

EVERY SATURDAY.

# THE PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL

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VOL. 38. T. G. NEWMAN, EDITOR.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1901.

1429 Market St. Between 10 & 11th Sts. No. 27.

### HOW PLEASANT!

How pleasant when the day is done,  
And we retire to rest,  
To know that we've wronged no one—  
That we have done our best.

To know that we've been good and kind  
To all we've met to-day;  
That we have spoken pleasant words,  
To cheer them on their way.

This is a pleasant world we're in,  
And we should ever try  
To see the good in everything,  
And let the bad pass by.

There's many whom we meet in life  
Who may look stern and cold;  
But it may be the inner life  
Would shine like burnished gold.

The earth is filled with precious gems,  
But they are hid from view,  
While those that lie exposed to sight  
Are very, very few.

Then judge no one by what you see  
Upon the outer side;  
The finest pearls beneath the sea  
May have rough shells in which they  
hide. G. W. SANFORD.  
Verdugo, Cal.

### BORDERLAND

#### In Vision Saw the Murder.

After the funeral of George Stover, who was murdered on Saturday night, April 20, 1901, Mrs. Margaret Butcher, a cousin of Mrs. Stover, made the following remarkable statement:

"On Thursday, April 18, I fell asleep in my sitting-room, and I saw a boy of 18, with tawny hair, blue eyes, broad shoulders and big hands, deliberately aim a revolver at George Stover's head, fire and run, making the jump over the fence at a single bound. On Friday, the day before the murder of George Stover, I saw the boy in real life standing in the alley back of Stover's house, and that night I awoke my husband to tell him of the coincidence.

"Later in the night I saw the murder re-enacted, just as I had witnessed it on Thursday. I took a nap on Saturday afternoon, and, as I hope to meet my God, I saw that awful scene a third time—always the same cold blue eyes, the same shining, tawny hair and the same thin, bloodless lips. That night George Stover was murdered."

Mrs. Butcher is a clear-headed, unemotional woman of 45 years, and her description of the assassin seen in her dreams fits a known enemy of the murdered man.

Notwithstanding the downpour of rain, hundreds visited the house, but the curiosity-seekers were balked by the funeral being held at noon instead of at 2 o'clock, the hour announced. Rev. M. Gaul,

pastor of the 29th and York Sts. Methodist Episcopal Church, conducted the services which preceded the interment in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

The once suspected daughter, Anna Stover, whose misfortune it was to be the sole occupant of the house when the father received his death wound, demeaned herself in a manner natural under the circumstances. Before the lid of the modest casket was replaced, the mother and two daughters tenderly kissed the cold, upturned, placid face.—*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

#### Foretold Her Death.

Fifteen years ago Amelia Davis, then a child of 13, lay insensible and grievously ill at her home, at Kirkwood, near Camden, N. J. Around her bedside sat her relatives, sadly awaiting the end. Suddenly she opened her eyes, smiled and spoke. This is what she said:

"I shall not die now. I shall not die until June 16, 1901."

They thought her wandering in mind, but from that moment she recovered and was soon in the full flush of health. Relatives and friends alike forgot her prophecy, but not she.

TOLD HER MOTHER GOOD BYE.  
When she went to bed June 15,

1901, she kissed her mother and said:

"Good-night. I shall be dead to-morrow."

The mother smiled, and told her she was foolish. In the morning she went to call her. She found her lying with face upturned—a placid smile on the lips—dead.

This was the story told to Coroner Robinson, but with added details. When 13 years old, the girl was seized with a strange malady. She fell into a trance and lay so for three days. The doctors were baffled, and eventually abandoned hope. It was on the fourth day that she awoke. Then she made the prophecy. Angels had come to her in her sleep, she said, and told her.

#### HAD FAITH IN HER VISION.

"Painlessly and happily I shall die on June 16, 1901," were her words, and never since then had her faith in the vision wavered. Her mother and others who knew called it "hallucination," but in every other thought she was rational and prosaic.

All the family told this at the inquest, and medical science being mute, the verdict, to satisfy the skeptical requirements of the law, read: "Death from organic causes."

—*Exchange*.

Be just and fear not.



Woodland Scene and Brook—Ideal Place for Vacation.

#### An Apparition.

Considerable excitement has been caused in East Grand Forks by the reports of a number of people residing on Lower Water St., to the effect that about 10 o'clock each evening for a number of nights past a wierd figure has been seen as though clothed in a mist-like garment, passing down the lane that leads past the Charles Beaver residence.

The story goes that the apparition comes from the woods each night, and seems to float toward the river until it reaches the Beaver residence, where it pauses, sometimes entering the place for a few moments and sometimes simply stopping in front of the door and pointing toward the house with its ghastly fingers; then gathering its misty garment about it, upon which it is said there are spots of blood it floats on down the road and disappears in the river near the spot where the body of Charles Heck was found a few months ago. Some of the people have become so interested in the matter that it is said a watch will be kept along the haunted path for a few nights to see what the spirit is trying to get at.—*Grand Forks (N. D.) Herald*.

#### A Distorted Story.

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* has the following from Indianapolis, Ind.:

Mrs. Ferry and sister, who are popularly believed to be witches, are attracting much attention in Dubois county. People go miles to see them, and there are many rumors afloat about supernatural powers. For the past month cattle have been dying by the wholesale, and farmers say it is caused by the sister of Mrs. Ferry, who, they say, has an intense hatred to all animals. The sister is a dwarf, less than three feet in stature. She has piercing dark eyes and they are set far back in the head. Her face is pale and emaciated. She is, in fact, a walking skeleton. Children are afraid to meet her on the public highway, and neighbors say there is a spring back of the house filled with snakes and frogs. The neighbors say Mrs. Ferry and her sister are seen often at the spring playing with the reptiles. It is said a cow in the neighborhood recently drank of the water and died in terrible agony.

