



SPIRITUALISM—Progress, the Universal Law of Nature; Thought, the Solvent of Her Problems.—SPIRITUALISM

VOL. 20 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, SATURDAY, SEPT. 2, 1899. NO. 510

WHERE WE HAVE COME;
WHENCE WE HAVE COME;
AND WHY WE ARE HERE

A Discourse by Mrs. Cora L. V. Richmond, at Zoo Park,
Mo., Sunday, July 16, 1899.

Having Especial Reference to the Camp-Meeting at Zoo Park.

If you will go back with us, in your mind retrospectively, many thousand years you will see an entire side of this range of mountains, whose plateau forms the scene of this camp-meeting, vast areas of water. The great lakes of the North had their outlet toward the gulf and on either side of this mountain range were wide rivers; the waters of the lakes speeding away, then as now, unto the ocean. Before that period when, by glacial disturbance, the great Niagara was formed, before the inland lakes of North America had an outlet toward the East, they found an outlet to the ocean through the plains and valleys of the Mississippi and Missouri. This especial range of mountains so placed between those great rivers or inland lakes was the residence of favored tribes of Indians.

In that ancient time an especially favored people resided in this land of the crimson apple; here all kinds of game—the deer, antelope, buffalo, everything necessary for this favored people was found. They believed the springs were healing waters sent especially to them by Manitou. Upon some such plateau as you now occupy the councils of these red men were held. They praised the Great Spirit for the land, for the waters beyond, and for all that the earth contains. Many years have passed, the plateau is still here and on either side are vernal valleys, but the lakes have narrowed to rivers still moving on to the ocean. The "pale faces" have taken possession of the former hunting grounds of the red men. From the Anglo-Saxon stock, from the Latin races and from the Semitic tribes of the far East you have come to take up your abode in this fair hunting ground of the red man. Upon a foundation of limestone, the result of the ancient carboniferous period, you have built your cities, and to-day you have erected your tents where from the bosom of old Mother Earth the carpet of green grass and many colored flowers, the trees waving their branches toward the skies and the enduring rocks a temple has been reared for this occupation to-day.

The ages have outwrought, through sunshine and storms, this temple of God's love; and the bending skies above, and the vast rolling plains beneath declare the wonder-working of His great laws.

But ye have come from other sources; some of you have come from different tribes of the earth, your hereditary being handed down from races that were then not in existence; you have come from the comparatively new Anglo-Saxon race, dwelling in one of the smallest of the dominions of the earth; some of you may have come from the Latin races, and not a few of you may trace your origin to those Scandinavian nations from the far North. But whithersoever you have come, you come bearing with you spirits with immortal thoughts and aspirations. Those spirits, from the great eternal life, have sought their habitations in the dust and have molded the clay of which your forms are made into living expressions, into thinking, feeling, animation and purpose.

EVOLUTION AND INVOLUTION.

Whatever you may say of evolution, that it has wrought out the bodies of men, still that which forms the impetus of, or controls the body, the moving life, the acting, thinking principle has been involved by the Infinite Purpose from divinity. There can be no evolution without its involution first. Whatever man finds in matter has first been placed there by the great living, thinking principle which you name God. So when you find this living, thinking principle in man, it has come from its immortal inheritance to do its work upon the earth, to find the consciousness of its human life and to shape that life to higher and nobler purposes. The man and woman are the physical forms that you see, but the thinking principle, the moving, acting, living, conquering power of the mind, finds its way unto the mountain at this time to discover from whence it came and whither it is going.

The man of science will tell you that these rocks, this foliage, and every form of life that is around you contains somewhat of that which is in the human structure. This is true, but those are fables that the intellect declared, that man has sprung from the dust alone; that these great ages of geological and chemical action have outwrought the physical nature of man and that there is nothing more of him. But the real man of science only explains the material part, he only accounts for the chemical action and discovers the properties that are found in the human organism, and he employs the reasoning of the law of evolution to show by what process nature has fashioned the habitation of man, the organic structure which you control. But far other is the source of the human mind, the dominating intelligence, the controlling, moving spirit. Nature has never played in leaf, or tree, or flower an immortal aspiration other than that which belongs to the atom. But in the spirit of man there is aspiration for eternal life, for that which is beyond the dust, proving clearly man's alliance and allegiance to immortality, to that which is his inheritance. It is from the source of his spirit that the inheritance of his spirit

People must turn backward, as the Chinese do to receive their light and worship their ancestors, are there no open doorways to the skies? We tell you, in this present age, at this hour over all the earth there are people who go to the groves to worship, to the mountains to declare the voice and truth of the living God; that upon the young men and young women, upon the lowly, lisping child, upon the gray haired sires and matrons this voice and light of truth descends to-day. Visions have not been closed, the voice of inspiration is not silent. You inherit not only the testimony of the past, but all the spiritual life and light that there is in the universe. It is poured out upon the world to-day.

As science has revealed to you many propositions concerning the laws and forces of nature unknown before; as to-day you are chaining the lightning, and the steam horse is pursuing its way over continents, and over oceans, so the voice of the spirit is making itself felt and known in the world at this time. A new inspiration is quickening the pulses and lives of the people, and many are receiving the gifts of the spirit. Nor is this exceptional, nor does it come to you in any unlawful way. It is the voice of an inspiration that is as legitimate unto the human mind as is the air and sunshine unto the body. It has been shut out from you by established forms of thought. Man has endeavored to make it seem that humanity must not be inspired excepting under the sanction and privilege of certain ecclesiastical orders. You are perfectly well aware that before this great republic of yours was founded, before the Declaration of Independence was known, there was a theory of "divine right of kings" to rule over human lives, that no human being could possibly have the privilege of living, thinking and regulating his own life for himself. Now you are privileged to live beneath the sun and sky in a land where every man has the right (or should have) not only to earn his livelihood, but to do his own thinking and follow his own convictions. You are living in the midst of an age when science has disenthralled the human spirit, when the special privileges of sect, caste and class are denied and forgotten.

Do you say, then, that you have no right to your own inspiration, that the voice of the spirit cannot come to you excepting through the authority of the church of Rome, or through the Westminster catechism, or through the creed of John Calvin, or through the milder doctrines of John Wesley, or through those of the still later dissenter, Dr. Priestly, or those of the Unitarians or Universalists? Are you not a voice unto yourself in the way of conscience as well as in the way of government? May you not worship whenever and wherever you choose when the voice of inspiration shall come to you? and here upon the Ozark mountains you have seen the Great Spirit, the Manitou of the Ozarks for permission to worship, nor yet must you go to India or Egypt, or even to Palestine. For the great teacher said: "The hour cometh and now is, when neither in Jerusalem nor yet upon the mountain shall men worship, but they shall worship God in spirit and in truth."

VOICE OF THE SPIRIT.
To-day that voice of the spirit hath summoned you; it has called you from your daily cares, from your business, from your striving for mammon, from the seeking and getting of material gain; it has summoned you unto the altar of the memory of those who have passed on before; it has summoned you unto the altar of true worship, and is the voice of the living and not of the dead, and we have come up here to-day to ministering in many lands unto those people in testimony of their new voice. Some have come from schools of theology that had little hope for the spirit of man, and through which, with fear and trembling, they sought knowledge of immortality. Some have come from the harder schools of materialism, which, by mislabeled science, have attempted to blot out the thought of man's immortality; and agnosticism, that contents itself with denial and says, "we do not know." It is man's business to know; he is here to know; the Infinite has placed him upon the earth and surrounded him with nature and all objects of life that he may know why he is here, and if there is a voice from the unseen realm—and ministering presences from the spirit land, it is man's business to understand why that voice is sent and for what purpose the ministering presences. To minister unto him and teach him of immortality.

When the agnostic says he does not know, he simply admits his own ignorance and declares that in the midst of evidence he has remained blind, in the midst of testimony he has refused to investigate, in the midst of that which brings you the knowledge of the future life he has failed to avail himself of that knowledge. When the astronomer tells you something you listen, for he has studied the position of the planets and the laws that govern their motions; their distances from one another and from the sun, and you know that he is entitled to the credence which his study has given him. You accept his statements almost without question, for there is scarcely a man or woman in this congregation who by actual experiments, and actual mathematical calculations, has worked out the problems of astronomy. But if some one comes to you who has experience and knowledge in spiritual manifestations, "oh," you say, "he is weak in his mind, or he is trying to practice deception, or he is insane." Now, when Mr. Crookes—Sir William Crookes—gives the title not because he inherited it from his ancestors, but because of his great learning and experiments in science—when he made discoveries with reference to the vibrations of light the British Association of Science bestowed upon him a medal for his discovery, and the Queen thought him

here and now that the message comes to you, that you shall not have to wait until you pass through the change called death to be reunited with your loved ones. But you say, "we do not want anything to come between us and our God." Does your mother, your father, your child, your friend on earth come between you and your God? What is there in the love of an angel mother, in the ministrations of a spirit child, in the benediction of a loved friend that can separate or alienate you from God? You are alienated from Him by selfishness, by worldliness, by pursuing the paths of intemperance, by self-seeking and avarice, you allow your individual human interests to come between you and God. But the redeeming thought of humanity is that when you work for one another you are nearer to God than before; and the blessing that comes from this message is, that spirits and angels are not continually singing and congratulating themselves upon having been saved, but are doing God's work by ministering unto those in sorrow and darkness, thus following the example of the great Teacher of Nazareth.

This message draws aside the curtain that divides you from your loved ones who have gone before. They say, we are still with you, we are living, moving, working, thinking, acting; you are only living in the basements of your dwellings, we have come to open up those upper rooms, those chambers of your intelligence and spirituality that have been deadened and dwarfed by contact with material things alone. They tell you, that all the avenues of human thought fashioned by poetry, philosophy and art are but the "many mansions of the Father's house, not made with hands." That you are building those mansions day by day, that the structure of the spiritual habitation is being fashioned in your lives; that your spiritual raiment is being woven of the thoughts and deeds, and what you do unto your habitation, be of shadow and your raiment of darkness; if they are deeds of love and kindness, then will your raiment be of brightness like the "shining raiment" that shone upon the Mount of Transfiguration, when Jesus held communion with his disciples and said: "Behold I have followed him unto that kingdom of light."

