



THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST ASSOCIATION.

Annual Report of the President, Harrison D. Barrett, for the
Year Ending October 24th, 1902.

To the Spiritualists of America, and Officers and Delegates of the Convention:—
Greeting:—Again it is my duty and privilege to submit for your consideration my report as President of the N. S. A. for the twelve months past. In complying with the rules and regulations of the N. S. A. that require a detailed statement of the business affairs of the Association, its general and special work, and its growth during the year, as well as a glance at the conditions of our Cause as a whole, from your President, I am pleased to announce that the tide of popular favor has been moving steadily forward in the direction of co-operative effort among our people, and the N. S. A. itself has been enabled thereby to accomplish far more than it has done in any previous year of its history. I congratulate my brethren everywhere upon this sign of progress and bespeak their hearty co-operation to make it even more apparent one year hence.

SPIRITUALISM IN GENERAL.

On the part of the general public there has been a decided increase of interest in matters spiritual during the past twelve months. This is evidenced by the call for psychic novels and items pertaining to the occult in the columns of the secular press. Clergymen and scholars have given the subject special attention at frequent intervals, and have led many people to investigate for themselves along original and independent lines. Our literature, too, has been in demand to a greater extent than in past years, the call for the works of Andrew Jackson Davis being very noticeable and encouraging. In addition to the above evidences must be noticed the frequent appeals to the officers of the N. S. A. and to our spiritualist press from persons in public and private life for definite information with regard to the truths of Spiritualism and proofs of the genuineness of its phenomena. The foregoing facts clearly prove that public sentiment is now largely trending in the direction of psychism, and it behooves the Spiritualists of America through their National Association to be prepared to meet the demand for information that is now being made of them. It would be well to have two tracts especially prepared for free distribution, one setting forth the basic principles of Spiritualism, and the other scientific proof of the genuineness of our phenomena. I recommend action upon this suggestion on the part of the Convention.

SIGNS OF PROGRESS.

Not the least among the signs of progress to be noted is the fact that many of our local societies have either erected or purchased places of worship during the past year. These edifices have been dedicated with appropriate ceremonies and the exercises have served to create a new interest in the subject of Spiritualism. Especially is this true of the cities of Galveston, Texas, and Springfield and St. Louis, Mo. Too much cannot be said in praise of the energy and enterprise of our brethren in all places where they have succeeded in securing and are maintaining homes of their own.

SPIRITUALISM IN THE SECULAR PRESS.

Not long after the adjournment of our last annual Convention, your President was asked to prepare a series of articles upon the history, growth, principles and achievements of Spiritualism during the past fifty-five years, to be published in the columns of the secular press, under the auspices of the bureau known as "Answers by Experts." Upon consultation with the Trustees of the N. S. A. your President was advised to prepare the articles as requested. This I did and they were published in May and June of this year in a syndicate of twenty of the leading dailies in the United States appearing simultaneously in all of the papers in the largest cities of our nation. These articles were read by several millions of people and I have heard from them frequently through letters from people who were not Spiritualists, whose attention had been called to the subject for the first time through reading the articles in the daily press. These articles were paid for by the bureau that solicited them, and the money turned into the treasury of the N. S. A. As they were published under a copyright, it was impossible for your President to file copies of them with the Secretary of the N. S. A. They will be found, however, in the issues of the last two Wednesdays of May and the first two in June of the journals in question, among which may be mentioned The Chicago Record-Herald and The Philadelphia Bulletin. It was the existence of the N. S. A. that enabled Spiritualism to obtain a hearing in this great arena of thought and is ample proof of the fact that due consideration will be given our truths by our opponents when we meet them as an organized body and not as a heterogeneous mass. I have contributed occasional short articles to the columns of

the other secular papers and religious journals during the year, each time as the representative of the N. S. A. meeting as best I could the demand of the reading public for spiritualistic thought.

PERSECUTION.

The signs of progress and the evidences of meritorious recognition accorded us as a people above mentioned are pleasing and inspiring. I regret to say that the spirit of persecution is yet rife in some sections of our nation, and that several worthy persons have been persecuted in the name of the law during the past year. Persecution has followed persecution and three of the most notable cases are now pending before the courts. Two of these, Mr. Geo. E. and Mrs. Maud Chesbro in California, were persecuted and then prosecuted for exercising their powers as spiritualistic mediums. They were dragged into court to answer to the charge of being mediums, and to be punished for the high crime of giving messages of comfort to the people of the earth from departed spirit friends. These worthy mediums consulted with the officers of the N. S. A. especially your President, who advised them to stand trial. This they did, but the decision was adverse to them in the lower court, and they were obliged to appeal to a higher judicial tribunal in order to obtain justice. Judge Smith of Los Angeles, California, in his recent ordering a new trial, presented a judicial paper to the world of unparalleled fairness and impartiality. It is worthy of note on the part of Spiritualists and this eminent Judge is entitled to their hearty thanks.

The third trial of these eminent mediums resulted in a disagreement of the jury, and it is not now known when the case will again be called. They were sustained by some of the local societies in Southern California also by the California State Spiritualist Association. The case was referred to the N. S. A. as above stated, but no financial aid has as yet been asked of the National body to assist in providing a suitable defense for these friends of our Cause. Membership is the Keystone of the arch in the great superstructure of Spiritualism and should be loyally defended wherever a true and worthy psychic becomes the victim of the public prosecutor. I hold this case to be an eminently worthy one, and I feel as if it should be taken, in case of necessity, to the Supreme Court of the United States for final adjudication. To this end I recommend vigorous action on the part of this Convention.

Our last Convention voted to instruct the trustees to take a test case to the Supreme Court of the Nation at the earliest possible moment to determine the rights of magnetic healers to practice in the several states of the Union. Several arrests have been reported to us, but in nearly every case, the accused parties have paid their fines or agreed to refrain from further practice in the state where the arrest occurred. In Illinois, two or three cases were referred to the State Association for investigation and nothing further heard from them. In Massachusetts, one arrest was made that seemed to violate every principle of right and justice. The accused, Alexander Proctor of Springfield, stood trial, was found guilty by the lower court and heavily fined. He appealed the case and applied to the Massachusetts State Association of Spiritualists for aid. It was promptly furnished, so far as means were in hand to do so and further aid sought from the N. S. A. This has been promised by your Board of Trustees to a limited amount, reserving the right to contribute an additional sum in case of necessity. I recommend that this action of your Trustees be approved by this Convention, and ask that this case be made the subject of special discussion on the part of the delegates. I further recommend this case be carried to the highest court in the land ere we yield one jot or tittle of our rights as freemen to the enjoyment of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

It gives me pleasure to report that, in the State of Nebraska, where one of our mediums was on trial for some alleged infraction of the law, the court held that the spiritualistic mediums were teachers and ministers of religion, hence were not liable under the statute as alleged. This one victory is almost an oasis in the desert, yet it gives us the hope that similar victories are ahead for us if we as a people will but work unitedly together to achieve them.

WILLS.

Four will cases have been brought to the attention of the N. S. A. during the past year. In three of which our National body was directly interested. The first of the three was the will of our late brother William E. Pennmiller, of Los Angeles, California, who bequeathed the N. S. A. a small amount outright and a further sum under certain conditions. Those conditions have been settled in favor of the N. S. A., and our organization will receive both sums when the property is divided at the end of the year required by the law of California for probating estates. There was no contest over this will and the N. S. A. will receive its dues, less the inheritance tax, that must be paid to the State of California.

The second will was that of the late Horace Butterfield, of Lebanon, Kansas, who endeavored to bequeath certain properties to the N. S. A. His will was contested by his daughter, and, despite the fact that the N. S. A. made a loyal fight for its rights in the case, the religious prejudice of the jury was too great to be overcome, hence justice was not done, and the Spiritualists lost their just cause. The N. S. A. made an earnest effort to secure a verdict in harmony with the law and evidence, but was defeated through bigotry and prejudice. The expense connected with the case cannot be considered wholly lost as it has educated the Spiritualists on the question of will-making as nothing else could have done. The action of Mr. Butterfield's daughter is a strong argument in favor of parents teaching their children the truths of Spiritualism from infancy up to the age of maturity.

The third will is that of our late brother, William Case of Lafayette, Indiana, who bequeathed a few thousand dollars to the N. S. A. This will was fiercely contested by distant relatives of our arisen brother. The cause of the N. S. A. was signally strengthened by two of Mr. Case's nearest relatives who refused to join in the contest, and stood by the N. S. A. in the defense of the will. It gives me pleasure to report that after a hard fight of more than thirty days, the will was sustained and the N. S. A. will ultimately receive its share of this estate. It was a costly suit, but the outlay on the part of the N. S. A. was perfectly justifiable in view of the importance of the case, and our great victory establishes a precedent that can be quoted in future contests of the same kind. It will prove a good investment in the end, although the expense does seem large at the present time. I regret to report that the two relatives of Mr. Case who stood by the N. S. A. in the contest have been victimized by those who sought to destroy the will, and will lose nearly all they were to receive from the estate. The fault is not theirs, nor that of the N. S. A., yet in view of their financial needs I recommend that this matter be looked into by the N. S. A. to see if something cannot be done to save for our allies and friends the stipends they were to receive. One of these friends is a widow with a large family of children and cannot afford to lose her share. The N. S. A. stands for justice, and justice should be rendered those who stood for the right.

The fourth case is the will of the late Alexander McIlroy of Philadelphia, Pa., who bequeathed quite a sum of money to our local auxiliary, The First Association of Spiritualists of that city. This will was contested, was sustained by the Probate Court, was then appealed and ordered to a jury trial, tried in March last, and declared invalid. Our auxiliary made a gallant fight for its rights, and, when its own means were exhausted, appealed to the N. S. A. for aid. The National Association responded promptly and sent two hundred dollars for the defense of the will. As this bequest involves about thirty thousand dollars it is too important to be overturned without a further effort to carry out the wishes of the testator by the Spiritualists of the nation. The case has been appealed to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and will be heard by the full bench in the near future. I recommend that the incoming Board of Trustees be instructed to render our auxiliary in Philadelphia such financial aid as will enable it to defend its rights before the tribunal in question. I also recommend that they be instructed to take the case to the Supreme Court of the United States, should justice be denied the Spiritualists in Pennsylvania.

