

THE PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL

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W. T. JONES
EDITOR

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When The Mists Have Cleared Away.

Annie Herbert Barker

When the mists have risen in splendor
From the beauty of the hills,
And the sunshine warm and bender
Lights the ripples of the rills,
We may read loves shining letter
When the mists have cleared away,
We shall know as we are known
Never more to walk alone,
In the dawning of the morning
When the mists have rolled away.

If we err in human blindness,
And forget that we are dust,
If we miss the law of kindness
In our struggle to be just
Snowy wings of peace will cover
All the pain we hide today;
When the weary watch is over
And the mists have cleared away,
We shall know as we are known
Never more to walk alone;
In the dawning of the morning
When the mists have rolled away.

When the silvery mist has veiled us,
From the faces of our own,
Oft we deem their love has failed us
And we tread our path alone;
We would see them near and truly
We would trust them day by day,
Neither love or blame unduly
If the mists were cleared away,
We shall know as we are known
Never more to walk alone;
In the dawning of the morning
When the mists have rolled away.

When the mists have risen above us
As our father knows his own,
Face to face with those that love us
We shall know as we are known;
Love, beyond the Orient meadows
Floats the golden fringe of day,
Heart to heart we'll bide the shadows
Till the mists have cleared away,
We shall know as we are known
Never more to walk alone;
When the day of light is dawning
And the mists have cleared away.

SPIRITS WORK IN BELGIUM.

Some remarkable cases of spirit cures being reported from Chevelipont, small hamlet beyond Villiers la Ville, in South Brabant, Belgium I determined; says a correspondent of the St Louis Globe Democrat, to look into the matter, and so set forth in quest of the reputed miracle worker. Villiers la Ville lies just off the direct line from Brus-

sels to Namur and is nearly as celebrated today for the splendid ruins of its one magnificent Cistercian abbey, founded in the twelfth century by Bernard Clervaux, as it was when the fine pile of buildings was still standing in perfect beauty.

It took me some little time to locate the author of the miraculous cures with which the country and the English press were ringing, for an application to the cure of the village resulted in a reply that any such person was unknown in the neighborhood.

The reverend gentlemen, considering that all these practices were the work of the devil, did not desire to encourage visitors. The hotel keeper near the ruins was, however more enlightened, and put me on the right tract. I found Chevelipont a hamlet with half a dozen dwellings of the low, red-roofed, white-walled kind, so typical of Belgian cottages, and one of these was pointed out to me as the home of the Pirsch family.

The author of the miraculous cures by spirit agency is a boy of 16, named Edward Pirsch, who has been aiding the sick to recovery in an astonishing fashion for the last three years. He is the elder of two sons of M. Charles Pirsch, a marble quarry owner, an able intelligent man with the highest possible character for uprightness and straightforwardness. The mother is also an intelligent woman, hardworking practical and alert. Until recently Mrs. Pirsch's mother, whose house joins theirs, has kept a small inn, which her daughter-in-law managed, but has now been closed. One of the peculiarities of the case is that the family takes neither money nor gifts; and as it was felt that the spirit cure might be a means of attracting people to the inn, it was decided to give up this business.

The two Pirsch boys have received a good education. The younger is a lad about 12. The elder is a shortish, thick-set youth, strong and sturdy, and the exact opposite of anything one might look for in connection with ethereal matters.

He has a very bright complexion and is dark, with large dark eyes.

He was educated at the college of Charleroi, where he did very well, passing out fifth, having specially taken up commercial subjects, as his intention is to follow the business of his father and develop it still further by exports to other countries. He is, therefore, anxious to learn only foreign languages and his schoolmasters guarantee that he studied neither medicine nor chemistry while at Charleroi.

I told him that I had heard of very remarkable cases of sick people being cured by prescriptions given by him when under alleged spirit guidance, and he said simply "It is quite true. All the villagers from far and near come to me for prescriptions."

"How do you write them, when you know nothing of medicine?" I inquired.

