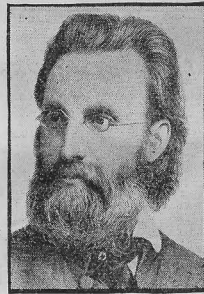


# THE Spiritualist Messenger

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ANDREW JACKSON DAVIS,  
The Father of Modern Spiritualism

**Spirituality**  
The Religion of  
**SPIRITUALISM**

TEN CENTS PER COPY  
\$1.00 PER YEAR

VOLUME 5.

GRAND RAPIDS, SEPTEMBER, 1924.

NUMBER 4.

**The Sun will shine after every storm. There is a Solution for Every Problem, and the Soul's highest duty is to be of Good Cheer.—Emerson.**

## INSPIRATION.

"Never was to chosen race  
That unstinted tide confined;  
Thine is every time and place,  
Fountain sweet of heart and mind!

Secret of the morning stars,  
Motion of the oldest hours,  
Pledge through elemental wars,  
Of the coming spirit's powers.

Rolling planet, flaming sun,  
Stand in nobler man complete,  
Prescient laws thine errands run,  
Frame the shrine for Godhead meet.

\* \* \* \* \*  
In the touch of earth it thrilled;  
Down from mystic skies it burned;  
Right obeyed and passion stilled,  
Its eternal goodness earned.

Breathing in the thinker's creed,  
Pulsing in the hero's blood,  
Nerving simplest thought and deed,  
Freshening time with truth and good.

\* \* \* \* \*  
Life of ages, richly poured,  
Love of God unspent and free,  
Flow still in the prophet's word,  
And the people's liberty."

—Samuel Johnson.

—o—  
Tolerance is the vision that enables us to see things from another person's point of view. It is the generosity that concedes to others the right to their own opinions and their own peculiarities.

## THE SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT.

The spiritual movement analyzed and boiled down, not only in New England but throughout the United States, will not amount to a world power in the religious field until we, as an aggregate body, can slough off the decayed body politics, such as backbiters, slanderers, and those Scribes and Pharisees and hypocrites who write righteousness upon the hem of their garments, have a part of Godliness, but deny the power of the spirit thereof. They preach the doctrine that they are looking for justice, when in fact they should be looking for mercy. If they had equal and exact justice meted out to them they would be in the penitentiary or on the gallows. Also that they want freedom. It is not freedom they want, but license to do just as they please, and slavery for the other fellow. Freedom is for the non-evasive individual. I am all right myself, but we need a policeman for the other fellow. Well if they do not need a policeman for themselves they do not need one for the other fellow. Spiritualism is not only a religion, but it is an exact science; that being so, it is a scientific religion. Therefore, every cause brings its own corresponding effect. Our premises being correct, our conclusions will be right.

In the past we have sent out, as everyone knows, the thought vibrations that our mediums are practitioners of Legerdemain, which has surrounded them with a positive opposing vibration, shutting out to a large extent all free and uplifting truths from unseen realms. This interference in the spiritual vibrations, comes from within the ranks of Spiritualism and not from without. Can we by any known natural law, send out hatred and get in return—love? Can we by

any known physical or spiritual law put out the light with darkness? Or would we rather turn on the light and dispel the darkness? Movement, like an individual, is saved by the faith possessed that the right thing will be done. The great Spiritual Teacher, Jesus, 2,000 years ago said in the twenty-third chapter of Matthew: "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant and whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abused; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." The spiritual movement in New England has been based upon the **man** system of power of **material force** to make all spiritual manifestations square with their materialistic conception of things, regardless of the voice from the great spiritual organizations, or from the spirit side of life. "The mills of the god's grind slow, but they grind exceedingly fine." Some of these days, when the great Spiritual Powers that have this earth in charge, are ready to raise the earthly vibration high enough to reach the heavenly spheres, some of these earthly organizations will be thrown into outer darkness, where there shall be no weeping and gnashing of teeth. To reason correctly we must reason from spirit out—out into gross matter, and not from gross matter out—out into spirit. When our spiritual organizations are based on the solid foundation of seeing the good in everything, we shall draw to us the whole religious world. Like the Man of Galilee when walking through the streets of Jerusalem, seeing a dog in the last stages of decay, His disciples turned in disgust, commenting upon the nauseating nature of the sight; but Jesus looked at the dead body and said: "Pearls are not whiter than its teeth."