Oh beloved, the light of this eternal truth, the glory of this surpassing realm is being more and more revealed. As to-day, you stand upon the apex of the ages, remember that all their treasures are yours. Let this light of beauty, glory and philosophy triumph over the dust.

STRONG TESTIMONY.
Friends, you have not come to listen to the convictions or opinions of erratic, insane minds who have no knowledge of what they testify to, but you have come to receive the testimony of those who know and understand whereof they testify, of those who have spent years of their lives in discovering and knowing the means of communication between the realm unseen and your realm, in receiving the ministrations of those who have departed the earth life and who are those ministrations to those in human life. Here are those, who, like the one standing before you, whose lips were kindled with this theme when she was a child, when, without other teachers than those who have passed beyond the earthly plane, she spoke words of wisdom and philosophy pertaining to the other life; here are those whose minds and spirits are touched with the living presence of your departed friends, describing their forms and their countenances, declaring their messages and bridging over the chasm between you and that unseen realm. If a man comes to you from the Klondike or California and tells you that he has discovered gold there, there is a great rush to get there; men forsake their families, abandon their business or their pursuits to find the alluring treasure. But when someone tells you that death has been conquered, that the great treasure of immortality has been rediscovered, that your friends are not dead, but are living, you turn away in fear; you turn away in doubt and refuse the evidence that is before you, giving your hearts to those who were away to Cuba or the Philippines, and never returned in mortal form was said to be alive and on the earth and you could get a message to him or from him you would travel all the way to a far island to see him or receive that message. Now across the barriers of death, across that gulf that has never been spanned for you excepting by faith, over that seemingly impossible and irreconcilable state your loved ones have constructed the iris archway of communion.

Greater than the telegraph, greater than the steam power that moves the commerce of the world, greater than those new discoveries that are inspiring into this new century that is almost here is this mighty message. It pleads to you who are mourning—mothers, fathers, brothers, children, friends; it says we are not dead, but living, we do not come to interfere with your duties, your daily pursuits or your vocations in life, excepting so far as they injure yourselves and others, but seek to strengthen, uplift and, above all, to take away the pall and shadow of death where we hear the great voice of Rama, Rama throughout the land of the mourner that will not be comforted. To those who have faith and still have not certainty, to see who have no faith, only hope, surely one who believes in a future life cannot be harmed by knowing it; one who has faith cannot be injured by exchanging that faith for knowledge; and he or she who has no faith—and you may count them by the millions—will be benefited by this knowledge.

We are here to-day to testify to this knowledge. Before this meeting is over the managers expect to give the evidence to those who have it not, that it is true. They expect to show that their belief is not founded upon faith alone, but upon knowledge; that it is a sublime philosophy, that is the legitimate result and sequence of human existence, that the future life is not gained by any special favoritism or by any peculiar line of belief, but that it is the next inevitable step of all human beings. That as every child has a right to come into this world with the best possible conditions, so every human being has a right to go out of this world with the best knowledge concerning the future. It is here and now as it ever was, and it ever will be.

Friends, you have not come to listen to the convictions or opinions of erratic, insane minds who have no knowledge of what they testify to, but you have come to receive the testimony of those who know and understand whereof they testify, of those who have spent years of their lives in discovering and knowing the means of communication between the realm unseen and your realm, in receiving the ministrations of those who have departed the earth life and who are those ministrations to those in human life. Here are those, who, like the one standing before you, whose lips were kindled with this theme when she was a child, when, without other teachers than those who have passed beyond the earthly plane, she spoke words of wisdom and philosophy pertaining to the other life; here are those whose minds and spirits are touched with the living presence of your departed friends, describing their forms and their countenances, declaring their messages and bridging over the chasm between you and that unseen realm. If a man comes to you from the Klondike or California and tells you that he has discovered gold there, there is a great rush to get there; men forsake their families, abandon their business or their pursuits to find the alluring treasure. But when someone tells you that death has been conquered, that the great treasure of immortality has been rediscovered, that your friends are not dead, but are living, you turn away in fear; you turn away in doubt and refuse the evidence that is before you, giving your hearts to those who were away to Cuba or the Philippines, and never returned in mortal form was said to be alive and on the earth and you could get a message to him or from him you would travel all the way to a far island to see him or receive that message. Now across the barriers of death, across that gulf that has never been spanned for you excepting by faith, over that seemingly impossible and irreconcilable state your loved ones have constructed the iris archway of communion.

Greater than the telegraph, greater than the steam power that moves the commerce of the world, greater than those new discoveries that are inspiring into this new century that is almost here is this mighty message. It pleads to you who are mourning—mothers, fathers, brothers, children, friends; it says we are not dead, but living, we do not come to interfere with your duties, your daily pursuits or your vocations in life, excepting so far as they injure yourselves and others, but seek to strengthen, uplift and, above all, to take away the pall and shadow of death where we hear the great voice of Rama, Rama throughout the land of the mourner that will not be comforted. To those who have faith and still have not certainty, to see who have no faith, only hope, surely one who believes in a future life cannot be harmed by knowing it; one who has faith cannot be injured by exchanging that faith for knowledge; and he or she who has no faith—and you may count them by the millions—will be benefited by this knowledge.

We are here to-day to testify to this knowledge. Before this meeting is over the managers expect to give the evidence to those who have it not, that it is true. They expect to show that their belief is not founded upon faith alone, but upon knowledge; that it is a sublime philosophy, that is the legitimate result and sequence of human existence, that the future life is not gained by any special favoritism or by any peculiar line of belief, but that it is the next inevitable step of all human beings. That as every child has a right to come into this world with the best possible conditions, so every human being has a right to go out of this world with the best knowledge concerning the future. It is here and now as it ever was, and it ever will be.

here and now that the message comes to you, that you shall not have to wait until you pass through the change called death to be reunited with your loved ones. But you say, "we do not want anything to come between us and our God." Does your mother, your father, your child, your friend on earth come between you and your God? What is there in the love of an angel mother, in the ministrations of a spirit child, in the benediction of a loved friend that can separate or alienate you from God? You are alienated from Him by selfishness, by worldliness, by pursuing the paths of intemperance, by self-seeking and avarice, you allow your individual human interests to come between you and God. But the redeeming thought of humanity is that when you work for one another you are nearer to God than before; and the blessing that comes from this message is, that spirits and angels are not continually singing and congratulating themselves upon having been saved, but are doing God's work by ministering unto those in sorrow and darkness, thus following the example of the great Teacher of Nazareth.

This message draws aside the curtain that divides you from your loved ones who have gone before. They say, we are still with you, we are living, moving, working, thinking, acting; you are only living in the basements of your dwellings, we have come to open up those upper rooms, those chambers of your intelligence and spirituality that have been deadened and dwarfed by contact with material things alone. They tell you, that all the avenues of human thought fashioned by poetry, philosophy and art are but the "many mansions of the Father's house, not made with hands." That you are building those mansions day by day, that the structure of the spiritual habitation is being fashioned in your lives; that your spiritual raiment is being woven of the thoughts and deeds, and what you do unto your habitation, be of shadow and your raiment of darkness; if they are deeds of love and kindness, then will your raiment be of brightness like the "shining raiment" that shone upon the Mount of Transfiguration, when Jesus held communion with his disciples and said: "Behold I have followed him unto that kingdom of light."

Oh beloved, the light of this eternal truth, the glory of this surpassing realm is being more and more revealed. As to-day, you stand upon the apex of the ages, remember that all their treasures are yours. Let this light of beauty, glory and philosophy triumph over the dust.

STRONG TESTIMONY.
Friends, you have not come to listen to the convictions or opinions of erratic, insane minds who have no knowledge of what they testify to, but you have come to receive the testimony of those who know and understand whereof they testify, of those who have spent years of their lives in discovering and knowing the means of communication between the realm unseen and your realm, in receiving the ministrations of those who have departed the earth life and who are those ministrations to those in human life. Here are those, who, like the one standing before you, whose lips were kindled with this theme when she was a child, when, without other teachers than those who have passed beyond the earthly plane, she spoke words of wisdom and philosophy pertaining to the other life; here are those whose minds and spirits are touched with the living presence of your departed friends, describing their forms and their countenances, declaring their messages and bridging over the chasm between you and that unseen realm. If a man comes to you from the Klondike or California and tells you that he has discovered gold there, there is a great rush to get there; men forsake their families, abandon their business or their pursuits to find the alluring treasure. But when someone tells you that death has been conquered, that the great treasure of immortality has been rediscovered, that your friends are not dead, but are living, you turn away in fear; you turn away in doubt and refuse the evidence that is before you, giving your hearts to those who were away to Cuba or the Philippines, and never returned in mortal form was said to be alive and on the earth and you could get a message to him or from him you would travel all the way to a far island to see him or receive that message. Now across the barriers of death, across that gulf that has never been spanned for you excepting by faith, over that seemingly impossible and irreconcilable state your loved ones have constructed the iris archway of communion.

Greater than the telegraph, greater than the steam power that moves the commerce of the world, greater than those new discoveries that are inspiring into this new century that is almost here is this mighty message. It pleads to you who are mourning—mothers, fathers, brothers, children, friends; it says we are not dead, but living, we do not come to interfere with your duties, your daily pursuits or your vocations in life, excepting so far as they injure yourselves and others, but seek to strengthen, uplift and, above all, to take away the pall and shadow of death where we hear the great voice of Rama, Rama throughout the land of the mourner that will not be comforted. To those who have faith and still have not certainty, to see who have no faith, only hope, surely one who believes in a future life cannot be harmed by knowing it; one who has faith cannot be injured by exchanging that faith for knowledge; and he or she who has no faith—and you may count them by the millions—will be benefited by this knowledge.

We are here to-day to testify to this knowledge. Before this meeting is over the managers expect to give the evidence to those who have it not, that it is true. They expect to show that their belief is not founded upon faith alone, but upon knowledge; that it is a sublime philosophy, that is the legitimate result and sequence of human existence, that the future life is not gained by any special favoritism or by any peculiar line of belief, but that it is the next inevitable step of all human beings. That as every child has a right to come into this world with the best possible conditions, so every human being has a right to go out of this world with the best knowledge concerning the future. It is here and now as it ever was, and it ever will be.

