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ASTOR, LEHOX AND

### ≫THE BORDERL

#### Joseph Hoag's Vision.

This account of a vision was written by Joseph Hoag, a Nantucket Friend or Quaker, in 1803. It was republished in the Nantucket paper in my childhood some 50 years ago, and again later. There are some few copies owned by Nantucket people and I have copied this exactly from the one at hand.

It was considered an astonishing affair, but never has it been ascribed to spirits, which latter is of course the source. I have been much criticized because of saying that the "inner light" which the Friends valued so highly, was the same as my mediumship. My grandparents on one side and great-grandparents on all sides, were Friends. This is

#### JOSEPH HOAG'S VISION.

I was one day alone in the field and observed the sun shone clear, but a mist eclipsed the brightness of its shining. As I reflected on the singularity of the event my mind was clothed with silence the most solemn I ever remember to have witnessed, for all my faculties were laid low, and unusually brought into deep stience. 1 said to myself, What can all this mean?

I do not recollect ever before to have been sensible of such feelings, and I heard a voice from Heaven saying, "This that thou seest which dims the brightness of the sun, is a sign of the present and coming times. I took the forefathers of this country from a land of oppression. I planted them here among forests. I: blessed and sustained them and while they were humble I fed them, and they became a numerous people. But they are now become proud and lifted up, and have forgotten me who nourished and protected them in the wilderness, and are running into every abomination and evil practice of which the old country are guilty, and have taken quietude from the land, suffering a driving spirit to come among them. Lift up

thine eyes and behold." Then I saw them driving in great heat. This division began in the Presbyterian Society, and went through the various religious denominations, and in its progress and close the effects were nearly the same. Those who dissented went off with high heads and taunting language and those who kept to their organized sentiments appeared exercised, and were full. And when the driving spirit entered the Society of Friends, it raged in as high a degree as in any I had before discovered. And as before, those who separated went off with lofty looks, and taunting, censuring language. Those who kept to Ancient principles returned by themselves. It next appeared in the lodge of the Free Masons, and it set the country in an uproar for a long time. Then it entered politics throughout the United States, and it did not stop until it produced a civil war, and an abundance of human blood was shed in the course of the combat. The Southern States lost their power, and slavery was annihilated from their borders. Then a monarchical government arose [plutocracy |? established a national religion, and all societies tributary to support its expenses. I saw them take property from Friends to a large amount.

I was amazed at beholding all this, and heard a voice proclaiming, "This power shall not always stand, but with this power will I chastise my church until they return to the faithfulness of their forefathers. Thou seest what is coming to thy native land for their iniquities and the blood of Africa, the remembrance of which has come up before me.

"This vision is yet for many days."

I had an idea of writing it, "for many years," until it became such a burden that for my own JOSEPH HOAG. relief I have so written.

Nantucket, Mass., 1803.

My mediumship is quite private and my communion chiefly with my own friends, who thus cheer me on in my so lonely life here without them. My first knowledge of my mediumship or Spiritualism at all, except as a vague rumor, was after the death of my brother who died suddenly by accident when I was about 20 years of age. His transition was beautiful although so sudden as he was distinguished by great purity



M. FOLGER COLEMAN.

of character and much interest in study and investigation, with a witty way of disposing of disagreeable and troublesome things, which never descended to ridicule or bitterness.

This beautiful communion with my spirit friends which has deepened with my growth, and broadened with each bereavement, causes me to feel only sincere pity for those who defraud themselves by ridiculing Spiritualists. All my study, assisted by my friends beyond, is to do my part as well as possible to me in showing the world the necessity of more thought in life, and far less of the anxious and selfish rush and strife. A simple life with beautiful, not luxurious surroundings would be greatly more conducive to intellectual vigor and true happiness, than the awful selfishness often unconscious of extravagant expenditure. Such a life would also be so conducive to health of body as well as mind, as to prevent that sad form of selfishness which condones hideous suffering to helpless beings, if by the latter is gained any immunity from pain for oneself or family. And no true knowledge is ever gained in that way, as they find immediately they leave the body.

I am constantly, at intervals, receiving heartrending messages from suffering spirits and from those who have lived what is considered superior lives begging and entreating that I stop Vivisection. But I can accomplish little or nothing, because of obstinate opposition and terribly mis-taken ideas of science. Every least suffering we cause any living thing must react upon ourselves, and be atoned for before relief. That mysterious thing called the "life principle" is universal is the Universe. And while the tiny portion which is incarnated becomes individualized, it still is a part of the Universe. Every individual is more or less dependent upon every other, and the suffering of the most insignificant creature affects the intellectual strength and the happiness of every other, whether mankind or animal, in this world and of all worlds. Thus the vitality of the Universe is lowered distinctly, if infinitesimally by every act of Vivisection, and such acts must be bitterly atoned for.

We who have been convinced of Spiritualism should work untiringly to bring to the minds of the indifferent and unbelieving a knowledge of what life really is as revealed to us, of what constitutes that life principle which inhabits our bodies for so short a time. This life principle can never return from whence it came as it was before incarnation, and this short period of life on earth should, and could easily be, just the preparation needed for the full and beautiful life beyond which is forever.

Spiritualism is more than beauty alone, more than comfort unspeakable to the bereaved, it is Science, and should be carefully and earnestly developed intellectually, which every true medium is capable of doing to some extent. Then shall we be able to show the world conclusively the great error of any Science based upon matter so-called.

M. FOLGER COLEMAN.

Nantucket, Mass.

#### Was it the Sub-conseious Self?

Frank Parker, an Oakland merchant, recently visited Los Angeles, and attended a spiritual circle while there, held by a Mrs. Burdette. He was a particular friend of Dr. Muehlenbruch's, and the next day wrote the Doctor a letter, from

which the following is an extract:

"We went to our first test meeting last night at Mrs. Burdette's....She asked who recognized the name of Max. No one recognized the name. Finally Lillian (Mrs. Parker) whispered to me, saying, 'Max Muehlenbruch.' I asked, 'Is it for me?' She answered, 'Yes; why did you not say so before? What relation is he to you? He seems nearer to you than a brother.' I told her that we were only friends. She said, 'Such friends are few and hard to find,' and added that you were with me in thought a great deal of the time. You may imagine the surprise in that room when I told them you were still in the flesh and lived nearly 400 miles away."

Mr. Parker further states that neither he nor his wife were thinking of Dr. Muehlenbruch at the time the name was announced, and the Doctor states that on that evening he and all his forces were employed in his own circle in Oakland, hence he could not have been thinking of

Mr. Parker at the time.

Cases similar to this have been cited by Col. De Rochas, in his "Exteriorization of Force;" by Dr. Baraduc and other French psychic sci-

entists, in which they assume double consciousness, or what they call the perisprit (astral body of Theosophy), as the explanation. It follows that the sub-conscious self sees and perceives all that transpires in the environments of every individual and remembers it all forever, while the physical consciousness is limited both in the faculties of memory and perception according to the constitution of the brain and other physical organs of sense.

The psychic, in this case, evidently received her information from Mr. Párker's sub-conscious ERNEST S. GREEN. memory.

#### Experiments in Telepathy.

(Concluded from last week).

Experiment 7.—I took a silver table knife which I held in my dress pocket, my hand clasping the handle in order to help me to keep a strong impression of the object in my own mind. Very soon Emma asked, "Is it a knife?" "See," I replied, as I took it from my pocket. She then said that was like the knife she saw in the mind-picture, except that she could only see the blade, the handle not showing. These two experiments in which the handkerchief covering the cup suggested the thought of a napkin, and my hand covering the knife handle gave a mindpicture of the blade only, are puzzling to my mind as to the proper solution, but may give. some other investigator a clue to one of the underlying laws of thought-transference.

