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A MONTHLY RECORD

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A Paper for the Lyceum, the Society, and the Home.

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SERIAL AND OTHER STORIES.

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[ONE PENNY.]

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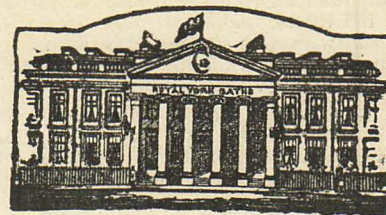
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Mr. CHARLES F. RIDEAL.

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What Three Children heard under an Oak.

BY FLORENCE MORSE.

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CHAPTER II.

WHAT STUMPY SAID.

"Wake up, wake up Dora, here's anover day an' p'raps we can go and hear some more about Mrs. Stwirrel" cried Edie, vigorously shaking her sister.

"What do you want, Edie?"

"Its time to get up, its ever so late, I know its nearly breffast."

As Edie spoke a clock down stairs began to strike—

"One, two, three, four, five." "Why Edie, go to sleep again its only five" answered Dora rather closely, and in another minute she was fast asleep. But Edie lay wide awake, busily thinking, wondering if they could find Harry who had caught the squirrel, then she began to think of all the animals she had seen at the Zoological Gardens until she too fell asleep, to dream that a tiger and an elephant were wheeling her round the garden in a wheel-barrow.

When getting up time really came, all three jumped out of bed directly they were told to, so eager were they to hear what Stumpy would have to tell, but alas it was a wet morning and no amount of pleading or coaxing could win permission to go out.

"But Mamma, we could take a umbrelly, we wouldn't be wet then" pleaded Edie.

"I am afraid you would dears. You shall go as soon as it is fine and dry enough" answered Mamma. And with that they were forced to be content.

It rained all day long, all the next day, all the day after that, and the day after that. Each morning three anxious faces peeped out, only to turn away again looking still more anxious. How they longed for fine weather, and so did Mamma for she had hard work to keep them indoors

"We'll go the very first fine day there is," declared Teddy, "even if the ground isn't very dry."

But the first fine day was Sunday, and Sunday was the day of all the week they liked best, for that was Papa's day at home. Such a delightful day: a long walk in the morning, stories and quiet games in the afternoon, and most delightful of all, bed-time was half-past eight instead of half-past seven. Mrs. Squirrel and the woods were forgotten for a while, and perhaps would have been forgotten altogether had not Stumpy been there, a constant reminder.

Monday morning dawned bright and clear, the ground looked fairly dry, so directly breakfast was over the three

started for the wood, followed by Stumpy.

Stumpy was a forlorn-looking little fox-terrier, who had taken up his abode with the children a few months previous, just a poor half-starved little dog that none had the heart to drive away. He certainly was not a handsome animal, his coat was too rough, there were several bad scars on his head, half one ear was missing, and his tail was the shortest ever seen, so short that "Stumpy" was considered the best possible name for him, but he was thoroughly good tempered, much attached to the children, and a good little watch-dog. He no longer looked half starved, but no amount of kind treatment could make him a pretty dog.

The three children had loved him from the first, when they found him sitting on the doorstep, but Papa and Mamma, fearing he might be bad-tempered, only allowed him to remain on the understanding that he must be kept in the stable and never be brought into the house, a rule that, so far, had never been broken.

Stumpy evidently knew why he was being taken to the wood, for he ran and frisked along, brought stones for Teddy to throw, dashed after them, and altogether behaved like a dog who has more delight and energy than he quite knows what to do with.

"Don't make yourself so tired Stumpy" said Dora "you won't have any breath to talk with"

And Stumpy wagged his ridiculous little tail as though he would say "No fear of that."

"Here's a beautiful big oak," called Edie.

"No, Edie, thats a fir" said Teddy, "there's an oak and a big one too. Come along Stumpy, why, where's he gone to?"

"There he is Teddy, chasing a squirrel Stumpy, Stumpy, you naughty dog, you mustn't do that. Come here sir, this minute."

Stumpy came and meekly sat down on the ground before them looking penitent.

"Now you know" began Teddy "we have discovered that if we talk to you while we are under this tree, that you can talk back so that we can understand you and we want to know all about you, please."

"Alright, sit down and listen" answered Stumpy in such a funny, hoarse voice, that the children nearly laughed at him. "I've often wanted to tell you how I came to your house, but you could'nt understand."

"We wants to know where you was borned an' about all the people youse lived with" said Edie, putting her arm round the dog's neck.

"I was born in a nice big basket that was half full of straw. I don't remember my mother, for you know baby dogs are blind, and I was taken away from her before I could see. I missed her at

first, but the people who had me, took great care of me, kept me warm and fed me with milk. When I was old enough to tumble out of my basket and look about I found a very pretty little girl was my owner. As I grew bigger and strong she taught me to beg, play dead dog, carry a ball, say my prayers, and a lot of other things that I have forgotten. Her name for me was "Punch," and it was engraved on a little collar and put round my neck. When this little girl's Papa found I could do the tricks she taught me, he began to teach me to jump. It's very easy to just jump over a stick, but he made me do it on two legs, first the hind ones, then the front ones. When I could do that I learned to walk on my front paws, jump head over heels backwards, and climb up and down little ladders. I was what he called a performing dog. He was very kind to me, but I always had to do what he wanted, he hardly ever whipped me, so, although he made me do all my tricks before a lot of people every night, I was very fond of him. I was not the only dog he had, there were four others, who did the same kind of things; people used to clap their hands when they saw us, so I suppose we were clever dogs.

"We went to a great many places and I began to get rather tired, so one night I made up my mind to run away for a few hours, enjoy a good scamper and then come home again. After the performance I managed to get away and oh, what a delightful time I had. I got acquainted with a big black dog almost directly and we ran races, chased cats and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. As I was going home I met a cross looking bull-terrier who commenced to worry me, that made me cross and we began to fight. He was much heavier than me and I was badly bitten, you can see the scar on the top of my head. Some man separated us and took me home where, after being well whipped to punish me for running away, I was carefully nursed. It was two weeks before I could jump for anyone and after that I was chained up directly I left the stage.

To be Continued.

—*—

OUR LYCEUMS LEAD THE WAY!

To the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

DEAR SIR—I see in this week's *Two Worlds*, Mr Wallace (pioneer) says that the Lancashire Lyceum Demonstration at Stockport last summer, was the finest meeting the Spiritualists ever held in England. We are looking forward to the Spiritualists to have this honour in the Jubilee Year if they can. But the Lyceums will look to their laurel gained and try to still hold it by united efforts. —J. B. LONGSTAFF, Hon Sec.



THE GOLDEN GROUP

CONDUCTED BY AUNT EDITHA.

MOTTO :

KINDNESS TEMPERANCE PURITY.

MEMBERSHIP :

Membership in the Golden Group is open to all children and young people, throughout the world, who are Spiritualists, whether belonging to a Children's Lyceum or not. All that is required is that they assent to its rules, and send their names to Aunt Editha, care of the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

RULES :

All Members are required to promise: I. That they will endeavour to be kind and loving towards all, including their various pets. II. That they will try to be temperate in all things, and try to abstain from using intoxicants and tobacco. III. That they will not bet or use profane or vulgar language.

CERTIFICATES.

Every Member upon joining must apply for a Certificate of Membership. To obtain this you must either send direct to Aunt Editha, or hand to your Secretary, if you belong to a Lyceum, One Half-penny to cover the cost and carriage of certificate. Names are not published, or entered upon the Roll, until the above rule is complied with. All names of Members will be published in the LYCEUM BANNER every month.

SPECIAL NOTICES :

Aunt Editha will be glad to receive short letters from Members of the Golden Group upon anything they think would interest the Group. Please give the name of your Lyceum, if you belong to one, and your number in the group.



AUNT EDITHA TO HER NEPHEWS AND NEICES.

Our February Meeting.

SESSION 64.

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,

You will all be glad to learn that Master Johnny has got quite well, and by the time you see these lines he will be back in school again. He was able to get up the day before Christmas, so instead of eating his Christmas dinner in bed, as he once feared, he was very much up on Christmas Day, and thoroughly enjoyed himself, I can assure you. Indeed, he had what he described as "a real jolly day," and what with his dinner, nuts, fruit and cakes, Auntie had to keep quite a watchful eye upon him, lest, after his illness, he ate more than was good for him. He had a few young friends in to spend the evening of the next day with him, and they enjoyed themselves as only happy hearted boys and girls can. They had a little dancing, some games, a box or two of "Smith's" Crackers, a nice little supper, and though it was snowing quite hard when "good-bye time" came, they all went merrily home, their laughter waking up the echoes all down the road. When the young man said good-bye on leaving for school, Auntie was ever so sorry to part with him, and for several days the house was quite dull without him. But school must be attended, and after pleasure always comes work. A good education is the foundation of usefulness, so Auntie hopes that Johnny will grow up a good and useful man in due time.

Auntie has been clearing out her desk and was astonished to find several letters and poems that she had overlooked. So this month, she will have a sort of clear-up, and in future keep things a little more straight for you all. The first thing Auntie found was the following pretty poem from an ever welcome little lady,

whom DAISY DIMPLE thought was a boy! It should have appeared in my December letter, but as it is very pretty it will not have lost by being delayed. It is entitled:—

A PRAYER FOR ANGEL GUIDANCE.

Oh Heavenly Parent make me pure,
And draw my thoughts to Thee;
Give power to dear ones gone before
To guide, and comfort me.

I am but wayward weak and young,
And troubles I must meet!
Oh give me confidence dear Lord,
To lay them at Thy feet.

Oh Heavenly Parent make me good,
Oh may I gentle be;
And give the Angels power dear Lord
To guide my thoughts to Thee.

With the above poem there was a nice letter from the writer, who is Miss Ednor Turton, and Auntie will put the letter in just here:—

A LETTER FROM EDNOR TURTON.

DEAR AUNT EDITHA.—I thought I would like to write to you again and let you know I have not forgotten you. We have the BANNER every month, and I always look for the GOLDEN GROUP. I think the BANNER is very nice now, with the GOLDEN GROUP, DAISY PAGE, and UNCLE HARRY. I am sending you a short poem of my own composing, entitled "Prayer for Angel Guidance," for the GOLDEN GROUP, if you think it is suitable.—I remain, yours lovingly,

EDNOR TURTON.

116 Waterloo Road,
Cheetwood, Manchester.

Then Auntie discovered a nice letter from Mr. Herbert Fitton, of the Colne Lyceum, who kindly sends us fourteen names for the Big Book, and for which Auntie thanks him very much. She also hopes this interest will stimulate the Conductors in other Lyceums to follow the excellent example, and show their interest in our work. This is the letter—

A LETTER FROM MR. H. FITTON,
COLNE.

DEAR AUNT EDITHA.—There are some of our members who wish to join the GOLDEN GROUP, through the efforts of Mr. Harry Baldwin, our Conductor. They promise to obey the Rules, and they ask me to apply for their Certificates, which I now do. It is quite a good list, isn't it? Quite a credit to the Colne Lyceum. With best wishes, I am, fraternally yours,

HERBERT FITTON.

16 Midgley Street, Colne.

Auntie greatly appreciates the above letter, and is delighted to add the fourteen names to the list.

The next thing Auntie found was a list of six names from the Hammerton Street Lyceum, Burnley, from the Union's President and Auntie's good friend, Mr. William Mason. These are now on the Book, and will be found at the foot of this letter.

Then, on turning over some more letters, Auntie found another one, and a poem, from Ednor Turton, which she was unable to use in the New Year's Number. Ednor will see that her poem is in this number, and I will also put her last letter in as well, so she will get two letters and two poems in this month. Here is the letter—

A LETTER FROM EDNOR TURTON.

DEAR AUNT EDITHA.—I was sorry you could not put my poem entitled: "Prayer for Angel Guidance," in the BANNER, but I feel I should like to remember you again for the coming New Year, so have sent you a poem entitled: "Thoughts for the New Year," and I hope it will be suitable for the GOLDEN GROUP. With best wishes for a Happy New Year, I remain, yours affectionately,

EDNOR TURTON.

And now the poem shall follow:—

THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

New Year bells are ringing clear,
Hearts and voices far and near
Welcome in another Year.

Yes a New Year's come again,
With its triumph and its pain,
Shall we live it all in vain?

Shall we let temptation win,
Let our souls be lured to sin,
And no conscience speak within?

Let us do our best to bless,
Make some mourner's grief seem less,
By sweet love and tenderness.

Let us to our Father pray,
For His help from day to day,
He will shew us the right way.

There, that is all the letters that are over-due, and Auntie apologizes to their writers for the accidental delay in printing them. She promises it shall not occur again, so, she hopes you will forgive her this time.