Friends, you have not come to listen to the convictions or opinions of erratic, insane minds who have no knowledge of what they testify to, but you have come to receive the testimony of those who know and understand whereof they testify, of those who have spent years of their lives in discovering and knowing the means of communication between the realm unseen and your realm, in receiving the ministrations of those who have departed the earth life and who are those ministrations to those in human life. Here are those, who, like the one standing before you, whose lips were kindled with this theme when she was a child, when, without other teachers than those who have passed beyond the earthly plane, she spoke words of wisdom and philosophy pertaining to the other life; here are those whose minds and spirits are touched with the living presence of your departed friends, describing their forms and their countenances, declaring their messages and bridging over the chasm between you and that unseen realm. If a man comes to you from the Klondike or California and tells you that he has discovered gold there, there is a great rush to get there; men forsake their families, abandon their business or their pursuits to find the alluring treasure. But when someone tells you that death has been conquered, that the great treasure of immortality has been rediscovered, that your friends are not dead, but are living, you turn away in fear; you turn away in doubt and refuse the evidence that is before you, giving your hearts to those who were away to Cuba or the Philippines, and never returned in mortal form was said to be alive and on the earth and you could get a message to him or from him you would travel all the way to a far island to see him or receive that message. Now across the barriers of death, across that gulf that has never been spanned for you excepting by faith, over that seemingly impossible and irreconcilable state your loved ones have constructed the iris archway of communion.

Greater than the telegraph, greater than the steam power that moves the commerce of the world, greater than those new discoveries that are inspiring into this new century that is almost here is this mighty message. It pleads to you who are mourning—mothers, fathers, brothers, children, friends; it says we are not dead, but living, we do not come to interfere with your duties, your daily pursuits or your vocations in life, excepting so far as they injure yourselves and others, but seek to strengthen, uplift and, above all, to take away the pall and shadow of death where we hear the great voice of Rama, Rama throughout the land of the mourner that will not be comforted. To those who have faith and still have not certainty, to see who have no faith, only hope, surely one who believes in a future life cannot be harmed by knowing it; one who has faith cannot be injured by exchanging that faith for knowledge; and he or she who has no faith—and you may count them by the millions—will be benefited by this knowledge.

We are here to-day to testify to this knowledge. Before this meeting is over the managers expect to give the evidence to those who have it not, that it is true. They expect to show that their belief is not founded upon faith alone, but upon knowledge; that it is a sublime philosophy, that is the legitimate result and sequence of human existence, that the future life is not gained by any special favoritism or by any peculiar line of belief, but that it is the next inevitable step of all human beings. That as every child has a right to come into this world with the best possible conditions, so every human being has a right to go out of this world with the best knowledge concerning the future. It is here and now as it ever was, and it ever will be.

Friends, you have not come to listen to the convictions or opinions of erratic, insane minds who have no knowledge of what they testify to, but you have come to receive the testimony of those who know and understand whereof they testify, of those who have spent years of their lives in discovering and knowing the means of communication between the realm unseen and your realm, in receiving the ministrations of those who have departed the earth life and who are those ministrations to those in human life. Here are those, who, like the one standing before you, whose lips were kindled with this theme when she was a child, when, without other teachers than those who have passed beyond the earthly plane, she spoke words of wisdom and philosophy pertaining to the other life; here are those whose minds and spirits are touched with the living presence of your departed friends, describing their forms and their countenances, declaring their messages and bridging over the chasm between you and that unseen realm. If a man comes to you from the Klondike or California and tells you that he has discovered gold there, there is a great rush to get there; men forsake their families, abandon their business or their pursuits to find the alluring treasure. But when someone tells you that death has been conquered, that the great treasure of immortality has been rediscovered, that your friends are not dead, but are living, you turn away in fear; you turn away in doubt and refuse the evidence that is before you, giving your hearts to those who were away to Cuba or the Philippines, and never returned in mortal form was said to be alive and on the earth and you could get a message to him or from him you would travel all the way to a far island to see him or receive that message. Now across the barriers of death, across that gulf that has never been spanned for you excepting by faith, over that seemingly impossible and irreconcilable state your loved ones have constructed the iris archway of communion.

NATURE'S TEACHINGS.

Spiritualism Delivers from Mental Thrall.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATION, AT SUMMERLAND BEACH, OHIO, ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 1899, BY JUDGE J. M. KENNEDY, OF MARYSVILLE, OHIO.

Philosophers claim that away back in the eons of time, so remote that the mind of man could not conceive or figure compute, this planet which we inhabit was a seething mass of matter. That in process of time and in its course in its orbit it became cooled and formed upon its surface what is known by us as a mineral or stony foundation upon which it builded from the gaseous and particles of aerolites and other substances which it gathered in its course, which produced a basic formation for vegetable growth. Then came a vegetable or woody period, vegetation being very prolific and wood growing to great heights and wonderful sizes. At this period the great mass of our planet was of a liquid or heated mass, that its gravitation was deviated and drawn out of its course by the attraction of greater bodies or planets and the result was a reversal of the poles, causing in its change an overflow of the vegetable and woody growth that had accumulated upon the higher portions of the earth's surface, thus forming our coal beds. To further illustrate the great antiquity of our earth, I will say that in Switzerland they have sunk shafts three feet deep; not in sinking this shaft they passed through eighty-two strata of coal from three and a half to twenty feet in thickness, thus definitely making eighty-two periods in the world's history, periods beyond the conception of the mind of man. How many thousands or millions of years between each formation, who can conceive? Each one produced by a separate formation and accumulation of the necessary compost matter to form the stratum, and each one giving nature time to form its geological deposits for the next, and each in turn awaiting the revolution of nature and reversal of the poles by the centralization of forces outside of the planet itself.

We pass these periods of mineral and vegetable formation and come to the formation of animal life. Then man and animals appear upon the earth. The surface had become sufficiently cooled as well as the atmosphere. Life-forming globules became attached to each other and the distinct races of men and animals became the result, all by the same law of nature. This formic period passed, nature's laws became perfected as in every other thing, and the globular or ball formation period passed and man and animals became clothed with the procreative power of gestation and perpetuation of life. I have been definite in my description of the life of our planet, to give you my theory of creation. Millions of years have passed since this formation and life-forming period. Man has come down through this remote period to the present time. From the primitive man of 'glant formation to the man of to-day. From the weak and puny almost animal instinct to the great man of to-day. Through all this time man has been priest-ridden, has been enslaved, his mind has been crippled and enshrouded, dwarfed by the mythical gods and superstitious priesthood. Has been persecuted and robbed in the name of all of these mythical gods, and blood shed almost by rivers to appease the wrath of an imaginary god. Nature, ever patient, has waited long and patiently for the time when man could be disenthralled and allowed to think for himself, act for himself and be himself free from all imaginary godly restraints. The spirit world has always been the auxiliary of nature, and by their aid they have so guided man that in the middle of the nineteenth century the silent sphinx of all time has spoken. On the 31st day of March, D. 1848, at the humble home of John D. Fox, of Hydesville, N. Y., the tiny messenger bearing good tidings to all the world came bringing great joy to all that would accept his message, breaking down all dogmas and unlocking the door that separated us from the past, and revealed the future, establishing the fact of immortality to all mankind. Without the intervention of priest or layman, without the aid of an imaginary mythical savior, brought man face to face with himself. Taught him that he took up life on the other shore just as he left it; taught him that he would have to meet himself and that he would be his own savior or destroyer of his peace and happiness on the other side of life.

This little beginning has grown in the face of ostracism, persecution, insults and opprobrium, heaped upon it by the skeptic and religious world, until it numbers its votaries and believers by the millions, until the spirit world have become able to remove the veil and our friends come back from the silent shore called death and communicate with us in their own natural voices, and materialize a body that we can recognize. Remove every doubt and every fear, make us better men and better women. Teach us self-reliance, teach us to think and act for ourselves, each to be better citizens; teach us that we cannot by any churlishness escape our own misdeeds; teach us there is no vicarious atonement or pardoning power, and that we have got to be our own saviors and atone for our own misdeeds, and cannot escape them. In fact the spirit world is fast disrobing the priesthood and freeing the world, and nature speaks to us not through a mythical god or his priesthood, but through the beautiful flowers, the majestic trees of the forest, the sweetness of her fruit, and the many blessings brought to us through action of nature and nature's grand work.

The greatest events dawn with no more noise than the morning star makes

"Success, the Key that Unlocks it," by J. M. Kennedy, 45 pages. Published by the Spiritual and Religious Association, Summerland Beach, Ohio.

Thereafter his hearers noted in his prayers a tender strain. And never the messages of hatred burned on his lips again. And the scolding tongue was prayerful, and the blinded eyes found sight, and hearts, as flint aerolites, grew soft in his warmth and light.

—John G. Whittier.

"Success, the Key that Unlocks it," by J. M. Kennedy, 45 pages. Published by the Spiritual and Religious Association, Summerland Beach, Ohio.

SPIRIT CONTROL.

The Views of a Prominent Medium.

HE DOESN'T THINK THAT JESUS IS AROUND CONTROLLING DIFFERENT MEDIUMS.

We are well aware that this article will call for much discussion, as various people have various ideas. However, we should not let prejudice control us, but look fairly and squarely at this question.

Many times we have seen, read and heard the expression of different Spiritualists, and especially mediums, who claimed that Jesus Christ, Moses, St. John, Paul, and various other ancient persons controlled them. To me, logically and personally, the claim is absurd. Psychically and psychometrically we call them personations. Let us take personality out of the question and assume reason. The All-comprehensive Power of Knowledge has endowed us with reasoning faculties; hence, why not use them?

Before we enter upon our subject, we wish to give an experience which occurred in this city (Oakland). Two years ago a medium was engaged by a Spiritualist society. This society got out handbills on which was the following:

"Jesus Christ will control and speak through Mrs. — this evening; also the afflicted."