Experiment 8.—January 3, 1897. On first sitting down to experiment, I had concealed about me a small nickel clock which I had chosen because I thought its brightness would help me to keep its form and shape clearly in mind, as Emma was again the percipient; but though we sat for some time and I tried my best to impress her with with the picture of a clock, it was all in vain. She said all sorts of confused pictures came into her mind, yet there was nothing at all like a clock. So this was an entire

failure.

Experiment 9.—I held an orange in my hand hidden under a newspaper. Pretty soon she said she saw the picture of a small basket, with something in it which rolled (I was turning it over and over in my hand in order to fix its shape in my own mind); I asked her to try and see the contents of the basket; immediately she asked, "Is it oranges?" She said she saw two

or three rolling in the basket. Experiment 10.—In this I was the percipient; Emma the agent. She had chosen the object, after I was seated with closed eyes, from another room. I got at first several pieces of china with vellow and white figures painted on them, but as she kept silent when I spoke of them, I knew these were wrong, and I tried to see more distinctly. Then I said, "The only thing I got clearly is a flower vase." On that she laughed, telling me to look. She held in her hand a vase like the one I saw, save that its principal colors were yellow and white, like the pieces of china

first seen, while the vase I clearly pereived was mainly of a bluish purple.

Experiment 11.—I was the agent, Emma the percipient. I held in my lap, covered by a handkerchief, a small cut-glass basket, almost round in form, with many tiny facets which readily caught the rays from the gas light. I said to her, mentally, "See this pretty basket, Emma. It is made of glass; notice how it shines! see how it sparkles in the light!" It was some time before she got anything, then she got the impression of something white (the handkerchief probably). Presently I noticed that she seemed to shrink, and put her hands over her closed eyes as if they pained her. Finally she said, "Is it a glass basket?" When I told her to look, she said she had seen it, plainly at the last, but at first all she could see was something painfully bright, which hurt her eyes to look at, though she could not distinguish its form. This must have been the result of the emphasis I put on its brightness, which I did because I wished her to get the thought of glass shining in the gas light.

Experiment 12.—Emma the agent, I the percipient. At first I saw a dish which appeared to me like a round tureen; then I saw a similar dish containing what seemed very light-colored apples and said so, but as she said "No!" I tried to see further. Before I saw either of these the thought of eggs came into my mind, without any picture, and I was tempted to say so, but did not, because it did not seem probable that she would choose anything so easily broken, but on the third attempt I saw one white round

thing seemingly held directly before my eyes, which looked to me like an egg. I told Emmaso, but said I did not think that could be right. Then she told me to look, when I found she was holding one egg in her hand. She said she had wished me to see an earthen dish full of eggs. This came as the dish full of nearly white

Experiment 13.—I was now the agent, Emma the percipient. I had during the day found among some papers a bright-covered pamphlet, which I kept in my pocket for our evening experiment. It was a music-dealer's catalogue, and on the outside cover, which was mostly a flaming red, was the picture of a girl, dressed in white, who was playing on a piano, the piano being of a dark color. The colors being so sharply contrasted might, I thought, help me to get a well-defined image in my own mind for transference to the mind of the percipient. When she was in position, with closed eyes, I took this out, concealing it from the range of her vision by a newspaper, holding it so that I could look at it while trying to impress her to see someone playing upon a piano. At first she said there appeared to be a confusion of pictures, which did not remain long enough to be fully seen. I kept repeating mentally, "Do you see that girl playing on a piano? Watch how her hands fly over the keys!" I also tried to impress her to hear the music by imagining I heard it myself. First she saw bright-hued flowers (suggested, perhaps, by the bright colors on the covers); then a man dancing furiously (this may have been a secondary suggestion from the thought of music which I was trying to impress upon her mind, as was the following). Next came a man playing on a violin. As this faded from view it was several minutes before any other picture came, and I was about to say to her that we would give up the attempt, when I noticed a pleased smile of amusement lighting up her face, as, with her eyes still closed, she began to move her hands to and fro, making the motions of one playing the piano. "What do you see, Emma?" I asked. "A girl playing on a piano!" she replied promptly. Then I bade her look, and she was greatly surprised at the success of this experiment, for she did not think that that was what I was trying to make her see, as she had no recollection of ever having seen the advertising pamphlet.

I have here given the results of 13 experiments in thought-transference, as an inducement for others to try for themselves in this or any different method of investigating its possibilities. For myself I feel assured that no mere guesswork could result in giving such accurate mind pictures as we obtained. Later, we were moderately successful in obtaining suggestions, by thought-transference, of tasting pungent articles, such as salt, sugar, &c.; also in drawing certain figures. In all these different experiments we got the best results when both parties were in a care-free state of mind, when the agent could concentrate her thinking power upon the single idea she was desirous to communicate to the percipient, and the percipient, in turn, was able to keep her mind in an entirely

passive state of receptivity.

In these cases we found by experience that before the pictures came upon the mental background we each felt a distinct pressure, something like a very slight touch of an electrical battery, generally on the brow, or some part of the head. Whether this was a result of thought vibrations or some occult force I am not prepared to say. I only note the fact. When in the midst of an experiment some other persons entered the room, mental disturbance was at once felt by both experimenters, and the experiment was a failure. It was as if some counter force turned and scattered the waves of thought. I can describe it no more clearly than this. SARA A. UNDERWOOD.

Tennyson was a Spiritualist.

A life, or memoir, of the noble poet by his son, Hallam Tennyson, has lately been published in New York and London—its two volumes full of value and interest. From material gathered in a few years past, and from late notices and extracts from the biography, facts are given touching his psychical experiences and deep convictions as to the immortality of man, our divine relations and the great truth of spirit-presence.

In his preface Hallam Tennyson says of his father:

"From his boyhood he had felt the magic of

Merlin—that spirit of poetry—which bade him know his power and follow throughout his work a pure and high ideal, with a simple and single devotedness and a desire to ennoble the life of the world, and which helped him through doubts and difficulties to endure."

He saw psychics, or mediums, and gave careful attention to their varied manifestations. These matters were usually in the privacy of home, and are hardly mentioned in the biography. He said: "Spiritualism must not be judged by its quacks." Its crudities and "flummery" he disliked, but saw that these had their place as first steps with many.

Of intercommunication of spirits in its high forms, he said:

"I do not see why its central truth is untena ble. If we would think about this truth, it would become very natural and reasonable to us. Why should those who have gone before. not surround and minister to us, as legions of angels surrounded and ministered to our Lord?"

Tennyson's poems were his gospels of life and immortality. From his life-work as an inspired poetic teacher he never turned aside as a public advocate or opponent of Spiritualism or of any form of organized religious faith. Sincere as he was, the simple statement just given marks his belief in spirit-return. His own experiences, the statements of valued friends, and his poems but emphasize this conclusion.

In Blackwood's Magazine is an interesting bit of evidence, supplied by Prof. Knight, in a paper entitled, "A Reminiscence of Tennyson":

"We then went on—I do not remember what the link of connection was—to talk of Spiritualism and the Psychical Society, in which he was much interested, and also of the problems of Theism. He spoke of the great Realm of the Unknown, which surrounds us, as being also known, and having intelligence at the heart of it; and he told more stories than one of spirit manifestations as authentic emanations from the unknown, and as a proof that out of darkness light could reach us."

In the Memoir sparing references are made to the spiritualistic experiences of the poet. There is one curious story which shows that the late Bishop Wilberforce had participated in the investigation. Tennyson spoke of the last visit of Bishop Wilberforce, of his sudden death, and of the Bishop's story of the "table-turning" when he was staying with Judge Alderson, at Farringford. A table moved towards the door where the Bishop was standing. He exorcised the supposed spirit, and then the table stood still, rapping out, "I can't abide a bishop."