CHARITABLE WORK.

At the close of our last Annual Convention the necessity of engaging in the work of caring for aged and indigent speakers and mediums was found to be imperative. Dr. A. B. Spinney of Reed City, Mich., called the attention of the Trustees of the N. S. A. to a house and lot adjoining his Sanitarium at that place, saying it would make an excellent nucleus for a mediums' home, when taken in connection with his institution just mentioned. This property was purchased by the N. S. A. for a nominal sum and estimates were obtained from practical plumbers as to the probable cost of fitting the building for occupancy. The expense was found to be greater than the N. S. A. could meet at that time, whereupon two noble-hearted philanthropic Spiritualists at once donated seven hundred and fifty dollars each toward a Home fund, stipulating that the spiritualistic body in the nation should raise the sum of fifteen hundred dollars to meet that which they had given. Appeals were published throughout the country, but the returns were

very meager, and not at all encouraging to the projectors of the fund. Only five hundred dollars were sent in to meet the contributions of the gentlemen mentioned above. They determined to allow their donations to remain in the treasury of the N. S. A., in connection with the other offerings to be drawn upon monthly for the support of the needy ones among our workers. This has been done the greater part of the past year, and several worthy mediums have received aid from this source.

Too much cannot be said in praise of this work. It is an evidence of the willingness of the N. S. A. to broaden its sphere of usefulness whenever means are at hand to enable it to do so. Great credit is due the philanthropists who gave the bulk of the pension fund and they should be held up as examples of practical Spiritualism in their good works. This fund should be enlarged as rapidly as possible so that the income from it when invested will yield sufficient returns to care for the sick and needy. Four persons are now on the N. S. A. pension roll, and one other was promptly aided in her time of need, but she has now gone to the higher life. I ask that special consideration be given to this topic and recommend co-operative action on the part of the delegates.

In this connection I am constrained to state that the Michigan State Spiritualist Association has purchased a home for mediums in Lansing. It is said to be a very desirable building in many respects and is held to be a most excellent place of refuge for worthy mediums when in need of a home. This purchase establishes two homes of the same character in Michigan. The State Association felt that the N. S. A. Home was not centrally located, hence decided to purchase at another point, rather than unite with the N. S. A. in making the one at Reed City ready for use. It is but just to state that the property in Reed City is well worth the sum paid for it and that the N. S. A. will not lose on its investment whether it is ever used as a Home or not. I leave this matter to the consideration of the Convention without recommendation. I have placed the facts before you as delegates and you can in your wisdom decide what action, if any, is to be taken. I cannot emphasize too strongly my hearty sympathy with the pension fund, my earnest appreciation of the generosity of its chief donors and my loyal support of the work that fund is doing.

MISSIONARY WORK.

The N. S. A. doubled its working force in the missionary field during the past year and good results have been obtained from the labors of those who have been sent out to carry the good news to the people of America. Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Sprague and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Kates have been actively at work as missionaries throughout the year. They have rendered faithful service and the results of their labors will be made known to this Convention through the written reports they will render later in its proceedings. Wherever these four devoted friends of organization have labored, they have exerted themselves to establish the principle of co-operation as a vital factor in the evolution of spiritual truth. They have served us well and are entitled to the grateful thanks of all Spiritualists for their excellent work. Your President also served as one of the missionaries of the N. S. A. for a period of four and two-thirds months. More than one-half of that time was spent at camp meetings while the balance was put in in the Western States.

From personal experiences and from information derived from interested parties, it would seem as if a change in the methods of doing missionary work should be made. No one has cast any reflection upon the labors of the devoted missionaries who have served us so faithfully in the past; all speak in terms of praise of them and their work. The idea seems to be that there could be an economy of energy by limiting the labors of those employed as missionaries to a smaller extent of territory. This would save expense in railroad travel and would enable the missionaries to build up strong local societies through frequent visits. Another suggestion has been made to the effect that missionary work should be left to the State Associations wherever they exist, and that the N. S. A. should make small appropriations to the states to aid in the work. Wherever State Associations are wanting it is proposed to have the N. S. A. establish circuits and place competent persons in charge of them with instructions to establish live working societies.

One visit or two visits during the year from the President of the N. S. A. or its missionaries, does a local society very little good, especially so when it is struggling for an existence. In some instances the members of some societies seem to feel that the only interest that the N. S. A. has in its auxiliaries is in the size and frequency of the collections taken up in its behalf. One or even a half dozen visits accompanied by earnest appeals for money each time seems to create a feeling that the society is being deprived of its

sinews of war. It is true that our Spiritualists are to be taught the act of giving. Some of them have learned it in rich full measure and give beyond their means. Others who should learn it have not done so and do not seem inclined to make the effort. But the N. S. A. should make it apparent that its interest in its auxiliaries is not limited to financial offerings from them to it, and that it is not attempting to remove the thickest cream from the milk that is to feed both local and National societies alike.

I submit this matter without special recommendation in favor of any line of policy, urging that the special needs of all societies be considered, and trusting that the Convention will, in its wisdom, adopt such measures as will continue missionary work along the best possible lines, looking wholly to the surest and most permanent results.

THE PRATT INSTITUTE.

During the past year the Morris Pratt Institute Association has been formed and duly incorporated under the laws of Wisconsin. This Association has established a College known as the Morris Pratt Institute in Whitewater, Wis., and opened its doors to the public Sept. 30th, 1902. This college is under the tuition of competent teachers, all of whom are Spiritualists and is managed by a Board of Trustees who also are Spiritualists. While this institution is not the property of the N. S. A. it is yet one of its auxiliaries and is entitled to special consideration at the hands of this Convention. It is the first spiritualistic college ever established on the face of the globe, and I believe it came at a most opportune time. The followers of Spiritualism are asking for an educated ministry and are clamoring for system in the presentation of our thought. They are also demanding a school free from the bias of sectarianism in which their children can receive a liberal education. They have long desired an institution under the protection of Spiritualism in which mediumship can be fostered, its laws taught, and its unfoldment guaranteed. In the Morris Pratt Institute it is to be found that which they have so long desired. I recommend that earnest attention be given to the subject of education, and that the Morris Pratt Institute be assigned a special hour in one of the business meetings of this Convention.

LOCAL SOCIETIES.

This important topic naturally follows the consideration of the school and ministry questions. In my last annual report I discussed the question at length and wish to reiterate all that I said then. Our local societies need strengthening and quickening into new life. Very few of them are strong in membership or in finances. Those that are most active and doing the best work are the ones that have settled speakers. It takes very little effort to organize a society, but it costs much labor to keep it alive and at work after it is organized. Wherever societies change speakers every week or employ a different person for each one of the three services on Sunday, there is neither stability nor influence in them. Like mushrooms, they are the growth of a single night and as quickly disappear. I cannot speak too earnestly with regard to this question. This Convention owes it to the Cause of Spiritualism to do something to make our local societies strong, healthful working bodies.

The majority of the local bodies need missionary work of a particular kind. They should have instruction in regard to organization. The officers are frequently at a loss to know what is required of them, while both officers and members know nothing of their relation to the State and National Associations. In some instances a little instruction in parliamentary law, and the management of the platform would not be amiss. Business methods are frequently sadly wanting. Information can be given by a tactful missionary in regard to all of these points, with the result that the Cause of Spiritualism would be given greater prestige thereby as well as the members of the societies instructed in the salient principles of organic work. In not a few societies the request of the Secretary of the N. S. A. for reports of the work is given no attention whatever. These blanks are thrown into the stove or waste basket, with the remark that the N. S. A. has no right to ask any questions of that character. The requests of our Secretary are designed to elicit reliable information with regard to society membership in America, and the state of the finances of all auxiliary bodies. Yet the uninterested officers of the local seem to feel that the N. S. A. is interfering where it has no right to do so, whereas its purpose is to aid the local societies and advance the interests of Spiritualism.

I earnestly recommend that a special hour be set aside in the proceedings of this Convention for the consideration of the needs of our local societies, and for the purpose of devising ways and means of strengthening them in all their work. I further recommend that

(Continued on page 4.)

never believe in any one till I am forced to— I have been deceived so many times." He did not realize that his thoughts were the cause of his failures. No matter how many times we are misled and deceived by the promises of unworthy people, we should say to ourselves, "I am true, loyal, honest and grateful, and there must be others like me in the world. It is impossible that I alone am worthy. I shall find my own kind by and by—I have missed the right road for a while, but I shall get back again, and meet those for whom I seek."

What enormous godism for any man to assert that all the world save himself is unworthy!

There is not the slightest question today in the minds of the really intelligent that thought is a vital force—as powerful as electricity, though slower in its results.

The kind of thought we send out constantly creates our future here on earth (and for centuries to come here and in other planets).

Persistent distrust and doubt will bring failure and poverty as certainly as rain brings wet.

Persistent faith and hope will bring successful conditions as surely as the sun brings light—with only the same amount of labor and industry which accompanied the failure of the pessimist.

Believe in yourself, believe in humanity, believe in the success of your undertakings. Fear nothing and no one. Love your work. Work, hope, trust. Keep in touch with today. Teach yourself to be practical and up-to-date and sensible. You cannot fall.—N. Y. Journal.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Coughs, Catarrhs, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections; also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with a stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 847 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Sycamore Grove, Calif.

The Spiritualists of Southern California have enjoyed a delightful time at Sycamore Grove. The camp meeting was a success. Many old workers were on the grounds. Harmony prevailed and the work was done for the cause of truth. Among the old workers were Mrs. Scott Briggs, who in her pleasant way is always ready to do good whenever desired. Mrs. Briggs is well known, east and west, as an organizer and worker in the Cause; she has been years of age Oct. 16, and is still working for humanity and Spiritualism. She has already exhausted her means in carrying on a good work and now she cannot do her work successfully without money to aid her. If the many friends of the altar and patrons of the paper will generously come to the rescue and send whatever amount of money they can, I know she would be delighted to do all she can in whatever direction she may be called for the Cause of Spiritualism. May she live many years to propound Spiritualism to the world. Mrs. Briggs will open meetings in Ventura, Calif., and expects to do much along the coast where there are not many Spiritualists. May she be helped by the angels and friends around her.

