

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

VOL. XX. No. 236.

SEPTEMBER, 1910.

ONE PENNY

The Little Comforter.

By A.K.

Mrs. Nicholson pondered long over the strange message delivered by this strange child who had come so unexpectedly into her life.

"How was it those so dear to her could make themselves known to Elsie and not to her? Surely, she was as dear to them as this little stranger was, or could be?" were some of the questions that would persist in forcing themselves on her mind.

The answer came in an unexpected manner, as is the case with most answers to the perplexities of daily life.

One day Elsie had apparently fallen asleep while engaged with her slate and pencil. She had a dream or vision of a beautiful garden in which were children at play. She tried to reach them, but could not. Something seemed to hold her feet so that she was unable to walk. She looked longingly at the beautiful trees and flowers and would have liked to gather a handful of the latter, but as she looked and longed the vision faded from her, and with a start she woke to find herself sitting on the hassock with a firm hold on her slate and pencil. She was much surprised to find writing on her slate, and in wonderment showed it to her "mamma," as in childish gratitude she called Mrs. Nicholson.

The message was as follows:

"My dear Ethel,—Do not grieve that this child can see where you are blind, and hear where you are deaf. As she gains strength I hope to use her to prove to you there is no death. Laura and I are often with you.—John."

"Elsie," exclaimed Mrs. Nicholson, in wonderment, who has been writing on your slate?"

"Don't know, mamma," came the ready answer, "I went to sleep, and 'specs I wrote it dreaming."

"If you write any more dreaming be sure and show it to me, dear," was the cautious comment she made.

Mrs. Nicholson retired with the slate and made a faithful copy of the message. Tears of joy filled her eyes. Long she sat contemplating the slate. Then drying her tears she opened her desk and took out some half dozen letters carefully tied with blue ribbon. Opening one of them she compared the handwriting of the message on the slate with the letters and found them identical. What could it mean? Elsie was too young and ignorant to play any trick on her, and was only just learning to write, and here was a message in John's well known handwriting. Her John gently reproving her for grieving at the fact of Elsie's seeing and hearing where she was blind and deaf.

A new hope was born in her heart, a new light seemed to illuminate her daily path. Her step

became more light as her heart grew buoyant. She had an indefinable feeling of the presence of beings she could neither see nor hear, as if she were being watched over and protected by a cloud of unseen angels.

Time passed on. Elsie grew strong under the loving care of her new mamma. During her studies she would occasionally go to sleep, and on waking would find some "dream writing," as she called it on her slate, which always proved to be a message breathing love and sympathy from the arisen husband.

One summer she went to spend a few weeks with a dear friend who lived in the country. There were two children, Ada and Tom, who were soon on very friendly terms with Elsie. She was delighted with the country life. It was such fun playing in the hay fields. Being buried under the armfuls of hay, or tumbling over the hay-cocks caused much merriment.

Elsie looked upon Tom as her hero. He felt quite proud when scaling high walls and climbing the trees, and laughed at her fears of his falling. He would show her where the birds built their nests, where the rabbits were to be seen running about with their little tufts of white tails stuck up looking ever so comical.

Ada showed her how to make chains of the dandelion flower stems, and Tom made her a "daisy tree," which consisted of a small thorn bush, with daisies stuck on the thorns. And then to crown his many marvellous boyish achievements he made her a whistle of mountain ash, which made her start in alarm when he blew a shrill whistle in her ear.

Tom was a daring little fellow and felt quite capable of taking care of himself and playmates. So he quietly planned a picnic to the "Boggarts Glen."

Why it was called "Boggart's Glen" no one seemed to know. There was a rumour that once upon a time some illicit work had been carried on in its deep shady recesses, but no one knew by whom, or when, so it was looked upon as a half-remembered story, or fairy tale.

The children set out for their day's pleasure in high glee. Tom carried the provisions in a basket, Ada had two bottles of milk, and Elsie an enamelled cup.

The birds sang their merriest lays, the rabbits scurried into their holes as the intruders approached their feeding ground, the bees hummed and the water gurgled, rippled and bubbled over its pebbly bed, or dashed in little cascades over the rocks, while all around the air was laden with the perfume of the honeysuckle and meadow sweet. Tom was boisterous in his shouts of joy, Ada and Elsie were happy and laughed and giggled, or sang snatches of nursery rhymes in glee.

Tom went hunting for the boggart, although he did not know what a boggart was like. On pulling a bush on one side, the better to pluck a bunch of honeysuckle, he saw a hole in the rock large enough to creep through. On getting inside he was able to stand up. He saw that a thin slab of rock had been reared against the mouth of the cave to hide it from view. The hole he had found had been evidently made by the rain and frost. By exerting all his strength he was able to push the slab over, which fell with a crash into the stream, causing Ada and Ethel to scream with fright.

"Look," he cried, I have found the boggart hole. Let us see what it is like."

His playmates crept near to it very cautiously and only dared to peep in.

Tom tried to encourage them by going further in and shouting, his voice echoing from the deep recesses. He struck a match and lit a piece of candle he had brought for emergency. Evidently he had secretly made up his mind to look for the "Boggart Hole" before he left home, and had helped himself to the matches and piece of candle found in his bedroom.

His playmates took courage when they saw the lighted candle and followed him into the cave. They wandered on and on from one gallery to another which seemed to run under the hill side of the glen, until finally they came to what seemed to be a store room, with a few rude benches, an old barrel, and an old trunk. Tom tried to open the lid, but could not. In his eagerness to use both hands his candle light went out. Ada and Elsie gave a scream of terror. He felt in all his pockets for his matches, but could not find them. They were lost. Fear and dread seized their young hearts. Tom bravely tried to whistle to keep up his courage.

He took little Elsie by the hand and bid Ada hold her by the other hand, and then he commenced trying to grope their way back. They stumbled over fallen rock and bruised their hands with feeling along the jagged sides, which made their progress not only slow, but painful. The sides of the gallery grew wet and slimy. They could hear water dropping, and trickling into pools, into which they stumbled, wetting and smearing their clothing. Then they faintly heard the dull rushing and tumbling of the waterfall. Tom stopped to listen. He could not remember having heard it as they entered the cave, or the "Boggart Hole." It dawned on his little mind that he had taken a wrong turn, and they were lost in the "Boggart Hole"; he and his sister, and little Elsie. A big sob rose in his throat, which he bravely tried to repress and act the man. So he told them he thought they had taken a wrong turn, and it would be better to grope their way back. Elsie and Ada sobbingly obeyed, for they were unable to longer restrain their tears.

When they had got where it was dry, they decided to sit down and rest. They were hungry, sore with bruises, and bewildered. Elsie and Ada cried themselves to sleep. Tom kept watch as long as he could, and then he, too, began to nod, and finally fell asleep.

(To be continued.)

Selections from the Mythology of the Ancients.

BY THE EDITOR.

MINERVA—PALLAS ATHENA.

Minerva was the Roman Goddess of Wisdom, and was known to the Greeks as Pallas Athēna.

Her birth is only possible in mythology, in which we learn that Jupiter, being tormented with an excessive pain in the head, appealed to Vulcan to open it with an axe; and on his doing so Minerva instantly sprang forth, a goddess fully armed.

She was represented as a beautiful woman of severe aspect, armed with a golden helmet and breast-plate, and in her right hand she held a gleaming lance. She carried the buckler Egis, so called from it being covered with the skin of a goat called Amálthea, having as a boss the terrific head of the Gorgon Medusa, who had snakes instead of hair, and whose face was so terrible that it turned to stone all who looked at it. This terrible being was slain by Perseus, as will be related in the sequel.

Like Diana and Vesta, Minerva was a maiden goddess, and her virtue was respected by all. Her favourite bird was the solemn, contemplative owl; the olive, which she caused to shoot up from the earth, was the plant sacred to her.

At Athens there was a most magnificent temple erected in honour of her, which was adorned with her famous statue, made of gold and ivory, by the celebrated Phidias. This temple, the ruins of which still remain to charm the eye of taste, was called the Parthenon, as one of the names of Minerva was Parthenos. There, likewise, the annual festival, called Panathenæa, was instituted for the same purpose.

This goddess is emblematical of wisdom, prudence, and conquest over vice and passion. She was the guardian and aider of eminent heroes. She accompanied Perseus and Hercules in their adventures, and was the constant protector and adviser of Ulysses, and when that hero's son, Telēmachus, went in search of his father, Minerva, under the form of a man, assumed the name of Mentor, and travelled with him.

It was with the aid of Minerva that Argos built the ship Argo, in which Jason sailed in search of the golden fleece, and Epēus built the wooden horse by the means of which Troy was taken.

An image of Minerva as Pallas, which was supposed to have fallen from the sky, was preserved, with great vigilance, in the citadel of Troy, because an oracle had declared that as long as it remained there the city would be invincible against all the attacks of the enemies. This image was called the Palladium, which Diomed and Ulysses, two of the illustrious Greek heroes, contrived to steal. Some of the writers of Rome assert that this celebrated image was deposited in the temple of Vesta, as a pledge of the stability of the empire and dominion of Rome. Hence, the word Palladium is sometimes used figuratively, to signify the preservation or safeguard of any valuable object, as, for example, the palladium of British liberty.

Minerva excelled in female accomplishments, and wove and embroidered her own robe and that of Juno. She also instructed her favourites among women in this art.

Arachne, a Mæonian maid whom Minerva had taught, was so ungrateful as to deny her obligations to the goddess, and even challenged her to a trial of skill. Having in vain sought to make her relinquish her rash project, Minerva accepted the challenge. Each wove a web adorned with various actions of the gods. That of Minerva displayed in its centre her own contest with Neptune for the naming of the city of Cecrops; the four corners contained the transformations of those mortals who had dared to contend with the celestial gods and goddesses; while olive leaves, in remembrance of creating the olive tree, formed its border. The web of Arachne was filled with the love-transformations of the gods; its border was composed of flowers and ivy. Unable to find fault with the work, Minerva struck Arachne several blows on the forehead with her shuttle. This cruel act caused Arachne to go and hang herself, and the goddess turned into a spider. Arachne is Greek for spider.

Like all other deities who were supposed to dispense the blessings of nature, she is the protectress of growing children, and as the goddess of the clear sky and of pure air, she bestows health and keeps off sickness.

Speaking broadly, she represents human wit and cleverness, and presides over the whole moral and intellectual side of human life. From her are derived all the productions of wisdom and understanding, every art and science, whether of war or of peace. She was the inventress of the plough and the yoke; and was often associated with Neptune as the inventress of horse-taming and ship-building.

Her genius covers the field of music and dancing. She is the inventress of the flute and the trumpet, as well as the Pyrrhic war-dance, in which she was said to have been the first performer, at the celebration of the victory of the Gods over the Giants.

WEDDING AT BLACKBURN.

HEPWORTH - LOMAX.—On Saturday, July 30th, at the Spiritualist Temple, Blackburn, Joseph Albert Hepworth, eldest son of Mr. Frank Hepworth, 59, Rockcliffe Street, to Clara Lomax, fourth daughter of Mr. William Lomax, 45, Nuttall Street, all of Blackburn. Mr. J. J. Merse, Editor of *Two Worlds* conducted the solemnisation service. The happy couple held a reception at the home of the bride. There were numerous wedding gifts. The contracting parties are life-long Lyceumists.—Cor.

WEDDING AT BOLTON.

ROSTRON WADDILOVE.—On Saturday, August 6th, at the Bradford Street Spiritualist Church, Bolton, Robert Rostron, 65, High Street, to Bertha Waddilove, daughter of the well-known speaker (now Mrs. Cocker), of 100, Deane Road, all of Bolton. Mr. Frank Hepworth, of Blackburn, conducted an impressive service. The happy couple received the congratulations of many friends. Both parties are active workers in the Bradford Street Lyceum.—Cor.

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

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS.