Clairvoyant trances may be the best descriptive name for what were probably Tennyson's leading psychical experiences It includes a partial, or entire loss of external consciousnes, an awakening of a wonderful interior consciousness, a vision into spiritual realms far beyond the range of our external senses, and usually the sense of a spiritual presence guiding and opening our interior faculties.

One night at Farringford, says Bordérland, Tennyson, Jowett and Tyndall sat talking about the power of imagination, or intuition, as an instrument of scientific discovery. After Jowett had retired, Tyndall and Tennyson continued to converse. Tyndall thus records what Tennyson

said: "With great earnestness Tennyson described to me a state of consciousness into which he could throw himself by thinking intently of his own name. It was impossible to give anything that could be called a description of the state, for language seemed incompetent to touch it. It was an apparent isolation of the spirit from the body. Other persons have had, I believe, similar experiences. Walking out with a friend one evening, the poet Wordsworth approached a gate, and, laying hold of its bars, turned to his companion and said, 'My dear sir, to assure myself of the existence of my own body I am sometimes obliged to grasp an object like this and shake it.' It was at the Red Alp, and I believe by the late Prof. Bonamy Price, that this incident was communicated to me."

When a mere boy, his son tells us that his father possessed this power of abstraction from his surroundings, which enabled him to dwell

with the invisible.

"As he wandered over the wold or by the brook, he often seemed to be in dreamland, so that one who often saw him then called him a mysterious being, seemingly lifted high above other mortals, and having a power of intercourse with the spirit world not granted to others."

When he spoke of these illuminated seasons

to his family, or to others with whom he had deep spiritual intimacy, his words were uttered with a glow of passionate fervor, which left an indelible impression upon those who heard him. For instance, when speaking of a conversation with his father, in January, 1869, his son records what he spoke to them with deep feeling:

"Yes it is true that there are moments when the flesh is nothing to me, when I feel and know the flesh to be the vision—God and the Spiritual the only real and true. Depend upon it the Spiritual is the real. It belongs to one more than the hand and the foot. You may tell me that my hand and my foot are only imaginary symbols of my existence; I could believe you, but you never, never can convince me that the "I" is not an eternal reality, and that the Spiritual is not the true and real part of me."

These words he spoke with such passionate earnestness that a solemn silence fell on us as

he left the room.

The poet told his son that there might be a more intimate communion than we could dream of between the living and the dead, at all events for a time.

He wrote, with Hallam in his mind:

"If the immediate life after death be only sleep, and the spirit between this life and the next should be folded like a flower in a night slumber, then the remembrance of the past might remain, as the smell and color do in the sleeping flower; and in that case the memory of our love would last as true, and would live pure and whole within the spirit of my friend until after it was unfolded at the breaking of the morn, when the sleep was over."

He dwelt in a world apart, out of which he emerged from time to time to lead the daily life of ordinary men, but it was in no sense the whole or even the most important part of his

existence. Borderland says:

"No one can say that he was not a man intensely alive to all that concerned his material life. He lived a very full life, and his interest was unabated to the very end. He was a man of affairs as well as a poet. He was a student of science as well as a mystic, and for more than half a century he met and mingled as an equal, and more than an equal, with the foremost men of his time. This, it is well to remember, in view of the prevailing disposition on the part of materialists to argue that dwellers in the Borderland are necessarily incapable of taking their full share in the busy life of mortal men. Tennyson's conviction of what may be called the evanescent and transitory nature of the material universe in no way weakened his grasp of busi-

At 80 years few young men could keep pace with our poet's strident gait in a long walk, and few writers have had so long and commanding a career. To "follow the gleam" is health to the body, and giving sustaining power for a long and useful life on earth. He was filled and inspired by faith in the invisible world which encompassed him, and of which he believed he had direct personal experience.

He wrote the Queen in her Jubilee Year (1887)

as follows, then, as always, their letters being those of sincere friendship:

Madam:—I am grateful for your majesty's most kind letter. I do indeed feel how the sense of loneliness may oppress your majesty in the midst of these loud rejoicings. The multitude are loud, but they are silent. Yet if the dead, as I have often felt, though silent, be more living than the living, and linger about the planet in which their earth-life was passed, then they, while we are lamenting that they are not at our side, may still be with us; and the husband, the daughter, and the son, lost by your majesty, may rejoice when the people shout the name of their Queen. Tennyson."

After a conversation with Bishop Lightfoot, he wrote: "I believe that God reveals himself in every individual soul; and my idea of heaven is the perpetual ministry of one soul to another."

In "Idyls of the King," and elsewhere, are poems, largely transcripts of his personal transe experiences.

In 1835 an apparition—a tall man—was plainly seen by two sisters, and the next morning came a letter to the poet, at breakfast, the first news of Arthur Hallam's sudden death in Europe.

Years after Tennyson wrote an ode to the Duke of Wellington, and Lady Tennyson soon dreamed that the Duke called to see them and that she dreaded to take his hand, expecting it to be icy cold, but finding it warm and natural. She was a gifted and gracious woman, an inspiring helper and a co-worker with her husband.

Tennyson's poems are read best in the light of his trances. His deep insight of the world's needs inspired him to write "The Princess," to help the uprising of the world's womanhood, and to prophecy the peaceful federation of nations.

Gladstone wrote to Hallam Tennyson, October, 1892: "I have a great conception of your father as a philosopher. Carlyle was small in comparison. Everyone admires him. I look upon him, in his words and works, with reverence."

Tennyson, being weary, once asked his friend Jowett, Master of Baliol College, not to discuss topics of religion and philosophy, as they had often enjoyed doing, and Jowett said: "Your poetry has an element of philosophy more to be considered than any regular philosophy in England....I believe 'In Memoriam' and 'Crossing the Bar' will live forever in all hearts." He afterward spoke to me, in 1892, says his son, of my father's "great and deep strength of soul.

The philosophy which these eminent men held of such weight and worth, came to the poet in hours of highest vision and of greatest mental power and clearness. It is spiritual, and,

"As the thoughts of men are widened With the process of the suns,"

it will rule the world.

For years the family home was the center of world-wide correspondence, the Mecca of many pilgrims from many lands, and of diverse creeds and peoples—"the winnowing of the nations." At last, October 8, 1892, came the change—full of light and peace. He said to his physician: "How men cling to this life; so small a part of the world's whole life!"

In fit time the family and friends, and the school children, followed the flower-laden casket to the depot, whence it was borne to Westminster Abbey.

G. B. STEBBINS.

Detroit, Mich.

#### FREEDOM'S BUGLE CALL.

On Cuba's shore where songs of praise
For Nature's gifts from lips unbidden flow,
Weak, hungry babes their voices raise,
And thousands starve by tyrant's cruel blow.

enorus:

What voices these which come o'er sea and land, Stirring our souls to deeds both pure and grand?
O, listen well! it means brave work for you and me; Dear Uncle Sam, go help to make the nations free!

From Luzon's wooded hills and vales, And Ninandao's plains wild echoes roll Of Freedom's voice 'midst ocean's isles:

"March onward quick!" exclaims each freeman's soul.

When hate and wrong 'gainst right still strive;
When millions bow as slaves to tyrant's will;
Truth bound in chains while falsehoods thrive—

Great God! how then can human souls be still?

