

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

"In things Essential, Unity—In things Doubtful, Liberty—In all Things, Charity."

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ONE PENNY

"Seek and ye shall find."

BY CHARLES TABERNER.

CHAPTER X.

He entered, and after dispatching his message, he returned to find the girl nowhere in sight. "Where can she have gone," he asked himself as he began a search for her. After perhaps a quarter hour spent in a fruitless search, he was beginning to get uneasy, thinking something had happened to her, when all at once she sprang upon him as he turned the corner of some building, and began to chaff him for his fears. "Did you think I had been spirited away?" she laughed. "It is too bad of you Mabel to frighten me in this way," he said. "I feel inclined to be vexed with you. Remember you are under my care."

"I am very sorry," she pouted, keeping her face straight with difficulty. "Forgive me, and I won't do it again, till the next time. Shall you tell mother?"

"That depends how you behave on the journey home. Now come along. We have wasted sufficient time. Your mother will be wondering where we have got to." Then they started on their return. Mabel keeping up her banter until they arrived at home. The result of this was that Walter entered a different person to what he had been when he and Mabel left two hours earlier. The change was so great that Mrs. Marsden noticed it immediately he entered the room, but she refrained from making any comment. And when he came to her side, she was more than usually cheerful, and kept him by her side for some time, telling him many strange stories which amused him, and made them both laugh out somewhat loudly at various times. Mr. Marsden looked on with pleasure. He reasoned that his wife must be improving, or she could not be merry. This was something he had not seen in her for some years, and it filled him with pleasure.

DAY had given place to night, and still Walter had not fallen back to that thoughtful mood which had characterised his entrance that morning into the home of the Marsden's. Mabel took care to keep him well occupied, and whenever she had thought she saw the least signs of him becoming dejected, she would begin to chaff him, until the shadow passed from his face, and by this action on her part, she made him feel happy. Life seemed to assume a different aspect in his new surroundings, and when he realised it he stood dumbfounded for a few moments at the change it had wrought in him. He was not left long alone with his thoughts, for Mabel came hurriedly to his side, saying: "Getting sour again. Mr. Merton? What is wrong this time? Have you had enough of this gaiety, or are we getting a little too frivolous for your delicate morals?"

"You wrong me, Mabel," he replied, taking her words seriously. "I was only wondering if I could really be the same person who entered this house early this morning. What is the power you possess by which you are able to work so great a change in me in a few hours' time?"

"Your imagination, sir," she answered, with a smile. "All things are the outcome of imagination, which you cannot understand. At least, that is what you would say. Or is it one of those chance workings you have so much faith in? You are a curiosity, Mr. Merton. Shall I tell you a secret?" she whispered. "But you must promise not to tell mother?" "Very well, what is it? Some silly thing, I'll warrant. Or is it another thrust at me?" "Don't be silly. I'm serious now. Do you know that you are curing mother of her ailment?"

"Nonsense, Mabel. You must have taken leave of your senses to make such a statement. The idea is so ridiculous. I suppose you will have no objection to tell me how I am accomplishing this wonderful cure. I must change my occupation if what you say is true."

"Now, you are laughing at me," Mr. Merton. "Ask mother yourself if you doubt my word. You would say it were imagination if I was to tell you." "Why do you taunt me with that, Mabel? Who has been telling you what I believe? Have I not a perfect right to condemn what I consider to be absurd?"

"Certainly, if you know. But you don't. You condemn where you are ignorant, and where proof is offered you it is imagination. If I was to tell you your mother and father were here, and describe them minutely to you, that would only be imagination, or a coincident. I will tell you some day of the power I possess. It would startle you now. Good-night, pleasant dreams," she added, laughing merrily, leaving him mystified at her words. He remained some little time with Mr. Marsden, then he was shown to his room, and when alone he seated himself to think over what the girl had said. Her reference to his having effected a change in Mrs. Marsden caused him to smile in amusement at the thought, then he became serious as he was forced to admit that there was a marked change for the better in her condition. But how this change had been effected he was forced to give up as being inexplicable. I have evidently dropped among pleasant but peculiar people, he thought. "What is that," he cried, jumping up, as a gentle tapping was heard on the table besides him, "My fancy," he muttered, again seating himself. "Strange that these things should only have begun to trouble me after the death of my father. It must be owing to that which has caused me to become nervous. "Ah, ah," came in derisive laughter from almost every

part of the room (or as he thought). "You nervous, Ah, ah." Then all was silent again.

He jumped up in great excitement, and began to make an investigation of the room, but could find nothing which would explain the mystery. Then he began to feel afraid. Strong man though he was, it was a peculiar predicament to be placed in, and not be able to find any reasonable explanation for it. But driving back the feeling of fear which was rapidly growing upon him, he seated himself with the determination to fathom the mystery before he retired. Then he smiled to himself as he said, "This is some trick Mabel is playing upon me," then he retired. Satisfied with the explanation.

The following morning he was late in coming down, and on entering the breakfast room where Mabel and her father awaited him, he began to make apologies for having kept them waiting, when Mabel cut him short by saying, with an amused smile on her face, "You should go to bed to sleep, and not sit half the night thinking. It is a bad practice, Mr. Merton, and a menace to your health."

"What do you know about it," he asked, looking at her strangely. "Have you been playing some trick on me?"

"No, indeed I have not. I value my rest too much to think of any such a thing. Has your imagination been deceiving you again? Did you ever see such a man dad?" she said, appealing to her father. "His whole life is made up of imagination, and everything that takes place out of the ordinary routine, it is all fancy."

"You are rather severe on him, Mabel," her father replied. "She is a strange girl, Mr. Merton. You will understand her better when you have been here a few days. She is full of life, and takes a pleasure in teasing us whenever she gets the chance. For some reason or other, she seems to have fixed upon you as a victim. But let us begin breakfast." After breakfast Walter went out, and immediately he had gone, Mrs. Marsden turned to Mabel and asked, "Why do you tease Mr. Merton in the way you do? You must not forget that he is almost a stranger to us, and may not like your treatment. A little fun is alright in its place, but I think you are carrying it a little too far."

"I have a purpose in what I am doing," she answered, pleasantly. "So long as he holds to those old notions, there is little hope of him getting a deeper knowledge of what lies beyond the grave, and to try and force the matter on him would only bring his condemnation. He must be led into it unknowingly, or unthinkingly, and it is with that end in view that I have taken my present attitude. You need have no fear. He will not be cross with me. Neither shall I go too far when dealing with him." Mr. Marsden then left the house, and proceeded to his business.

An hour later, Walter entered, and going up to Mabel he asked if she could spare a few minutes' conversation. "Certainly," she answered, "I thought you had taken fright and gone away. Don't look so serious. One would think you had seen a ghost to look at your face."

He started at her words. There was something

about this girl he could not understand, and it made him somewhat afraid of her. She read his thoughts as easily as though he had put them into words, and when her large piercing eyes were fixed upon his face, he felt uncomfortable, and was compelled to drop his gaze. On these occasions, he had noticed that the pupil of the eye seemed to change, while the expression was vacant and dull, as if the mind was far away. "Mabel," he said, placing his hand upon her shoulder, "will you try to be serious for a few moments? I have been thinking over your words, and I want to ask you a few plain questions, to which I want an honest, straightforward reply. Was you in hiding near my room last night with the intention of playing some trick on me?"

"No sir, I was not. After leaving you, I retired to my chamber, and did not again leave it until this morning. Surely you do not think I would try to deceive you, Mr. Merton? I like a little harmless fun, and I may appear somewhat of a mystic to you, yet I would not dare to carry that to the extent your words imply. No, Mr. Merton, if anything has transpired in your room, you must look elsewhere than to me for its solution. Have you any objections to telling me what it is? Perhaps I may help you to solve the difficulty."

He hesitated for some time, during which he was thinking deeply, then he told her of the raps he had heard, and the strange voice he had thought was the outcome of some trick of hers. "Your words this morning seemed to confirm that opinion, and led me to believe that you knew what had taken place in my room. If you were not in any way connected, how did you know that anything out of the ordinary had occurred?" Her face wore a strange smile as she turned her eyes full upon him. "I am very sorry," she replied, "but I ought to have told you that this house is haunted by the dead. What you heard last night was from that source. You do not believe it I know, but whether you do or not does not alter the fact; and as to how I am able to know what is taking place outside my own surroundings, that must surely be the outcome of your imagination. "Look!" she cried suddenly, pointing to one corner of the room. "Do you see that beautiful lady? See how sweetly she is smiling at you!"

He looked where the girl pointed, but could see nothing, then he turned again to her, and started, when he saw the change in her. Her face was pale and fixed, while the eyes were set upon that part of the room where the hand still pointed, but now they appeared to have a different look. There brightness was gone, and in its place had come a far away expression, such as is seen in one who is walking in her sleep. This young woman perplexed him more and more, and as he stood looking upon her face in an undecided way, a strange feeling of awe took possession of him, and he felt a chill passing through the whole of his body. He took her by the arm with the intention of rousing her from this strange state which frightened him, but immediately his touch was felt, she continued, "She is a beautiful lady, about fifty. Her hair has been dark, but is now deeply lined with grey. The features are long and well formed. She is about your height, and she holds up her hand and shows two rings. One is twisted and

contains three stones, two cream, and a gold one in the centre. She now lifts a lock of hair from the temple, and shows a deep scar."

"Good God!" he cried, clutching the girl by the arm, "that is my mother." Then he reeled backward into a chair, and covered his face with his hands. While Mabel gave a shudder, and was herself again. "What is the matter, Mr. Merton," she asked, going to his side and placing her hand upon him? "What has happened to upset you so?"

"This is a strange house, and still more strange are its people," said Walter. "By what means are you able to describe my mother so accurately?"

"Nonsense, Mr. Merton, your mother is dead. How then can she show herself to be described as you say. Your imagination again, sir."

"Why will you keep taunting me in this way? I might have rejected the description only for the ring and the scar. Those cannot be explained away. They are too pointed. Now leave me to think the matter over. You have hit me hard Mabel."

She left him and joined her mother, who quickly asked, "Where is Mr. Merton?" "He is in the sitting room," Mabel replied. "I have just bowled him over by describing his mother, and he has sent me away. He wants to be alone."

Are you acting wisely, Mabel, in forcing the matter on him so soon?" inquired her mother. "I think so, mother," she answered. "The time was favourable, and I sent home the first shot. Still I don't think he will accept. There is something for which he is waiting, but I cannot get what it is. However I shall get it, and there is no particular hurry. It will perhaps be all the more positive when it does come." Then she took up a book and settled to reading.

Walter paced the room after Mabel had left in anything but a pleasant frame of mind. He knew that she could not have known his mother while in the body, and it puzzled him how she had been able to get the information she had possessed, to be able to speak of his mother so freely. The thought that she had been present in spirit he would not entertain for a moment. It was too absurd he thought. There must be some other explanation for it, and until he was able to explain it, he would not think of it. Having so decided, he left the room and the house.

CHAPTER XI.

SOME days later, Walter was sitting with Mr. Marsden in the ground smoking. He had found that it was no easy matter to forget the scene where Mabel had acted so strangely. The more he tried to forget it, the more did it haunt him, and while smoking he had been giving Mr. Marsden an account of the strange things which had come to him since the death of his father. He felt that he must confide in someone, and who was more likely than Mr. Marsden. Mabel had not tried to force upon him any other manifestations, but rather avoided the subject when he had introduced it. This had appeared strange to him, yet he did not wish her to see that he was eager to speak of her strange power, consequently he did not press the point when he saw she was disinclined to enter into the subject. Still, it weighed heavily upon him, and resulted in him confiding to his host.

(To be continued).

Our Boys' Special.