"I am guided by a spirit named Dr. Spiro, who by my hand writes out the prescriptions necessary. I am not asleep nor quite in a trance; my eyes are wide open, but I seem to loose sense of surroundings. My right arm is numb up to the elbow when possessed by the spirit."

"Tell me about Dr. Spiro," I said.

"He is the spirit of a Servian doctor, who has been dead a great number of years, but who, anxious to aid his fellowmen, uses me as an instrument."

"Then he writes in Servian, or, at least in Latin?"

"No he uses French." He explained to me that even 'over there' (thus the boy spoke of that unknown land to which all are drifting, and about which we fain would learn), spirits must study and learn such things as shall enable them to be more useful to the earth they have left behind. In this way he also explained the fact that the doctor occasionally makes use of remedies discovered since his day, though he ordinarily only employs herbs.

"Are you a herbalist?" I asked.

"No, I knew nothing of herbs when Dr. Spiro first visited me, nor did my family; but by means of minute descriptions, rough spirit drawings, and other indications, we know now how to look for those that grow in the neighborhood. Others we buy from regular re-

tailers, and often the doctor prescribes herbs quiet unknown in Belgium, and which have to be procured at trouble and expense from abroad.

My mother and grandmother prepare the herbs, and make medicine and ointments, which we give away absolutely gratis to all who come to us. Usually the sick send a friend, who describes the symptoms, or we receive a letter. Then I consult Dr. Spiro, who directs what should be done. I can call on him at any time, and he never fails.

"It is almost impossible to define what I have cured, because I have treated every sort of complaint—many which the doctors have quite given up—and have never yet failed. How is it done? I do not know. It is not my business. I only have to write the prescriptions. Sometimes when Dr. Spiro is away on a spirit mission another doctor takes his place. He is a doctor of the neighborhood who died not long ago, and who greatly disapproved of Spiritualism during his life, but who, once dead, took possession of my arm, to my great surprise, one day, and said he knew now that there were many things he had not properly understood before, and that he was always willing to help me. He is not as good as Dr. Spiro however, and I do not often call on him to help me."

[To be Continued.]

LIBERAL LECTURES.

Benjamin Fay Mills, one of the most eloquent orators and advanced liberal thinkers along the lines of religious thought; delivered three lectures on Sunday, June 5th in Golden Gate hall, this city. Although it is a little late we feel that an abstract of his address delivered on Sunday evening of that date will be perused with interest by our readers. His subject was "The Divinity of Christ." He said in part: "I am frequently asked the question, 'Do you believe in the divinity of Christ?' In response I would say that if you mean what I do by this expression, 'I certainly do; and that a thousand times more than I did a few years ago.'

I do not mean by this, that I would assert the accuracy of certain historical statements as I most assuredly would not deny them. I do not think these questions are important, but that the main question is why the life of Jesus of Nazareth has proven so powerful and, as Emerson says, has been 'ploughed into the history of the race.' By that I mean to say that I pin my faith to no dogmatic or metaphysical theory.

"These are not only unimportant but are sometimes positively demoralizing. Blood has been shed in disputes by so called Christians over the questions as to whether Jesus was 'homo-ousios' or 'homo-ousios'. Whatever is true about this, it is certain that bitterness and strife are unChristlike, and that the worst heresy is the unloving life.

"The important fact is expressed in a sermon by the most distinguished orthodox minister in America, the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abott, when he says that 'to believe in Christ is this—to see a true manhood and a real divineness in that kind of life.'

"This brings us to the question 'What is the divinity?' and that not as an abstract speculation but as applied to a person. An individual would be divine if he were perfectly related to the Universe, to all persons, to nature, and to all experiences.

"Divinity is the perception of universal life. I accept absolutely the New Testament definition of divinity, 'God is Love', and 'Everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God.' Paul says, 'As many as are led by the spirit of God, they are the sons of God.'

Now if you take John's word for God, which is Love and insert it in Paul's sentence, you would exactly express my belief: 'As many as are led by the spirit of love, they are the sons of God.'

"The manifestation of love is a manifestation of divinity. The question concerning the divinity of Jesus of Nazareth is then simply this, 'Did Jesus live a thoroughly loving life?' He certainly manifested great trust and love in all, the high and low, the good and bad.