B. F. FRENCH.

#### A Marvellous Experience.

My First Experience, in brief, was in this way: Had been visiting an old school professor, living in Arkansas, and a Spiritualist who was a thoroughly educated person and competent to speak on the subject, and honest in his convictions of life of the spirit and consciousness after so-called death, for one and all. I at once admitted this the true, pure, divine principle of life, and if Spiritualism proves this, humanity surely must change from selfishness and crime. So I asked my professor for the proof and knowledge instead of my ignorance of life after so-called death (and crime the result of all this ignorance of humanity). He was determined, on my return trip through Chicago to Michigan, that I should call at the Religio Philosophical JOURNAL Office. I did so, subscribing for the paper and purchasing "Was Abraham Lincoln a Spiritualist?" and inquiring of the gentleman (Mr. Bundy, I think) for reference to some medium, he gave the address of Mrs. Eddy, 666 Fulton St., Chicago, whom he knew to be true and reliable. Accordingly, after considerable riding on the street car, I approached a pleasant cottage, with a gray-haired gentleman slowing walking with a cane in the door-yard. He informed me that Mrs. Eddy was in the house, and in answer to the door-bell a bright, healthful, elderly lady appeared, saying, "She was at liberty to give a sitting and the charges were nothing unless there was something for me, and \$2.00 if the spirits communicated."

It was but a few moments after being seated in the cosy room, the medium first making passes of hands about the head, when she spoke, saying, "I should think there was something for

you—there are so many here there is trouble getting control." The medium then burst out crying, and for a few moments I could catch such expressions as: "Oh, Charley!"—"My poor motherless babes"—"Tell them, Charley, their own dear mother can be with them "—"Oh, how I wish I could speak to them!"—"Tell them I am with them every day, and love them just as Mamma always did,"—"Oh, tell my babes their Mamma is not dead and is always with them in their troubles, trying to help them."

When the medium stopped crying and became calm she spoke in brief as near as I can recollect—"When your sister Carrie returns to the earthplane the beautiful spirit cannot fully control her feelings, and sorrow for her motherless children. The youngest one, a little girl babe she says named Carrie, born at her last sickness on such and such dates." I took my pencil and wrote the exact dates as given, not then knowing, nor can I recall them at present.

"The next one, a little boy, Lee, born—Then Olla, born—And the oldest of the children, Lynn, born—." In this manner the four children, their names in full, (the above the first of the given names of each commonly used, I, not even now, being able to give names in full) given, their births and something from Mamma to each, etc.

Then the Guides spoke of another lady by the name of Sarah, being very anxious to speak. I inquired if it was a sister of my father. "No," —but I would like to know who it was, and I guessed several names, finally mentioning a neighbor friend here in South Dakota, whose given name had been Sarah, and at once came the "Yes," with a joyful recital of pioneer days in South Dakota, when we had adjoining farms, and mention of my own personal affairs, declaring: Tilla and I would yet be reconciled (I replying to this statement that I didn't believe it) and giving a recital of many experiences of Tilla and myself, etc., saying my parents were on their way to Michigan, had made a good visit with dear friends (Mr. Mason's people) when they passed Aberdeen, S. D., and if I would go to the Central Depot there in Chicago, when through with that sitting, I would see them that day. This again was news I knew nothing whatever of and was fully confirmed to be a fact. I went to the depot, as directed, but seeing my parents were not in the main waiting room and thinking it a hoax, was completely surprised and delighted when finally looking into a lunch room to see the very first ones taking a lunch were my own dear parents, who were equally surprised to see me, as they had not learned I had left Arkansas.

When speaking of my sister and her children, at that time in the depot, and their ages, my mother, who fully knew, correctly gave their ages and births, corresponding exactly with the dates I had marked on the paper given me by the medium; so that many of the facts given by the medium could not possibly be explained as mind-reading.

C. R. JOHNSON.

Frederick, So. Dakota.

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## The Religio-Philosophical Journal,

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at 1429 Market St. San Francisco, California.

Between 10th and 11th Streets.

Official Organ of the California State Spiritualist Association.

THOMAS G. NEWMAN, Editor,
Assisted by an Able Corps of Special Contributors.

The Editor is not responsible for any opinions expressed in the communications of correspondents.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for publication must be authenticated by name and address of the writer—if not for publication, then as a guaranty of good faith.

Rejected Communications will be returned only when stamps for that purpose, accompany them. They will not be preserved more than 30 days, after being received at this office.

Newspapers sent to this office having matter for inspec-

tion, should be marked by a line drawn around the article.

This Journal wil be mailed to subscribers until ordered to be discontinued, and all arrearages are paid.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., AUGUST 18, 1898.

The war is over. A Peace Protocol was signed last Friday afternoon, as a basis for a Treaty of Peace between Spain and the United States. The provisions were the entire freedom of Cuba; the evacuation of all the Spanish possessions in the West Indies; and the ceding to the United States of one of the Ladrone Islands, and also the city, bay and fortifications of Manila. Orders to stop hostilities have been issued both by Spain and the United States.

Dr. F. Boegner, of Boston, wrote us, on August 5th (one week before the peace agreement was signed), that he had a vision early that morning in which he was shown those who signed the peace document, the persons who were present, the room where it was done in the White House, and the manner of accomplishing it as well as the position of the persons who took part in the ceremony. He also saw and described the furniture of the room, the color of the drapery, etc. He also detailed the scenes which occurred after the ceremony of the issuance of orders to stop the war; scenes among the inhabitants of the Islands ceded to the United States, where the people were holding a joyous celebration of their freedom from the tyranny of Spain—all of which has now become a reality.

It is the fashion now to make books on rough, unfinished paper and leave the edges rough and ragged. But it is a senseless and unreasonable innovation—one that should be frowned down. A lady went into a book-store last week and asked for a book she had seen reviewed and thought she would like a copy, but when she saw its rough edges, and unfinished paper, she refused to buy it. This should get makers of books to think that we do not need to go back 200 years to copy a style discarded when the infancy of the art of printing was passed. Give us styles in harmony with the inventions and progress of the present day.

In "the Dark Ages" under the rule of priestcraft, to dare to think was a crime for which millions have perished in dungeons, and suffered tortures the most diabolical that human ingenuity could invent.

Among the cruelties practiced by Spain, during the inquisition, the most exquisite was that by which the doors leading to the dungeon of the victim were left unlocked and the guard withdrawn. This naturally aroused some hope for one who was resigned to death. He came forth to find the prison door open and the guard apparently asleep. Hope grew stronger as he approached the outer gate. It was also open and devoid of guards. He went free. Then, just as he began to believe that the impossible

had happened, he was pounced upon and dragged back to prison and fresh torture. It was all planned to revive hope that was dead, in order-that new sufferings might be inflicted upon one who had become callous to torture.

Now it is the duty of free America to liberate the world. It is her destiny as the champion of human freedom. The time has come to act, and hence her army and navy are everywhere victorious, as she defends the down-trodden, and succors the oppressed. Spain represents the old regime—America leads the new. Under the guidance of the Spirit World, the army of freedom will prevail, and the race will be uplifted.

The English Church Gazette has a symposium on "Is there Spiritual Evolution after Death?" This is very significant. The Churches are awakening to the fact that Spiritual Philosophy is true, and hence many excellent thoughts were expressed by the writers of that symposium. If "Spiritual Evolution after Death" is true, then some of the dogmas of the Church must be false, such as the fall, the curse in Eden, probation ending with the life of the physical, and the resurrection of the body; also, that bug-bear of the ages, a literal hell with fire and brimstone, has lost its power to frighten men into the hands of the priesthood. We hail this fresh proof of the progress of the times, and the introduction into the Churches of the Philosophy of Spiritualism.