Dr. J. M. Peebles said at the Convention that many years ago he had a sitting with Mrs. Eddy, now the great Christian Science teacher who now denies faith in Spiritualism. She was then a practicing medium.—*Detroit News*.

## Our Occult Forces.

CONCENTRATION, THE MASTER KEY TO PSYCHICAL DEVELOPMENT.

By W. J. COLVILLE.

Whoever in the calm, restful silence of a sequestered retreat can realize the highest spiritual communion with that omnipresent divine life which is both Over-soul and indwelling spirit, needs no outward aid to devotion, and therefore can well afford to dispense with all religious and other ceremonials.

But in the present condition of the world, taking people and conditions as they are, but ever striving to raise them to where they are not yet, but whither they are capable of ascending; true philanthropists can find much use for those valuable aids to concentration which, whether or no they are expressed in outward symbols, can be readily held in the form of sentences of thought.

In the well-trodden fields of medical research diagnosis plays a very important part, and among students of psychic law clairvoyant diagnosis of disease is a very common expression.

Let us here undertake to explain clearly wherein lies the fundamental difference expressed in such phraseology, from that on which the art of spiritual healing through appropriate suggestion is based.

To name or describe anything is to mentally picture it and thereby convey its image to the mind. The knowledge of the potency of such suggestion lies at the root of all varieties of ancient and modern magic and does, indeed, cover the ground of nearly all religious statements concerning our power to unite ourselves with all orders of spiritual intelligences *at will*.

## MATERIAL HELPS.

To steadily concentrate the mental gaze upon an object or to hold persistently to the inward pronunciation of a forceful word is to invoke association of the most intimate kind with the reality which lies behind the chosen symbol. "Call upon me and I will answer," is a sentence which philosophers may well attribute to every plane of consciousness in the Universe, and when we are informed in the Scriptures that whatever we seek with our *whole hearts* we shall surely find, we are but reminded in the tersest possible language that wholehearted, *i. e.*, undivided devotion to any object secures our union with it. Love is the impelling force everywhere. Love is the infinite creative agent by means of which all things are fashioned, for out of love springs desire, aspiration, courage, determinate resolve—in a word, all that can enable us to carry projects into effect.

Among the numberless sentences which contain volumes of meaning that we owe to Swedenborg, we know of none which contains more wealth of teaching than the following: **THOUGHT GIVES PRESENCE; LOVE GIVES CONJUNCTION.** We bring into our presence or we go into the presence of whatever we fix our thoughts upon; but what we love we become, for the act of loving is the cause of becoming.

Ask a mother just separated from her darling only child to concentrate upon that beloved girl or boy, and think you she will reply: "It is so hard for me to concentrate, my attention is so easily diverted." Such language would give evidence that her child was so little dear to her that she could not summon up enough affection to protect her against the inroads of surrounding vanities.

A very old and rather laughable story has often been told of the devoted housekeeper and cook who, in the midst of a superb concert, was heard by the audience to exclaim during an unexpected lull in the music, "We fry ours in lard"; but though the story has been told a thousand times and more, we doubt whether many who have heard and repeated it have dwelt upon its significance long or deeply enough to read its application to our present theme. Whoever made that remark was so wrapped up in the frying of fish, doughnuts or some other table delicacy, as to carry with her, wherever she might go, the perpetual thought of fried victuals and the manner of preparing them. To her, cooking and eating greasy food constituted the supreme object of present existence, therefore even the grandest music was quite subordinate in her esteem, and she, by her most irrelevant conversation in the concert room, merely evinced her constant mental attitude. But turn now to a reverse picture.

Some young ladies are at a Cooking School where Miss Parloa, Mrs. Rorer or some other high authority on the culinary art is teaching and illustrating the science of making savory omelets or delicious custards, and lo! a voice is heard during a pause in the lesson, exclaiming: "I think I prefer the Moonlight Sonata to all others."

These two incidents are essentially alike. The lover of cookery cannot be distracted from it by even the finest music, while the lover of music thinks of it and whispers of it even when the most enticing dishes are being exhibited and their chemistry described.

The conversation of gigglers and gossips at public gatherings (often overheard, by the way, by many who regard it as a dishonest and therefore insufferable nuisance) readily reveals the mental vacuousness of those disturbers of the public peace. Those who have no ambitions or desires above frivolity, and especially those who dote on scandal, render themselves oblivious and impervious to all that is higher than personal vanity, or what is far worse—calumny and detraction.

Some years ago when we were lecturing in the State of Michigan some Methodist revivalists were busy circulating cards among all the young people they could influence to take one having this inscription: "If you were to die to-night where would you go?" We undertook to write on several of those cards what we knew to be the only truthful and reasonable answer: "To whatever place your deepest affections would carry you," and though that reply embodies the very essence of spiritual philosophy, it aroused no storm of opposition, but created great interest in a lecture we delivered soon after, taking the question on the card as our advertised topic.

We might easily expostulate at limitless length upon so extremely fertile a theme, and we should certainly consider our statements incontrovertible were we to extend them till they included the asseveration that whenever we are sound asleep, or in deep trance or complete reverie, we are actually in direct and intimate relationship with the identical state which would be ours were we instantly to become disrobed of our present fleshly habiliments.