Now for the letters that have reached me this year. The first is from Parkgate Lyceum, and it contains twelve names. Quite a good beginning for the New Year, is it not? I will put the letter here, the names at the end, as usual, as they are entered in the Big Book, with all the others.

A LETTER FROM MR. J. W. MARRIOTT.

DEAR AUNT EDITHA.—As a reader of the BANNER, I read with great interest the letters of the GOLDEN GROUP, and it compelled me to try and induce the members of our Lyceum to join the group. I am happy to say I have induced some to do so, and send you their names herein, with stamps for the Certificates. I am one of the Leaders in the Lyceum. With kind love, I am, yours truly,

J. W. MARRIOTT.

89 Attwood Road, Parkgate.

Then there came a nice little letter from Auntie's old friend, Mr. Kent, of the Smethwick Lyceum, containing three more names for the Big Book, which are duly entered. As the letter was mostly about business it cannot be printed here. Will all my friends refrain from putting anything about business in their letters to me, as I have to send it if they do, to the Editor, and that often causes mistakes, confusion, and delays in attention.

The last letter that Auntie received was from our President, Mr. W. Mason, but I have handed it to our Editor, as it is for his department. Mr. Mason has, however, sent me a dialogue, which I shall be pleased to use at the earliest opportunity, and for which I thank him very much.

Our Editor is at home again, and we are all delighted to know that he is in his chair once more. But we all owe Mr. Todd a deep debt of gratitude for keeping the BANNER going all the time that Mr. Morse was away in California. And when we remember that Mr. Todd did all the work freely, we must feel he is a really kind hearted worker for the cause, not only in this, but in many other things as well.

As Auntie is taking up quite a lot of room this month, she thinks it will be best to stop now, and say more to you next month. So, no more now, from your always loving,

AUNT EDITHA.

P.S.—Just as Auntie was finishing up the list she was delighted to receive a note from Mr. Todd, and in it she found a list of twenty-seven names for the Group, from the Sunderland Lyceum. There is a lot for you! You will find the names at the end, and they make quite an imposing display on their page in the Big Book. Auntie hopes to send that Book to the Conference this year, so look out for it. If your name is not down send it on so that it may be seen next May. Many thanks Mr. Todd for your fine addition to our roll.

ROLL OF MEMBERSHIP.

FEBRUARY LIST.

COLNE.

- 1033 Florence Caslaw
- 1034 Jessie Walton
- 1035 Annie Green
- 1036 Nellie Walton
- 1037 Florence Metcalfe
- 1038 Arthur Cotterell
- 1039 Charles Wm. Bean
- 1040 James Wood
- 1041 Joseph Wood
- 1042 Thomas Donill
- 1043 Thomas Cotterill
- 1044 Frank Cotterill
- 1045 Henry Cotterill
- 1046 Harry Bean

BURNLEY.—HAMMERTON STREET.

- 1047 Maggie Tricket
- 1048 Jane Whitaker
- 1049 Agnes Longsworth
- 1050 Sarah Ellen Longsworth
- 1051 Emma Holmes
- 1052 Joseph Crossley

PARKGATE.

- 1053 E. Featherstone
- 1054 J. W. Marriott
- 1055 George Moor
- 1056 Willie Moor
- 1057 Albert Story
- 1058 John Drower
- 1059 Maggie Clark
- 1060 Lizzie Clark
- 1061 Edith Thompson
- 1062 Emily Drower
- 1063 Alfred Green
- 1064 Florence Featherstone

BIRMINGHAM.—SMETHWICK.

- 1065 Hilda Lottie George
- 1066 Emily Winifred Kent
- 1067 Arthur Henry Kent

SUNDERLAND.

- 1068 Thomas Olman Todd
- 1069 Emily Elizabeth Todd
- 1070 Isabel Dale Todd
- 1071 Mary Alice E. Todd
- 1072 Albert James Todd
- 1073 Jane Todd
- 1074 Thomas Olman Todd, Jun.
- 1075 Mary White
- 1076 James White
- 1077 William White
- 1078 Annie White
- 1079 Lenora White
- 1080 Nellie Wendell
- 1081 Nellie Swann
- 1082 Olive Todd
- 1083 Harold Todd

- 1084 Dowell Todd
- 1085 Barbara Todd
- 1086 Avery Luckley
- 1087 Thomas Luckley
- 1088 Robert Grieves
- 1089 Lizzie Grieves
- 1090 Teany Hurst
- 1091 Ethel Hurst
- 1092 Ethel Brown
- 1093 May Brown
- 1094 Mrs. Thomas Olman Todd



B. S. L. U.

Official Notice.

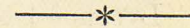
THE BRADFORD LYCEUM CONFERENCE,
MAY 9TH, 1897.

Notices of all motions to alter the British Spiritualists Lyceum Union's Constitution must be sent to me, setting forth the proposed amendments, *not later* than the First day of March, as per Article II.

Also, notices of all motions of general business must be sent to me *not later* than March 14th, as per Article VI.

Signed, ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

2 Royd-street, Bromley-Road,
Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.



BRITISH

SPIRITUALISTS LYCEUM UNION.

List of Contributions due for 1896-7.
which remain unpaid

	s.	d.
Accrington, The Temple	6	2
Barrow-in-Furness	no returns	
Batley	4	5
Blackburn	10	0
Cleckheaton	1	9
Darwen	12	4
Dewsbury	6	8
Elland	5	3
Heckmondwike	4	2
Heaton and Byker	2	3
Heywood	3	4
Hollinwood	3	5
Huddersfield, Brook-street	6	4
Liversedge	3	11
Manchester, Temperance Hall	5	9
Manchester, Psychological Hall... ..	10	10
Manchester, West Gorton	3	0
Millom	3	3
Nelson	7	5
Oldham, Bartlem-place	5	10
Patricroft	3	2
Pendleton	8	0
Rawtenstall	5	11
Rochdale, Bailey-street	4	1
Sheffield	3	4
Yeadon	no returns	

ALFRED KITSON, GEN. SEC.

2 Royd-street, Bromley-road,
Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.



LANCASHIRE LYCEUM DEMONSTRATION.—About 200 delegates, friends and Lyceumists sat down to a capital tea, at Ashton, on Saturday, Jan. 23rd, after which the delegates had a meeting. A concert was also given, by the Ashton Lyceum, at which there was a distribution of prizes to the children for attendance and good conduct, which elicited applause and gave great satisfaction.



Our Daisy Page

Edited by Daisy Dimple



MY DEAR DAISIES,

Whatever would we do if we had no BANNER, I am sure our Lyceum work would not be half so nice, for we would not get to know anything about any Lyceum except our own, and we would not get any GOLDEN GROUP, nor any UNCLE HARRY, nor any stories or pictures which we all like so much, and then there would be no DAISY PAGE, which would be worse than all.

I just wish you could have a peep into some of the letters I get. Why they are far nicer than Christmas or New Year Cards or Valentines or Birthday Cards, because they are not bought in a shop and sent just for the sake of a custom, but because the writers want to say things which they really mean.

Mr. Morse having got back home from America, I wrote him to know if he wanted me to write the DAISY PAGE, the same as I had done for Mr. Todd, and didn't he write back *quick*, to say "Yes most assuredly, my dearest Daisy," as though he thought I meant to run away.

Well, I am so glad we are still to have our page, and what is better, I have found out since

Jessie came to live with us that she can tell such a lot of splendid stories about boys and girls, and they are just the kind you would all like, and when her work is done in the evening she sometimes comes into my room with her sewing and knitting and tells the stories to me. I am going to write some of them down and ask our Editor to print them in our page.

I have had such a funny letter from Johnny since he went back to school, which I will give you next month.

My "Stockport Friend" whose story was printed last month, has written to say her name is Eliza H. Medcalf, and she also sends me the following poetry, which she got inspirationally.

THE CHILDREN'S DREAM.

It was a bitter cold winter's night,
The frost had made a splendid sight,
A little boy, with tattered clothes
Had laid in the street for a quiet repose.

He was only a boy of nine years old,
His limbs were stiff with the frost and cold ;

His mother had died, when he was a child,
And a younger brother she left beside.

Jim, he was five, and Teddy was two,
Their father was cruel and friends they were few ;

For God to her home their mother did call
While Teddy and Jim were weakly and small.

Laid on the ground, so cold and thin,
He dreamt that the angels were beckoning him

To a beautiful city all bright and fair,
And joy and gladness were prominent there.

"I cannot come and join your band,
For Teddy's at home, we live in the Strand,
If Teddy can come, then I will come too,
But I cannot leave him, with friends so few."

Just then he was wakened by a youth
passing by,

He rubbed his eyes, and wondered why
The angels were now nowhere to be seen,
And wondered still more where he had just been.

"Get up, my boy," the youth kindly said,
"Have you no home nor no nice warm bed?"

"I have got a home, but bed I have none,
For father gets drink and for money its gone."

"Eat this," said the youth, as he gave
him some bread,

"I'll see if my mother can find you a bed."

"I'll take it to Teddy," Jim quickly said,
"He's now ill at home, and I fear he's near dead."

"My mother's been dead for nearly four
years,

And lots of people came and shed many
tears ;

And when they had gone, me and Teddy
were 'fraid,

For father went out and till midnight
stayed."

So off he ran to his home in the Strand,
Carrying his treasure in his tiny thin
hand.

"Oh Jim," said Teddy, "I'm glad you
have come,

I've been with bright children in a beau-
tiful home.

"The children were happy and joyful and
good,

And they said they needed neither cloth-
ing nor food,

And they said, 'Will you not come and
join us,

And then we will sing a grand swelling
chorus?'

"But I asked them to wait till you came
home, Jim,

And they smiled and said I was weak and
thin,

I could not stay long on this earth plane
of ours,

But would go with them among music
and flowers.

"You must not leave me, nor I leave
you

In care of a father who whips and swears
too,

Let us pray that the angels will take both
of us, Ted,

And father may mend when he sees us
both dead."

They both laid them down on their hard
bed of straw,

With their arms round each neck await-
ing the call,

And the angels came from their bright
homes of love,

To carry their spirits to their home above.

As this is the first poem which
has come inspirationally I think

it is an exceedingly good one. Brother Bob wanted to alter some of the lines when I showed it to him, but I would not let him.

Eliza also tells me that her little Spirit friends are as much interested in the DAISY PAGE as she is herself, and one of them who can write with the planchette sends me a sweet little letter to say how she loves her "Sister Daisy Dimple."

Here is another letter, from Dear Ednor Turton.

116 Waterloo Road,
Cheetwood, Manchester.

MY DEAR DAISY DIMPLE—I was very pleased with the Lyceum Card you sent me. I think it is very nice and thank you very much for it. I am sending you another poem for the DAISY PAGE, entitled: "Full of Fun." It is about a kitten this time, but I hope you will think it is suitable for the DAISY PAGE.—With fond love, I remain, your loving friend,

EDNOR TURTON.

December 31st, 1896.

FULL OF FUN.

Rolling over and over,

Turning a somerset high,

She is such a dear little kitten,

There are no tricks "Dolly" won't try.

Climbing up on to our shoulder,

Oh! see how fast she can run,

She does make us laugh with her antics,

She really is so full of fun.

And oh! to see her jumping,

Over our hands she'll go;

She never seems tired of playing,

She's so full of fun you know.

I loved her as soon as I saw her,

She has such a sweet, winning face,

She's just like a dear little fairy

Romping gaily about the place.

All your letters must now be addressed—

MR. J. J. MORSE,

For Daisy Dimple,

26 Osaburgh Street,

Euston Road,

London, N.W.

And now I must bid you all Good-bye till next month,

Your loving friend,

DAISY DIMPLE.

Friendly Words.

The LYCEUM BANNER for December has in it some excellent teaching, especially in the Synopsis for Lesson Plan. The lessons on "How to become good spirits," "The use of Spiritualism," and "What makes a Spiritualist?" are as wholesome as they are practical. "What makes a Spiritualist" is specially good. It insists upon that which makes the distinction between Spiritism and Spiritualism. We quote the whole of it. . . —*Light*, Dec. 19th, 1896.

The Grand New Year *double number* of the *Lyceum Banner* is a splendid two pennyworth. The illustrations and contents are first-rate. The alterations are decided improvements, and no Spiritualist household ought to be without a copy of the only Spiritualist paper devoted to the interests of the children. We heartily congratulate the editors, printers, and all concerned, and trust that they will be fully recompensed by a "record" sale. —*The Two Worlds*, Jan. 15th, 1897.

We have sold out the January number of the BANNER, and everyone speaks highly of its contents.—*Thomas Edwards*, Stockport Lyceum.