"You can understand Jesus, not by taking a course in a theological seminary, but by endeavoring to lead a loving life. A great writer well says, 'Jesus astonishes and overpowers sensual people. They cannot unite him to history, or reconcile him to themselves.' Jesus said that the Father could be manifested in his disciples as he had been in him, and he said further, 'The work that I do, shall ye do also.'

"Whoever was begotten by pure love and came desired and welcomed into life, is of immaculate conception. He whose heart is full of tenderness and truth, who loves

mankind more than he loves himself, and cannot find room in his heart for hate, may be another Christ.

"We all may be the saviours of the world, if we believe in the divinity which dwells in us and worship it, and nail our grosser selves, our tempers, greeds and our unworthy aims upon the cross. Who giveth love to all pays kindness for unkindness, smiles for frowns, and lends new courage to each fainting heart, and strengthens hope, and scatters joy abroad, he, too, is a Redeemer, Son of God.

"No matter whether you are a Hebrew or an orthodox Christian, a liberal Christian or an agnostic, this is the spirit that should be manifested in your life; and you will find it true that 'everyone that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him'".

MORRIS PRATT INSTITUTE CONVENTION.

At the convention of the Morris Pratt Institute Association, held in Whitewater, Wisconsin June 4th, some good work was done for the future of the Institute, and towards establishing education as an important factor in Spiritualism.

The vacancies on the board of directors, occasioned by the resignation of Mr. A. Thompson and Mr. C. L. Stevens because of inability to serve on account of business demands, were filled by the election of Dr. Geo. B. Warne of Chicago, Ill. and Mr. John D. Vale of Marshalltown La., both of them competent men, and giving to the school the strength of an efficient board of directors.

The officers were reelected, adding to the executive committee Dr. Geo. B. Warne.

The secretary's report showed old bills all paid with the exception of two hundred and fifty dollars that was hired one year ago to meet urgent demands, a bill of three hundred and eighty nine dollars for fuel and repairs on roof, and one hundred and fifty for furniture, leaving a total balance of eight hundred and eighty nine dollars. All running expenses for the year had been met except a bill for fuel, and some of the old bill paid, that was carried over from last year to more than balanced that.

The number of students enrolled during the entire year was seventeen. Four of the first years class graduated with honors and received diplomas, which will be an endorsement from the Institute as their ability and a recommendation for them to Spiritualists wherever they may present them.

We predict that class of 1904 will go forth in the power of the spirit, imbued with the knowledge they have gained during the two years study and associations with the higher psychic forces, and become

leaders and teachers of these grand truths so much in demand in all parts of the country. The names of the graduates are, Miss Agnes Chaffee, Miss Alfa Bullock, Miss Amalia Pfenning and Mr. B. K. Bowen.

An office to be known as financial agent was created and Mrs. C. L. Stewart appointed to fill it. The duty of this office will be to solicit funds for the Institute both publicly and privately, and she will visit different sections of the country for that purpose, and will call upon those who are interested in the cause of education and Spiritualism for any assistance they may give.

School will open September 27, 1904 and it is hoped there will be a large attendance. The term was shortened to 34 weeks instead of 36 and board and room fixed at \$3.50 instead of \$3.00 per week. Catalogues will soon be ready, persons wishing them can address either the President or Secretary and they will be sent at once. Fraternally,

Clara L. Stewart, Sec.

A PARTIAL LIST OF CAMP MEETINGS OF THE SEASON 1904.

UNITY CAMP MEETING.

The Lynn Spiritualists Association will hold meetings every Sunday at Unity Camp, Saugus Center, Mass., commencing June 5, and ending Sept. 25. For all particulars address Mrs. A. A. Averill, 42 Smith street, Lynn, Mass.

Island Lake, Mich.—The Island Camp, at Island Lake, Mich., 42 miles from Detroit, on the Flint and Pere Marquette railroad, commences July 10, and extends through the month of August. For full programme address H. R. La Grange, Secretary, 84 Eass Mont-Calm street, Detroit, Mich.

