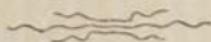


“Command thy passions, and the gods obey.”



THE ORACLE.

EXPONENT OF THE WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

A JOURNAL OF PROGRESS. DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF
HIGH IDEALS; DISCIPLES OF THE NEW ERA.

One God, one law; one element,
And one far off divine event
To which the whole creation moves.

Tennyson.

* * * * *

Each morning presents a new opportunity for your going forth to victory. Live one perfect day and you will never again be content to pursue the way of indifference and uncertainty. Push onward, regardless of errors in the past. You can't bring back lost opportunities, but you *can* do your best in the present.

VOL. 1. BRIDGTON, MAINE, SEPTEMBER, 1895. No. 3.

THE ORACLE

EXPONENT OF THE WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF HIGH IDEALS.

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A NEW ENGLAND COLONY.

The article "An Ideal Centre," published in August issue of this journal, attracted considerable attention, but failed to excite that degree of interest which more practical statements and suggestions might have called out. We have had constant evidence during the past dozen years, of the earnestness of a great class of spiritually minded people, to get away from the burdens and depressions incident to the present order of things in the business and social world.

There are about ten thousand people in this country to-day, who are favorably disposed to the idea of permanently separating themselves from the cares of a business life, and taking up a simple rural state of existence where a comfortable living may be assured, and where full opportunity for physical, intellectual and spiritual improvement may be enjoyed. While these people appear to be thoroughly in earnest, yet they are very cautious (and wisely so) in the matter of taking the first practical steps. In face of the many failures and loss of fortunes through colony schemes in the past, we repeat they are wisely cautious to thus move only after the most thorough deliberation and investigation.

Colony failures have been largely due to one or more of these three things, namely: (1) ambition of some incompetent person to LEAD, and make himself a monarch among his people; (2) the attempt to form a colony upon a too extensive plan and (3) acceptance of people who have attained insufficient experience in the world and who are lacking in physical, intellectual and moral endowments.

Now we are aware that we want a harmonious centre where these last named benefits may be DEVELOPED in the

individual, through a favorable environment and correct training. In view of this fact there are many of our readers who will exclaim: "Ah! but your third reason of failure suggests that those very people be rejected who most NEED the associations of your N. E. Colony." This is only too true, but nevertheless it is best to guard against the acceptance of such, except their number is greatly in the minority. When the colony shall have been well established, then the founders can afford to take risks, but at the inception of the idea, too great caution cannot be observed. As to the first two causes of failure they will be fully avoided if our practical remarks, which follow, are observed in the true spirit in which they are offered.

In the first place let us impress upon you this fact: in this peculiar world of ours we get very few benefits except as a result of effort and sacrifice. God has placed us here to work and not to loaf. We look about us, and in every act of nature which we can in anyway comprehend, there is overwhelming evidence of work and energy. Especially is this apparent wherever there are marks of true success. And success follows in just that degree in which effort, energy, sacrifice or all three of these combined, are manifest. This persistence and this steady application of force, is the unfailling and sole cause of results, not only in the domain of the mineral and vegetable, but as truly, in the higher spheres where man is meant to be ruler. Prove this by watching the patience, persistence, and hope with which a seed pushes forward to its highest ultimate. The seed will throw out its roots and branches wherever opportunity allows. Even at the edge of the highway where the chances are as a thousand to one against development and growth; it makes no difference to the seed. There is that within it which urges it to GROW, and if it grows one inch and is then crushed under foot, it is well, and its short period of existence was not wasted, for it wrought what it could and the energy thrown out recorded itself with the Grand Whole and was not in vain.

A comprehension of this principle may insure the

formation not only of a divinely prosperous colony, but divinely prosperous and useful lives of every member thereof. We are all willing to work, but (as the great Ruskin has implied) we would like to CHOOSE our work; we have the right to choose it and be happy in its performance. But somehow we have wandered a long way off the original path and are perpetually complaining that we are not contented with our lot, and that our work and our associations are limiting and dwarfing, and throwing shadows darkly around us. Is not this largely due to our lack of interest? Are we here purposelessly? Yet how few of us really stop to consider that a wise aim should be cherished by each individual if the secret of life is ever to be disclosed?