Let me compliment you on the excellence of your New Year BANNER. It aims at the best and purest objects. It contains striking and interesting matter, and is a Spiritualistic "Tit-Bits" for our children. The Lyceum Cards for 1897, we think, are all that could be desired.—*Secretary*, Accrington (Whalley Road) Lyceum.

I am exceedingly pleased with the New Year BANNER, which I think a great improvement.—*A. Bodell*, Belper.

Allow me to compliment you on the excellence of the New Year issue of the BANNER, for it is, without doubt, the best number ever issued. I hope that all Lyceumists will appreciate your earnest endeavours more in the future than they have done in the past, and thus award you a little compensation in the way of an increased circulation.—*Walter Booth*, Manchester.

The January Number of the *Lyceum Banner* fairly waves high—and big, too. Nicely gotten up with seasonable articles and pretty illustrations, besides photos, it really looks as smart and up-to-date as any of its well-supported Christian contemporaries. Bro. Todd has given the old folks as well as the toddlers a treat—in brevity, this issue "takes the bun" and its rivals in giving the prize should feel no re-Morse, for it is well won.—*The Mystical World*.

Lyceum Reports.

SHEFFIELD, HOLLIS HALL.—Lyceum Tea Dec. 30th, a success. After the needs of the body had been duly attended to, a large number of members and friends thoroughly enjoyed the pleasing entertainment provided. The tea was arranged and provided through the kindness of the Conductor Mrs. Wright.—Jan. 10th, Despite the wretched condition of the roads and the heavy atmosphere, a most happy time was spent with our old friend Mr. F. Hepworth of Leeds, whose occasional visits the children look forward to with glee. A very pleasant and profitable session was spent. Mr. Hepworth who is quite at home either as conductor, organist or special visitor delighted us all. Miss Mabel Ball a promising studious girl recited "Bruce and the Spider" and Miss Annie Randall recited "The Fire Brigade." Mrs. Wright and Mr. Gill under whose care the Lyceum lives, thanked Mr. Hepworth and were further encouraged to their unselfish labours.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, January 17th, the Lyceum children conducted the usual Sunday Evening meeting of the society, the Hymns and readings being new to a Sunderland audience were greatly enjoyed. During the progress of the service, Mr. T. O. Todd, the Conductor presented a new banner to the Guardian of each of the four groups in the Lyceum. The Banners had been made by Mrs. Luckley and Mrs. T. O. Todd from materials given by the Conductor, and were received with great delight by the members. They are made of Silk to correspond with the Badges. The Daisy Group being Pink, the Sunshine Group, Red; the Unity Group, Blue, and Liberty Group, Gold, each bears a large flower made of material. They are exceedingly pretty and a great addition to the display when marching.

ACCRINGTON, WHALLEY ROAD.—On New-Year's Saturday, we gave free Buns and Coffee to 300 poor children besides our own Lyceum children, and supplied each child on leaving with two oranges, nuts and sweets, also an entertainment given by the children presided over by Mr. Williams. A vote of thanks given to the donors for their kindness brought a very enjoyable afternoon to a close. The committee express a desire to give free treat to 1000 next year. On Sunday Jan. 5th, 1897 the prizes were awarded by Miss Cottrell of Manchester, Miss Skipper of Burnley, each of whom gave two beautiful books for prizes, also Mrs. Hyde of Manchester sent in two beautiful books, each of the children was presented with with one of the Lyceum Cards for 1897. On Sunday, January, 10th the election of Officers for the ensuing year took place, Conductor Mr. R. Allerton.

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

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12 copies, 10½d; 18 copies, 1s 4d; 25 copies, 1s 9d; 30 copies, 2s 2d; 36 copies, 2s 7½d; 50 copies, 3s 4d; 100 copies, 6s 3d; CARRIAGE FREE. No less than 12 copies supplied at the above rates. Single numbers, and parcels of less than 12 copies, usual trade price, carriage extra. Lyceum orders should be sent on the Last Monday of each Month. Give the full name of your Lyceum with every order. Term: Cash with order. All receipts will be sent in parcels each month, unless Half-penny Stamp be sent to cover per return postage.

Annual Subscription, post free in Great Britain, 1s 6d. To the United States, fifty cents. U. S. postage stamps taken.

IMPORTANT.

We cordially invite Secretaries of Lyceums to send us a list of announcements or reports of all Anniversaries, Special Services, Pic-nics, Trips, Entertainments, Parties, etc., for insertion. The same will be printed free, and must reach us NOT LATER THAN THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S. BARLOW, MANCHESTER—Plans are enclosed in the "Banner" this month.

H. FOULDS, KEIGHLEY—All alterations of Lyceum Secretaries' addresses must be sent to Mr Kitson, the Union Secretary. If this had been done, the error you point out would not have occurred. Your name is now inserted.

J. VENABLES, WALSALL—Next month. Many thanks.

JOSHUA WOOD, HUDDERSFIELD—Will write you as soon as we receive the matter you wrote to Mr Todd about. Think it may be very interesting.

NOTE—Correspondents whose letters are not answered through the post will please watch this Department.

The Lyceum Banner,

FEBRUARY, 1897.

OUR MONTHLY CHAT.

Last Month's
Banner.

A general chorus of approval has arisen over the previous issue of the BANNER. The enlargement is universally commended, and the pictures delighted and surprised everybody. On the whole the sales have been fairly satisfactory, but although our friends have done well, for which we thank them, a little more effort would have been quite acceptable to the publisher. The cost of such numbers is very heavy, and even at the enhanced price we cannot clear ex-

penses if every copy is sold. We hope that our enterprise will inspire our friends to increase their efforts to enlarge the circulation during this year, so that at the end we may turn the corner, and be relieved of the loss incurred every year.

More Good Things
to Come.

The Editors are pleased to announce that beginning with the next number you will find a portrait of a prominent Lyceum worker in every issue. This has been rendered possible through the interest of Mr. J. B. Longstaff, of Manchester. Our friend has just brought the idea before the Lancashire Lyceum Demonstration Committee, and enough promises of "blocks" have been obtained to supply portraits for the next twelve months! Each portrait will be accompanied by a short sketch of the original and his or her work for the Lyceum. The subjects will be Lancashire workers, and the complete series will give you all a good idea of the sturdy workers of the County Palatine. We are greatly indebted to the Committee, the good friend above named, and the ladies and gentlemen who will furnish the portraits, for this mark of their deep interest in the welfare of this paper. And it is to be earnestly hoped that our friends all over the land will increase their orders, in view of the above interesting feature. Next month, than, will commence the appearance of "The Lyceum Workers' Portrait Gallery" in this journal.

To Secretaries
and Officials.

Please send all communications, remittances, and instructions to this office, addressing your letters to: Mr. J. J. Morse, 26 Osnaburgh Street, London, N.W., as in the Notices at the head of this column, and not to Mr. Todd, as hitherto. This will save delay and avoid confusion. Please read the notices, and send all your news, orders, etc., promptly, so as to ensure attention in due season each month. We are glad to say that our good brother, Mr. Todd, continues to be as deeply interested as ever in the success of the BANNER, and is at all times willing to do anything possible for it and the Editors. Few realize his devotion to our paper and the Lyceum cause.

Mr. Kitson
and the Bible.

Our indefatigable Union Secretary, busy man though he is, nevertheless finds time to write a series of articles upon the Bible, in our Manchester contemporary, *The Two Worlds*. As he always has something to say, when he writes, and invariably says it well, we commend his articles to the careful perusal of all our Conductors, Leaders, and Members. They cannot fail to learn something, and will assuredly be interested in what Mr. Kitson has to tell them. The study of the Bible should

not be overlooked in the Lyceum, and the articles in question will assist you in such work.

London
is awaking!

It is gratifying to find that the Metropolis is at last waking up, and that there are now four Lyceums in operation. The BANNER wishes the Canning Town and Stratford friends every possible success in their laudable efforts to teach Spiritualism to the children of Spiritualists in their several districts. Can nothing be done in Islington and Marylebone?

Still being
asked for.

That Officers' Edition of the Lyceum Manual! Is the Compiler aware of the great need for this book? Surely enough time has elapsed since it was first announced for the most elaborate preparation, and the most careful revision. Let us have it,—and soon.

The Plan.

To avoid any difficulty with regard to the Plan, we enclose a copy thereof in each BANNER this month. Every one will therefore receive one. Next month it will again be printed in the paper as before. The contents of the paper will be so arranged that the plan will not encroach upon the space given to the reading matter. The above method is necessary, as the cost of printing the Plan separately is too great, while to continue doing so would largely defeat the good that the Plan has accomplished.

Reports of
Elections.

We cannot undertake to print the names of every officer elected to serve the Lyceum, but must ask our friends to simply confine the names they send us to those of the Conductors, Secretaries, and Musical Directors. If there is any special reason for mentioning any one else, well and good. Each case will be treated on its merits. Our space is so limited that each line saved is of importance, hence the necessity of the rule laid down above. As soon as our circulation reaches the paying point we will be able to give you all more room.

EDMONSTON. BEECH HALL, HYDE LANE.—On Saturday, January 2nd, we had a most successful new year's meeting of the Lyceum, the platform was furnished with a stage front and forty children received presents from the Christmas tree. The Leaders acquitted themselves with the calisthenics and flags, drill, songs from the children and several friends. Mr. Durant with his dolls highly amused the children.

Handsome Gift Books.—"Outlines of Spiritualism" 2/3. "Life in Two Spheres" 2/6. "The Lyceum Manual" 2/9.

Lyceum Notes and Comments

BY ALFRED KITSON.

The past month has been one of marked activity. The Lyceum at Leigh has been re-opened and has joined the Union. The conductor, Mr. Ogden, is in need of a copy of the Lyceum Physical Exercises, and as these are out of print, I shall be pleased to receive a spare copy from any friend for him.

* *

There have been two Lyceums opened in London, one at Canning town, and the other at Stratford Workman's Hall. This makes four for London.

* *

I am pleased to learn that the Lyceum at Ashton-under-Lyme has been re-opened for over a year. It seems strange no word of this has been sent to the BANNER. I sincerely hope their present efforts will prove successful.

* *

All Lyceum Officers should study the series of articles appearing in *The Two Worlds* on "Is the Bible Opposed to Spiritualism?" as their study will help to fortify the mind against theological bigotry, creeds, dogmas, and traditions, and so help us to lead the children aright. Such is the object I had in view in writing them.

* *

The opening of the Lyceum at St. James' Hall, Bradford, was a pronounced success. Notwithstanding the cold, damp morning, Mr. Nuttall and sister from Cleckheaton were present, and also a fair number of local friends and children. We hopefully look to this Lyceum becoming one of the first in Bradford. Mr. J. H. Smith, its conductor, was the conductor of Walton Street Lyceum twelve years ago. Mr. John Jackson, the energetic D.V. and Secretary to the Yorkshire Spiritualists' Federation, was one of his pupils. Mr. J. Foulds cheered the scholars by announcing that he would give prizes at the end of the year for good attendance and behaviour.

* *

All notices of change of Secretaries, or alterations in their addresses, or change of Hall should be sent to me as early as possible for correction in the LYCEUM BANNER Directory.

* *

Preparations for the Lyceum Conference should now be made. Notices of motion should be sent to me not later than March 31st. All subscriptions to the Union (see list of Lyceums who have not paid) should be paid before March 31st, to entitle them to send a delegate. The Conference this year promises to beat the record. Bradford friends are determined to go one better than any one else has done.

* *

Mr. Hudson Tuttle writes, in answer to a correspondent, in the *Progressive*

Thinker, January 2nd, "I have no means of ascertaining the number of Lyceums now existing (in America), but during the past year parcels of the (Lyceum) Guide, from six to fifty, have been ordered by forty-four Lyceums, and during the past month three new organizations have entered the field with every prospect of success."

* *

I read Mrs. Emma R. Tuttle's letter on the Angell Prize Contest in last month's BANNER with pleasure. It is a move in the right direction. It is the twin-sister of the GOLDEN GROUP. I hope the Editor will see his way to amalgamate the two, and Lyceums will hold GOLDEN GROUP meetings once a month, and have an annual "Angell Prize Contest" in a large public hall where necessary. If Lyceums do this, other Societies will follow, and much good will be done.

* *

THE LYCEUM.

HINTS ON THE BEST METHODS OF READING.

JOHN RUTHERFORD.

There are quite as many different kinds of readers as there are writers of books, and the results of reading depend as much upon the earnestness and application of the reader as upon the truth and adaptability of the volumes which he may peruse.

The sensual reader will catch up the dregs and miss the fine wine, no matter how rich may be the vintage pressed for him. The noblest words of genius and seer will be by him perverted from their aim; he will be lowered by his acquaintances with their pictures of sin; he will be untouched by their noblest visions by purity. His tastes being low he will seek that which caters most satisfactorily to it, and so swell the demand for shady literature.