An excellent programme has been prepared for the coming season. We have under contract such speakers as mediums as B. F. Austin, G. W. Kates and wife, Amanda Coffman, Mr. and Mrs. White, D. A. Herrick, Dr. Julia M. Walton, Mrs. Margaret LaGrange, W. V. Nicum, and others. Farmer Riley will positively be with us the first two weeks of camp. Every phase of mediumship will be represented. Correspondence solicited with first class trumpet and slate-writing mediums.

Lake Brady, Ohio.—The Lake Brady Spiritualist Camp meeting opens July 3 and closes September 4. For full programme address, A. G. Kock, Akron, Ohio.

Freeville, N. Y.—The dates for the Central New York Spiritual Association Camp-meeting, at Free-

ville, N. Y., are from July 23 to Aug. 22, four weeks and five Sundays. Owing to the protracted and severe illness of our secretary, Miss Victoria C. Moore, I am acting secretary, to whom all letters pertaining to the camp should be addressed W. W. Kelsey, President, Cortland N. Y.

Grand Ledge, Mich.—The Grand Ledge (Mich.) camp opens July 31 and closes August 28. For full programme address J. W. Ewing, Grand Ledge, Mich.

Onset Camp—Commences July 24 and ends August 28. For full programme and particulars address the secretary of the camp, Onset, Camp.

Harmony Grove, Cal.—Camp opens July 17, and closes July 31. For particulars address Frank C. Foster, secretary, Escondido, Cal.

Mt. Pleasant Park, Clinton Iowa. The camp session of the M. V. S. A., Mt. Pleasant Park, Clinton, Iowa, will open July 31 and close August 28. For programmes address Mollie B. Anderson, secretary, Clarksville, Mo.

Forest Home, Mich.—The fifth annual camp-meeting opens at Snowflake, Mich., July 31 and closes Aug. 21. Write to Mrs. Ruth Eastman, secretary, Mancelona, Mich., Box 69, for full particulars.

Chesterfield, Ind.—Chesterfield, (Ind.) camp meeting opens July 14 and closes August 28. For programs and other information address Lydia Jessup, secretary, Chesterfield, Ind.

Delphos Camp, Kans.—This camp meeting will begin August 5, closing August 22. Address all communications to I. N. Richardson, secretary, Delphos, Kans.

Maple Dell Park, Ohio.—The American Spiritual, Religious and Science Union will hold a camp session at Maple Dell, commencing July 24 and closing Sept. 1. Lucy King, corresponding secretary. Address with stamp, Box 45, Mantua, Ohio. The grounds will be open for family reunions, Sunday-school picnics, and Sunday meetings, etc., from June 1 to Sept. 15.

STOCK FOR SALE.

MRS. ELIZA NEWMAN, widow of the late editor and publisher of the JOURNAL, THOMAS G. NEWMAN, has a few hundred shares of the Philosophical Publishing Co's stock for sale. Apply at the office of the JOURNAL, 1429 Market street.

APPLES FOR BREAKFAST.

A Prescription That May Save You
Many a Doctors's Fee.

The true, not the new, should be the motto of those who write or speak about the apple, the fruit longest in use by our branch of the human race.

There are certain simple principles that must be given, line upon line, precept upon precept, to every generation of men or rather should be given just about that time that the generation is beginning to lose its freshness and to call on the doctor for remedies.

Every well to do man of good digestion and appetite tends to eat too much meat every day after his twenty-fifth birthday, and one of the values of fruit, the apple above others, is the ease with which it may be made an "antimeat for breakfast" article.

With baked apples and cream and good roast potatoes on the breakfast table, the dish of cold or hot meat becomes subordinate even if it is not entirely abolished.

Men of forty, the age when every man not a fool is supposed to have acquired the right to give medical advice, at least to himself, will relate remarkable self cures just as they had given up all hope, and in general these reduce themselves to this: "I ate less meat, but I did not know it, and I took a great deal more fruit, especially apples".

Baked apples for breakfast tend to reduce the amount of meat eat if we are inclined to eat too much, and to supply the system with mineral foods and the digestive tract with acids.