You can imagine the hall was filled. Many people went, of course, out of pure curiosity to hear what Mr. Christ had to say. Among those in the audience were three reverends and one college professor, who afterwards told me that they were mortified and disgusted. The greater portion of the audience were of the same opinion, and expressions were heard like this: "When Jesus was at the age of 12, he was found in the temple, teaching the old and wise men, and now, two thousand years after his translation, and as we would suppose, with all these centuries of experience in higher fields of knowledge, progression and purity, he comes back to speak through the instrumentality of said person, and instead of teaching wisely, murders English grammar." So, it was so painful to be a listener that many people left the hall before Mr. (or was it Mrs.?) Christ finished the lecture.

Now, let us give credit where credit is due, but let us break the idol of superstition, and do away with the erroneous idea of letting such things appear publicly to drive away our thinking people. Let us see about these ancient personages coming back and giving their pictures upon slates and controlling mediums. That it is the work of spirits, when under strict test conditions, there is no doubt, except when it comes from the medium's own imagination. Some people are, I am sorry to say, so light-brained that they are tickled out of their reason to have such names given to them, but let us reason: A medium was once controlled and gave the name of George Washington. Finally, being cornered, he confessed he was not the spirit he claimed to be. He explained that if he gave the name of Mr. Jones or Mr. Smith, he could not attract the attention that he could by giving the name of George Washington.

I call these cases personations and in some instances obsession of the medium. If a spirit comes back and impersonates, he is a deceiver and cannot be trusted, no matter what name he may assume. To our knowledge there are scores of mediums and Spiritualists claiming Jesus, Moses, St. John, Aaron and other Bible personages, but psychically we say they are all personations.

Now, dear reader, this may not please you, especially if you have a control who gives such a name, but let us investigate and reason together. Our philosophy claims to teach eternal progression, and if this is true, such spirits whose names we have mentioned, who have passed out thousands of years ago and were living a true, good life then, no doubt have progressed far beyond this impure, insignificant planet of ours, and could not, if they wanted to, come back here, hence we affirm again, it is a personation and deception on the part of the spirit, or imagination on the part of the medium.

Dear Spiritualists, or mediums, whoever you may be, if you have such a control, be not deluded or degraded; be honest with yourself, and let your reason guide you. If you are of a progressive mind you will see that you have been misled.

Let us go a little further. I have found in my investigations that there are some Spiritualists who teach that the very highest spirits have wings! Think of it, dear reader, eventually we have to grow wings so that we can fly! How we are to grow them is not stated—whether by the use of goose grease or some other application. What an erroneous and materialistic idea! It is not natural; never has been, nor will it be a law for anyone to grow wings. A spirit, not being a material, ponderable object, is not controlled by the law of gravity, and travels to any point of the universe with the speed of thought, which is the only motive power known in the spirit world.

It is high time, in this intellectual age, that we throw down all bonds of superstition and the like, and let reason rule. May the All-Eternal Wisdom and Knowledge lead us into brighter light. Give us "Light, more light!"

MAX MUEHLENBUCH, Oakland, Cal.

APPROCIATION.

To the Editor:—The premium books are at hand, all in good condition, and I thank you very much. I am delighted to be the possessor of them, for I know I shall be greatly interested in reading them. I have wanted these books a long time, and now I am proud to possess them. Thanks to your generous

THE ROMAN OGTOPIUS.

JESUITICAL ROMANISM.

An Israelite Expresses His Views.

Referring to the Jesuits, an editorial paragraph in last week's Israelite speaks of them as "gentlemen in black gowns," which is erroneous in at least one respect. I am quite certain that the order of Jesuits contains no gentlemen, and such of them as I have known have did not wear gowns—unless, perhaps, in the pulpit. I have known a number of the brotherhood of Jesus, and am constrained to admit that they were among the cleverest individuals I have ever seen. I have known a number of the brotherhood of Jesus, and am constrained to admit that they were among the cleverest individuals I have ever seen. I have known a number of the brotherhood of Jesus, and am constrained to admit that they were among the cleverest individuals I have ever seen.

As I have before had occasion to say, some of my dearest friends have been Catholics; and one of them in particular, I think, the very finest gentleman I ever met. He, however, always felt assured that he was a Catholic, and that his priest had turned him down most relentlessly, although I am sure it would have been a great grief for him to have been forced to do so. Another dear friend, who had been born and bred in the Catholic Church, was buried in unconsecrated ground, because during the last few years of his life he had not attended confession. I won't assert it positively, but I am morally certain that an attempt to make him give away a professional secret to his confessor was the original cause of his trouble with the church—he hinted as much to me. On the occasion of the funeral I had been advised to go to the church, but he said at the church, but despite the fact that his wife and family were devout communicants, the church doors were barred against his remains. In the same town, and shortly afterwards, there died a man whose whole adult life had been devoted to running a notorious gambling hell, but as he had been a member of the church, and due to regularity, he was buried from the Cathedral with the highest honors of the church. Like all gamblers, he was superstitious, and was free with his ill-gotten gains, through both of which the church had been enriched, and he was honored in death, while the physician—my friend—who had been among the best of men and had practically sacrificed his life for the fellow-men was refused a "Christian" burial.

The readers of this paper will bear me out in my assertion that until quite recently I have always been a staunch defender of the Catholic Church against its bigoted opponents. For years I have fought with all my might such bodies as the American Protective Association, and all other oath-bound organizations, whose object was the political ostracism of Roman Catholics. This paper has always stood shoulder to shoulder with the Catholic press in the fight to keep the public schools free from the taint of sectarianism; and, the Jewish press, and the Catholic press, to protect Catholicism as well as Jewry from all forms of religious bigotry and intolerance. The Jews have been more than ready to sink all memories of past persecution and oppression for the sake of making common cause with the Catholics against narrow-minded and fanatical priests. Nothing has been left undone by the Jews to enable them to live on terms of mutual toleration with the Catholics, who in a slight degree have been made to endure a common suffering. But it all has been in vain. Despite their own precarious position the Catholics of this country have, in imitation of their European brethren, taken up the cry of "Jep, bep," and have done their best to discredit the Jews. When first the proof came pouring in from Europe that there was, for political purposes, a well-defined and systematic movement afoot by the Jesuits to stir up hatred against the Jews, I refused to give credence to the report, and severely blamed all who I thought were doing an injustice to the Catholic Church. And when proof of an indubitable kind, taken in connection with the attitude of the Vatican, left no doubt of Catholic complicity, I still tried to make myself believe that only that portion of the church under Jesuitical influence was to blame. But recent developments were no doubt the church as a whole at present under the control of the Jesuits—no matter how many good and well-meaning individuals it may otherwise include within its fold. No effort of the Jews to conciliate the Catholic Church has been of avail. We have humbled ourselves in every way, even to the extent of cringing in many instances, and have received nothing but kicks for our trouble—which punishment may have served us right for our sycophancy. I don't want anybody to take my word for the fact that there is a wide-spread Catholic conspiracy to bring the nations under the control of Rome. Exciting hatred against the Jews is only one out of many methods employed to attain that end. I say nothing of the numerous able Protestant observers, but refer my readers to the impartial students of events in Catholic France and Italy, in both of which countries have arisen men who with the voice of authority proclaim that the reactionary Catholic Church is engaged in a desperate effort to once more bring the nations under its authority. Numerous impartial observers have been quoted in the press of the world in testimony to that effect within the past twelve months, and no sane man can think Rome is now making its last desperate struggle to regain the supremacy which

OGTOPIUS.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

MAPLE DELL, O.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

MAPLE DELL, O.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

MAPLE DELL, O.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

MAPLE DELL, O.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

MAPLE DELL, O.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

MAPLE DELL, O.

Notes on Camp, School, Etc.

By the time this is printed the camp-meeting at Maple Dell will have drawn to its close. Next Sunday, September 3, will witness the last services in the auditorium for the season of 1899. Having been here during the full session of the school and the whole term of the camp, I can give a correct idea of what has been done, what should be done and what under favorable conditions could be accomplished.

The school, under the tuition of Moses Hull, wife and daughter, in the absence of Professor A. J. Weaver, did well, considering the inconvenience of the building in which it was held; the freedom the students were allowed; the conglomeration of elements of different grades of education, or non-education; as also the ages, ranging from 15 to 68 years; the branches of education that were taught; and the number of classes that were held. The students were diligent. I do not believe that there was ever a class of students in any college who were more intent to learn all they could in such a short term, and who succeeded in gaining so much knowledge as did this splendid set of men and women who gathered in the "Dell" for but one aim, and whose teachers, Dr. D. M. King, for the psychic class; Rev. Moses Hull, for the Bible exegesis, higher criticism and logic; Mrs. Mattie Hull's rhetoric; and Mrs. A. J. Weaver's culture, ordinary and physical exercises.

This school should be kept up, and form a nucleus for men and women who feel and know that they are called by the spirit world to teach first; self knowledge; knowledge how to control one's own body, so as to be able to lead a healthy and happy life; and the knowledge to teach others the same, and therefore the path to real happiness by way of hourly usefulness. Phenological and physiological knowledge is very essential to a successful teacher, as it is absolutely waste of time and talent to even try to make public teachers out of material which possesses neither physical, moral, mental nor spiritual force as a heredity, or acquirement during the first fifteen years of one's own life. I hope that the Maple Dell School will continue to enlarge and that the coming year will triple the number of students.

Up to date we had very fine weather every Sunday of the camp-meeting; and the speakers and mediums serving on the floor and rostrum to the mental and spiritual wants of the camp, were without exception the right men and women in the right place. Hon. O. P. Kellogg, F. D. Dunakin, Mr. and Mrs. Sprague, G. W. Kates and wife, the latter who were here written, all gave great satisfaction to their audiences. The power of the spirit world gave bountiful evidence of their presence through the speakers. In trance and inspiration to all who seek truth, and many were convinced; still a few unripe, unsprinkled skeptics could not be convinced.

Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Carpenter, who are to be the last three speakers for the camp, have not arrived, but will receive the same happy greeting of all lovers of the spiritual cause in the camp.