Mrs. J. H. Lohmeyer.
Los Angeles, Cal.
Address Mrs. Scott Briggs, Ventura, Cal., or the above address.

For Over Sixty 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.

Proctor Fund.

Money received by Carrie L. Hatch, secretary Massachusetts State Association:
Previously acknowledged \$92.27
Dr. and Mrs. E. A. Pratt, South Attleboro 10.00
Mrs. Sumner, Newport, R. I. 5.00
Dr. Emma Jackson, New Bedford 4.00
Any contributions may be sent to Carrie L. Hatch, 74 Sydenham St., Dorchester.
All contributions will be acknowledged in the Banner.
Money received by Lawyer McKean for the Proctor Fund:

Waltham Spiritualist Society	\$3.75
A friend, Gloucester, Mass.	5.00
Mrs. Jennie Warburton, Pawtucket, Mass.	5.00
A friend, Springfield, Mass.	5.00
Dr. Chapman, Greenfield, Mass.	1.00
Capt. Elmer Smith, Springfield, Mass.	1.00
Thomas Rodgers, Springfield, Mass.	1.00
John Smith, Springfield, Mass.	1.00
David Miller, Springfield, Mass.	1.00
Mr. Whipple, Springfield, Mass.	1.00
J. E. Genereux, Springfield, Mass.	1.00

Let Awake Nights?

A Simple, Pleasant Remedy.

Horsford's Acid Phosphate taken just before retiring quiets the nerves, nourishes the body and induces refreshing sleep. It supplies the needed brain and nerve food.

Spiritualism in the Lion's Den.

Last week found me in Shelbyville, Indiana, where I was met by Brother Bone and his pretty daughter, and driven eight miles to their quiet home, where love, peace and harmony prevail; a place of rest from the worry of city life. There nature blooms untouched: the birds sing their morning songs; the early evening melody mingles with the twilight chant of the cricket; the setting sun lighted the shining leaves upon the trees in the orchard, and all gave inspiration for the work before me.

We held the first meeting in the home, the people coming from far and near to hear the new gospel—the philosophy of life immortal. Quite musical was the sound of the horses' hoofs as they drove to the door with their human load.

Friday and Sunday we drove four miles to Norrisdown and held meetings in an old M. B. Church of the hardy orthodox kind. It was the first time in its history liberal thoughts and Spiritualism were spoken within its old walls. Sunday this church was full with old and young—the young man coming with "his best girl." They brought me a better influence than these—these young faces—full of nature, God, Deep interest was shown through it all. I took for part subject from the Bible, knowing that my hearers could better understand that which they hold as certain: "In my father's house there are many mansions," with an explanation on the 8th mansions. I felt sure that

that little innocent 8 would do its work of destruction in making them doubt their old positions as to the one Heaven—and one Hell—as preached by their church, with no hope of redemption for the "damned in Hell."

I followed with an explanation of the Spiritual Sphere, conditions, etc.
Will you believe it, readers, when I tell you that I actually noticed a look of relief upon faces, whose heads had whitened with age; while on others the love of the brimstone was plainly visible? We were not members of the "Progressive Thinker." Much interest was manifested and a desire expressed to have me back for lecture work. What shall one think of that, for the first time after hearing our beautiful philosophy? My answer is: "Angels are at work, will not stop till good spirit foothold has been established there." May love speed it on to a finish.

Through the efforts of those brave workers—Mr. Bone and his good wife—some good has been done—for they stand alone to advance our Cause in that country, with their good spirit band backing them. May the angels watch carefully over these brave workers and family.

I will answer calls to officiate at funerals, sear societies, open new fields and speak on temperance and subjects of local interest. Address me, 1915 Broadway, Indianapolis, Ind.

—Virginia Barrett.

The Mayer Proposition.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:

Kindly give me space in your valuable paper to call attention to the noble proposition of Mr. T. J. Mayer, the philanthropic treasurer of the N. S. A. I also explain certain points connected with the same. I refer to the latest benevolent offer of Mr. Mayer, to give in fee simple, the spacious and handsome house next to the N. S. A. headquarters, to this National Association, for use as offices for its work, and for residential purposes, from the time of its removal for the general fund of the N. S. A. can be derived, provided the Spiritualists at large will donate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars to the N. S. A. treasury to be used in opening and conducting a mediums' home. Please understand this proposition: Mr. Mayer does not propose to have that mediums' home in Washington, but at some other point—a home for mediums in the middle west that will be accessible from all sections of the country. But he asks the Spiritualists of the United States to provide the means for maintaining such a home, where our destitute mediums from different parts of the land can go, to find a home with all its comforts and be free from the care and worry of the world.

The house he proposes to give to the N. S. A. is very large, containing thirteen fine rooms, and a spacious bath room, with every modern convenience. It is now owned by a wealthy family, and the rental will bring a revenue to the N. S. A. to help it do more good work. When the time comes for more offices for the N. S. A., the house can be thrown into one with the present headquarters and make an immense building for the work of the N. S. A. as well as the capital of the nation, it seems fitting that here should ultimately be the largest edifice erected to our Cause, in the world. Mr. Mayer is anxious to have Spiritualism show to its best advantage in every respect. He is a philanthropist, and desires our poor mediums to have a comfortable home in their old age. He has already given seven hundred and fifty dollars towards a mediums' home. He asks all to do what they can in this line, and to inspire them, and also to add to his good works while he lives. He proposes to GIVE, not to sell, his house to the N. S. A. Some seem to think he intends to sell it. He does not; he will not receive one penny of the money raised that is to go to a mediums' home, and to be used for that purpose alone by the N. S. A. The house that he will give is for the general purposes of the N. S. A., and for Spiritualism and not as an institution of any kind.

The two thousand raised previous to this offer will not count in the fifteen thousand now asked for. That money is being used to pay for poor mediums who are now being supported by the N. S. A. See annual report of the Secretary. We ask the aid of every philanthropic Spiritualist who has not already contributed to our mediums' relief or home funds. Friends, do not allow this occasion for doing good, and helping to provide a home for our mediums, to pass by without your aid. We need every cent you can send to this office. It will be faithfully used for the home comforts of sick and destitute mediums. Mr. Mayer never sold a building to the N. S. A. He gave the present headquarters without any monetary return to himself. He proposes to do the same with this house, and thus provide the Spiritualists will raise a Mediums' Home fund.

Mary T. Longley, Sec. N. S. A.
600 Penna Ave., S. E., Wash., D. C.

Pratt Institute Opened.

FORMAL EXERCISES HELD IN THE LECTURE ROOM.

Sept. 20 marked the opening of the Morris Pratt Institute. The opening exercises were held in the upper lecture room at 10 o'clock in the afternoon, and were attended by a number of Spiritualists from other towns and states, together with a large gathering of the people of Whitewater.

Rev. Moses Hull, president of the association, presided at the meeting, and announced the first number of songs written for the occasion by Mrs. Mattie E. Hull. After an invocation by Prof. A. J. Weaver, brief addresses were made by the various members of the faculty who were present.

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ence Hall Johnson of Boston. A congratulatory letter on the opening of the school was read from Mrs. Jahnke, also letters and telegrams from other leaders who were unable to be present.

Short addresses were then made by Mrs. Clara L. Stewart, Morris Pratt, and by several of the visitors.

Among those who were present from a distance were Attorney Wm. Smith and wife of Jacksonville, Mrs. C. H. Mullins and Mrs. M. H. of Chicago, Mrs. Billings of Waukegan, J. C. Bump and wife of Milwaukee, W. H. Bach, editor of the Sunflower, Lily Dale, N. Y., and Mrs. M. B. Bach of Minneapolis.—The Register.

Briefs.

The Boston Spiritual Temple Society resumed its meetings for the season of '02 and '03 on the first Sunday of October. At the morning service, a good-sized audience was present, while the evening audience was somewhat larger. The inclement weather, doubtless, kept many away. Mr. Wiggin, the pastor, was at his best in his discourse in the morning, when he spoke from the text, "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Many were made happy recipients of spirit messages from their loved ones at both morning and evening services. The audiences were highly delighted with the singing of the Ladies' Schubert Quartet as well as by the violin solos by Prof. Hoppe. The meetings of this society held every Sunday in Chickering Hall, Huntington Avenue, at 10.45 and 7.30 and every Monday evening in Pierce Hall Annex, Copley Square, at 8 p. m.—Minnie L. Towle, Secretary.

The Ladies' Spiritualist Industrial Society held the second meeting of the season on Thursday afternoon and evening, the 9th inst. A circle not very large but very interesting was held at 3.30 followed by a business meeting and a social chat. Supper was served as usual at 6.30. At 8 Mrs. Whitlock called the meeting to order and made some very timely remarks on the value of the work for the season, and after singing, Mrs. Maggie Butler spoke in her usual earnest, captivating style. She gave some psychometric delineations which were highly appreciated. We sincerely hope that all our friends will come as in the past to our meetings every Thursday afternoon and evening in Appleton Hall, Appleton St. Bring your friends with you.—Mrs. Ida P. A. Whitlock, President.

The Ladies' Lyceum Union met in Dwight Hall Wednesday, Oct. 8. A whist party was held from 2.30 to 5; business meeting called at 5; supper served at 5.30. The evening session was opened at 8 p. m. by our president, Mrs. M. J. Butler. Mrs. Alice S. Waterhouse spoke in her earnest, forceful manner, and was followed by Mrs. Anna Chapman with remarks and messages. A solo by little Evelyn Francavery was sweetly rendered, also singing by Mrs. Mary Butler and Collette. Mrs. Knapp's remarks, Mrs. Mason's song, Mr. Harold Leslie, "Over the Line"; excellent tests, Mrs. Butler. The meeting closed at 10 o'clock. We had a very large gathering and an enjoyable evening. Wednesday, Oct. 15, we held a whist party in the afternoon, and the Lyceum scholars entertain in the evening. Friends cordially invited to come and help the Cause for which we are working, extending a helping hand to our brothers and sisters the coming winter.—Laura F. Sloan, Sec. Secretary.