Mental Suggestion and Thought Transference now have a representative publication. It is called *The Suggester and Thinker*, and is devoted to an investigation of the science of Suggestion and Thought: their uses. abuses, and possibilities, as curative, moral and educational agents. It is published monthly, and edited by Robert Sheerin, M. D., 523 Superior St., Cleveland, Ohio, at \$1.00 a year. In the initial number the Editor wisely remarks as follows:

"The transference of thought is an established fact and all intelligent beings know that thought exerts a wonderful influence over the body and its functions. A thing must first exist as a thought. Our minds are batteries where positive and negative thoughts are stored. This battery of ours is forever receiving and throwing forth thoughts which are continually acting and re-acting upon ourselves and associates, as long as life lasts; healing or wounding, just as they are expressed. As we think good or evil of our fellow-men, we are thinking heaven or hell into their lives, and here, perhaps, lies the secret of much sin and suffering. It at least will not hurt any of us to cultivate other than evil and malicious thoughts toward our neighbors; directing to them thoughts of love, health, kind wishes, success, etc. These will come home to you again laden with good things. Through it all, remember that suggestion is the key, ruling thought as it does all things."

Mrs. E. B. Duffy passed to "the Beyond" on April 12, 1898, at Sing Sing, N. Y. Pneumonia was the cause. Her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth D. York, writes thus, concerning her last illness: "I think she had a premonition of her approaching transition. A short time before she was taken sick, she told me she had had a dream that always meant sickness or deaththat is, dreaming of talking with the so-called dead, knowing they had passed from earth-life -and she had dreamed of talking with my father and a friend, both of whom had passed away. I rather made light of it, but it seemed to create a great impression upon her, and the day before she was taken sick (though she said she had not felt so well all winter), she filled in all the records of births, deaths and marriages in a Bible she had given me."

Peter Eckler, 35 Fulton St., New York, has just issued as No. 35 of his Library of Liberal Classics, Voltaire's Philosophy of His-

tory. It is an historical dissertation on the origin, customs and religions of the different Nations of antiquity; with a concise exposition of their religious superstitions. It is very interesting, and presents unanswerable arguments against the religious fanaticism of the ages. Price 25 cents. Can be had at this office.

What is Religion? The Rev. Dr. J. E. Roberts, asks in an *Exchange*, "Is it form and ceremonial, genuflexion and mummery?" Religion means intelligent obedience to Nature's laws; it means walking through this world as man best can, with his light. Religion means to live well, to love justice and mercy, to be fraternal and kind.

"Faith cannot make a false thing true," said Dr. Roberts. "Respectability cannot make a wrong custom right. Long before the day of the school-house, the laboratory and the printing-press, with closed eyes and crossed hands people prayed to an unseen and an unknown God, and so they are praying still. Some believe that this is religion. Others believe that religion is rational—they would not destroy, but rescue it; they would crown it with a consummate crown; they hold it is as necessary to man's highest development as science, music and art, as natural as gravitation or the dawn."

#### Universal Evolution.

A new book of over 300 pages has just been issued, written by Prof. Solomon J. Silberstein, 77 East 74th St., New York; advancing a new theory of the Universe, which if it is correct, will prove Newton's law of the attraction and gravitation to be false. The author's premises and conclusions are of a startling character.

Mr. E. W. Keeler, who has written a lengthy review of the book, sums up its contents thus:

That absolute intelligence or mind fills the Universe, encompassed in the Universal essence that always was, always is and ever will be; that the impulses or images in absolute intelligence are reflected, vibrate and spiritually stimulate this essence in which the potentiality of all things that ever existed or can exist in all eternity is latent which at once through evolutionary action and re-action grades, reconstructs and affiliates with other and similarly-produced atoms until by their mutual intertwining a materialized image is objectively evolved which corresponds to the original impulse or pulsations in the pure intelligence unlimited by either time or space.

The human image thus in one sense is an infinitesimal part of the absolute, inasmuch as it contains that spark of centrality, vibration or impulse communicated not from outside the essence, but a vibration within it, linking it to the absolute; consequently all the phenomena in nature may shift, change or pass away, but this force or spirit of centrality that formed, can reform, it being a part of the absolute it never dies or is obliterated.

The action of this tender and innermost principle of centrality holds and correlates the atoms and Universe together according to fixed and immutable laws of intellectuality—this force of centrality being the emanation of the absolute intellectuality.

The Universal essence is the medium between intellectuality and matter. Through it the absolute subjective world is particularized in the physical world as it exists and the force of centrality, as manifested in the origin and combination of all atoms producing motion, causing changes in objects, becomes the central force of conservation of the absolute existence of the Universe as a whole. Thus centrality of motion can be made to account for all the indirect changes of position in space and time without basing conclusions upon a separate or distinct force, as presented in Newton's theory.

CULTIVATE THOUGHT.—Knowledge and experience are beneficial when like education they are used as a benefit and not as a show. It is a basis on which Science and the growth of the Inner-Self are founded. But like education they have a tendency to grow conceit in an over balanced person. Knowledge is the branch of thought, and thought is the growth for the mind and Soul. Let us cultivate our thinking faculties and knowledge both General and Spiritual will grow proportionately.



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#### Anglo-American Alliance.

TO THE EDITOR:

When the curtain was first rung up, I saw a golden sign in the sky, which read: "Anglo-American Alliance, 1898." Just under the sign were Lincoln and Garfield, suspended in mid-air. They raised a double bow (or arch) over their heads, with the dates 1882-1898 on either side.

It was marvelously beautiful and inspiring from end to end. To the appreciative observer, this tableau signifies the old and the new worlds united, by the two hoops (as large as a barrel) of a rainbow color. It was in the play of The Transit of Venus, a copy of which I sent to the Jubi!ee. It was old, dated 1882, and the paper was yellow with age.
The "heavenly show" seen in the

skies a few weeks ago must have been very beautiful. The "mock sun," as the New York Sun called it, will be seen some evening during August.
Sheffield, Mass. SARAH HOWARD.

A Pioneer Worker.

TO THE EDITOR:

Many thanks for the kind words in the JOURNAL of my condition. Already responses have come from friends far away. One letter from a very dear friend contained \$5.00. The sight of this with my dim vision caused tears of gratitude to flow freely, after which I could see clearly to read the lovely letter of sympathy and encouragement from her noble soul, although very finely written. This is something I have been unable to do without glasses for the past 40 or 50 years. How was it? Why was it? It was the only letter that I could read. I cannot see even the words that my pen is now endeavoring to write. The skep-tic will say: "O, the tears cleansed her eyes." But for weeks I had used solutions and washes freely.

I believe that the pure soul that penned the letter was surrounded by angelic influences, which accompanied the letter and made my eyes strong again. Mrs. Sarah Seal's controling influences said when she called on me last Saturday, that I would again have the "Circle of Harmony," which was so much needed. I hope so.

MRS. F. A. Logan.

hope so. MIRS. F. A. LOGAN. 1218 Railroad Ave., Alameda, Cal.

#### The Long-Entranced.

TO THE EDITOR:

My experience has taught me that Miss Elida Wilbur can be brought out of the trance mentioned in the Journal

of July 28, by psychic power.

My guides say that this condition is brought about by Catholic spirit influence, and for the purpose of keeping her from marrying Mr. Dunphy. Her condition is not altogether due to the inhalation "of gas." I am satisfied that I could restore her intelligence, if I had the opportunity.

Dr. R. A. Davis.

Maitland, Mo. the opportunity. Maitland, Mo.