## SILENT MEDITATION IMPORTANT.

Silent meditation induces self-knowledge; introspection and self-examination show us where we stand inwardly, and in no way can we get our bearings more perfectly than by thinking over a list of subjects on which we could concentrate our attention, and then pick out the one above all others on which we desire to concentrate. There are two or three very important considerations we particularly wish to offer, growing out of such questions as the following, with which we are constantly being plied. The first and perhaps the most frequent of all is: How can people concentrate their attention on spiritual objects when material cares and duties demand their constant attention?

## REQUISITES TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

Our reply to this very old query is simply as follows: Always remember that there are two requisites to spiritual growth: first, the desire for it, and second, the expectation of it. Humble manual work, falsely called drudgery, is not debasing, and it certainly behooves all educators to insist that honest duties faithfully performed can never hinder spiritual development. Whatever your tasks may be, regard them in the light of training for whatever work you love the best.

No material thing can keep you from angelic society if you are inwardly prepared for it, and as it often transpires that one's best and noblest ideas come during working hours and while employed with humble tasks, let no one attempt or allow himself to desire to shirk a single responsibility, but learn that through daily duties of every sort the deepest spiritual wisdom is obtained and the richest spiritual insight reached.

Profound philosophers like Emerson have again and again declared that it is not bodily travel or exemption from outward tasks that is necessary to free the spirit from bondage to what is sensuous, for our deliverance therefrom comes always and only through fixed determination to employ the outward work we do, as means to the end of spiritual unfoldment. To use an occult term, the "Guardian of the Threshold" always confronts you with the fallacy which you must steadily rebut that your

present engagements are so unfavorable to your inward growth that you must abandon either it or them.

The successful candidate for honors refuses to be deterred by such subtle sophistry and presses boldly forward, using immediate obligations as means to the highest ends of spiritual attainment. Another question very frequently preferred is: "Do you not consider periodic retirement from the outer world essential to inward growth?" Our answer to this query is: However necessary retirement may be, outward quietude is far less important than inward repose; therefore remember Andrew Jackson Davis' MAGIC STAFF: "In all conditions keep an even mind." It is only through self-discipline, only through determined, resolute, persistent effort to keep the thought centered on the selected object, that victory can be won over the distracting forces of the earth's chaotic atmosphere.

## CONCENTRATION OF THOUGHT.

Now as to the part played by concentration of thought in mental and moral therapeutics. All healing is through harmony; whatever induces harmony is a healing agent. The best healers have ever been those who took the discordant elements of the external state and showed how by superior and interior government they could be brought into cosmic concord.

Let us always remember that the primal will, the deepest love of our nature is always for the pure, the beautiful, the true. It is therefore on the plane of inmost desire that we affirm that we are whatever we will to be, and we do truly enter into the deepest and fullest conjunction or consociation with whatever we elect to fraternize with in this most essential way. The last minutes of wakefulness at night are most important of all, in giving directions for the education to be received in sleep; and the earliest movements of the business day are most important in giving directions to all the coming period of wakeful industry. Before permitting one's self to sleep at night, or commence work in the morning, it is an excellent practice to go through the salutary exercise of determining upon the goal you wish to reach and the company you wish to keep.

Take your stand firmly on these points, then with quiet inward assurance, having consecrated yourself to an aim and having chosen your unseen associates, go to your duties, be they what they may, then doing all you do with commingled intention and expectation to attain a predetermined prize, you are on the right track to the summit of your laudable ambition.

Concentration on a given theme soon becomes habitual as with all studies and pursuits, scientific, artistic, etc. Drudgery is at the beginning of the task, and charming work of rare interest, causing much delight later on. So with every honest determination to unfold inwardly, persistent travel in the path makes journeying in the upward way delightful.

Keep thy promises to thyself as faithfully as to thy brethren.

:o:

## New Thought for the New Century.

President Angell, of the University of Michigan, in an address to graduates, is reported in the *Chicago Record-Herald* to have advised them to pursue studies in the world of thought, and not to be afraid to embrace truth wherever found. He says:

"This is, it must be confessed, pre-eminently a period of transition in the conception of the Scriptures and of theological doctrines. Archaeological discoveries in the East and critical study of ancient manuscripts have profoundly affected our views and interpretations of the biblical writings, and scientific research and philosophic discussions have shaken the foundations of some dogmas long and widely cherished."

"To many persons, especially to many elderly persons, it is painful to acknowledge them. The transition for this generation from the old misconceptions to the new truth is a difficult process, and not unattended with some temporary discomfort, and even danger. Doubtless the disciples of the new truth will be led into some exaggerations and will make some unhappy mistakes."

Dr. Angell stated very forcibly that the transition "from old error to new truth is inevitable," and fearlessly advised the graduates to aid in the change.

Vox.

**Spiritualism Still Vital.**

JANE E. POTTER.

In a sermon preached in the Park St. Church, Boston, on Sunday, June 16, the Rev. J. M. Buckley, editor of the *Christian Advocate*, referring to what he was pleased to call "the fall of Spiritualism," said that "it consisted simply in unbelief of the Bible, with a ghost thrown in."

This is a lamentable example of ignorance from an unexpected source. It is a fact that many intelligent Spiritualists do not discard the Bible. Spiritualism, as we know it to-day, is largely supported by church-going people, by avowed Christians. It is principally they who help pay for bread and butter for our psychists and preachers. When dear ones are taken from their arms by what they call "death," and the preacher and his creed fail to comfort them, they seek consolation through Spiritualism, and their mourning is at an end.