The Chamber of Fraternality of Social Communities held services at the Aurora Grand Cathedral, corner Bedford Ave. and Madison St., Sunday evening, Oct. 5. The service was opened by Prof. Decker. Rev. Ira Moore-Courlis gave an inspiring lecture. After a GIVE, not to sell, his house to the N. S. A. Some seem to think he intends to sell it. He does not; he will not receive one penny of the money raised that is to go to a mediums' home, and to be used for that purpose alone by the N. S. A. The house that he will give is for the general purposes of the N. S. A., and for Spiritualism and not as an institution of any kind.

The two thousand raised previous to this offer will not count in the fifteen thousand now asked for. That money is being used to pay for poor mediums who are now being supported by the N. S. A. See annual report of the Secretary. We ask the aid of every philanthropic Spiritualist who has not already contributed to our mediums' relief or home funds. Friends, do not allow this occasion for doing good, and helping to provide a home for our mediums, to pass by without your aid. We need every cent you can send to this office. It will be faithfully used for the home comforts of sick and destitute mediums. Mr. Mayer never sold a building to the N. S. A. He gave the present headquarters without any monetary return to himself. He proposes to do the same with this house, and thus provide the Spiritualists will raise a Mediums' Home fund.

Mary T. Longley, Sec. N. S. A.
600 Penna Ave., S. E., Wash., D. C.

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WHAT A SAMPLE BOTTLE OF SWAMP-ROOT DID

To Prove What SWAMP-ROOT, the Great Kidney, Liver and Bladder Remedy, Will do for YOU, Every Reader of the Banner of Light May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Free by Mail.

Among the many famous cures of Swamp-Root is verified by the banner of the Light the case we publish this week for the benefit of our readers, speak in the highest terms of the wonderful curative properties of this great kidney, liver and bladder remedy.

Mrs. H. N. Wheeler, of 117 High Rock St., Lynn, Mass., writes on Nov. 2, 1901: "About 18 months ago I had a very severe spell of sick headache. I was extremely sick for three weeks, and when I finally was able to leave my bed I was left with excruciating pains in my back. My water at times looked very like coffee. I could pass but little at a time, and then only after a severe great pain. My physical condition was such that I had no strength and was almost unable to get up. The doctors said I was not all right. I felt certain that they were the cause of my trouble. My sister, Mrs. C. E. Lintfield, of Lynn, advised me to give Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root a trial. I procured a bottle, and inside of three days commenced to get relief. I followed up that bottle with another, and at the completion of this course I was completely cured. My strength returned, and today I am as well as ever. My business is that of a canvasser. I am on my feet a great deal of the time, and have to go to work early in getting around. My cure is the more remarkable, and is exceedingly gratifying to me."



MRS. H. N. WHEELER.

The mild and extraordinary effect of the world-famous kidney and bladder remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases.

Weak and unstable kidneys are responsible for more sickness and suffering than any other disease, therefore, when through neglect or other causes, kidney trouble is permitted to continue, fatal results are sure to follow.

We often see a friend, a relative, or an acquaintance apparently well, but in a few days we may be grieved to learn of their severe illness, or sudden death, caused by that fatal type of kidney trouble—Bright's Disease.

The Effect of the Sample Bottle of Swamp-Root.

"Having heard that you could procure a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, free by mail, I wrote to Dr. Kilmer, Mr. E. H. Wheeler, N. Y., for a sample bottle and it was promptly sent. I was so pleased after trying the sample bottle that I went to the drug store and procured a supply. I have used Swamp-Root regularly for some time and consider it unsurpassed as a remedy for kidney trouble, loss of appetite and general derangement of the digestive functions. I think my trouble was due to too close confinement in my business. I can now get in the habit of exercising my system, but in this case I cannot speak too much in praise of what Swamp-Root has done for me."

43½ West High Street, Springfield, Ohio, Feb. 21st, 1901.

W. F. Lohmeyer.

EDITORIAL NOTE—If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking the wonderful discovery, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, as soon as your kidneys are well they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful remedy, Swamp-Root, sent absolutely free by mail, also a book telling all about Swamp-Root, and containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women who owe their good health to the fact that they very lives to the great curative properties of Swamp-Root. In writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say that you read this offer in the Boston Banner of Light.

If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles, at the drug stores everywhere. Don't make any mistake. Get the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

every Sunday at four o'clock, song service or concert precedes the evening service. Mrs. Lyman will be the speaker the remainder of October followed by Mr. H. D. Barrett Nov. 21 and 28th.

Appleton Hall, 9 Appleton St. Friday, Oct. 10, the regular meeting of the First Spiritualist Ladies' Aid Society was held as usual at our platform teachers, Mrs. Mattie E. Hull. The evening session opened with singing by Mrs. Hattie C. Mason; Mrs. A. S. Waterhouse spoke briefly of the issues of the day; Mr. A. P. Hill spoke briefly and closed with a recitation, "The Daily Fifth"; Mr. Morang, health, in fact, they very lives to the great curative properties of Swamp-Root. In writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say that you read this offer in the Boston Banner of Light.

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Mrs. P. G. Laughton's Birthday.

Lake Pleasant, Mass. On Thursday, Sept. 25, Mrs. Julia A. Rice gave a little reception in honor of the 51st birthday of her mother, Mrs. P. G. Laughton. Friends brought a number of nice and useful gifts. Refreshments were served among which was a handsome birthday cake. The day passed very pleasantly in social converse without formality. Among those present were: Mrs. J. Johnson, Miss Edna Johnson, of Troy, N. Y.; Mrs. F. Willard, Miss Nellie Lawrence, Mrs. Brown and daughter of Sag Harbor, N. Y.; Mrs. Shirley, Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Rosewell, Miss Lizzie Danforth, Mrs. Stratton, Mrs. A. Clapp of Montague; Mrs. MacIntyre of Warham; Mrs. Marble. General good feeling prevailed and all present united in wishing happy returns of the anniversary to the dear old lady who is by no means feeble, but bright and well.

Sara Williamson.

SPIRITUALISM.

By JUDGE JOHN W. EDMONDS, and DR. GEORGE T. DEXTER

This Excellent Work Has Been Reprinted by W. H. TERRY, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA. Editor of Harbinger of Light, IN TWO VOLUMES.

This work has long been out of print, and difficult to obtain even at a high price. Both volumes are re-printed with solid thought and offer the READING PUBLIC.

A BARR OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THESE EMINENT WRITERS AT FIRST HAND.

The spiritual teachings of these volumes are of a high order and purport to come from such wise spirits as Emerson, Swedenborg and Lord Bacon. It is not so much to be read as to be studied. The reader is not to be misled by those who communicate these teachings without the spirit which gives them the highest regard to their readers. The work is a study in itself.

The automatic writings through Dr. Dexter and many other famous names, called "The World of the Future," are described in full. No thoughtful Spiritualist should be without this book. The first volume of Judge Edmonds' series, with a fine portrait of Judge Edmonds. The second volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The third volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The fourth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The fifth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The sixth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The seventh volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The eighth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The ninth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The tenth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The eleventh volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The twelfth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The thirteenth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. The fourteenth volume, with a fine portrait of Dr. Dexter. 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No attention is paid to anonymous communications. Name and address of writer is indispensable as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot undertake to preserve or return unsolicited articles.

Newsletters sent to this office containing matter for inspection, should be marked by a line drawn around the article or articles in question.

Banner of Light.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1902.

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BANNER OF LIGHT PUBLISHING COMPANY.
Marion D. Barrett, President.
Frederic G. Tuttle, Treas. and Bus. Mgr.
Marion D. Barrett, Editor-in-Chief.
Marguerite C. Barrett, Assistant Editor.

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500 lines to be used in one year, 25 per cent.
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Special Notices forty cents per line, Minimum, one insertion.
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Advertisements to be received at continued rates must be left at our Office before 5 P. M. on Saturday, a week in advance of the date whereon they are to appear.

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The National Spiritualist Assn.

(Continued from page 1).

A special effort be made by our missionaries to explain the real purpose of organization, to give instruction in parliamentary law, and to advise with regard to the conduct of business both on and off the platform.

SETTLED SPEAKERS

The splendid results that have accrued from the labors of settled speakers indicate that the future growth of our movement will largely depend upon work of that kind. Wherever speakers are engaged by the year the membership of the societies has largely increased and financial matters have been nicely adjusted. In addition to these helps the society acquires an influence in the social life of the community and receives the recognition that is its due from all classes of people. This is especially true of the First Church of Spiritualists of St. Louis, the Church of Spiritual Unity of the same city, Church of Spiritual Truth, Clinton, Iowa, the Church of the Soul, of Chicago, the Church of Spiritualists, of Galveston, Texas, the Boston Spiritual Temple, Gospel of Spirit Return Society, Boston, Mass., and all other societies that have settled their speakers. I recommend that this Convention urge upon the Spiritualists of America the adoption of this helpful and most welcome reform.

ORDINATION.

The attention of every delegate and of all Spiritualists is most earnestly and considerably invited to this important subject. There is need of sharp, decisive action on the part of this Convention in regard to this matter. The question of morality is intimately connected with it, while the sanctity of marriage is jeopardized by it. Many of our local societies are in fault for ordaining people indiscriminately without regard to fitness or moral character. Some ordained persons seem to feel that they have, by virtue of that fact, been filled with divine unction, and endowed with power to ordain everybody else. More than one person is making his own ordination a source of revenue to himself. In one instance a certain person ordained six others for the modest sum of ten dollars per head. If he knew that his ordination gave him no legal right to ordain others, he carefully concealed the fact from his victims. If he and his six dupes were the only ones involved, it would not matter so much, but as it is, grave consequences may result therefrom.

One of the parties ordained by him may be asked to perform a marriage service. He

does it, thereby placing two innocent human beings in a most humiliating position before the world. No such marriage as that is legal, and the party who performs such a ceremony is liable to a heavy fine or imprisonment or both, at the discretion of the court. Ordination can only be legally conferred by a duly incorporated body, organized and chartered as a religious society. The service of ordination may be conducted by any person selected by the society, after the ordination has been granted by vote and a record made of the same. The name of the person chosen to perform the ceremony and the vote authorizing such election should also be placed on record. After these precautions have been taken, full instructions should be given the candidate as to what he can and cannot do by virtue of his appointment to the office of ordained minister.