People who eat too much food are not to be advised to eat baked apples as a mere addition to the breakfast, and those who need a substantial meal must not let the baked apples interfere with the taking of solid food.

As a rule, those who eat three meals per diem will wisely have the nicest dish of baked apples obtainable for breakfast. It is a piece of simple wisdom worth pages of ordinary medical literature. The digestion of milk is somewhat delayed by sour fruits but pure, rich cream is not milk, and taken with a juicy baked apple, what dish can be more tempting and wholesome?

If you are twenty-eight or thirty-five, inclined to ring the doctor's bell and talk with your druggist, try this prescription. You may put sugar on the apples, but we shall not sugar coat the remedy with any mystery or any claim to novelty.

We merely turn to your good wife or your housekeeper and ask whether she is careful to give you nice roast apples and cream and to make the breakfast meat dishes as little tempting as may be—American Garden.

OAKLAND NOTES.

At the last annual meeting of the Oakland Spiritual Society an election of officers was held with the following result: President, Mrs. Heckman (re-elected) vice pres. A. E. Gilman. (re elected), secretary Mrs. L. Lorenzen; treasurer, Mrs. R. Palinbaum; financial secretary, Miss Ida Haas; board of directors, C. H. Cole, C. Sorensen, J. Scott, Mrs. Veri

A beautiful set of silver spoons was presented to the president by the members, as a mark of their respect and esteem, and as a token of their appreciation for her good work on behalf of the society and the cause.

The vice-president was presented with a handsome hand painted cup and saucer, which he received with appropriate remarks.

The retiring secretary, Sister Shaw received from the society as a token of regard for duties well performed, an elaborate set of fine china cake plates.

Miss Ida Haas was the recipient of a hand painted pin cushion.

The chaplain, Sister Gilman, was made glad with a beautiful china decorated mush set.

The society is in a flourishing condition, substantial additions having been lately made to the Building Fund.

Obituary—Mrs. Ilson a member of the Psychological Society who recently went East on a visit to her brother and sister, passed over while there. Her remains were brought over to Oakland and were cremated on last Thursday. A large number of the Psychological Society were in attendance at the services.

Loring Hall—The meeting on Wednesday evening the 15th under the management of Mrs. Phelps

and Mrs. Knott was well attended. Those present decided upon a form of procedure to be adopted. Next Wednesday evening will be the first formal opening.

Odd Fellows Hall—The Psychological Society were out in good numbers. Mr. Will C. Hodge delivered an interesting address upon the life and occupations in spirit life, clearly showing that all who become denizens of the spirit world, will find congenial employment, according to their adaptation and capacity.

Fraternal Hall—On Sunday afternoon short addresses were made by Mrs. Knapp, Mrs. Drake and Mrs. McEvoy. After which circles were formed and messages were given by Mesdames Kapp, McEvoy, Smith and Fanning. In the evening Mrs. McEvoy spoke upon evil influences commonly known as absession, indicating the methods by which persons who are thus vexed can be relieved. Mrs. Knapp and Mrs. Gillette followed with messages.

Mrs. Knapp and Mrs. McEvoy have commenced a class on Friday evenings at 7 o'clock, room 28, 1229 Broadway.

"TIS SWEET TO BE REMEMBERED."

Responding to this universal sentiment of the human heart and the emotional longings of the soul, and recognizing the fact that in most of human lives, there are incidents worthy of notice, and services rendered for the general good and the upliftment of the race, which deserve to be commemorated.

Having said this much the JOURNAL takes pleasure in saying further, that an opportunity to carry into practice that great principle

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Address J. C. F. Grumbine, 1285 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, Mass.

involved in the words, appreciation and gratitude, is given to all persons who know Mrs. Annie Herbert Barker the author of the beautiful poems, entitled: 'When the Mists have Cleared Away,' 'New Time Rolling On,' 'Where the Shaddow Falleth Never,' and other beautiful and inspiring poems.

Mrs. Barker's address is 228 D. street, San Rafael, Cal., where she resides shut up in her cottage home by poor health and limited means.