A belief in the continuity of life is exchanged for absolute knowledge. They receive a new light. The Bible becomes more clear to their intelligence. They find it filled with evidence that Heaven is not a long way off, but that departed friends are near to comfort and bless them, to speak with them.

Spiritualism has had no "fall." Never has there been a time when it did not comfort the multitude as it does now. Thousands of families, many of them devout members of churches of different denominations, hold their private family "circle" as sacred to them as Heaven itself. The Rev. Mr. Buckley is preaching in the dark.

New York.

**From the N. S. A. Home.**

The work of this organization goes on with regularity and encouragement. Our missionaries have done splendid work since our last convention, and they report that there is a large field of work for the earnest speaker and medium, if only the rank-and-file among us will do but a little, each, to defray expense of mission work, and allow the workers a trifle for their labors. The N. S. A. has already spent a goodly part of its funds this year in sending our missionaries from place to place, and we hope that another year will bring to its treasury such a sum as will enable it to largely increase the force of active missionaries, who—like Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Sprague—can carry both philosophy and phenomena to the hungry souls who ask for truth. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague have chartered about 20 new societies, and have built up others that were at a low ebb. They report great interest shown in the Cause, and they have labored early and late, amid hardships—as well as among more pleasant places—for the spread of Spiritualism and the awakening of the people to the truth of immortality.

Mrs. Carrie Twing, too, has done a fine missionary work, in the name of the N. S. A., in Mississippi and Tennessee, and has found the people in those sections eager for knowledge of the other life, although mostly very ignorant of the claims and teachings of our Cause.

In May, some of the good friends in Baltimore arranged an evening meeting for the benefit of the N. S. A., at which local mediums and

musicians gave pleasing evidence of their gifts, and at which Mr. and Mrs. Longley, of the N. S. A. headquarters, also assisted. The result was, a full house, an interesting meeting, and a net outcome of \$41 for the N. S. A.

By the compromise of a will suit—and a triumph for Spiritualists—the First Spiritual Church of Baltimore comes into a bequest for the building of a temple. Its share of the estate will amount to more than \$10,000, and the sun shines upon its prospects accordingly.

Our arrangements for the ninth annual convention of the N. S. A., to be held in Washington next October, are about completed. A most interesting convocation this will prove to be. Many important questions are to be considered, and changes in the By-Laws may be made. We expect a large attendance. We are all looking forward to the presence of Mrs. Lillie at that time, as a harbinger of goodwill and peace from the golden West to the East, and to the N. S. A.

The venerable Herman Snow—now in his nintieth year—of Cambridge, Mass., who for years was a resident of San Francisco, and who is a staunch Spiritualist, has just sent me the following fragment of a poem, written 50 years ago by John Pierpont, on the death of his grand-child. As our beloved "Father" Pierpont is well known to many Spiritualists as a grand worker for our Cause, and in all humanitarian lines, through mediumistic mortals, Mr. Snow requests that I send these verses to the JOURNAL for its readers to enjoy, which I am very glad to do.

I cannot make him dead,  
When passing by the bed  
So long watched over with parental care,  
My spirit and my eye  
Seek it inquiringly,  
Before the thought comes, that he is not there.

Not there! Where, then, is he?  
The form I used to see  
Was but the raiment that he used to wear.  
The grave that now doth press  
Upon his cast-off dress,  
Is but his wardrobe locked—he is not there.

\* \* \* \* \*  
He lives! In all the past  
He lives! Not to the last,  
Of seeing him, will I despair.  
In dreams I see him now,  
And on his angel brow  
I see it written: "Thou shalt see me there."

Yes, we will leave to God,  
Father, thy chastening rod.  
Help us, thine own afflicted ones, to bear,  
That in the spirit-land,  
Meeting at thy right hand,  
"Twill be our heaven to find that he is there.

The poet of 50 years ago has long since found his loved ones in the spirit-land, and in these years it is his joy to send to all the earth his influence of blessing and of love.

Tender greetings to all, and thanks to the editor of the JOURNAL for his courtesy and kindness to the N. S. A.

MARY T. LONGLEY, Sec.

**Seen Any Mahatmas?**

GEO. E. LOTHROP, JR.

Who are these strange spirits of whom Colonel Olcott, the famous theosophist, says he has seen 14 in various parts of the world, in London, on deserts of India, etc., garbed as Hindoos, Europeans, etc? He says:

"A Mahatma is a man who has evolved his spiritual nature and supreme will to the point that he is no longer dominated by his lower passions or by the constraints of the physical body. He is abso-

lutely pure, devoid of desire or exalted being."

His career with Madame Blavatsky is well-known, and from press reports of various Western papers it is evident that the madame was a good materializing medium, while Col. Olcott himself probably has similar psychical faculties. These strange occult people who materialized in his presence were doubtless the same character of spirit residents as those who appear at the Back Bay Temple. Col. Olcott's experiences were very romantic and doubtless quite reliably related in his books; but the pretensions of him and the madame as to exclusive jurisdiction over spiritual affairs was not generally accepted.

Boston, Mass.

**Planetary Outlook for July.**

On July 1, 5:09 p. m., Chicago standard time, the Moon fulls, and will be applying to an evil aspect of Saturn (a conjunction). This combination is unfavorable for business in general; and until the Sun has passed Saturn, it is an unfavorable and treacherous period for starting new enterprises or making changes of importance. Many will feel blue and down-hearted, lacking ambition and confidence, and many will fall below the average in health, particularly those born between Oct. 1 and 8 of other years.

