicable,

should be made orally in all such cases, though where personal contact between healer and patient is not feasible a strongly worded letter may answer the purpose.

On no account place reliance on any of the many much-valued but actually useless mechanical cures, such as putting pebbles under the tongue, uttering a single vowel before articulating a sentence, etc., etc. All such so-called remedies are too superficial to afford radical or permanent relief, though sometimes they are of a little immediate benefit.

To call attention to the stammering itself is worse than useless, as it increases the embarrassment of the afflicted person. Simply ignore the unpleasant phenomenon, but quietly and firmly suggest to the patient that he can use his vocal organs as well as you can use yours.

It stands to reason, of course, that only temporary good can result from even the wisest use of suggestion unless the suggestor succeeds in strengthening the will and self-confidence of the patient, for, as stammering is brought on by purely hysterical conditions—and hysteria is first a mental, then a nervous, and finally a physical disorder—no cure can be permanent that does not go to the root of the malady, and destroy that root.

The lesser good can often be accomplished prior to the greater; therefore temporary benefit can be looked upon as a clue to the ultimate assurance of finally complete liberation from so distressing a limitation. Speech is preeminently a human power; therefore any defect in speech is clearly due to some unusual lack of mental control over the bodily system.

Those foolish persons, who, while seeking to afford relief, call renewed and increased attention to an ailment necessarily defeat their own ends, as they increase the very thought about self and its limitations, which is usually the prime cause of any vocal impediment. If at any special time it is particularly necessary that the stammerer should not stammer, you are quite justified in saying, firmly though gently, either aloud or in silence, "You are able to speak perfectly," or "You will now perfectly recite your piece," of whatever suggestion expresses exactly what you wish to aid in bringing about.

Remember always—and we are speaking to everybody everywhere, who wishes to practice mental suggestion beneficially—you must feel that you are going with, never without, and certainly never against the will of your patient. In a case of stammering it should prove particularly easy for you to take the right mental attitude.

Address the individual as one who is working with you to rise superior to a limitation, you are unitedly bound to surmount, and if you persist faithfully and quietly you will soon see evidences of success.

Should you discover, in your diagnosis of a case, that any special fear or habit increases the stammering, then affirm positively but serenely that your patient is henceforth free from the oppression of the fear or the thrall-dom of the habit. Such in general outline have we found to be the best method for conquering even long-standing and obstinate cases of stammering, which are always greatly aggravated by fear, anger or fatigue.

✶✶✶ WRITING PLANCHETTES for sale by Banner of Light Publishing Co. Price 60 cents.

### In Memoriam.

Passed to the Higher Life, from Bolton, Mass., Sunday morning, April 4, Mrs. JULIA A. WOODBURY, aged 63 years.

Mrs. Woodbury was the mother of Francis B. Woodbury, Secretary of the National Association of Spiritualists, and Frederick A., a younger son, who had always remained in the home, a tender relation of mutual care and dependence existing between mother and son; while the elder brother, in his distant home and in the many cares of his busy life, kept in loving touch with and helpful ministry to the inmates of his childhood's home. Unexpectedly came the silent messenger; an attack of "la grippe," of short duration, suddenly assuming a fatal form.

On the eve of preparation for the great Anniversary Mass Meeting in Washington came the summons home, to our Secretary, who, with characteristic faithfulness, attended to all the minutiae of his work ere starting the sad journey eastward to the lone brother anxiously awaiting his coming.

The funeral took place from the home, Thursday, April 8, at 2 P. M., and was conducted with much unanimity of feeling by Rev. W. J. Leonard and the writer.

A large number of relatives, friends and neighbors assembled, and there was manifest a peculiarly sympathetic atmosphere, as though each sensed a personal loss; for the quiet little woman had been born, married and experienced the new birth under the same sheltering roof, and her life in her home and in the community had been the embodiment of all the sweet amenities of life.

The many floral offerings were exquisite and beautifully arranged. Her son's thoughtful love had guarded the low sewing chair with flowers, and fair blossoms rested on the work basket, which she retained as "mother" had left it, with "Frank's" last letters among the things with which her hands had wrought love's last labor.

"Grape on the door" gave place to flowers, eliciting from the pastor, Mr. Leonard, words of approval, as he considered the trappings of mourning out of place on such occasions, and bade us stand with the noble life eulogizing the mortal.

Mrs. Woodbury was a firm believer in the revelations of Spiritualism, and received her first proof from our lately arisen brother, Joseph Stiles.

Many friends followed her body to its resting-place among the graves of her kindred, and after a brief prayer of committal words, chanted by her son, triumphant with the knowledge of immortality, her loved ones turned to the home her life had sanctified, and where, we pray, her spirit presence shall be as "healing balm" to her youngest-born, and from whence her freed spirit, with quickened powers, shall speed to that other home, to bless and strengthen our own devoted, tireless worker and his faithful companion.

JULIETTE YEAW.

## The Best Rest Test.

There are two kinds of sarsaparilla: The best—and the rest. The trouble is they look alike. And when the rest dress like the best who's to tell them apart? Well, "the tree is known by its fruit." That's an old test and a safe one. And the taller the tree the deeper the root. That's another test. What's the root,—the record of these sarsaparillas? The one with the deepest root is Ayer's. The one with the richest fruit; that, too, is Ayer's. Ayer's Sarsaparilla has a record of half a century of cures; a record of many medals and awards—culminating in the medal of the Chicago World's Fair, which, admitting Ayer's Sarsaparilla as the best—shut its doors against the rest. That was greater honor than the medal, to be the only Sarsaparilla admitted as an exhibit at the World's Fair. If you want to get the best sarsaparilla of your druggist, here's an infallible rule: Ask for the best and you'll get Ayer's. Ask for Ayer's and you'll get the best.







