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J. MUNSELL CHASE, EDITOR

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No. 3

# THE VOICE OF THE SEA SHELL.

By Michael Carruthers.

Why sigh for touch of a "vanished hand?"

Why cry for "the voice that is still?"
There's a hand that touches like fairy
wand

And a voice which thine ear would fill.

Then why not list to the gentle voice
And wait for that fairy touch?
'Twould make thine aching heart re-

And comfort thee overmuch.

The way of 'the soul in the summer-land"

Is a mystery unto thee.

Then, still! that touch of the waiting hand!

And hark! A voice of the shell from the sea!

Like the voice of the sea shell sounding low,

The voice of that soul comes near And taps on the drum of thine ear, just

And calms thy tremulous fear.

Bid sobs and tears away.

Let the flood gates pour their overflow And hush at the dawn of day, For the sun is risen—go, darkness, go!

For 'tis not his absence, but his presence you feel,

As you list for the voice of cheer,
For the touch of the "vanished hand"
doth steal,

As the touch of the hand that is here.

And the "voice that is still" is sounding,

As the voice of the sea in the shell, That thy heart in its ever rebounding May know why thy bosom doth swell.

# #BORDERLAND:-

FREE MORAL AGENCY AN ILLUSION.

The most vital problems of life are t solved. Man, born in ignorance, with vicious heredity and false environment, could not be otherwise than imperfect—a condition of humanity that gives color to the dogma of total depravity. Susceptible to strong emotions.

powerful passions and innate selfishness and sensibility, he must necessarily act out his nature according to the impulse of his feelings, and in so doing he exhibits his true character, or rather, his existing character.

It will be necessary in this article to outline the fundamental principles of human nature as manifested in human conduct, which the following brief analysis will disclose.

The two primary elements that constitute the mental characteristics of human nature, are Sensation and Consciousness. Sensation is essentially the life, in esseti is that in which we move and have our being—the mainspring of all our activities. Defined specifically, it is desire ever seeking satisfaction—the desire to live, to enjoy, to be happy.

Consciousness is that state of mind in which we are aware of our being, our feeling, thinking and acting, and of our conception of external things. It is the field of the intellect, and gives rise to knowledge, to reason and to demonstration These two primary elements are inseparable. Sensation would be useless without consciousness and consciousness would have no value without sensation.

These two primary elements include and afford every interest in life. All interests are realized by action (human conduct) whose force is in sensation.

The desire to live, to enjoy, to be happy, gives rise to a concern in our well-being, and the love we feel for others, gives rise to a concern in there well-being.

Our well-being has its rise in the good; and our ill-being in the evil. The question of good and evil is one of morality; the good is moral—the evil is immoral. Agency is action. Since agency has its rise in sensation (feeling of some kind), there is moral agency and immoral agency whose rise is in the desire or feeling that gives rise to it. Morality is not subject to the will.

The question now is, Is agency free or compulsory? There can be no life without action. The question is not, Shall we act or not? but How shall we act? The act is a

necessity, but the manner of the action is the all absorbing questions to consider.

Since all voluntary action has its rise in desire, and we do not will our desires, the character of the action is determined by that of the desire that gives rise to it. If the desire is to murder, the act prompted by it will be murder; if the desire is to aid one in distress, the act prompted by it will be a benevolent act; therefore the character of act being determined by that of the desire; and the desire not being subject to the will; and the dogma of free moral agency is an absurdity.

A few words will be necessary to explain the difference between lib. erty and freedom—the meaning of which is often confounded and used interchangeably. Liberty is unrestrained self-assertion in the pursuit of individual interests in so far as they do not interfere with the like interest of others. It has to do with desire—the impelling cause of action and is obedient thereto. There can be no independent action. Since action is effort to satisfy desire, it must be dependent thereon. Neither can there be independent self-consciousness, since consciousness is dependent on sensation, and would be of no value without sensation.

Desire is self-existing, self acting and self-determinating. Liberty of action is determined by the good or what is felt to be good, by the actor, and has its rise in desire, but is conceived in consciousness. Liberty is concerned in the initiation of action; that is in the what to do.