How sweet and musical is the sound of the two words, "Midsummer holidays," in the ears of all children, including every member of our Guild. Away from our school tasks for a whole month, both children and teachers are able to enjoy a much-needed rest and change after a long spell of daily-repeated lessons in school.

What delightful rambles we can have over the moors, along country lanes, etc., where we may increase our pleasures by gathering specimens of plants about which Mr. Knight is giving us such useful instruction in his lessons on Botany.

What pleasant picnics we may have in the parks and recreation grounds. I often wonder if our grandfathers and grandmothers had such nice places to go to when *they had* to take their little baby brothers and sisters out in the mail cart. By the way, *did* they have nice light mail carts in those days? I rather fancy I have heard that they had mostly to carry the babies then. That must have been a hard task when one was on a holiday. I think my Bluebells will be glad they were not living here in those days. I wonder if they had any nice parks and recreation grounds in those days, parks with beautiful ponds and lakes, where they could go and feed the swans, parks with aviaries, where they could go and study all kinds of British and foreign birds, parks where they could see the blended beauty of all the floral bloom, artistically displayed by the intelligence of the gardener. I wonder if they had recreation grounds, with grassplots on which to play "rounders," or beautiful band stands, where a number of men played delightful music upon marvellously constructed instruments of silver and brass? I wonder if they had "see-saws" and "swings," as we have. I think not; at least, not to the extent that we have.

Talking of swings reminds me that not many days ago, whilst walking in a recreation ground, and going towards the girls' plot, I had to pass the boys' swings. A little boy was sitting in one of the swings and a big boy was pushing him. I stood and watched for a moment. Presently, the swing was beginning to rise rather high, and the little fellow began to be afraid. He called out to the big boy, asking him not to push so hard, but the big boy only laughed and called the little fellow a "sooty." The little fellow gave an alarming cry, which seemed to delight the bigger boy, who gave an extra push. Just then I ran towards the swings, but before I could get to the spot, the little frightened boy screamed and let go the swing, with the result that he fell, his head striking the hard rough stone beneath the swing. Just then the "ranger" came along; a crowd of boys gathered round, and when we picked the little fellow up we saw his head was very badly cut. It was necessary to take him to a doctor to have stitches put in

the wound. The big boy who had been pushing the swing had run away in the excitement, and was nowhere to be seen.

It appears, however, that soon he was heartily sorry for what he had done, for after the little fellow had been taken home and put to bed, the big boy knocked at the door, asked the little fellow's mother to forgive him, and permit him to come and keep the little fellow company until he should get well again.

This showed how sorry the boy was for his foolish act, and that he was desirous of making reparation for his folly.

While I admire the conduct of the bigger boy *after* the accident, I cannot help thinking that a little more thoughtfulness on his part would have been much better for all. Look at the result of his obstinate and foolish act. First, the little chap would suffer pain for days, perhaps weeks. Second, the little boy's parents would be greatly disturbed, and all the household as well. Third, the pleasures of all who saw the accident would be greatly curtailed all that day at least, and all for the lack of exercising the principles of the Bluebell Guild. I hope that bigger boy will soon join a Lyceum and become a member of our Guild, and thus prevent similar misfortunes in future.

I am now going to fulfil my promise of last month and submit the essay on "Music," sent by Elsie Jessop, of Ramsden Street, Huddersfield, which reads as follows:—

"As there are many bitters in this life, such as sorrows and disappointments, so are there many sweets. One of these is music. We can hear it everywhere. It seems to tell us of a world wherein all is harmony and peace. A world that is worth striving for; where all the false and discordant notes of this life will find their place, and will unite in making one grand everlasting and harmonious resound.

"Let us take a walk in the woods, or through the fields, and listen to the birds singing. They always seem to be happy and bright. We may take a lesson from them and always try to be cheerful and happy.

"There is music in the gently falling rain, and although we are apt to grumble sometimes because it falls inconveniently for us, still if we would but listen, we should hear the musical ripple of the water as it fell and ran on its merry course.

"Clever men have constructed wonderful instruments of various kinds, such as the violin, harp, piano, etc., which, when touched in certain ways by human fingers, produce sweet music and delightful harmony.

"But not one of these beautiful instruments can compare with the wondrous mechanism through which we hear the varying modulations of the human voice. It is the highest and best of all.

"But when we are enjoying the sound of music let us not forget the giver of all good, 'God.'"

I am quite sure all my Bluebells will think the sentiments of the essay very nice.

I am delighted also to hear so many good opinions expressed on "Jim's Lesson," which appeared in July. I am always pleased to hear from our members.

I have a few more names to enter on our Bluebell Guild Register. This time we welcome the list of

members belonging to the Wolverhampton Lyceum.

2962 Albert Styles

2963 John Styles

2964 Alice Styles

2965 George Styles

2966 Nellie Lees*

2967 Harriet Lees

2968 Elsie Lees

2969 Gladys Lees

2970 Gladys Cautrill*

2971 Willie Hyde

2972 Thomas Screen

2973 George Davenport

2974 Ethel Bailey

2975 Madeline Bailey

P.S.—I am not quite sure about the two names starred.

We only require 25 more members to complete 3000. Who is going to help?

Yours lovingly, FLORA BELLE.

A Dream of Greatness.

BY MARCIA.

I had been five minutes wondering why I, who was noted for my industrious habits, should be standing with my hands deep in my pockets, gazing abstractedly out of my bedroom window. Outside the wind was playing all sorts of mean tricks on the unwary those who, either from force or contrariness, were abroad that afternoon. A raw atmosphere, which gave you the shivers, and which, combined with the greyness of the streets and houses, was in no wise conducive to inspiring thought, and I, who was of a mercurial disposition, found myself in the dumps.

I saw a minister. The man who was spiritual adviser to the wealthiest and most fashionable congregation in the city. Adored by his people, because his preaching never made them feel uncomfortable. Their dignified pastor, would they could see him now. Devoid of his hat, which was whirling with much delight in a pool of muddy water, while its owner stood in comical dismay, wondering what he should do. The rain-drops pattered quite innocently on his shiny, bald pate. He stroked that part of his person with a slim, white hand which had never known a hard day's work. Even the minister's discomfiture did not arouse a feeling of pleasurable satisfaction within my bosom as it might otherwise have done—and he just smiled.

And then, there were girls struggling to cross the road. How happy they were, or seemed to be, and the wind tossed their hair about, and knocked their hats sideways. I could not help wondering if they believed in "Women's Rights," and what they would do if they did have a vote? One of the girls, as if divining my thoughts, looked straight up at my window, and, from the sparkle of mischief in her eyes, I concluded she was only a woman, with a woman's little charming ways, whose thoughts perhaps never soared higher than just what she would wear. She smiled, and I sighed, for what was a smile; I was sick of smiles. I only wanted to be great.

I turned from my contemplation of outside matters, and centred my attention on trying to coax a smoky fire into a blaze. I was lonely, and tired with my unsuccessful efforts to emancipate humanity, to right the world, and to rise above the common, everyday life of routine. I gazed around my little room, how common, how vulgar it seemed, and so unlike what my dreams of a home used to be. Could it be possible that, after all, I was to blame — And oh! This fever of discontent which consumed all that was noble and pure in me, and left only a feeble and flickering desire—for fame.

With such thoughts crowding into my poor brain,

I drifted slowly and unconsciously into dreamland. Oh! Morpheus, whose magic touch can bind our real selves, and make us forget we are only common people, with great pretensions, but little ability; who transports us to the dizzy heights of idealism, and we taste the nectared wines of the gods, and become intoxicated.

And I, insignificant I, a nobody, suddenly changed from my humble station, and became, what I had so long and so vainly sought to be, a great man. The hero of the hour, and with haughty step and raised head I treaded my way in and out amongst the renowned of the world, but I was greater than them all; for was not I of obscure parentage and had risen through my own efforts? As I gazed on those around me I smiled a superior smile, for I was in every sense reaping the harvest of my own sowing. I was courted by beauty, regaled with the sayings of the wise. The world's thinkers, the world's workers, the world's playthings, the world's favourites were all there.

I lay back on my luxurious divan, and listened with wrapt attention to the exquisite playing of the greatest musician. I loved music, and surely this rendering was surpassingly grand. How smoothly his fingers skimmed over the keys of the piano and drew forth harmonious sounds! First it was dreamy music like the cooing of a baby, then the laughter of the romping child, next the trembling sensitiveness of the maiden in love, then the stirring chords of a heart content, and then, oh! then it changed to the loud wailing of a wounded soul, which held the listeners spellbound. I half rose from my resting place, and as the last note of applause faded into the dull monotony of general conversation, only then did I miss something; my heart throbbed with a new pain. I had longed to be great, but I had not counted the cost. Not one in that large assembly who praised me understood me; they were new and strange, and I felt my soul begin to shrivel within me. How soon I was tiring of my greatness. I felt like a naughty child, and seemed to dread the consequences—of what! The faint odour emanating from a vase of violets somehow made the pain worse, and made me feel a wee bit chocky about the throat. What did I miss? What did I want? Would my heart still beat in unrest? Should I never find contentment? Could I not be grateful to the powers that had directed me to the goal of success?

Vacantly I stared at my companion, who was endeavouring to impress me with the advantages of some new scientific discovery which would startle the world, and be a blessing to mankind. Slowly I rose, and, with pitying smile at my learned friend, I walked with bent head and lagging step to the door. With my hand on the bar, I looked back. Earnestly I gazed amongst the beautiful and the great, nothing, not even the splendour of riches would turn me now. Farewell! and I was gone from the scene of greatness like a ship that had passed in the night.

With a shudder I awoke and found myself back in the world of realities. No pomp, no show; but hush—someone was singing in a soft voice, "Home, Sweet Home," as she flitted about the room and made things comfortable. A cheery fire blazed up the chimney, and a homely black kettle sat hissing on the hob, and the song continued. And I was glad I was not great,

and I knew what I had missed when dreaming. Only a woman; she was neither great nor beautiful in the eyes of the world, but she was good and true. Only a woman who never lost heart in the struggle; only a woman who understood and loved me.

Strange how sweetly her voice sounded now, as she bade me partake of our homely meal. Funny, how charming I thought she presided over the tea table. How happy, how thankful I felt, that she cared for me with my vain longings.

And I resolved that henceforth I would appreciate her worth, and together, hand in hand, we two should endeavour to raise those around us to a higher state of things. Love, the beautifier; love that passeth all understanding. I whistled a lively tune, and, as I once more gazed out on the world of storms, the grey buildings and dirty streets seemed to be transfigured. I could hear music on the wind, and the very rain-drops seemed to speak to me, and bid me God-Speed with my new resolve. For so great a tonic was my Dream of Greatness.

Temperance Page.

Conducted by Herbert E. Clarke, B.A., B.Sc.

THE FOURFOLD PLEDGE

is against the use of (1) Intoxicants, (2) Tobacco,
(3) All Methods of Gambling, (4) Profane Language.

LYCEUM TEMPERANCE WORK.

I have been very pleased to hear recently from a number of friends interested in Band of Hope work in our Lyceums, and would like to say a few words this month on the possibilities of this important branch of our labours, especially as there would appear to be a desire for perhaps more uniformity, and certainly for more perfect co-ordination, in the conduct of Temperance meetings. I am also anxious that every Lyceum should be a stronghold of total abstinence, and should boldly declare its adherence to Temperance principles. There can be little doubt that the future progress and prestige of the Cause are bound up in a very few powerful factors, of which this is one, and it will be unwise to relax any of our efforts for the spread of this gospel.