I must not forget to mention the many splendid scientific entertainments given by the management, through the instrumentality of Professors Allen Bidwell, of Cleveland, and W. J. Kerstetter, of Berea, Ohio. We had in all four such grand scientific exhibitions given free of charge, which credit belongs jointly to our Dr. D. M. King, who had gained the friendship of the other professional gentlemen, Professors Bidwell and Kerstetter, the latter of whom has become a convert after a thorough investigation of our philosophy.

..GENERAL SURVEY..

THE SPIRITUALISTIC FIELD—ITS WORKERS, DOINGS, ETC., THE WORLD OVER.

WRITE PLAINLY.

We would like to impress upon the minds of our correspondents that the Progressive Thinker is set up on a Linotype machine that must make speed equal to about four compositors. That means rapid work, and it is essential that all copy to insure insertion in the paper, all other requirements being favorable, should be written with ink on white paper, or with a typewriter, and on only one side of the paper. If you are not a fairly good penman, please have your communications copied by some one who is, and oblige The Progressive Thinker.

CONTRIBUTORS—Each contributor to above responsible for any assertions or statements he may make. The editor allows this freedom of expression, believing that the cause of truth can be best subserved thereby. Many of the sentiments uttered in an article may be diametrically opposed to his belief, yet that is no reason why they should be suppressed. No one person has the whole truth, hence kindly feelings should always be entertained for those who differ from you.

ITEMS—Bear in mind that items for the General Survey will in all cases be adjusted to the space we have to occupy, and in order to do that they will generally have to be abridged more or less; otherwise many items would be crowded out. Sometimes a thirty-line item is cut down to ten lines, and ten lines to two lines, as occasion may require.

Every item sent to us for publication, should contain the full name and address of the writer. We desire to know the source of every article or item that appears. This rule will be strictly adhered to.

Mrs. M. E. Kratz writes from Sumnerland Beach, Ohio: "Of all camps I have attended this is the best, so quiet and restful. The grounds are beautiful, and in time I feel this will be the camp."

"Moses and Mattie Hull are the principal workers," so writes a correspondent, "in these closing days of the work of the Chesterfield (Ind.) Camp. This camp was never so largely attended as during the present season. The work of lecturers and phenomenal mediums has never been surpassed by the work of previous camps at this point. The utmost harmony has prevailed from first to last; the Muncie and Anderson papers have been generous of space and kindly in sentiment toward the meeting. Mr. Hull's discourses are extolled highly by the press; Mrs. Hull's efforts on behalf of the Lyceum work have met with appreciation, as the following from the Muncie Daily correspondent to the Muncie Daily News will show: 'Lyceum was in session at 9 a. m., with that ever active and tireless worker, Mrs. Mattie E. Hull, conducting the exercises. Too much praise cannot be said of her as a worker and teacher in the Lyceum field, as she has for years made the subject of life and health in relation to body and mental culture a practical study. She is in every respect well adapted to the work of 'teaching the young idea how to shoot.' Your correspondent has observed closely her methods of teaching, and can without hesitancy pronounce her peerless in Lyceum work. This evening at 7 o'clock she will organize a class for the Emersonian system of self-culture.' A great number of honest investigators have returned home from this meeting, convinced that Spiritualism is a fact. There never was a greater evidence that the world moves, than the progress that has attended this camp."

J. C. Bell, clairvoyant and medium, of Des Moines, Iowa, has been very ill, but is recovering. Cough is the trouble. F. Kaiser writes from Florida: "I have been a reader of The Progressive Thinker for several years, and I wish to say that I like its independent tone, with an occasional stab at the Catholic church, and the spicy articles written by its gifted correspondents. As an educator it has no equal in my estimation."

G. W. Kates writes from Mantua, Ohio, camp: "Mrs. Kates and self had a pleasant visit at this camp, where 'conditions' are good for the speaker and medium. Much excellent progress has been made here, and the cottages, auditorium and hotel are expressive of capacity and generosity. Brother D. M. King is indefatigable in effort, and this camp is largely due to his enthusiastic labor and devotion. We have served the camp August 18 to 24, and our labors seem to be appreciated."

Mrs. C. E. Carey writes from Weatherford, Tex.: "I wish good test mediums would come here. They would do well, but they would have to work free a little while until people get the proof, and then they would be rewarded with work."

The Lansing (Mich.) Journal of Aug. 15 says: "Delegates from forty-one local spiritual associations are here today in attendance upon the annual business session of the Michigan State Spiritual Association. The sessions began at 10 o'clock this morning. D. P. Dewey of Grand Blanc, is president; John Hutchinson, of Jackson, vice-president; Mrs. May P. Ayres, of Lansing, secretary; and Charles Chapman of Lansing, treasurer."

Mrs. Pierce writes: "I wish to inform my friends that I have returned from my Eastern trip, having visited Lily Dale Camp ten days, enjoying every moment of the time while there, dividing it among the many delightful ways that exist in that beautiful spot, and then visiting my relatives in Jamestown. I am ready to receive my friends. Testimony given at the Midway Festival, Wednesday, August 18, at 8 o'clock. Healing will be demonstrated and a lecture will be given by Dr. Houghton. Tests will be given by Harry J. Coats and others. Excellent music. There will be no charge of any kind. All are welcome."

Mrs. Squires writes: "I will open meetings the first Sunday in September, at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m., in the hall at 1003 Madison, corner of Western avenue. Friends can transfer from all cross lines to Madison. No admission at the door. A cordial invitation to all."

The Journal, of Clinton, Iowa, speaks as follows of "Woman's Day at Mt. Pleasant": "The morning session began at 9 o'clock. There was music by the orchestra and singing by a quartette.

The address of welcome was made by Mrs. Stella Fisk, and was responded to by Mrs. Bessie Asplund. Mrs. Fannie Glaser delivered the address of welcome from the Ladies' Independent Union, and Mrs. M. A. Blodgett, the response. A guitar solo by Mrs. Hampton, and recitation by Mrs. Dayenport, and Mrs. King, completed the program. The afternoon session began at 2 p. m. Music by the quartette opened the program. Mrs. Lowell, of Minneapolis, delivered the lecture, using "Woman and Her Works" for her subject. A medium's meeting at 4 p. m. closed the afternoon ceremonies. Many visitors were entertained at the park during the day and enjoyed the exercises. Women's Day at the park will have a pleasant ending. A ladies' choice ball takes place in the park pavilion to-night, to the music of Hoffman's Orchestra. This will be a most enjoyable event. The dance last evening was well attended. A large crowd of Clinton people gathered at the hall and spent a pleasant evening."

Pearl G. Leigh writes: "The dear old Progressive Thinker comes like a sunbeam to me, and I do not intend to be without it. I do not see how any Spiritualist can get along without it, and I like to wake them up by sending them copies once in a while."

The Herald, of Clinton, Iowa, speaking of the Spiritualist camp-meeting there, says: "This forenoon at 10 o'clock there was a conference, and at 2:30 this afternoon Mrs. Waite gave a seance, which, according to the program, will be the last of this season. She will be followed by Mrs. Georgia G. Cooley, who has served the association the last two seasons, and will give a number of public seances, commencing Sunday at 4 o'clock. In addition to the seance the program tomorrow will include a lecture at 10:30 by President W. F. Peck and a lecture at 2 p. m. by George H. Colby. The next lecturer of note will be Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, who has been engaged from August 10 to August 20. Mrs. Twine has the happy faculty of interesting all classes, from the profound philosopher down to the little child. Her discourses are full of illustrations and anecdotes and her listeners never tire of hearing her."

Dr. H. Strong Phillips writes from Philadelphia: "Mrs. Phillips has been employed most of the time during the last six years as a platform test medium by the Spiritual Association, which meets at Columbia Hall, 1325 Columbia avenue. It is conducted by Charles Barry and wife. The attendance has been very good all through the summer. Meetings every Sunday at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m. Strangers visiting the city are cordially invited."

C. C. Thompson writes from Springfield, Me.: "Papa and Mother came to see me. They are fine. I don't see how they can give so much for so little money."

H. H. Fross writes from the Soldiers' Home, Ind.: "On the 15th and 16th of the present month Rev. Mrs. Ind. Hill, of Decatur, Ill., gave us two very interesting and instructive discourses on the Philosophy and Truthfulness of Spiritualism. She caused quite an interest to be manifested among the old comrades of the Home."

T. S. Russell writes: "The Englewood Spiritualist Society has held five meetings for six months. Its membership has doubled, expenses all paid, and congregation is increasing each Sunday."

The Kalamazoo Telegram says: "The Kalamazoo Spiritualist Society is now in attendance at the Vicksburg Camp. The meeting is in charge of Oscar A. Edgerly, who is chairman of Newburyport, Mass. Mr. Edgerly is a firm believer in the tenets of his faith. Mr. Edgerly says that he is a thoroughly uneducated man, did not have a grammar school education, yet when he arises to speak before an audience he is endowed with supernatural power."

F. A. Reed writes: "The society at Troy, N. Y., is prospering. A few earnest workers are striving to keep the light before our community, and we can see from year to year it is doing a great deal of good, both for the old and the young, as our service is well attended by both classes. As they are growing more liberal we see the marks of progress. There are some very good phenomena taking place in a worthy family who have not united with the society. These manifestations are causing many to think deeply on the subject of Spiritualism, and we hope will prove to be a great deal of good for the cause. For the last ten Sundays we have had Mr. Lucius Colburn for a speaker. Mr. Colburn's lectures are very interesting and are well attended. He is a good worker, and through his efforts we had two so-called, which were largely attended by the public with pleasure and with profit to the society. Our last social was on the Fourth of July. We had five works in the early evening, after which ice cream and cake was served. A social dance was enjoyed by our young people till late in the evening. So ends the summer season as Mr. Colburn leaves to attend to his many duties at Queen City Park. We all wish him Godspeed in his good work, and look forward to his return another year."

Miss Thomas, after her two months' vacation, will resume her meetings in Hylgeia Hall, 404 Ogden avenue, which was so kindly fitted up for her by Mr. L. G. Spencer, Sunday, September 3, and continue them every Sunday thereafter at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m.

Dr. H. H. Morrison writes: "I have read the Occult Life of Christ. To me it reads very much like a novel, though very interesting. To me Christ is mythological, made up from former myths, and partly from the teachings of Apollonius."