Another anniversary of her birth will occur on June 26th and this is thought a fitting time for those who feel they have been blessed by her inspirations to show their friendship and love in some substantial manner accompanied with words of greeting or birthday tokens to cheer her solitary life.

"ALICE" MESSAGE CORNER"

Mrs. Anna L. Gillespie, Medium

Marinisa—A little Indian girl comes to her child friend Paola and brings wild flowers, also an Indian called Swift Arrow, he brings music for the little one.

John and Nettie Merrill—To our friends we would send this message we know now that what we believed was true, all live again, and we are together with all our dear ones; but there are so many in earth life that need us. I wish my children were all on the brighter side of life. Tell them for us that we don't forget and when they think of us we are near them. There are so many friends to send greetings to; ask Florence to help me reach them all.

Newton Booth—This spirit desires to reach his daughter who is always ready for a word from her loved ones. He says: Tell my daughter, Mrs. Emma Sterrit, that we will help her; we know that she has had so much trouble, and that she is worried but the trouble will soon be over and all will be better for her.

I don't want to see her work so hard, I want to see her life made easier, and tell her that her old age will be pleasant. I was an old pioneer of California; and know what it means to go to a strange land. But O, this new land where I am now! It is so beautiful no words can describe it; tell Emma to take care of herself, and that her father is near her every day.

Henry Lasel—A lady is with the gentleman, whom he calls wife; her name is Sarah or Sophia, also daughters Bertha and Anna, and a son Harman; all coming to one they call Mary. Now I hear the name of Thorld and the name John Thorld also James and Margaret, this group all send greeting to Mary Thorld.

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BUSINESS MANAGER.

W. T. JONES.
EDITOR.

Assisted by an Able Corps of Special Contributors.

SAN FRANCISCO, JUNE 25, 1904

WORDS OF COMFORT.

To the Mother of Little Doris B—

How our heart is touched as we read of your loss and know the pain which is yours. The dear little feet that ran at your call, the bright eyes that smiled backed into your own, the hands that clung to yours and the voice that made music in your ears, all made life for you one bright, happy day, and every mother knows how glad your hours were.

The dreams you dreamed, and how they will come in spite of us, the hopes you held were all centred around the little life that was in your keeping and the completeness and fulness of your own life was to be in service for her.

And she slipped away.

Like a strain of heavenly music that is wafed to our ears through some open door her dear life made melody in your heart for a time and when the door was closed and all was still, the silence must have been well nigh unbearable. In those first moments when the very air is heavy with stillness and we fear that in the sound of our beating hearts we may lose the whisper of comfort for which we yearn, we cannot even bear to hear the birds sing or the leaves rustle.

But the night of grief is swallowed up in the morning of hope.

Again we begin the day and with firmer step and braver spirit we set the house in order and make ready for the coming of our darling.

We know she shall come. What one baby has done another baby may do, and love shall so light the pathway to us that the little feet will never slip or stumble, but will enter at our door.

Oh, these mothers who stand weeping over empty cribs and unruffled pillows.

Who can give them comfort? Who can dry their eyes? God seems far away and the grave an impassable gulf to them.

"I could have borne paine and loss and misery of any kind, if only my baby could have stayed with me," they sob.

Up and down the world today

the sad mothers are wandering striving to be brave and to understand the reason of death.

Perhaps, dear friend, your little Doris will guide you to some sorrowing one whose baby is with her in that new life where she has gone and your knowledge of the love of God made manifest through ministering spirits may prove a shelter in time of storm.

Happy little Doris! To find a mamma smiling through her tears!

To find ready recognition of her every effort to draw near!

To find a mother earnest in her effort to take up her life naturally as the dear little daughter would have her do!

Many a child would find the way to your loving arms because of Doris, much loved and loving much, now as in the earth life which was so limited in years so full in expression.

All the Home Circle mothers will hold you in their thoughts with tenderness. Those whose babies have passed into spirit life will be especially near to you and those who still cuddle and caress their little folks will give you a share of that motherhood happiness.—Banner of Light.