All my readers will be acquainted with the ordinary methods of Band of Hope meetings associated with Church and Chapel. Those meetings doubtless are useful in influencing the minds of children, but they are not usually progressive in character and so cannot claim to do permanent good. Unless a young man or woman joins the Good Templars or other such society, there is a great risk of the lessons learnt in the Band of Hope being forgotten (and even despised), with disastrous results. This is due partly to the way in which those lessons have been taught, and partly to the fact that many Bands of Hope degenerate into childrens' concerts with no firm backbone of Temperance truth but only a modicum of weak sentiment, for which respect is soon lost. These mistakes are deplorable, and they should be carefully avoided by our Lyceum Band of Hope workers. The Band of Hope must primarily be a school of abstinence, and as not all learning is light and easy, so the lessons of

Temperance must be sound, sensible, and progressive, even if they need effort to acquire. The day of blind preaching and execration is over; to-day we must apply the lessons of science and experience to show reasonably and intelligently why we are fighting the enemy alcohol. All advances are made by strenuous effort, and it is worth while to exercise our brains a little if by so doing we may learn a valuable truth.

We see, then, that the Band of Hope, like the Lyceum, must be the school of a liberal and progressive education, so that the growth of the intelligence of the members shall not outpace the rise in standard of the lessons taught. Let the young child learn the first essential principle, which is that alcohol is poisonous and should therefore not be drunk, but do not fail to show, as his mind and conscience strengthen, how alcohol poisons and how it demoralises, and, when he reaches young manhood, bring to bear that evidence and persuasion which shall appeal to his fully awakened reason and sense of right. By all means let there be the milk and the soothing-syrup for infants, but do not forget the strong meat for men. At all times the end in view must be realised and emphasised, otherwise there is grave risk of failure.

Some Lyceums are fortunate in having a room at their disposal for a week-night Band of Hope. I would ask such Lyceums, if they have not yet formed a Band of Hope, to do so, and conduct it on Lyceum lines, dividing into Groups for the purpose of lessons and discussions. I would earnestly warn those Lyceums who already have Bands of Hope to avoid oft-repeated open-sessions unless they are in the happy possession of experienced lecturers who can appeal at the same time to young and old.

But most of our Lyceumists are unable to meet together during the week, and I would suggest to our Conductors and Leaders the desirability of giving up a session at regular intervals to the consideration of Temperance questions, either in open session or in group discussions. We wish to inspire the great truth which should be the heritage of every total abstainer, that we refrain from alcohol because we know it is our physical and moral duty, a duty we owe both to ourselves and to the race as a whole. In this truth we bow to no tradition of the past, but turn our eyes to the light of the future.

I will conclude with a further appeal on behalf of the Fourfold Pledge, and with the expression of the hope that Band of Hope workers will communicate with me as to their methods and difficulties. I will also most heartily welcome suggestions, reports and literary contributions, so that this page may exercise its full influence of usefulness.

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND REPORT.

AMOUNTS RECEIVED.

July, Mr. Grime, 1/- August, Heywood Lyceum, by Mr. Watkinson, 12/- All amounts, great or small, will be gladly received and acknowledged by

MRS. M. LAW,

43, Blackmoorfoot Road,
Crossland Moor,
Huddersfield.

Psychic Studies No. 2.

CLAIRVOYANCE.

By FRANK HEPWORTH.

This month I purpose, as promised, to deal with "Some avenues of psychic manifestation." First let us consider those with which we are most familiar. Clairvoyance is perhaps the commonest form of psychic manifestation known to us. That clairvoyance belongs, or is nearly related to the category of superphysical powers of mankind is undeniable, inasmuch as it furnishes complete evidence that the "faculty" functions or operates on a subtle plane altogether hidden from our generally defined sense of sight. This is proven by the fact that persons who are deprived of the ordinary avenues of vision, and are therefore BLIND to physical surroundings, frequently develop the clairvoyant vision, and are able to describe accurately men, women and children, whom they could not possibly have SEEN in the realm of strictly material things.

Such a phenomenon implies the exercise of a faculty apart from, but entirely in sympathy with, the nerve avenues of vision, and the power of that "faculty" to convey to the consciousness impressions received by the nerve avenues from some subtle source.

Certain profound thinkers have concluded after patient investigation and exhaustive experiment, that the sum total of *Mind* is a *living* force, and is capable of functioning on different grades of matter, as we understand it.

It is argued that *Mind* survives the physical personality, which terminates at death; and, functioning on a superphysical plane of being, is capable of demonstrating a continuous personality beyond death.

Mind, representing the power of thought, volition, direction, stands for Man; and his ability to function in superphysical conditions implies individual life beyond the grave.

But, accepting this as true, by what method do we; in a physical environment, arrive at definite conviction concerning continuity. It is generally acknowledged that *Man* represents more than can be classified by the physical analyst. Experiments in Telepathy afford evidence that THOUGHT can be transmitted from mind to mind, without production of sound, which proves that we are capable of receiving messages without having to employ the common avenues of hearing.

And yet we must adopt some method of receiving such thought.

Psychic students explain the seeming mystery by assuring us that we may be able to generate an etheric substance which may be called *Nervaura*, and which substance may be cultivated to such tenuity as to render it capable of being utilized as a vehicle for communication, by spirits who are in the superphysical state of life. In Clairvoyance, the perceptive faculties become quickened by a generous and ready generation of this *nervaura*, and the seer is able to indulge in a marvellously extended vision, even to focussing forms of life, which may long have been but a memory to most of us. Thus our spirit friends are seen to be still living, in a realm real enough to the clairvoyant who has been blessed with

the extended vision. Some persons appear to be able to generate nervaura in sufficient quantity for clairvoyant purposes without any especial concentration or development. Such are known as natural clairvoyants. I am not sure that this is a correct word to use, because it suggests an unnatural, or artificial kind of clairvoyance, which is a deduction likely to be misleading.

Many who now rejoice in their ability to see clairvoyantly, have found it necessary to develop the power by the adoption of special methods. The method most commonly adopted is to sit in a harmonious "Circle," quietly concentrating the mind on the object desired, and awaiting the operation of those subtle influences which have produced many wonderful phenomena through mediums.

Such circles should be held at regular intervals, and stated times and conditions should be carefully observed. Sometimes darkness is preferred by the "sitters," who think thereby to expedite development. Personally, I do not recommend this course, or practice, for several reasons, one being, that whenever a person has developed clairvoyance under such conditions there is always a tendency to desire similar conditions for the exercise, and it is a long time before the seer overcomes the activity and vibrations of light.

The most approved plan is that of the "Circle." A number of friends, in psychic harmony, arrange to meet at intervals for the purpose of developing mediumistic power. For the time being all other thoughts that are calculated to have a deterring effect are dismissed from the mind, and only such thoughts as are related to spirit-communion, and the generating of nervaura, are entertained. This plan will help the student to concentrate upon the nerve-centres of perception, and thus generate the etheric substance through which spirits may operate and manifest their presence to the consciousness of the clairvoyant.

By repetition of this process the student familiarises himself with prevailing conditions, and soon becomes able to assist in the ready production of phenomena, by intelligent observance of psychic law.

By this process the experimenter may soon find himself exercising the power of extended vision in a wondrous realm whereof the normal sense of sight gave no indication.

Auric emanations, in varying colours, may be seen in the environment of fellow-members of the circle, and by close observation, comparison, and practise, the clairvoyant will be able to determine the character, the health, the moral and spiritual status of the member whose auric emanations are under observation. Nor is this all, for if the supply of nervaura be sufficient to attach the conscious self to the surrounding spirit states, similar observations may be made in relation to spirit surroundings.

Thus you will see that clairvoyance is a desirable faculty, through which we may become familiar with the occult side of man's nature here, and also be introduced to that more refined realm of spirit activity which we call the spirit world.

In my next article I intend to deal with Clairaudience and Psychometry.

If any of my readers care to write me personally relative to the articles now appearing, I shall be glad to answer questions, or deal with perplexities which may arise in the mind of the reader.

Death as Viewed from the Spirit Side of Life.

Graphic Description of Transition Scenes as Related by Spirit Guides of Mrs. Mary T. Longley, in "The Progressive Thinker."

A man of the middle class lay dying; he was of the people, neither rich nor of the very poor; he had been a hard-working mechanic, had labored hard, reared a family and done his best in life; in this supreme hour he had not suffered for such comforts as loving ones with moderate means could give; his surroundings had no hint of luxury, but they were homelike and such as he found contentment in. He had done the best he could with the light and the circumstances that had been his; in his youthful days, he, like countless others, had been somewhat wild in thought and imagination and had made his mistakes, but long years since he settled down to steady work and mental growth and for the follies of his early days he had atoned while growing into a condition of mental stability and spiritual progress.

He had lost loved ones by death—or to him they were lost since he had no idea of a future when they passed away, but in time he learned of Spiritualism and gave it his attention.

From its teachings and revelations he learned that his dear ones were not lost, that they could come to him with expressions of love and cheer; and tokens of their identity, could watch over and care for him with sweet influence and affection.

The knowledge gave him new strength, it made of him a better man; before he had been kindly and inoffensive, but now he had become sympathetic, more faithful to the duties and the affairs of life, less prone to pass judgment upon his fellows, less liable to be tempted to take a glass of liquor or to do aught that he felt his loving spirit helpers would not approve. Studying the sweet philosophy of the angels, those ministering beings whose creed is the belief in human good, belief in the right of all mankind to the best and highest that Justice and Equity can afford, this man soon became Altruistic in thought and conduct and thus grew to be a most desirable neighbour, shopmate, husband and father, to whom many turned for counsel and strength. "To be a Spiritualist," he said, "one must be his very best in thought and deed; must be better than if he had not gained the light of spiritual instruction; must do nothing to grieve his watchful angels or of which they could not approve;" and he lived the life to the best of his ability, holding the respect of all who knew him to be an honest man, false in nothing, true to himself and his friends.

Now he lay dying and he had no fear; all was well with him in spirit; no hope of recovery had been held

(Continued on Page 139.)

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

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SEPTEMBER, 1910.

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader presents the readers of the *Progressive Thinker* with a good report of her recent visits to the North-East Lancashire Lyceums. We hope her testimony will have a good effect on the American Lyceum movement.

Our readers will be glad to learn there is a slight improvement in Mrs. Greenwood's condition. In a brief note she says: "I am improving every day a little, and hope soon to be able to go downstairs!" This is indeed good news, which our readers will receive with much pleasure.

It is with deep sympathy we learn of Mr. H. A. Kersey's indisposition, and an affection of one of his eyes. We hope he will be soon restored to health and strength.

The Bradford Temperance Hall Society re-opened its Lyceum on July 31st. It was in the above Hall that representatives from Keighley, Sowerby Bridge, Batley Carr, Leeds, and Blackburn, met Mr. J. Burns, of London, editor of the *Medium and Daybreak* in March, 1886, to discuss the best means of advancing the Lyceum cause, and publishing a much needed Lyceum Manual. The movement was languishing for such a book, but we lacked the necessary capital.

The *Self-Culture*, the organ of the Indian Academy of Science, for July, is to hand. We note among its varied contents an illustrated article from our friend and late contributor to these pages, Prof. J. Millot Severn, of Brighton. A Lyceum department is being opened in the magazine, conducted by Mr. A. G. Sen, B.A. We gladly welcome these signs of interest in the Lyceum work.

The Editor makes the following generous offer to our readers:

We are inspired by a VOICE from the Super Realms to supply our Monthly Journal *Self-Culture* FREE to a select 50 British Spiritual Lyceums, and to others we are to charge HALF the usual subscription rates (2 sh. a year), and we have much pleasure to do so, and patronize the noble cause of the Spiritualists all over the world. Only those

gazetted in that excellent monthly Spiritual Magazine, "The Lyceum Banner," edited ably by Mr. Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury, Yorks., England, will receive this concession. The Editor of the Lyceum Banner is hereby fraternally requested to make known this news to the British Lyceum Union through the "Banner." Address: The Editor, *Self-Culture*, Academy of Science, Kizhanattam, Tinnevely, South India.

The Young Men's Guild of the Darwen Lyceum had its pavilion completely destroyed by fire on Friday, August 19th, between 4-30 and 7 p.m. Damage amounted to £15. The police have the case in hand. We trust our young friends had their property insured.

"NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AT SIXTEEN: Burnley youth's remarkable achievement." Such are the headlines in the *Burnley Express* of August 20th, announcing the success of Mr. John R. Latham, the son of Mr. Reuben Latham, of Burnley, in winning a national art scholarship, value £60 per year for three years, and tenable with free tuition at the Royal College of Art, South Kensington. Only six of these scholarships are offered yearly for the whole of the United Kingdom, and to win one is a creditable achievement, but when one takes into account that the winner is only sixteen years of age, the performance is indeed a fine one. Mr. John R. Latham is a member of the Burnley, North Street Lyceum, which may justly feel proud of his splendid achievement.

Mary Elizabeth (Lily) Johnson has won a County Major Scholarship awarded by the West Riding County Council on the result of matriculation examination of Northern Universities (top of French list) value £65 a year for three years. And also a three years' entrance scholarship at the Royal Holloway College, Egham, near London, value £50 a year for three years. Miss Johnson is a member of the Batley Carr Lyceum. The LYCEUM BANNER begs to heartily congratulate Mr. J. R. Latham and Miss M. E. Johnson on their splendid victories, and also to wish them success in their further studies.

Mr. Herbert Buckley, of Royton, Union Street Lyceum, has adopted the post card as a means of Lyceum propaganda. On one side is printed in bold type the name of their Lyceum, on the reverse side appears the question "What is the Spiritualists' Lyceum?" Answer: "Read the LYCEUM BANNER!" We thank our energetic and resourceful friend for his efforts to make known the Lyceum system.

The *Banffshire Reporter* for August 24th contains a splendid descriptive article of the Gateshead-on-Tyne Lyceum anniversary, from the able pen of Mr. James Lawrence. Several quotations from the *Lyceum Manual* are given. In the two columns devoted to the occasion much useful information concerning the Lyceum work and the local workers is given, which must exercise a beneficial effect on the public.

North-East Lancashire Lyceum District Council.

SILVER SHIELD COMPETITION, 1910,

For general efficiency in Lyceum Routine.

ADJUDICATOR'S REPORT.

Name of Lyceum	Singing			Reading			Marching			Calisthenics			General Efficiency			Totals
	Precision	Tone	Expression	Union in Response	Delivery	Mental Efficiency	Time	Carriage	Accuracy of Figure	Time	Accuracy	Energy	Effortiveness	General Standard	Devotional Aspect	
COLNE ...	4½	4½	4½	3	4	4	5	4½	4	4½	4	4	4	4	3	61½
DARWEN ...	3½	3½	4	4	4	4½	4	4½	4	4	4	5	4½	4	4	61
NELSON ...	4½	4½	4½	4	4	4	4	3½	3½	4	4	4	4½	4	4½	61
BURNLEY—HAMMERTON STREET	3	4	2	4½	4½	4½	5	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4	4	61
RISHTON ...	3	4	3	4	4	4½	4½	4½	4½	4	4	4½	4	4	4	60½
BURNLEY—NORTH STREET	3½	4½	3	4½	4½	4½	4	4	4½	4	4	4½	4	4	4	60
BLACKBURN—PETER STREET	3	2	2	3½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4	4	4½	4	4	4	58
PRESTON—CENTRAL	2	3½	2	3½	4	4½	4	4½	4½	4½	4½	4	4½	4	4	57½
GREAT HARWOOD	3½	4	3½	3½	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	55½
PRESTON—MARKET STREET	2	2	2	2	3	4	4½	4½	4½	4	4	4½	4½	4	4½	54
BARNOLDSDWICK—GREEN STREET	3	4	2	2	4	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	52
BLACKPOOL	3	3	2	4	4	3½	1	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	51½
RAWTENSTALL	1	4	2½	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3½	3	51½
BARNOLDSDWICK—WEST END	3	2½	3	4	4½	4	3	3	3	2	2	4	4	3	4	49
CLAYTON-LE-MOORS	1	1	1	2	4	4	3½	4½	3½	4	4	4	4	3	4	47½
ACCRINGTON—CHINA STREET	3	2	1	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	4½	3	4	47½
BLACKBURN—NORTHGATE...	2	2	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	3	3½	2	3	41½
PADIHAM	1	3	2	2	3	4	3	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	39
ACCRINGTON—CARTER STREET	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	4	3	3	36
BRIERFIELD	1	1	1	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	4	4	35

REUBEN LATHAM, Adjudicator.
GEO. C. HIGHAM, Secretary.

Bradford Lyceum District Council.

Another successful meeting of the above body was held at Tong Street, Dudley Hill, on Sunday, August 7th. There were about 35 persons present. The minutes were passed and confirmed.

Resolved. That this Council requests every delegate to get all the support they can to take to Keighley on the first Sunday in October. A little dispute arose owing to a misunderstanding *re* the B.S.L.U. Annual next year; so it was decided that we send a deputation to Ivy Rooms on the 13th of August.

The report of the demonstration committee showed to us that the sociable Field Day would incur a great deal of expense upon Lyceums, it was therefore decided to abandon it. The judges' report, which was duly accepted, is as follows:—

Name of Lyceum	Punctuality	Reading	Order and General Conduct	Marching	Calisthenics	Singing	Total
Cleckheaton	5	9	23	23	22½	9	91
Keighley	5	9	21½	23	22	9	90½
Otley Road	5	9	21	22	23	9	90
Tong Street	5	9½	21	22½	22½	9	89½
Ivy Rooms	5	9½	19	20½	21½	9	84½
Bradford Lane	5	9	18½	19½	21	8	81

Shipley ... 5 ... 8½ ... 18½ ... 19½ ... 19½ ... 8½ ... 78½
Windhill ... 2½ ... 5 ... 12½ ... — ... 5 ... 25

Signed, MR. ARNOLD, Otley Road.

Adjudicators, { MR. MOORE, Ivy Rooms,
{ MR. LIGHTOWLER, Tong Street.

Resolved. That the presentation of the Banner takes place at Cleckheaton, all proceeds to go towards the Council's funds. The date, charges of admission, and all details be left for Cleckheaton to arrange.

Resolved. That we ask Mr. Holdsworth, of Keighley, to present the Banner. An open session was held in the afternoon, when we had a good variety of entertainers. Violin solos by Mr. Pearson Bentley, mandoline solos by Stebbings, recitations by Mr. F. Wilson, Miss L. Rau and Master F. Taylor, song by Miss F. Fearnley.

The evening service was well attended, and was addressed by Messrs. Arnold, Holdsworth, Rau, and Whitehead.
H. BIRDSALL, Hon. Sec.

Liverpool Lyceum District Council.

On Saturday, August 13th, the fourth annual picnic was held at Barnston Dale, a pretty spot a few miles from Birkenhead. Thanks to the co-operation of the Societies with the Lyceums, 296 children and adults were present; an enjoyable time was spent, a

demonstration of marching and sports helped to pass the time away.

NOTE. The quarterly meeting of the above Council will be held at Warrington, Sankey Street, on Saturday, September 10th, commencing at 3 p.m. Services on Sunday, September 11th, at 10-30, 2-30, 3-15, 6-30, conducted by members of Council.

H. WALKER, Sec.

North-East Lancashire Lyceum District Council.

The next quarterly meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, September 17th, 1910, in St. Peter Street Temple, Blackburn, to commence at 3-15 p.m. prompt. Business: Minutes of last meeting, Secretary's report, Financial report, Deputation report, report for Shield Competition, select next place of meeting. Open Council. A good attendance of delegates and associates is earnestly requested.

GEO. C. HIGHAM, Sec.

Teesside District Council.

The second quarterly meeting was held at Middlesbrough, on August 14th. All the Lyceums were represented. Our Essay Competition was not a success, very few having entered. At our next meeting will be decided whether a Banner or Shield will be offered to the most efficient Lyceum. At the evening meeting Messrs. Blackburn, Brown, Sutton, and Roeder spoke on behalf of the children.

W. COWELL PUGH.

United District Councils.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

Will D. C. Secretaries please note that the next meeting will be held on Saturday, November 5th, in the Temperance Hall, Bradford. Business for the Agenda must reach me not later than October 16th.

R. A. OWEN, Hon. Sec.

88, King's Road, Bootle, Liverpool.

SYLLABUS OF THE LIBERTY GROUP, RAMSDEN STREET, HUDDERSFIELD.

1910.

July 3rd.	The Poetry of Nature.	Mr. Seth Ackroyd.
" 10th.	Literature: A Study of Les Miserables.	Mr. Seth Ackroyd.
" 17th.	The Basis of Belief.	Mr. Westerby.
" 24th.	The Law Estimate of Human Nature.	Mr. Whiteley.
" 31st.	The Second Study of Les Miserables.	Mr. S. Ackroyd.
Aug. 7th.	Mediumship.	Mr. Ernest Law.
" 14th.	Philosophy: Berkeley and Idealism.	Mr. S. Ackroyd.
" 28th.	The Babylonian Religion.	
Sep. 25th.	The Egyptian Religion.	Mr. Seth Ackroyd.

If happiness has not her seat
And centre in the breast,
We may be wise, or rich, or great,
But never can be blest.

Burns.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Lyceum Banner.

Dear Editor,

I herewith submit fifty-two subjects for the assistance of leaders and teachers in the choice of a subject for group-lessons. It may also prove useful for the groups in the absence of leaders.

I also place myself at the disposal of any Lyceum, to briefly explain any of the under mentioned subjects on two conditions viz: 1st, that a stamped addressed envelope is sent for reply; 2nd, that the subject written about must have been considered as a Group-lesson.

1. What is the relation of spirit to matter?
2. What is your opinion of God?
3. The evolution of man.
4. The relation of Spiritualism to every-day life.
5. Whatever is—is right.
6. The influence of heredity and environment.
7. Is war justifiable?
8. Has man a free-will?
9. Which part of a Lyceum training appeals most to you?
10. The place of phenomena in our movement.
11. What is the cause of dreams?
12. Are prayers answered, and if so, how?
13. Should child mediums be developed?
14. The value of poetry.
15. The story of Hydesville.
16. Psychology.
17. Should clairvoyance be used materially?
18. Are good Spiritualists better than good Christians?
19. Should mesmerism be used to assist spirit-control.
20. Do spirits assimilate food for the sustenance of their ethereal bodies?
21. Is mediumship dangerous?
22. Is it best to hold circles periodically or inspirationally?
23. Have planets an influence in governing our lives?
24. Is a knowledge of palmistry helpful to us?
25. Can we keep the "Magic Staff"?
26. Are Societies repaid for starting Lyceums?
27. Can we ever say we do anything of our own accord?
28. Which is the most valuable to Spiritualism the phenomena or philosophy?
29. Is Spiritualism the final religion?
30. Is sickness a bodily or a mental condition?
31. Which part of the song appeals most, the words or the music?
32. What is your favourite book and why?
33. Are competitions in consonance with Lyceum teachings?
34. Should Spiritualists be vegetarians?
35. Is an universal language probable?
36. Lessons from Plants.
37. The use of telepathy.
38. The human body (Physiology.)
39. Calisthenics and deep-breathing.
40. The significance of designs in Marching.
41. Who is your favourite hero, and why?
42. Will an idiot be sane in spirit-life?
43. Can spirits be photographed?

44. What are your gifts?
45. Are garden cities attainable?
46. Should Mediums be paid their services?
47. The earth's place in the universe.
48. Should vaccination be practised or condemned?
49. Individualism v. Collectivism.
50. The ethics of Spiritualism.
51. Votes for Women (Enfranchisement.)
52. What constitutes a Spiritualist?

G. F. KNOTT,
1, Sargeant Street, Rochdale.

Questions and Answers.