Freedom has to do with the means of action, and is concerned in how to do. One confined in his cell is deprived of his liberty; but he can act so long, and in so far as he is free to act. He can sit or lie down, or do anything in regard to his comfort with the means at hand. In the custody of an officer on his way to jail, he can be dragged along, or he can walk; he will do that which is the least painful to him.

Before freedom can act a motive must be formed. Motive has its rise in desire. Here the will has its office, and deals with the means far the satisfaction, of desire. The will is the combined action of several faculties. First, is the intent to do; second, the determination to persevere; third, the devising and considering of means; and fourth, the choice of means, and their employment in the satisfaction of desire. It will be seen that neither freedom nor the will is brought into requisition until the motive is conceived; and that motive has its rise in desire.

But there is a subject whose importance is indispensible in this consideration, namely, feeling gives rise to the sense of reality in what is felt. The feeling is real; but we mistake the reality of it for the consciousness of it, and accept that as a finality and act upon it. Feelings are aroused into consciousness by the stimulus of facts and events (environments). For instance, one being absent, is informed by a telegram of the murder of his child. His love for the child was not at that moment in his consciousness, but was suddenly aroused. The telegram was in the usual form, and he does not doubt the information; and the feeling brings to him the sense of reality in what he feels: that is, the only murder of his child. But it makes no difference whether the telegram was true or false, the feeling aroused is the same; hence, we see the sence of reality is no proof of reality. But man being born in ignorance and surrounded by error, the chances are in the vast majority of cases. the feeling that give rise to the sense of reality, are founded on

We act as we think, and we think as we feel; but not being conscious of the fact, that our feelings gives rise to the sense of reality; and taking the consciousness of it for the reality, we accept that sense as reality. We feel the reality, or what we take to be the reality, but conceive the consciousness of it which we accept in its stead.

In this explanation lies the solution of the problem of the antagonism of opinions, and beliefs, and the acceptance of dogmas that will not bear the light of a critical analysis. Among these is the d

ma of "Free Moral Agency," and the idea of responsibility as a necessary consequence of it.

In the book, "The Great Psychological Crime," there is a formula based on this dogma, as follows: "Volition independent, self-conscious, knowingly and intentionally; rational anticipation the result. Responsibility. This simple diagram carries its own explanation. Whether we admit it or not, the elements therein suggested, are those upon which we must depend in determining the question of individual responsibility." (Page 322.)

It will be seen that this question of volition and responsibility deals only with the satisfaction of desire, utterly ignoring the cause that gives rise to volition. Volition is an act of the will, or, an act determining the choice of means which has its rise in the motive, and the motive must precede the will. having its rise in desire. The author is dealing with the consideration of means which he calls independent. How can there be independent volition when it has its rise in motive, and motive in desire? It is evident that means are dependent on the desire that calls them into requisition. This is a kind of reasoning without a premise on which to found it and the conclusion is nil.

It is evident that no one can be responsible only for what he is able to respond to. The law of bankruptcy is founded on this principle which no one questions. The ability to perform limits the responsibility; therefore, personal responsibility is measured by personal ability; but free moral agency (so called,) presupposes equal and unlimited ability in all voluntary and rational acts. No one is under obligation to respond only to what he has agreed to perform, or assumes conditions that require its performance; otherwise, he is under compulsion and cannot be a free agent. The philosophers have avoided this problem, and the scientists have dropped it, but its solution is the pressing demand of this age.

Under a wrong impression in regard to responsibility, those who fail in their assumed responsibility; are blamed and punished. The statute law holds to this assumption. The ignorant and vicious can not plead ignorance and moral weakness. The morally strong are esteemed and given credit for what they do and refrain from doingthe doing they desire and the not doing they despise; and the ignorant and morally weak are blamed and despised for what they do when temptation overrides all consideration of consequences, or what necessity compels them to do. This is palpably unjust, and makes great injury to the community; but the preval feeling is that way, and rives rise to the sense of reality in that is felt; and will so continue

il the feeling is changed.