[Third instalment of "paper" on 'How best to retain our young men and young women.']

"I think it will be generally admitted that there is in mankind, a natural tendency to social intercourse and union, considered as against self-isolation. This natural tendency, rightly, or wrongly, is manifest among all races, and in all climes. I submit that this tendency is good, resulting as it does in companionship, demonstration of affection, mutual help, and confidence.

If this position is conceded, it is obvious that what we have learned to call the "Social side of life" should be duly noted and judiciously developed. And in no more exclusive province of educational interest does the responsibility of this development rest, than in the province we love to style "the school of a liberal and harmonious education."

As the social conditions operating in our environment day by day, influencing our acts and thoughts, so it becomes clear to us, that if our Sunday school is to be effectual in its help; its influence must actively accompany our youths and maidens in their daily concerns of life. We must recognise the necessity of greater protection and guidance than is indicated by our one or two hours' sessions every seventh day.

We must give up the notion,—if it has ever possessed us,—that our Sunday school is a convenient arrangement, wherein we can air our goodness, and show by the length of our prayers, our superiority over the negligent sinner outside; and learn to look upon our school as the common classroom, where at convenient intervals we may assemble for mutual help and encouragement, that the invigorating lessons may be applied to practical purposes in our daily life and duties.

The Sunday school of the future must go out of itself, so to speak. It must meet the requirements of its dependents both on industrial, social, moral, and spiritual planes of action; and therefore its influence must be always on evidence, or its dependents will lose faith in its virtues.

Classes should be formed on week evenings, for social intercourse in which reading, discussion and games should have their appointed places, to avoid monotony and ensure recreation.

In such classes, extempore speaking should be specially encouraged amongst the members, in order to develop an easy and confident expression of opinions upon the various topics discussed. This will be found to be most useful to members later on in life.

The formation of singing classes, to embrace even the younger members would be a valuable adjunct to the school; and I am convinced that music has a tendency to quicken the spiritual sense, through love of harmony and tunefulness.

Amongst the young men and women, I would suggest the formation of Dramatic classes, not alone

for monetary purposes, but for the development of memory, confidence, and grace of action, all qualities that will prove helpful to us through life.

I would also encourage the co-operation of our young men and women in such industrial and artistic pursuits and hobbies, as will lead to the successful holding of a profitable Sale of Work at intervals, for church or school funds: and which at the same time focuses the mind on the larger objects of our school. I would approve the holding of 'social evenings' frequently, and I would even include dancing in the category of pleasures, for I believe that if we more readily catered for this last named pleasure, we should at least be able to surround our young folks with a morally healthy atmosphere wherein to indulge their likings; and thus afford amusement and delight to many, without numerous attendant dangers which have been generally associated with the pastime in public places.

I may have incurred the displeasure of prudish minds, in my statement that I would encourage the social intercourse of the sexes.

It has generally been considered most advisable, and especially most in keeping with the opinions of "Mrs. Grundy," that the sexes should be kept apart as much as possible.

Now I will state why I particularly wish our young men and women to become more intimate and confident in each other's society. Amongst the many good things which Spiritualism helps us in, is the tendency to develop our powers of observation and deduction. The powers, exercised on the disposition and conduct of those who are frequently with us, will help us to understand each other, and this exercise may help us considerably, in taking that important step which we expect to be of life-long duration. Although I would strongly protest against any action of a designing 'Match-maker,' I would approve of a national selection from our Lyceum ranks, for the object of that conventional and all-important phase of life we know as the married state.

Experience or observation teaches us that there is no opposition or hatred so bitter or so far-reaching in its effects, as that arising from differences of religious conviction or opinion. Otherwise happy homes have been blighted or shadowed by the presence of such differences, until one or other of the contracting parties have for purposes of present peace, stolidly refrained from alluding to such conviction or opinion; with the result, that, in numberless instances, the very light and strength, and comfort, which religious conviction rendered, dies out, in the unresponsive atmosphere at the home. I would mitigate such consequences, as far as possible, by the suggested adaptability of an awakened sense, discovering in our own ranks its desirable helpmate. Of course, one can lay down no fast rule where the affections are concerned, but this does not invalidate the position taken that there is great likelihood of comfort, confidence, and happiness, where philosophically, and specifically, men and women are taught equally to realise the outcome of their several actions and thoughts; and where the methods of teaching employed are identical.

The correct solution to the last month's puzzle is:—"NEVER GIVE UP THE RIGHT WAY." M.R. 240.

Ninety five correct solutions have been received. Bravo! That shows you are taking an interest in the "Special." I have no space to insert all the names, but I furnish a list of places from which solutions have been received:—Accrington 1, Altrincham 1, Blackburn 5, Burnley 5, Barrow 1, Barnoldswick 1, Blackpool 4, Bolton 2, Bradford 1, Brighouse 1, Bury 3, Chester 1, Cleckheaton 3, Colne 1, Derby 1, Dukinfield 1, Glasgow 3, Halifax 4, Horwich 1, Holbeck 1, Heeley 1, Hucknall 3, Hunslet 1, Hyde 1, Keighley 1, Lancaster 5, Lincoln 1, Liversedge 2, London 7, Manchester 1, Middlesbro' 1, Nelson 2, Sildon 1, Openshaw 2, Pendleton 2, Preston 2, Rochdale 1, Royton 2, Sowerby Bridge 1, Stockport 2, Stockton-on-Tees 6, Ulverston 1, Uppermill 1, Walsall 1, Warrington 1, Wolverhampton 4, York 1. *Well done, London!*

Have patience and you will each receive a Merit Card.

OPEN TO ALL LYCEUMISTS.

PUZZLE FOR NOVEMBER.

What a wonderful book is our Manual;
For instruction I think you'll agree
That it ranks as a real "hardy Annual,"
Amongst those who from Creed would be free.

Its teachings reveal our relation to
The soul-world around us, so near;
While in song and in sweet recitation, too,
It helps us to banish all fear.

But I've just made a startling discovery
Whilst arranging initials of line;
'Tis that letters now hid—on recovery,
Spell something in "CHURCHES," that's fine.

In a Golden Chain 'title' you'll find them all;
There are not more than four when you've done,
Now if you will properly bind them all;
A Merit Card you will have won.

So start straight away and fixing them
In order, don't make a mistake,
By omitting the letters, or mixing them,
Or the word that you want, you can't make.

In order to help you to make sure that you have got the correct word, I have placed the letters amongst the initial letter to the lines of the puzzle.

Send on your solutions not later than November 20th, to

Yours lovingly,

137, Rockcliffe Street, FRANK HEPWORTH,
Blackburn.

NORTH LANCASHIRE AND WEST CUMBERLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A meeting of the above was held at Millom on August 29th, 1908, Mr. Griffiths presiding. The district visitor, Mr. Tyson, gave his report, stating that he had visited all but one of the Lyceums, and commenting on the good conduct and attendance he had found at the Lyceums. This was all the important business.

A public meeting, which Mr. Tyson presided, was afterwards held. Addresses were given by Messrs. Proctor, Dobson, and Griffiths. The latter also gave clairvoyance, whilst Miss Tyson and Mr. G. Tyson rendered recitations.

THOS. LAWTON, Sec.

be a very bad business indeed if every person was like myself. Wars are barbarous. They are the outcome of ignorance and selfishness. In the future, when the world is more enlightened, when kindness, sympathy and intelligence prevail, instead of ignorance and selfishness, when every man will look upon his fellow-men as brothers, whatever may be their colour or nationality, the peoples of different countries will not then go to war. Disputes and misunderstandings should, and will then be settled by councils and arbitration. War belongs to the worst of crimes, and it is dreadful to think in these so-called enlightened days that wars should still exist. Make up your minds, dear readers, always to be advocates of peace, progress and intellectual advancement. As a further illustration of the function of Weight, I dare say most of you will have seen clever tight-rope dancers, acrobatic [ak-robat-ik] balancing, conjuring, and slight of hand performances. These clever feats could not be skilfully done by persons deficient in the faculty of Weight. Attempting foolhardy and dangerous feats, climbing, mountaineering, etc., generally result from excessive developments of Weight and Approbation. Persons having these faculties large love to be praised for their daring.

COLOUR is located on the outside of Weight; it endows persons with perception, memory and judgment regarding the artistic application of colours. It gives ability for matching, arranging and blending colours artistically. Painters, dyers, milliners and artists of all kinds in which colours are employed in their arts require to have Colour large, including engine drivers, guards and others employed on railways, so that they may readily discern the different colour signals. To most people the world would be very dull and dreary were it not for the beautiful colouring put into so many things around and about us. Nature is a great colour artist. Observe the many hues and tints in the beautiful flowers in the wayside, hedgerows, fields and gardens, and the many varied tints of green foliage, grasses and mosses, ever changing as they do from early spring to late autumn and winter. When you visit art galleries what grand conceptions of the artists' minds may be seen in the beautiful pictures there displayed. Beautiful scenery and beautiful things of all kinds, as well as kind and generous acts, all tend to elevate, ennoble and beautify the mind. Therefore, we should indulge and cultivate a love for all things beautiful. Some people make their homes and surroundings so very dull and depressing for want of nice pictures on the walls and colour in the paint and wall papers. Many may be so poor as not to be able to beautify their homes, but there is little excuse for those not doing so who can afford it.

(To be continued).

WINDHILL.—We held our open session on September 13th, when we had a very good attendance. The hall was nicely decorated for the harvest festival. The following items were given:—Recitation by Miss Starky, "We love the King"; readings, "The homeland," Mrs. Copley; "Pass it on," Miss D. Butterworth; "Sometime," by H. Hutchinson; "Angry words," by M. E. Hall; "Ring the bell softly," Misses Copley and Butterfield. The "Roses of Life" were sung by G. Roper and H. Hutchinson. The D.V. took charge of the musical reading, "The voice of progress."—E. Roper, Sec.

Bible Studies, No. 16.

THE PROPHECY OF JOEL.

Joel, among other things, made the following wonderful prophecy which has exercised a strong influence over the minds both of Jews and Christians. "And it shall come to pass afterwards, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophecy; your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions; and also, upon the servants and upon the handmaidens in those days, will I pour out my spirit. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood and fire, pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come." Joel II. 28-31.

It will be noted that this prophecy is said to come from the LORD, that is the Jewish God, Yahveh, as if he were the Creator and Ruler of the heavens and the earth.

The question arises: What is "the terrible day of the Lord," here spoken of? It has generally been understood to mean the end of the world. It was so understood in the days of Jesus, although the prophecy was 800 years old when Jesus was born. But he evidently knew of it, and was looking for its fulfilment, for he himself said, "For the son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. *There be some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the son of man coming in his kingdom.*" Matt. XVI. 27 and 28. And, again, he says, "Verily I say unto you, *This generation shall not pass till all these things be fulfilled.*" Matt. XXIV. 34. Both these prophecies are repeated in the books of Mark and Luke, which adds weight to our statement that Jesus was expecting the end of the world.

In verse 3 of Matt. XXIV, we learn that the disciples were so impressed by his announcement, that they came to him privately to learn when these things should be, and what would be the sign of his coming, and "the end of the world."

As a further proof that they thought Joel's prophecy had special reference to the days of Jesus and his disciples, we may cite Peter's testimony on the day of Pentecost, when he boldly rebuked the scoffers, and confounded them by quoting this prophecy. But in doing so he substituted "last days" for "afterwards," thus making it definitely apply to his day, Acts II, 17.

This settled conviction that the end of the world was near at hand was the chief reason why all who received the "Word," that is, the teachings of the Apostles, and were baptized, remained together, and had all things in common, that is, they sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men as every man had need. Acts II, 44 and 45. See also Chapter V. 34-37. This was a natural thing to do, for if the world were coming to an end their wealth would be of little further use to them.