Under this head Lyceumists may ask questions bearing on the teachings of the "Lyceum Manual" and matters appertaining to the Lyceum Movement in general. All correspondents must give their full name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith with the Editor. Letters should be addressed to the Question and Answer Department, the Offices of the Lyceum Banner, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

In the eighth reply of Golden Chain Recitation No. 117, it states that "Study is more than sacrifice; Charity is greater than all." In answer to the ninth question "What are its sacrifices" in Golden Chain Recitation No. 123, the reply is, "The baser parts of us to become more pure."

In what way is study more than sacrifice, and is it more than the baser parts of us becoming more pure, or am I doing wrong in comparing the two recitations? Will you please tell me?—Yours fraternally,
GEO. ROBB, Birkenhead.

Answer:—No. 117 is on *precepts*, which are rules of conduct, or good counsel. The passage referred to is selected from the TALMUD, which is the Jewish civil and canonical law, comprising the *Mishna* or text, and the *Gemara* or the commentary and compliment of the text. No doubt there was a tendency on the part of the worshippers to pay more attention to their sacrifice than to the "study" and practise of the commandments, under the impression that sacrifices took away their sins or transgressions, similar to many Christians, who look upon the death of Jesus as being a sacrifice for their sins or transgressions. These ideas should be corrected because they are wrong and misleading. We see an effort in the Bible, which is a Jewish book, to correct this tendency to place or attach more value on sacrifices than doing right, for instance, Samuel says to Saul "Behold to obey is better than sacrifice," I. Sam., xv., 22. Later on in the history of the Jewish nation, Isaiah, speaking on behalf of Jehovah says, "What unto me is a multitude of your sacrifices? I have had enough of your burnt offerings, of your rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of your bullocks, or lambs, or of the goats," Isaiah I., 11. It will be seen that the passage from the Talmud is in harmony with the efforts of the prophets to win the Children of Israel away from burnt sacrifices to a study and practise of righteousness.

No. 123 is on the *Religion of Use*, or in other words a *practical religion*, as distinguished from a religion of *faith*. In this practical religion we are called upon to sacrifice—not lambs, bullocks, etc., but "The baser parts of us to become more pure. The better parts of us to make others holy." That is, give of our best attainments in loving service for the improvement of humanity.

(Continued from Page 135.)

"Over there" a few years, two children had preceded her to the spirit home, parents, other kindred out to him in the last week, and he realized that the end had come. The wife of his bosom had been and many friends were there, he knew they waited him and he was ready to go. Children in the mortal were at his side, he had raised them to be frugal, industrious, good citizens, and now they were giving to him every comfort and attention possible in his declining hours. All was well. For hours he had paid but little attention to the things of earth, his last words had been spoken, his wishes expressed and so he lay with closed eyes, calm and smiling, awaiting the final touch of the deliverer.

To him the room is filled with light, light such as neither sun or stars nor craft of man reveal—the spiritual light that comes from luminous angels who generate their own splendor and brilliancy. In this light he beholds smiling faces and eyes shining with the glory of love and welcome. The beauty and spell of the everlasting is upon him and all is well.

Now he recognizes some of those who have come to conduct him home; they are wife and children, mother and sire, and a friend who was as a brother to his heart. They are all here, and he calls their names, reaching out his pallid hand to clasp their own. His attendants observe the smile and hear the names he calls; they too know that the angels have come to guide him over the way; but he heeds not the things of earth; he is silently now and easily gliding from the form of clay. See the mists arising from his body—mists of splendour, not of gloom; light as air and as beautiful as the tints of dawn they arise and float above his head till at last they appear as a mass of vapour, shining, scintillating with its own inherent light; now it assumes shape, and presently the head of the man is formed, then the trunk, and finally the limbs; the form is draped in substance, fleecy and shining, robes of softest light and texture; he moves his limbs and they are free, well-rounded, shapely; his head is uncrowned save by its mass of shining brown hair that has no threads of silver such as the mortal locks had shown for many a day. His whole appearance is one of strength, of virility, of peace and joy. He is not unconscious nor has he been for a moment during the passing of this spiritual Self from contact with the clay. He gazes upon the cast-off form, then turns from it toward those beings who have come for him; they give him welcome and he is delighted with them and with all that he beholds, for his sight is clear and there is no darkness for him anywhere. Neither is there any journey for him to take, for as he turns from the earth body and its surroundings they are shut out from him and no sign of mortality remains—he is in a spiritual country; around him are broad and beautiful prospects of scenic magnificence, and withal, there are homes in sight, structures and dwellings that show unmistakable signs of comfort, serenity, industry and prosperity for their fortunate inmates. Into one of these homes he is conducted and learns that it is his own and that he has earned and fashioned it in spirit. His dear ones are there as a part of its home-life; his friends and some kindred dwell near by; he is at work, strong and active, he cannot brook idleness

and he has large fields of learning to explore and of industry to become familiar with. The man is happy; he has found his people; those to whom he belongs; he has entered into his new possessions, those that he has accrued by his own thought and deed; he is happy and to him earth has brought the glory of Life forevermore.

Another mortal lies dying; this, too, is a man who had reached his more than three score years; he, too, has had many experiences, has had to labour, and has succeeded in life to the extent of gaining a competence for his later years. This man is likewise a Spiritualist, at least he has become convinced of the truth of spirit communication and of life after death; he has received messages and tokens, many, from the people of that other country who have preceded him, and he has said at times, "I know all about Spiritualism; have studied it root and branch."

And now he is dying; but what is the matter? No brilliant light shines upon him from beyond, at least he is not cognisant of any such; his time has come and he knows it well, but he is not happy; fear is in his heart, dread is in his eyes; the future seems very uncertain to him now. Times without number he has boasted of his Spiritualism to neighbours and associates who have not received proofs of its truth, he has even assailed their faiths and ideas and scoffed at what to them has been dear because they could not accept his statement of what Death brings. Now he is dying and his own faith is weak, the knowledge he received from his dear departed, of another life does not give him the power and comfort that it should; he is unhappy because he is afraid. This man calls himself a "Spiritualist" and yet he fears to die.

And so the hours pass, till at length, worn out in thought and overshadowed magnetically by the influence of the beyond, he grows mentally calm, and—for the time—indifferent. The shadows are closing around him; there is no brilliant light, it would have blinded him had such there been, but he has not generated splendour of spirit, and those of his spirit friends who have done so are not in the same ratio of vibration that is his, hence he cannot see their light. True there are faces but they are dim to his sight, the atmosphere seems as if charged with the moisture of rain, it is misty and cool, but not of that beautiful appearance that has been described in the case of the other man. Something seems to be wrong; this man who boasted of his Spiritualism, who knew all about it; who had counted himself so far superior to those who had been denied the proofs of immortality such as he had gained, now passing out from mortal life is in the mist and shadow instead of in the illumination of great minds and the warmth of true spiritual vibratory action. True, it had been said of him sometimes that he did not seem to have been any better because of his belief; he had not seemed to be any more sympathetic and kindly to others, nor had he refrained from a bit of sharp practice in his business dealings when such could be made; he had been known to take advantage of the necessities of the poor in his relations with them,

and had in one way and another been careless—some thought, criminally so—in regard to the keeping of the unwritten moral law. Had this anything to do with his present state of cloudiness and chill? Would not his Spiritualism save him from the consequences of folly or misdeed? He had been sure there is no Orthodox Hell, and no Ecclesiastical Heaven, and that the other life is just like this, only broader and brighter; he had sung with gusto of "The Sweet By-and-By," and expected to find it all or boasted that he should, in his palmier days; and now he is drifting, drifting, and as one without a mooring, into the chill and gloom.

(To be continued.)

A BUILDER.

He was not stylish or rich or great—
Owned neither a mine nor real estate;
But he simply toiled from day to day,
Faithful and honest and brave always,
Never too tired or poor to give
His best that some other man might live.

His earth-work finished, an angel came,
And softly whispered the old man's name,
And led him to mansions of beauty rare,
Upbuilt by his love and faith and prayer,
And each good deed that in earth-life shone
Was marked above by a shining stone.

CALLIE BONNEY MARBLE.

An Appeal.

The Brixton Progressive Lyceum Church and Lyceum having acquired, about eight months ago, new premises, are having a Sale of Work on September 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, to clear us of debt incurred by alterations necessary for extension of Lyceum work. We should be pleased of any help afforded us in this way, and we shall gratefully thank the sender or senders of same.

Conductor, W. UNDERWOOD.
Treasurer, W. BROOKING.
Secretary, Alex. BROOKING.

17, Geneva Road.
Brixton, S.W.

In Memoria.

Ordinary intimations will be inserted as follows:—
Not exceeding twenty-four words, Free. 6d. will be charged for every additional nine words. Poetry 6d. per line. Payment must accompany all intimations of more than 24 words, or they cannot be inserted.

In loving memory of Ada Harvey, who passed away last August. Dearly remembered by her mother and sisters. A Royton Lyceumist.—MRS. HARVEY.

He that would govern others, first should be
The master of himself. *Messenger.*

HEARTSEASE.

There cometh a day in our lives,
 An hour that is full of pain,
 When we feel that the old familiar paths
 Can ne'er be the same again;
 And the hopes and plans that we cherished once
 Seem all to be poor and vain.

A darksome shadow enfolds
 Our hearts in its cold embrace,
 And strain our tear-dimmed eyes as we will,
 No gleam of light do we trace;
 We wonder dumbly if ever again
 We can fit in our wonted place.

For, stretching beyond us, we see
 A vision of long, long years
 That must come and go in their dreary round
 Ere hope of release appears;
 We feel with this sorrow all new and strange
 That nothing can dry our tears.

And, shrinking, we fear the shadow
 Must for ever with us stay;
 But wherefore to-morrow's burden add
 To the burden of to-day,
 Forgetting the promise of daily strength
 To be given us all the way?

Just living one day at a time,
 And the burden lighter grows;
 If night by night we but lay it down
 We are eased of half our woes;
 Soon Time, the healer, will do his work,
 And our hearts shall find repose.

B. H. B.

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 August 26th.

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

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

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (Burlington Street).—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our monthly open session, when recitations and readings were contributed by Misses Maggie Mortin, Emma Worthington, S. J. Dransfield, Mrs. Devine, and Master John Hobson. Also a trio from the *Spiritual Songster* by Misses H. M. and S. J. Dransfield and W. Dransfield. The silver and golden chain recitations were well responded to. The marching and calisthenics were well gone through, and a pleasant session was brought to a close by the giving of pearls.—W. Dransfield, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD (Hamilton Street).—On Sunday, July 31st, our monthly open session was held, when we received a visit from our old friend Mr. Wm. Marklew, who gave a very instructive address, subject, "Self Control." Recitations were ably rendered by Florrie Dillon and Ida Heath. On August 13th we celebrated our annual picnic, 94 junior and about a score of senior scholars and friends making the journey by brake to Barnston Dale, where a most enjoyable time was spent in games, races, etc., until the shade of evening fell, when the return journey was made. From the youngest to the eldest everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, the weather being beautifully fine.—Edgar G. Heath, Secretary.

BRADFORD, LAISTERDYKE (Bradford Lane).—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our open session, which was well attended. Mr. Morrell conducted, and the following took part with songs, recitations, and readings: Elsie Fallon, S. A. Steel, Doris Dent, Frank Forrell, Raymond Webb, C. Harrison, E. Butterfield, Gladys Metcalf, Vernon Webb, L. Knowles, proving altogether a very good session. We had many visitors present and they are taking an interest in our work.—J. Babbs, Secretary.

BRADFORD, DUDLEY HILL (Shirley Road).—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our open session, Mr. Fearnley conducting. The following took part: A young friend gave two violin solos, accompanied by Mr. S. Kitchingman; Miss Emily Stebbins two mandoline solos, accompanied by Miss Ida Fearnley; recitations by Miss L. Rau and Master Flyde Taylor; solo by Miss Ida Fearnley, "Somebody." Mr. H. Arnold gave a short address; this brought a very pleasant afternoon to a close.—H. Raw, Secretary.