Now, here is the practical portion of this article: Let ten or twelve people, who are eligible and free to enter the plan, be put into communication with each other by correspondence. Let them form a permanent organization, the first aim of which is the purchase of one among our hundreds, yes, thousands, of practically abandoned farms. Each person can agree to put, say three hundred dollars, into the enterprise, and as the money is ready, it may be deposited in some solid bank or invested in stock or bonds where interest would accrue, and where it could be withdrawn or turned into purchasing power when desired. Let the by-laws of this organization make it obligatory, that land or any property whatsoever cannot be purchased on mortgage. OWN YOUR PLACE BEFORE MOVING THEREON.

Three thousand dollars will purchase a New England farm of sufficient acreage (and with fairly good buildings) for starting the plan under discussion. Half this sum would secure a home for five or six people who were really desirous of building the foundation which, later on, might become one of the grand centres of twentieth century enterprise.

Is there one reader of this article who, enjoying average health, cannot accumulate three hundred dollars during the next two years? And surely two years is a brief

period to most of us. The time would pass quickly with such a noble aim before us.

As to the advantages of such a plan we all know what they MAY be, and if we are truly determined, we can insure for our centre all that our highest ideals of harmony and useful association have pictured.

We speak of New England in this connection because we are acquainted with her. Her hills, valleys and plains may be relied upon. She promises nothing particularly flattering in the way of gold mines or real estate booms, but she has never failed to give back an honest yield for honest effort.

Upon this domain the grandest stand for freedom was taken. Here was contested some of the most vital questions in the history of the world, and here victory was gained. The very air holds this same spirit to-day, and it is fitting that the new era of the world's advent into WIDER spheres of freedom should have its birth here; then let the idea spread "thro' all the earth."

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT.

PART I.

A right understanding and practical demonstration of that system of physical culture which embraces the proper development and correct control of muscular, nerve and vital force, is absolutely essential to the balanced growth of the interior student. All of us who have not accomplished in ourselves this practical demonstration are more or less unbalanced. The triangle symbolizes the three-fold nature of man: body, soul and spirit. The body corresponds to the base of the triangle, and if that foundation is not properly constructed the triangle is not balanced. The body is the foundation upon which we are to rear the structure immortal. How essential it is therefore that the foundation be properly laid! This work comprehends nothing less than a complete mastery of all the members and functions of the body.

We should constantly bear in mind that every outward bodily expression is indicative of a corresponding

interior condition. Each motion, each gesture, the method of breathing, the poise of the body, the tone of the voice, all indicate the influence, or lack of influence, of the soul. All those persons who are practically interested in this comprehensive system of physical culture have come to it through soul growth, the soul acting upon the body. The law of reaction of the body upon the soul, as applied to this culture, should also receive our earnest attention. It is wise to keep these two laws active in the mind while exercising, as they are applicable to our work. Far better results are obtained if the exercises are frequent and brief, than if the work is crowded into a half hour or hour once or twice a day.

It is suggested to those beginning this system of physical culture to exercise not longer than ten or fifteen minutes at a time, and not oftener than three times a day. It is also wise, for both advanced students and beginners, to take frequent rests. Exercise a few minutes, then rest a few minutes. Never strain nor exhaust the body. Our object is not to see how much we can do, but rather to do correctly and thoroughly what we attempt. In other words let us begin right, avoiding all extremes, quietly and determinedly resolved to balance the triangle.

Correct poising lies at the root of this system of physical culture. We must first learn to sit, stand and walk correctly. In fact we must develop the right poise of the body. To always remember that the weight of the body when walking and standing should be upon the ball of the foot and not upon the heels (although the heels should touch the ground) will materially assist us to obtain this poise. The abdomen should never lead nor should the chest be flat. We must learn to develop a chest that is active and LEADING, and to keep the abdomen drawn up into its proper position, thereby preventing it from protruding.

In order to acquire the proper poise while standing, place one foot slightly in front of the other, the toes pointing outwards, with the inside of the fingers and wrists touching the legs in front. Poise the arms upwards and

backwards, the palms being down, bringing them into their original position. Place the weight of the body upon the ball of the forward foot. Draw the abdomen up into its proper position and let the chest and head lead all other portions of the body. Do not throw the shoulders back, but let the hands hang in front of the body as in the original position. Now we have the correct poise.