We should also remember the fate of poor Ananias and his cautious wife, who were struck dead because they withheld a portion of the money for which

they sold their possessions, evidently so as not to be rendered destitute, in case the world did not come to an end. Acts V., 1-10.

As nearly 1900 years have passed since these eventful times, and we find the world still pursuing its appointed course, we are forced to admit that the prophecy has failed. How is this? Shall we say Joel was a false prophet? Let us consider the point.

We know that certain mediums who have the gift of prophecy often get, or receive their prophecies in the form of symbolical pictures, and it is in their efforts to interpret these that the danger of error lies. Joel may have had a vision in which he saw "blood and fire, and pillars of smoke, the sun turned into darkness, and the moon into blood," and all the conditions of the earth coming to an end.

Jesus may also have had a similar vision, and, like Joel, failed to interpret it correctly. He may have taken literally what was intended to be taken symbolically. Perhaps the sun symbolized the priesthood and all the ecclesiastical fraternity, and the moon the minor dignitaries. If so, then the commotion as of the rending or destruction of the world would represent the natural result of the outpouring, the spirit freeing the common people from the priestly yoke. Let us see how this idea works out: The ecclesiastical, or priestly "world," because of its invested interests, ever strives to repress all freedom of research, thought, and speech, outside that which is prescribed by the order. Thus it is that in time the priesthood loses sight of the living guiding spirit of the universe, and administer the "word" or outer form which kills all true spiritual aspiration, moral growth, and expansion of the soul's divine powers. Thus, too, it is that these priestly luminaries, who by their profession, should be as suns illuminating the pathway of the people by their spirituality and righteousness, are rendered "dark" and non-illuminating. They fail to show the way of life, because they care more for the things of earth than heaven, for the emoluments and honours of their office, than for the happiness of the people, more for the fleece than the flock. Their profession of righteousness and holiness ends in "smoke," and the "blood" of the reformers, the true saviours of the people, is made to flow as the price of the people's freedom.

These spiritual signs and wonders, telling of the end of the priestly "world," were partly fulfilled by the outpouring of the spiritual powers and forces in the days of Jesus and his apostles. But the prophecy is far more applicable to the present day spiritual movement, when the handmaidens—our wives and daughters—are prophesying both as preachers and foretellers, as never before in the history of the world, either sacred or profane so called.

The teachings of Jesus, backed up by his spiritual gifts, ushered into the world a new era, a new heaven and a new earth, compared to the old order of things. But in the course of a few hundred years, the priestly order, true to their calling, seized hold of the new teachings, monopolised and manipulated them so as to serve their purpose, and closed the avenues of spirit communion, by denouncing seers and prophets as witches and wizards, and persecuting them unto death.

But another out-pouring of the Spirit is taking place, and rending the old order of things asunder. Will the priesthood be able to repeat its old tactics of monopoly and perversion to their own selfish ends? We hope not. We pray not. And we want the reader to pray with us, by endeavouring to train and educate the children, by making known unto them the history of the past, that its lesson may be a warning for the present, and a safeguard of their rights and privileges in the future. Dear reader, you have a duty to perform in this grand and glorious work. Educate the children, instruct them in the truths, principles, and religion of Spiritualism, and all the grand reformations it works for, and so hasten the time when God's Divine Will shall be done on earth as in heaven.

(To be continued).

INTERESTING WEDDING CEREMONY AT RAWTENSTALL.

On September 5th, at the Unitarian Church, Rawtenstall, a very pretty wedding ceremony took place. The contracting parties being Miss Margaret Dewhurst, of Rawtenstall, and Mr. Herbert Birchall, of Oldham. The Revd. Roslyn Davis conducted an impressive service. Miss May Mansfield and Miss Annie Long acted as bridesmaids; the Misses Nellie Whitaker and Florrie Stansfield acting as maids of honour, and Masters Arthur Harrison (aged 4), of Manchester, and Jack Eldridge, of Rawtenstall, acting as page boys. Mr. James Chamberlain, of Manchester, acted as best man. As the bride entered the church, leaning on the arm of Mr. Henry Stansfield, the organ pealed forth Mendelssohn's Wedding March. The bride was neatly attired in a cream dress, trimmed with silk lace, and wore a black picture hat, and carried a bouquet of red roses, the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids were neatly attired in pale blue dresses, trimmed with cream lace, and wore black picture hats. The maids of honour were neatly attired in cream dresses, and wore wreaths and veils, each carrying a bouquet of sweet peas, the gift of the bridegroom. The little page boys were beautifully attired in cream suits. The organist of the church played suitable selections during the service. After high-class tea was partaken of at the bride's home, a reception was held at the Co-operative Assembly Rooms, Rawtenstall, after which a very enjoyable evening was spent. The newly married pair were the recipients of many valuable and useful presents, from a large number of relatives and friends, who witnessed the ceremony, and were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mansfield, host and hostess at the bride's home, 291, Burnley-road, Rawtenstall.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES (Silver Street).—On September 18th we had our yearly meeting, when the following officers were elected:—Conductor, Mr. C. Harrison; assistant conductor, Mr. Heslop; secretary, R. Brown. Our new officers are:—Guardian of groups, R. Brown; leaders, Mrs. Makin, Mrs. Brittle, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Commiss, Miss A. Heslop, L. Jones and Mr. Heslop. Guards: Mr. Kendrew, Master T. Brown, A. Sidebottom and J. Myers. We have had a very successful year, and had four new Lyceumists to enroll on Sunday, September 20th. We have also elected four ladies as sick visitors, and seven Lyceumists have volunteered to push the sale of the BANNERS, and now we are looking forward to a more successful year.—R. Brown, Secretary.

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE.

Adopted as the Official Organ of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, May, 1891.

Transferred to the above Union, as a Free Gift by the Founder, May, 1902.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, *Editor.*

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OCTOBER, 1908.

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

Owing to November 1st falling on the Sunday, we shall have to go to press earlier in order to have the LYCEUM BANNER delivered in time to be on sale on November 1st. Will Lyceum Secretaries please note and send on all reports not later than Wednesday, October 21st?

Lancaster Lyceum now meets in a large and beautiful hall in Gage Street. Their numbers have increased, the sessions having acquired a new interest, and a feeling of enthusiasm pervades the session, from the conductor, through the officers and rank and file, that I have never experienced before.

I experienced the reverse of these pleasing conditions on visiting the Leeds Psycho. Lyceum. There has been a great falling off of interest on the part of the elders, with its marked effect on the children. A strong appeal was made to the audience, both afternoon and evening, to rally round the Lyceum standard and work with a united effort to win back the same amount of success that characterised it a few years ago. It can be done. It only needs workers to WIN!

The following figures will be of interest to Lyceum officers and elder members. Our numbers are not so large as these, but they are on the *increase*:—The annual returns of the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School Union, which are about to be issued, show that there are now 7,570 Wesleyan schools, with 132,201 officers and teachers, and 990,264 scholars. Seventy new schools have been opened and sixty-six closed during the past year. Six districts—Liverpool, Whitby and Darlington, Hull, Exeter, Scotland, and First London—report increases of 1,455, while the remaining twenty-nine districts report decreases of 12,010, making the net decrease 10,555. Following the losses of last year, these returns are regarded as unsatisfactory, and improved methods, leading to increased interest and more efficient oversight, are to be adopted.

My poor LYCEUM BANNER; I mourn it with a sigh;
Last Sunday when I bought it, a friend was standing
by:

Forthwith the book he borrowed, to be returned that
night;

And since that very moment it ne'er has blessed my
sight.

He lent it to his cousin, and she enjoyed it so,
She lent it to a neighbour, who kept it on the go,

And lent it to her brother, who lent it to his girl,

Who lent it to her teacher, who kept it on the whirl.

She lent it to a nephew, who lent it to a friend,

Who lent it to a workmate, and, oh! where will it
end?

Throughout the maddening business one hope alone
I see,

May be, in all the lending, it may be lent to me!

The Lyceums in the Birmingham District will be glad to learn that Mrs. Emily K. Morgan, of Pleck, near Walsall, has kindly consented to fill the post of District Visitor for the Birmingham District. We trust her services will meet with appreciation and be blessed with success.

Our readers who took advantage of our note in our August issue and sent birthday greetings to our venerable friend Dr. Andrew Jackson Davis, will be glad to read the following lines from the good Doctor:—

"From far away over the bosom of the ocean I received a large flock of birthday greetings—they came in letters and on beautiful cards, like so many carrier doves—singing and winging, and bringing lively congratulations from loyal Lyceumists of different ages, varying from 13 years to near 70, imparting sentiments of profound appreciation for the CHILDREN'S PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM, and for the deep and lasting benefits received.

"BAD wishes are like night hawks, or vultures, producing disease, and increasing human UN-happiness.

"On the other hand, GOOD wishes (such as I received from England and America) are like loving doves, or like the charming birds of paradise, imparting affectionate influences of hope, and health, and happiness. My loving associate and helper, Mrs. Della E. Davis, joins me in heartiest love and good wishes to each and all.

"Dr. Andrew Jackson Davis.

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND.

Contributions received:—Mr. J. W. Thompson, 2/-; Mr. Kitson's services, at Lancaster and Leeds Psycho, 10/-; Mr. Keeling's services, at Manchester (Ford Lane, Pendleton), 5/-.

The time has arrived to notify all Lyceums and subscribers for their annual subscriptions to the above fund. Circulars will be issued as usual, which, I hope, will be acknowledged by the various secretaries accompanied by a generous response before Dec. 31st.

Sincerely yours,

JESSY GREENWOOD,
Ash Leigh, Hebden Bridge.

Bluebell Guild.

OBJECT: To promote Gentleness, Kindness, and Good Behaviour. Membership is open to all. *

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS,

We are all interested in pet animals and birds, and I am sure the following story of how a cat saved the life of the pet canary will both interest and please you.

THE HOUSE-PUSSY'S ARTFULNESS.

It was the good fortune of a lady to have a cat and a canary to both of which she was much attached. The canary lodged in her bedroom, and was often allowed to fly about the room, the cat being shut out. One morning the cat was allowed to remain in the room, and, to the lady's astonishment, she saw the canary perch on its back without any fear, and greatly to pussy's delight. Afterwards she allowed the two pets to play together. One day, however, she got a bad fright, for pussy gave a growl, seized the bird in her mouth, jumped on to the bed, and shewed all the signs of anger. The canary was looked upon as dead. But there was a reason for pussy's conduct. A stray cat had come into the room, the door of which had been left ajar, and this was the house-pussy's way of saving her friend. As soon as the stranger was driven out the canary was released.

I hope none of my Bluebells gets cross over their evening or home lessons. If so, the following game may teach them the value of sums, as it did little Winston. It will also serve as an interesting game during the long dark nights of winter.

NUMBER WHEEL.

There was a big frown right between Winston's eyes and a piece of paper lying on a pudgy knee, with an arithmetic underneath. He was "doing sums"!

He was six years old, and he could beat Marjorie every time at tenpins, but studying was different.

"I just don't like these old figures, standing up here so still, and they won't tell me a thing"!

Marjorie sat by with a story-book. She was twelve, and was Winston's cousin, who has come with her mamma up from the country. She knew many funny games that Winston had never known. Now when she heard the wail in the little boy's voice, she said, as she drew her chair up to his:

"Oh, let's play 'number wheel'!"

"Now," said Marjorie, "we draw a circle for the wheel, a little circle in the middle for the hub, and then fill in the spokes, nine of them. Next, in the spaces between the spokes, we put in numbers, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, skipping about so they won't be in regular order, and in the little hub we put the big number, 10. Now we're all ready, except each of us needs a tally-sheet with our names at the top," she said.