BRADFORD, WEST BOWLING (Boynnton Street).—We held our open session on August 7th, the following taking part: Master N. Haley recited "Get up early;" Miss Edith McIntosh "A farewell to girls." Masters H. Wrigley and W. Gibson sang "In the March of Life;" Duet by Misses Edith McIntosh and Florrie Winder, "The Children's Day;" Master S. Winder sang, "Tell Mother I'll be there;" Masters James Castle and H. Wrigley sang, "We are trying to follow the angels." At the afternoon session Misses Chambers sang, also many of the above. We are glad to welcome two new members, the Misses Brook, from Sowerby Bridge, and hope they will find the same good feeling here, if so, they are our gain.—A. E. Carter, Secretary. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

BURNLEY (Hammerton Street).—On Sunday, August 7th, the above Lyceum held its usual open session. We are greatly indebted to the following Lyceumists who contributed to the afternoon's programme. Recitations were given by Ivy Redman, Winnie Thompson, and Martha Longworth. Songs were nicely rendered by Misses Redman, Anforth, and V. Bridge, Mr. Metcalfe and Mr. Forrest. Readings were given by Mrs. Metcalfe and Mr. Bailey. A very pleasant afternoon was spent under the conductorship of Mr. Richards.—Mrs. S. A. Riley, Secretary.

BURY (off Paradise Street).—On Monday, August 8th, we had a ramble to Birtle, tea, etc., being provided by Mrs. Kay. In the evening we held a social at the Hall, dancing, etc., being greatly enjoyed. On Sunday, August 21st, we held our open sessions. Marching and Calisthenics good all day. Recitations were given by Miss May Rostrom, Miss Alice Myers, Mr. S. Rockcliffe, and Mrs. Nutter and Miss Hilda Stott. Solos by Misses Clara Chadwick, Annie Wood, and Mr. S. Howarth. Duets, Miss E. Stott and Mr. Rockcliffe; Misses Florrie Nutter and Ivy Kay; Messrs. S. Rockcliffe and H. Minshall. Addresses by Messrs. Fletcher and Grimshaw, who spoke on the pleasures of Lyceum work.—Jos. Wood, Secretary.

CREWE.—On Sunday, July 31st, the Lyceum conducted the services for the Parent Society. An open session was held in the afternoon, thus giving an opportunity for visitors to enjoy and study Lyceum methods, several strangers were present and commented very favourably. The evening service consisted of short speeches, interspersed with solos. This is the first time the Society has given the Lyceum an invitation to conduct the services, judging by results we shall soon have another. This system of allowing the Lyceum to conduct the services, if done judiciously, is beneficial to both parties. All who took part did their work well, space does not permit names being mentioned.—H.W.

DARWEN.—On Sunday, August 21st, we held our Harvest Festival. An open Lyceum session was held at 9-30 a.m. Songs were given by Mrs. S. Pearce and Mrs. Ferrimond. Recitations by Dora and Alice Marsden and L. Betts. Marching and calisthenics were also gone through. A pleasant time was spent. Mrs. Kirkham conducted. Mrs. Batie was the speaker at the services at 3 and 6-30, when good addresses were given to good audiences. On Monday, August 22nd, a fruit banquet and social was held. Songs were given and dancing was indulged in. Fruit was distributed in bags during the evening. A good number were present. Mr. Jinkinson was the accompanist. The collections for the Sunday amounted to about £5.—J. Nightingale, Lyceum Secretary.

FOLESHILL (Broad Street).—On Saturday, August 20th, we held our annual outing. The Lyceumists and friends met at the hall at 2 o'clock. The weather was very showery, and

it was decided to drive round to Brandon Park and come back to the Hall for tea, after which we had games and a very enjoyable evening. On Sunday, August 21st, we held a Lyceum session in the afternoon, 40 members attending, and an enjoyable time was spent.—T. Gibbs, Secretary.

GATESHEAD (St. Cuthbert's Place).—On Sundays, August 7th and 14th, we held our anniversary services. The following speakers presided: Mr. J. H. Lashbrooke, Mr. J. Lawrence, Mrs. J. Clarke, and Mr. J. L. Wood. Recitations by Lily McLeod, Maggie Bouge, Edith Bouge, Sadie Middlemiss, Aggie Middlemiss, May Hall, Nellie Hall, Maggie Harrison, Lily Harrison, Janet Skelton, Mary Davis, Lily Thompson, Mona Wilson, Maud Slater, Ethel Slater, Thomas Harrison, William Harrison, Mark Hall, Robert Walker, William Walker, Thomas Hall, John Skelton, William Skelton, Herbert Skelton, Archie Wilson. Solos, Annie Harrison and Lily McLeod. Solos by Mrs. Shell, "The Lost Chord;" Miss Lizzie Skelton, "The Better Land;" Miss Annie Secker, "The Holy City;" Miss Ida Bulman, "The Lord is my Shepherd."—M. Mather, Secretary.

GLASGOW (316, Paisley Road).—This Lyceum is still progressing quietly and effectively. Though small it is fairly well officered. After quiet work and patient effort for two years the workers are about to take heart of courage in their seeming fruitless labours, and with a clearing of the atmosphere there is hope that this Lyceum will go forward with a bound. The numbers, though small, are steady, and are being slowly increased.—H. A. Kerr, Secretary.

GREAT HARWOOD.—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our open session. Silver chain led by Mr. Ainsworth. Musical reading was led by Edith Owen, Albert Taylor, and Rachel Baxter. The golden chain was led by Mrs. Holt. Recitations were rendered by Will Thornley, Annie Owen, Nora Wrigley, Matilda Crooks, and Alfred Ainsworth. Taking all into consideration we had a very good session.—Matilda Crooks, Secretary.

HEBDEN BRIDGE.—On Sunday, August 21st, we held our annual flower service. Miss Cobbe was the speaker for the day. In the afternoon we held an open session. Solos were given by Misses Miriam Ward and May Coad, Messrs. H. Houlston and Gibson Uttley; pianoforte solo by Miss Mary Haigh; violin solo by Mr. Fred Porter. The first three in the following nine each won a prize for the best reciting: Misses Mabel Hill, Gladys Hill, Annie Jackson, Clara Smith, F. E. Houlston, Hilda Houlston, Alice Cook, Annie Cook, Laura Coad. The evening service consisted of Miss Cobbe, address and clairvoyance; solos by Misses Marion Greenwood, D. E. Rawson, May Coad, Mr. Walter Greenhalgh, and Mr. Harold Houlston. Anthems were rendered by the choir.—Gibson Uttley, Secretary.

HOLLINWOOD (Hudson Street).—On Sunday, August 14th, we held our open session. The following programme was gone through: Recitations by Miss Marion Holden, "Daddy's Letter;" Mr. W. A. Howarth, "Frost;" Ethel Bowers, "Mr. Nobody;" Mr. Ingham, "The Coloured Control." Solo by Miss S. Green, "Swiftly time is bearing us away." Duets by Misses Thornton and Vernon, Miss Marshall and Miss Swift, Mrs. and Miss Howarth. We were also assisted by friends from the Lyceums in the district, to whom we accord our sincere thanks for their presence and support. In the evening we had the naming of the Conductor's baby. Also a duet by Miss Marshall and Miss Green, "Only remembered." Mr. Lawrence was the speaker.—Thos. H. C. Howarth, Secretary.

HYDE.—On Sunday, August 14th, it was an open session in the presence of a good number of scholars and friends, under the conductorship of Mr. R. Armitage. After the silver and golden chain recitations we had recitations from the following: Pollie Hadfield, Eleanor Beck, and Ellis Beck. Also a solo by Edith Horsfield, accompanied by her sister, Lucy Horsfield, on the piano (this item was very nice indeed for two small girls). Also Mr. Johnson, of Hyde, who had offered two prizes for pearls for 12 months, namely from 1909 to 1910, but as there was a close contest between four he gave four books to the following: Nellie Armitage, (Miss) E. Bottomley, Mr. A. Bowden and Mr. J. Dean.—Miss E. Bottomley, Secretary. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

LEICESTER (Silver Street).—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our open session, going through the usual evolutions of the session, we had marching and calisthenics. Solos and recitations were rendered by the scholars of the Lyceum, which made it a very enjoyable afternoon. I am very pleased to

report that our Lyceum is still progressing in numbers. It seems as though we are going to get the school back to its old number. I think we have made about 8 new scholars since we have been in Silver Street. I am sure if we go on at this pace we shall soon have a large Lyceum.—A. Hurst, Hon. Secretary.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, August 14th, the Lyceum took part in the singing, and also entertained the Society for the whole of the evening. Recitations and dialogues were rendered by the following: Misses D. Roberts, A. Bush, G. Hopewell, E. Hearne, E. Andrews, R. Rutter, L. Rutter, Masters J. Claydon, J. Hearne, F. Andrews, while Miss M. Spratt very ably rendered the solo "Swiftly time is bearing us away." Anthem, "The Lord is my shepherd," was also rendered by the Lyceumists. The Society held a public tea on the Monday following, and half of the proceeds of the tea and the previous day's takings were handed over to the Lyceum as a help towards the funds for their outing on the following Saturday.—D. C. Dobby, Secretary. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

LONDON, BRIXTON (84, Stockwell Park Road).—We have been having some good sessions, and am pleased to report progress. Our Conductor has been to Battersea Lyceum for two Sundays, and myself to Fulham last Sunday. On July 31st we had a solo from Miss Picksley, "In the shadows of regret," which was much appreciated, and a quartette from Will Pickering, Will Gillett, Mabel Parmiter, and Mrs. Hutchins, "The Roses of Life." On August 7th and 14th we had good papers from Rosie Tritton and Mabel Parmiter. On the 14th recitations from Doris Richmond, "A Good Fairy," and Ivy Draxler, "Six times nine," and Nellie Underwood, "Praise him all ye little children." On the 20th we had visitors from Kingston who were very pleased.—Alex. Brooking.

MACCLESFIELD. On Sunday, August 14th, we held our election of officers, when all were re-elected, with the exception of the Guardian, Mr. A. Stanway being appointed to the position. Sunday, August 21st, there was held an open session, when only a moderate attendance of Lyceumists were present. A striking feature was the amount of "Pearls" given, including one from "Owd Jonathan," who was the speaker for the day, who also gave a very appropriate address to the Lyceumists.—Wm. Albinson, Secretary.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Our Lyceum had its annual outing on August 17th. An enjoyable day was spent at Great Ayton. The adults climbed the hills to Roseberry Topping and Captain Cook's Monument. Races for all were run, and when everyone was tired they got on the rulleys and enjoyed the ride home through the country lanes, arriving at our Lyceum at 10 p.m.—W. Cowell-Pugh.

MIDDLETON (Gilmour Street).—We held our annual Lyceum Anniversary on August 7th, which was a great success, the singing of the children was indeed grand. Solos were sung by Misses Horrocks, Walsh, Whitehead, and Mrs. J. Liddle. The collection came up to expectation. The Society in general is prospering nicely. We have bought the Hall, and are making every effort to clear off the debt. We also had the children to Chadderton Hall pleasure ground, and spent a very enjoyable outing, all enjoying themselves with swinging, boating, bowling, etc. Hoping to keep on in this united work and work hand in hand with angels.—John Liddle, Secretary.