But apart from the class of immoral readers, which it is hoped is small, there is a larger class of languid students who miss the fire and life of the printed page, whose reading is mechanical and soporific.

Books are like opportunities, which may be either used, misused, or let alone, with results strictly according to the line of conduct pursued.

It is better to read one book well than to skim through a library. The one operation will quicken the mind, inform the judgment, and leave a definite impression; the other will end by destroying true intelligence, and by obliterating the power of original thought. Many men who read much are mere walking echoes of many masters. Their conversation, when not bookish is insane and flaccid in the extreme. They are like young eagles who have been carried into the higher air on the wings of their

parents, but when in that clearer atmosphere they did not open their eyes, much less attempt to use their own wings, and if the old bird shook them off they fell, unstruggling, to the hard, cruel earth.

Reading should be vigorous, wide-awake, with mind alert to note each subtle figure or symbol, with imagination alive to look at life from other standpoints than our own.

I should like to advocate the practice of personally writing a review of each book or important chapter read. Such practice will be found not only to add to the charm of reading by giving to it all the zest of conversation and argument, but it would develop a more correct literary taste; in fact, I know of no other safe rule for the avoidance of stupid books and the choice of good ones than this private training of individual judgment. There would be less trash on our bookshelves if we were in the habit of reckoning up the sum of knowledge acquired for each chapter perused.

What Bacon says of friends may be said of books, "they give us another self, which is more than ourselves."

Books are challenges thrown out by the wisest men, to think their thought, to feel their emotion, and to see with our eyes their vision of beauty. He who honestly accepts the challenge will find, like the old time legend, that the strength of each warrior whom he conquers is added to his arm, and that each new book is a levelled road though the wilderness, where he may walk and fear not.

* *

BURNLEY, HAMMERTON STREET. - *Annual Report for year ending December 31st, 1896.*—During 1896 we have held 26 Leaders and business meetings and 51 Lyceum Sessions. Number on books: Officers and Leaders 16, Members 130, total 146; average attendance, Officers 10, Members 57, total average 67. We start the year 1897 with 18 Leaders and Officers, 125 Members, total 143. During the past year we have had special visits from the following: Mr. G. Featherstone, Mr. T. Grimshaw, Mr. W. H. Wheeler, Miss Powell, of Accrington, Miss Stansfield, of Royton, and Fred Holt, of Bradford, late of Brierfield. Election of Officers for 1897.—Conductors, W. Dean and Miss M. Layfield; Librarian, Miss Ramstron; Musical Conductor, A. Dean; Secretary, Miss Wrathall, 73 Sandy-gate, Burnley. Three of our number passed over in 1896, viz.: Elen Ritch, Alice Holt, and Mary Hool. I trust we may all give our sympathy to them in their new sphere of labour, and hope all our remaining young friends will so live that they may be admitted into their company when they go to the Spirit shore.

GATESHEAD should have a Lyceum. The society has a nice hall suitable for the work.

The Love and Cultivation of the Beautiful.

MR. RUSKIN ON IMAGINATION.

BY JOHN RUTHERFORD,
ROKER-BY-THE-SEA.

Wordsworth, the poet, says: "Earth's crammed with heaven and every common bush afire with God." The Supreme, we believe, has filled the world with beauty—all over-flowing, superabounding beauty. It is by the unfolding of a special faculty—Ideality—that we perceive this beauty. The education of this power is therefore of the first importance. We develop it by seeing, and also by creating beautiful things. It is related that Milton in one morning's walk in the country saw more beauty than many people observe in all their lives.

God manifests himself in snows and streams; in stars and flowers; in the majestic order of the universe; in the infinite variety of creation. And if we do not see this, we do not see his working; do not behold his visible Word. Nature plies evermore at the roaring loom of time to weave the garment by which we may see God. To see God in the order, variety, majesty, and tenderness of the universe, will save us from superstitious terrors. The late Professor J. S. Blackie beautifully says:—

Our God
We cabin not in creeds;
But feel him where the fir tree nods,
And where the South wind speeds
O'er blossomy fields.

Our great prophet of beauty, as all know, is John Ruskin. For years he has been endeavouring to call out the "Ideality" and "Sublimity" of his fellow pilgrims by exquisitely describing what he sees in external nature. He takes us where the pine trees rise "on the inaccessible juts and perilous ledges of the mountain—upright, fixed, spectral, as troops of ghosts standing as the walls of Hades." He leads us where the lichens and the mosses "veil with hushed softness the dintless rocks and cover with strange and tender honour the scarred disgrace of ruin. To them, slow fingered, constant hearted, is entrusted the weaving of the dark eternal tapestries of the hills; to them, slow pencilled, iris-dyed, the tender framing of their endless imagery. Sharing the stillness of the unimpassioned rock, they share also its endurance; and while the winds of departing spring scatter the white hawthorn blossom like drifted snow and summer dims in the parched meadow the drooping of its cowslip-gold, far above among the mountains the silver lichen-spots rest starlike on the stone; and the gathering orange-stains upon the edge of yonder western peak reflect the sunsets of a thousand years."

Oersted, the Danish philosopher, who first discovered that signals indicating

the letters of the alphabet, could be transmitted by electricity, maintains that the beauty of a thing depends upon the principal character or influence of the ideas or truths involved in it. Why do we feel that a curved line is more beautiful than a straight one? Why is a circle more beautiful than a square or a spiral than a circle? Because the higher and more complicated form involves greater mathematical and fundamental truth than the lower, and conveys a correspondingly greater sense of pleasure to our faculties. Thus besides Ideality, the Reason is influential. A thing may be merely pretty, but in order to be significantly beautiful, Reason or the faculty of Causality must have entered into its composition. How true is this of poetry. Complete expression of ideas constitute beauty. And it has well been said that truth perfectly expressed is worthy of being called the "Word of God."

Imagination has always played a conspicuous part in human efforts to reach truth. In his discourse delivered before the British Association in Liverpool in 1870, the late Professor Tyndall urged upon his scientific comrades the importance of the imagination as the mightiest instrument of physical investigation, and held that it is this spiritual power that is finally to solve the ultimate problem of physics. "Bounded and conditioned by co-operant Reason"—says Tyndall—"Imagination becomes the mightiest instrument of the physical discoverer." Newton's passage from a falling apple to a falling moon was at the outset a leap of imagination. When Lord Kendall tried to place the ultimate particles of matter between his compass-points, he is powerfully aided by this element. And in much that has been recently said about protoplasm and life we have outgoings of the imagination, guided and controlled by the known analogies of science. In fact, without this power, our knowledge of Nature would be a mere tabulation of co-existences and sequences. We should still believe in the succession of day and night, of summer and winter. The soul of force would be dislodged from our universe; causal relations would disappear and with them that Science which is now building the parts of Nature into an organic whole. It needs hardly to be remarked that hypotheses, imagination, insight, intuition, are but names for the action which, under the standard of Religion, are so much scoffed at as "faith." Although our faculty of Causality gives us the sense of external physical force, there is not, we believe, a true conception of Spiritual power,—of the Supreme Causative Mind,—until there is an inspiration from the ideal faculties of the mind.

As might be expected from an artist, Mr. Ruskin claims a still higher function for the imagination than Professor Tyndall. The former says: "Its first and

noblest use is to enable us to bring sensibly to our sight the things which are recorded as belonging to our future state, or invisibly surrounding this. It is given so that we may imagine the cloud of witnesses in heaven and earth, and sea, as if they were present, the souls of the righteous waiting for us; that we may conceive the great army of the inhabitants of heaven, and discover among them those whom we most desire to be with for ever; that we may be able to vision forth the ministry of Angels beside us, and see the chariots of fire on the mountains that gird us round; but, above all, to call up the scenes and facts in which we are commanded to believe, and be present, as if in the body, at every recorded event of the history of the 'Redeemer.' Its second and ordinary use is to empower us to traverse the scenes of all other history, and to force the facts to become again visible, to gather the utmost measure of enjoyment, by investing it with happy associations; and in any present evil, to lighten it, by summoning back the images of other hours; and also to give to all mental truths some visible type, in allegory, simile, or personification, which shall most deeply enforce them; and finally, when the mind is utterly outworn, to refresh it with such innocent play as shall be most in harmony with the suggestive voices of natural things, permitting it to possess living companionship, instead of silent beauty, and create for itself fairies in the grass, Naiads in the wave."

Mr. Ruskin is a born Transcendentalist. He exemplifies Ideality in a high degree, together with Wonder, Veneration, and those powers which seem to lift us entirely off the earth. William Wordsworth was another genius of this class. How splendidly he idealizes what many are pleased to call our "low origin."

Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting.
The soul that rises with us, our life's star
Hath had elsewhere its setting,
And cometh from afar:
Not in entire forgetfulness,
And not, in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory do we come
From God, who is our home.

Souls have, according to Wordsworth, a celestial origin. And if the highest and most elevated view is always the truest, he is right. "Influences," says an author, "poured upon Wordsworth's sensitive mind which are quite unknown to common men. His poems are saturated by an experience of which they knew nothing. In a supreme degree, he has gained that clear vision before which the physical world melts into a spiritual realm of living thought and divine beauty." Another great poet, Walt Whitman, also had this beautiful and clear vision. Hear how he glorifies human nature:—

Painters have painted their swarming groups
and the centre Figure of all;
From the head of the Centre Figure spreading
a nimbus of gold-coloured light;

But I paint myriads of heads, but paint no head without its nimbus of gold-colored light ;

From my head, from the brain of every man and woman it streams, effulgently flowing for ever.

Humanity, in whom Wonder is unextinguishable, welcomes the voice of the poet on these high themes and rejects that of the scientist. The latter is, by his strong perceptive faculties, tethered to what he can see, handle and experiment with. The Scientific aptitude is too often developed at the expense of the Ideal and Spiritual nature. To gain truth we must have a just balance of all powers. Without Ideality and Wonder, the scientist is lost in materialism and scepticism. He does not look at Nature with the true love. "The one who"—to quote Mr. Ruskin again—"loves nature most will be always found to have more capacity for faith in God than the other. Nature-worship will be found to bring with it a sense of the presence and power of a Great Spirit as no mere reasoning can either induce or controvert; and where that nature-worship is innocently pursued, *i.e.*, with due respect to other claims on time, feeling and exertion, and associated with the higher principles of religion it becomes the channel of certain sacred truths which by no other means can be conveyed."

It is thus by cultivating a love of nature that we unfold those æsthetic faculties which throw such an ethereal influence on nature, and afford such exquisite pleasure to the mind.

All may be artists, if not with pencil or in words, with an appreciation of God's manifestation in Nature and in the human Soul. True progress is thus made, and the health of the entire man—body and soul—secured.

—*—

NOTTINGHAM.—Sunday, January 10th was an interesting day with the Lyceum-ists here, it being prize distribution day, which has been looked forward to for a long time by the younger members. We had a very good programme, singing and recitations, which were much appreciated by our visitors, of whom we had a good number. A splendid selection of prizes was presented by Mrs. Hewes, in a graceful and pleasing manner. On the Sunday following we had the half-yearly election of officers, and this business was performed in a speedy manner, there being very little difficulty in obtaining the requisite number. On this occasion we were honored by our District Visitor for the Midlands, Mr. Lonte, of Derby, who was somewhat disappointed at not having the pleasure of seeing us in a full session. He made some encouraging remarks on the aims of the Lyceum, and upon work-up the Lyceum to a better standard of efficiency, by each officer and member putting his shoulder to the wheel.

How to Improve the Carriage in Walking and Marching.

A Paper by Mr. Joseph Stretton, Leader of 'Star' Group and Director of Marching, read at the Liverpool Children's Progressive Lyceum, No. 1, Nov. 1st., 1896.

"How women walk" has recently been the subject of discussion in a Parisian journal. According to this authority the palm must be awarded to French women. The English woman, it states, does not walk, she travels. Her limbs appear to be moved by an engine of a steamer and her feet have the proportions of an Atlantic liner!

Concerning the gait of women of other countries, this interesting journal goes on to remark that the German is heavy, one feels the earth tremble beneath her tread; the Spanish woman "prances," the American resembles the pendulum of a clock, the Italian "skips," the Russian "skates," the Dutch woman "rolls," and the Belgian tramps about.

Now, although these remarks are un-gallant and uncomplimentary to our nation particularly, we cannot but own that there is a certain amount of truth in them. Numbers of women do not seem to care how they walk so long as they cover the distance they wish to traverse somehow. But if they could only see themselves as they appear to the casual onlooker, how very differently they would comport themselves! How often is a pretty face and figure spoiled by a stoop of the shoulders and a wriggling, bustling walk.