We should not forget to ascertain the correspondence between the outward and inward condition. For instance, a person standing in proper poise represents an inward condition of love, as viewed from the higher standpoint, and receptively. Now stand in the converse position, entirely changing the poise. Throw the weight upon the heel of the rear foot, place the hands behind the back and throw backward the head and shoulders. What a change in the inward condition is wrought! Instead of a loving and receptive soul attitude we have assumed an unfriendly and repellant one.

To walk properly it is suggested to walk upon the balls of the feet, or in other words to walk upon tip toe. Bend the knee straight at every step and gradually lower the heels until they touch the ground, but do not let the weight rest upon the heels. In sitting the head and chest should lead and the weight of the body be removed from the legs and feet. Mr. C. H. Mackay's poising exercises as given in the first number of his Esoteric Development drills, will be of great assistance to the student in developing the proper poise. The exercise consists in raising, poising and falling upon the balls of the feet, and should be performed steadily and slowly. Let each interval occupy five seconds.

Let us faithfully practice these exercises the coming month. All bodily culture depends upon their practical demonstration. This is especially true of the "Correct Breath" which the next issue of the ORACLE will contain.

DOUGLAS F. HOTCHKISS.

THE SEPTEMBER STARS.

The heavens in September will be particularly interesting, not alone from the fact that there will be a total eclipse of the moon upon the night of September 3-4, but more truly for the reason that there are a great many of

the most notable and brilliant groups and constellations now in fine position for study. It will also be readily seen that the season is one of the most delightful of the year for this inspiring work.

The zodiacal constellations to be seen this month are as follows: commencing in the east we have Pisces, just rising at eight p. m.; then comes Aquarius, Capricorn, Sagittarius, Scorpio, Libra, and (during the early part of the month) the keen observer may note the star Spica, of the constellation Virgo. The last star enumerated (Spica) will be seen far down toward the western horizon, and some ten or twelve degrees east of this star may be seen the brilliant red planet, Saturn.

Facing the south, we have no difficulty in locating Sagittarius, which is now in splendid position for easy study. Then comes Scorpio, on the west of Sagittarius. Scorpio can hardly be mistaken for the reason that it is the most beautiful of all the groups now visible. The magnificent red star in this constellation is Antares.

The brilliant white star directly in the zenith is Vega, of the constellation Lyra. Then, in the order named, following toward the west we find Hercules, Corona Borealis and Bootes. The last named holds the famous star Arcturus. This star is red and of first magnitude. It is about half way from the zenith to the western horizon.

Following east from Vega, we find Cygnus, directly in the Milky Way, and Aquilla some ten or more degrees south of Cygnus, also in the Milky Way.

For the benefit of those who wish to observe effects of the planets, moon, etc., from an astrological standpoint, we submit data which cannot fail to be of great interest:

Mercury will be in Virgo (the SIGN Virgo) until Sept. 5, then in Libra during the remainder of the month.

Venus, in Libra until Sept. 3, then in Virgo the remainder of the month. Venus retrogrades during the whole month.

Mars, in Virgo until the 13th, then in Libra the rest of the month. Jupiter, in Leo all the month. Uranus in Scorpio. Neptune in Gemini all the month, and commences to retrograde the 25th.

The conjunctions for the month are as follows: Mer-

cury and Venus Sept. 5th; Venus and Mars the 9th; Neptune and the moon the 11th; Jupiter and the moon the 14th (at midnight); Venus and the moon the 18th; Venus and the Sun the 19th; Mars and the moon the 19th; Mercury and the moon the 20th; Saturn and the moon the 21st; Uranus and the moon the 22nd.

Virgo people (those born between Aug. 21st and Sept. 22nd, of any year) will find Sept. 1895, a month of more than usual importance; most especially will this be true if they are engaged in enterprises of general or public importance.

THE MOON'S POSITION BY HOURS, SEPT., 1895.

EASTERN TIME.

Moon enters the sign:

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------|----|----|-------------|
| Pisces, | Sept. | 2 | at | 9 p. m. |
| Aries | | 5 | | 5 p. m. |
| Taurus | | 8 | | 10 a. m. |
| Gemini | | 10 | | 7 p. m. |
| Cancer | | 12 | | 8 p. m. |
| Leo | | 14 | | 6 p. m. |
| Virgo | | 16 | | 7 p. m. |
| Libra | | 18 | | 12 midnight |
| Scorpio | | 21 | | 6 a. m. |
| Sagittarius | | 23 | | 8 a. m. |
| Capricorn | | 25 | | 9 a. m. |
| Aquarius | | 27 | | 2 p. m. |
| Pisces | | 30 | | 3 a. m. |

Full moon, Sept. 3rd at midnight, (total eclipse.)