In several states Spiritualist ministers have no right to perform a marriage service even though they have been ordained a dozen times. It will require a legislative act to confer upon them that right. In some instances the marriage service has been performed without question by those who had absolutely no authority to do so. When discovered the contracting parties have quickly gone to the civil authorities and been legally united. In view of the shame such actions are bringing upon Spiritualism something should be done by this Convention to remedy that evil. While I am opposed to setting aside any one man or body of men as especially sanctified and endowed with certain special privileges, I am most decidedly in favor of determining the legal status of every ordained Spiritualist minister and of making sure that he is qualified to do the work required. If the right to perform marriage ceremonies could be taken away from all clergymen the evil would be effectually cured. As it is, however, great care must be exercised lest scandal be brought upon our Cause. It is the duty of this Convention to act in this matter in a way that will acquaint the general public, as well as our own people, with the fact that we are respecters of law and order, and purpose abiding by the statutes of our respective States.

Ordination by no means confers any privileges upon the person ordained unless it has been authorized by a legally incorporated body qualified to bestow it. No laying on of hands, nor other ceremonial makes a man an angel, endowed with powers extraordinary, or inoculates him with the essence of sanctification. Let us do things decently and in order, by calling a halt to the illegal and immoral tendencies that now beset us through ordination. I recommend action not worthy resolutions, and trust that this intelligent body of delegates will speak out plainly in regard to this topic. I earnestly urge this matter upon your attention, and ask that it be calmly discussed, thoughtfully considered, and rationally settled.

MARRIAGE

Closely connected with the subject of ordination is the question of marriage. In the majority of the Federal States Spiritualist ministers, who are ordained according to law, have the right to perform the ceremony of marriage. In some states ordination gives no authority whatever, unless the party be also specially commissioned by the Governor. In other instances the Spiritualists are not recognized at all, and must seek relief through their State Legislators if they desire to have their ministers enjoy the same rights and privileges as other clergymen do. I desire to call your attention to this matter for a twofold purpose, first that it may be determined when spiritual ministers are legally authorized to unite people in marriage; second, to ask the Convention to take some action with regard to the preparation of a suitable marriage service at this time, through some duly authorized committee. Such a service can with propriety be uniform in all the States and I trust one may be prepared accordingly. I recommend that a committee of five be selected by this Convention and instructed to prepare a marriage service that can be used at the weddings of Spiritualists, such committee to report at our next annual convention. I further recommend that some action be taken by this body in the direction of securing the preparation and passage of bills, granting the right to solemnize marriages to our ministers in those states where such right does not now exist. This recommendation is not made because of your President's belief in ecclesiastical marriages, but merely to give the Spiritualists the same privileges as are now enjoyed by other denominations.

MUSIC

From several societies requests have been received with regard to the propriety of having a uniform system of song books for all local societies throughout the whole country. It would seem as if this matter might be compassed to the advantage of all who love good spiritual music and prove the means of saving a good many dollars in the purchase of books. I recommend that this matter be discussed at length and appropriate action taken.

LYCEUMS.

No question of greater importance will come before this intelligent body of delegates than this one. Upon the establishment and conduct of spiritualistic lyceums or Sunday schools, the future of our Cause largely depends. It is far better to train the minds of the young into liberal channels of thought than it is to try to convert people after they have arrived at mature age. It is not necessary that our movement should descend to sectarian levels to hold our children's interest in spiritual things. It is only necessary that we should make our thought attractive to them and so conduct our lyceums as to constitute them the stepping stones into the temple of wisdom. Andrew Jackson Davis never did a greater work for Spiritualism than he did when he gave the children a chance to learn something of his great truths through the Lyceum. In England the Lyceum movement is flourishing; in America it is languishing. At one time there were hundreds of them in operation in this country. Today there are not more than thirty in active service. England, where the Lyceum was introduced after it

was established here, reports nearly or quite two hundred lyceums in full operation and doing good work.

Cannot something be done by this Convention to give us the same splendid showing in America? Today the children of Spiritualists are to be found in Orthodox and Unitarian Sunday Schools where they are imbibing lessons that will have to be unlearned in after years. When we settle our speakers for one year or more, the Lyceum question will speedily adjust itself, for through permanency on the part of the adult body will come permanency in the juvenile society. But it will take time to bring about permanent pastorates, therefore it is necessary for us to look out for the children now. There are many in our ranks who can see with your President the necessity of doing something in this direction, and like him again, are at a loss to know just what that something is, or what the first step toward the desired end should be. The Lyceum organization is now in the hands of the officers of the N. S. A., but by virtue of the fact that the N. S. A. has special work that requires the entire time and energy of its officers, it would seem as if some other method should be devised to meet the special needs of this important cause.

Other denominations have their Sunday School organizations, and succeed in keeping them up in a high degree of excellence. There is no reason why the Spiritualists cannot do the same, if they set to work as a united body to accomplish this most worthy object. In some denominations, General Superintendents of Sunday School work are elected or appointed to whom is committed the task of organizing Sunday Schools, re-awakening an interest in those that are languishing, and of devising attractive methods of instruction. I am inclined to consider this method a possible means of solving the Lyceum problem among Spiritualists. I therefore recommend that this Convention elect a General Lyceum Superintendent, who shall be paid a given salary, and shall act under the direction of the Trustees of the N. S. A., as officers of the Lyceum Association, said Superintendent to hold office until Sept. 30th, 1903. I trust that the entire Lyceum question will be thoroughly discussed by this Convention and ways and means adopted to re-awaken an interest in it in all parts of this country.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE.

What I have said of the Lyceum will apply in large measure to our young people and their special organizations. Something should be done to keep our young people with us after they have grown to years of understanding. Our National Young People's Union has done a good work, but it needs encouragement. The N. S. A. should foster this branch of our work and extend to the faithful few who are struggling to keep this organization alive, not only the right hand of fellowship and words of approval, but positive encouragement in the way of active aid. What has been done by the young people in Philadelphia, Pa., and St. Paul, Minn., can be done in other cities if proper effort is made. I recommend deliberative action upon this important subject.

BOGUS PHENOMENA.

This unpleasant subject has forced itself once more to the front during the past year. I recommend that the subject be referred to a special committee consisting of the Editors of the Philosophical Journal, The Sunflower, Banner of Light, Progressive Thinker and Light of Truth, or their duly accredited representatives for full consideration, and committee to report at our next Annual Convention.

CLERGY RATES.

No difficulty whatever has been experienced by the ministers of our denomination in obtaining recognition at the hands of the four great Passenger Associations of the West, when they have been legally entitled to the courtesy of clergy permits. The N. S. A. has been most considerately treated by the Central, Western, South-western and Trans-Continental Associations through their able and efficient agents F. C. Donald, Eben E. McLeod, C. M. Pratt, and James Charlton, and your President feels under special obligations to them for courtesies received at their hands. They have dealt with all of our people fairly and impartially, with no discrimination whatever against any one of our worthy workers. A vote of thanks from this Convention under the seal of the N. S. A. and signatures of its President and Secretary would be a graceful recognition of the courtesies extended to our people by the above named officials and their representatives.

But what is true of the Passenger Association of the West is not true of those of the East. Our settled speakers along the lines of the eastern railroads that grant clergy rates, are persistently refused the courtesies that are gladly extended to other denominations. Two blatant cases of gross injustice in the way of discrimination against our clergymen, solely because they were Spiritualists have been reported during the year. Your President was instructed by the Trustees of the N. S. A. to take a test case before the Inter State Commerce Commission to see if a man's religious belief could legally deprive him of the privileges that were freely granted to others. I have endeavored to prepare such a case and have collected some evidence to support my claim of unjust discrimination, but no trial of the suit has yet been called, hence I can only report progress, and recommend that the incoming Board be instructed to press the case at the earliest possible moment.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN ST. LOUIS

Our last Annual Convention voted to co-operate with the promoters of the movement to hold an International Congress of Spiritualists in St. Louis, Mo., during the World's Fair in 1904. In view of the fact that said Fair has been postponed until 1904, I am only able to report progress in the matter. I am firmly convinced that such International Congress would be of great advantage to Spiritualism, and I recommend that this Convention instruct the incoming Board of Trustees to co-operate heartily with our brethren in Missouri and elsewhere in the work of mak-

ing it possible for this Congress to be held. It is understood that the N. S. A. is not the prime mover in the matter, nor the financial backer of the project. If it should be deemed advisable, when the Congress is assured, to expend some money to secure the proper representation of Spiritualism in America at that great gathering, I should be in favor of a liberal appropriation from the N. S. A. treasury for that purpose.

Our last Annual Convention unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Moved:—That the incoming board be, and is hereby instructed to at once enter into correspondence with the best known and most advanced speakers and writers along the line of spiritual thought both of this and all foreign countries, and solicit written articles on all subjects pertaining to the principles of Spiritualism as follows:

"What is Spiritualism—its aims and objects?"

"What Spiritualism is."
"Religion, Morals, Science, Ethics and Philosophy."

"Mediumship, what is it?"
"Clairvoyance, Clairaudience, The Trance, Speaking and Writing, Inspirational Speaking and Writing, Automatic Writing, Physical Mediumship, Materialization of Forms, Levitations of Bodies and Raps and Tappings."

"And that the answer received be edited by a Board appointed by the President of the N. S. A., with the approval of the trustees, and when so edited to be published in pamphlet form, the same to be distributed to and kept on sale by all societies chartered by the N. S. A., and be considered an authorized statement on all phenomena, Philosophy, and Religion of Spiritualism known at the present time, the endorsement to be held until the proposed International Congress at St. Louis in 1904, shall have given its approval." I am only able to report progress under this resolution, owing to the postponement of the World's Fair until 1904. I recommend the re-adoption of the resolution, and suggest that instructions be given the incoming Board to act according to its provisions.