This false sense of reality reaches out in another direction, and is the cause of serious mischief. It gives rise to hate, sectarian animosity; to scandel, slander and libel; to hypocrisy and deceit and the innumerable evils consequent thereon. And another evil still more serious; that is criminal jurisprudence, giving rise to a species of civil warfare whose beligerent forces are an army of prosecutors and court officials on the one side, and an army of offenders of the law on the other. This warfare is carried on at an expense of over \$600,000,000 annually; besides the degradation, disgrace and suffering of the innocent, as well as guilty.

Each one acts within his own sphere, limited by his consciousness. He can not get out of it, but may enlarge and ennoble it ad infinitum. No one can get into it and realize what is therein. It is his world—the content of his life—his own; no one has a right to dictate or judge for another. Were this principle faithfully applied good will, peace, and harmony would prevail.

Let no one feel alarmed at the result of this condition of affairs. The concern for self well-being and of that for those we love, is a sufficient guarantee for self preservation and the welfare of society. In fact, it is the only guarantee we have—the only possible one. The solution of this problem of responsibility is of incalculable importance, considering that all our institutions are founded on the dogma of free moral agency, and all social relations have their basis on it.

The universal feeling in regard to it is the means of its perpetuation; and moreover, the dominant interests are adjusted to it—inter ests that are special and inimicable to the general interests. Let no one feel confident that he could have escaped the prevailing feelings of the age in which we lived, however unjust and and absurd they might have been. Human nature has not changed, nor need it change to eradicate this dogma. When the cause of our ill-being and well-being is understood, it will arcuse the right incentive, to the well being. -E. J. SCHELLHOUS, in Progressive Thinker.

# WOULD SUBSTITUTE FOR BIBLE.

Some time ago the Boston Investigator, a paper circulated among Freethinhers, sent a letter to a number of its subscribers containing the following question:

"What would you substitute for the Bible as a moral guide?" The following replies are among the most interesting and representative of those received:

Judge C. B. Waite: The sense of justice should be our moral guide. Hugh O. Pentecost: If any one believes a substitute for the

Bible is necessary, let it be, Leaves of Grass, by Walt Whitman. H. L. Green: Substitute the teachings of science. Dr. R. W. Shufeldt: Education. I. Rayne Adams: Common sense. Rufus K. Noves, M. D.: Precepts of the Seven Sophists' are an ample substitute for the Bible. George E. Macdonald: Select from ancient and modern custom what cultured reflection approves. George Allen White: Let us have the best of Zoroaster, Buddha, Homer, Zeno and Jesus. John P. Guild: Brains. Franklin Steiner: Reason and Experience. Dean Dudley: A scientific encyclopedia, compiled by men like Spencer and Huxley. Alexander E. Wright: Spencer's Data of Ethics.

The Universalist Leader, commenting on this miscellaneous assortment of views, finds in them the expression of a definite tendency in modern thought, but declares it to be a tendency that can result only in a "chaos of moral philosophy and an observation of simple, definite, straightforward moral discrimination." It continues:

"One plain truth is that the morality of the world, even its conventional morality, is the product of the long ages of toil and suffering. Marriage and marriage laws may be imperfect and often a failure, but there is a bottomless pit just beyond the repudiation of these. It is well to see just where we are going. In all this tumult about the authority of the Bible let us keep clearly in mind the drift of things.

Whatever the critics may say, the mass of mankind need and must have some simple, direct specific moral precepts. Without superstition, or the suspicion that be cause a thing is written in the Bible it is different from the same thing out of the Bible, we may affirm that in all literature and all life there is nothing to compare in simplicity, directness and universality with the Decalog and Beatitudes. Thou shalt not kill, steal, bear false witness, commit adultery, or covet, are things concerning which the intelligence of the average man will not go astray if let alone.

"The Golden Rule, can be under stood by a child, and sages do not get beyond it. One can easily understand the protest against that interpretation of the Bible which counts covenants, sacrifices, doctrines, or Church government above plain morality, while at the same time he may prize these old codes of conduct which are the landmarks of the book as the finest things in the moral history of man.