Corsican women are models of queenly grace, and as nearly all the water in Corsica is carried from wells by women in waterpots, the women acquire from youth the practice of carrying burdens on their heads. An hour's practice of this exercise a day with, for instance, a book or a pillow on the head, would do wonders in the way of making us types of grace and ease, when before we were the exact opposite.

No doubt there are unobservant individuals who imagine that every one walks in the same way. But they do not. Very few people, in fact, know how to walk at all. First of all the pedestrian should take a loose, easy stride to his full measure without trying to go beyond it. There is a natural limit, and by using it is gained a second advantage, that of an exactly even stride. Without stiffening the leg the knees should be kept fairly straight, and the walker will then rise on the ball of the foot behind at each step. To carry oneself well it is necessary to bring the calf of the leg into full play and either to throw all the weight on to the muscles of the upper part of the leg or the knee. The arms, moreover, should swing freely.

During the marching, the shoulders must be kept perfectly square to the front, the body steady, eyes off the ground; the exact squareness of the shoulders and body to the front is the first principle of the position requisite for correct marching; the heels must be in line and closed; the knees straight, the toes turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of 45 degrees. The arms should hang easily from the shoulders, elbows to the rear, slightly bent, the hands partially closed, the backs of the fingers touching the thigh lightly, thumb close to fore-finger, the hips rather drawn back, and the breast advanced, but without constraint. The body should be straight and inclining forward, so that the weight of it may bear principally on the fore part of the feet; the head erect, but not thrown back, the chin slightly drawn in, and the eyes looking straight to the front. In going through the turnings, the left heel must never quit the ground, but you must turn on it as on a pivot, the right foot being drawn back to turn the body to the right, and carried forward to turn it to the left; the body must incline forward, the knees being kept straight. In quick time the length of a pace is 30 inches; in double time and in stepping out it is 33 inches, in stepping short it is 21 inches, and in the side step it is 13½ inches. When taking a side pace (as in double file) the pace must be 27 inches. In quick time 120 paces are equal to 100 yards a minute or 3 miles 720 yards in an hour. In marching, you must maintain the position of the head and body as before directed; you must be well balanced on your limbs, your arms and hands must swing naturally from the shoulder, the right arm swinging forward with the left leg, and the left arm with the right leg. The movement of the leg must spring from the haunch, and be free and natural. Both knees must be kept straight except while the leg is being carried from the rear to the front, when the knee must necessarily be a little bent, to enable the foot to clear the ground. The foot must be carried straight to the front, and, without being drawn back, placed firmly on the ground, but so as not to jerk or shake the body; the toes must be turned out at the same angle as when halted.

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BRADFORD.—ST. JAMES' CHILDREN'S LYCEUM.—Re-opened on January 10th, by Mr. Alfred Kitson, of Batley, at 10 a.m., when we had a fair attendance of old and new Lyceumists, we had five visitors from Cleckheaton. In the Afternoon Mr. Kitson gave an address, ("The origin of the Progressive Lyceum); in the evening an address ("The Angels of the Lord") to a fair audience. On the first Sunday we registered 16 members; on the second Sunday we made the number to 39 members.

JOE'S SWEETHEART.

A STORY FOUNDED ON FACT.

By B.B.

They were waifs of East London—and sweethearts, she, when the police were not "chasing" her and fortune allowed, sold matches; he was a paper urchin, shouting "Star!" "Hecker!" "Hextry Sheshul!" and it happened this wise:—

One night, after a day of good fortune, Joe had treated himself to an extra pennyworth of chip potatoes, fried in grease. They were hot and comforting. He was walking along, picking them piece by piece out of the paper and contemplating how many he really could put away if he had the means. He saw a small girl running toward him, followed by a baker's boy. Joe knew from experience what this meant—attempt to get something to eat while not being able to afford it. As the girl came up to him, he put his potatoes into his pocket and commenced running by her side, and after keeping up with her for a minute or two, he perceived that she would soon give way, being one of his own class his only idea was to help her, so after thinking what had best be done, he said "Jeer! yer can't 'ang out no longer, so just yer poke yerself in that there doorway till I settle this 'ere chap." He pushed her into an adjacent doorway and continued to run. The baker's boy still seeing Joe, kept up the chase until they were a good distance from the doorway, when Joe suddenly stopped and accosted the boy with "Jeer! what yer want a chasin' me for? I'll punch yer 'ead for yer." The boy, missing the girl and disregarding Joe's speech, simply asked Joe if he had seen a dirty girl come that way. "Oh yes!" said Joe, "why yer ain't no good agin 'er, she's got a mile off by now." The baker's boy said no more, but walked back disappointed. Joe followed him until he came to the doorway, and there he found a huddled-up bundle of rags, little else than bones, crying.

"Wodyer making that bloomin' rahw for?" enquired Joe.

"'Cause I ca-ca-can't help it," she whimpered, her teeth chattering, "I'm as co-cold as hicc, an' I ain't 'ad nofin to eat since yestidy."

Joe, pulling the potatoes from his pocket, tried an experiment. "Ere yer are, just shove some of these 'ere down yer and shut up." He was only an urchin but had a big heart. Joe saw Nell home to the "Poor Children's Home," in Blackfriars, and gave her a penny—and this is how they met.

The next day Joe was up early, and ran round to Nell's street to wait for her, and they went to business together—she to sell her matches and he his papers. Together they loafed about Piccadilly

and Strand, earning a copper where and how they could.

One day it occurred to Joe that they might sing outside the theatre doors and thus add to their income, so they each subscribed a penny and went round to Holborn and bought a whole piece of music—a popular song. Not that the music was any good to them, but they learned the words by heart and sallied forth. In this way, and by officiously directing playgoers to their respective entrances, or fetching cabs for those returning, they put up additional coppers, and now and again were able to participate in the luxury of fried fish and potatoes for supper.

But one day, in the strand, Joe, while helping a lady into a cab, slipped and hit his head on the kerb, and the wheel of the cab passed over his legs. He was carried off to the hospital, Nell tearfully following the stretcher to the door. The policemen took the stretcher inside and she sat on the steps and cried, until a big gruff porter told her to "clear out."

The next day she went to the hospital and asked the porter if she might see Joe. The porter, a kind-hearted man who had held this post for many years, smiled and asked who Joe was.

"Why 'e's my sweetheart."

"You must not come round here trying to find sweethearts."

"Oh! but do let me see him."

"I don't know your Joe, there's hundreds of Joe's here."

"Oh! but he's my Joe." Then, as if an idea had struck her, "'E came 'ere yestidy on a stretcher, 'e was runned over by a cab."

"Yes! that little chap you want to see, well this ain't visiting day, so you just come to-morrow at three o'clock and I'll see what I can do for yer."

Nell, disappointed, walked away, and tried to sell her matches, but times seemed very hard and the weather very cold, and she trudged Oxford Street, Strand, and Regent Street, offering her goods, but finding few customers.

"To-morrow" she was thinking "I must take something to the hospital for Joe—I'll go and sing by myself to-night and perhaps I'll have some luck;" and as she wended her way through the crowded streets she prayed that she might be able to earn a shilling so that she could take Joe some grapes, 'because,' she said, 'that was what the good people brought mother before she died.'

That evening while outside the Strand Theatre singing, a gentleman stood and listened, and after she had collected her pence, and was walking away, he stopped her and asked, who she was and where she came from.

"I's Nel and lives in London" was the reply. "Where are your parents?"

"I only 'ad a mother and she died a long time ago, they said the angels took 'er away; but I don't think the angels would, do you?"

"No! but where do you live, where are you going to-night, my little girl?"

"I lives over Blackfriars, when I's got the money, amongst the other poor boys and girls."

"Well! would you like to have another home?"

"Yes! but, I don't want to be alone, Joe must live with me."

"Who is Joe?"

"E's my sweetheart, as got runned over the other day. E's in the 'ospital and I'm going to see 'im to-morrow."

"May I come with you to see your Joe?"

"Yes! if you's a good man and don't want to "pinch" 'im."

The gentleman had been attracted, first by the girl's clear sweet voice, and then by her beautiful little face; and seeing her honest ways, had determined if possible to help her. After questioning her further and arranging to meet her at the hospital, he gave her two shillings. This was more than she had ever had before, therefore it must be spent on 'Joe.'

The next day she was outside the hospital door at two o'clock with a bag of grapes and a handful of flowers, all the two shillings and her previous day's earnings having been spent in the purchase, nothing was too good for her Joe. Just before three o'clock the gentleman turned up and together they went into the hospital, after some little time searching different wards they found 'Joe.' The accident, the doctor said was very bad;—they were just in time—he did not expect the boy to live another hour.

The gentleman was afraid to tell the young girl this, and while thinking what to tell her, Joe slightly lifting himself in his bed, turned his head and said:

"Nel! I'm glad yer come to say 'good bye,' 'cause I'm going away to see your mother, but I'll see you again and we'll be sweethearts again in the angel world."

"Joe! Joe!" she sobbed.

Did he hear her? yes, for those eyes brightened a moment, and then were fixed in that gaze which sees no more—this side the veil.

"Nel," as we call her, has been adopted by the Spiritualist who found her, and is at the present time a member of a London Choral Society, her beautiful voice giving her great prominence.

—*—

An Expensive Playhouse.

A little girl out in Chicago who has a very rich and independent father is the owner of the most beautiful and complete dollhouse, probably, that ever was built. It stands on the lawn of her own home, and, built of bricks, with a tiny tower and cupola, it looks exactly like a small copy of any fashionable residence. A flight of stone steps leads up to the front door, which is of solid oak, beautifully polished, and provided with an electric bell to

announce callers. On the door, which is 4ft. high, big enough to admit a good size child, is a polished silver plate with the name of the little owner written upon it. Once inside, the delights of the place would rejoice any little girl's heart. The hallway is finished in hard woods, and is lighted by a small gas lamp, hanging from the ceiling; umbrella and hat racks stand there, and pretty portieres separate it from the parlour. In this handsome room the furniture is all of white enamelled wood, covered with white brocaded silk. It has a mantel covered with handsome ornaments a real gas chandelier, besides lovely little lamps on tables. The dining-room has sideboards, and china closets, the kitchen is exactly like any kitchen, only tiny, and the bedrooms are fitted up in the most complete manner. As the ceilings are 6ft 10in high, the rooms are plenty big enough for the little owner and her friends to play about in. Lovely dolls from Paris make up the family, including handsomely dressed dolls as ladies in the parlour, a cook doll in the kitchen, baby and nurse dolls in the bedroom, and waitress dolls in the dining-room. The house and fitting and family cost over £600, and do you know that there is no more real fun to be had out of it than from the lovely dollhouse many girls make out of soapboxes?

*—

Love, Courtship & Marriage.

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BY FRANK N. LAWS.

PART V.

(Continued from December).

PARENTS, keep clear of the ale house, not only for your own sake, but for the rising generation, remember "example is better than precept." Though not advocates of bigotry even in the shape of drink, yet the tap-room is like a large thorn in the middle of a field, it gives the poor sheep no food in summer and tears the fleece from their backs in winter, and ought to be shunned. It is undoubtedly the starting point from which every form of crime and wickedness begins. Betting on horses, associating with questionable characters, should be deprecated. Do not take this course, for assuredly it will lead to ruin.

As stated at the commencement of these articles, man is a social being, and must have not only companionship but recreation also. A writer, who is worthy of immortalizing, has written that—

"Man was not made to live alone,
To eat his flesh or pick his bone,
Dine on his courses, one, two, three,
Or nurse his hands upon his knees."

to which we all are agreed. But with the extension of the free public libraries, museums, art galleries, science and art classes, and music, within the reach of

every one, there is little or no excuse for dullness in these days.

Having made a HOME, let it be a home in reality, a sanctuary where the angel friends who come to minister to all may be happy in its surroundings, where they may come at all times to exercise a kindly influence for the well-being of its inmates, and point out to all "The better way." Though it is impossible to be "all good," there is plenty of room for improvement. Let men and women, instead of trying to seem better than they are, live to be what they ought to be.

The favourite pastime of some of our brothers and sisters is scandalising, fault-finding, back-biting, &c. If the cause of truth could be promoted thereby or any good resulted to each other, even in the slightest degree, if a single ray of light could be sent out that would assist some benighted traveller along earth's pilgrimage, or if it had a tendency to draw friends and kindred closer together in stronger bonds of sympathy, friendship and love, it would be well, at least it would be less objectionable. But unfortunately no such grand results are achieved, on the contrary, bitterness is engendered thereby and the day of our glory delays its coming—who likes to see a man or woman put up more sail than can be comfortably carried, make a big row with a small trumpet, or hoist a large sign over a small shop window, or displaying large self-assertion. It is much better to be a real daisy than a painted lily.