New moon, Sept. 18th at 9 p. m.

When our early mornings are fine, it well repays to arise a little before the usual time and catch a glimpse of some of the beautiful occupants of the eastern sky. The period just preceding sunrise is a particularly interesting one to the devoted star-gazer. At this hour the stars seem to await in expectancy the approach of the "god of dawn" and are glad to surrender the heavens to him for a time.

In the beautiful roseate hues which the hidden sun throws around the stars at this hour we find a degree of loveliness which no other scene yields.

At four o'clock, on the morning of August 16th, 1895, we were so fortunate as to see the star Sirius, just peering

above the south eastern horizon. A few moments later and the increasing light would have rendered this observation impossible. Comparatively few people behold the noted Dog Star at this date.

Then, well up from the eastern horizon, the giant Orion stood, with his principal stars shining out strong and clear. And still higher we recognized the Hyades, the Pleiades, and farther north, the brilliant white star Capella. Nearly overhead, Cassiopeia's W is yet easily distinguishable, the open sides being toward the north.

Directly east the star Procyon is seen and, near by, the planet Jupiter. The waning moon was pre-eminently queen of all this splendor, and the strong illumination thrown upon her by reflected light of earth was very interesting to observe.

A remarkably brilliant meteor added to the beauty of the sky this morning. The meteor started at a point somewhat to the west of the Zenith (apparently near the constellation Pisces) and gracefully floated toward the north, until it burned itself out.

Sept. 13, 14 and 15 the moon and stars will be in nearly the same position again, as described above. Sept. 15th, the moon and the planet Jupiter will be slightly past conjunction. At this date the planet will be a few degrees south of the moon.

Gems from Wordsworth.

Nature never did betray
 The heart that loved her; 'tis her privilege,
 Through all the years of this our life, to lead
 From joy to joy; for she can so inform
 The mind that is within us, so impress
 With quietness and beauty, and so feed
 With lofty thoughts, that neither evil tongues,
 Rash judgement, nor the sneers of selfish men
 Shall e'er prevail against us, or disturb
 Our cheerful faith that all which we behold
 Is full of blessings.

* * * * *

The universal instinct of repose,
 The longing for confirmed tranquility
 Inward and outward, humble, yet sublime;
 The life where hope and memory are as one;
 Earth quiet and unchanged; the human soul
 Consistent in self rule; and heaven revealed
 To meditation, in that quietness.

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CHAS. H. MACKAY, - Editor and Publisher.

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Don't miss the eclipse of the moon Sept. 3rd. It will begin about nine p. m. (eastern time) and continue until after midnight.

Music, Astronomy, Physical Culture, Voice Culture and kindred subjects, will find frequent mention in the ORACLE. These have vital connection with interior unfoldment. We shall be glad at any time to receive brief articles upon these lines. A paragraph of a dozen lines will often express more and insure wider reading, than long essays. If a good thought strikes you, write it down and send it. We wish to make you feel a personal and active responsibility for this journal and its work.

The voice of the silence, the inner voice, the conscience, or whatever you may choose to call that Something which suggests certain things for us to do or not to do—this "Something" is causing considerable trouble with many occult people. They complain that they cannot tell it from other "voices" and that it leads them in wrong directions as often as otherwise. Now we maintain that the true inner voice is known by every person. People may affect that they do not recognize it, or that it does not guide them aright, but this cannot be unless they repeatedly and wilfully disobey it, and even then it continues to TRY to be heard, but the sense-nature drowns it. The voice always speaks correctly and tries to point you to the right way, but the strong animal nature

is more easily obeyed and is usually victorious, from the fact that we CHOOSE to listen to a command in preference to a wise suggestion. The whole mystery lies right here in a nut shell. Every person has the choice of obeying or not as he elects. He may say that he cannot tell the true voice, but he speaks falsely, and, worst of all, he knows he speaks falsely. He would get nearer the truth if he admitted that the voice whispered, but the animal shouted, and the whispering advice was forgotten in the sense demand. There is always the privilege of accepting the open door which leads to Right or to Wrong. Each one of us has sufficient will force to take the Right. But if we PREFER the other we must go that way until the discipline and suffering convinces us of our folly.