NELSON (Vernon Street).—On Saturday, August 13th, we had our second annual drive. Starting from the Lyceum at 1-30 we went by way of Pendle Forest, Whalley, Mitton, and Clitheroe, where we left the waggonettes and walked about half a mile to Brungerly Bridge (on the banks of the Ribble), where tea was awaiting us, ample justice being done to the good things provided. After tea we whiled away the time as pleased us best in swings, boating, etc. One of the Lyceumists having his camera several groups were taken which have come out well. In years to come they will serve to remind us of happy times gone by. At 8-30 all met again and we were soon on our way home.—Mrs. Stables, Secretary. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

NEWCASTLE (20, Royal Arcade).—August the 6th being the day chosen for our annual pic-nic, also a day long looked forward to by all, we journeyed by electric train to Monkseaton, and arrived about 11-30 a.m. After having lunch we rambled on to the long sands. We had a most enjoyable time. The children took a very keen interest in a varied programme of sports we had arranged. Miss L. Clarke and Mrs. Mein distributed the prizes to the successful scholars. The second part

of our programme being an excellent spread when we all did ample justice to the good things.—D. R. Davies, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE (Benwell).—On August 7th we had our open session. Mrs. Rutherford, one of our members, spoke to the children on "Obedience." Our sisters remarks were enjoyed by all. Recitations by the following: Harry Morris, "The Cherry Tree"; Phillis Rutherford, "The Daffodils." A reading by three little girls, Edith Simpson, Unis Mathinson, Mary Ridley, called "Angry Words." A solo, "Catch the Sun-shine," by Ivy Mathinson. Recitation by Lily Ridley, "A sister's dream;" Henry Rutherford, "Are we not brothers all?"; Norman Brown, "A Soldier's Dream." A reading by Lizzie Turnbull and Nora Morris called "An invitation to the Lyceum." I am pleased to say our marching is improving greatly. We had our summer excursion on the 6th by train to Ryton.—Annetta Scott, Conductor. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

NOTTINGHAM (Parliament Street).—August 2nd the usual annual Lyceum party was held at Bulwell Hall. We had 94 sitting down to tea, including our worthy President, Mrs. Twelvetre. After tea Messrs. Masters, W. Lester, and Newham took the children in hand for racing. We also went in for all the usual games. Mrs. Lester kindly distributed the prizes with the greatest satisfaction to all concerned. Then up came Mr. Weston with the sweets and nuts, when we had a good scramble. We sang pieces from the *Manual* while marching to the station. It was an enjoyable time both for young and old.—C. H. Newham, Secretary.

OLDHAM (Union Street).—On Sunday, July 31st, we held our open sessions. In the afternoon the readings, songs, solos, pearls, and recitations were given in good style, after which a neighbouring conductor spoke very encouragingly as to our methods of procedure, and hoped in the near future to give us another visit. In the evening we had a public meeting when the children rendered selections. Mr. A. Pickup, one of the youngsters, rendered a solo in grand style. Short addresses were given by Mr. E. Brierley, Mr. R. Cheetham, and Mr. Chisnall. Mr. Standish gave clairvoyant descriptions. Altogether we had a very good time which made one long for the time to come again.—Wm. Chisnall, Secretary.

PENDLETON (Ford Lane).—I am sorry to report our Lyceum is suffering for lack of enthusiasm. As we have decided to celebrate our 21st anniversary on October 9th, 1910, I sincerely hope that all the officers and Lyceumists in this district will rally round us to make the event a big success that will infuse courage into the hearts of all. A hearty invitation is given to all Lyceumists and lovers of the Lyceum work.—C. Lloyd, Secretary.

RISHTON (Eachill Road).—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our usual open session, conducted by Mr. Howarth. Willie Plant led silver chain recitation "Life is what we make it." Richard Cooke, Harriet A. Holden, Mary F. Haughton, and Violet Cox took part in the musical reading "We all might do good." Willie Plant led golden chain, "The conduct of life." Eva Green and Evelyn Green, duet, "Smile and be contented." Edric Holden recited "How to make a pig." A solo was rendered by Mr. Cooke, entitled, "The veil has been rent in twain." The marching and calisthenics were gone through. The session ended with a number of thoughtful pearls.—Meta H. Cunliffe, Secretary.

ROYTON (Union Street).—On Sunday, August 21st, we held our usual Lyceum open session. In the afternoon we had an open air service, which was appreciated by strangers. The speakers were Mr. Lester and Mr. Frost, of Oldham. In the evening the following programme was gone through: Silver chain recitation, "Your Mission"; Musical reading, "The Angels"; golden chain recitation, "The conduct of life." Miss Lottie Garside sang a solo entitled, "Angels lead my footsteps." We had two friends with us who sang duets, "The Emigrant Ship," and "God speed the right." Marching and calisthenics were done in a creditable manner. Mr. Frost gave a short address. Mr. H. Buckley officiated as musical director.

RUNCORN.—The above Lyceum held its annual pic-nic to Overton Hills on Saturday, August 13th, a good number of Lyceumists and friends being present. A splendid tea was prepared by Mrs. Glover, of the Beacon Pic-nic Grounds, to which everyone did justice. After tea, sports were indulged in and prizes were also awarded to the non-successful competitors. A ramble over the hills was much enjoyed, and finally a return made to the Beacon, light refreshments handed round, and the

return journey made to Runcorn.—(Mrs.) C. Clare, Hon. Secretary.

SHAW (Lyon Street).—On Sunday, July 31st, we had a visit from Mrs. Nurse, President B.S.L.U., and some friends from Regent Hall, Rochdale. After our own usual session Mrs. Nurse gave us a nice short speech, after which Regent Hall Lyceumists went through their marches, which we all enjoyed. On Sunday, August 14th, we held an old scholars and members' re-union. In the afternoon we had an open session which was well attended. Recitations and solos were given by Ivy Wainwright, Nancy Rawlinson, Annie and Maggie Plant, and Mrs. Whitehead (one of the oldest scholars), David Shaw, Robert Ingham, Wilfred Wainwright. Mrs. Diggle, of Oldham, and Mr. Hudson, of Rochdale, spoke of the healthy condition of the Lyceum.—J. Leigh, Secretary and Conductor. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

SHEFFIELD (Heeley).—On Sunday, August 7th, we held our open session. There was only a moderate attendance, and a scarcity of volunteers towards the afternoon's programme. The efforts of the following Lyceumists were appreciated: Pianoforte solo by E. Vickers; violin solo, Wilfred Norris; solo, E. Vickers; reading, Mrs. Middleton; recitations, Evelyn Hempstock, Alice Cross and Jessie Arnold. The session was conducted by Miss Kate Wood. Sunday, August 14th, Conductor B. Magness. In the afternoon Mr. Ernest Oaten gave a brief address to members of Liberty Group, basing his remarks on the first paragraph in G.C.R. "Our Rights." Discussion followed. Mr. William Marklew, D.V., paid his official visit to our Lyceum.—G. Stevenson, Secretary.

SOUTHPORT (Hawkshead Street).—We have had some real good sessions this month and our Lyceum is gradually improving. The Liberty Group has been conducted by Miss Ruth Sage (Birkenhead), Mr. Fiddes (Southport), and Mrs. O'Keef (Liverpool). We have had visitors from the following Lyceums: Leeds, Castleford, Accrington, Blackburn, Darwin, Bradford, Halifax, Rochdale, and Manchester. On Sunday, August 7th, we had an open session, a recitation was given by Miss E. Bolton. Mr. Smith, of Accrington, assistant conductor, Mr. Crabtree, of Leeds, and Miss Smith, assistant conductor, Blackburn, gave some very encouraging advice, which will be very useful to us. Mrs. O'Keef said that she was pleased with the interest taken in the pearls.—Miss V. M. Saunders. [Please note Rule 3.—Ed.]

STALYBRIDGE (Bennett Street).—On Sunday morning Mrs. Nurse, of Rochdale, the President of the Children's Progressive Spiritual Lyceum Union, paid a visit to the Lyceum in connection with the New Spiritual Church, Bennett Street. The session was opened with singing and prayer, after which the silver chain recitations and musical readings were ably gone through. The conductor, Mr. Croasdale, cordially welcomed the president, Mrs. Nurse, amongst them, and in a very suitable address she assured the Lyceumists that it was a real pleasure to be with them, although they were not as large in numbers as some Lyceums. She was pleased with the way they had gone through their *Manual*, and she urged upon them to be earnest and devoted Lyceumists.

TODMORDEN, RIVERSIDE (Patmos).—On Sunday, Aug. 7th, we held our Lyceum open session, when the following programme was gone through: Misses Bertha Lee, Lavinia Sutcliffe, and Sarah Stephenson sang, "Sweet Summerland." Song, Miss Betsy Alice Crossley, "Never give up the right way." Duet, Misses Lilian May Firth and Edith Skearet, "Weary Gleaners." Recitation, Miss Annie M. Sutcliffe, "Bed Time." A reading, Mr. Ed. Clapham, "The Wreck of the Hesperus." Recitation, Miss Bertha Lee, "The Little Beggar Boy." Song, Miss Edith Skearet, "Shall you, shall I."—Leonard Sutcliffe, Secretary.

WOMBWELL.—Sunday, July 31st, a service of song entitled, "In Heaven's Name," author, Walter Booth, was ably read by Mr. Hetherington, of Barnsley. Soloists, Mrs. T. W. Birkett and Misses Snowella Sykes and Lilian Spittlehouse. The musical part was ably conducted by Mr. T. W. Birkett, our worthy organist. The pleasure of such an inspiring service depends on the able efforts of a good organist, and in Mr. T. W. Birkett we have got a very enthusiastic and earnest Lyceumist. The impressive reading by Mr. Hetherington held the audience spellbound. Pleased to say our Lyceum is increasing in numbers under the able conductorship of Mr. G. Kenyon and Miss M. Roberts. Chairman, Mr. S. D. Spittlehouse.—S. D. Spittlehouse, Secretary.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

INSTITUTED AT OLDHAM, MAY, 1890.

President: Mrs. Lizzie Nurse, 25, Belfield Road, Rochdale.

Treasurer: Mr. Councillor John Venables, Hydesville, Foden Road, Walsall.

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

Lyceum District Councils.

BRADFORD.—Secretary, Mr. H. Birdsall, 9, Northampton Street, Bradford.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD.—Secretary, Mr. Fred France, 32, Elland Road, Brighouse.

LEEDS.—Secretary, Miss Alice Hesp, 15, Cross Flatts Place, Beeston, Leeds.

LIVERPOOL.—Secretary, Mr. Henry Walker, 26, Stamford Avenue, Crewe.

LONDON.—Secretary, Mr. Alex. Brooking, 17, Geneva Road, Brixton, S.W.

MANCHESTER.—Secretary, Mr. Fred Snape, 91, Chapel Road, Hallinwood, near Oldham.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE.—Mr. George C. Higham, 107, Burnley Road, Padiham, near Burnley.

NORTH-LANCASHIRE AND CUMBERLAND.—Secretary, Mr. J. W. Huddleston, 87, Smeaton Street, Barrow-in-Furness.

ROCHDALE.—Secretary, Mr. John Frost, 35, Norah Street, Oldham.

SHEFFIELD.—Secretary, Mr. C. Haythorne, 4, Southwell Road, Grimethorpe, Sheffield.

SCOTLAND.—Secretary, Mr. H. A. Kerr, 471, Shanchiehall Street, Glasgow.

TEESIDE.—Mr. W. Cowell-Pugh, 61, St. Paul's Road, Middlesbrough.