Miss Bessie L. Shaffer writes: "I have just arrived on this beautiful campground, Haslet Park. A general welcome to all and good feeling seems to prevail, and everything seems to be of a spiritual order. Mrs. Frances Rudick, the famous slate writer, of Indiana, is on the grounds, having just arrived from Grand Lodge camp. Her work at that camp was so highly appreciated that she received a vote of thanks from the entire association, having given one hundred slate-writings in three weeks. E. W. Sprague is coming here to-morrow; also his wife. We know a rare treat is in store for Haslet Park."

G. W. Kates and wife will attend the Minnesota State Convention, September 5, 6 and 7. Their address during the month will be No. 1, Highland avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

Kate B. Smith writes: "Kenwood Hall, 4305 Cottage Grove avenue, was filled last Sunday evening to hear the lecture given by Dr. A. Houghton. In the afternoon meeting a question was

sent to the rostrum, and which elicited a masterly lecture on Occasion. The many tests and spirit messages given by H. P. Coates were all recognized."

A progressive euchar party will be given by the Band of Harmony, at its rooms, 608 Handel Hall building, No. 40 Randolph street, Thursday evening, August 31. Six prizes will be given. No refreshments. Admission 25 cents.

Jacob Rummel writes: "A home without The Progressive Thinker is as lonely to me as a house without a mother. You will therefore please find \$1.25 postoffice order for which you will please send me The Progressive Thinker one year, and the Occult Life of Jesus. I have all your other premium books, and will have the paper as a companion, while en route on my 73d voyage around the central orb. It has accompanied me through many years in the past, and I shall make it my companion in the future, until we part at the 'gate,' and then I hope to stand on the 'battlements' and watch its flight into the thousands of homes, where its silent messages will bring joy and gladness to the bereaved and sorrowing, and solid mental food to the 'thinkers' of the earth."

B. Frank Schmidt writes from Indianapolis, Ind.: "The first Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis, Ind., is working for the truth with a will. Its work does so with much encouragement and much credit is due the management for the many improvements made during the summer season. The church has been repainted, repainted, beautified, new (cathedral glass) windows put in and a new stairway built. Ten years of continuous work without interruption, and the past year, and I think true workers have been faithful and true. The Ladies' Aid deserves special mention, for its earnest and very successful work. It has proven the malintay of the organization and the social features of our work have been on that account a great success. During the panic we bought our own home and we have three-fourths of the indebtedness paid at this time. During the past ten years all of the leading speakers and test mediums have occupied our rostrum. Our regular meetings open Sunday, September 3, and will give a number of public seances, commencing Sunday at 4 o'clock. In addition to the seance the program tomorrow will include a lecture at 10:30 by President W. F. Peck and a lecture at 2 p. m. by George H. Colby. The next lecturer of note will be Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, who has been engaged from August 10 to August 20. Mrs. Twine has the happy faculty of interesting all classes, from the profound philosopher down to the little child. Her discourses are full of illustrations and anecdotes and her listeners never tire of hearing her."

Dr. H. Strong Phillips writes from Philadelphia: "Mrs. Phillips has been employed most of the time during the last six years as a platform test medium by the Spiritual Association, which meets at Columbia Hall, 1325 Columbia avenue. It is conducted by Charles Barry and wife. The attendance has been very good all through the summer. Meetings every Sunday at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m. Strangers visiting the city are cordially invited."

C. C. Thompson writes from Springfield, Me.: "Papa and Mother came to see me. They are fine. I don't see how they can give so much for so little money."

H. H. Fross writes from the Soldiers' Home, Ind.: "On the 15th and 16th of the present month Rev. Mrs. Ind. Hill, of Decatur, Ill., gave us two very interesting and instructive discourses on the Philosophy and Truthfulness of Spiritualism. She caused quite an interest to be manifested among the old comrades of the Home."

T. S. Russell writes: "The Englewood Spiritualist Society has held five meetings for six months. Its membership has doubled, expenses all paid, and congregation is increasing each Sunday."

The Kalamazoo Telegram says: "The Kalamazoo Spiritualist Society is now in attendance at the Vicksburg Camp. The meeting is in charge of Oscar A. Edgerly, who is chairman of Newburyport, Mass. Mr. Edgerly is a firm believer in the tenets of his faith. Mr. Edgerly says that he is a thoroughly uneducated man, did not have a grammar school education, yet when he arises to speak before an audience he is endowed with supernatural power."

F. A. Reed writes: "The society at Troy, N. Y., is prospering. A few earnest workers are striving to keep the light before our community, and we can see from year to year it is doing a great deal of good, both for the old and the young, as our service is well attended by both classes. As they are growing more liberal we see the marks of progress. There are some very good phenomena taking place in a worthy family who have not united with the society. These manifestations are causing many to think deeply on the subject of Spiritualism, and we hope will prove to be a great deal of good for the cause. For the last ten Sundays we have had Mr. Lucius Colburn for a speaker. Mr. Colburn's lectures are very interesting and are well attended. He is a good worker, and through his efforts we had two so-called, which were largely attended by the public with pleasure and with profit to the society. Our last social was on the Fourth of July. We had five works in the early evening, after which ice cream and cake was served. A social dance was enjoyed by our young people till late in the evening. So ends the summer season as Mr. Colburn leaves to attend to his many duties at Queen City Park. We all wish him Godspeed in his good work, and look forward to his return another year."

Miss Thomas, after her two months' vacation, will resume her meetings in Hylgeia Hall, 404 Ogden avenue, which was so kindly fitted up for her by Mr. L. G. Spencer, Sunday, September 3, and continue them every Sunday thereafter at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m.

Dr. H. H. Morrison writes: "I have read the Occult Life of Christ. To me it reads very much like a novel, though very interesting. To me Christ is mythological, made up from former myths, and partly from the teachings of Apollonius."

Miss Bessie L. Shaffer writes: "I have just arrived on this beautiful campground, Haslet Park. A general welcome to all and good feeling seems to prevail, and everything seems to be of a spiritual order. Mrs. Frances Rudick, the famous slate writer, of Indiana, is on the grounds, having just arrived from Grand Lodge camp. Her work at that camp was so highly appreciated that she received a vote of thanks from the entire association, having given one hundred slate-writings in three weeks. E. W. Sprague is coming here to-morrow; also his wife. We know a rare treat is in store for Haslet Park."

G. W. Kates and wife will attend the Minnesota State Convention, September 5, 6 and 7. Their address during the month will be No. 1, Highland avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

Kate B. Smith writes: "Kenwood Hall, 4305 Cottage Grove avenue, was filled last Sunday evening to hear the lecture given by Dr. A. Houghton. In the afternoon meeting a question was

sent to the rostrum, and which elicited a masterly lecture on Occasion. The many tests and spirit messages given by H. P. Coates were all recognized."

A progressive euchar party will be given by the Band of Harmony, at its rooms, 608 Handel Hall building, No. 40 Randolph street, Thursday evening, August 31. Six prizes will be given. No refreshments. Admission 25 cents.

Jacob Rummel writes: "A home without The Progressive Thinker is as lonely to me as a house without a mother. You will therefore please find \$1.25 postoffice order for which you will please send me The Progressive Thinker one year, and the Occult Life of Jesus. I have all your other premium books, and will have the paper as a companion, while en route on my 73d voyage around the central orb. It has accompanied me through many years in the past, and I shall make it my companion in the future, until we part at the 'gate,' and then I hope to stand on the 'battlements' and watch its flight into the thousands of homes, where its silent messages will bring joy and gladness to the bereaved and sorrowing, and solid mental food to the 'thinkers' of the earth."

B. Frank Schmidt writes from Indianapolis, Ind.: "The first Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis, Ind., is working for the truth with a will. Its work does so with much encouragement and much credit is due the management for the many improvements made during the summer season. The church has been repainted, repainted, beautified, new (cathedral glass) windows put in and a new stairway built. Ten years of continuous work without interruption, and the past year, and I think true workers have been faithful and true. The Ladies' Aid deserves special mention, for its earnest and very successful work. It has proven the malintay of the organization and the social features of our work have been on that account a great success. During the panic we bought our own home and we have three-fourths of the indebtedness paid at this time. During the past ten years all of the leading speakers and test mediums have occupied our rostrum. Our regular meetings open Sunday, September 3, and will give a number of public seances, commencing Sunday at 4 o'clock. In addition to the seance the program tomorrow will include a lecture at 10:30 by President W. F. Peck and a lecture at 2 p. m. by George H. Colby. The next lecturer of note will be Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, who has been engaged from August 10 to August 20. Mrs. Twine has the happy faculty of interesting all classes, from the profound philosopher down to the little child. Her discourses are full of illustrations and anecdotes and her listeners never tire of hearing her."

Dr. H. Strong Phillips writes from Philadelphia: "Mrs. Phillips has been employed most of the time during the last six years as a platform test medium by the Spiritual Association, which meets at Columbia Hall, 1325 Columbia avenue. It is conducted by Charles Barry and wife. The attendance has been very good all through the summer. Meetings every Sunday at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m. Strangers visiting the city are cordially invited."

C. C. Thompson writes from Springfield, Me.: "Papa and Mother came to see me. They are fine. I don't see how they can give so much for so little money."

H. H. Fross writes from the Soldiers' Home, Ind.: "On the 15th and 16th of the present month Rev. Mrs. Ind. Hill, of Decatur, Ill., gave us two very interesting and instructive discourses on the Philosophy and Truthfulness of Spiritualism. She caused quite an interest to be manifested among the old comrades of the Home."

T. S. Russell writes: "The Englewood Spiritualist Society has held five meetings for six months. Its membership has doubled, expenses all paid, and congregation is increasing each Sunday."

The Kalamazoo Telegram says: "The Kalamazoo Spiritualist Society is now in attendance at the Vicksburg Camp. The meeting is in charge of Oscar A. Edgerly, who is chairman of Newburyport, Mass. Mr. Edgerly is a firm believer in the tenets of his faith. Mr. Edgerly says that he is a thoroughly uneducated man, did not have a grammar school education, yet when he arises to speak before an audience he is endowed with supernatural power."