The St. Louis Magazine will be known in the future as "The New St. Louis." Mr. Gilmore has sold out and himself and Mrs. G. will take a "good long play spell" as he privately writes us. Their many friends will be glad that they are permitted to take this much needed rest from their labors, but we certainly regret that we shall no longer see their work in the magazine. Owing to this change in management we shall not continue "Practical Occultism." The September issue of the magazine will contain our last contributions.

It is a great mystery to some interior students, to grasp our meaning of re-generation, as applied to the hand, foot, eye, and other members of the body. The idea is partially illustrated in the person who has made a specialty of educating these functions to their higher degrees of service, where they are able to go about a duty almost independent of the brain guidance. For example, the pianist, the artist, the telegraph operator, etc. By this high state of drill, and discipline extended to the functions of the body, we increase the power of the mind. We not only have mental power in the top of the head but elsewhere. By thus diffusing and cultivating the intelligence we increase our ability to cope with environ-

ment. Surely this is practical enough and ought to appeal to even the ordinary business mind. But we carry the science vastly higher than this, for we point out that the MORAL attributes, the desire to CORRECTLY use our divine powers, must not be lacking in cultivation. When this is comprehended we shall begin to see the possibilities of our sojourn within the "veil of flesh."

The true dream life (or Continued Consciousness) which the West Gate Philosophy, alone, has practically taught, is not to be confounded with the ordinary phases of dreaming. There are no childish vagaries of any description connected with it. In the true state there are no inconsistencies. If you dream that you see the new moon and the planet Saturn in conjunction, such is actually the case, and an observation with your material vision should verify your dreaming. Should you dream that you may secure a certain business position by applying to a certain man, this would follow naturally and absolutely, if the dream were of the genuine quality. The true dream consciousness is the union and agreement of the reason with the soul. This, in the ultimate, will aid us to solve all earthly mysteries. But the pathway to this great end is long and tedious, and the apparent contradictions along the route should be met with patience and fortitude. Each failure may be made an assistant to the next short step upward. PERSEVERE; we can offer no better advice.

Breathe me upward, Thou in me
Aspiring, who art the Way, the Truth, the Life—
That no truth henceforth seem indifferent,
No way to truth laborious, and no life
Not even the life I live—unbearable.

MRS. BROWNING.

There is no more practical method of interior study and unfoldment than through the experiences and the instruction which will be given, subjectively, to every person who correctly pursues the continued consciousness line of research. We consider it one of the first and most important steps in the attainment of occult knowledge, and one of the nearest at hand and most easily of ex-

emplifying. In the one point of PROTECTION against the unconscious forces of the elements the subject is full of the greatest interest. If it had but this one thing to commend it, this would be sufficient; but there are numerous other and still more valuable secrets which will be disclosed to the ones who enter this mystic domain and who have the wisdom to make USE of that which is held out to them.

We have been asked what good it does to carry the mind through the different functions, as explained in our lessons and public writings. The idea seems to be held that this plan has been adopted for the special education of the functions themselves, but such is not the case, although it is admitted that a semi-consciousness may be possessed by all the organs and functions which are properly trained and made the subject of protracted concentrations. The main and fundamental purpose, however, is for the training and discipline of the mental faculties, and to guard against the thought wandering from subject to subject, as is so often the case. It is for the gaining of mental consistency and coherency. When this is done then consciousness of the members will follow.

"If I were a voice, a persuasive voice,
That could travel the wide world through,
I would fly on the beams of the morning light,
And speak to men with a gentle might,
And tell them to be true."

Get up a club of ten new subscribers and we will send you the full W. G. T. Course of practical occult lessons. The names need not all be sent at one time. See advertisement of these lessons on last page of cover.

"There are so many things which my surroundings compel me to do that hinder my progress in this divine way." This remark of one of our correspondents shows the estimation which most occult students put upon their little every-day trials and experiences. They little comprehend that instead of "hindrances" these things are the

solid stepping stones into the great unseen. The winds and storms compel the oak to throw out longer and deeper roots, and thus build the sure foundation which will be capable of supporting and nourishing the magnificent tree and its fruit. The broader and more magnificent the tree the more severe the winds bear upon it. Let us enter into a comprehension of these simple lessons of nature and patiently keep the face to the front.