"We need a revival. Social radi-cals need a revival. There is chaos and disorder among those who jointly tilt at moral opinions or conventionalities, which are the products of ages of experience. We need a revival of 'brains' and 'common sense.' We need to get down to the fundamental proposition that while we regard Spencer, Huxley and Walt Whitman as friends of truth, we are not ready to substitute them for Moses and Jesus as the moral lawgivers of the race. We need only to compare these replies of the critics of the Bible with the Decalog and Beatitudes to see how infinitely superior to their critics are the makers of the Bible in moral profundity, universality, simplicity, directness and grandeur."

There are great and powerful truths in the Bible which are not hidden to the Spiritual minded. The world could not get along very well without the Bible. It is more in demand than any other book in the world because it is God's Book,

which clearly shows in a thousand places how man can become at one with God and be entirely freed from sin, ignorance, darkness and all bondage. "The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honey comb."

When thou goest, it shall lead thee; When thou sleepest, it shall keep

When thou wakest, it shall talk with thee.

—*Prov.* vi, 22.

#### NATURE'S TRINITY:

Length, breath and thickness, the three dimensions of matter, may have been the first incentive to regarding this figure with reverence, and subsequently indoctrimating it into matters spiritual or religious.

But aside from its sentimental adoration it has something worthy of consideration, which may have been sensed intuitively—the instance of man's own trinity of soul, spirit and body, for example. As a perfect trinity, it may have been considered right to believe that the original was a trinity; for, as the effect, so the cuase.

We are acknowledging a casual trinity today in the shape of spirit, matter and electricity—the latter supposed to be the great universal medium between the two—as magnetism is the medium of operation between spirit (individualized) and mortal.

Father, Son and Holy Ghost is the church trinity, but it may be only a figure of speech for the above, though ignorant of the fact, or only a fancy, misinterpreted or perverted as a means towards an end. However, by coming a little nearer home and viewing the every day trinity of Father, Mother and Son, (or daughter—regarding all the children as one) we see where the oneness with God comes in, or one like creation in general—in the cause.

Man and wife are made one forever as soon as a child is born to them. All the devorce laws in civilization cannot separate them again—unless we can destroy the soul that bound them thus. But as that is as impossible as that we can annihilate ourselves, the link of eternal or universal brotherhood is established. It requires but a little love or sympathy to keep it working harmoniously. But no dissention can last forever, however each may feel him or herself in the right.

The happiness of every individualized soul depends upon his forgiveness towards another—forgiveness being the principal which restores the harmony with nature of the one who exercises it, even though the other refuses to be thus comforted. But the want of life's soul stimulent, sympathy, finally brings all to court, as it is only to be had by giving it out—like attracting like—the human trinity to Nature's.

ARTHUR F. MILTON

"The Great Psychological Crime" if for sale at the office of the Philosopical Journal. Price \$2.00

#### BITTER WORDS.

A single bitter word may disquiet an entire family for a whole day. One surley glance casts a gloom over the household, while a smile of sunshine may light up the darkest and weariest hours.

Like unexpected flowers which spring up along our path, full of freshness, fragrance and beauty, so kind words and gentle acts and sweet dispositions make glad the spot called home. No matter how humble the abode, if it be sweetened with kindness and smiles, the heart will turn lovingly towards it from all the tumult of the world; and home, if it ever be so lowly, will be the dearest of spots beneath the circuit of the sun. — Great Thoughts.

#### RADIUM.

Electrons, or ions, are the smallest bodies known. There was a time when the atom felt small; it is not big, it is true, but it is getting to feel quite a large thing beside the electron. They illustrate the difference between an atom and an electron. Imagine an electron to be the size of a full stop, as here printed, and an atom, a church 160 feet long, 80 feet broad and 40 feet high. In an atom of hydrogen there are nearly 1 000 electrons. Imagine these thousand full stop thrown into that church, and some idea will be obtained of the relative size of the electron and the atom. The electrons are revolving around each other at tremendous speed.

