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RELIGIO THE SOPHICAL PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL

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VOL. 37. T. G. NEWMAN,
EDITOR.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1900.

1429 Market-st.
Between 10 & 11th-Sts. No. 12.

SHUT IN.

There is a legend of a house that stands
Alone amid th' eternal calm and stress
Of tossing waters—narrow, windowless;
Set on a storm-swept isle by unknown
hands:
And of a man who, 'mid those shifting
sands,
Knows but his single room—a dull
duress—
Yet longs to know, and vaguely seeks
to guess
What lies beyond the scope his eye com-
mands.
So life may seem a dim, unwindowed
room,
Wherein we wait with eye upon the
latch
As if impelled to turn the fatal key;
We yearn, yet fear, to pierce the outer
gloom,
And ever bend an eager ear to catch
The secret of th' illimitable sea.
—Harper's Weekly.

BORDERLAND

A Stolen Sovereign.

The second daughter of Captain and Mrs. Silvertop, named Alberta, had been accused by her mother of stealing a sovereign from a purse in her room. Smarting under the unjust accusation, she drowned herself that night in a pond near by.

It was some months after these events when an old brother officer of Captain Silvertop's came to stay at the Manor House. He arrived in the evening and was introduced to two little girls, Letty and Dolly, at breakfast. A little later in the day he was writing letters in the smoking-room, when he noticed another little girl, whom he had not seen with the others. The child came up to the table and fixed great mournful eyes, without speaking, upon his face.

"Hello, little un! I didn't know you existed," he said pleasantly. "I thought Dad only had two children."

The child made no answer. It walked to the wall and pointed with its finger to a spot in the paper. Major Marter jumped up.

"Why, there's nothing," he said cheerfully. "What is the matter, little 'un?" But, as he was speaking, the child, to his bewilderment, seemed to disappear under his very eyes.

"Good Lord, that's queer!" he muttered. "I'm broad awake and the room is full of daylight. I must ask Jack about this."

"Have you by any chance a third daughter hidden away anywhere?" he asked his host that evening over their cigars.

"Hush, for God's sake, hush," whispered Captain Silvertop, glancing nervously at his wife. But Mrs. Silvertop had heard.

"We had another daughter. She died a year ago," she answered, briefly. Major Marter felt a shiver run down his back. Could it be, he asked himself, that he had come into a haunted house? He decided that he would tell Jack what he had seen, when Mrs. Silvertop had gone to bed. He told him, and was astonished to find that his host had had the same experience, and identified the apparition as that of the dead child.

"I daren't tell my wife. She would go mad, I think," Jack Silvertop said, desperately.

"You've seen her over and over again," said a voice behind them, and Mrs. Silvertop, who had stolen back, stood in the room. "Jack, why did you not tell me this before? I have seen her myself—and I took it for a sign that I was going mad."

"You have seen her!" exclaimed the husband. "When—where?"

"Here, in this room—twice, when I have been here alone. She appeared to me here in the middle of the room," continued the unhappy woman. "Then she glided to the wall—here—pointed to this spot—and disappeared."

"Good God! that is just what I have seen her do," said the husband.

"And I—only this morning," added Major Marter.

Mrs. Silvertop looked from one to the other. "Jack," she cried, "there must be something there—something the child wants us to do."

Jack Silvertop snatched up a clasp knife from the table and attacked the spot on the wall. In a moment the paper was stripped off. With it came away a bit of plaster, and behind, embedded in the wall, was a sovereign.

How the sovereign got there was never definitely proved, but it was

not difficult to conjecture. One of the plasterers at work in the house at the moment had probably stolen it, concealed it temporarily for some reason in the plaster, and had either forgotten the spot or failed to find an opportunity of returning for his booty. At any rate, from the hour that sovereign was found, the phantom of Alberta was no more seen at the Manor House; and no one doubted that the coin found in the wall was the one which the dead child had been wrongly accused of stealing.—*London Truth.*

Apparition.

An engine driver died suddenly the other day through a sudden stoppage of the heart's action, presumably heart disease, as the doctor stated.

The dead man's brother, who works in the running shed at Parel, received a telegram informing him of his brother's death, and as it was near noon, he went home to the house where both brothers lodged. The brother's intention being to go by the mail train that night, and as the dead brother's bedding was already rolled up, he asked his landlady to undo it and place several necessary articles in it, while he went to obtain leave from his foreman.

When the landlady unrolled the bedding, in which were two pillows, one on top of the other; she discovered, to her dismay, upon the pillow-slip of the underneath one, a distinct likeness or impression of the dead man's face; not in profile, but full face. The man had that morning brought the clean clothes from the wash, and the pillow-slips had been put on quite clean, pending the return of the dead man, who, of course, did not return in the flesh, but may have returned in the spirit.—*Tribune.*

Marvelous Dog.

This is the story of a remarkable dog named Tom, that seems to have telepathic as well as mind-reading accomplishments.

Tom is the property of Jack Myers, of Alliance, Ohio. He is a two-year-old bull terrier, weight 48 pounds, pure white and beautiful and gentle as a lamb. His telepathic power comes on him in spells, and has the effect of making him drowsy after performing.

He will go to a deck of cards lying face down and extract any card you may concentrate your mind upon. He only fails when forced to pick a card against his will.

His most wonderful feat was performed the other day in the presence of Attorney Roach of Alli-

After Two Years, Death Ends the Trance.



Miss Elida Wilbur, whose sleep ended with her physical life.

Miss Elida Wilbur, who for two years lay unconscious to all her surroundings, baffling the constant attention and efforts of skilled physicians, passed to the great beyond, March 6, 1900, at her home in San Francisco.

The accident which made Miss Wilbur the "living dead" for over two years, happened on the evening of February 16, 1898. She was found sitting in a large, easy chair in her room. A gas jet was open and she was in a state of complete unconsciousness. Month after month anxious friends watched and waited and hoped. Month after month doctors from everywhere vainly worked and schemed to solve the mystery of the strange case and to restore consciousness.

The JOURNAL published an account of this strange trance-like condition July 28, 1898. Many inquiries have been received from all parts of the world, as to the outcome. The story is told; the question of life is answered. The funeral took place on the 8th inst., and her body was cremated.

ance, who suggested thinking of the numeral five and extracting the four fives from the deck.