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. Miss E. A. Whittle, 58, Paxton-street.
- Accrington,** China-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. John Leach, 26, China-street.
- Altrincham,** 15, Kingsway (late Stamford-street), 2-30 p.m., Miss Harris, 27, Place-road.
- Armley,** Theaker-lane, 10 a.m. and 2-15 p.m. Mr. John Warrington, jr., 23, Thornville Crescent, Brudenell-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. W. Dransfield, 13, Russell-street, Hurst.
- Bacup,** Market-street, 2 p.m. Mr. John W. Taylor, 54, Market-street.
- Barnoldswick,** Green-street, 10-30 and 1-30. Mr. Ernest Holden, 15, Westgate, near Colne.
- Barnoldswick,** West End Spiritual Temple, 10 and 1-30. Mr. R. Ashley, 18, Stuart-street, near Colne.
- Barnsley,** George-yard, 10-30 and 1-45. Miss Bellerby, 2, School-street, Oldtown.
- Barrow-in-Furness,** Abbey-road, 10-30 and 2. Mr. Wm. Brooks, 46, Smeaton-street.
- Barrow-in-Furness,** Dalkeith-street, 10 and 2. Mr. James Kendall, 31, Osborne-street.
- Batley Carr,** Car-street, 10 and 2. Mr. Walter Hartley, 7, Mount terrace, Batley.
- Belper,** Jubilee Hall, 10 and 2. Mr. J. H. Hawkins, Brookside.
- Birkenhead,** Co-op. Hall, Catherine street 11 a.m. Mr. E. G. Heath, 128, Oxtown-road.
- Birmingham,** 52, Crawford-street, Sattleys, 3-0. Mr. H. Reeves, 115, Rocky-lane, Netchells.
- Birmingham,** Smethwick, 2-30 p.m. Mr. Fred Purcell, 97, Cheshire-road, Smethwick.
- Blackburn,** Northgate, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. W. Hastings, 20, Charlotte street.
- Blackburn,** St. Peter Street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. Herbert Robinson, 97, Ingham-street.
- Blackpool,** Albert-road, 9-30 a.m. Mr. G. W. Garlick, 91, Whitegate Drive.
- Bolton,** Bradford-street, 10 a.m. Mr. Robert Wilson, 42, Lever Street.
- Bolton,** Commission-street, 10 a.m. Miss E. Rostrom, 65, High street.
- Bradford,** Laisterdyke, Bradford-lane, 10 and 1-30. Mr. James Babbs, 4, Walnut-st., Leeds-road.
- Bradford,** Carlisle-road, Ivy Rooms, 10 a.m. Miss F. Beanland, 193, Priestman-street, Manningham.
- Bradford,** Little Horton, Star-street, 10-30 and 2. Mr. W. Robinson, 9, Spicer-street, Little Horton.
- Bradford,** Otley-road, 10-30 a.m. Miss Edith Flatt, 75, Airedale-road.
- Bradford,** Shirley-road (Dudley Hill), 10 and 1-45. Mr. Henry Rar, 214, Cutler Heights-lane.
- Bradford,** West Bowling, Boynton-street, 10-30 and 1-45. Mr. A. E. Carter, 299, Wakefield-rd., E. Bowling.
- Brierfield,** Clitheroe-road, 10 a.m. Mr. James Appleby, 4, Chapel-street, nr. Burnley.
- Brighouse,** Martin-street, 10 and 2. Mr. James Crossley, 14, Bryan street, Rastrick.
- Brighton,** Manchester-street, 2-45 p.m. Mr. Frank G. Clarke, Bagshot Villa, 16, Bondary-road, West Hove.
- Brownhill,** High-street, 9-30 and 2 to 3. Mr. W. Yates, High-street, near Walsall.
- Burnley,** Farnmerton-street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mrs. Riley, 55, Gordon-street.
- Burnley,** North-street, 9-30 a.m. and 1-45. Mr. John Laycock, 16, Renshaw street.
- Burton-on-Trent,** Haringlow-wharf, 10 and 2-45. Mr. H. Brownhall, 18, Derby-road.
- Bury,** off Paradise-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. Joseph Wood, 23, Lima-street, Huntley Brook.
- Cardiff,** 58, Queen-street, 2-45 p.m. Mr. Wm. E. Jones, 2, Eclipse-street, Roath.
- Castleford,** Joseph-street, 10-15 and 1-30. Mr. Joseph Field, 75, Ambler-street.
- Chadderton,** off Brook-street, 10 a.m. Mrs. Oldfield 74, Bamford-street, near Oldham.
- Chester,** Commonhall-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. A. Richardson, 48, Catherine street.
- Chesterfield,** Old Falcon Assembly Rooms, 10-30. Mr. Trevor Brawn, 6 North Terrace, Hasland.
- Clayton-le-Moors,** Victor-st., 10-30 a.m. Mr. James Simpson, 80, Pickup Street, near Accrington.
- Clockheaton,** Old-Robin-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. George Bryan, 16, Stone street, Westgate.
- Colne,** Cloth-hall, 10 a.m. Mr. Nicholson Jobling, 13, Lords Street.
- Coventry,** Bull-street (off Hertford-street), 10-30 a.m. Mrs. A. A. Key, 64, Oliver-street.
- Crewe,** Mill-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Henry Walker, 26, Stamford-avenue.
- Crompton,** Rochdale-rd., 10 and 2. Mr. Charles Smith, 15, Oak-street, Shaw, near Oldham.
- Daisy Hill,** Mabel-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Walter Shepherd, 147, Hindley Road, near Bolton.
- Darlington,** Bondgate, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. W. S. Jubb, 92, Northgate.
- Darwen,** Churchbank-street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. James Nightingale, 10, Pine Street.
- Dearnley,** Rochdale-rd., 10 a.m. Mr. Ernest Dean, 84, William-street, Featherstall, Littleborough.
- Derby,** Charnwood-street, 9-45 and 2 p.m. Mr. H. Wade, 2, Cockpit-hill, Marledge.
- Dewsbury,** Bond-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. V. Phillips, 11, Ridgeway-street.
- Doncaster,** Temperance Hall, 10-30 a.m. Miss Hilda Hilson, 42, Childer-street, Elmfield.
- Doncaster,** Wood-st., 10-30 a.m. Mr. T. Smith, 89, Albany-road.
- Dukinfield,** Railway-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Wm. Garside, 20, West Street.
- Dundee,** Barrack-street, 12-30 a.m. Mr. John Miller, 80, Ward-road.
- Dundee,** Rattray-street, 12-30 a.m. Miss Ina Fleming, 14, Arthurstone Terrace.
- Earlston,** Earle-street, Co-operative Hall, 1-45 p.m. Mr. Walter Duncan, 18, Chandos-street, near Newton le-Willows.
- Edinburgh,** Society of Arts Hall, 117, George Street, 2-30 p.m. Mr. David Niven, 43, Morrison-street.
- Elland,** James-street, 10 a.m. Miss Mary A. Marsden, 82, Langdale Street.
- Foleshill,** Broad Street, 10-30 a.m., Mr. James Gibbs, 42, Argyle street, Coventry.
- Fordsgate,** Main-street, 11 a.m. Mr. R. J. Thomas, P.O. Box 23, South Africa.
- Gateshead,** Rectory Hall, St. Cuthbert's Place, 2-30 p.m. Mr. M. Mather, 152, Brinkburn Avenue.
- Glasgow,** Govan, Paisley-road, 4 p.m. Mr. H. A. Kerr, 471, Sauchiehall-street.
- Glasgow,** Ebenezer Church, Waterloo-street, 4 p.m. Mr. Wm. G. McPherson, 10, George-drive, South Govan.
- Great Harwood,** West Well-street, 10-0 a.m. Miss Matilda Crooks, 3, Back Church st., nr Blackburn.
- Grimbsy,** Strand-street, 2 p.m. Miss Daisy Scott, 75, Blundell Avenue, New Cleethorpes.
- Hadfield,** Albert-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. W. Chorley, 5, Marlow-street, 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. Levi Blackburn, 10, Luton street, Queen's road.
- Heaton Norris,** Baker-street, 10 and 2. Mrs. J. Williams, 60, Lancaster Hill, Stockport.
- Hebden Bridge,** Victoria Hall, Cheetham Street, 10-30 and 1-45. Mr. G. Uttley, Dale View, Mytholm-rovd, S.O. Yorks.
- Heckmondwike,** Tower Street, 10-30 and 2. Mr. W. R. Lunn, Co-op. Buildings, Huddersfield-road, Liversedge.
- Heywood,** William-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. John G. Watkinson, 26, York street.
- Higher Broughton,** Hilton-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. G. F. James, 69, Hilton-street, 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, 91, Chapel road, near Oldham.
- Hollinwood,** Hudson-street, 10 a.m. Mr. Percy Lees 320, Ashton-road, East, Failsworth, Manchester.
- 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. Tom Ellis, 74, Fifth-street.
- Huddersfield,** St. Peter-street, 10-15 a.m. Miss Nellie Crowe, 16, Grove-street.
- Hull,** Lime-street, 10-30 a.m. Mrs. C. Headley, 18, Ellisterrace, Holderness-road.
- Hull,** Wright-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. Wm. Geo. Allen, 11, Claremont-avenue, Nicholson-street.
- Hyde,** Clarendon-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss G. Bottomley, 64, Clarendon street.
- Jarrow,** Market-square, 2 p.m. Miss Alice Greaves 31 Beech street.
- Johannesburg,** 11 a.m. Mr. R. T. Foley, P.O. Box 4.
- Keighley,** Heber-street, 10 and 2. Miss M. L. Stair, North-street.
- Lancaster,** the Phoenix Rooms, off Parliament-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. James Kirk, 69, Grasmere-road, Freehold.
- Leeds,** Bethel-street, 10 a.m. Miss F. Woodhead, 22, Purton street, Dewsbury road.
- Leeds,** Church-street, Hunslet, 10 and 2. Miss Rose H. Dickinson, 16, Woodville Place, Hunslet Carr.
- Leeds, EAST,** 7, Easy-road, 10-30 and 2. Mr. Jack Coll, 47, Cross Green Crescent, Easy-road.
- Leeds,** Grove-house-lane (Psycho), Miss Pawson, 27, Prosperity-street, Camp-road.
- Leeds,** Joseph-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss Frances Innocent, 133, Grape-street, Hunslet.
- Leicester,** Queen-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. James Bishop, 10, Mere-road.
- Leicester,** Silver-street, Queen's Hall, 2-45 p.m. Mr. J. Hurst, 36, Gernym-street, Melton-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, Selson Street, Lancs.
- Lincoln,** Progressive Hall, Coultham street, 10-15 a.m. Mr. Harry C. Dobby, 50, Park street.
- Littletown,** Well-street, 10-30 and 2. Miss Florence Brook, 4, Ramsden-street, Little town, nr. Liversedge.
- Liverpool,** Dauby-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. Rodgers, 45, Tunstall-street, Smithdown-road.
- Liverpool,** 2, Romer-road, Kensington, 2-45 p.m. Mr. Wm. Cretney, 21, Chantry-street, Edge Hill.
- Liverpool,** South, 83a, Winlor street. Mr. Richard M. Kirvig, 18, Swiss street, High Park street.
- London,** Battersea, Henley-street, 3 p.m. Miss Goodwin, 119, Trevelyan road, Tooting.
- London,** Brixton, 81, Stockwell Park Road, 3 p.m. Mr. Alex. Brooking, 17, Geneva-road, Brixton, S.W.
- London,** Fulham, S.W., 25, Fernhurst-street, 3 p.m. Mr. Joseph Dix, 9, Bloom Park-road, Fulham.
- London,** Kingston, Park-road, 3 p.m. Miss M. Welbelove, 109, Bonner Hill-rd., Norbiton, Surrey.
- London, E.,** Manor Park, Shrewsbury-road, 11 a.m. Miss Emily Glennie, 48, Rusheim Ave., Manor Park.
- London, E.,** Plaistow, Braemar-road, 3 p.m. Mr. T. H. Trumble, 2, Tabernacle Avenue, Barking-road, Plaistow, E.
- London,** South Tottenham, Glendale Hall, 12, St. Anne's-road, 3 p.m. Mr. Harold H. Jones, 77a, St. Anne's-road, Stamford Hill, N.
- London,** Walthamstow, St. John's-road, 11 a.m. Mr. S. R. Gent, 22, Carter-lane, E.C.
- Longton,** Stone-road, 10 and 2. Mr. Hugh McCartney, Near Heath, near Blythe Bridge, North Staff.
- Macclesfield,** Cumberland-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. William Albinson, 5, Bond-street.
- Manchester,** Ardwick, 58, Maskell-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. George Vernon 223, Radnor-street, Hulme.