They are not in the least crowded. It has been suggested that solar systems may be atoms of a still larger universe, Thus the earth, the moon, and the rest of our planetary bodies would be ectrons.

Atoms, of course, continue so small as to be far below the power of the best microscope; and when the physicists scoop out the inside of this infinitesimal speck, and put into it 100,000 littler specks, and still have room enough left for the 100,000 to chase each other round at the rate of several miles a second and only rarely bumping, it is not perhaps to be wondered that the layman finds it somewhat difficult to follow him.

The discovery of radioactivity in the waters of New Haven Bay by Professors Bumstead and Wheeler, of Yale University, is another step in the solution of a tremendous scientific problem.

Science has at last discovered the mysterious forces which move the universe, which hold the stars in leash, which give the sun its light and the earth its life, and which according to the most profound thinkers, will within the next half century revolutionize all economic conditions of human existence.

These newly revealed forces, which are yet as old as the eternal

ages, are called ions.

Hitherto the smallest known particle of matter has been the atom of molecule—a particle in itself so minute that the most powerful microscopes in the world are unable to bring it to light. Yet within that atom there is a universe of revolving ions whirling in there separate orbits, obeying their own laws, clasping in ruin or flying off on a tangent into space.

They are tiny earths and moons and stars and all the phenomena of our giant solar systems repeated on a scale so inconceivably small that the mind reels in the attempt to conceive the fact.

And science has discovered that these ions are life. We eat universes and solar systems for our daily food. They give us power and sight and intelligence and all our thoughts and emotions.

They continue to whirl and buzz in our veins and throughout our physical being. As the tiny systems clash and explode and rush together or apart they revivify the blood by atomic radiation.

There can be no life or death or matter itself where there are no ions. Scientists have lately proved that all matter is but a concrete form of electricity, or conglomerate mass of ions.

Therefore ions, in varying numbers, form everything in nature. A combination of 700 ions to the atom produces hydrogen. An atom with 11,200 ions is an atom of oxygen. An atom containing 137,200 ions is an atom of gold. A planetary system represented by 36.853 ions in atom of the human brain. If it were possible to charge a man with a decillion ions, he would possess power sufficient to lift Manhatttan Island with all its buildings. Certain combinations of these infinitesimal stellar systems, whirling within atoms, produce red, others blue, others green, other substances like brick, mortar, stone, iron, and all known forms of matter. -By Prof. Oliver Lodge, New York "ALICE" MESSAGE CORNER"

Mrs. Anna L. Gillespie, Medium.

Rosebud—This is the first message I ever sent, but my dear mother will want to hear from me and so will my medium.

The children are all having to learn this way of reaching their friends, so I will try also. I am to learn all that I can now, and soon may help the one who needs me.

Plattle B. C. is with me and so we study together. Love to all.

Emma Harding Britten — My friends I need not today say that I am glad to come with a message from the demonstrated life, for you all know that it is as it always was a delight to give the truth as I saw it to the people.

You will however permit me to say, that this is the realization of all life's dream.

With reference to the work, let me send forth the glad truth, it will prosper in the near future as never before. It will take on a new dignity, a clearer manner of demonstration, and the world is ready for it. Do not think because there are some failures that it signifies disaster, not at all, it will only stimulate the searchers to more active research, and will present facts not theories.

And our sublime philosophy will rise from all the fungus growth of fraud and with out-spread wings, lead us God-ward and heaven-ward.

May the New Year bring to all who search, a new hold up on Truth. My earnest love to the earth friends and greeting to all.

John P. Greves—The opportun. ity to send some token of this life to old friends is so wonderful I cannot let it pass.

This is so natural I wonder now, that everyone does not accept it as true. The trouble is, it is too good to be true and so we who could come over find it hard to convince our friends that life is real, and that there is no death.

The boys are all here with Luther and both Jim and John and also many others.

Tell them at Riverside that Creves is not dead. Go to the old home and say, I yet live and though the veil hangs between us, still I am here.

Mrs. Sarah Colman—Just a line dear Alice to send a loving message to him. The one whom I know will be glad to hear from Sarah in this way.