The most favorable times in the month for starting new enterprises, making changes, etc., are between July 6 and 10, and July 15 and 21, but for new business of importance the month is a poor one, on the whole. Better wait six weeks.—*The Adept.*

**Thought.**—The power in each individual that molds him, and makes him what he is, is the power of thought. Thought builds the individual; spirit, mind and body conforms to his thoughts. Man's external work in matter manifests the exact kind and quality of thought he evolves; his material creations are as he thinketh them and willeth them to be. If one does not like himself as he is, or the prospects that he has, or intuitively perceives to be his for the future, he must break the mold of his crystalized thoughts and cultivate new ones more to his liking; for his mental house (corrupt and ugly as it may be) will stand until he himself demolishes it and builds a better one. Nothing but Truth itself can set him free from the limitations created by his thoughts, for these will remain as long as he creates them.—*L. A. Mallory.*

**The Fall.**—It is always a surprise to me that women will sit year after year and be told that, because of a story as silly and childish as it is unjust, she is responsible for all the ills of life; that because, forsooth, some thousands of years ago a woman was so horribly wicked as to eat an apple, she must and should occupy a humble and penitent position, and remain for ever subject to the dictates of ecclesiastical pretenders. It is so silly, so childish, that for people of sense to accept it seems almost incredible.—*Helen Gardner.*

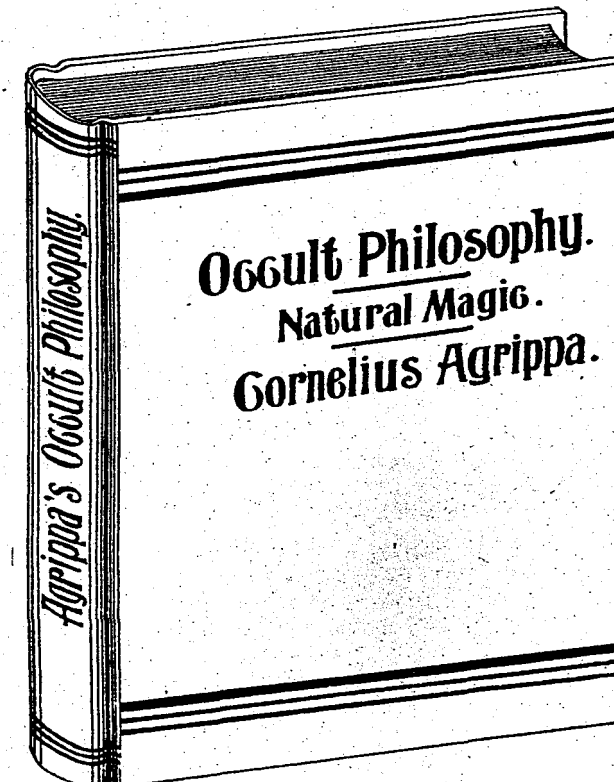
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THOMAS G. NEWMAN, Editor & Publisher, Station B, San Francisco, Cal.

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This JOURNAL will be sent to subscribers until ordered to be discontinued, and all the arrearages are paid.

SAN FRANCISCO, JULY 6, 1901.

The Path of Duty does not always open up before us, until we arrive at the point where it becomes necessary to move forward. Difficulties are found, because an easy path is not always conducive to growth and development of our selfhood. Trials are stepping-stones to spiritual attainment.

It Was a Crime to read the Bible 300 years ago. This is not now generally known, but it is nevertheless true. Then no one was allowed to think or reason, except as the Church dictated. To do so was a crime, which called for severe punishment—torture and often death by fire. An exchange records these facts, which should never be lost sight of:

But few people know that in the sixteenth century an Englishman was not allowed to read the Bible, yet it is perfectly true. Henry VIII issued a decree prohibiting the common people from reading the Bible. Officers of state were exempt from the law. Ladies or gentlemen might read the proscribed volume if they did so in their gardens or orchards, but no one was allowed even to read it to the lower classes.

During the reign of Catholic Queen Mary even more rigorous restrictions were enforced. Dr. Franklin, in his own "Life," preserves an anecdote which admirably illustrates this. His family had early adhered to the Reformation, and they possessed an English Bible, which they concealed by fastening it beneath the lid of a close stool.

When the Doctor's great-grandfather desired to read to the family, he reversed the lid of the stool upon his knees and passed the leaves from one side to the other, each portion being fastened down with pack threads. One of the children was stationed at the door on the watch to see if an officer of the spiritual court came in sight. When such an individual hove in sight, the lid, with the Bible beneath it, was quickly replaced.

**Liquid Hydrogen.**

Another remarkable triumph of science is recorded in a telegram from London, Eng., which states that experiments have been conducted before the Loyal Society recently with liquid hydrogen. The telegram says:

It is sufficiently wonderful to say that Prof. James Dewar carried in a jar through the streets of London to his lecture-room nearly two quarts of liquid hydrogen, which until recently was the most intangible form of matter known to man.

On arriving before his audience this wizard of science, who deals with temperatures compared with which Arctic cold is like a seething furnace, produced marvels never before witnessed outside of his own laboratory. He reduced hydrogen to a solid which appeared like snow in a test tube, and announced that temperature had been produced eight or ten degrees lower than this, or within nine degrees of absolute zero.