F. A. Reed writes: "The society at Troy, N. Y., is prospering. A few earnest workers are striving to keep the light before our community, and we can see from year to year it is doing a great deal of good, both for the old and the young, as our service is well attended by both classes. As they are growing more liberal we see the marks of progress. There are some very good phenomena taking place in a worthy family who have not united with the society. These manifestations are causing many to think deeply on the subject of Spiritualism, and we hope will prove to be a great deal of good for the cause. For the last ten Sundays we have had Mr. Lucius Colburn for a speaker. Mr. Colburn's lectures are very interesting and are well attended. He is a good worker, and through his efforts we had two so-called, which were largely attended by the public with pleasure and with profit to the society. Our last social was on the Fourth of July. We had five works in the early evening, after which ice cream and cake was served. A social dance was enjoyed by our young people till late in the evening. So ends the summer season as Mr. Colburn leaves to attend to his many duties at Queen City Park. We all wish him Godspeed in his good work, and look forward to his return another year."

Miss Thomas, after her two months' vacation, will resume her meetings in Hylgeia Hall, 404 Ogden avenue, which was so kindly fitted up for her by Mr. L. G. Spencer, Sunday, September 3, and continue them every Sunday thereafter at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m.

Dr. H. H. Morrison writes: "I have read the Occult Life of Christ. To me it reads very much like a novel, though very interesting. To me Christ is mythological, made up from former myths, and partly from the teachings of Apollonius."

Miss Bessie L. Shaffer writes: "I have just arrived on this beautiful campground, Haslet Park. A general welcome to all and good feeling seems to prevail, and everything seems to be of a spiritual order. Mrs. Frances Rudick, the famous slate writer, of Indiana, is on the grounds, having just arrived from Grand Lodge camp. Her work at that camp was so highly appreciated that she received a vote of thanks from the entire association, having given one hundred slate-writings in three weeks. E. W. Sprague is coming here to-morrow; also his wife. We know a rare treat is in store for Haslet Park."

G. W. Kates and wife will attend the Minnesota State Convention, September 5, 6 and 7. Their address during the month will be No. 1, Highland avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

Kate B. Smith writes: "Kenwood Hall, 4305 Cottage Grove avenue, was filled last Sunday evening to hear the lecture given by Dr. A. Houghton. In the afternoon meeting a question was

sent to the rostrum, and which elicited a masterly lecture on Occasion. The many tests and spirit messages given by H. P. Coates were all recognized."

A progressive euchar party will be given by the Band of Harmony, at its rooms, 608 Handel Hall building, No. 40 Randolph street, Thursday evening, August 31. Six prizes will be given. No refreshments. Admission 25 cents.

Jacob Rummel writes: "A home without The Progressive Thinker is as lonely to me as a house without a mother. You will therefore please find \$1.25 postoffice order for which you will please send me The Progressive Thinker one year, and the Occult Life of Jesus. I have all your other premium books, and will have the paper as a companion, while en route on my 73d voyage around the central orb. It has accompanied me through many years in the past, and I shall make it my companion in the future, until we part at the 'gate,' and then I hope to stand on the 'battlements' and watch its flight into the thousands of homes, where its silent messages will bring joy and gladness to the bereaved and sorrowing, and solid mental food to the 'thinkers' of the earth."

B. Frank Schmidt writes from Indianapolis, Ind.: "The first Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis, Ind., is working for the truth with a will. Its work does so with much encouragement and much credit is due the management for the many improvements made during the summer season. The church has been repainted, repainted, beautified, new (cathedral glass) windows put in and a new stairway built. Ten years of continuous work without interruption, and the past year, and I think true workers have been faithful and true. The Ladies' Aid deserves special mention, for its earnest and very successful work. It has proven the malintay of the organization and the social features of our work have been on that account a great success. During the panic we bought our own home and we have three-fourths of the indebtedness paid at this time. During the past ten years all of the leading speakers and test mediums have occupied our rostrum. Our regular meetings open Sunday, September 3, and will give a number of public seances, commencing Sunday at 4 o'clock. In addition to the seance the program tomorrow will include a lecture at 10:30 by President W. F. Peck and a lecture at 2 p. m. by George H. Colby. The next lecturer of note will be Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, who has been engaged from August 10 to August 20. Mrs. Twine has the happy faculty of interesting all classes, from the profound philosopher down to the little child. Her discourses are full of illustrations and anecdotes and her listeners never tire of hearing her."

Dr. H. Strong Phillips writes from Philadelphia: "Mrs. Phillips has been employed most of the time during the last six years as a platform test medium by the Spiritual Association, which meets at Columbia Hall, 1325 Columbia avenue. It is conducted by Charles Barry and wife. The attendance has been very good all through the summer. Meetings every Sunday at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m. Strangers visiting the city are cordially invited."

C. C. Thompson writes from Springfield, Me.: "Papa and Mother came to see me. They are fine. I don't see how they can give so much for so little money."

H. H. Fross writes from the Soldiers' Home, Ind.: "On the 15th and 16th of the present month Rev. Mrs. Ind. Hill, of Decatur, Ill., gave us two very interesting and instructive discourses on the Philosophy and Truthfulness of Spiritualism. She caused quite an interest to be manifested among the old comrades of the Home."

sent to the rostrum, and which elicited a masterly lecture on Occasion. The many tests and spirit messages given by H. P. Coates were all recognized."

A progressive euchar party will be given by the Band of Harmony, at its rooms, 608 Handel Hall building, No. 40 Randolph street, Thursday evening, August 31. Six prizes will be given. No refreshments. Admission 25 cents.

Jacob Rummel writes: "A home without The Progressive Thinker is as lonely to me as a house without a mother. You will therefore please find \$1.25 postoffice order for which you will please send me The Progressive Thinker one year, and the Occult Life of Jesus. I have all your other premium books, and will have the paper as a companion, while en route on my 73d voyage around the central orb. It has accompanied me through many years in the past, and I shall make it my companion in the future, until we part at the 'gate,' and then I hope to stand on the 'battlements' and watch its flight into the thousands of homes, where its silent messages will bring joy and gladness to the bereaved and sorrowing, and solid mental food to the 'thinkers' of the earth."

B. Frank Schmidt writes from Indianapolis, Ind.: "The first Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis, Ind., is working for the truth with a will. Its work does so with much encouragement and much credit is due the management for the many improvements made during the summer season. The church has been repainted, repainted, beautified, new (cathedral glass) windows put in and a new stairway built. Ten years of continuous work without interruption, and the past year, and I think true workers have been faithful and true. The Ladies' Aid deserves special mention, for its earnest and very successful work. It has proven the malintay of the organization and the social features of our work have been on that account a great success. During the panic we bought our own home and we have three-fourths of the indebtedness paid at this time. During the past ten years all of the leading speakers and test mediums have occupied our rostrum. Our regular meetings open Sunday, September 3, and will give a number of public seances, commencing Sunday at 4 o'clock. In addition to the seance the program tomorrow will include a lecture at 10:30 by President W. F. Peck and a lecture at 2 p. m. by George H. Colby. The next lecturer of note will be Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, who has been engaged from August 10 to August 20. Mrs. Twine has the happy faculty of interesting all classes, from the profound philosopher down to the little child. Her discourses are full of illustrations and anecdotes and her listeners never tire of hearing her."

Dr. H. Strong Phillips writes from Philadelphia: "Mrs. Phillips has been employed most of the time during the last six years as a platform test medium by the Spiritual Association, which meets at Columbia Hall, 1325 Columbia avenue. It is conducted by Charles Barry and wife. The attendance has been very good all through the summer. Meetings every Sunday at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m. Strangers visiting the city are cordially invited."

C. C. Thompson writes from Springfield, Me.: "Papa and Mother came to see me. They are fine. I don't see how they can give so much for so little money."

H. H. Fross writes from the Soldiers' Home, Ind.: "On the 15th and 16th of the present month Rev. Mrs. Ind. Hill, of Decatur, Ill., gave us two very interesting and instructive discourses on the Philosophy and Truthfulness of Spiritualism. She caused quite an interest to be manifested among the old comrades of the Home."

T. S. Russell writes: "The Englewood Spiritualist Society has held five meetings for six months. Its membership has doubled, expenses all paid, and congregation is increasing each Sunday."

The Kalamazoo Telegram says: "The Kalamazoo Spiritualist Society is now in attendance at the Vicksburg Camp. The meeting is in charge of Oscar A. Edgerly, who is chairman of Newburyport, Mass. Mr. Edgerly is a firm believer in the tenets of his faith. Mr. Edgerly says that he is a thoroughly uneducated man, did not have a grammar school education, yet when he arises to speak before an audience he is endowed with supernatural power."

F. A. Reed writes: "The society at Troy, N. Y., is prospering. A few earnest workers are striving to keep the light before our community, and we can see from year to year it is doing a great deal of good, both for the old and the young, as our service is well attended by both classes. As they are growing more liberal we see the marks of progress. There are some very good phenomena taking place in a worthy family who have not united with the society. These manifestations are causing many to think deeply on the subject of Spiritualism, and we hope will prove to be a great deal of good for the cause. For the last ten Sundays we have had Mr. Lucius Colburn for a speaker. Mr. Colburn's lectures are very interesting and are well attended. He is a good worker, and through his efforts we had two so-called, which were largely attended by the public with pleasure and with profit to the society. Our last social was on the Fourth of July. We had five works in the early evening, after which ice cream and cake was served. A social dance was enjoyed by our young people till late in the evening. So ends the summer season as Mr. Colburn leaves to attend to his many duties at Queen City Park. We all wish him Godspeed in his good work, and look forward to his return another year."

Miss Thomas, after her two months' vacation, will resume her meetings in Hylgeia Hall, 404 Ogden avenue, which was so kindly fitted up for her by Mr. L. G. Spencer, Sunday, September 3, and continue them every Sunday thereafter at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m.

Dr. H. H. Morrison writes: "I have read the Occult Life of Christ. To me it reads very much like a novel, though very interesting. To me Christ is mythological, made up from former myths, and partly from the teachings of Apollonius."