Winston was enthusiastic by this time, and laboriously writing Edward Winston Brown across the top of his sheet, while Marjorie Davis appeared in a neat little script at the top of Marjorie's sheet.

"Now," said Marjorie, "I'll play first to shew you

how. See, I hold my pencil point down, way above the wheel, close my eyes tightly, whirl the pencil in teeny little circles for a minute, and then come down with the point on the circle—and I do hope I'll get in the hub on ten"! she almost squealed, as she opened her eyes when the pencil had landed; but it came between the spokes, and she only got four. The pencil made a dot where she put it down, so when it was lifted they could see right where it went. She put four down on her tally-sheet. Then it was Winston's turn.

He "squinted" up his eyes just as Marjorie told him, and taking his pencil, held it above the wheel, whirled it round, and would you believe it—landed it on the hub and got ten the first thing! Well, he had to dance up and down before he could put it on his tally-sheet.

They played twice each, and then added them up to see who had beat; and it was funny, but the figures seemed to tell Winston quicker than they ever had before just what two of them put together made, and by the time they had played a few days they could each take ten turns before they added up to see who beat, and Winston could add up the long row of figures almost as quickly as Marjorie could. Then they put in bigger numbers, making the hub 100.

By the time Marjorie went home Winston said adding up figures was just fun—"they tell you what they are soon's you look at them. Hurrah for the old number wheel"!—Your loving Sister, FLORA BELLE.

A TRIBUTE OF LOVE TO ANDREW JACKSON DAVIS.

To dear Andrew Jackson Davis!

Name to our hearts most dear!

Let us send our love, dear children,

To our brother, friend, and seer.

On the sweet-faced man on our badges

Let our love-thoughts linger awhile,

Let our thoughts go out to the dear one

With his loving, cheery smile.

How shall we frame our message

To him whom the angels taught

How shall we voice our love-thoughts

For all the good he has wrought?

Suppose we write him a letter—

Write it in letters of gold,

We'll say, "Dear friend of the children—

Of children both young and old.

Come listen to the message

We would in love unfold,

Over the land and ocean,

From the hearts of young and old.

Bearing our love,—the children's,

Who profit from what you've given,

Of the angels' mode of teaching

The little ones in heaven.

In intercourse with the angels,

May you ever blessings find,

May the peace which passeth knowledge,

Ever fill your heart and mind.

This is the prayer of the children,

Offered up on England's shore.

May the angels bless A. J. Davis

For ever and evermore!

MRS. E. K. MORGAN, Walsall.

Temperance Page.

THE NEWCASTLE BYE-ELECTION.

I am writing these notes from the great industrial city on the Tyne, at a time when its deepest depths are being sounded by a fiercely contested parliamentary election. It would be hard to say just how many organisations are arrayed before the people, how many voices are clamouring together in the babel of *al fresco* eloquence. The ministerial candidate is asking for a continuance of Liberal confidence; the Conservative candidate is canvassing his infallible remedy for unemployment—Fiscal Reform; the Socialist is condemning them both; the Suffragettes are crying out for development of the franchise; Mr. Hunnabell is providing the low comedy business.

But, amid the din, the thoughtful citizen cannot fail to discover a plain issue, and ere the readers of the BANNER do me the honour of perusing these humble paragraphs, the country will have heard what Newcastle men think in respect of this great contest. The question before the electors here is: Shall reforms be encouraged—temperance, housing, employment, education—or shall they be passed by? I have been interested in the earnest pleas made by all sections of lovers of progress and enlightenment, true patriots with an imperialism as wide as the world, but perhaps in none more than in those of the brave men who have pledged themselves, regardless of other party ties, to see the present licensing Bill through.

Perhaps one of the most powerful of the many arguments which have been adduced to prove that Mr. Asquith's is truly a measure of reform, is the simple statistical one of temperance support. The temperance problem has been approached from a great many sides by a great many minds. It is inconceivable then, that suggestions which find favour with the advocates of all shades of temperance conviction should not be essentially good. I think I am right in saying that no organisation opposed to the liquor trade, with the exception of the well-intentioned but misguided abolition party, wishes to-day to stand in the way of the Bill's progress through Parliament. Some societies, especially those under the wing of Nonconformity, would like to have seen more drastic proposals. They think, and many of us heartily agree, that the Government propose to show themselves too lenient towards an evil and demoralising trade, but realising that the Bill makes for improvement, the Radical wing of the abstinence party are too wise to refuse a part simply because they are forbidden the whole. Teetotalers have recognised throughout the prolonged discussion of this measure that it lays no claims to be better spoken of than as a "sober nation Bill." It achieves its ends when local option is brought to the people, and when the nation has materially reduced its horrible and disgraceful annual drink account. It does not pretend to make every man wear the blue ribbon or stump the country on a prohibition crusade. At the same time it does rouse hopes in the hearts of us who are total abstainers, that, after we have shut the

doors of 30,000 drink shops, the national conscience will soon demand the closing of 30,000 more. We see in moderate provisions the possibility of the achievement of abolitionist ideals.

Before adding any further remarks on behalf of the Licensing Bill of 1908, I should like to reply to an argument freely used by interested members of the "Trade," and one not unheard from the lips of temperance men. It is contended that a statutory reduction of licenses will not lessen the amount of drinking in our midst, but will only bring more custom to the remaining houses. This charge is not only denied by reason, but also by experience gained in our own and foreign countries. Responsible committees and commissions have advocated less drinking facilities as a sound principle in the furtherance of temperance, and the results which have followed the stringent action of licensing justices in many towns fully justify the policy of restriction. The Trade's opposition rests on the established fact that a reduction in licenses does not greatly improve matters for the remaining houses. When a public house is closed, its custom is transferred not so much to the nearest public house as to the nearest place of amusement, or else more money finds its way home and into healthy circulation. Those houses which do actually benefit by the removal of keen competition are better houses than they were before, because their landlords have less necessity to encourage heavy drinking. Let us, for instance, suppose that six similar houses share the custom which, in the end, becomes the custom of one. Expenses are in every direction reduced to one-sixth of what they were, and whereas before the reduction, drink to the value of say £600 must be sold in that district if each publican is to earn a living, the sum of £100 for the same district keeps the last survivor secure. It is evident to every reasonable man that when a sum of £600 has to be raised in any community, much more strenuous effort will be put forward than when the levy is £100. There will be many more enticements to drink, many more attractions in the public house, many more cases of heavy drinking and drunkenness. In this connection it should be remembered that the process of statutory reduction will also be a weeding out process. It implies not only a reduction in the number of licensed premises, but, in addition, an improvement in the average type of house. If our friends are going to tell us that the elimination of 30,000 of the worst public houses in our land will be fruitless, we reply that they are passing the bounds of common-sense, for the most ardent teetotaler would rather see the present evil concentrated in reputable houses than in a greater number of godless drinking-dens.

We rejoice at this Bill, most especially because it promises a return to the people of the right which always ought to have remained theirs, and because it will give to them an opportunity of saying "No!" to the encroachments of the Trade. No other trade has had the advantage of monopoly in the sense enjoyed by the liquor trade; it is to the public that the granting of that monopoly should belong. No trade has such potentialities for evil as the liquor trade; it is the public's right to restrict the influence upon itself which the consumption of alcohol can exercise.

But Local Option is a means to an end. History

shows that Local Option is the road to State Prohibition. The people will come to see that we can be richer, happier, more efficient individually and nationally if we will cast the drink burden aside for ever. What has been true for America will be true for England. Let us do all in our power to help on a Bill which offers us Local Option, which saves the children, and throws down the gage to the most successful enemy of progress, liberty and love the world has ever known.

Lesson Plan for Oct., 1908.

By JESSY GREENWOOD.

SESSION PROGRAMME.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	S.C.R.	M.R.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
Oct. 4	361	14	203	106	387
" 11	371	27	202	119	392
" 18	381	94	211	122	370
" 25	391	13	212	142	363

PEARLS.

- Oct. 4th—"In ordinary life kindness and simplicity are valued far more than brilliance."
—A. C. Benson.
- " 11th—"Such as are thy habitual thoughts, such also will be the character of thy mind."
—Marcus Aurelius.
- " 18th—"You cannot cut the edges off truth or clip the wings of conscience."
- " 25th—"Truth cannot die; try to bury it and it will rise again with re-doubled power."
—Charles Kingsley.

LESSON PHOTOGRAMS.

- Oct. 4th. See *Manual 106*.
- I. Definitions. (a) *Spirit*—Breath, hence an Immaterial intelligent being, as the soul of man.
—Webster.
- (b) *Destiny*—ultimate fate.
- (c) *Ascension*—rising.
- (d) *Retarded growth*—delayed or hindered
- (e) *Progression*—act of moving forward.
- (g) *Acquisition*—gaining.
- II. Divisions—
- | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|-----------------|------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| Life is | { | 1. Active | } and with | | | |
| | | 2. Social | | } Death forms | | |
| | | 3. Retributive | | | } beautiful | |
| | | 4. Constructive | | | | } links in the |
| | | 5. Progressive | | | | |
| | } less being. | | | | | |
- III. 1. The characteristics of a Spiritual Life. (See answer *Manual*).
2. The result of retarded growth, when and where seen, and how we arrive at the knowledge relating to the condition of such in spirit life.
3. Summary of the Lesson.

Oct. 11th. *Manual 119*.

- I. Define Pride, Ignorance, Anger.
- II. Show the results of these in everyday life, and the need of education to eliminate these vices, and dwell on the effects of war and all its ugliness through ignorance,

- III. Summarize the lesson so as to ensure the children grasp the subject, and strive to impress them with the slavery of ignorance, etc., and the need of as much knowledge as they can get, and how to get it in the evening schools and attendance at the technical classes, etc.

Oct. 18th. *Manual 122*.

- Liberty
Equality—a Trinity of Right.
Fraternity

LESSON HINTS.

Emphasize that portion of the reading which deals with the right of every man to act as he thinks is right, PROVIDING, etc.

Show the unreasonableness of condemning others because they do not believe as you believe, or offer different opinions; and what a pretty thing tolerance is, the great need of it in debates, in fact everywhere—how it could prevent a good deal of the friction manifest in Lyceums and Societies.

Draw attention to the opportunities offered to young people to educate themselves, and press home the great need of a good education as a refiner and promoter of character and standing in the world, and the sesame to equality in every rank of life. Mention men and women who have risen to prominence because of their determined effort to equip the mind. Fraternal, from the word frater—brother, the pass word of all progressive minds and the quick sympathy of the pioneer which fills him with concern for the well-being of his fellows. Show by simple illustrations in home life who is truly fraternal by such signs as a mother sees, etc.

Talk about conscience and its relation to right and wrong—its definite indicator to the mind and the sure effects of disobedience to it.

Refer to Duty in the reading to press the lesson closer.

The completion of its law is wisdom. Wisdom points the way to advancement, progress and reform, and the guardian angels are justice and tolerance; liberty and duty; equality and individuality; fraternity and wisdom.

(Let these be committed to memory).

Oct. 25th. *Manual 142*.

- I. The Aim.
II. Its attainment.
III. The ultimate of Spiritualness.
IV. Summary of Lesson.

In Memoriam.