ORGANIZATIONS

This question is one which this Convention should settle in one way or another for the benefit of all interested parties. The relation of our local societies to the State Associations and the State Associations to the N. S. A. are neither defined nor understood by our people. Not less than three forms of organizations are to be found among our State Associations today. We have State Associations composed only of local societies; others composed both of local societies and individual members; others still that are composed only of individual members. The great victories won by the State Associations in Maine and New York before the Legislatures are ample evidences of the fact that State Associations are needed in our organic work. Their uniformity in organization, however, is a necessity, and I respectfully urge action in this matter by you as delegates. We should not act against the interests of our people in any State, but in harmony with them. I submit this matter to the Convention without recommendation, but ask for its full and careful consideration. No little feeling exists in many sections of the nation with regard to this matter, and our brethren everywhere are looking to this Convention for an equitable settlement of this important question. If the N. S. A. is to hold its influence in all sections of this country alike, this subject must be given intelligent consideration, and settled to the prejudice of none. It will not do to refer this question to the incoming Board with power to act; it should be settled on this floor and settled in the interests of our Cause as a whole.

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION.

I referred to this subject in my report of last year, but no action was taken on it by the Convention. I am constrained to again call the attention of the delegates to this topic. The feeling exists among many of the strongest friends of the N. S. A. that the Annual Convention is held too soon after the opening of the lecture season among our local societies. It does not give them time to get into working order, and renders it next to impossible for many of our ablest workers to attend our national assemblies. This argument is worthy of consideration, and I submit the question to this honorable body, with the hope that some action will be taken in regard to the matter.

AMENDMENTS.

Your attention will be called to several important Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws of this Association. One of these is designed to abrogate the proxy system, yet at the same time give equitable representation to all of the auxiliaries of the N. S. A. Another is a proposition to increase the membership of the Board of Trustees from nine to eleven persons. If the N. S. A. is to keep in touch with all sections of the land, its official representatives ought not to be located at one point. On the other hand if the most willing workers are to be found in one and the same city, why should the Association and the Spiritualists of the nation be deprived of their services because of geographical position? It is true that seven members of the Board reside east of the Allegheny Mountains, giving the great West and South but two representatives. If the membership of the Board is enlarged, it will give other sections an opportunity to obtain official recognition and work injury to none. The N. S. A. is a growing institution and as such should keep in touch with all sections of the nation that the needs of our Cause may always be known at headquarters. I make no recommendations concerning the above named amendments, or any others that have been offered. I hope by this reference to direct the attention of the delegates to the importance of thoughtful study of the points involved.

REFORM ISSUES

This Convention is to define the attitude of the Spiritualists of America with respect to the great reform questions of the day. Coal mines are actualities in some sections even now, while food supplies are beyond the

reach of many of the toilers of the land. There is plenty everywhere, but the granaries of God have been sealed by avaricious men, and suffering is the result. The temperance question, prison reform, capital punishment, the imperative mandate, compulsory vaccination, direct legislation, arbitrary Sunday laws, freedom of speech, freedom for the press, tyranny through government by injunction are all issues of vital importance to the Spiritualists of America, as well as to all other patriots. I recommend that this entire paragraph be referred to the Committee on Resolutions to put into suitable form the thought of this Convention.

FINANCE.

I now invite your attention to the subject of finance. The matter of revenue is always an important one and the best method of securing an income sufficient to meet the needs of the N. S. A. has always been difficult to determine. It is absolutely certain that the chartered auxiliaries of the N. S. A. in their present condition cannot be asked to supply the national body with its needed revenue. Individual donations, collections at camp meetings and other public gatherings have augmented the income of the N. S. A. to a great extent, but the amounts thus raised always vary and are very uncertain. It behooves your honorable body to devise ways by which a permanent yearly income can be secured. Requests by will are always welcome, but they are not reliable, for a prejudiced court may see fit to break them. Besides this it is never wise or proper to wait for our friends to take leave of earth that we may enjoy their substance.

From year to year I have recommended various methods for raising revenues. Some of them have been tried and found successful, others impracticable. I believe an endowment fund of generous proportions is the only sure means of providing a permanent income. Our large-hearted Treasurer, Theodore J. Mayer, set the pace in this direction three years ago, when he offered to give in fee simple the present headquarters of the N. S. A. to the Spiritualists of America provided they would raise an equal sum in money for the treasury of the N. S. A. This they did, and now Mr. Mayer again steps forward with almost an exact duplicate of his offer of three years ago. He asks the Spiritualists as a body to give only as much as he gives alone. Surely this is a step in the direction of an endowment fund of generous proportions. If each delegate will but make himself a committee of one to canvass his home community, there is no doubt as to the outcome. This offer of our noble-hearted Treasurer should be met, and met at once. It should inspire our multi-millionaire Spiritualists to be as generous according to their means as he is with his.

The appointment of special solicitors under commission from the N. S. A., with bonds, if necessary, to canvass the country in such sections as have no Spiritualists' societies would, I believe, result in a largely increased income. This would especially be true if a generous commission were to be allowed on all moneys received. It would induce the solicitors to develop their whole time to their work, and this would call the attention of scores of people to the needs and value of the N. S. A. who might not otherwise know anything about it. I trust this matter will be considered by this Convention and recommended that the Committee on Finance be requested to determine its practicability. I further recommend that each delegate present and all others interested in the progress of the N. S. A. be requested to present to the Committee on Finance such measures as they deem will add to the revenue of this national body.

MASS MEETINGS.

In former years, it was the policy of the N. S. A. under instructions from each annual convention, to hold mass meetings in large cities and towns for a two-fold purpose. First to awaken an interest in Spiritualism; second to add to the income of the N. S. A. Last year this work was, as I think, wisely abandoned. This year I have received requests for the resumption of this line of work. I can only recommend, however, that all mass meetings held, if any are to be held, be under the joint auspices of the State Association and the N. S. A. Experience has proved to my satisfaction that even though the N. S. A. does gain a little money through these mass conventions, the energy of its workers is largely wasted, and results ultimately in an injury to our Cause. I believe the energy and money thus involved could better be used in the work of building up strong local societies. I present this matter to the Convention and trust that the action taken will be wholly in the interest of the Cause.

CAMP MEETINGS.

These great summer assemblies have with almost a single exception become stanch allies of the N. S. A. Some of them appointed an N. S. A. Day on their official programs and held special services in its behalf, despite the fact no officer or representative of the National body was present. The vast majority of the camp made special provisions for the N. S. A. and the people present on those occasions were most generous in their donations. Onset, Mass., still leads the van with the generous offering of \$123 in cash. Etta, Maine, comes second with an offering of nearly \$80 in money. Cassadaga, N. Y., is third on the list with over \$60 in money, and first in the full value of all its donations. One Cassadaga friend will, on Feb. 1, 1903, present the N. S. A. with a warrant deed of a valuable lot of land in a rural city in the state of N. Y., with all the buildings thereon. Clinton, Ia., ranks fourth in its money offerings, coming to the front with its voluntary contributions to the amount of over \$42. The figures from other camps are not at hand, but they have been especially generous and deserve full credit at the hands of this Convention. I recommend that the thanks of this body be sent under the N. S. A. seal to the officers of all camps at which N. S. A. Days were granted for their generosity, also to all speakers and mediums whose labors helped to make those days such signal suc-

cesses. I further recommend that the incoming Secretary be instructed to open correspondence at once with all camps for the purpose of obtaining an N. S. A. Day on their program for 1903.

FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

Fraternal delegates were appointed to the Annual Conventions of the American Secular Union and Free Thought Federation, the American Woman Suffrage Association and one of the branches of the W. C. T. U. in the State of Illinois. Reverends Moses Hall and A. J. Weaver represented us at the first named gathering and were warmly welcomed. They were given prominent places on the program of the Convention and their addresses were cordially received. Mrs. Mary T. Longley and Mrs. Sara A. Haslett were to have represented us at the Suffrage Convention, but for some unaccountable reason they were not received, nor given any recognition. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt's letter in a recent issue of the Banner of Light throws some light on the matter. In that letter she invites the N. S. A. to send fraternal delegates to the next Convention of the Suffragists and gives the assurance that they will be received. Miss Laura G. Faxon was our accredited fraternal delegate to the Convention of the Illinois W. C. T. U. I have received no report from her, but have every reason to believe that she was cordially received and courteously treated. I submit the matter of selecting fraternal delegates to reform organizations and religious societies of a National character without recommendation.

NECROLOGY.

Since the adjournment of our last Annual Convention a number of the loyal friends of the N. S. A. have been called to the higher life. Among the most active of these may be named Capt. E. W. Collier, a well known boogerman, whose vigorous pen wrought much good for the Cause of organization; Mrs. Rachel Walcott, one of the earnest advocates of the N. S. A. ever since its foundation; Mrs. Susan L. Porter, always a generous donor to its treasury and John R. Snow, whose work as a delegate always for the right as he saw it, and whose devotion to the N. S. A. and to Spiritualism no one ever questioned. I pause to lay my tribute of love upon the altars of their memories, and to ask this Convention to direct the Committee on Resolutions to prepare a fitting memorial in their honor and in memory of all others who have gone from us during the past twelve months.

SPIRITUALIST PRESS.

The N. S. A. is under many obligations to all of the Spiritualist papers for courtesies received during the past year. The Philadelphia Standard, Light of Truth, Lichtstrahlen, Progressive Thinker and Banner of Light have opened their columns freely to communications from the officers of the N. S. A. and have earnestly pleaded for organization and harmony in their editorial columns. Our press has been one of the main factors in the work of establishing the N. S. A. as a permanent institution among our people. I recommend that due recognition be extended to Editors Newman, Bach, Gentzke, Francis and Hull, and to the Manager of the Banner of Light Publishing Company, Mr. Frederick G. Tuttle, for the many favors received at their hands.

THEODORE J. MAYER.

I will be pardoned for introducing the name of this devoted friend of the N. S. A. and advocate of progress in Spiritualism under a special heading. He has been the embodiment of generosity to the N. S. A. in former years and has now made the Spiritualists of America a proposition that should make his name to them, one and all, a living example of loyalty to the truths of the religion of Spiritualism. For his many contributions he asks nothing for himself, but always desires that the Cause shall be benefited by the donations he inspires others to give. This is the kind of Spiritualism that tells, unselfish giving for the good of others and for the advancement of the Cause of Truth. The friends of the N. S. A., especially the delegates to this Convention, can best show their appreciation of what he has done for Spiritualism by undertaking his example to the extent of their ability and by inducing others to do likewise.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The Board of Trustees have worked in the utmost harmony throughout the year and each and every member has sought with singleness of heart to advance the interests of the N. S. A. Every duty laid upon its members as a body has been conscientiously discharged and the aim has been to execute the will of the Convention that elected them to the greatest advantage of the Cause. Your President is under obligations to all of the members of the Board for personal favors received and takes this means to publicly acknowledge the same. Vice-President Locke filled the position of Acting President for one month during which time your President was incapacitated from attending to the duties of his office, with the same zeal and ability that has ever characterized him as a worker for Spiritualism. He attended to all other duties with conscientious fidelity and sought at all times the best good of the N. S. A. He has my sincere thanks for the many favors received at his hands.