In conclusion Professor Dewar showed how crystal nitrate of uranium, when placed in liquid hydrogen, became, for the time, self-luminous on account of the high electric stimulation brought about by cooling, causing actual electric discharges between the crystal molecules. When cooled, the crystal was removed from the liquid luminosity and electric discharges took place again during the return to normal temperature.

**Creeds are Dying out.**

Probably the reason why Spiritualism has never been organized thoroughly is to keep it from crystallizing and forming another sect. Instead of this, the philosophy has permeated the religious thought of the world, and it is wonderful to see how thoroughly that is now being accomplished.

The world will be surprised to read the recent baccalaureate sermon of President Angell of the University of Michigan to the graduating class of that institution. It shows that present theology is being revolutionized. He advised students to "seek the truth in religious matters, and speak it to the world," regardless of dogmas or tenets of the church, be they ever so old and sacred, as will be seen by an article on another page.

In proof of this assertion, we have but to quote the following from the Chicago Herald:

It is impressive testimony to a great religious change when three such men as Presidents Harper and Angell and Dr. Hirsch can speak as they did. The authority of tradition and the church was waved aside by all of them. President Angell, in his baccalaureate sermon at Ann Arbor, justified the higher criticism of the Bible, the separation of the pure truth from the "dross," and said of the doctrine of evolution that "it gives us, when stated with those reasonable limitations which scientific men of the highest repute are now setting, most exalted ideas of the method of divine procedure in respect to sentient beings, as well as to the lower forms of existence, and inspires us with new reverence for

the infinite wisdom and goodness of the creator."

President Harper urged his students to adopt an individual religion broader than any church. He said: "The church is only the outer shell, which takes on a different form and can be destroyed, while religion is imperishable." He spoke of the religion best adapted to the newer life of the world in these terms:

It will be simple. It must be reasonable. It must stand the test of investigation. It must make no false and pretentious claims. It must be a religion of toleration. It must be characterized by idealism, or the artistic soul cannot endure it. It must be ethical. It must also be a religion capable of furnishing comfort in time of trouble, for this is what art and science can do, and this, after all, is the greatest demand of the human soul. The religion of Jesus answers all these tests.

Rabbi Hirsch, who has a different religion from the Christian, was for the most part in perfect accord with Dr. Harper. He ridiculed the pageantry of the church, and declared that the new age was worshipping God in the open. "Secularian lines in Christianity are fading away," he said, "and even now the left wing of the Jewish church is rubbing shoulders with the Unitarian."

To the stern orthodoxy of old, these men, two of whom are Christians, exclaim in unison: "Your Holy Book (those incomparable writings, as Dr. Angell calls it) is the fallible work of fallible human beings. Your church is a purely human institution without any authority whatsoever. Religion is a matter of individual selection. Jew and Gentile are passing out into the open together."

The good tendencies of such fraternalism and toleration are evident, but if it becomes universal in Christian lands it must cause profound alterations in church activities. The missionary now goes forth by direct authority of the Divine. That gives him his enthusiasm, his resolution, his persistence, his willingness to meet martyrdom. But there is no demand for such martyrdom in a scheme of universal toleration, and if the new religion should resolve itself into a simple deism like the rabbi's, the evolution would be felt from turret to foundation stone.

The question is suggested: "Will chaos come after authority is gone, or will humanity rise on stepping-stones of its dead creeds to higher things?" Our three prophets were optimistic, but there are thousands and tens of thousands who still cling to the sanctions of authority and revelation.

Vacations are now in order. These restful times will give plenty of time for reading and reflection. Either before starting or after getting there it would be well to consult our Catalogue of Books, found in this JOURNAL, and select such as you can feast on, and have them sent to you for mental food.

We also have back numbers of the *Banner of Light*, *Progressive Thinker* and *PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL*, which we will send at half-price. These contain much valuable reading. This is a hint to those who desire mental food, at a nominal cost.

**The Reviewer.**

Any of the Books noticed in this Department can be obtained at this office. When to be sent by mail, add 10 cents on the dollar, of the price, for postage.

TWO THOUSAND YEARS IN CELESTIAL LIFE. Introduction to Science and Key of Life. Manifestations of Divine Law. Received through Psychic Telegraphy. Autobiography of Clytina; born in Athens, 147 B. C.; passed to celestial life 131 B. C. Detroit, Mich.: Astro Publishing Co. Price, \$2.00.

The series of communications recorded in this volume were received by Mr. Hodges during 1897 and following years. He, in company with six others, held weekly seances for the purpose of investigating psychic phenomena. Afterwards Mr. Hodges sat alone with a psychic and received other communications, also recorded in this volume, from spirits formerly inhabitants of ancient, classic Greece. These communications were received by telegraphic clicking and recorded stenographically in order to have them absolutely correct. They described life and employment in the spirit-world, including the planets Mars and Jupiter.

Mr. Hodges writes us as follows: "I am informed that on June 14 a dispatch was sent out from this city, which has gone the rounds of the country, stating that suit had been begun against me, and that I had been enjoined from selling the book, 'Two Thousand Years in Celestial Life.' This is an untruth. No such court action has occurred. This proceeds from those who seek to tear down the good in all things. It is the spirit of evil, the antithesis of good that has ever been the means of keeping the world in darkness and misery."

THE BOOK OF RUTH; an idyl of friendship between the heavens and the earth; by Rev. George Chainey. Published at the School of Interpretation, Masonic Temple, Chicago. Price, 50c.