GATESHEAD.—It is with deep regret that I record the passing on of our Musical Conductor, Miss Lizzie McLeod, on September 20th, at the age of 20 years. She was one who took a great interest in Lyceum work, and was esteemed and loved by all who knew her for her many good qualities. To know her most was to love her best. Her mortal remains were interred at Gateshead Cemetery on September 23rd, when a great number of friends and Lyceumists walked in the funeral procession. A beautiful wreath, as a token of our

deepest sympathy was sent by the Lyceum, also one from the parent society and one from the choir. The service at the graveside was conducted by Mr. Lashbrook, whose remarks made a deep impression on the friends who had gathered together to pay their last tribute of respect to the earthly remains of our beloved friend and companion. The Lyceumists and choir sang by request at her home, "Truth of Ages," and at the grave side, "Lead Spirits Bright," and her favourite hymn, "Rest for thee at Home." We beg to tender our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. McLeod and family.—W. HALL, Hon. Sec.

GLASGOW (Waterloo Street).—It is with very deep sorrow that I announce the passing on of another of our young men—Robert R. Graham. Since June no less than three of our number have passed over as a result of nature's worst disease—consumption. The names and characters of John R. Hutchinson, John Guild, and Robert R. Graham will ever be remembered in connection with the work of this Lyceum.—A. S. GUILD.

HUCKNALL.—I am sorry to report the passing on of Joseph Wm. Butlin, aged 21 years. The body was interred at the Cemetery on August 27th, Mr. F. Cooper, our conductor, officiating; a large number of Spiritualists and friends being present. Suitable hymns were sung at the chapel and the graveside. Our arisen brother has been a Spiritualist for a number of years, before there was a society at Hucknall. He had no gifts to boast of, but was a quiet, steady worker, and was the means of his parents embracing Spiritualism.—MARY A. COX, Sec.

KEIGHLEY (Heber Street).—In loving memory of Maggie, daughter of Vincent and Louie Teal, late of Keighley, who passed over on January 10th, aged 16 months, and was interred at the Oaklands Cemetery, Philadelphia, U.S.A., on January 13th, 1908. And also Nellie Teal, daughter of the above, who passed over the border line on August 25th, and was interred at the above Cemetery on August 29th. Late Lyceumist of Heber Street, Keighley.—E. SHACKLETON.

MR. PERCY NIELD (Bombay, India).—The many friends of Mr. Percy Nield, formerly of Bolton, will be surprised to learn of his sudden departure to spirit life as the result of a severe attack of malarial fever contracted in Bombay. The demise occurred on Tuesday, September 1st, and was reported by cable to Mrs. Nield, who was on the point of leaving for India to join her husband. Last year our friend left home to take up an important position in Bombay, and so successfully did he meet the requirements of his employers, that they voluntarily doubled his salary before a year had expired. Mr. Nield had interested a number of people whom he had met in Bombay in Spiritualism, and was on the eve of forming a Society when illness overtook him. He was well known in Bolton formerly as a most ardent worker alike in the Lyceum and the Society. Highly respected by a wide circle of friends and co-workers, his sudden departure will evoke extended sympathy for his widow. A man of sterling integrity and unbounded enthusiasm, he was a type of earnest workers of whom we can spare none.—Vide *The Two Worlds*.

WEDDING AT NORTH ST. CHURCH, BURNLEY. PEARSON—COLES.

A quiet, yet impressive ceremony took place in the above Church at 8-5 a.m., on Monday, the 14th of September, when Mr. Reuben Pearson and Florence Harriet Coles, both of Colne, were united in wedlock. Mr. Frank Hepworth, of Blackburn, conducted the service. Mr. J. W. Coles, father of the bride, and the oldest Spiritualist worker in Colne, gave the bride away. Hearty congratulations were accorded the newly-wedded pair by a small group, consisting of officials of the Church and friends who witnessed the ceremony. The bride was attired in a lovely cream satin gown, with a beautiful picture hat to match. A large spray of birtle and white heather adorned the dress. The bridesmaid, Miss Ada Hartley, niece of the bride, was sweetly attired in a lovely costume befitting the occasion. The bride and bridegroom, accompanied by Mr. J. W. Coles, entrained at Burnley, at 10-15, *en route* for London, where the honeymoon will be spent.

A pleasing and novel feature of the service was the reading of the following Acrostic Poem, written for the occasion by Mr. Hepworth, and presented to the bride at the conclusion of the service.

Reciprocate the loving vow,
Expressed by each of you to-day,
Undaunted ever be as now;
Bright angels ever guard your way.
Engage in every good pursuit,
Nor let your energies decrease:

Aspire to gather life's sweet fruit,
Ne'er let your sterling efforts cease.
Do not forget that if you tread

Firmly along the road of life,
Lovingly guided, loving led;
Oft will you banish pain and strife.
Remember those whose love sincere
Ever inspired you in youth;
Nor let their blessed spirits dear
Cease to prevail in ways of Truth.
Ever be striving to secure

Happiness as ye move along,
Agreeing that you will endure
Reverses, that shall make you strong.
Robust and healthy may you be
In all life's battles here on earth
Earnestly striving, so that ye
Tangibly realise your worth.

Pray that each day you may be found
Evolving some new thought of good,
And thus may love and joy abound;
Reflected in your every mood.
Sweet are these wishes, may they prove
Often rich blessings as ye move
Nearer, each day, the Haven of Love.

(CORR.)

BIRTH.—On September 25th, Mrs. Ernest A. Keeling, Liverpool, of a fine daughter. Both baby and its mother are doing well.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

A Propaganda Meeting will be held in the Spiritual Church, Elliott Street, Oldham, on Sunday, Oct. 11th, at 6-30 p.m., when members of the Executive Council will address the meeting. The chair will be occupied by Mr. Ernest A. Keeling, President; supported by Mr. J. J. Bennett, Vice-President; Mr. Councillor John Venables, Treasurer; and the members of the Executive Council. Friends in the surrounding district are heartily invited to attend and make the occasion a big success.

Lyceum open sessions will be held at 10 a.m. and 2-30 p.m., in which members of the Executive Council will take part. Collections in aid of expenses incurred.

A Sandwich Tea and Social will be held on the Saturday, October 10th, in honour of the visit of the Executive Council. Tea on the tables at 4-30 p.m. prompt. Tickets: Adults 1/-; Children 8d. Friends in the surrounding district are cordially invited to attend in order to give the Executive Council a hearty welcome.

JOHN FROST, Lyceum Sec.
ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

NOTE.—All Reports are liable to be disqualified that do not conform to the following Rules:—

RULE 1.—Reports must be written on one side of the paper only. Commence the Report by stating the name of your Lyceum, and sign your name at the end.

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring since September 25th.

RULE 3.—No Lyceum Report must exceed 120 words.

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than Wednesday, the 21st of October, to ensure insertion in the November issue.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (Burlington Street).—On Sunday, September 6th, we held our usual monthly open session, when golden chains, musical reading, and silver chains were well responded to. The marching and calisthenics were fairly good, but might be improved with a little more variety. Readings were given by the following members: Miss Eldon, Miss S. J. Dransfield, Mr. Martin, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Harrington Buck. The guild of workers has re-opened for the winter sessions, and promises very favourably for a good time.—Abraham France, Secretary.

BATLEY CARR (Carr Street).—Our sessions during the past month have fully maintained their interest. Both officers and scholars were pleased to welcome home our Conductor, Miss Lizzie Mortimer, from her three months' visit to America. There was a feeling of disappointment when it was learned she had been unable to visit Mr. A. J. Davis, or any of the American Lyceums. The Lyceum members are preparing a splendid programme for the annual tea and entertainment, on Saturday, November 7th, when we hope to have a record attendance. Tickets: adults 6d., children 4d. Tea on the tables at 5 p.m. prompt.

BIRMINGHAM (Saltley).—On Sunday, September 13th, we had a very pleasant Lyceum session. We had a short, but very interesting address from Mr. F. O'Connor, on "Art, literature and science." Our Conductor, Mr. Burroughs, gave an interesting and instructive lesson to the children. On Sunday, September 20th, we held our usual open session, silver and golden chain recitations being well responded to. During the musical reading the Conductor called on the younger Lyceumists to read the Conductor's parts, which were ably rendered. Recitations and solos were also rendered.—Frederick Chew, Hon. Secretary.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On September 5th we had the opening of the winter season, when an excellent social was given. Sunday, September 20th, we had our harvest festival when Mr. Mayoh, of Bolton, was our speaker for the day. On Monday, September 21st, the usual fruit banquet was held, when about 140 Lyceumists and friends gathered together and a most enjoyable and excellent social was held, songs being given by Misses Barnes and Bertha Waddilove, who also rendered a duet. Mr. Callis rendered his songs in an excellent manner and for which he was deservedly encored. A lady visitor also rendered a song. Games and dancing followed. The committee desire to express their best thanks to all who made it a success.—John Flanagan, Secretary.

BRADFORD (Blanche Street).—We held our open session on Sunday, September 6th, on the occasion of our harvest festival. The usual programme of marching, etc., was gone through, conducted by Mr. Hargreaves, when the following took part:—Recitations were given by Frank Merrill and Elsie Fallen; Solos were rendered by Misses E. Kneeshaw, L. Batty, E. A. Farrer, and Mr. Manchester. We had a very good attendance, and a very successful session. We intend celebrating the opening of this Lyceum on Sunday, October 11th. All the officers are very earnest in their work for the Children's Cause, and we are making steady progress.—H. Hargreaves.

BRADFORD, DUDLEY HILL (Tong Street).—September 6th. Our open session was good and harmonious. The following took part: Pianoforte solo, Mr. Squire Kitcheman; solos, Messrs H. Raw, R. Platts and J. W. Garrod; recitation, Master H. Platts; readings, Miss M. Worsman, L. Raw, H. Brearley, Masters A. Dennison, H. Platts and W. H. Horsfall. Accompanist, Mr. Squire Kitcheman.—Henry Barnes, Sec.

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—Our annual outing was to Saddlescombe, where we proceeded by brakes. Games of various kinds were enjoyed. Sunday, 30th, Professor Severn delivered another of his interesting lectures. Mr. J. P. Blackford and Bart Kennedy gave short addresses. Mr. Fredk. Fletcher also spoke. Sunday, 6th—We welcomed Miss Flankees, our conductor, back from her holiday. Group teaching as usual. 13th—Professor Severn lectured on "Heads, their shape and development," showing the possibility of enlarging the head and our scope of utility by cultivating our mental faculties. 20th—Visit from Mr. Bushby, of New Zealand, bearing messages of love from our comrades over the sea, which we heartily reciprocate.—Frank G. Clarke, Sec.

BURY (off Paradise Street).—We held our band of hope social on September 5th. Songs, recitations, games and dancing were enjoyed by the 70 or 80 persons present. An enjoyable evening was spent. On Sunday, September 20th, we held our harvest festival. A tasteful display of the earth's produce of vegetables, fruits and flowers. Lyceumists present, 45 and 35 (morning and afternoon) out of a register of 102. A fair attendance considering the weather, which was drenchingly wet.—Wm. Fletcher, Assist. Sec.

CLAYTON-LE-MOORS (Victor Street).—We held our open session on September 6th, when we had a very good session all through, being favoured with a duet by Mr. and Miss S. Smith, entitled "God's blessing." The words had been received from the spirit world by Miss S. Smith. The Lyceum song, "Joybells," was also sung at the request of a spirit friend. Musical reading conducted by Miss N. Smith.—Mr. J. Simpson, Secretary.

DAISY HILL.—I am pleased to report our election of officers has taken place with the following result:—Conductor, Alfred Hayward; assistant, Frank Price; treasurer, Sarah Hope; secretary, James Hope; leaders, Amy Clark and James Hope; guardians, Sarah Hope and James Hewlett. I hope the above will try to work harmoniously together for the spiritual improvement of the above Lyceum.—James Hope, Secretary.