But it is not necessary that we stand in the midst of tornadoes always. We can grow by sunshine and gentle showers better than by mighty storms which rack every support. How much suffering might be averted if this were comprehended by those who have so long dwelt in the shadows, and have been visited with their quota of tornadoes! Life need not be ALL pain and discipline. Discipline and pain come just so long as we invite them. The moment we drop the dead past and take up the threads of a perfect life in the present, just at that moment discipline ceases and we commence to live under the law of Heaven.

A reader in the far West makes these pleasant remarks concerning our August issue: "I cannot find words sufficiently expressive to tell you how delighted I am with the last ORACLE. There is not a superfluous word in it, and for conciseness and quality it is, indeed, a gem."

Mr. Hotchkiss, whose writings will appear from time to time in these columns, has made quite exhaustive studies and practical demonstrations in the line of vibration. He has given especial thought to the science in its bearing upon singing and speaking. In a private letter, recently received, he says: "Regarding the application of the law of vibration through the speaking and singing voice, what a marvelous degree of inner harmony can be produced by the cultivation of the Inner Tone. How quickly physical troubles as well as mental, recognize the potency of this divine medicine!" Students wishing to

consult Mr. H. upon physical development and its influence in interior unfolding may write the gentleman, enclosing stamp, at Weimer, California. Terms of instruction and all particulars will be furnished. Mr. Hotchkiss has been a thorough W. G. student for a number of years, and we have no hesitation in recommending him as fully competent in the line which he is now teaching.

We are always glad to have our friends send us names of people who might be interested in the ORACLE. We consider that you do us a kindness when you send names of advanced thinkers to whom we can mail free sample copies. We make no solicitations by circular or letter, but simply hand them a copy of the ORACLE and then leave it entirely with them to decide as to whether it contains aught of interest or use to them. There are a great many who feel that they cannot afford the expenditure of even the small subscription price of this journal. To such we wish to say that if you really want the ORACLE and will write us, we have no doubt that we can suggest a way for you to receive it regularly, and this, too, without your feeling that you are getting something for which you have not paid. Some of our subscribers have found it more convenient to remit 25 cents at a time, and this plan is always acceptable to us.

“ Strong souls within the present live,
The future veiled, the past forgot;
Grasping what is, with hands of steel,
They bind what shall be to their will.”

It is the exception, rather than the rule, that a man under forty becomes really interested in subjective principles. Many THINK they have awakened to the divine truths but, alas, fall at the first temptation. Not that the “falling” is such a serious matter, but repeated surrender of the higher to the lower attributes soon closes the avenues of entrance into the Divine atmosphere. Then the case becomes, indeed, a hopeless one. A young person seldom becomes really interested in these things except

through the discipline of extreme suffering. This awakens him with such a start, and discloses the shifting scenes of this world in such an emphatic manner, that a permanent interest is gained in the things eternal. If the young could see their inestimable opportunities in the line of subjective studies they surely would give more attention to them and less to cheap novel reading, and other harmful practices. But to expect this of people under twenty or twenty-five is a good deal like looking for harvest the next month following seed-time!

Concerning a paragraph in the first issue of the ORACLE, a valued correspondent writes as follows:

"I was much gratified to see your tribute to Spiritualism, which to me has been of such inestimable value. Without its timely aid I do not know where I should have drifted. It was an anchor of my life. Hope and immortality dawned upon me by its incoming light through the rifts in the clouds. It answers the question which often comes up before us 'If a man die shall he live again?' It is a mighty solvent of the incrustations formed around the souls of mortals by theological dogmas. It opens avenues to higher possibilities than the soul ever dreamed of before, and reaches out its arms to all to come and partake of the Heavenly manna."

MRS. B.

We took spiritualism as a stepping stone to higher ground. It was an absolute necessity to us at that particular period of our growth. But we had no trouble in passing onward and upward when its use had been exhausted. If taken as a degree, instead of a finality, spiritualism is a pleasant and useful philosophical study.

I am not concerned to prove the inspiration of the Bible narratives but this much they, supplemented by our experience, teach us: that if humanity has lost its Edenic state of innocence and love, by the beguilement of the serpent, the allurements of the senses, the only antidote against the deadly poison of the sensualism with which men are bitten in today's wilderness, is the looking toward the elevation of this very sensual principle itself, in the recognition that, in its proper relation to the inner, spiritual life, it also is Christ-like, Human and Divine.

ROBERT S. GILLIARD.