This is the first of a series of occult booklets by Mr. Chainey, who also publishes the *Interpreter*, a monthly magazine for occult students. It contains six chapters and are intended to help the student into full consciousness and the duality of truth.

ESOTERIC VIBRATIONS, by W. P. Phelon, M. D., author of *Three Sevens*, etc. Price, 22c. For sale at this office.

This is an interesting treatise on this important subject, intended, as the author states in the Preface, to induce those who read, to seek further knowledge along the lines of which it aims to be a partial exponent. It will bear some study, for it concerns the Real of which we know so little, and can receive so little of explanation, save by the law of Correspondences, out of the manifested physical. Accept it as an attempt to sow the seed for the harvest of good to come.

The Arena for July opens with Prof. Frank Parson's article, entitled *The Sweep of the Century and its Meaning*, and is a striking epitome of the achievements of the last hundred years. What shall probably be accomplished in







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Please consult the address-label on the wrapper of this JOURNAL to find the date to which you have paid. If the date is past, please oblige us with a remittance to move the date ahead again.

Money sent in unregistered letters will be at the risk of the sender. We assume the risk if sent by money order, bank draft or registered letter.

**Local News Summary.**

**Our Telephone.**—Those who may wish to telephone to this office will please call up "Jessie 1769."

**Children's Progressive Lyceum** meets every Sunday morning at 909 Market St., San Francisco, at 10:30. Free spiritual library. Visitors welcome. Regular social on second Friday of each month at 305 Larkin. C.H. WADSWORTH.

**Mission Lyceum** meets every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock in Mission Opera Hall, 2131 Mission St., San Francisco. Friends of the Lyceum movement are always welcome. The regular monthly entertainment is held on the last Tuesday evening of each month. W. T. JONES.

**LADIES' AID SOCIETY.**—Headquarters at 305 Larkin-st., San Francisco. On the last Friday evening in each month dancing will begin at 8:30, interspersed with musical and literary exercises. Admission ten cents. Business and social meetings every Wednesday afternoon, at 2 o'clock. All are invited. Take the Elevator.

**A Spiritual Test Meeting** was held on Sunday evening at 3250 22nd St., and Mrs. Eberhardt gave psychometric readings and messages to the audience assembled, which were generally recognized.

**Sealed Questions** and flowers were read by Mrs. Gillingham last Sunday evening at her rooms on the fourth floor, 305 Larkin St.

**"Expectation"** was the subject of a lecture last Sunday morning at Golden Gate Hall by Dr. J. M. Case, before the Mental Science Temple.

**Spiritual Tests** were given by Mrs. C. J. Meyer, and sealed letters and flowers were read, at 335 McAllister St., last Sunday evening.

**Don't Forget** the next Lyceum party at Occidental Hall, Friday evening, July 12.

**The Ladies' Aid Party** last Friday was a very enjoyable one, as are all those given by this society. Mrs. Small and her co-workers are ever on the alert to make things pleasant and attractive.

**The Lyceum** folks went to the Kings' Daughters' Home last Sunday. Dr. Carpenter and his spirit friend, McAdam, gave an excellent talk and Mrs. Norton gave pleasure to many by convincing tests.

**Mrs. N. L. Churchill** had the misfortune on Thursday, June 27, to make a mis-step in coming downstairs and broke her leg between the knee and ankle. She is at the City and County Hospital. Friends, please call on her.

The State Association held its usual meeting last Sunday evening at Occidental Hall, President M. S. Norton in the chair. After singing by the audience and a solo by Mr. Gillespie, Mrs. R. S. Lillie gave an improvised poem of rare beauty on the work accomplished by Modern Spiritualism during the past 50 years. She then delivered her farewell lecture for the present season, on the work still to be accomplished by the Spiritualist movement. It was full of practical suggestions from her inspirers and was fully appreciated by the audience.

Dr. J. L. York, being present, was invited to the platform, and gave an inspiring address.

**No Camp-Meeting** will be held this year under the auspices of the California State Spiritualists' Association for the following reasons: A lack of convenient grounds adapted to the purpose; a dearth of talent and a complete absence of interest and enthusiasm among the people. The support of the headquarters and reading-room at 305 Larkin St. comes almost entirely from non-Spiritualists. I sound a timely note of warning to Spiritualists in California when I say, that unless there are sacrifices made and duties attended to at once, organization in California is doomed.

M. S. NORTON.

**Dr. H. W. Abbott**, of San Jose, lectured at Fraternal Hall, Oakland, under the auspices of the Union Spiritual Society, on Sunday afternoon, June 30. The Doctor took for his subject, "Vibration of Color," which he illustrated by numerous experiments of a highly interesting nature. Mrs. Boose gave some well-recognized messages. The Doctor will lecture on the afternoon of July 7 at the same hall. The evening meeting was devoted to messages by Mrs. Amanda Smith and Mrs. Stewart, who made her farewell appearance in Oakland.

**Mme. Young's Hall** was well filled last Sunday evening with those who wanted to have articles psychometrized and get messages from their friends in the spirit-world, and they were not disappointed. Mrs. Seal preceded with a fine lecture and the music was given by Professors Young and Bothwell-Brown.

**The Mediums' Protective Association** will hold its second monthly test meeting in Mme. Young's hall, 619 McAllister St., on Friday evening, July 5. The Board meeting for July will be held in Spiritualists' Headquarters, 305 Larkin St., on Saturday evening, July 13. All members are invited to be present.