Mr. Roach and three other gentlemen concentrated their minds on the numeral five, but the dog went to the deck of cards and extracted a tray and a deuce, making the five.—*New York World.*

Musical Baby.

As set forth by the *Times-Herald* of Chicago, Mason City, Iowa, has produced a wonderful musical prodigy in the person of little Cecil Emsley Gale, a four-year-old child who was born totally blind. Cecil has never taken a lesson in music, but when he was but 16 months old he began to pick out harmonious chords upon the piano. Before he was two years old he startled his parents by playing through without a mistake "A Hot Time in the Old Town." Almost simultaneously with his first achievement he began to play many popular airs and hymns. If he hears a selection once, whether vocal or instrumental, he reproduces it upon the piano.

He now plays 60 distinct hymns and songs and has never had a hint or suggestion from an instructor or his parents. What he does he does by instinct; the rhythm of his childish soul directs the tiny fingers, and they glide gracefully over the keyboard, producing perfect harmony, while the handsome little fellow prattles on about his dogs and toys, apparently unconscious of his music.

Light and Life.

J. P. COOKE.

Is it any wonder that the faithful Mohammedan falls on his knees at eventide as he hears the chime of bells over mosque and minaret, and calls upon the holy name of Allah (i. e. God), as he sees the burnished orb of golden light sink into its fiery bed. Such sublimity is there in the very spectacle of nature's luminary, that even without science mankind is constrained to adore. How readily do we realize the inspired truth of St. John, when he says: "Light is God."

But what a light does science shed upon this affirmation, when, by spectroscopic analysis, each separate fiber and particle of the universe is revealed as having somewhat of connection with the rays of the sun, and when the various hues are separated that form the single ray of light, and the living wonder of a ray of sunlight is placed upon the table before your eyes. A little observation shows us that the action of solar light on all plants and animals is necessary to their life and health.

The flowers in all their delicacy and beauty are literally being spun out of the air by the sunlight. But the beneficial and fruitful action of these solar rays is so evident, so well known and appreciated, that it were superfluous to argue on such a theme. There is a chain of phenomena known to science, by which the luminous, calorific and chemical rays are capable of acting upon organized beings and maintaining life in them.

Millions of shuttles ply to and fro in the great looms of life, weaving forever the mysteries and beauties that are around you; and if rainbow unites the sky or the evening is all aglow with splendor, you know that the vision recognizes it as if in some past eternity the eyes

had seen and the mind had conceived of rainbows and glorious sunset skies forever. The sweep of the planets, the motion of the heavenly bodies, all spring from this vast solar center.

If this be the power of solar light; if that which is material and has material effects can thus perform such wonders in silence and in darkness; if out of sight of the sun's rays the seed can hold the germ for years, and then at last recognize its kindred sunbeam and burst into beauty and loveliness, what shall we say of that other light, that spiritual radiance, that, without matter and time and space, becomes the conscious breath of the soul? The mind pauses and cannot even approach the threshold thereto? If the sun, with the splendor of its beams, passes out of sight, and is missed from the horizon, and the pale moon, reflecting his rays, seems like a mere ghost of the wondrous orb of day; if all of beauty and harmony of singing bird and awakening flower depend on his ministrations and presence; if darkness itself is but a prophecy of the sunlight, and the imprisoned germ incubates in silence because of the expectancy of day, what must it be with the soul? Do you think this creative power abiding in the sun's rays sufficient to account for the material processes going on in this system, and behind it in suns upon suns and planets that wheel and burn?

The statement of the fact that you and I can tell that these things take place, proves a vaster light and a loftier soul! In your rational, conscious being you are greater than the sun and vaster than the worlds and systems that eternally move.

"Unconscious and without a thought, these rays perform their purpose, while you and I can sit even imprisoned here, or enthroned upon the light and count the vibrations and tell whereof they are made, and see that they keep time to the great heart of the Deity that beats in silence, but vibrates into a flame of love whenever it touches a soul."

Conquest of Old Age.

HELEN WILMANS.

"Thoughts are things"—I am sure of it; but just what they can do no one knows at this time.

I have a theory that may be good for something, or it may not be; but I believe I will tell it, though I have promised myself not to handle this subject until I can get some certain knowledge about it.

The spirit of a dead person consists of the thoughts he had in this life; it is his thought life. It was created by his body and fed by his body, and its true mission was to have remained with the body always, thus banishing death. But it did not know this, and so there was a separation; the thought life left the body to perish. The body would not perish if the thought life remained in it, but the thought life must be more intelligent than the world has heretofore produced before this disintegration can be prevented.

It is the function of the thought life to feed the body with such perceptions of truth as it acquires; if it possesses only enough intelligence to accept the race's mistaken opinions about the power vested in the individual, then it will feed the body on a belief in disease, old age and death, and in time the body will die,

Thought is of the same material that the body is. It and the body are the two opposite poles of one magnet. But the life current in the magnet is interactive. That is, it circulates from one point to the other until broken by death. In other words, the thought life, while being fed by the body, also gives its impressions back into the body so long as they continue together. Thought builds the body, and the body builds the thought. The seeming two are one, and they should be inseparable. At death the "I" goes with the thought life, and the body crumbles into dust.

Of course, I know that when the body falls into dust the thought life or spirit is still a magnet with its two poles; this means that there is a spirit body. There is no individual life without a body. But the new body, the spirit body, at death is cut off from its source of supply, which is the earth and the foods of the earth that the earthly body consumed, and by which it created and fed the thought life.

This is a purely materialistic view of the matter, and may be a thousand miles from the true situation; but I want to look at it from all points. It may be that as the spirit is thought, it is fed and sustained by thought which is generated here in our earth life. (As I write this sentence the raps come thick and fast all over the room.)

In my first suggestion—the materialistic one—I am not trying to destroy a hope that so many persons are clinging to. I am clinging to this hope myself; I want to meet my friends as much as anyone; but I do not want to die in order to meet them; I had rather never meet them than to die; but I cannot keep from thinking and reasoning about the matter, and I almost believe that I understand the situation. It is this. The earth life is the true life; the effort to live forever in the external or in these bodies is the moving power of evolution. From the first two atoms that were drawn together in organization there has been a constantly increasing effort to gain more life.