#### Letter from Los Angeles.

TO THE EDITOR:

I congratulate you on the appearance of the Journal since coming out in its new dress. Do you know, as I opened and looked at its heading it seemed as though an old friend whom I had not? seen for years had returned, and I should have a good old-fashioned visit. As I opened and read, I was not disappointed. It is full of choice thoughts, beautifully rendered, served up in various forms suited to the needs of all. If we wish to have a subject explained thoroughly and forcibly, we have only to look for it in the Journal and surely find it. I often have a question in my mind, and as I open the paper I find my question answered; someone seems to have caught my thought and responded to it. No other paper meets my needs in this respect as does the Religio-Philosophical Journal. Long may it live and long may you continue to stand at its head. Oh, when will the Spiritualists awaken to the fact that our Cause on this coast needs just such a paper as you this coast needs just such a paper as you are sending out, and that it belongs to them to furnish means to support it? Why will they keep our workers so crippled for means that it is utterly impossible for them to feed the hungry souls that are constantly calling on them for sustenance?

The appeal made by Spirit L. B. Hopkins is seasonable, for there never was a time when there was so earnest a demand for information regarding our philosophy, as at this time. I hope the appeal will be nobly responded to.

There are three meetings held in this city every Sunday evening. Mrs. Maude Freitag presides over one, Mrs. Mary Lyman over another, and your humble servant over another; and although the weather is very hot, all the meetings are quite well attended. I see very few Spiritualists in our audience, but it is composed of a very intelligent class of people, who seem deeply interested in the truths that are presented each evening.

MRS. KATE HOSKINS.

#### The Borderland.

TO THE EDITOR:

I congratulate you upon the changes made in the Journal, thus giving greater variety and inviting new correspondence. The "Borderland" department will elicit facts from the unseen world in which all are so deeply interested, or at least should be; as we shall soon pass into that great reality on our march along the line of progression. Success to the Religio-Philosophical JOURNAL. Truth and Spiritualism will succeed, and the workers for truth will be rewarded. E. D. FRENCH. be rewarded.

Ensenada, Lower Calif.

#### Fulfilled Prophecies.

TO THE EDITOR:

As I have placed on record my second edition of prophecies in the JOURNAL of July 7, 1898, I wish to call attention to the fulfillment of three of them:

Under the head of "England," written May 27, I said, "There will be trouble between England and Russia." The heading of a Press dispatch from London, dated Aug. 6, reads: "England and Russia lock horns—War may eventuate over 'the open door'.—One over the country of the lock horses and the lock down other of the powers must back down-Mobilizing their fleet," etc.

Also I said, under same date (May 27) One steamboat disaster will occur, which will be very severe, with many lives lost. This will take place near London for we feel London's influence." This was fulfilled in the disaster which occurred at the launching of the Albion, which occurred at Blackwell, a seaport of London, in which about 50 lives were lost, on June 21st.

Under the heading, "The War," written July 1st, I said, "The war will practically end in August, but will not be diplomatically settled for some time."
This was verified by Spain's acceptance of our terms of peace, on Aug. 12, and eace commissioners are to be appointed by both powers to settle it diplomatically. DR. M. MUEHLENBRUCH.

#### From an Aged Medium.

TO THE EDITOR:

I have just been reading the Religio-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL in its new (or rather, old) dress, and feel that an old friend has come back from the past, with glad tidings of renewed life and prosperity. I am glad to see and hear such good reports from many of our worthy mediums, that they are really in earnest in the good work of keeping their lamps filled and burning for the truth of our glorious cause—Spiritualism. I congratulate you on the improvement of the Journal. Long may it live and work for freedom, truth, justice and right.

I have been silent for a few months on

account of poor health. These cold nights have prevented me from attending the meetings, as they are held mostly at night, but I have not been idle and in the near future will take up the work I have so long loved and practiced. I have been resting in the harbor of peace and quietness, so much needed to my overtaxed mind and body. But good friends and good angels have cared for me, and I feel I am being fully restored to again occupy my position in the spiritual work.

MRS. HENDEE-ROGERS.

The Junior Spiritualist Club, of London, England, tendered a Reception to Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader on July 12th, when she gave the Official Greetings of the Young People's Spiritual Union of the United States, of which she was the duly accredited representative.

The hall was gayly decorated by the United States Flag, and flowers and ferns in abundance. Speeches, were made by

in abundance. Speeches were made by the President, J. J. Morse; Miss Florence Morse, Secretary; Mrs. A. V. Bliss, Vice-President; and Dr. J. M. Peebles, who was present as a guest of the Club. A short musical programme followed, and the whole was a pronounced success.

#### The Reviewer.

Holy Smoke in the Holy Land, by Daniel K. Tenney. Chicago: H. L. Green, office of the Free Thought Magazine, 213 East Indiana St. Price 10 cts.

The author and other persons, to the number of over 300, made a pilgrimage lately to Palestine. This pamphlet describes Palestine in its present condition, and re-states many of the historical scenes of the past. It being the birth-place of three theological systems—the Jewish, the Christian and the Mahomedan—Mr. Tenney describes each one and contrasts it with the other, concluding: "Not being the advocate of either, I express no choice, but conclude this article by the citation of a higher authority. A Catholic priest—an intelligent and companionable gentleman—was one of our party of pilgrims. After returning to our ship at Jaffa, I asked him how the Jerusalem business struck him. He replied: 'I frankly confess, Mr. Tenney, it inspired in me far greater reverence for the present than for the past."

The Secret of Life, or Harmonic Vibration, by Professor Francis King, is awakening great interest and is spoken of in the highest terms by advanced critics of all schools of thought.

It teaches-How to cultivate and use the Electric and Magnetic Forces of the body —How to fully develop the Muscular System and Nerve Energy without mechanical means. The only natural method of Physical Culture—How to acquire Grace, Beauty of Face, Figure and Expression— How to possess Robust Health and Great Mental Vigor—Natural Voice Culture and Artistic Deep Breathing — A systematic course for developing Passivity and Concentration, and unfoldment of the Subjective Powers—A thorough training of the eye—Strengthening and Revitalizing it. It brings to woman, knowledge and power to determine, mould and control Life-

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Special Premium Offer.—We will send the Journal for one year and this book, postpaid, on receipt of \$2.00, to old or new sub-scribers.

The Coming Light for August has another new design for a cover—a much more attractive one. The number is a good one. It is filled with excellent articles. Engravings of Charles Dawbarn, Lucy Sherman Mitchell and James H. Barry adorn the pages. \$1.00 a year. It and the Religio-Philosophical Journal one year for \$1.75.

Dr. C. W. Hidden, of Newburyport, Mass., began his annual engagement at Lake Pleasant Camp, on Sunday, August 7th. He will give three lectures in the regular course, and hold two of his famous "Hypnotic Socials," in the latter illustrating his remarkable power as a hypnotist. Dr. Hidden will remain the entire month in order to meet the large number who come to see him professionally every year. Dr. Hidden has also been invited to visit Europe to lecture and give exhibitions of hypnotism and healing.

Mrs. Crofts, whose Psychometric a few Psychometric and Graphological Reading of President McKinley was given on page 5 of the Journal for July 7th, has consented to give Readings to those who may apply for them—(Graphology is reading character from hand-writing).

Send to this office some of your writing, a photograph, or some small article you have handled or worn, with \$1.00 and two 2-cent stamps for postage, and the readings will be mailed to you in the order they are received.

Mrs. Crofts gave the Editor a Reading last week, which was exceedingly correct and gratifying.

Mr. J. C. F. Grumbine held very successful meetings and classes at Island, Lake, Mich., and Mt. Pleasant Park, Iowa, where he has lectured five successive seasons, and goes to Indianapolis, Ind., for September. In October he will be in Chicago, where at Flat 3, 3960 Langley Ave., "The Mexicana," he will conduct classes in Psychical Sciences. See his notice in another column, of the College of Psychical Sciences and the College of Psychical Sciences, and the new magazine, "Immortality," which secured 100 new subscribers in July. Address, Station M, Chicago.

### Societies and Meetings.

Under this heading we insert notices of meetings at TEN CENTS per line each insertion. ONE INCH [10 lines], \$3.00 per month.