**The Oakland Spiritual Society** met at 856 1/2 Isabella St., Oakland, June 26. Vice-President Stewart presided. Mrs. Palinbaum read a poem. After an invocation by Mr. Preston, Dr. Palinbaum became entranced and gave spirit messages. Mrs. Bradley, a spirit teacher, gave messages to her former pupils, Mrs. Rebecca Stewart and Mr. Preston, and said that she rejoiced to see them taking up the work of spirit communion. Mr. Gillman spoke on healing, and Mrs. Jacobs gave some tests for the first time in a public meeting. Mrs. Rebecca Stewart's address was an utterance of joy and pleasure that she had heard from her old teacher and friend, Mrs. Bradley, through the medium, Dr. Palinbaum. On Wednesday evening, July 3, the Society and its friends are invited to attend and name and dedicate the hall which Dr. Palinbaum has given to the service of Spiritualism.

DR. ASTOR, Sec.

**The Society of Progressive Spiritualists** has arranged to resume their Sunday evening meetings in Occidental Hall, 305 Larkin St., on Aug. 4, and have engaged Mrs. R. S. Lillie as its speaker.

**In Los Angeles**, Mr. Louis Lyons reports that there has been quite a revival in spiritual thought and activity during the past few months. We hope it may become contagious, and that other places may likewise feel the effect and become enthused on the subject.

**Psychical Research Society**, Oakland.—On Sunday afternoon, "Healing" was the subject discussed by Dr. Bonesteel, Prof. Gill and others. Mrs. Nelson followed with tests. In the evening Mrs. Kate Lester, of San Francisco, gave spirit messages and tests. Mrs. Lester will occupy the platform again on July 7, at 8 p.m. All are cordially invited. C. F. VAN LUYEN.

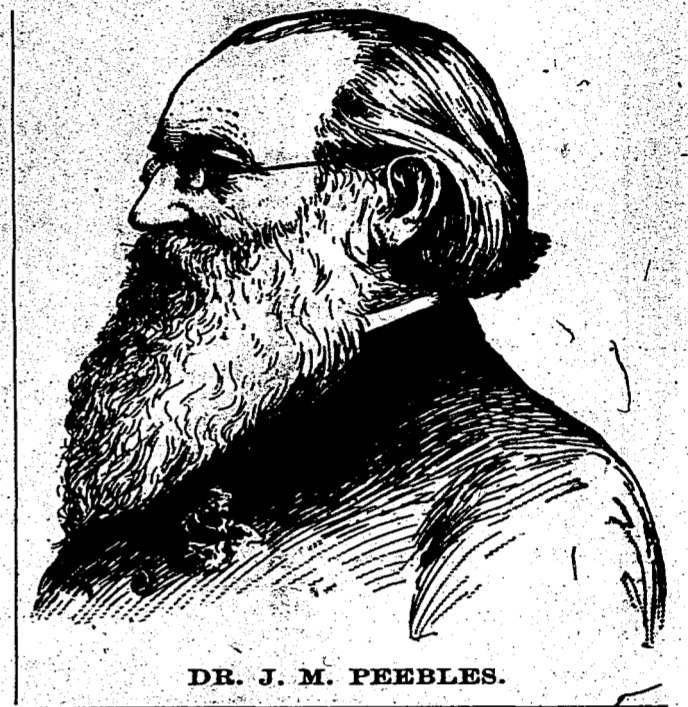
**Universal Spiritual Association.**—Dr. W. S. Hall, founder of this society, has returned from a protracted Eastern trip, and was warmly welcomed by frequenters of this popular meeting, which is held every Sunday afternoon in Temple Hall, 909 Market St. The subject last Sunday was "Pride." Dr. Hall presided and Miss Lee furnished the music.

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**Loring Hall**, Oakland, was filled on June 26, when spirit messages were given by Mrs. Cowell, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Booses. A public christening was performed by Mrs. Cowell. A feature of the occasion was the farewell reception tendered to Mrs. Stewart previous to her departure to the East. Mrs. Stewart was presented (as a slight token of the esteem in which she is held) with a solid gold pin emblematic of the Cause she so ably represents. Mrs. Cowell made the presentation speech, to which Mrs. Stewart, taken by surprise, replied, thanking each contributor for the beautiful gift. Light refreshments were served, and dancing indulged in until a late hour. The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers and ferns, and the occasion was one long to be remembered by all present.

**A Testimonial Benefit** will be given by the Ladies' Aid Society to Mrs. R. S. Lillie, at Occidental Hall, on Friday, July 5, and all her friends are cordially invited. There will be an attractive programme and at the close there will be a dance. A good time is assured.

**"The 20th Century Gospel"** was the subject of an address by Thaddeus F. Fritz last Sunday at the Academy of Science Hall on Market St.

**Mr. J. M. Mathews**, who with his late wife were so long identified with the spiritual work in San Francisco, is now gone to the East for a brief visit. He expects to return in September.

**Henry Harrison Brown**, editor of Now, published at San Jose, commenced a series of lectures last Sunday at 137 Hyde St., San Francisco, at the Mental Science School. He is a good speaker and an enthusiastic Mental Scientist.

**Charles J. Anderson** (the boy orator), well known in California, is lecturing for the First Spiritual Society of Seattle, Wash., every Sunday evening.

**Furnished Rooms** for rent on Market St., San Francisco. For particulars inquire at the office of the JOURNAL.

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[This is a Fund suggested by Spirit. Col. Hopkins to supply the JOURNAL to poor Spiritualists who are unable to pay.]  
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