Be it remembered that the home whether good or bad exercises a powerful influence in life, it is the school house and training ground of the men and women yet to be, who in after life shall garner up the harvest of the seeds sown in childhood's days, therefore

"We can never be too careful
What the seeds our hands shall sow,
Love from love is sure to ripen,
Hate from hate is sure to grow."

Kilburn.

Home says Douglas Jerrold is a sweet and terrible word. If hope, love, and contentment predominate, there is the true home, further we should speak of home as a condition, not as a place, a house, a cottage, or a palace, or so much brick and mortar, the true home is built up with the sympathies, cares, trials, happiness and joys of human experiences.

"Homes, not merely four square walls,
Though hung with pictures nicely gilded;
Home is where affection calls,
Filled with shrines the heart hath builded"

Anon.

(To be continued).

*—

Johnny Jones's Composition.

Won dey last weak, eye set fourth to Rome ovur the planes and threw the veils. The skye was red and blew, and the lo sun through its pail raise ore the seen. Dear, yews, and hairs were gambling on won sighed, while on my write rows long

strait rose of maze, ate feat hie or sow, and as fresh as reins and dues could make. "Owe," said eye, razing one of the suite colonels to my knows, "surely this plant has know pier among the serials. Sea the rich yew of its waivering lief—its flour like a lock of silken hare—its golden cede, in rose of colonels, which made into flower, and then into doe or bred, charm hour pallets. It feeds not man alone, but the foul of the heir and the fish of the seize."

*—

OPENSHAW, SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS, GRANVILLE HALL.—Tea Party and Distribution of Prizes Jan. 2nd, there was a very nice tea to which the children did ample justice. After tea a large number of children gave recitations in a pleasing manner, then, what was of more importance to the children, over 100 prizes which consisted mostly of very appropriate books, and special prizes from Mr. E. Farmer Financial Secretary; Mr. H. Booth Retiring Conductor; Mr. W. Booth Organist; and Mr. J. Shaw, Guardian; all of which were given out by Mr. Henry Booth for good attendance and excellence in recitations. The attendance for the year 1896 was as near as I can get 74 in 116. I am glad to say we sold all the Banners with the exception of one on the first day and that has gone now, it is about the best twopenny worth I have seen.

STOCKPORT.—January 2nd, the officers and elder groups took tea, and passed a social evening together; the graceful dance, mirthful game, and other rational amusements making the happy hours quickly pass away. January 3rd, Half-yearly meeting. Lyceum vigorous and on the upward grade. Energetic and full staff elected—Conductor, Mr. T. Edwards, Secretary, A. Boulton. January 9th, Misses S. Kenyon and J. Rambotham, joint leaders, entertained their group and friends to a choice tea. This commendable generosity was immensely appreciated by the little girls, who finished the evening in merry play, breaking up with hearty cheers for the kind founders of the feast. The new officers intend to push forward the Lyceum cause to the best of their ability.

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N.W.—February 5th, 1897.

announce callers. On the door, which is 4ft. high, big enough to admit a good size child, is a polished silver plate with the name of the little owner written upon it. Once inside, the delights of the place would rejoice any little girl's heart. The hallway is finished in hard woods, and is lighted by a small gas lamp, hanging from the ceiling; umbrella and hat racks stand there, and pretty portieres separate it from the parlour. In this handsome room the furniture is all of white enamelled wood, covered with white brocaded silk. It has a mantel covered with handsome ornaments a real gas chandelier, besides lovely little lamps on tables. The dining-room has sideboards, and china closets, the kitchen is exactly like any kitchen, only tiny, and the bedrooms are fitted up in the most complete manner. As the ceilings are 6ft 10in high, the rooms are plenty big enough for the little owner and her friends to play about in. Lovely dolls from Paris make up the family, including handsomely dressed dolls as ladies in the parlour, a cook doll in the kitchen, baby and nurse dolls in the bedroom, and waitress dolls in the dining-room. The house and fitting and family cost over £600, and do you know that there is no more real fun to be had out of it than from the lovely dollhouse many girls make out of soapboxes?



Love, Courtship & Marriage.

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BY FRANK N. LAWS.

PART V.

(Continued from December).

PARENTS, keep clear of the ale house, not only for your own sake, but for the rising generation, remember "example is better than precept." Though not advocates of bigotry even in the shape of drink, yet the tap-room is like a large thorn in the middle of a field, it gives the poor sheep no food in summer and tears the fleece from their backs in winter, and ought to be shunned. It is undoubtedly the starting point from which every form of crime and wickedness begins. Betting on horses, associating with questionable characters, should be deprecated. Do not take this course, for assuredly it will lead to ruin.

As stated at the commencement of these articles, man is a social being, and must have not only companionship but recreation also. A writer, who is worthy of immortalizing, has written that—

"Man was not made to live alone,
To eat his flesh or pick his bone,
Dine on his courses, one, two, three,
Or nurse his hands upon his knees."

to which we all are agreed. But with the extension of the free public libraries, museums, art galleries, science and art classes, and music, within the reach of

every one, there is little or no excuse for dullness in these days.

Having made a HOME, let it be a home in reality, a sanctuary where the angel friends who come to minister to all may be happy in its surroundings, where they may come at all times to exercise a kindly influence for the well-being of its inmates, and point out to all "The better way." Though it is impossible to be "all good," there is plenty of room for improvement. Let men and women, instead of trying to seem better than they are, live to be what they ought to be.

The favourite pastime of some of our brothers and sisters is scandalising, fault-finding, back-biting, &c. If the cause of truth could be promoted thereby or any good resulted to each other, even in the slightest degree, if a single ray of light could be sent out that would assist some benighted traveller along earth's pilgrimage, or if it had a tendency to draw friends and kindred closer together in stronger bonds of sympathy, friendship and love, it would be well, at least it would be less objectionable. But unfortunately no such grand results are achieved, on the contrary, bitterness is engendered thereby and the day of our glory delays its coming—who likes to see a man or woman put up more sail than can be comfortably carried, make a big row with a small trumpet, or hoist a large sign over a small shop window, or displaying large self-assertion. It is much better to be a real daisy than a painted lily.

Be it remembered that the home whether good or bad exercises a powerful influence in life, it is the school house and training ground of the men and women yet to be, who in after life shall garner up the harvest of the seeds sown in childhood's days, therefore

"We can never be too careful
What the seeds our hands shall sow,
Love from love is sure to ripen,
Hate from hate is sure to grow."

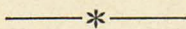
Kilburn.

Home says Douglas Jerrold is a sweet and terrible word. If hope, love, and contentment predominate, there is the true home, further we should speak of home as a condition, not as a place, a house, a cottage, or a palace, or so much brick and mortar, the true home is built up with the sympathies, cares, trials, happiness and joys of human experiences.

"Homes, not merely four square walls,
Though hung with pictures nicely gilded;
Home is where affection calls,
Filled with shrines the heart hath builded"

Anon.

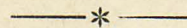
(To be continued).



Johnny Jones's Composition.

Won dey last weak, eye set fourth to Rome ovur the planes and threw the veils. The skye was red and blew, and the lo sun through its pail raise ore the seen. Dear, yews, and hairs were gambling on won sighed, while on my write rows long

strait rose of maze, ate feat hie or sow, and as fresh as reins and dues could make. "Owe," said eye, razing one of the suite colonels to my knows, "surely this plant has know pier among the serials. Sea the rich yew of its waivering lief—its flour like a lock of silken hare—its golden cede, in rose of colonels, which made into flower, and then into doe or bred, charm hour pallets. It feeds not man alone, but the foul of the heir and the fish of the seize."



OPENSHAW, SOCIETY OF SPIRITUALISTS, GRANVILLE HALL.—Tea Party and Distribution of Prizes Jan. 2nd, there was a very nice tea to which the children did ample justice. After tea a large number of children gave recitations in a pleasing manner, then, what was of more importance to the children, over 100 prizes which consisted mostly of very appropriate books, and special prizes from Mr. E. Farmer Financial Secretary; Mr. H. Booth Retiring Conductor; Mr. W. Booth Organist; and Mr. J. Shaw, Guardian; all of which were given out by Mr. Henry Booth for good attendance and excellence in recitations. The attendance for the year 1896 was as near as I can get 74 in 116. I am glad to say we sold all the Banners with the exception of one on the first day and that has gone now, it is about the best twopenny worth I have seen.

STOCKPORT.—January 2nd, the officers and elder groups took tea, and passed a social evening together; the graceful dance, mirthful game, and other rational amusements making the happy hours quickly pass away. January 3rd, Half-yearly meeting. Lyceum vigorous and on the upward grade. Energetic and full staff elected—Conductor, Mr. T. Edwards, Secretary, A. Boulton. January 9th, Misses S. Kenyon and J. Rambotham, joint leaders, entertained their group and friends to a choice tea. This commendable generosity was immensely appreciated by the little girls, who finished the evening in merry play, breaking up with hearty cheers for the kind founders of the feast. The new officers intend to push forward the Lyceum cause to the best of their ability.

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DOREEN.—(*From Handwriting*).—You have an energetic nature, capable of doing much to help or hinder the cause you adopt. An average endowment of courage, but not enough to resist great impulse and impetuosity. Your desire for success and prosperity is healthy but needs to be kept in proper action; guard against all extravagance or display. You are fond of home, but it is by no means a passion; are friendly, and can readily make yourself at home in fresh company. There are few things as sacred to you as conjugal love: should any cause for jealousy arise, you would deem it a greater calamity than death itself. It requires strong motives to keep you per-

sistent and plodding, as you are likely to begin a deal more than you finish. I should advise you to study some useful literature.

LENA.—You have ready perceptions, active imagination, and vivacity of expression, which gives the idea that you have more real talent than you actually possess. Not capable of fixing the mind long upon one subject. Cheerful, amiable, frank, and candid. In friendship and love will be ardent; loves show, enjoys good living, and fond of pleasure. Your opinions are often adopted without much reflection. You have good moral principles, but scarcely sufficient firmness; will show respect wherever it is due, and venerate all you deem to be sacred, with a fairly keen sense of what is right. Try and quicken your caution—you are led more by love than reason. Be careful where you bestow your affections. You live too much in the flesh; books bore you, especially those dealing with science.

PROGRESS.—Your intuition is much safer than your reasoning powers. You can see a long way before you. There is nothing special in your analytical powers, yet you can think and reason fairly well, and should gather information with ordinary application. You are bright and cheerful; it must be a big disappointment to keep your spirits down long. You are generous, but not likely to injure yourself for others; rather too ambitious to be well and favourably known: any inordinate indulgence of this feeling would make you vain in whatever direction you believe yourself to excel. You have the power of a

strong and unswerving purpose—let that purpose be good, and it will help to make you noble. You think a little too much of yourself, therefore your conscientiousness will sometimes need discreet drilling. Your constructive powers are exceedingly good; in building, machinery, or business arrangements you will be quite at home.

A.V.A.—Is very self-assertive, positive, and enduring. Although there is power to reason and appreciate philosophical views of life, there is too much obstinacy to argue clearly from all sides of social questions. You should try to restrain your determination. There is plenty of tact, and power to act with great policy: will have deep laid plans with far-reaching results; in trade or commerce this is an essential trait or quality. You have an instinctive love of wealth, and will work definitely to obtain it. All your sympathy and benevolence will be shown at your own fireside. You have a strong vein of humour, and are clever at repartee.

T.V.A.—Has a keen eye for the beautiful and artistic, fond of all lovely scenes in nature, and agreeable in manner and bearing. Can say disagreeable things smoothly and is a pretty good judge of character. Will enjoy much anticipation and will always have something bright and stimulating before the mind. Is generous, kindly, and will take deep interest in relics and old customs. Is a believer in Christianity, and will be very enthusiastic and devout. Will be very much impressed from the invisible sphere. Is a little too frank—needs a share of his brother's tact and firmness.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

Instituted at Oldham, May, 1890.

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The objects of this Lyceum Union are to promote the welfare of the Lyceum Movement, by (A) An Annual Movable Conference; (B) District Assemblages, when and where necessary; (C) Extending the work in new directions; (D) Bringing Lyceums into closer sympathy, and promoting greater uniformity in the manner of working them; (E) Encouraging the publication of suitable literature; (F) Such other methods as may be found desirable.