DEARNLEY.—Sunday, September 6th, was our pleasant Sunday morning. After marching and calisthenics we had a good number of pearls, which were very interesting; also a few recitations. At night we held our open session, when we had a good turn up of scholars and friends. The following contributed to the evening's enjoyment: Trio by Mr. A. Shore, Walter Leach and Miss Hout. Miss Edisson sang "The roses of life," from the Manual, with good effect. On Saturday, September 12th, we and Regent Hall, Rochdale, Lyceumists had a good ramble round the lake and then went to the room for tea, and had a good social evening together, which was well enjoyed.—T. Pinchbeck, Secretary.

DERBY (Charnwood Street).—Open session and a very good

attendance, which included several visitors. Miss Holmes spoke a few encouraging words to two of our young Lyceumists who were with us for the last time previous to going to America, a Lyceum badge being given to each. Three new members were enrolled. September 20th—A Lyceum Badge was presented to the most attentive scholar in each group. Mr. Holt, of Leicester, kindly giving money for same. The recipients were as follows: Sea Group, Mabel Coulson; River Group, Bertie Berry; Stream Group, Edith Pope; Fountain Group, Bobby Fricker. The officers have decided to give four more badges for attention and attendance during the coming month.—Ethel Lees, Secretary.

DUKINFIELD.—We held our quarterly session on September 6th. There was a good attendance both of scholars and friends. Readings were ably rendered by Mr. Beacon, Mr. Martin, Masters Arthur Beacon, F. Ridgway, H. Thorpe, W. Grayson, Misses C. Hattersley, A. Hattersley, E. Grayson, and Pryor. Solo by Mr. Martin. Marching and calisthenics very good. Mr. Tom Radcliffe was the speaker, and in the afternoon addressed the scholars and complimented them on their reciting, singing, reading and discipline, and explain the aim and object of the Lyceum work. We shall be pleased to have him with us again.—J. White, Sec. *pro. tem.*

DUNDEE (Barrack Street).—After a vacation of a few weeks our Lyceum was again opened on the 6th September. There was a very good attendance of teachers and scholars, many new names being added to our register. We are looking forward to a visit of the Scottish District Visitor, in the person of Mr. A. Cowie, of Glasgow. We trust that he will find great satisfaction in our work, which we have all so much at heart especially our good Conductor, Mr. Clark.—James Inglis, junr., Secretary.

GLASGOW (Waterloo Street).—The work in this Lyceum goes on very smoothly. About this time a marked improvement is noticed in the attendance, owing to the close of the holiday season, and it is hoped that we will do better work than ever this winter. Our summer rambles finished with the month of September, and we are at present considering how we can best entertain the Lyceumists throughout the coming winter.—A. S. Guild, Secretary.

GREAT HARWOOD (off Westwell Street).—We held our open session on September 12th. The silver chain was led by Mr. Thornley. The musical reading was led by Miss Mary A. Holt, Miss Agnes Holderness and Mr. Thornley. The golden chain was led by Mr. Thornley. Recitations were given by Miss Nora Wrigley and Master Arthur Holt. Solos were given from the Manual by Misses Doris Baxter, Louisa Holt and Alice Bailey. Duets were given by Misses Mary A. Holt, Elsie Waring, Elizabeth, Alice and Elsie Waring.—Mary A. Holt, Secretary.

HEYWOOD (William Street).—The harvest festival services were held in the Spiritualist Temple, William Street, on Sunday, September 6th. Miss Hibbert, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was the speaker. The choir rendered two anthems, "I will life up mine eyes" and "Daughter of Zion." Miss E. A. Pollitt sang beautifully "Beyond the gates of paradise." There were large congregations during the day. Mr. J. Holt was the conductor. The Lyceum children sang two special hymns from the Lyceum Manual. Mr. S. L. Mason, A.P.N.C.M. presided at the organ. On Monday evening a fruit banquet was held. Mr. Chadwick, of Bury presided, and an enjoyable evening was spent.—Herbert Clod, Secretary.

HUDDERSFIELD (St. Peter's Street).—On September 6th we held our monthly open sessions. The singing and recitations were done very well. There were recitations by Alice Hirst, entitled "The Farmyard," and one by Lucy Smith, entitled "Do your duty." There were readings by Mr. Massheder and Mrs. Burton. There was a solo by Mr. Wallis, and one by Mrs. Blackburn, and a duet by Miss Brandon and Miss Brook. The marching and calisthenics were done very well.—Mona Barrow, Secretary.

JOHANNESBURG.—We held a pleasant tea party and social last Saturday. Games and dances were indulged in, and much enjoyed. During the evening prizes were given as follows:—For attendance three prizes were awarded to Minnie Horne, Amy Horne and Lily Horne. There were four medals given for calisthenics: two juniors and two seniors. The juniors were won by Louis Gott, 1st prize, and Solviog Mortensen, 2nd prize. The seniors by Gracie Milligan, 1st prize, and Hildebrand Milligan, 2nd prize. There were also two special prizes given. One to Miss Mildred Horne, as leader of the Lyceum, a silver-backed hair brush; and Miss Winifred Back, for

calisthenics. The evening passed away too quickly.—Gladys Back, Scholar.

KEIGHLEY (Heber Street).—We held our usual monthly open session on Sunday, September 13th, when the Liberty Group provided the programme; Mr. J. Pollard, conducted. Songs were given by M. A. Midgley and Mr. J. Teal. A reading by Miss A. Fossey. Mr. A. Wilkinson, of Nelson, gave a few encouraging words to the various Lyceumists which were present. Miss Fleming, of Skipton, also spoke a few words. We had several visitors, including a few members of the Shipley Lyceum, who enjoyed the session.—E. Shackleton, Sec.

LANCASTER.—September 6th—Open session. Recitations by Alice Askew, Lizzie Askew, Mrs. Sayle; songs by Lizzie and Richard Askew; trio, the Misses and Master Walker. On September 13th, open, yet more fuller session. Welcomed visitors present, Messrs. Billsborough, Kitson and Stephenson. Remarks by Mr. Kitson as to the necessity of uniting all our efforts for the benefit of the Lyceum and its members, illustrated by the co-operative movements of to-day. Recitations, Lizzie Askew and Mrs. Sayle; songs, duets and trios by Miss Fisher, Mrs. Jewitt and Mrs. Atkinson, the Misses and Master Walker. A most enjoyable and helpful Lyceum day.—J. Sayle.

LEEDS (Bethel Street).—Our Lyceumists and parents to the number of 58 journeyed to Scarborough on September 19th. A saloon was engaged for our convenience. The weather was beautiful. The Scarborough friends kindly placed their church at our disposal, for which we are very grateful. The time was spent in the usual way, fishing, boating, donkey rides, etc. The train left at 9-10 p.m. for the return journey, arriving in Leeds well pleased, but tired, after a very enjoyable trip.—H. Wood, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Queen Street).—This Lyceum is still progressing. On Sunday, September 6th, we gave the service of song, entitled "In heaven's name." Miss N. Newcombe, our Assistant Conductor was the reader. The hymns and solos were well rendered by the Lyceumists before a very good attendance of members and friends. On Sunday, September 13th, two very good addresses were given by Mr. Hunter, Conductor, and Mr. W. B. Wright. Sunday, September 20th, a very good address was given to the Lyceum by Mr. W. A. Chambers, our Liberty Group leader; recitations and solos were given by the following: Misses Breward, Baldwin, Pell, Mr. Chambers, Master Goldsmith, Master Herbert Hill at the piano.—James Bishop, Sec.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, September 6th, our Lyceum held its monthly open session, which was very satisfactory. The Lyceumists did their best in the singing and recitations, and were readily applauded by the friends present. On Sunday, September 13th, we held a Service of Song, in which the solos and duets were sung by Mrs. Rutter, Miss Beck, Mrs. Whiting, Miss M. Spratt, Miss N. Dawson, Miss D. Roberts, and Mr. Robin Cox. Mr. N. Dobby was the reader. The organist was Mrs. Richardson. It was our first attempt, and was a success. We were congratulated by our worthy chairman, Mr. Dutton.—N. Roberts, Sec.

LONDON, BATTERSEA (Henley St.).—Our Lyceum has again opened after a month's summer vacation. We have got 6 more new scholars, making a total of 76 children on our register, so we are still progressing.—Annie Sharman.

LONDON, CHISWICK (56, High Road).—Great progress has been made during the last 5 to 6 weeks, due in a great measure to the untiring efforts and endeavours of Miss Cole (Conductor), ably supported by other officers of the Lyceum, the number of members on the register has been more than doubled, and contains over 40 names. It is indeed a pleasure to the elder members to help the younger children through their lessons, and quite a large number of little girls attend the Friday night sewing and elocution class.—E. Petit, Sec.

LONDON TOTTENHAM.—On Sunday August 30th, and September 6th, Mr. Barrington gave Psychometry, which was well appreciated. On Sunday, September 13th, Mrs. Batman of Hyde; Mr. and Mrs. Matlock visited us, and a good number of the church members, which was very encouraging to the Lyceumists. Mrs. Batman spoke a few words to us, accompanied by clairvoyance, which was very interesting. On Sunday, September 20th, we had our half-yearly election of officers. The following were duly elected: Miss Turner, Conductor; Miss Ada Barnes, assistant; Mr. Barrington, Secretary; Miss Phyllis Cole, Musical Director; Miss Daisy Roche, Guardian; Miss Isabel Lightfoot, Librarian; Miss Elsie Barnes, Captain of Guards; Master Harry Stroud, assistant; Miss Ellen Barnes, Treasurer.—Ellen Barnes.

MACCLESFIELD (Cumberland St.).—On Sunday, September 20th, we had a well attended Lyceum; the silver and golden chain recitations being well responded to. There were also several good pearls given. An Auto Harp solo was rendered by Miss Eva Holland, which was very much appreciated. The marching and calisthenics were ably led by Miss E. Birch, which were fairly good. I should like to see more enthusiasm put into the marching and calisthenics. In the Liberty group a paper was read by one of the members on "Evil," which brought out several good thoughts and ideas of what is an "Evil."—Wm. Albinson, Sec.

MANCHESTER (Collyhurst).—On September 20th we held our quarterly open sessions. Very bad weather prevailed, which interfered considerably with the attendance. Afternoon session moderate attendance. Recitations by Frank Pearce, Ethel Carr, and Lavinia Pearce. Solos by Mr. Hulmes, Miss Edith Smith, and Miss E. Booth. After marching and calisthenics, Mr. T. Lawrence made a few interesting and encouraging remarks on the utility of, and necessity for physical exercise. At the evening session, the service of song, "In Heaven's Name," was rendered by the scholars. The solo parts were effectively rendered by Miss Annie Anyon, and Miss E. Waters. Mr. Horrocks, as reader, did full justice to the story, his reading of which, was all that could be desired.—J. Parkinson, Sec.

MANCHESTER (Princess Road).—On Sunday, September 20th, we held our open session anniversary. In the afternoon we had the usual Lyceum routine, including marching and calisthenics, also solos and recitations by Lyceumists. Towards the close of the session, Mr. Hepworth gave an interesting short speech, congratulating the Lyceum on its good work. In the evening solos were rendered by Miss Forrest, Miss B. Forrest and Miss Roberts. A violin solo by James J. Ianson and recitations by Norman Fitch, Miriam Hardcastle, and Eleanor Forrest. Mr. Hepworth gave an interesting address to a well packed room.—A. Cridland, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—We have opened a Band of Hope in connection with our Lyceum. Mr. Fred Robson was appointed Conductor, and Mr. John Mattock, Secretary. The first night of turned up, and since then all seem interested, and intend to make it a success. Our intention is to cultivate the young Lyceumists to prompt reciting and singing. We have a fresh speaker every meeting night. The Stockton Lyceum Leaders are helping us. Our Lyceum maintains its strength, and we are looking forward to helping the Church by making our elder scholars church members.—W. Cowell Pugh.