Every person who understands evolution knows that development has been from low to high, from weakness to strength, from ignorance to intelligence; and no one will deny that the love of life here in the external form has grown stronger as we grew in wisdom. The constant effort of evolution has been to bring forth some creature that would conquer death, and thus preserve the wholeness of the plan. What is the wholeness of the plan? It is the unbroken adhesion of the different links in growth. For instance, man is related to the earth. Why? Because the earth feeds him; the earth then is a part of him. Man's thought life or spirit is fed by the man's body. The thought life or spirit is therefore related to the earth and draws its sustenance from the earth through the body. The death of the body breaks the chain.

We are told that there are many spirits surrounding us; the seances seem to be crowded with them, all trying to communicate. Everywhere they are trying to press back into earth conditions. Do they need these conditions? My answer would be that it surely looks like it.

Now, here is my idea; it is based on the supposition that the earth life is the true life, and that old age and death are conditions to be conquered. The race—as I said before—is evolving to more desirable

conditions all the time. The sole meaning of growth, from the lowest creature to man, is to establish individuals that shall conquer every obstruction in the road to perfect freedom. These individuals have been ripening in intelligence for ages; all the time they have been growing in a sense of their own mastery, until now they begin to see that the greatest desires of all their desires—the conquest of old age and death—is within their grasp. When this is accomplished there will be a gradual cessation of the number of spirits going into what we call the spirit-world, and in time this going out will stop altogether.—*Freedom.*

Faith in Good.

M. S. NORTON.

Great pulpit orators, renowned theologians, profound philosophers, immortal poets, successful reformers and enlightened monarchs have never disputed the intellectual ascendancy of Paul, the apostle, and he said: "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Yet we find the larger part of the world scoffing at faith as a factor in bringing about any practical results. This comes, however, from a lack of knowledge, or from the habit of the exercise of faith in the power of evil. Faith is an inherent quality in man, but is, for the most part, misdirected. Man has great faith in evil. He believes in it as a positive necessity, and many times as a special dispensation of an all-wise and all-loving Creator. We are taught from infancy to expect sickness, sorrow, accidents, reverses and pain, and that death is the inevitable and irretrievable end. This thought has permeated the atmosphere and has become the law of life—or, rather, of death—for as a man thinketh so is he.

Notwithstanding the odds against which the mind of man has had to contend in his search for truth, the thought—or hope—that there was a way of escape from the power of evil, has grown with the unfolding of his intellect and has never abandoned his search for freedom. But upon the very threshold of investigation he has always been met by the cowed and gowned priest, ever ready to answer his questions in the interest of the popular religion of the day, and point him to Calvary, or some other external, far-away place; he is told to see the bleeding side and pierced hands, to wash in the blood of Jesus, or of some world savior under some other name, and he would be saved. From what? From hell after death.

But humanity is surfeited with saviors of this caliber. There is a popular uprising all over the civilized world, and an emphatic demand for a salvation which will save here and now. While the attention of the people has been directed to Calvary, they have been robbed of their birthright, and while they have been upon their knees worshipping an external God, they have been bound with the chains of physical and mental slavery. But thanks unto the eternal principle of justice which pervades the universe, there are a few people in the world to-day bold enough, and strong enough, and honest enough, to proclaim the truth, and declare unto you a more excellent way. The great mass of mankind to-day places its faith in the external. Man puts his faith in money to give

him power, in material remedies to give him health, in books to give him wisdom, and in sense-indulgence to give him satisfaction.

We may gain a certain advantage by material acquisition and to-day may wield the power of the world. To-morrow we are poor and the power gone. We may seem to satisfy the desires of the heart for a time through sense-indulgence, but for a time only; when the longing is redoubled, and can never be stilled save as we drink of the water of life in the depth of our own being. We may reach a certain intellectual attainment by the study of books, but in order to come into the knowledge that will set us free from bondage to evil, we must seek the higher wisdom within.

The mustard seed falls into a field and grows and increases until all else is outrooted. This is the quality of faith which, turned toward the highest good, will overcome all evil and establish our kingdom of heaven upon the earth. We cannot come into this high state of faith through a miraculous intervention of Providence, but we grow into it through increasing our understanding.

Evil is but the troubled nightmare of life, which, upon awakening, will be found to be unreal, uncomfortable and unnecessary.

"He whose heart is full of tenderness and truth,
Who loves mankind better than he loves himself,
And cannot find room in his heart for hate,
May be another Christ. We all may be the saviors of the world, if we believe in the divinity which dwells in us
And worship it, and nail our grosser selves,
Our tempers, greeds and our unworthy aims
Upon the cross. Who giveth love to all,
Pays kindness for unkindness, smiles for frowns,
And lends new courage to each fainting heart,
And strengthens hope and scatters joy abroad,
He, too, is a redeemer, son of God."
San Francisco, Cal.

Our Occult Training.

W. P. PHELON, M. D.

The reluctance so often manifested by those who go into training seems to be the result of the opposition of the inertness of the physical. We think we are willing to do, but when we come to the test, we find there is always something in the way. If we are required, by our trainer, to get up at one o'clock in the morning and say a mantram, there would be a thousand and one excuses. We should forget it. We would be sure to oversleep ourselves. The most trivial incident would come between us and that which we are ordered to do by those who are directing us in our training. To all of this would be added the feeling that the matters of training really were of little consequence.

More often than might seem possible, the failure to obey instructions from the Invisible, after having solemnly promised so to do, has left the door wide open to disaster and distress. When an instructor has said to his pupils, "Do this," it is not expected a grown-up soul shall begin to say: "Why?" Or, when he has consented to enter into training, he is not expected to say: "I do not like this, that or the other, and I will not accept it."

I know of circumstances in which those who have absolutely refused, so lightly did they wear their obligation, to fulfill their most

solemn pledges. Their lives were almost the forfeit. I desire right here to say to those who are in training or expect to be: "The Invisible never, under any circumstances whatever, issue instructions, nor orders, which are not for the best good and highest well-being of anyone under their direction. In the records of the past we find a certain set number, which those who are under training learn to know and accept as the number of victory and success. It is also the number of accomplishment, by which we can, if we desire, remodel the whole world. Is it not worth while to try?"