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

- ACCRINGTON—China street, at 10.30. Mr. W. Fish, 7 Lodge terrace, Oswaldtwistle.
- ACCRINGTON—Whalley road, 10 and 2.30. Miss A. Williams, 45 Pendle street.
- ACCRINGTON—The Temple, 10.30 and 2.30. Miss Barnes, 17 Frederick street.
- ARMLEY—Mistress lane. Mr H. W. Brett, 38 Harrow street, Wortley, Leeds
- BACUP—Meeting room, Victoria Hall, Market street. Miss Hurst, 16 Pembroke street
- BARROW-IN-FURNESS—Lyceum Hall. Mr. James Holden, 12 Dalkeith street.
- BATLEY CARR—Town street, 10 and 2. Miss M. Carver, co Mrs. Kitson, Bromley road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.
- BATLEY—Welling on street, at 10 and 1.45. Mr. Joseph Collbeck, Wood street.
- BELPER—Jubilee Hall, at 10 and 2. Mr. Alfred Bodell, Brook Cottage.
- BIRMINGHAM—Smethwick, Central Hall, 3 p.m. Mr. H. E. Kent, 231 Dudley road, Birmingham.
- BLACKBURN—Spiritualists' Hall, Freckleton street, at 9.30. Mr. J. W. Moss, 228 South view, Wensley street.
- BLACKPOOL—Liberal Club, Church street, 9.30 a.m. Mr. Thomas Rigby, 43 Cookson street.
- BOLTON—Bradford street, 10 a.m. Fred. Jackson, 4 Waldecks street.
- BRADFORD—Rebecca street, 10 a.m. Mrs. Raine, 6 Paddock row
- BRADFORD—Otley road, 10 a.m. J. E. M. Cochrane, 50 Chatham street, Otley road.
- BRADFORD—Boynton street, 10 a.m. (No advice).
- BRADFORD—Temperance Hall, 10 a.m. Mr. H. Rayhould, 52 Birkshall Lane
- BRADFORD—Walton street, Hall lane, 9.45. Mr. J. Seaton, 34 Holling terrace, Holling road.
- BRADFORD—St James Hall, 10 a.m. Mr J. H. Smith, 227 Leeds road
- BRIGHOUSE—Martin street, 10 a.m. Mr. George Crowther, 45 Rogerson square, Waring Green.
- BURNLEY—Hammerton street, 9.30. Mr. W. Mason, 33 Merton street.
- BURNLEY—Spiritual Hall, North street, 9.30. Mr. J. Banks, 12 Bush street.
- BURNLEY—Grey street, 10 a.m. Mr Frnest Hargreaves, 24 Hambleton view, Habergham
- BURY—At 10 a.m. Mr. P. Birkett, 93 Walshaw road, Elton, Bury.
- CLECKHEATON—Walker street, Northgate, 9.45. Mr. Ernest Nuttall, 2 Alfred street, Moor end.
- CLITHEROE—Liberal Club, Wellgate, 9.30. Mr. G. W. Alder, 81 Peel street.
- COLNE—Cloth Hall, 10 a.m. Mr. Herbert Fitton, 10 Midgley street.
- DARWEN—Church Bank street, 9.30 a.m. Mr. J. Harwood, 28 Hindle street.
- DERBY—1a Normanton road, 10.30 a.m. Mr. J. Roe, 1 Burton road.
- DEWSBURY—Bond street, 10 and 1.45. Mr. R. Winnepny, 6 Stapleton buildings. Vulcan road
- ELLAND—10 a.m. Mr. Fred Smith, 28 Catherine street.
- HALIFAX—Winding road. Mr. F. Townsend, 27 Heywood place.
- HECKMONDWIKE—Assembly Room, Thomas street, 10 a.m. Mr. Sam Crowther, Norris-thorpe, Liversedge.
- HEATON AND BYKER—Progressive Lyceum, 3 Addison road, 2.30. Mr. J. E. Smith, 19 Fourth avenue, Heaton, near Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- HEYWOOD—Moss Fold, 10-15 a.m. Mr. J. Entwistle, 34 Bedford street.
- HOLLINGWOOD—10.15 a.m. Mr. Alex. Porteous, 35 Drury lane.
- HUDDERSFIELD—Brook street, Mr. H. L. Westerby, 7 Manchester road.
- HUDDERSFIELD—Peter street. Mr. Arthur Fernley, 93 Lockwood road.
- HYDE—Mount street, 10 a.m. Miss Lydia Meakin, 17 Church street.
- KEIGHLEY—Heber street Spiritual Temple, 10 and 1.30. Harrard Foulds, 3 Leylands lane.
- LEEDS—Psychological Hall, 10 a.m. Miss Hayes, 63 Stony Rock lane
- LEIGH—Newton-street, 10 a.m. Mr J. H. Ogden, 60 Lord street
- LIVERPOOL—Daulby Hall, Daulby street, 11 a.m. Mr. E. A. Keeling, 7 Wesley street
- LIVERSEGE—10 a.m. Mr. R. Hodgson, 3 Birkett street, Cleckheaton.
- LONDON—Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, 3 p.m. Mr. J. Kenyon, 21 Grummant road, Peckham, S.E.
- MACCLESFIELD—Cumberland street, 10 and 2.30. Mr. G. Challinor, 43 Peel street.
- MANCHESTER—Temperance Hall, Tipping street, Ardwick, 10.30 a.m. Mr. A. E. Braham, 5 Real street, Hulme, Manchester
- MANCHESTER—Psychological Hall, Collyhurst road, 10.30 a.m. Mr. T. Taylor, 13 Belper street.
- MANCHESTER—West Gorton, Labour Hall, 24 Grey street, Longsight, 10.30 a.m. Mr. J. Wright, 232a New Branch street, Longsight.
- MIDDLESBORO—Newport road, C.H. Roeder, 51 Russel street.
- MILLOM—At 10 and 2. Mr. R. Tyson, 1 Moor end.
- MORLEY—Church street, 10 and 1.45. Miss Emma Taylor, 65 Clarence street, Albert road.
- NELSON—Bradley Fold, 10 a.m. Mr Wm. Walmsley, 223 Leeds road
- NELSON—Pendle street, 10.30. Mr. J. L. Dawson, 48 Holme terrace, Longshaye.
- NEWCASTLE—Good Templars' Hall, Clayton street, 2.30. Mr. Gerald Martin, 205 High Clara street, New Benwell.
- NORMANTON—Queen street, 10 a.m. Miss L. Holmes.
- NORTHAMPTON—St. Michael Road, 2 p.m. Mr. A. Ward, 42 St. Giles street.
- NOTTINGHAM—Morley House, Shakespeare street, 2.30. Mr. L. Shipley, 45 Hunger Hill road.
- OLDHAM—Bartlam place, Horsedged street, 10 a.m. Mr. Charles Shaw, 64 Hanson street, Green Acres.
- OSSET GREEN—10 a.m. Miss Emma Oliffe, The Green, Ossett.
- PARKGATE—Spiritual Temple, Ashwood road, 10 a.m. Mr. John Drower, 21 Loyd street, Parkgate, near Rotherham.
- PATRICROFT—New lane, Winton, 10 and 1.30. Mr. Edwards, 17 Hampson street, Winton.
- PENDLETON—Hall of Progress, Cobden street, 10.30 and 1.30. Mr. James Jackson, 6 Devonshire street.
- PRESTON—9.45 a.m. Miss M. J. Sherwood, 132 Brackenbury street.
- RAWTENSTALL—12 Back lane, 10.30. Mr. Charles Ed. Riding, 73 Bacup road, Cloughfold.
- ROCHDALE—Bailey street, 10 a.m. Mr. R. Lawson, 8 Meanwood road.
- ROCHDALE—Penn street, 10 a.m. Mr. A. E. Platt, 9 Swan place.
- ROYTON—10 a.m. Mr. Hilton Buckley, 7 Cooper square, Rayton, near Oldham
- SHEFFIELD—Hollis Hall, Bridge street, Mrs. H. E. Wright, 78 Andover street.
- SHIPLEY—10 a.m. Mr. Luther Tillotson, 28 Fair Bank, Cragg road, Windhill.
- SLAITHWAITE—Laith lane, 10.15 a.m. Mr. Thos. W. Hoyle, 4 Blakestore, Slaithwaite, near Huddersfield
- SOWERBY BRIDGE—Hollins lane, 10.30 and 2.15. Miss E. J. Sutcliffe, 18 Sowerby street
- STOCKPORT—Spiritual Hall, Wellington road, Arthur Boulton, 116 Daw bank.
- SUNDERLAND—27 Ann street, 11 a.m. Mr. T. O. Todd, 7 Winifred terrace.
- WALSALL—Central Hall, 10.30 and 2.30. Mr. J. J. Bennet, 52 Blue Lane West
- WEST VALE—Green lane, 10 a.m. Mr. F. C. Ingram, Green lane, West Vale, near Halifax.
- WHITWORTH—Market street, 10 a.m. Miss Maria Hays, 4 Elm street, Underbank, Facit, near Rochdale.
- WISBECH—Lecture Room, Public Hall, 2.15. Mr. Wm. Hill, junr., 31 Albert street.
- YEADON—Town Side, 9.30. Mr. J. Green, Lombard street, Little London, Rawdon, near Leeds.

OTHER LYCEUMS.

- ASHINGTON COLLIERY—Northumberland —10.30 a.m. Mr. H. Elliot, 60 Fourth Row, Ashington, Morpeth, Northumberland.
- ASHTON-UNDER-LYME—10 a.m. Mr C. Cooper, 328 Whitelands road
- BEDWORTH—10 a.m. Mr. J. T. Taylor, Grove villa, Hoblane, Bedworth, near Nuneaton.
- BISHOP AUCKLAND—10 a.m. Mr. Borlace, 91 Gurney villa.
- GLASGOW—4 Carlton place, 5 p.m. Secretary, Mr. W. Macdonald, 9 Carfin street, Govanhill
- BOOTLE—11 a.m. Mr. John J. Parr, 7 Ursula street, Hawthorne road, Bootle, near Liverpool.
- LONDON—Beech Hall, Hyde lane, Edmonton. Mrs. Durant, 6 Carolina cottages, Town road, Lower Edmonton.
- LONDON—Canning Town, 2 Fords Park road, 10-45 a.m.
- LONDON—Stratford Workmen's Hall, West Ham lane, 3 p.m.
- MANCHESTER—Gorton I.L.P. Rooms, Ainsworth street, Clowes street, 2.30.
- MANCHESTER—Oldham road, 2.15. (No advice)
- MIDDLESBROUGH—77 Grange road West, 10.30 and 2.30. Mr. Naylor, 77 Grange road West.
- OPENSRAW—Granville Hall, 2 p.m. Miss J. A. Owen, 15 Whitworth street, Openshaw.
- ROCHDALE—Regent Hall, 9.45 a.m. Mr. Fred. Knott, 1 Albert Roysds street.
- SALFORD—10 a.m. Mr. A. Rocke, 9 Park place.

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THE PLAN: AND SYLLABUS OF LYCEUM LESSONS.

A Monthly Supplement to *The LYCEUM BANNER* issued for the use of
LYCEUM CONDUCTORS AND OFFICERS.

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No. 18.—New Series 2.

FEBRUARY, 1897.

GRATIS.

Synopsis for Lesson Plan No. 18.

TO LYCEUM OFFICERS.

SPECIAL SUGGESTIONS.—In every case the "Lyceum Lesson" is to be used as the basis of an address by the Conductor to the entire Lyceum. The "Group Lessons" are always to be used by the Leaders as a basis for calling out the ideas of the Groups on the topics that are outlined. Let each member be encouraged to the freest expression. Do not make these Lessons too "classy," but more in the nature of a fraternal conversation. Twenty minutes is ample time to devote to this part of the work. Avoid all tendency to acrimonious discussion, a Group is not a debating class.—THE COMPILER.

SYLLABUS FOR FEBRUARY.

FIRST SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.

Oh, Divine Spirit! Again have we mingled in our Lyceum and brought ourselves together, so as to be unfolded and given wisdom. We seek for enlightenment this morning, and the penetration that lifts us out of darkness and brings comfort to the soul.

Hear us while we are together; guide us, each one according to his or her own necessity in the work that might be produced by them; and we know the glory and the progress of the condition of life that bringeth good to all will bring us victory by and by. Amen.

LYCEUM LESSON.

SUBJECT:—HOW CAN WE ASSIST THE PARENT SOCIETY?"

OUTLINE:—The first duty of our members is to so behave that in all things we shall be a credit to the Society.—The older members should, as far as possible, make it a point of attending the regular meetings—Some could act as Ushers at the meetings, handing Hymn books to strangers—Escorting visitors to seats, the young ladies assisting at the collections—Occasionally members could join the choir, sing a Solo, or give a Reading

before the Lectures—Occasionally the Lyceum could give a Service of Song—During the winter session the Lyceum could give an Entertainment for the Benefit of the Society—Once a year the Lyceum could hold a "Society Sunday," giving a special Programme, and taking up a collection for the funds of the Society—The officers should join the society, if they have not done so, and in all proper ways it should be the aim of the entire Lyceum to retain the sympathy and interest of the society in the Lyceum and its doings.