Tell him I know how full his life is; but also I know the corner which I filled is still mine in his heart.

Tell the dear friends that it is all peace and love and joy with me

To all friends who used to co to our home I send love. Bu William that I will be wit when the angel of light shall

# CLAIRYOYANCE-A Fact

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All sincere students of the psychic realm will do well to read and study this excellent volume.—W. J. Colville. The Banner of Light, Boston. Send P. O. Order (payable at Boston, Mass.) to J. C. F. Grumble, 1285 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. Price \$2.00

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SAN FRANCISCO, JANUARY 16, 1904

#### NEW YEAR'S EVE IN PORT-LAND.

A watch-night service was heldat the home of Mrs. S. B. Seip, which was a most most enjoyable affair. Mrs. Seip is an ideal hostess, and her previously arranged programme, was full of delightful surprises. About fifty persons were present, and the most perfect harmony prevailed. Every one was imbued with the spirit of the occasion, and holiday gladness was in the atmosphere. The Ladies' Aid of the First Spiritual Society have organ ander the able leadership of Mrs. Hanna, and are devising ways and means of raising money to erect a Spiritual temple for the Spiritualists of Portland. Quite a sum has already been realized, and this service was held for the purpose of bringing the people closer together, becoming better acquainted, having a general good time, and incidentally raising some money for the use of the ladies in their work, securing stationery supplies, etc.

The neat sum of \$10 was realized, and a most delightful evening spent, as every individual seemed to fairly radiate love and good will. The charming hostess had previously arranged with some of the workers in Oakland that after the silence, just as the clock struck twelve, a child was to pull the string which rung a little bell, hidden in the alcove. It was to be rung once for the work in Portland, then the hostess was to ring it for the work in California, after which Mrs. Lyness was to ring it for the Universal work, truly a unique and beautiful idea.

Our hostess had another delightful surprise in store for her guests.
A dainty basket, hanging in the
alcove, was taken down, and a little
girl passed it around, when each
one drew out a tiny envelope, Inside was a message written in
poetry, and when they were read
aloud by the recipients, it was surrising to see how each one had
we just what seemed best suited

ried programme was given; e first song, Rev. Mr. Lucas gave an invocation, when Mrs. Lyness was called upon for the opening address. Short talks were also given by Dr. Coon, Mrs. Cornelius and others, interspersed with music, and then the hostess, with Mrs. Cornelius, Mrs. Shafer and others went around amongst the assembled guests giving messages from the friends who have been promited to the higher life.

After this, coffee and cake were served, and everybody visited. Such a good time as we had, every one seemed bent on making the most of the occasion, as it only comes once a year. The silence and bellringing were of course, the last thing on the program, and when the New Year was fairly ushered in, what a merry time followed, such hand shaking, and New Year greetings, it seemed as if we could not tear ourselves away; but at last order was restored, when Mrs. Stevens, accompanied by her sweet voiced harp, sang "Happy New Year," and the audience joined in "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." After congratulating the hostess, and thanking her for the pleasant evening, the happy crowd dispersed.

The general work, in Portland is moving along with great success, though you do not often hear from us. The First Society has just elected its officers, for the ensuing year, and expect a grand year's work. The "Church of Truth" with Mesdames Seip and Cornelius as the workers, have houses crowded to the doors, while the three weekly meetings, held in the parlors of the "World's Advance Thought" are always well attended Great interest is manifested everywhere, and the work is surely gaining ground. Portland is rapidly becoming a 'New Thought" centre. We send to the workers of California, New Year's greetings, and may this year see the cause widely extended through all the land.

LIZZIE DUCKER LYNESS.

# A REVIEW.

BY H. W. BRACKEN.

EDITOR JOURNAL:

I have read Dr. Phelon's new book "Our Story of Atlantis."

It conveys more information on scientific, occult and political economy, etc., in practical operation, than any work published.

It shows that all our ideal hopes was used and mastered in Atlantis many centuries ago.

It is an encylopedia of knowledge, to all students of science, adepts in occultism and reformers of today.