Dr. Muehlenbruch Prophecies

The Oakland edition of the San Francisco *Examiner* of March 13, 1900, contains the following prophecies and comments thereon:

After a psychic conference with the fates during the night of Dec. 13, Dr. Max Muehlenbruch, the champion prophet of Oakland, called the turn on all affairs of importance that will happen during the first quarter of a century. The doctor does not work from charts; he depends entirely on his psychical gifts to see coming events. After a trance some years ago he predicted the blowing up of the Maine, the war with Spain and its outcome.

According to the doctor, the powers that regulate the future are ardent expansionists and have a remarkable fondness for the principles of the Democratic party. They have decided to rebuke the McKinley administration by causing the defeat of the "Major" by his old opponent, William Jennings Bryan, at the next election, and to wipe out the evil influence of Marcus Hanna.

In dealing with the statesman of the trusts, the prophet says:

Senator Mark Hanna should avoid all excitement, as there are signs of apoplexy in his system. The planetary signs under which he is born show us that there is much sickness ahead of him and a quick transition. He cannot avoid this condition, as we see much worry ahead for him.

The friends of Admiral Dewey will be sorry to learn that:

Admiral George Dewey, the hero of Manila, has much sickness before him from 1900 to 1902, and as he comes under a very unhealthy planetary influence in that period, we see his transition to the Beyond.

And there is a hard time ahead for the United States. Here's what the prophet sees in store for us:

America will experience three wars before 1910 has closed. One of these wars will come through the interference of another nation. Much upheaval and bloodshed will occur in the United States through different causes. However, better conditions will begin from Sept. 13, 1903, and from 1910 to 1925 peace and tranquility will reign. Financial conditions will improve and prosperity will be found among all classes of people.

Regarding expansion, he foresees: Mexico will be annexed to the United States before 1910, and before 1925 has passed, the South American republics will be annexed to the United States. However, there will be much bloodshed in connection with these undertakings.

The days of England's glory are drawing to a close, the doctor says. He declares:

After the present war in Africa, England will be at peace up to 1903; thereafter we see much

upheaval and dissatisfaction all over Great Britain.

The Prince of Wales will not keep the throne and 1905 will see him pass to the life beyond mortal sight. The throne will pass to the next in line, two of which will hold short terms.

The planetary conditions show us that there will be many unexpected and strange transitions for that country up to 1910; thereafter peace and tranquil conditions will reign supreme.

England is at present the greatest naval power, but America will eventually lead all nations. This prophecy will not come to pass until many changes are made, but at the close of 1926 the Stars and Stripes will float over many countries.

"Radical as it may seem, Ireland will eventually cut loose from England and be a power by herself."

Poor Spain will have a bunch of wars, and a bundle of her leading citizens will be assassinated. France is to have another revolution that will wipe out the republic, and then an outside nation will step in and gobble up the French people. So before 1925 France as a nation will be a thing of the past. Within ten years Germany will have three emperors. The Emperor of China will be assassinated. There will be a series of earthquakes and violent storms at sea.

Do Greater Works.

TO THE EDITOR:

The Topeka, Kan., preacher, Rev. Sheldon, seems to ignore the declaration of Christ—the latter told his adherents that they should do greater works than he did; but Mr. Sheldon does not even attempt to work wonders—not even to "turn water into wine." The idea of blindly following "In His Steps" is evidently contrary to the teachings of the Nazarine, as no moral, intellectual progress can be made if a slavish imitation of even a prophet is followed.

That famous reformer, Buddha, directed his followers not to accept his declarations simply because he said so. Paul, although the propagator of much mischievous theology, was right in declaring that all things should be proved and the good retained. Rabbi Hillel, the teacher of Christ, said: "Love all men and invite them to a life of holiness and virtue." That ancient seer, Zoroaster, taught hundreds of years before Paul quoted the Athenian poets: "He who teaches the Good Law to creature's highest understanding, even in this life, becomes an immortal being."

QUAKER.

Lake Brady Camp will hold a continuous session of nine weeks, opening July 1, closing Sept. 2. We also purpose holding Sunday meetings in June and September. The best talent employed, together with other attractions contemplated, will make this the banner camp of the season. Everything points to a prosperous season, and this camp will be in the lead, doing business on business principles, under the management of the Lake Brady Spiritualist Camp Association, a new society organized last August and chartered under the laws of the State of Ohio.

All communications relative to engagements, etc., should be addressed to Geo. N. Abbott, 745 High St., Alliance, Ohio.

Man decays, from ignorance.

California State Spiritualist Association.

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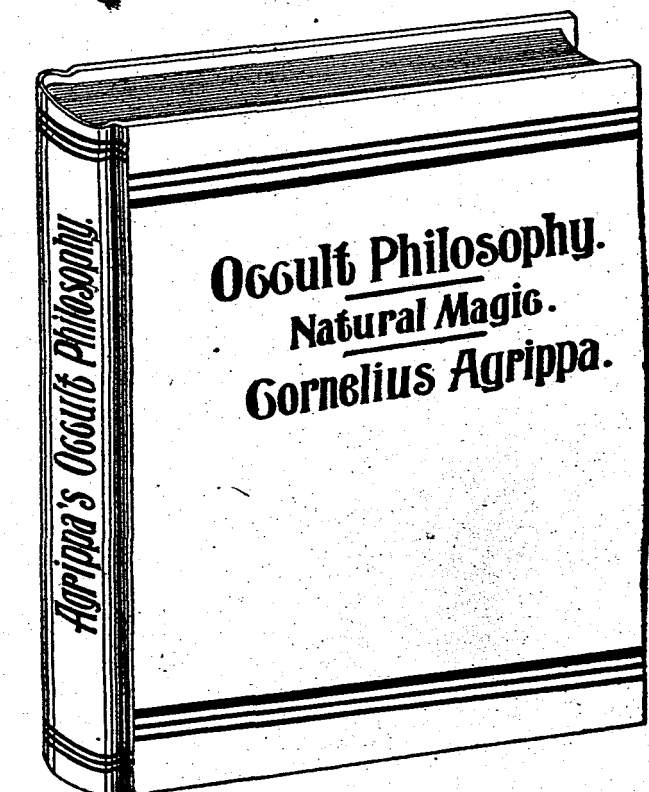
Mme. E. Young, 605 McAllister street, S. F. Circles Tues., Thurs. and Sunday eve's. 10c.