WORK IN THE HOME OFFICE.

The work at headquarters has been performed in a most painstaking manner, with the same degree of thoroughness that has always been apparent in the work of our Secretary. All correspondence has been promptly attended to, and everything possible has been done by our faithful official to bring the Spiritualists of America into harmony with the N. S. A. Her books and accounts are in the best of order and the Auditing Committee of this Convention will find the work greatly simplified by the perfect system maintained at our home office. Personally your President desires to pay tribute to the zeal and devotion, to the fidelity and courage of our hard-working Secretary. I am under obligations to her for assistance rendered during the year, and for the many kind wishes, timely favors and encouraging words she has extended to me throughout the year just closed. A faithful friend and a trustworthy public servant can be said with truth of our Secretary Mrs. Mary T. Longley.

THE PRESIDENT'S WORK.

Your President, with the exception of one month, has been at his post of duty as the executive officer of the N. S. A. The filing of the certificate of annual election, preparing a statement of the standing of Spiritualism for the yearly almanacs and the making out of official papers, were all promptly attended to at the close of the Convention. For four and two-thirds months your President served the N. S. A. as missionary at large, but was obliged to resign his post be-

cause of ill health in his home for the greater portion of the year. Since October 1st, of this year, I have been actively at work for the N. S. A. at various conventions and as the speaker for local societies. The returns from the labor of this month are not included in my financial statements thus far made, but will add nearly one hundred dollars to the sum total of my receipts. From October 1st, 1901, to September 30th, 1902, I have received from all sources, including donations, collections, fees for lectures, railroad expenses, about \$1,250. This sum will be augmented by what I have received during the present month when my final settlement is made with the N. S. A. Wherever I have gone I have been received with the utmost kindness by the Spiritualists, with the secular press, and by all classes with whom it has been my privilege to mingle. My correspondence has been voluminous, but I have endeavored to attend to it faithfully and as promptly as circumstances would admit. I have visited eleven camps in the interest of the N. S. A. and all receipts for my work have been turned over to our Secretary and her receipt has been given me therefor. I have done my best to serve the N. S. A. loyally and must leave the results of my labors to be determined by time and to be announced by those who are cognizant of my efforts to promote the welfare of Spiritualism.

CONCLUSION.

The close of the ninth year of its existence finds the N. S. A. stronger in the affections of the masses than ever before. It has added somewhat to its membership during the year, has made itself felt in spiritualistic circles in helpful ways and has shown all friends of freedom that it has become a permanency in the work of giving religious liberty to humanity. It deserves the loyal, undivided support of every well known Spiritualist and I bespeak for it the united aid of an earnest, honest, grateful people throughout all of the coming years.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Harrison D. Barrett, Pres. N. S. A.

Readers

who purpose attending the Convention, don't forget to ask for a certificate ticket to the National Spiritualist Convention when purchasing your transportation to Boston. You will save two-thirds of one fare home by so doing. Come on to the Convention by thousands and bring your neighbors with you.

Special Notice.

Miss E. H. Fielding will have charge of the literary bureau at the National Convention in Berkeley Hall in this city next week, the Banner of Light and all other Spiritualist papers, also all spiritualistic, occult, theosophical and metaphysical works.

Last Call.

Do you want to be one of the New England Spiritualists that are to help furnish a hall for the N. S. A. Convention to be held in Boston, Oct. 21-24? If so, please send your donations to the undersigned and be placed upon the list of lovers of organization and help give the N. S. A. a ringing reception.

J. B. Hatch, Jr.

74 Sydney St., Boston.

Important Notice!!

The reception given by the officers of the National Spiritualist Association to the delegates and visitors in attendance upon the Tenth National Convention in Boston will be held in Hotel Berkeley, cor. Berkeley St. and Huntington Ave., on Monday evening, Oct. 20, at 8 o'clock. All statements to the effect that said reception is to be held in Berkeley Hall, are incorrect. Remember, Berkeley Hotel, Oct. 20, 8 p. m.

Buffalo, N. Y., Mass Convention.

The Spiritualists of Western New York and adjacent territory will meet in a grand mass Convention in the city of Buffalo, Oct. 17, 18, 19, in the Spiritualist Temple on Jones St. This will enable them to give their State Association a good lift, and then form a compact body to come on to the National Convention in Boston. Spiritualists of the Lake region, go to Buffalo for the days named, and then come on to Boston to attend the great Convention ever held in the name of Spiritualism.

Dedication of German Temple.

The dedication of the German Spiritualistic Temple in Lawrence, Mass., will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 17, 18 and 19. Good speakers and mediums will be present at every session. Mr. Max O. Gentzke, Editor of the "Lichtstrahlen," will deliver a dedication speech on Friday evening in German, and Mrs. May S. Pepper of Providence, R. I., will deliver the same on Saturday afternoon in English. All Spiritualists of Lawrence and vicinity are invited.

At Lawrence take Prospect Hill car to the end of line.

Welcome to Boston.

The Banner of Light extends to each delegate and visitor to the National Convention a hearty welcome to Boston. A cordial invitation is hereby extended to all to visit the headquarters of the old reliable Banner at 204 Dartmouth St., where the members of the staff will gladly impart such information as may be at their command to all questions. Boston is to be the spiritual hub of the American continent during the coming week, and the Banner of Light gives the freedom of the city, spiritually speaking, to all comers to this Mecca of psychic truth.

Delegates and Visitors.

Among the many delegates and visitors now in the city, or known to be on their way hither, are Hon. Alonzo Thompson, Fullerton, Neb.; Rev. A. S. Bledsoe and wife, Topeka, Kansas; Hon. Wm. Speer and wife, Princeton, Mo.; Rev. T. Grimshaw and Dr. E. H. Green, St. Louis, Mo.; Mrs. E. J. Knowles, Clinton, Ia.; L. P. Wheelock, Davenport, Ia.; Dr. C. R. Fisk and wife, Keokuk, Ia.; Dr. L. C. Turner, Colfax, Ia.; C. D. Pruden and wife, St. Paul, Minn.; Dr. Geo. B. Warner and wife, Chicago, Ill.; Hon. H. W. Richardson, East Aurora, N. Y.; Mrs. T. H. Twining, Westfield, N. Y.; Mrs. T. H. Reynolds, Troy, N. Y.; Rev. C. D. Dorn, Newark, N. J.; Hon. A. Gaston, Meadville, Pa.; C. L. Stevens, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Hon. Thomas M. Locke and wife, B. B. Hill, Mrs. M. E. Caldwell, Philadelphia, Pa.; Theodore J. Mayer, L. I. Evans, C. P. and Mary T. Longley, Miss A. O. Wink, W. P. Williams and wife, Washington, D. C. All of the New England States will be largely represented by earnest Spiritualists whose names will be

registered later. All who purchase railroad tickets should remember to call for certificate tickets to the National Spiritualist Convention in Boston. Remember that Hotel Berkeley is official headquarters for the N. S. A.

Special Notice to Lyceums.

Lyceums in New England cities and towns are requested to join the Boston Lyceums in celebrating Lyceum Night during the N. S. A. Convention to be held Oct. 21-24 in Berkeley Hall. Lyceum Night will be Oct. 22. Every Lyceum in New England should send a delegation. Please notify the undersigned at once if you are to be present or take part so the program can be arranged. Also how many are expected to come.

Yours for the children,

J. B. Hatch, Jr.,
Chairman Lyceum Com.
74 Sydney St., Boston.

Course of Lectures by W. J. Colville.

W. J. Colville announces the following lectures in Banner Hall, 204 Dartmouth St., Boston. Final course this season.

Thursday, Oct. 16, 3 p. m., Practical Uses of Suggestion in Strengthening Character. 8 p. m., A Treatise on Evolution.

Friday, October 17, 3 p. m., Practical Occultism—Control of Imagination, Memory and Thought.

Saturday, October 18, 3 p. m., Dreams and Visions—How to Interpret and Regulate Them. 8 p. m., Theosophical Power. Readings from Marie Corelli's latest novel, followed by lecture thereon.

Monday, October 20, 3 p. m., The Voice of the Heavens—What Can Astrology Truly Reveal? 8 p. m., The New Man Conquering the Old Stars.

Tuesday, October 22, 3 p. m., Spiritualism and Mental Science—How to Incorporate the

Self-Hypnotic Healing!

I have made a discovery that enables all to induce the hypnosis sleep in themselves, instantly, awake at any time, and to cure all diseases and ailments. I have had it. ANYONE can induce this sleep in themselves instantly at first trial, control their dreams, read the minds of friends and enemies, visit any part of the earth, solve hard questions and problems in this sleep and remember all when awake. This is a new and powerful method. I have sent to anyone ABSOLUTELY FREE, actually enabling him to do the above without charge with ever. Prof. M. E. CHESLON, Dept. B. L., Lincoln, Neb., U. S. A. D-1-18

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Good in Both. 8 p. m., The Scientific Aspects of Prophecy.

Each lecture followed by answers to questions.

Written questions may be placed on speaker's desk.

Admission, 15 cents.

On Sundays, October 19 and 26, W. J. Colville conducts public service with lecture in Pierce Building Copley Square. October 19, The Gospel of the Holy Twelve—New Light on Old Mysteries.

October 26, A Friendly Review of the Present Status of Spiritualism in America and Other Lands and Its Outlook.

Miss H. M. Young attends at all functions to supply W. J. Colville's books and other literature.

Buffalo Joint Mass Meeting.