The book shows that, the great Atlantian Magi's understood all the latent forces of Spiritualism better than A. J. Davis.

Comprehended Theosophy better

than H. P. Blavatska.

Mastered and operated Utopia

Mastered and operated Utopia or Socialism better than More or Marks.

Perfected Single Tax to teach Henry George, where labor received its just reward, to give A. B. C. lessons to Gompers and Mitchel.

And where Mrs. Eddy could be taught the elementeries in Christian Science.

And where Vril Power was in daily operation, harnessed to serve the needs of millions of people who were masters of all science and philosophy, which flourished under spirit guidance many centuries before the dawn of the Christian era.

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEGE-

MENT.

I commend it to all students.

Editor JOURNAL

Mr. Starks and I wish to thank our many friends for their love and sympathy for us in the two past weeks and we know of no better way than through the columns of the JOURNAL.

We feel that it has all been so heart felt and true, that it has really done us good.

From this time on they can all see us at 128 7th avenue as we must go and help lighten the burden of our dear boys family.

Again, thanking one and all we are sincerely theirs and yours.

SARAH J. STARKS.

# THOUGHTS FOR BEREAVED.

EDITOR JOURNAL:

The following is a copy of a letter written by me to a young friend of mine who lost his mother several months ago.

Thinking your readers (some of them) may be in need of some of the thoughts expressed therein.

If any of them wish to communicate with me for a message I shall be glad to assit them free of charge except for the necessary dime for for expenses. My addres is P. O. Box 1122, Michael Carruthers, Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Friend:

I presume, in fact I know, that it is easier for some than for others to be reconciled.

You are capable of logical methods of thought and therefore, being also sensitive and mediumistic, you will in time be able to form conclusions that will help you in this regard.

Feeling is just as much a test of presence as sight or hearing.

If you are despondent, it is not because some one is away from you but because that particular some one is near you, and is despondent because she cannot make connec-

tion over the wires of the invisible telephone system (just as tangible in spite of its invisibility). I am tangible to you when you read my letter, though you cannot see me. The inventive genius of the invisible world has devised a method of intercommunication, and desires you to put a telephone in your own house, instead of buying or borrowing service.

I very seldom find my telephone out of order.

If I am in trouble I am intuitively led to the right house, where I notify Central of my difficulty.

Sometimes it is more convenient to use my neighbor's phone, but as a rule I use my own.

I am transmitting this information to you for your accommodation and for the benefit of one who was cut off from me by so called circumstances over which I had no control.

"Go on with your study and in time you will be a useful citizen of of the world in which you live," is the message as I get it.

Also, there is a communication for F—, but I cannot get it until he communicates with me personally.

In fact he must take down the receiver to get in contact with me and I will then be able to talk with him.

# THE CAUSE IN ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Perhaps a few notes regarding the work in this city will be appreciated by your many readers.

Especially those universally interested in the progress of Spiritualism.

The First Spiritualist Church meetings are held regularly every Sunday and Wednesday evenings in Odd Fellows Temple corner Main and North Clinton Ave.

We have large audiences, and every meeting since the first Sunday in November of the present season, there has been evidence of a growing interest.

Last Sunday evening many chairs were brought into use and scarcely standing room was available.

Your correspondent has been officiating as speaker and test medium for the months of November and Decmber, for the First Spiritualist Church and would like to open an engagement with a society desiring a permanent speaker and test medium requiring first class talent.—Address, Mrs. Mary C. Von Kaugler.

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A Benefit Seance is held every Friday evening in Sun Flower hall, 305 Larkin street, by Mrs. R. S. Lillie, who is always ably assisted by excellent mediumistic talent and good music. Come, join in this good work.

Ladies' Aid Society business and social meetings every Wednesday at 2 p.m. in headquarters of the State Association, 305 Larkin St. Take elevator.

Children's Progressive Lyceum meets every Sunday morning at 909 Market St., San Francisco, at 10:30. Free spiritual library. Visitors welcome. C. H. WADSWORTH.