For other mediums see page 5.

Remarkable Book.

OCCULT PHILOSOPHY, or Natural Magic, by that Mystic, Thinker, Teacher, Scholar, Statesman, Philosopher and Author—Henry Cornelius Agrippa, Counsellor to Charles V., Emperor of Germany and Judge of the Prerogative Court. \$5.00.

In 1509 Cornelius Agrippa, known as a Magician, gathered together all the mystic lore he had obtained by the energy and ardor of youth and compiled it into the elaborate system of Magic, known as Occult Philosophy. The one copy of the book from which this volume is translated



cost \$75. The translating, printing, binding and engravings for this edition entailed an expense of over two thousand dollars.

All the original illustrations, and some new ones, are found, as also various etchings of characters. The chapter on the Empyrean Heaven contains some of the much-hidden knowledge relating to the Masonic "Lost Word." The engraving is a much older plate than the work it was taken from.

This volume will be intensely interesting to those who love to work out hidden mysteries.

The Symbols of the Alchemists will be found both useful and instructive. The chapter on the Magic Mirror is the best contribution on the subject extant.

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No notice will 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.

Communications not accepted will be returned if 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 inspection, should be marked by a line drawn around the article.

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

SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH 22, 1900.

Prof. Hyslop's bold stand for the spirit hypothesis has staggered the orthodox pulpit and press. The next thing in order will be to seek to belittle the man, and his standing in the scientific world. We hear the rumbling of the coming storm which will soon beat upon the devoted head of this fearless champion of truth; but he has builded his house upon a rock, and "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

A Man of Straw is easily demolished. The making and demolishing of these straw men is a favorite pastime with many who are trying to hypnotize themselves and the world into a belief in reincarnation. The *Star of the Magi* states four leading (?) objections to this dogma, and then proceeds to refute them. The article would have more weight if someone else stated the objections.

Talmage's Tirade at Spiritualism is too exaggerated for credence by any person of sense, and will do very little harm. On the other hand, it will excite the curiosity of thousands and start them on the road of investigation which leads direct to a knowledge of spirit communication. "Let the heathen rage and the bigot imagine a vain thing." We hold the key which unlocks the mystery of life, and the thinking world is beginning to recognize the fact. Churchianity is doomed! No wonder the "heathen rage."

J. Clegg Wright, whose health has been precarious for some time, is laboring in Florida, whose salubrious climate is benefiting him and restoring him physically. He is now serving the Association of Lake Helen, delivering public lectures and holding classes.

Anything but the Truth.

M. Flourney, Professor in the Faculty of Sciences of the Geneva University, has written a book in which he records the case of a young woman, who is evidently a trance medium controlled by three different spirits. He writes glibly of somnambulism, reincarnation, etc., anything but accept the hypothesis of spirit control. The San Francisco *Chronicle* gives the following on the subject:

The case is the apparent reincarnation of a woman aged 30. She is of irreproachable character and engaged in a commercial house. She is subject to fits of somnambulism, in which she refers to three previous existences—on the planet Mars, in India, and in France in the time of Marie Antoinette.

The woman, in telling of her life on Mars, spoke in presumably Martian language, using clearly articulated sounds and forming words corresponding with definite ideas. The same words always corresponded to the same ideas. She also writes peculiar characters which do not vary.

Col. J. L. Dryden of San Diego, Cal., intends to take the field as a missionary in the cause of Spiritualism. The Colonel was educated for the ministry at Monmouth College, Ill., in the United Presbyterian Church, one of the most ultra Calvinistic of the entire Calvinistic family; but his eyes became opened by the presentation of the philosophy and phenomena of Spiritualism, so that he could not become a minister of that or any other orthodox church. For several years he has been residing in San Diego and is now the president of the First Spiritualist Society of that city, but feels impelled to take a wider field, and devote his entire time to spread the light of the gospel of Spiritualism.

While we were located at San Diego in 1896, Dr. J. M. Peebles, Col. J. L. Dryden and the editor of the JOURNAL alternately occupied the platform of that society for several months, and formed mutual attachment for each other.

Brother Dryden is a pleasant speaker, a deep thinker and a magnetic man. He expects to be employed in Santa Ana during the next few months, and then will be opened for engagements elsewhere. He should be continuously employed. The field is wide, the harvest great, and the laborers few.

Physical Phenomena has come into disrepute among the more thoughtful Spiritualists of late, because of its abuse and counterfeiting by conscienceless fakirs. This class of spirit manifestation has been the means of impressing thousands of skeptics in the past, and should not be lost. The professional physical medium is always subject to suspicion, but the private medium ought to be, like Caesar's wife, "above suspicion," and capable of valuable missionary work.

Lock Them up.

The Rev. Abidah Chesterville of Chicago, Ill., has issued a pamphlet entitled, "Twelve Reasons Why Infidels Should be Imprisoned." In a foot-note the author says: "Brethren should see that this little pamphlet has a wide circulation, as the church, is in peril because of the growth of infidelity." The Boston *Investigator* says:

We agree with the Rev. Abidah that infidelity is growing. And we also agree with the Rev. Abidah that the church, is in peril on account of the growth of infidelity. Should infidels be imprisoned? Of course they should. If they are not imprisoned, they will convert church-members to their ways of living, and ministers and priests will have to go out of business.

The church is in peril. Her creeds and doctrines are passing away. When men think for themselves, they think themselves out of the church into that freedom which is man's birthright.

Facts and Fancies.

The *Healer*, a monthly magazine, propounds a question which has been asked many times before, but has never been satisfactorily answered. We are listening. It says:

What good does it do to know that you are likely to be reincarnated; that you are coming back here to be born again of another mother, to complete your course of earth study? What good does it do you? we ask. Admitting it is true, what of it? What do you get out of it? It does not teach you how to live, or how to meet the exigencies of the hour, and how to keep yourself well and prosperous. In fact, I fail to see how this belief adds one ray of spiritual illumination to the mind of man, or one comfort to life. I fail to see one single point of worth in it—admitting it is gospel truth.