#### California State Spiritualist Association.

HEADQUARTERS - 605 McAllister St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

PRESIDENT...... C. H. WADSWORTH, 293 Jersey St. VICE PRES'T..... THOS. ELLIS, Jr., Alameda. SECRETARY ..... JOHN KOCH, 1607 Fillmore St. TREASURER,..... B. F. SMALL, 3750 22nd St. DIRECTORS-M. S. Norton, H.S. Brown, Richard Young. Wm. M. Rider and Mrs. R. A. Robinson.

#### Society of Progressive Spiritualists,

Meets at 305 Larkin St., San Francisco, at Occidental Hall, Supreme Court building, every Sunday evening at 7.30 p.m. Mr. J. T. and Mrs. R. S. LILLIE, of Boston, are engaged for the present season.

[A vacation is taken until September.]

ADIES' AID SOCIETY meets at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays for business at 305 Larkinst; benefit social on the 2nd Friday and regular monthly social on the LAST FRIDAY of each month at 305 Larkin-st., San Francisco.

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#### Where art Thou?

Where art thou, oh, soul-mate mine? Dost thou dwell in realms sublime? Dost thou linger on earth-plane, Struggling on through sin and pain?

Can another take my place? Is she good and fair of face? Tell me, soul-mate, do I pray; Shall we meet some gladsome day?

It is dead-the past-forever, And our love it cannot sever; Think not now what might have been, For you could not love me then.

Can you all my love return? For my heart does wildly yearn, Though we walk in paths apart; Where art thou, my own sweet-heart? BLANCHE MARGUERITE GROELL.

#### Lake Pleasant Camp.

The 25th annual session of the New England Spiritualist Camp-Meeting Association opened yesterday with an address in the morning by President Hon. A. H. Dailey, and a lecture in the afternoon by Miss Lizzie Harlow; tests by Mrs. Cunningham. Each day for several weeks past the trains have brought campers and visitors to the grounds, so a goodly assembly greeted the speakers of the occasion, and helped celebrate the Silver Jubilee of this the oldest campmeeting of Spiritualists in existence.

Many of the old pioneers are now on the grounds, and it is interesting to hear them relate their experiences of the early days, when with axe, shovel and other tools they cut away the trees and underbrush and pitched their tents on the shores of the beautiful lake of pure water.

It is related that this spot was chosen as a site for a camp-meeting by the spirit world, and the message was given through a medium, at a meeting held in Greenfield, Mass., at the residence of Dr. Jos. Beals, who was the president for the first 19 years of its existence. As many as 1500 people have been on these grounds at one time in the early days, but of late years so many other camps have been started in-various parts of the country that they have drawn many away from the mother camp. Some of the brightest minds of the century have stood on the platform here and given forth uplifting thoughts that have educated and enlightened the masses, and solved the problem, "If a man die shall he live again?" The talent secured for this year is also of the best.

The original camp ground is on the south-west side of the lake, but about 18 years ago many built cot-tages in the woods on the west side, now known as the Highlands. To get from one place to the other, one had to cross the outlet of the lake and climb about 100 steps up a long flight of stairs, until the bridge was built across 12 years ago. The meetings were held in a grove of trees on the bank of the lake, or in the Pavilion in rainy weather. Both were so near the railroad track that the speakers were disturbed, and four years ago a fine commodious Temple was built on the Highlands where now all the lectures and special entertainments are given.

The season promises to be a successful and instructive one. On the program are such well-known lecturers and mediums as Hon. A. H. Dailey, Mrs. Helen Temple Brigham, Dr. C. W. Hidden, J. Clegg Wright, Prof. Wm. M. Lockwood, Mrs. May S. Pepper, Edgar W. Emerson, Mrs. Carrie E. S. Twing, J. Frank Baxter, Mrs. Tillie U. Reynolds, Miss Lizzie Harlow, Mr. F. A. Wiggin, Mrs. Cunningham and Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Wallis of London, Eng. Rev. B. Fay Mills, formerly an evangelist, but now a liberal Unitarian

minister, will give special lectures Aug. 13 and 14. The Ladies Schubert Quartette furnishes the singing at all the regular meetings.

LIDA B. BROWNE. Lake Pleasant, Mass., Aug. 1, '98.

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## Local News Summary.

Edited by M. S. NORTÓN.

state Convention.—The Spiritualists of California will assemble in convention, in Occidental Hall, 305 Larkin St., San Francisco, on Friday, Sept. 2, at 10 a.m. All business meetings will be held in this hall, and all social meetings will be held in Metropolitan Temple. Copies of By-Laws containing all necessary information, will be sent to any address upon application to this office.

state Board.—An adjourned meeting of the State Board was held on Saturday evening, Aug. 6, in the hall at 605 McAllister St., and was open to the public. This action was taken because of the cry, raised in some quarters, of "Star-Chamber" meetings. Although the fact was distinctly stated in the Journal, only three visitors were present. It will now be in order for the croakers to hold their peace.

Ladies' Aid.—Last Friday evening this Society held its semi-monthly social and dance in Occidental Hall. Mrs. J. J. Whitney gave a gramaphone exhibition while the people were assembling. Mrs. Sadie E. Cooke gave a piano solo; Mr. Wm.Rider, a recitation, and as an encore, a poetical selection from the Journal. Miss Sawyer gave a whistling solo; Miss Haverly a vocal solo, and others participated whose names we were unable to obtain. Dancing followed the entertainment, and a general good time was enjoyed by all present.

State Secretary.—The present address of the Secretary of the California State Spiritualists' Association is, John Koch, 428 Tehama St., San Francisco, to whom should be sent credentials of delegates, per capita dues, donations, etc. It is time these matters were being attended to.

Panta Cruz.—Mr. M. S. Norton. Dear Sir:—I have not answered your last letter before this, for the reason that I have been waiting for developments. Well, here they are: I have succeeded in raising enough funds to pay the hall rent, and on the 7th inst., (last Sunday), re-organized the Unity Spiritual Society, of Santa Cruz.

We use the old charter granted us by the California State Association on the 28th of Aug., 1896, and hope to be able to send at least one delegate to the State Convention. Please let us know at once the date at which such convention will convene and give us any and all other necessary information.

necessary information.

I think what we need here is a good test medium. We have had numerous poor ones.

Hoping that the cause of Truth and Spirituality may grow in our midst, I remain, truly yours,

DR. C. A. BONESTEEL.

Santa Cruz, Calif.

Mmc. Montague.—We are informed that this estimable medium will re-open her Wednesday evening meetings in Occidental Hall, Aug. 17. The lovers of truth will rejoice, for there cannot be too many good meetings.

Market street have, by vote of the Supervisors, been changed back to those formerly used, hence, our number is restored to 1429. Any mail matter, however, sent to 1765 (the new number which prevailed for three months) will reach us promptly.

Commission created by the State Spiritualists' Association to formulate a statement of principles to be adopted by the coming State Convention, has almost completed its labors. On Tuesday, Aug. 16, the Commission holds its final meeting, and hopes to be able to present to the Convention for adoption, a Statement of Principles which will give expression to the collective mind of all the Spiritualists of California, to serve as a basis for organization and propaganda.

to the establishment of this department under its present management, there was a great demand for a column where the mediums and workers could have a word each week. The opportunity has been given, and, as usual, those who talked most about its advantages have been most conspicuous by their silence in its columns. The lesson of co-operation is one which would be of much value to the Spiritualists of this vicinity. Each seems to be willing to allow others to do all the work, so long as honors are easy; but when the victor claims the spoils, trouble ensues at once. A local Spiritualist paper is just what the local people make it, and cannot long exist without the co-operation of at least some of them.