A mass meeting will be held in the church of the First Society of Buffalo, under the auspices of the New York State Spiritualist Association, the church co-operating; indications point to success in every way, as one and all are entering into the spirit of the work with a sincerity and determination which brook no failure. The Buffalo society is one of the best and most successful and the State Association also means business in its undertakings. The speakers for the occasion are Mrs. Twining, first vice-president of the state; Prof. Lockwood, Mr. Richardson, president of the State Association; Rev. Mr. Sayles of East Aurora, and Mrs. Tillie U. Reynolds, second vice-president, who is at present serving the Buffalo society as speaker. Mr. Victor Wilde of Toronto will serve as platform test medium. Mr. Wilde is a favorite in Buffalo; Mr. Bach of the "Sunflower," and Frank Walker, ex-president of the N. Y. State Association are expected to drop in during the meeting. A cordial invitation is extended to all and we hope that Spiritualists from nearby towns will come and join in making this a grand meeting.

A Pleasant Occasion.

The season's work of the Metaphysical Club was inaugurated on Wednesday evening of last week, by a social reunion of old and new members with their friends, in Legion of Honor Hall. Orchestral selections by a lady trio were enjoyed for an hour, followed by readings, with both vocal and instrumental music, by members of the Club, after which a generous collation was served from a poppy-trimmed table, crowned with glowing autumnal blossoms and a season of delightful social interchange was participated in by all the brilliant company.

It was a notable assembly of practical philosophers, who combine deep, intelligent thinking with a warm, active love to each and all, which gospel forms the bed-rock of their faith, the working basis of their religion. It was refreshing to be present on one occasion where there were no hoarse voices, no coughing, no apologies for having "such a bad cold," where conversation did not refer to lame backs, or spavined knees, with solicited

inquiries after some friend's rheumatism or dyspepsia. It was a pleasure to look into the clear-eyed, serene faces, radiant with the glow of health and a cordial good will.

The Club is increasing in numbers and prosperity. It has a choice program of attractive lectures and classes already scheduled for the season. We extend fraternal greetings to this worthy body of workers for the cause of a truth which maketh free from all physical bondage and mental limitations, to which noble endeavor, every Spiritualist must bid a strong Good-speed.

S. C. C.

Millions in Peril!

Millions of Americans Suffer from Heart Trouble and Don't Know It.

Statistics show that sixty-nine out of every one hundred have some form of heart trouble. Are you one of them? If so you should act at once. See how much heart



Disease occurs with alarming frequency, and comes on when least expected. Almost every day we read of some important public official being stricken down by a sudden heart attack. Think of the countless thousands that die a similar death, but because not known to the world at large the names of these victims are unknown. Thousands die for their kidneys, stomach, lungs, nerves, or some other cause, because when the whole trouble is with the heart, is your heart right? Do you have palpitation, fluttering, or a skipping of the heart beat, shortness of breath after exertion, (aching joints or limbs), choking sensation in the throat; cold hands and feet; dizziness, or swelling of the feet and ankles; or a pain in the chest or through the shoulder blades; spots before the eyes; hungry, weak spells, or sudden starting in sleep? If you have any of the above symptoms your heart is affected, and you should waste no time in having it corrected. Write at once to Dr. Fiedler's Institute of Health, the new heart and nerve institute of Battle Creek, Mich., No. 11 Union Block, for full particulars of their wonderful treatment for heart trouble. They have cured thousands that I had been given up to die by the very best local doctors, and they can, no doubt, cure you. Write today, for another week you will be too late.

Inquiries after some friend's rheumatism or dyspepsia. It was a pleasure to look into the clear-eyed, serene faces, radiant with the glow of health and a cordial good will.

The Club is increasing in numbers and prosperity. It has a choice program of attractive lectures and classes already scheduled for the season. We extend fraternal greetings to this worthy body of workers for the cause of a truth which maketh free from all physical bondage and mental limitations, to which noble endeavor, every Spiritualist must bid a strong Good-speed.

S. C. C.

"If you get beauty and naught else besides, You get about the best thing God invents."

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A Glimpse of Sydney; An Australian Society; The Problem of Materialism; The Problem of the Soul; The Problem of the Mind; The Problem of the Body; The Problem of the Spirit; The Problem of the Universe; The Problem of the Future; The Problem of the Past; The Problem of the Present; The Problem of the Human Condition; The Problem of the Human Mind; The Problem of the Human Body; The Problem of the Human Soul; The Problem of the Human Spirit; The Problem of the Human Universe; The Problem of the Human Future; The

From Dorchester on the morning of Sept. 8, from the beautiful home of her daughter, Mrs. E. C. Kelley, Mrs. Mary A. widow of James Cushing, formerly of Hingham. Although an invalid for many years, she was happy with the dear ones who loved her so well. She was a true wife, a devoted mother, a faithful sister and friend. She was a firm Spiritualist for many years and found comfort and joy in the knowledge that the dear ones gone before were with her in her hours of trial. She knew they awaited her coming and longed to go, and now having peacefully passed through the beautiful gateway, she has found rest. She leaves two daughters and the dear non-in-law whom she loved as her own; together they ministered unto her with tender care and love. May the dear loved ones realize her presence in the home and rejoice in her promotion, and as they miss her smiling face on earth may they know that one more angel watches over them from the home of the soul. Funeral service Sept. 11, attended by the immediate family and several nieces and nephews. Sweet flowers breathed their silent blessing. Mrs. N. J. Williams conducted the service, giving words of comfort and thoughts for meditation. She alluded with much feeling to the absent ones (all dearer as the family circle has rapidly grown smaller), a daughter-in-law seriously ill, with the grandson, an older grandson on the way, and as they longed to miss the physical presence of his loved grandmother. A touching part of the service, by Mrs. Cushing's request, was the rendering, with expression, of two favorite selections on the piano, by the only grand-daughter and the only grand-son, in the sweetest manner of a hymn by little Miss Hammond, who in the short time she has been a member of the household, has endeared herself to Grandma Cushing. The body was taken to Forest Hills for cremation. Peace to a true mother.

The Helping Hand Association, Haverhill, Mass.

To the Editor of the Banner of Light:
Will you please kindly allow space in the Banner for a few words regarding the Helping Hand Association of Haverhill, Mass., and its work? It is a society, but earnest in its endeavor to promote the interest of the Cause of Spiritualism. Some four years since the society was organized, and two years later was chartered under the State laws of Massachusetts. For two years after its organization, public meetings were held on Sunday evenings, conducted by local mediums, and through the instrumentality of the society, some half dozen mediums were brought before the public, and given a chance for the development of their mediumistic powers. In addition to these Sunday meetings a mid-week public circle was held, the attendance varying from twenty-five to one hundred and twenty-five. Several mediums assisted in their different phases of mediumship. For a time the work was conducted in a quiet way, parlor meetings being held at the home of one of the members.
In the spring of this present year, it seemed the spirit world had a work for the association to enter upon, the way being opened, unsought, in which they might try the experiment of conducting meetings through the summer, with light pecuniary expenditure, preparatory to the winter season of 1902-03. On the last Sunday in April, the present place of meeting was secured, and a meeting advertised. This proving successful, a series of meetings were inaugurated under the auspices of the Helping Hand Association. The plan proposed was for the local mediums to give their services for the good of the Cause, to which all most heartily assented. In the kindness of their hearts, workers from neighboring societies volunteered their services, and came to our society without compensation. The plan proposed was for the local mediums to give their services for the good of the Cause, to which all most heartily assented. In the kindness of their hearts, workers from neighboring societies volunteered their services, and came to our society without compensation.

W. Sargent presented to Mrs. Ham, wife of our president, an exceedingly life-like crayon portrait of her husband, beautifully framed in gold.
Mrs. Ham, although completely surprised; responded in her natural, easy manner, thanking the brother for the gift. After the general hand-shaking and good-byes in which the audience heartily joined, the visitors were escorted to the station, and the friends turned homeward, conscious of having passed an exceedingly pleasant and profitable evening.
Mary A. Blake, Clerk of H. H. A.

Proposed Solution of the Friar Problem.

The questions regarding the friars, which were the subject of negotiations between the Vatican and Governor Taft, might, it is suggested, be solved without recourse to the recall of the friars by "opening the doors in the Philippines to all the clergy of all the religious orders, without distinction of nationality, thus, and only thus, opening the doors to a few hundreds of Spanish friars remaining there."
Very kind, indeed! Having stepped into Spain's shoes, Uncle Sam is invited to become monk-dressed in earnest. The Philippines suffered with the friar-evil to cure this, what is proposed? More friars! The panacea Spain had been dispensing to them without success? But now there will be the spice of variety—all nationalities, but all friars and—birds of a feather flock together!

Paul F. de Gournay.

Just for Today.

The supreme prayer of my heart is, not to be learned, rich, famous or powerful, but to be radiant. I desire to radiate health, calm, courage, cheerfulness and good will. I wish to be simple, honest, frank, natural, clean in mind and clean in body, unaffected, ready to meet all on an absolute equality, to face any obstacle and meet every difficulty unshaken and unafraid. I wish others to live their lives, too, up to their highest, fullest and best. To that end I pray that I may never meddle, interfere, dictate, give advice that is not wanted, or assist where my services are not needed. If I can help people, I'll do it by giving them a chance to help themselves; and if I can uplift or inspire, let it be by example, inference and suggestion rather than by injunction and dictation. That is all I desire to be radiant—to radiate life.—Elbert Hubbard.

New Photographs of Mrs. Soule.

So many requests have been made for photographs of our circle medium, Mrs. Minnie M. Soule, that the photographer, Mr. J. H. Soule, as pastor of the Gospel of Spirit Return Society, that we have persuaded her to take the time from her ever busy and useful life to give the artist an opportunity to photograph her in her platform dress. As a result of her compliance with our request, we now have for sale three new poses of her, in a speaker's gown, and a new one, which we think are improvements over the former ones, representing her as she appears in her social life and parish work. The Banner of Light Publishing Company has the exclusive sale of Mrs. Soule's photographs, and has placed them, for the accommodation of their patrons, at the same low price as the former ones, twenty-five cents each.

God will always give us wisdom and strength to do and achieve with tremendous success when we do that which is nearest at hand to do. This is accepting the place God wishes us to be in, and is the way to peace and happiness.—Ex.

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