The Great Unwashed Take Warning!—The Boston *Investigator* proposes a crusade in the interest of the "Bath Trust." Read this:

We have societies for the prevention of almost everything: why not have one for the protection of decent people from nasty ones? If the Church had only damned uncleanness, instead of unbelief, this world would have been better to live and breathe in. Begin a crusade against dirt and dirty people.

Opinions are the hardest things in life to change. Spirits do not hastily change the opinions they carried with them from this life, and Spiritualism does not relieve us from the responsibility of exercising our own reason, for truth must be the product of our own mental activities and our experiences.

When the Bigot refuses to investigate the claims of a new system of thought or experience, for fear of unsettling his preconceived opinions or beliefs, he puts himself upon an intellectual level with the animal who eats hay.

Spiritualist Revivals.

A correspondent asks the question: Why do not Spiritualists have revivals as the churches do? Spiritualism is unique in the galaxy of the world's religions in that it has no central personage or commanding figure who has been canonized and lifted up above his fellows. Buddhism has its Buddha; Christianity has its Christ, and every other popular religion of the world has had some personality upon whose life and teachings the people could concentrate their attention, or whose tragic fate appeals to the emotions and creates a fervor, often wrongly called religious.

The spiritual philosophy deals with principles, rather than personalities, and partakes largely of the stoic school of thought. We have no personal God to fear, no personal Devil to hate. Believing in evolution, we need no salvation; and the only sin we recognize is ignorance.

We approach phenomena in the spirit of investigation, and our converts come largely from the studious, reasoning class, to whom the froth and emotional frenzy of the average religious revival is nauseating. We have had but one revival, and that has lasted fifty-two years, with no sign of cessation. The Spiritualist revival is going on all the time. Wake up!

Our Mission is not only to prove that there are spirits, but to demonstrate spirituality. We have heard much of a person growing a new finger, but nothing of anyone growing a new soul. The soul is the real man, and is immortal; its growth is of paramount importance.

Mistakes indicate that you have been trying to do something. Liebig said: "Show me a man who makes no mistakes, and I will show you a man who has done nothing." We should not grieve and fret over our mistakes, for they are the stepping-stones upon which we climb to success in life.

Ignorance is the only sin for which atonement is necessary, the only condition from which humanity needs to be redeemed. He who helps man to know himself should be hailed as a savior.

"Who giveth love to all;
Pays kindness for unkindness, smiles for frowns,
And lends new courage to each fainting heart,
He, too, is a redeemer, son of God."

J. M. and M. T. Allen, authors of the "Mediums' Guide," a valuable book for use in the development of mediumship, intend to make a visit to the Pacific Coast in the near future. They would like to make arrangements with societies for engagements as speakers and mediums, and may be addressed for the next month at 1129 Campbell St., Springfield, Mo.

The Boy Preacher, who is creating such a religious excitement in San Francisco just now, comes in for a mild scorching from Lucy A. Mallory in the *World's Advance Thought*:

The "boy preacher" took \$4,000 out of Los Angeles, California, according to the *East Side (Los Angeles) News*. The spirit of Jesus Christ is supposed to be speaking through him. If this is so, Jesus Christ must have degenerated very much from the time when he preached the gospel without money and without price. He must have sunk to the level of a Mammonite. Sectarian evangelists are not inspired by the unselfish spirit of the Christ, but by "what there is in it." Gospel peddling by evangelists is done just like all other business—for profit—only "it's big pay for little work."

The Reviewer.

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

THE WILL IN NATURE, by Arthur Schopenhauer. New York: Peter Eckler, publisher, 35 Fulton St. 32 pp., paper. Price, 50 cents.

This book contains an account of the corroborations received by the author's philosophy from the Empirical Sciences; translated and edited by Julius Fravenstadt. This is one of the latest and best of the books of this eminent German author, who has done so much for the cause of mental liberty. The chapter devoted to "Animal Magnetism and Magic" is of special interest to occult students, and the short one devoted to "Ethics" will appeal to the moral reformer.

INTERNAL RESPIRATION, by Respiro. 76 pp. Price, 50 cents. London: E. W. Allen.

This is the book mentioned by Mrs. Sara A. Underwood in the *JOURNAL* for July 13, 1899, when writing on Deep Breathing and Mediumistic Development.

The science of breathing has engaged the attention of a vast number of thinkers for many years. In this book the subject seems to be exhausted. It is a part of the teachings of Thomas Lake Harris of Fountain Grove, Santa Rosa, Cal. The copious foot notes alone convey to the reader an immense amount of practical knowledge upon this very important subject.

This is Vol. 1 of a series by Respiro. We also have Vols. 2 and 3 at same price. The second is entitled "The Impending World Crisis" and the third is "The Divine Incarnation."

MAN—WHENCE AND WHITHER? By Richard B. Westbrook, New York. Peter Eckler, publisher, 35 Fulton St. 32 pp., paper. Price, 50c.

This is an excellent analysis of man as a spiritual being. It treats of his origin and destiny, from the standpoint of both science and religion. A good book for thinkers.

The Christian. Monthly. Thomas J. Shelton, editor and proprietor, 1542 High St., Denver, Colo. \$1.00 a year. A journal of Christian Science, with an accent on *Christian*. The March number contains a fine portrait of Mr. Shelton, and a good poem by Charlotte Perkins Stetson. The "I am" sermon treats of "Marriage."

ETERNAL LIFE, by Rev. Minot J. Savage, pastor of the Church of the Messiah, New York. Pamphlet, 15 pp. Price, 10 cents; 10 copies for 75c; 25 copies for \$1.50; 50 copies for \$2.50, postpaid. For sale at this office.

This is a report of one of the famous sermons of this celebrated pulpit orator. It is republished as a missionary pamphlet, and is calculated to inspire in all humanity a demand for scientific demonstration of the continuity of life. Dr. Savage is an enthusiastic member of the International Psychical Research Society. It cannot fail to awaken an interest in any thoughtful mind. These pamphlets should be scattered broadcast everywhere, and for this purpose the prices of 5 to 50 copies are made very low. Let us spread the light.