The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

EDITOR JOURNAL:

The subject has been mooted by some of our Spiritualists of the advisability of the N. S. A. forming an investigating committee, whose duty it shall be to summon mediums and speakers for an examination of their claims as mediums and speakers, and to pass judgement upon their merits for the work of spirit world.

I have been appealed to for my opinion on this subject, which I herein unhesitatingly express. I am utterly opposed to the formation of any such examining committee, and I believe that should the N. S. A. Board of Trustees, or its executive committee volunteer to act as such, it would be the death blow to that institution. My reasons for the opinion are as follows:

Mediumship is a God-given gift, it cannot be acquired by hand work, or industrial methods, like learning a trade, such as watch making, engineering, etc.

A medium is born, not made, a mediumistic person can advance his powers very much, by education, particularly a speaker, but if a person is not a medium from birth you might as well try and make a silk purse from a swine's ear, as to make a genuine medium, or a bridge

between the two worlds out of a person not born with mediumistic qualities.

It is almost impossible to do justice to mediumship at all times—sometimes the medium might appear before an examining committee and give beautiful and convincing tests, at another time, he, or she, might utterly fail, because the conditions are bad; outside forces and persons throw their shadows over the sensitive or over one of the members of the committee, and absolutely destroy for the time being, all possibility of getting satisfactory proof of the genuineness of the medium and of his, or her powers.

There are very few Spiritualists and Scientists who are qualified to act on an examining committee, for very few people understand mediumship and its wonderful subtle forces. It took me years, years of close study and observation to learn the whys and wherefores of certain manifestations and expressions and controls of certain trance mediums, who it was my privilege to have in my employment just for the purpose of investigating Spiritualism in its various phases and I confess truthfully, that many times during the first years of my experience, I the would be investigator, who thought he was doing the wise thing, was actually assisting evil inclined spirits to destroy or hinder the true intention of the work of the spirit bands of the medium, instead of assisting them in their good labors, as I meant to do.

Most Spiritualists think they know all about Spiritualism, when the fact that 90 per cent of them hardly know the first letter in the alphabet, and in their conceit they will never realize it until they pass from earth and see the grave mistakes they have made.

The Executive Committee of the N. S. A. Board of Trustees, is to busy a body to be hindered with the work of playing examining committee for speakers and mediums, I for one, have no time to give to such work, and if I had, I would decline to serve, because it seems to me, like an inquisition and an insult to every genuine medium, the most of whom would disdain to report for examination, and justly so, because most of them are poorly paid at best, and to demand them in the midst of their many burdens to go to the expense of appearing before an examining committee, to prove their innocence of imposture, and that they are what God made them, messengers between the two worlds, would be adding insult to injury.

Honest mediums are not beholden to the N. S. A. for their patronage, they can make their living independent of any institution, and they are by no means obliged to submit to dictum or authority of such an association. We want no examin-

ing committee for mediums all the need is, for Spiritualists and investigators generally, to use their own common-sense as we have to do in all the business affairs of life; let them keep their eyes and ears open and see and listen for themselves, and not act like little children asking for protection against the fraudulent medium, than the "Hayseed" has to ask for sympathy when he buys a "Gold brick," or the speculator who buys a salted mine.

Let Spiritualists be men and women of common sense and judgement, and not whine when they learn that they do not know everything. Don't ask a committee to do what you should each do for yourself, test the spirit. It is cowardly and selfish to ask others to do for you what you can do yourself, and especially as you can educate yourself at the same time.

It strikes me, that some of the good people who are crying to the N. S. A. to appoint investigating committees are of the very class who never donate even a dime to the good work and the worthy objects of the National Association, even as some of the greatest talkers at our conventions promise great things, but never redeem their word. But to go on, I do not wish it to appear I am excusing fraud or condoning trickery, far be it from my desire; I know that frauds and imposters are in our ranks, but I cannot see that the proposed remedy will fit the case.

Kindly show me any religious profession which holds no fraud among its advocates, and yet we mingle with them every day and wrestle with them in business transactions, but we do not and cannot ask the government to appoint committees, to protect us in our daily walks of life. We have to depend on ourselves, and after having been "taken in" half a dozen times we have cut our eye teeth, and are able to take care of ourselves against every fake and fraud.