California Sunflower League, meets 1st and 3d Thursday evenings of each month, Rooms 109-10, 305 Larkin Street, San Francisco, at 8 c'clock, p. m. MRS. ELIZABETH M. CAMPBELL Sec.

The Proples' Spiritual Church. Elk's Hall, 223 Sutter Street. San Francisco, Mrs. Anna L. Gillespie, pasto: meets on Sundays at 8 p. m. J. H. LOHMEYER, Sec.

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# Local News Summary.

Folsom 3044.—This is the number of the telephone at the office of the PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL.

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.

In Order to accommodate our many patrons who are unable to visit the Journal office on week days, it will hereafter be kept open on Sundays from 8 a. m. until 4 p. m. A full line of stationery has been added to the stock; also all the local daily papers.

If you want books on Spiritualism, Theosophy, Astrology, New Thought, or Liberal Thought, send for the Philosophical Catalog for 1903, free.

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Mme. Florence Montague expects to leave for London, England sometime during next month. See the JOURNAL, for further information.

# News From Oakland.

The Medium's Thursday evening meeting at Eraternal half Oaklanu attended during the month of December. notwithstanding the many holiday attractions, and a much larger attendance is looked for the coming month.—Dr. Stewart Ellis.

In the absence of Mrs. R. Cowell, who was called to San Jose, Mr. and Mrs. Paul S. Gillette occupied the platform at Woodman hall, Sunday evening, January 3. Mr. Gillette spoke on "Needs of Spiritualists Today," covering the points that the universal lassitude in religion effected Spiritualism; many different sources Spiritualists come from, cause opposing opinion and occasional disunion: conflicting respecting forms and declaration of principles is entirely unwarranted; all should agree on essentials; too much liberalism has amounted to license of deception; Pacific States should be organized to make our efforts more effective; the chief cause of inattention to spiritual matters is the stringent economic condition.

Mrs. Gillette gave twenty psychometric readings all of which were recognized. The number in each family both present and departed were given in 12 instances, correctly. Many names were given together with quantities of facts, none of which were amiss.

Mr. and Mrs. Gillette will open meetings Sunday evening, January 10, at 619 18th street.—Paul S. Gillette.

Fraternity hall, West Oakland was crowded to overflowing Sunday evening, December 3. The occasional being the initial appearance of Mrs. Dr. Ellis and Mrs. Hooker McAvoy, who have undertaken to spread the glorious gospel of Spiritualism in a section where the need seems great. The meeting opened with a short address, followed by well recognized messages. These meetings will be continued indefinitely.

Lovers of Music Attention. - A farewell testimonial will be tendered to Mme Starr Sunday evening the 17 inst.

1 Flower hall 4th floor 305 Larkin St. this will be the last opportunity to this gifted lady. You cannot afford

The California Sun Flower League held a very interesting session Thursday the 7inst. The regular routine of bus-iness was followed in which the following took part: Mrs. Anna Gillespie, Mr. A. S. Howe, Mrs. M. E. Howe, Mr. Cook, Mrs. H. Lichtig, Mrs. E. M. Campbell, Mr. Wm. Rider. There was one initiation during evening. It has been decided to have some form of entertainment regularly. These meetings are growing in interest and attendance.

Peoples Church-Notwithstanding the rain on Sunday evening last, there was a good audience to listen to the very interesting address by the Pastor, Mrs. Anna L. Gillespie. Subject "Individuality after Death.

There are good things in store for those who have no permanent place of meeting, ask for a card announcing the meetings and socials for January. The members have them, read notice of the next social in this issue.

The next social of the People's Spiritual Church will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Briggs 760 Dolores St., near 21st, January 18.

Mediums Protective Association held its regular board meeting on the 9th at the residence of Mrs. Carrie Wermouth, 416 Golden Gate Ave. Three new members were initiated. Several of the members met with the Board and participated in the business, as well as the hospitality of the Hostess who had prepared a bountiful colation of good things which would please and satisfy the taste of the most fastidious.

This society will give a Valentine Party on the evening of February 13th, in Sunflower hall. See further notice.

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