Cassadagan. A monthly magazine devoted to the interest of Spiritualism in America. A. Gaston, Lyman C. Howe and F. G. Nealan, editors. The portraits of Messrs. C. E. Winans and A. Norman form the frontispiece of the February number. The program of the Cassadaga Camp for July and August is published, containing many names of eminent spiritual orators. 50 cents a year.

Success. Monthly. \$1.00 a year. Cooper Union, New York City. One of the best things in the March issue of *Success* is a controversy between Edwin Markham, of "The Man with the Hoe," and Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, over the identity of the "brother to the ox." Mr. Wilson intimates that Mr. Markham does not know very much about the American farmer when he permits him to be included in that class.

The Prophetic Messenger. Monthly. 426 South Sixth St., Minneapolis, Minn. R. Hollingsworth, editor. 50 cents a year. The March number is devoted to weather forecasts and information on many practical subjects of interest to farmers and business men; all from an astrological point of view.

A Great Premium.

The Secret of Life, or Harmonic Vibration, by Professor Francis King.

This book is substantially bound in cloth, and will be sent from this office at the publisher's price, postpaid, for \$2.00. It contains Prof. King's Course of Lessons and Treatments, in detail. We present (to old or new subscribers) the *RELIGIO-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL* for one year to every purchaser of this book. If the *JOURNAL* is paid to some time in the future, we credit it for a year beyond that time. This is part of the contents:

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C. E. Heywood, rapping medium, 1236 Market St., San Francisco. Questions answered by letter. Room 86; hours, 12 to 4.

Mrs. Lena Clarke-Howes, medium, 314 Eddy St., San Francisco. Sittings daily.

Mrs. M. M. E. Maxwell, spiritual healer and test medium. Readings daily, 1 to 5 p.m. Circles Tuesday and Thursday. 1238 Howard.

Mrs. M. Miller, medium. Sittings daily. Circles Tue., Thur. & Sun. 118 Eddy St., S. F.

Sol Palmbaum, Trance, Test and Healing Medium, 856 1/2 Isabella St., bet. San Pablo ave. and Market St., Oakland, Cal. All diseases diagnosed. No questions asked. Office hours 10 to 12 a. m.; 2 to 6 p. m.

Dr. Mattie J. Rollins, Mesmo-Magnetist and Business Medium, 765 Market St., S. F.

C. Mayo-Steers, 112 1/2 Oak-st., S. F. Circles Tues. 8 p.m. Thurs. 2 p.m. 25c. Reading, \$1.00

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For further list of mediums, see page 3.

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WHO SHOULD JUDGE?

"Tell me, gray-haired sexton," I said,
"Where in this field are the wicked folks laid?
I have wandered the quiet old graveyard thro',
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But on monument, obelisk, pillar or stone,
I read no evil that men have done."

The old sexton stood by a grave newly made,
With his chin on his hand, his hand on a spade;
I knew by the gleam of his eloquent eye
That his heart was instructing his lips to reply.

"Who is the Judge when the soul takes its flight?
Who is the judge 'twixt the wrong and the right?
Which of us mortals shall dare to say
That our neighbor was wicked who died to day?"

"In our journey thro' life the farther we speed,
The better we learn that humanity's need
Is the spirit of love, which prompts us to find,
Rather virtue than vice in the lives of our kind."
—E.T.



The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

Another Victory.

TO THE EDITOR:

I am happy to inform you and the readers of the JOURNAL, that the measure against the rights of mediums to practice their calling in the District of Columbia will not be presented to the legislative committee for action. The measure read as follows: "Clairvoyants, soothsayers, fortune-tellers, by whatsoever name, shall not be allowed to practice their calling in the District; and anyone attempting the practice of such calling, as aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof in the Police Court, shall be subjected to the penalty of fine or imprisonment for each offense.

Through the efforts of the N. S. A. and the constant and personal work of its Treasurer, Mr. T. J. Mayer, the Commissioners of the District have decided to eliminate the section against mediums from the bill, and it will not be presented to the committee. Mr. Mayer sought legal counsel on this matter, and the result is that the measure is declared suppressed, and the Spiritualists are jubilant.

The Hon. A. Gaston enlisted in the fight. He is the honored President of Cassadaga Camp. We accord to him, and to the Spiritualists of Washington, all due credit for their part in taking prompt steps to meet and conquer the foe.

MARY T. LONGLEY, Sec. N. S. A.
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Prof. Longley's New Song Book. Concerning this excellent publication, Mrs. Carrie Damon, West Chester, Pa., writes: "The first piece in Vol. 1 is of especial interest and value to me." Vols. 1 and 2 are for sale at this office. Price, 15 cents each; postage 2 cents each extra.

A Mass Convention of Spiritualists will be held in Chicago on April 10, 11 and 12, at Handel Hall, 40 Randolph St. Daily sessions will be held at 10 a. m. and 2 and 8 p. m. These mass conventions are doing a good work.

To the Deaf.—A rich lady, cured of her Deafness and Noises in the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums, gave \$10,000 to his Institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Address No. 701B, the Nicholson Institute, 750 Eighth Avenue, New York.



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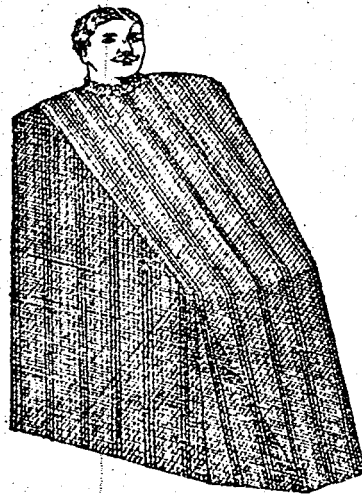
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Local News Summary.

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

Coming Events.—Ladies' Aid social and dance in Occidental Hall Tuesday evening, March 27.

Mission Lyceum entertainment, Wednesday evening, March 28, in Mission Opera Hall, 2131 Mission St.