No sir; I am positively not in favor of an examining committee. It will not reduce the number of fakes in mediumship, but it will be an affront to our honest workers, who knowing the truth of their mediumship would disdain to appear before such a body—you might get a lot of frauds to appear, for they would have much to gain and nothing to lose by their appearance, for if they made a favorable showing by hoodwinking the committee they would be indorsed, and if they were proven to be frauds they would simply change the scene of their labors, and their names and go on as before.

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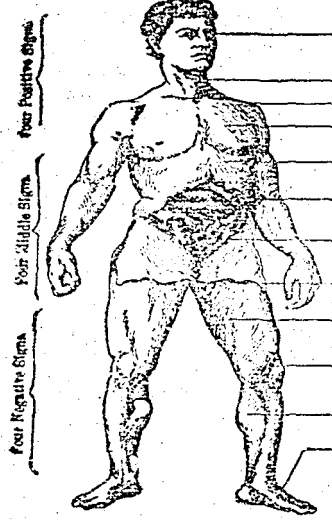
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To our friends contemplating an outing during the summer months—we would invite to make the JOURNAL office a friendly call, and let us know where a copy of the JOURNAL may reach them.

Please do not forget that all can do a little missionary work; so speak a good word for us, and while you are away enjoying the luxuries of a vacation, remember those whose duties will not permit them to have any.

Friday Night benefit meeting in Sunflower hall, under the auspices of the Ladies Aid Society, was attended by an increased number being present. Mrs. D. N. Place was the message bearer. These meetings are growing in interest and will continue each Friday evening. Mrs. M. E. G. Howe will occupy the platform Friday evening, June 24.

Lest You Forget—The "Peoples' Church" and Society will spend tomorrow (Sunday) with Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Briggs at Belvedere. Those who can are expected to provide lunches and to take the early Tiburon Boats.

The Ladies Aid Society will meet on Wednesday 29th inst. at 2 p. m. with Mrs. Hattie Hitchcox, 1375 Stevenson street. A very cordial invitation is extended to all members.

The many friends of Mrs. Taylor, daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Lowe Watson of "Sunny Brae", will be pained to learn of her being dangerously ill.

A week or two since the Ladies Aid Society were invited to spend an afternoon with one of its members, Mrs. Hannah E. Morrelle at her home 4595 18th street. Our good sister having been ill much of the time during the past year, took this occasion to show her appreciation for the many kindly words, deeds and attention which she received from her sister members and which eased the pain and cheered many a lonely hour. There were several mediums present and many loving messages were given. Mrs. Savage a daughter joined her mother as hostess and a substantial repast was served, which brought to a close, an event, long to be remembered.

There are many societies and meetings of Spiritual import that have suspended operations during the summer months, but inasmuch as some of us cannot always vacate even if we would. We will continue to assemble as of yore, at Scottish hall, 117 Larkin street every Sunday evening for the purpose of receiving and giving such benefit as will come when we are in accord with the highest spiritual sources to which we have access. Our meetings are receiving the satisfactory comment and assistance and are growing in attendance, also the test and developina circles Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 1220 Mission St. GEO. F. PERKINS.

The Hermetic Brotherhood—Is still holding its weekly open meetings on Thursday evening. On the 16th inst it and its guests had the pleasure of listening to an address by Will C. Hodge one of our ablest speakers on the coast. His subject was "Naturalism and Spiritualism." He demonstrated clearly that the expression of the universe, was by natural law. Every person makes his own hell and heaven. To be in Heaven all the time is to do to others, as we would they should do to us. Brother Hodge is an earnest speaker, believing what he says.

Mr. Fred P. Evans the well known Psychic for sate writing, left this city for New York on Wednesday, to be gone about two months.

Charles Dabarn of San Leandro, the well known lecturer and writer made a pleasant call at JOURNAL office on Tuesday. Please make note that in the near future the Journal will present to its readers, valuable articles from his pen.

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