Mrs. J. J. Whitney's Meeting last Sunday evening was of unusual interest. The questions answered and tests given were up to the high mark of excellence this medium has established in the many years she has been engaged in the work. The audience was large and appreciative. Dr. Knowles' Meeting will be held hereafter at 305 Larkin St., room 50, on Thursday evening of each week. An exhibition of moving pictures will be a feature of the evening's entertainment.

Mrs. M. F. Humi, a veteran Spiritualist and worker in the Lyceum, left on Sunday morning on a visit to her daughter in Denver. A few of her many friends gathered on Thursday evening last at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wadsworth, 293 Jersey street, and passed a very pleasent evening. Refreshments, music, and a beautiful poem by Mr. A. C. Darling added to the interest. With the assistance of Mrs. S. E. Cooke, a beautiful spiritual badge was "materialized" and presented as a token of love to Mrs. Hunt.

Mrs. M. T. Longley informs us that it will be impossible for her to attend the State Convention on account of previous engagements and other personal affairs which will prevent her leaving Los Angeles until after September 20th, when she and Prof. Longley intend to remove to the Eastern States. Three years ago she represented the Massachusetts State Convention at the National Convention, and if it is desired by the California State Convention, she will ably represent it at the coming Convention in Washington, next October. The best wishes of all California Spiritualists will go with Prof. and Mrs. Longley wherever they may locate.

People's Society.—The large audience was entertained last Wednesday evening by Mrs. Cowell, of Oakland, and Mrs. Ellis of this city. The interest in these meetings continues unabated.

The Oakland Psychical Society has resumed meetings at its former quarters, Fraternal Hall, Washington St. Last Sunday evening Madame Florence Montague delivered a masterly discourse upon Spiritual Astronomy, the Signs of the Zodiac, and their relation to humanity, as conveyed through the allegories of the Bible, and the symbols of the Masonic Fraternity. A large audience greeted the distinguished speaker who has been re-engaged by the Society.

#### The State Convention.

The Third Annual Convention of the California State Spiritualists' Association will be held at Occidental Hall, 305 Larkin St., Cor. McAllister St., San Francisco, Cal., Sept. 2, 3 and 4, 1898. Business sessions at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Important business of interest to every Spiritualist will be presented for action before these gatherings.

At Metropolitan Temple, on Fifth St., at 8 each evening and all day Sunday there will be public meetings with addresses, spirit communications, music, etc. Gifted lecturers and mediums will be present and participate in these exercises.

All delegates' credentials should be forwarded to headquarters not later than Aug. 27, 1898. All Societies not chartered are invited to do so at once, that they may have a voting representative at the Convention.

All delegates are requested to report at Occidental Hall, on Sept. 2.

at 9 a. m. C. II. WADSWORTH, President.
JOHN KOCH, Secretary, 428 Tehama St., San Francisco, Cal.

Universal Spiritual Association.— The subject for discussion last Sunday at 20 Eddy St., was: "Is man a free agent?" The meeting was of unusual

agent?" The meeting was of unusual interest, and the absence of a certain disturbing element lent an added charm to it. The subject selected for next Sunday is, "What is Idolatry?" It was suggested by Mr. Wm. Rider. The managers of this meeting have reason to congratulate themselves upon the growing interest manifested, and the outlook for the future is very bright. Storms serve to clear the atmosphere and make us appreciate the sunshine more when it comes—and it will come. The music by Miss Lee is a special feature of this meeting.

R. A. Stitt's Meeting last Sunday evening was well attended. Mrs. Ladd-Finnican, Mrs. Bird, Mr. Hargrave and Mr. Stitt occupied the platform. With such an array of talent nothing but success can be the result.

The Free Meeting at 6th and Market Sts. was packed to the door on last Sunday night. Mrs. Drew, Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Lester satisfied the people that there "is something in it," and will continue to do business at the same old stand.

Alameda.—Last Sunday evening the local society opened a meeting in Masonic Temple. Mrs. Jennie Robinson of San Francisco occupied the platform with unqualified success. This platform in the future will be occupied by mediums from different localities, and success is assured,

Mediums' Protective Association.—On last Wednesday this society held its regular test meeting at 112½ Oak St., with the usual good results. The proceeds were donated to the Journal, to help maintain a Spiritual paper in San Francisco. The regular Board meeting for August was held at 37 Van Ness Ave., last Saturday evening. Twelve new names were added to the membership roll. It was decided to send three delegates to the Convention and make a donation to the National Spiritualists' Association. An adjourned meeting for the election of delegates will be held at the same place, Saturday, Aug. 27, at 8 p. m. W. T. Jones, Pres.

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The I. F. T. B. S. Society held three meetings last Sunday at 909 Market St. In the morning Mr. Phelps, Mrs. Wilson, Dr. Rin-Es and Mrs. Barclay occupied the platform. At 2 p. m. Mrs. Vigars, Mrs. Barclay, Mrs. Dr. Alice Tobias, Mrs. Davidson and Dr. Rin-Es, At 8 p. m. the same mediums occupied the platform and some special work was done by Dr. Tobias. W. T. Phelps, Sec.

Mrs. Eberhardt surprised the Mission-St. people last Sunday by opening Excelsior Hall, between 19th and 20th Sts., the first hall that has ever been opened for spiritual meetings in that locality. She held a very successful meeting on Sunday evening and will continue to hold them on each Sunday evening. She will be assisted by Mrs. C. T. Martin of Shotwell St. Mrs. Eberhardt has been requested to open a Lyceum in the Mission, which she may do with the help of her friends who see the need.

#### What is Spiritualism Good For?

This is a guestion of daily occurrence by all skeptical investigators, and it is a well known fact that the spiritual philosophy is expounded in every imaginable way by its teachers and pretenders of all different spheres, but to receive a definite, impressive and convincing answer, it has to come direct from the spiritual source in a way demonstrating spirit return to benefit its investigator as an inducement. Such was the case with a lady investigator, residing at the outskirts of Santa Cruz, who happened to be present at Mme. Young's test circle, Tuesday, Aug. 2nd. Mme. Young was requested by a spirit, who was identified as a near relative, to deliver a message to her, desiring to benefit her. He told her under any consideration whatever not to sell her timber land, which she was about to sell, as he could see a valuable mine on the premises, and gave the exact locality. The lady, somewhat startled at the unexpected news, could not realize the contents of the message, but was willing to investigate and wait for future developments, promising Mme. Young on her departure that she would hear from her if there was any truth in the message. Friday, Aug. 12th, Mme. Young received a letter from the lady, stating that she had discovered the mine at the locality as stated in the message.

Would it not be a glorious thing if every worker in the spiritual field could answer the above question to every skeptical investigator in the same way as it was answered to the Santa Cruz lady as an inducement?

RICHARD YOUNG.

#### Personals.

Mrs. Josephine Cruikshank (once a well-known Medium of this city) under the name of "Carmelo," writes to the JOURNAL from Brooklyn, N. Y., called there by the sickness of her father. She expects soon to return to San Francisco.

Mrs. Lida Browne writes from Lake Pleasant Camp, that John Slater had just arrived.

Mrs. Jennie Robinson took a trip across the bay last Sunday and let the light of Spiritual Truth shine through her upon the pathway of our friends in Alameda.

WANTED—A complete set of volumes of the Religio-Philosophical Journal, from 1865 to 1890—vols. I to 30 inclusive. Write, stating price wanted, boxed and delivered at your freight depot. Address, Thos. G. Newman, 1765 Market St., San Francisco, Cal.

#### Spirit Communications.

Spiritual communications answered by letter, and platform work promptly attended to, by Mrs. H. A. Dunham, 2254 Fifteenth Street, above Castro Street, San Francisco, Cal. 5t4.

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