Anniversary celebration in Hamilton Hall, 13th and Grove Sts., Oakland, Sunday, March 25. Afternoon and evening.

Anniversary celebration by Board of Directors of California State Spiritualists' Association, Golden Gate Hall, Sunday, April 1. Afternoon and evening.

The Progressive Spiritualists' meeting in Occidental Hall last Sunday evening was opened with the usual song service, led by Mr. J. T. Lillie. Mrs. R. Shepard Lillie followed with an eloquent address upon the subject: "Man, the Creature and Creator." The meeting closed with "America" by the audience.

Mme. Young's Meeting in Oriental Hall was addressed by Mrs. Sarah Seal on "Man's Duality." Music by Mme. and Prof. Young. The messages were calculated to convince skeptics.

Friendship Hall.—Mrs. Meyer's meeting last Sunday evening was treated to a very eloquent and spiritual address by Mrs. Dunham. The tests by Mrs. Meyer were all recognized.

B. Fay Mills spoke in Metropolitan Temple last Sunday evening on "The Germs of a Greater Religion." The building was filled with an enthusiastic audience. Next Sunday evening he will take for his subject, "Why I Became a Liberal in Religion."

Oakland.—Chas. Anderson, the "boy orator," has been lecturing at Fraternal Hall, Oakland, Sunday afternoons for the past two months to large and appreciative audiences. On Sunday evening, March 11, the largest audience that has assembled in Fraternal Hall for many months greeted Mrs. Cowell. These meetings are free and everybody made welcome. T. ELLIS.

Dr. J. E. G. Norman has recovered from his illness, and has relieved his assistant, who has been attending to his duties during his indisposition, at his office. His friends will be glad to know that he resumes his duties at the Buddhist Mission this week.

San Jose.—The anniversary will be held Sunday, March 25. According to the long-established custom, it will be an all-day meeting, with basket lunch. A new feature of the program will be a special anniversary service in the forenoon by the Lyceum.

The Children's Progressive Lyceum was very interesting last Sunday and a number of new faces, both old and young, were to be seen. The subject for discussion was "Health." Next Sunday it will be "Punctuality." Dr. Norman, dressed in Oriental costume, will talk to the children. Don't miss it.

Mrs. M. Klein, pastor of First Spiritualist Society, Van Wert, Ohio, met with a serious accident on Feb. 21, from which she has been confined to her bed since that date, and in all probability it will be some time before she will be up and about again. ORA C ROSE, Sec.

Mrs. May Fanning, of Ben Lomond, Cal., a medium of rare ability, has been quite ill for some weeks. Her many friends will be glad to know that she is now convalescing.

Sacramento Ladies visiting Mrs. T. Johnson, at 126B Eighth St., report an excellent opening for good mediums in that city.

The Central Lyceum held its usual monthly entertainment and dance in Crystal Hall, 909 Market St., on Wednesday evening, March 14. Refreshments were served, and the dance music was furnished by Prof. Warren and Miss Alice Severance. This was a notable gathering of young people. The following was the program presented:

Overture, Professor Warren and the Misses Severance and Patterson; recitation, Irene Christine; song, Miss Maxwell; piano solo, Mrs. Stender; instrumental selection, Misses Sadie and Jennie Christine; specialties, Miss Bryson; recitation, Miss Jennie Christine; quartet—Mrs. Stender, Mrs. Simmons, Mr. Reid, Mr. Simmons. PHILIP ZWERIN, Chairman.

Universal Spiritual Association.—The subject for discussion at 20 Eddy St. last Sunday was "Opportunities." Music by Miss Lee. The Christian Jew is keeping up his reputation as a disturbing element.

Dr. T. B. Taylor, A. M., M. D., well known in Soldiers' Home, Alameda, and San Francisco, passed to the higher life at Los Angeles, Cal., on March 5, age 74. Many years ago, the Doctor was a Methodist preacher at Charleston, Ill., and built a church there; was chaplain in an Illinois regiment during the Civil War. He was a thorough Spiritualist, and some years ago lectured quite frequently. He was a native of West Virginia. He was the author of a book entitled, "Old Theology Turned Upside Down." The Harmonical Society of Los Angeles took charge of the funeral.

Mrs. Wrenn's Meeting in Lower Scottish Hall was well attended last Sunday evening, and the people assembled were entertained by Mrs. Wrenn, Mrs. Heussmann, Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Gillingham. Music by Mrs. Stender, Mrs. Symmons and Mrs. Winter.

Oakland Anniversary.—The Spiritualist societies of Oakland have decided to celebrate the 52d anniversary of Modern Spiritualism in Fraternal Hall, Sunday, April 8, morning, afternoon and evening. At a special meeting of the different societies, held March 11, the following committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements: Psychological Society—Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Coleman, Mr. J. T. Lillie; Union Spiritual Society—Mrs. Cowell, Mrs. Awanda Smith, Mr. H. Smith; People's Society—Mrs. Domes, Mr. Taylor, Thos. Ellis. THOS. ELLIS.

Ladies' Aid Meeting on Wednesday afternoon, March 14, in Occidental Hall was well attended. Mrs. Smith, past president, addressed the meeting. Mr. Hoyt of Santa Barbara also gave an address, giving detailed account of spirit manifestations in that city. Flowers and pictures were materialized in the light when also independent messages were given. They intend to give a benefit seance for our Ladies' Aid Society in the near future.

Hermetic Brotherhood.—The usual open meeting of this Order at 509 Van Ness Ave., on Thursday evening, March 15, was well attended. Mesdames Rogers and Weld were at the piano. A large part of the interest in these meetings is due to the fine music furnished by these ladies. The talk on "Ministering Spirits" defined the position of the Brotherhood in relation to our invisible friends and the Universal Spirit, with a new definition of Salvation by Dr. Phelon.

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I wish to say that Dr. J. R. Guelph-Norman of Further India has been lecturing for the Buddhist Mission in San Francisco for some months, and possesses much information about the hidden forces in nature that all progressive thinkers need, and has great power over disease. The marvelous manner in which he restored my invalid daughter from sickness to health by the simple command, "Dress, and I will take you out," has attracted the attention of many interested in Psychical Research. GEO. W. CARPENDER.

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