Miss Bessie L. Shaffer writes: "I have just arrived on this beautiful campground, Haslet Park. A general welcome to all and good feeling seems to prevail, and everything seems to be of a spiritual order. Mrs. Frances Rudick, the famous slate writer, of Indiana, is on the grounds, having just arrived from Grand Lodge camp. Her work at that camp was so highly appreciated that she received a vote of thanks from the entire association, having given one hundred slate-writings in three weeks. E. W. Sprague is coming here to-morrow; also his wife. We know a rare treat is in store for Haslet Park."

G. W. Kates and wife will attend the Minnesota State Convention, September 5, 6 and 7. Their address during the month will be No. 1, Highland avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

Kate B. Smith writes: "Kenwood Hall, 4305 Cottage Grove avenue, was filled last Sunday evening to hear the lecture given by Dr. A. Houghton. In the afternoon meeting a question was

sent to the rostrum, and which elicited a masterly lecture on Occasion. The many tests and spirit messages given by H. P. Coates were all recognized."

A progressive euchar party will be given by the Band of Harmony, at its rooms, 608 Handel Hall building, No. 40 Randolph street, Thursday evening, August 31. Six prizes will be given. No refreshments. Admission 25 cents.

Jacob Rummel writes: "A home without The Progressive Thinker is as lonely to me as a house without a mother. You will therefore please find \$1.25 postoffice order for which you will please send me The Progressive Thinker one year, and the Occult Life of Jesus. I have all your other premium books, and will have the paper as a companion, while en route on my 73d voyage around the central orb. It has accompanied me through many years in the past, and I shall make it my companion in the future, until we part at the 'gate,' and then I hope to stand on the 'battlements' and watch its flight into the thousands of homes, where its silent messages will bring joy and gladness to the bereaved and sorrowing, and solid mental food to the 'thinkers' of the earth."

B. Frank Schmidt writes from Indianapolis, Ind.: "The first Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis, Ind., is working for the truth with a will. Its work does so with much encouragement and much credit is due the management for the many improvements made during the summer season. The church has been repainted, repainted, beautified, new (cathedral glass) windows put in and a new stairway built. Ten years of continuous work without interruption, and the past year, and I think true workers have been faithful and true. The Ladies' Aid deserves special mention, for its earnest and very successful work. It has proven the malintay of the organization and the social features of our work have been on that account a great success. During the panic we bought our own home and we have three-fourths of the indebtedness paid at this time. During the past ten years all of the leading speakers and test mediums have occupied our rostrum. Our regular meetings open Sunday, September 3, and will give a number of public seances, commencing Sunday at 4 o'clock. In addition to the seance the program tomorrow will include a lecture at 10:30 by President W. F. Peck and a lecture at 2 p. m. by George H. Colby. The next lecturer of note will be Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twine, who has been engaged from August 10 to August 20. Mrs. Twine has the happy faculty of interesting all classes, from the profound philosopher down to the little child. Her discourses are full of illustrations and anecdotes and her listeners never tire of hearing her."

Dr. H. Strong Phillips writes from Philadelphia: "Mrs. Phillips has been employed most of the time during the last six years as a platform test medium by the Spiritual Association, which meets at Columbia Hall, 1325 Columbia avenue. It is conducted by Charles Barry and wife. The attendance has been very good all through the summer. Meetings every Sunday at 2:30 and 7:30 p. m. Strangers visiting the city are cordially invited."

C. C. Thompson writes from Springfield, Me.: "Papa and Mother came to see me. They are fine. I don't see how they can give so much for so little money."

H. H. Fross writes from the Soldiers' Home, Ind.: "On the 15th and 16th of the present month Rev. Mrs. Ind. Hill, of Decatur, Ill., gave us two very interesting and instructive discourses on the Philosophy and Truthfulness of Spiritualism. She caused quite an interest to be manifested among the old comrades of the Home."

sent to the rostrum, and which elicited a masterly lecture on Occasion. The many tests and spirit messages given by H. P. Coates were all recognized."

A progressive euchar party will be given by the Band of Harmony, at its rooms, 608 Handel Hall building, No. 40 Randolph street, Thursday evening, August 31. Six prizes will be given. No

WHAT WOULD FOLLOW By George J. Borst. This is a most valuable contribution to the Freethought literature. Bound in paper with 64 pages of author. Price, 19 cents; twelve copy for \$1.00.

G. WALTER LYNN,
Automatic Writer

**Diseases Cured at a Distance by
Absent Treatments.
Obsession, or Undeveloped Influence
Removed.
Instruction and Help in Develop-
ment of Mediumship.
Life Readings and Business A-
verage \$1 and Two Stamps.**

For complete and absolutely correct diagnosis of disease send five two-cent stamps, age, name, sex and own handwriting.

I have never known a more competent, reliable and truthful medium for the Spirit-world than Charles W. Walker.

COLLEGE OF FINE FORCE

An Institute of refined Therapeutics, including: Sun Cure, Vital Magnetism, Electricity, Mind Cure and a higher science of life. Chemical affinity a basic principle developed with their marvelous applications. Students in four continents have taken the course. The college is chartered and conferred the degree of D. M., Doctor of Magnetism. By a system printed questions students can take the course at their respective homes. Send for literature. Los Angeles, California. Diplomas granted under either the New Jersey or California charter. Send stamp for catalogue to Mildred.

DR. J. S. LOUCKS
Is the oldest, most successful Clairvoyant Physician in practice. His cures are marvelous. Successful all kinds of chronic and acute diseases. When others fail he cures. Send him age, sex, name, location of his and 6 cts. In stamps and he will send a clairvoyant examination of your diseases and treat you for only \$2 a month. No leading symptom required. Address
DR. J. S. LOUCKS, M. D.,
85 Warren st., Stoneham, Mass.

TESTIMONIALS.

Dr. Loucka—Dear Sir: Once more I happen to you for help. When I wrote you over a year ago last January I was perfectly helpless in bed, suffering from the most terrible pains in my back; could not even sit alone, for over a month, doctoring all the time with no relief or benefit until I got your medicine, after then I got better rapidly, and had good health the whole year. Previous to this I was in the hospital, and the doctors seeing me twice a day, they said I could not live but a short time; was dying with Bright's disease of the kidneys.

Yours truly, JOHN DENVER.

Dr. J. S. Loucks:—It has been several months since I wrote you, but as I am writing for my sisters I thought I would tell you that I am still living and better health than I have been in nine years. I can never praise you enough for what you have done for me.

MRS. DAVID CLIFTON.
Clinton, Sampson Co., N. C., May 27, 1899.

Mrs. E. M. Stanger, at West's Tomb, to her letter

[illegible]

eyes of poor eyesight. Has been used and praised thousands in all parts of the world. Sent for 60 cents or all three sent postpaid for \$1.10 with Yarrow photo and instructions how tollive 100 years.



Melted Pebble Spectacles:
Restore lost vision. Write for Illustrated Circular showing styles and prices and photo of Spirit Yarns who developed this clairvoyant power in me. I can adjust my Melted Pebble Spectacles as perfectly to your eyes in your own home as if you were in my office, as thousands can testify. Send stamp for photo. H. E. Reade, Chicago, Ill.

VIBRATIONS.

PSYCHE
is the invention of a practical medium, under spir-
guidance, and is designed to develop, under night

Many, by its use, have received long communica-
tions from spirit friends, and express great satisfac-
tion. Price, \$1, and 20 cents extra for expressage.
For sale at the office of THE PROGRESSIVE THINKER.

DR. J. SWANSON
PSYCHOPATHIST,
And his Spirit Band treat all kinds of diseases, physical and mental, at any distance, without medicine and cure many cases where medicine has failed. Testimonials from all parts of the United States.

YOUR FUTURE accurately calculated
Astrologer W. H. IRON
37 Opera House Block, Denver, Col. From \$1.00.

GEO. B. HOLMES,
Inspirational Speaker, test medium, and teacher
oratory, 319 Crescent ave., Grand Rapids, Mich. 512

MRS. S. F. DEWOLF, 241 WINCHESTER AVE.
Test and Slate Writing Circles for ladies Thurs-
day afternoon. 512

Situation Wanted

Veteran Seer and Astrologer.

HOW TO BECOME A MEDIUM IN YOUR OWN HOME. Will send a pamphlet giving instructions on delicate touch your phase of mediumship, and a spiritistic song-book. All for 25 cents. Address MRS. J. A. T. Box 982.

**Origin, Development and Destiny
of Man.**
**A Scientific and Philosophical
Treatise, by Thos. P. Fletcher.**

CONTENTS: The Beginnings; Fundamental Principles; Formation of Constellations, Systems, Sun, Planets and Satellites. The Origin of Meteors and Comets; The Organic Kingdom; The Origin of Man—His Attributes and Powers; The Soul—How It Receives and Imparts Knowledge; How the Soul receives its Highest Impressions; The Record Book; The Heavenly Ether: How to Cultivate the Sixth Sense; The Finer or Spiritual Body; Growth and Development; Morality, Spiritualism Proved by the Bible; The Bible and Christ; The Summary: "We

Must We Do to P... Fe- sale at this o...
Price, cloth, \$1.00. Paper 50c.

**THE COMING
AMERICAN CIVIL WAR**

BY BURTON AMES HUNTINGTON.

This excellent book is written in the interest of humanity, of liberty, and of patriotism—a book written for the purpose of calling attention to the dead dangers that beset us on every side, and more especially to the hostile attitude and the insidious wiles

an ever-present, though secret, unscrupulous force
the Catholics. Washington's words of warning
Lincoln's apprehension and the prophecy of Gen.
Grant are all included in the volume. Archbishop
Ryan, or Philadelphia, in a recent sermon said: "The
church tolerates them with a deadly hatred, a so-
ber, cold hatred that hates them with a deadly hatred,
and will all her power to annihilate them. Our enemies must
know how she treated heretics in the Middle Ages, as
she treats them now." She has had the same
We no more think of denying these historic facts than
we do of blaming the Holy Ghost and the princes
of the church for what they have thought fit to de-

Every one should have it.
It will be sent, postpaid, for fifty cents. For sale
this office.