GROUP LESSONS.

UPPER GROUPS. SUBJECT:—JUSTICE.

OUTLINE:—Be just, and fear not—Be merciful also—Do not expect others to do what you are not willing to do yourself—Do as you would be done by—Hear all sides before forming an opinion on any question—Do not condemn the absent—Never refuse to assist the weak or fallen, you may need sympathy and help some day—A just man or woman is a credit to the race and an honour to the community.

MIDDLE GROUPS. SUBJECT:—MANNERS.

Politeness is not pretence—Good manners are the evidence of training—One need not be rude to show independence of character—While "manners" may not "make the man," they go a long way to make life more agreeable—Courtesy, good behaviour, in a word, "manners," hurt no one to cultivate them.

LOWER GROUPS. SUBJECT:—PETS.

OUTLINE:—All living things you make Pets of have their feelings—They get hungry, thirsty and cold—You must feed them, keep them warm, never neglecting or teasing them—The cat's tail is not made to be pulled or twisted, dogs are not born to have stones thrown at them, wild birds should not be snared, or their nest robbed of the young or eggs—Never be intentionally cruel to anything you make a pet, for, just like you, they all feel pain when hurt, and to tease them makes them illtempered and cross.

PLAN OF LYCEUM WORK FOR FEBRUARY, 1897.

No. 18.

COMPILED BY THE EDITOR OF THE "LYCEUM BANNER." ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

SECOND SERIES.

Order of Exercises.	FIRST SUNDAY.	SECOND SUNDAY.	THIRD SUNDAY.	FOURTH SUNDAY.	FIFTH SUNDAY.
1.—Call to Order.	The conductor will call the	officers and members to	their places by 3 beats of	the bell	
2.—Opening Melody.	No. 334 LM, "The March of Life." (ss 93)	No. 396 LM, "The World is Growing Good." (ss 160)	No. 368 LM, "Again we've met." (ss 56)		
3.—Invocation.	See synopsis	See synopsis	See synopsis	See synopsis	
4.—Roll Call.	Secretary or other officer	will mark atten			
5.—New Members.	New members are intro	duced to the conductor, who	requests the Guardian to	place them in their appoin	ted Groups
6.—Silver Chain Reading.	No. 74 LM, "Help Others."	No. 37 LM, "Are we not Brothers?"	No. 57 LM, "Deeds versus Creeds."		
7.—Musical Reading.	No. 238 LM, "Do not Wait."	No. 224 LM, "Press on, ye Brave and True."	No. 221 LM, "Welcome to Angels." (ss 157)		
8.—Golden Chain Reading.	No. 124 LM, "Reform."	No. 122 LM, "Liberty, Equality & Fraternity."	Omit "Golden Chain" to-day.		
9.—Calisthenics.	Such series as may be sel	ected			
10.—Marching.	As decided by director of	calisthenics			
11.—Lyceum Lesson.	How can we assist the	Human Brotherhood.	No Lessons this Sunday.	Honour.	
12.—Group Lesson U	Parent Society?	Righteousness.	Devote time to practice	What Spirits teach.	
" " M	Justice.	Duty.	work and recreation.	Why we should not fear	
" " L	Manners.	Pleasure.		to die.	
13.—Programme :—	These items should be tak	en from the smallest childr	en first, and so on up to the	eldest. It is the Guardians'	
Music, Recitations,	duty to collect the items	and arrange the programme	for the Conductor		
Solos, Dialogues, &c.					
14.—Greetings to	By the conductor, who in	visitors to respond ...			
visitors.					
15.—Reports and	The Secretary or Conductor.	Conductors should at th	is point invite those who ha	ve not yet done so to join Au	nt Editha's "Golden Group"
announcements					
16.—Next Sunday's	Human Brotherhood.		Honour.	Building characters.	
Lyceum Lesson					
17.—Closing Melody	No. 403 LM, "Over the	No. 349 LM, "Gentle	No. 373 LM, "Arise, let us		
18.—Benediction.	River of Light." (ss 138)	Words." (ss 10)	go hence." (ss 156)		
	See synopsis	See synopsis	See synopsis	See synopsis	
19.—Closing Order.	Badges to be removed and	placed in boxes by Leaders;	books collected and handed	to Librarian, after which all	stand at attention; the
	Guardian reports all	ready for salutation, which	is then given. The members	are then marched out in	order of Groups, to music

EXPLANATORY NOTES

See Syllabus for Outlines of the Lessons—

The letters LM and SS in the plan refer to the "Lyceum Manual" and "Spiritual Songster" The following bell beats are recommended: Three, to call attention; Four, for all to be seated; Two, for Officers only to rise; Three, to seat them; Five, repeated to dismiss the Lyceum. Closing Salutation—The closing salutation is given by all the members of the Lyceum. Standing at attention, smartly raise the right hand against the forehead, palm out-

wards, and bring smartly down to the open palm of the left hand, held out from the waist; repeat three times. The Conductor responds, thanks members for their attendance, and dismisses them.

In item No 12 the letters U M and L stand for Upper Groups (members 16 years and upwards), Middle Groups (members 11 years to 16 years), and Lower Groups (members from 6 years to 11 years).

Supplement to the Lyceum Banner.

BENEDICTION.

And now, as we separate for today, may the loving angels pour down upon us their blessed inspirations, so, that being inspired thereby we may each be strengthened to live wiser and better lives each day. Help us, dear ones, to come nearer to thee in spirit and thought, lead us in the ways of right doing, and receive us with a loving welcome when we come to thy own fair home.

SECOND SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.

As we again assemble, oh! let us realize the work is not yet done—only commenced; that there are still more souls to be touched by the fire of truth; that we may feel and know our protection is yet in earth life through Thy divine power. Hear us this morning sweet friends of the unseen world, bless us as we have come together, each one in his own allotted place, each one feeling his own mission, each one trying to work out his own life. Touch each soul, and may we know how to assist each other, because we realize that it is only in work that we find victory. Again we ask thee to bless us and give us strength, now and forever more. Amen.

LYCEUM LESSON.

SUBJECT:—HUMAN BROTHERHOOD,

OUTLINE:—The human race is one vast family—Hunger and pain are common to all—Enjoyment and anguish are universal—If we believe in God we must accept that we are all his children—The rights of humanity, are above all other rights—War is opposed to Human Brotherhood—Vice, extravagance, national prejudices and selfishness, are preventives of Human Brotherhood—Trade, travel and commerce all help us to know other peoples better, and so foster the spirit of brotherhood—The rights and duties of one are those of all—Freedom and Fraternity are the true foundations of Brotherhood.

GROUP LESSONS.

UPPER GROUPS. SUBJECT:—RIGHTEOUSNESS.

OUTLINE:—Righteousness is not peculiar to those calling themselves religious—It simply means right living—To live rightly means to do rightly—In morals this is to act virtuously, in intellect to think rightly, *i.e.*, understandingly, with knowledge—Socially, to be honest in our dealings with all—A righteous use of all our bodily faculties means health and long life—A righteous man is honored by all who prize honour above riches or worldly advancement—Strive

after righteousness, and all other blessings will follow.

MIDDLE GROUPS. SUBJECT:—DUTY.

OUTLINE:—Duty is not always pleasant—Discipline and obedience are necessary in all stations in life—Whatever you undertake to do is the duty of the moment—It is not your duty to obey that which experience tells you is wrong—Duty should not blind you to truth in other directions—When it does it become fanaticism—A bigoted obedience to prejudice is a stupid obstinacy—We all owe duties to each other—It is our duty, and it should ever be our pleasure, to help the weak, uplift the fallen, instruct the ignorant, to be loving to the aged, gentle to the rude, forgiving to the unkind, courteous to all.

LOWER GROUPS. SUBJECT:—PLEASURE.

OUTLINE:—The love of enjoyment should not make us neglect our work—There are times for play and times for study—Never take pleasure in the misfortunes of others—Out of door sports and indoor games are full of pleasure, if nothing is neglected while pursuing them—The greatest pleasure comes from making others happy—There are pleasures of the mind, as well as of the body.

BENEDICTION.

Let us all unite in returning thanks to the Giver of all Good for the blessings of mind, body and soul we are possessed of. Let us show pure hearts and minds to the Angel world, and let us strive to profit by the lessons we learn in our Lyceum each Sunday, so that we may live wisely and usefully while we are passing through this world.

THIRD SUNDAY.

NOTE.—No Lessons This Sunday, see Plan for particulars.

INVOCATION.

We meet and come into touch with the Angels of higher life. It is with these that we would communicate in the silence of spirit; we would gather of their influence and receive from them strength which shall stimulate our minds to new efforts, and assist us to grow more strong and true. It is with these we would walk onward, doing our part in the great battle of life. We praise Thee, Thou Divine One, that we can aspire and grow and reach out and do something ourselves for the blessing of the world. Amen.

BENEDICTION.

Dear Angel guides, assist us each day to live in harmony with thee, inspire us with a measure of

Supplement to the Lyceum Banner.

thy Love and Wisdom, guide us that our acts may be such as will help us to aid all in sorrow, distress and spiritual darkness, so that they may be blessed by the light that shines upon us, to the end that harmony and peace may prevail over all the world.

FOURTH SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.

We once again turn to Thee and Thy Angels seeking communion with the pure and good, asking for inspiration from high that shall give to us knowledge that can never fade away. We ask that we may become conscious of the nearness of spiritual beings who desire to bless and strengthen the inner life in its efforts to do good and to be good. We ask that this influence will come to us as an atmosphere of peace and strength. We ask that those who come here to-day from spirit realms seeking avenues of expression through which they convey their thoughts and errands to the friends of earth, will be strengthened in their efforts—will be assisted by the wise and good, and that all now with us be exalted in mind and spirit as the honour and glory of humanity at large.

LYCEUM LESSON.

SUBJECT:—HONOUR.

OUTLINE.—What is Honour?—How best to deserve Honour—An honourable man keeps his word, is always truthful, virtuous, and just in all his dealings—Define the disintinction between Fame and Honour—An honourable man is one who by his life has won the Honour of his fellows—You do not require to occupy an exalted social position to be honourable—Honour can be won in the humblest walks of life—It is honourable to live blamelessly—To overcome temptation—To shun evil company and bad examples—It is honourable to pay debts, to live within your means—Worth earns Honour—They who are most pure, true and good are among the most worthy of honour.

GROUP LESSONS.

UPPER GROUPS. SUBJECT:—WHAT SPIRITS TEACH.

OUTLINE.—That Death is not the end of man's life—That we are still human after entering the spirit world—That we shall know each other in the world beyond—That according to the kind of life we have lived here so shall we be on first entering the next life—That happiness or misery is the result of our life here—That there are no rewards beyond the consciousness of good deeds and honest intentions—That the punishments

“over there” consist in the certainty of remorse for all intentional evil done here—That, finally, we shall outgrow our weaknesses, and progress into better things—That work and not worship, deeds and not doctrines, are the real elements of goodness.

MIDDLE GROUPS. SUBJECT.—WHY WE SHOULD NOT FEAR TO DIE.

OUTLINE—Death is as natural as sleep—Medical men, those who have watched the dying, those who have recovered from the point of death, and our spirit friends, all unite in saying that all pain of body ceases at the time one dies—Conscience often gives more pain than disease when people are dying—If we live healthy lives, have been as good as our circumstances enabled us, and have done our best, we shall have no reason to fear to die.

LOWER GROUPS. SUBJECT:—HOW TO BE HAPPY.

OUTLINE:—To be loving, thoughtfully obedient and kind is to be happy—Little children should love one another—Avoid all quarrels—Do not be a tale-bearer—Try and be useful—Do good—Avoid idleness, these are some of the things that will help you all to be happy.

BENEDICTION.

Infinite Spirit of Life, Love and Truth, we pray that the inspiration of Thy Being may enter our lives. May it so work within us that we shall come nearer to Thee in all things. Thus may we be better fitted day by day to walk nearer to our Angel friends, and profit more and more by their ministry to us. Be with us dear ones, and during the ensuing week watch over us, and, with thy loving gentleness, lead us in the ways of all that is good and pure, so that when we next assemble we may be all more fitted to understand thy teachings.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Owing to the compiler overlooking that there were five Sundays in January the last month's Plan only contained Lessons for four Sundays. As the BANNER was a week late the four lessons were sufficient for the month, so no great harm was done, after all.

The Compiler invites all Conductors, Guardians and Leaders to send him any suggestions that may occur to them that may improve the usefulness of the Plan.