MOTHERWELL (Drinnan's Halls).—Sunday, 20th September, we held our first Lyceum session in our new Hall. There was a very good turn out of members and friends. The Lyceumists were all in good trim, and, what with the good display given by them at the marching and calisthenics, etc., and the able manner in which several contributed their songs and readings, the session was a very bright one indeed. The new Hall is a much more congenial meeting place than the last one, and in it we hope to achieve something, and do good work for the Cause.—Miss J. Hendry, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM (Gladstone Hall).—On September 6th, we did not hold the usual open session on this date, but paid a return visit to the Hawarden Terrace Lyceum, it being their Harvest Festival, and we were all very pleased that we went, for the address was a very nice one, and the beautiful solos by the children were all greatly appreciated.—E. H. Yates.

NOTTINGHAM, BYSON GREEN (Hawarden Terrace).—On the 6th September we held our Harvest Festival. The children took an active part in the services both afternoon and evening. They gave recitations and special items of singing, which were well appreciated by an over packed audience, several being turned away. I am pleased to give a good account of the good work in general that is being done at this Lyceum. We have had a nice number of new scholars lately, and are looking forward for more. May God, in His love, send unto us the children that we may impart unto them the glad tidings that we are immortal beings, to work eternally for our Heavenly Father.—C. E. Sharp.

PENBLETON (Ford Lane).—Sunday, August 30th, the Lyceum open sessions were well attended, there were Mr. Knight of Bolton, and the Conductor of Daisy Hill Lyceum amongst the visitors. There was a good response to the call for recitations and pearls, and the marching and calisthenics were well rendered. Mr. Keeling, President of the B.S.L.U., took part in the whole of the sessions, and also gave an address in the evening to an appreciative audience. On Sunday the 20th inst., we had a visit from the District Visitor, Mrs.

Bentley, owing to the weather being unfavourable the attendance was not up to the standard. Mrs. Bentley addressed the Lyceumists who listened with interest throughout, it was a good session.—J. Jackson, Conductor.

PRESTON (Clarke's Yard).—On September 6th we held our open session, the usual programme being gone through. Marching and calisthenics were well done. Recitations were given by the following:—Elizabeth Higginbottom, Ivy Pye, Mary Alice Margison, Annie Hornby, Bessie Coupe and Amy Coupe. A song was given by Maggie Hornby. Mr. Airey, the president of the Society, gave a few remarks on "The Family of Nations." I am pleased to say that the Lyceum is progressing favourably, and the number of scholars is still increasing. Great interest is still being taken in the Lyceum by the society officers and members. There is every prospect of a good Lyceum by the end of this year. We are having a Lyceum Day on September 27th.—Charles Fisher, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Regent Hall).—On September 6th we held our open session; speaker, Mr. Barnes, of Bury. Marching, &c., was very good, conductors being J. W. Nurse and Miss Cumberbirch. Master G. Robinshaw recited "Owd Pinder," which caused much laughter. Miss Dearden also recited. A good session all through.—J. Dean.

ROTHERHAM (Percy Street).—On Friday, September 4th, we held a re-election of officers, owing to two of our officers resigning, Mr. R. Papworth and Mrs. Geo. Bruce. The following were elected: Conductor, Mr. J. T. Smith; assistant, Mr. J. H. Barker; secretary, Mr. J. Rolfe; librarians, Master Eric Metcalf and Miss Elsie Birch; musical conductor, Miss Annie Liversidge; leaders, Miss G. Blades, Mr. R. Papworth and Mr. Charles Dalton. I may say our Parkgate friends were highly satisfied with our children on their anniversary, and I am pleased to say they are returning the compliment by coming on September 27th to help us with ours.—John Rolfe, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, ATTERCLIFFE.—On September 6th the sessions were opened by F. Smith, our junior conductor. Punctual and very good attendance at each session. Mr. Webster, the president of the society, congratulated the Lyceum on their good conduct. Several of the youngest Lyceumists gave splendid recitations. September 13th—Our Conductor and founder of the movement, Mrs. Johnson, opened the session. The readings and responses were rendered in a very creditable manner. Mr. Fulwood gave some very good object lessons. Edward Gale, one of our elder Lyceumists, recited "Only a tear." September 20th—J. K. Jones, conductor, and secretary of the society, opened the morning session. In the afternoon we held our open session and harvest festival in the Vestry Hall.—H. Bowmer, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Heeley).—On August 30th at the afternoon session Mr. Wm. Marklew, district visitor, paid us his first official visit. Mr. Porter, of Sheffield, kindly gave a paper in the Liberty Group, subject, "Spiritualistic Phenomena," which was thoroughly enjoyed by the members and the many parents and friends who were present. On September 6th we held our open session. We had a good attendance and a pleasant afternoon was spent. The following Lyceumists took part: Solo by Miss Ada Brooks; recitations by Marjory Whitworth, Mrs. Middleton, Florence Vernon, Beatrice Beardoe; and a quartette, "We are trying to follow the angels," being ably rendered by R. Oliver, R. Swindon, Miss Ada Brooks and Susan Wilson.—G. Stevenson, Secretary.

SOUTHPORT (Wright Street).—On September 4th we held our annual outing and went to Zoo Park, where games were indulged in till 4.30. Milk and cakes were then served to the Lyceumists and friends, after which boating and races ended a very happy day for all. On September 6th we held our open session in our new home as above, when Mrs. Millicent Thompson conducted the Lyceum and spoke very encouragingly to the children, who went through the programme of recitations, &c., very satisfactorily, which concluded a very enjoyable time.—Mrs. E. A. Randle, Conductor.

TODMORDEN.—We held our open session on September 6th, when the following items were nicely rendered:—Readings, "What came of picking up a pin," Miss S. Utley, and "Where there's a will there's a way," by Mr. Reuben Webb; recitations, "The skylark," by Miss Bertha Lee; hymn, "Hand in hand with angels," by Misses S. Ridgway, L. A. Braund and E. M. Lord; hymn and chorus, "Over the river," by Misses S. Stephenson, L. Sutcliffe, S. Pellow and C. Johnson; duet, "Angels lead my footsteps," by Masters R. Pellow and R. Walton; and an address by Mr. W. J. Braund on the importance of being truthful.—Wm. Clarke, Secretary.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

INSTITUTED AT OLDHAM, MAY, 1890.

Secretary: Mr. Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

Lyceum District Councils.

BRADFORD.—Secretary, Mr. H. Birdsall, 62, Dover Street, Bradford.
HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD.—Secretary, Mr. H. Peel, 13, Eleanor Street, Fartown, Huddersfield.
LEEDS.—Secretary, Mr. A. E. Beety, 2, Providence Terrace, Northgate, Wakefield.
LIVERPOOL.—Secretary, Mr. John Hope, 10, Longfield Street, New Springs, near Wigan.
MANCHESTER.—Secretary, Mr. J. C. Chappel, 45, Barrett Street, Old Trafford, Manchester.
NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE.—Mr. W. S. Stott, 1, Gladstone Terrace, Gisburn Road, Barrowford, near Nelson.
NORTH-LANCASHIRE AND CUMBERLAND.—Secretary, Mr. Thomas Lawton, 16, Dalkeith Street, Barrow-in-Furness.
ROCHDALE.—Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, 30, Whitehall Street, Rochdale.
SCOTLAND.—Secretary, Mr. Arthur S. Guild, 281, Cathedral Street, Glasgow.
SHEFFIELD.—Secretary, Mr. B. Magness, 120, Duchess Road, Sheffield.

United District Councils.

Hon. Secretary:—Mr. Robert A. Owen, 88, King's Road, Bootle, Liverpool.

List of Lyceums and Lyceum Secretaries in the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

- Accrington,** Carter-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. R. Sutcliffe, 60, Pendle Street.
Accrington, China-street, 10 a.m. Mr. J. F. Shuttleworth, 95, Hyndburn-road, Church.
Altrincham, Station-road, 2-30 p.m., Mr. J. Bardsley, 1, Daisy Bank, Bloomsbury Lane, Timperley.
Armley, Theaker-lane, 10 a.m. Mr. Sam Crabtree, 3, Abercorn Street, Armley Road, Leeds.
Ashington, 2 p.m. Miss Kate Wilson, 23, Fifth Row, Ashington, via Morpeth.
Ashton-under-Lyne, Burlington-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Abraham France, 174, Margaret Street.
Bacup, Market-street, 2 p.m. Mr. H. Salisbury, 8, Clay Street.
Barnoldswick, Market-street, 10 and 1-30. Mr. R. Ashley, 18, Stuart Street, near Colne.
Barnsley, George-yard, 10-30 and 2. Mr. C. H. Scholey, 26, Pleinheim Road.
Barrow-in-Furness, Abbey-road, 10-30 and 2. Miss F. Dobson, 28, Argyle Street.
Barrow-in-Furness, Dalkeith-street, 10 and 2. Mr. John Kendall, 31, Osborne Street.
Barry Dock, Sea View Hall, Sea View-rd., 2-30 p.m. Mrs. E. Sweetman, 27, Milward Road, Cadroxton.
Batley Carr, Carr-street, 10 and 2. Miss P. Mortimer, Holly Cottage, Staincliffe, Batley.
Belper, Jubilee-hall, 10 and 2. Mr. J. H. Hawkins, Brookside.
Birkenhead, 161, Grange-road, 11 a.m. Mr. John Parry, 60, Chester Street.
Birmingham, Martineau-street, 11 a.m. Miss F. Davis, 77, Murdoch Road, Handsworth.
Birmingham, 52, Crawford-street, Salfley, 2-45. Mr. Fredrick Chew, 27, Ellesmere Road, Alum Rock, Salfley.
Birmingham, Smeethwick, 2-30 p.m. Mr. Fred Purcell, 97, Cheshire Road, Smeethwick.
Blackburn, Northgate, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. J. McKnight, Junr., 47, Bicknell Street.
Blackburn, St. Peter Street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. Ernest Holding, 46, Sandon Street.
Blackpool, Albert-road, 9-30 a.m. Mr. William Critchlow, 69, Albert Road.
Bolton, Bradford Street, 10 a.m. Mr. John Flanagan, 97, School Hill.
Bradford, Bowling Back Lane, Blanche Street, 10 and 1-30. Mr. H. Hargreaves, 3, Kimberley St., Leeds Rd.
Bradford, Carlisle Road, Ivy Rooms, 10-30. Miss A. Kewley, 143, Barkerend Road.
Bradford, Otley-road, 10-30 a.m. Miss Edith Platt, 47, Airedale Road.
Bradford, Shirley-road, (Dudley Hill), 10 and 1-45. Mr. Henry Barnes, 61, Cutler Heights Lane.
Brighouse, Martin-street, 10 and 2. Mr. George Crowther, 19, Piggott Street.
Brownhill, High-street, 9-30 and 2 to 3. Mr. W. Yates, High Street, near Walsall.
Brighton, Manchester-street, 2-45 p.m. Mr. Frank G. Clarke, 9, St. Margaret's Place.
Burnley, Hammerton-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. Lawrence Tattersal, 26, Hornby Street.
Burnley, North-street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. Herbert E. Laycock, 16, Renshaw Street.
Burnley, Richard-street, 10 a.m. Mr. E. Andrews, 26, Duke Street, Burnley Wood.
Burton-on-Trent, Hurlinglow-wharf, 10 and 2-45. Mr. H. Brownhall, 18, Derby-road.
Bury, off Paradise-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. W. H. Golding, 94, Wood Street, Elton.
Cardiff, 58, Queen-street, 2-45 p.m. Mr. S. Harris, c/o Mr. E. Jones, 124, Habershon Street, Spottlands.
Carlisle, West-walls, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Arthur Wyatt, 2, Stainton Street, Corporation Road.
Castleford, Joseph-street, 10-15 and 1-30. Mr. A. Attack, 100, Hugh Street, Beancroft Road.
Chester, Commonhall-street, 10-30 a.m., Mr. Arthur Williams, 19, Gladstone Avenue.
Chesterfield, Old Falcon Assembly Rooms, 10-30. Mr. James Martin, 16, Valley Road, Spittal.
Clayton-le-Moors, Victor-st., 10 a.m. Mr. James Simpson, 80, Pickup Street, near Accrington.
Cleckheaton, Old-Robin-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. B. Walshaw, Listing Lane Cottages, Gomersall, near Leeds.
Colne, Cloth-hall, 10 a.m. Miss Florence Coles, Victoria House, Colne Lane.
Crewe, Mill-st., 10-30 a.m. Mr. Henry Walker, 26, Stamford-avenue.
Crompton, Rochdale-rd., 10 and 2. Mr. J. Leigh, 418, Manchester-rd., Shaw, near Oldham.
Daisy Hill, Mabel-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. James Hope, 19, Harrison Street, Atherton, near Manchester.
Darwen, Churchbank-street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. John Clarkson, 116, Red Earth Road.
Dearnley, Rochdale-road, 10 a.m. Mr. Thomas Pinchbeck, 555, Halifax Road, Small Bridge, Rochdale.
Derby, Chamwood-street, 9-45 and 2 p.m. Miss Ethel Lees, 7, Newland Street.
Dewsbury, Bond-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. Arthur Simpson, 4, Barber Street, Heightlands.
Doncaster, Temperance Hall, 10-30 a.m. Miss Hilda Hills, 42, Childer Street, Elmfield.
Doncaster, Wood-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Alfred Bates, 12, Belmont Avenue, Balby.
Dukinfield, Railway-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. White, 61, Dean-st., Trinity-square, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Dundee, Barrack-street, 12-30 a.m. Mr. James Inglis, Junr., 22, Dundonald Street, Clepington.
Dundee, Rattray-street, 12-30 a.m. Mr. James C. Dempster, Elsinore-place, 3, Hilltown.
Edinburgh, 5, Queen-street, 2-30 p.m. Mr. J. Lewington, 22, West Savile Terrace.
Elland, James-street, 10 a.m. Miss Mary A. Marsden, 82, Langdale Street.
Gateshead, Beaconsfield Hall, Coatsworth-road, 2-30. Mr. Wm. Hall, 34, Balfour Street, Bensham.
Glasgow, 230 Gt. Western-road, 4-30 p.m. Mr. Wm. Snelldon, 61, Henderson Street.
Glasgow, Govan, Paisley-road, 4 p.m. Miss M. Stronberg, 66, Oran Street, Maryhill, Glasgow.
Glasgow, Ebenezer Church, Waterloo-street, 4 p.m. Mr. A. S. Guild, 281, Cathedral Road.
Great Harwood, West Well-street, 10 a.m. Miss Mary A. Holt, 39, St. Edmund Street, near Blackburn.
Greenock, Cathcart-street, 4-30 p.m. Mr. Alex. Fraoock, 71, Ann Street.
Grimbsy, Strand-street, 10-30 and 2. Miss Daisy Scott, 75, Bullend Street, New Clew.
Hadfield, 15, Albert-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Philip Beesley, 6, Wesley Terrace, near Manchester.
Halifax, Alma-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. Fred Townsend, 4, Green Terrace Square, Savile Park.
Halifax, Raven-street, 10 and 1-30. Mr. J. Bedford, 15, Rainsgate Street, Hanson Lane.
Heaton Norris, Baker-street, 10 and 2. Mrs. J. Williams, 60, Lancaster Hill, Stockport.
Hebden Bridge, Victoria Hall, 10-30 and 1-45. Mr. H. Houlston, 15, Buttress.
Heckmondwike, Tower Street, 10-30 and 2. Mrs. Willard Lunn, 3, Commercial Street.
Heywood, William-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. Herbert Cload, Holland Street, William Street.
Higher Broughton, Hilton-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. James Tinker, 26, King Street, Higher Broughton, Manchester.
Hindley, Bridge-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. R. Barrington, 209, Sandy Lane, near Wigan.
Hollinwood, Byrom-street, 10 a.m. Mr. Fred Snape, 661, Hollins Road, near Oldham.
Horwich, Beatrice-street, 10 a.m. Mr. E. Fernihough, 52, Richmond Street, near Bolton.
Hucknall, Watnall-road, 10-30 a.m. Miss Mary A. Cox, 28, Watnall Road, Hucknall, Torkard.
Huddersfield, Ramsden-street, 10 a.m. Mr. Horace R. Millar, 5, Eleanor Street, Millhouse.
Huddersfield, St. Peter-street, 10-15 a.m. Miss Mona Barrow, Skillbeck's Yard, Lowerhead Row.
Hull, Lime-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss Amie Hopwood, 5, Beaconsfield Avenue, Cornwall Street.
Hyde, Clarendon-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Joseph Smith, 15, Queen Street.
Jarrow, Market-square, 1-32, 2 p.m. Mrs. A. Hodgson, 34, Nansen-street.
Johannesburg, 132, President street, 11 a.m. Mr. P. Cartwright, P.O. Box 6209.
Keighley, Heber-street, 9-45 and 1-30. Mr. E. Shackleton, 11, Acre Street, Knowle Park.
Lancaster, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Daniel Atkinson, 2, Shaw Street.
Leeds, Bethel-street, 10 a.m. Mr. H. Wood, 2, Westbourne Mount, Dewsbury Road.
Leeds, Church-street, Hunslet, 10-30 a.m. Mrs. Harrison, 7, Teal Street, Stourton.
Leeds, Grove-house-lane (Psycho), Miss Pawson, 27, Prosperity-street, Camp-road.
Leeds, Joseph-street, 10-30 a.m. L. Hurst, 3, Hope-well-terrace, Glasshouse-street, Hunslet.
Leicester, Albion-street, 2-45 p.m. Mr. J. Hurst, 36, Gernyyn Street, Melton Road.
Leicester, Queen-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. James Bishop, 10, Mere Road.
Leigh, Brown-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. George Woodward, 22, Poet's Nook, Lancs.
Leigh, Market-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. B. Robinson, 14, Seltion Street, Lancs.
Lincoln, Exchange Arcade, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Fred Nicholson, 45, Waterside, North.
Littletown, Well-street, 10 and 2. Mr. Lewis Westcott, 35, Flush, Heckmondwike.
Liverpool, Daubly-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss Millicent Clarke, 12, Osborne Grove, Everton.
Liverpool, Erskine Street, 2-45 p.m. Mrs. Madge Parker, 2, Spofforth Road, Edge Hill.
London, Battersea, Henley-street, 3 p.m. Miss Sherman, 12 J. Peabody's Orchard Street, Westminster.
London, Brixton, 8, Mayal-road, 3 p.m. Mr. Walter Underwood, 127, Camberwell New Road, S.E.
London, Chiswick, W, 56, High-road, 2-45 p.m. Mr. E. Petit, 56, High Road, Chiswick, W.
London, Fulham, S.W., 25, Fernhurst-street, 3 p.m. Miss Kepple, 20, Lysia Street, Fulham Palace Road, Fulham.
London, Tottenham, 193, High-road, 3 p.m. Mr. Barrington, 33, Bury-street, Lower Edmonton, N.
Longton, Stone-road, 10 and 2. Mr. Hugh McCartney, 96, Coronation Street.
Macclesfield, Cumberland-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. William Albinson, 5, Bond Street.
Manchester, Ardwick, 38, Maskell-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss Lily Sims, 96, Cranworth Lane, C. on M.
Manchester, Cheetham, Halliwell-lane, 10-30 a.m. Mr. A. Lee Williams, 86, Bellott Street, Cheetham.
Manchester, Collyhurst, Oldham-road, 10 a.m. Mr. Joseph Parkinson, 77, York Street, Moston Lane, Blackley.
Manchester, Harpurhey, Milford-street, Couran-st., 10-30 a.m. Mr. T. Edmondson, 119, Chapel Lane, Blackley.
Manchester, Higher Openshaw, Beulah-street, 2-30. Mr. H. Hill, 377, Hughes-street, Odgen-lane, Higher Openshaw.
Manchester, Hulme, Junction-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. A. Stansfield, 22, Clarence Street, Moss Side.
Manchester, Longsight, Chell-street, 2-30 p.m. Mr. Alfred Stringer, Junr., 10, Grove Place, Grey Street, Hardwick.
Manchester, South Princess-road, 2-30 p.m. Mr. A. Cridland, 95, Alexandra Road, Moss Side.
Manchester, West Gorton, William-street, 2-30 p.m. Mr. P. N. Humphreys, 3, Tiles Street, North Road, Longsight.
Middleton, Gilmour-street, 10-15 a.m. Miss Lizzie Duncalf, 7, St. Leonard's Street, near Manchester.
Middlesbrough, Grange-road, W, 2-30 p.m. Mr. W. Cowell-Pugh, 61, St. Paul's Road.
Millom, Main-street, 2-15 p.m. Mrs. E. Wilkinson, 41, Lonsdale Road.
Monkwearmouth, Calvert-street, 2-30 p.m. Mrs. B. Bellett, 13, Romford-street, Pallian, Sunderland.
Morley, Fountain-street, 10 a.m. Mr. Herbert A. Hill, 2, Tomlinson Buildings, High Street, nr. Leeds.
Motherwell, Drinnan's Halls, 3 p.m. Miss Jeannie Hendry, 138, Brandon Street.
Nelson, Vernon-street, 10 a.m. Mrs. H. Stables, 5, Hammond Street, Wolvenden.
Newcastle-on-Tyne, 20, Royal-arcade, 2-30 p.m. Mr. Albert Brown, 32, Polmaise Street, Blaydon-on-Tyne.
Newcastle-on-Tyne, Benwell, Cochran-st., 2-30. Mrs. Estella Johnson, 6, Cochran-street, Benwell.
Newcastle-on-Tyne, Heaton & Byker, 2-30 p.m. Mr. A. N. Gray, 112, Tyne-moor rd., Heaton, near N/C.
New Hirst, Miners' Hall, 2 p.m. Mr. Ronald Johnstone, 11, Clyde st., Hirst, via morpeth.
Nottingham, Brittain Hall, Alfreton Rd., 10-30 a.m. Mrs. E. Gratton, 210, Alfreton rd.
Nottingham, Hyson Green, Hawarden-terrace, 10-30. Mr. C. E. Sharp, 51, Gauntley st., Hyson Green.
Nottingham, (Mechanics Hall), Burton-st., 2-30 p.m. Mr. Lewis Cooke, 195, Wollaton st.
Nottingham, (Gladstone Hall), Lamartine-st., 2-30. Miss E. H. Yates, 1, St. Ann's Valley, Hungerhill rd.
Nottingham, Parliament-st., 10-30 a.m. Mr. Joseph H. Lester, 70, Shakespeare-street.
Oldham, Coronation-st., 10 a.m. Mr. Thomas Ingham, 12, Eleanor st.
Oldham, Elliott-st., 10 a.m. Mr. John Frost, 81, Franklin street.
Padiham, Ightenhill-st., 10 a.m. Mr. A. Houlgrave, 22, Forrester-st., near Burnley.
Parkgate, Ashwood-rd., 10 a.m. Mr. E. J. Storey, 165, Raymarsh rd., Lime Kilns, Rotherham.
Pendleton, Broad-st., 10-30 a.m. Mrs. J. Earith, 2, Leaf Square, Pendleton.