In closing, would state that constructive criticism which points out defects and the means of remedying them is the basis of progress; but destructive criticism which vandallistically demolishes good and bad alike without aiming at any higher attainment, is an ulcer on the character of the organization, and must be eradicated. Gossip and idle talebearing are clogs and hindrances. While it is not required that we shall say black is white and overlook manifestly wrong conduct, criticism should be made for the purpose of helping, not to wantonly besmirch the character of a fellow being because we have found a stain. Remembering the parable of the mote and the beam, we should turn our most unsparing criticism towards ourselves. No one is so perfect that there is no room for improvement. The more blameless the man or organization, the less prone they are to find fault, and cast the first stone at another. If we point faults and suggest ways for improvement, it must be done without personal feeling. **We must always seek the good which is hidden in everything.** The cultivation of this attitude of discrimination is particularly important.

Rev. F. S. Cornish.  
11 Bristol Street, Mansfield, Mass.

#### POINTS OF VIEW.

Kindly Old Man (admiring twelve little children)—"Well, well, can these all be your children, or is it a picnic?"

Woman—"They're all mine. It's no picnic."

#### PRAYER.

Too many make prayer the safety-valve of wrongdoing; and to suppose that sin will be forgiven by the mere utterance of words is a fallacy; for in earnest effort to expiate our wrongs, alone is sin forgiven. We must pronounce our own judgment and punishment; and we need not try to console ourselves in the midst of sin, by the recollection that we have prayed.

I think the most beautiful prayer I know of is one contained in "Fate or Destiny," "The Story of the Soul," by Louis Lisemer, and is as follows:

Holy Spirit!  
Give me a clear mind,  
A pure heart,  
A contrite spirit,  
And a healthy body.  
Amen.

And those words express all that mortal can, in an earnest, heartfelt desire to be good and to please God. In pleasing God, we are sure to please mankind. The prayer is a noble utterance from a heart of purest gold and one of the noblest souls on earth, and the book is one of moral grandeur, well worth reading. None can enjoy the blessings of a clear mind, a pure heart, and a healthy body, without the contrite spirit, which implies regret for misdeeds committed in the past, and the deepest desire to do right in all ways. We would do well as Spiritualists to adopt **Mr. Lisemer's prayer** for our very own, and to live as it expresses desire to do.

Sorrow for wrongdoing is the very first step toward reform, and is, in itself a form of prayer, and prayer is answered (by) in accordance with our desires, as expressed in practice.

#### AN S. M. A. WORKER SERIOUSLY INJURED.

One of the S. M. A. Members, Mrs. Carrie J. Oleson of St. Paul, Minn., lately met with a serious mishap. Mrs. Oleson, while in Chicago, slipped in stepping off the curbing of the sidewalk, sustaining a serious fracture of an ankle.

Mr. Oleson writes me that she is in a hospital in Chicago, and the prospects are that she will be there for some time. Let us all unite in sending to her our sympathy, and our healing thoughts.

—The Editor.

#### IN THE SEANCE ROOM.

(Written for The Spiritualist Messenger.)

By Cecile Ritzman.

In the quiet of the evening,  
While you sit for those so dear,  
You are hopeful while waiting,  
That a word may reach your ear.

And with loving thoughts, you breathe a silent prayer—

And you sit not in vain,  
For soon, your efforts are rewarded,  
By an old familiar strain.

And as you list to the Astral music,  
Floating on the wings of love,



You wish that you were better—  
More like those who reign Above.

When you recognize the singer's voice—  
All your cares are lulled to rest,  
And you are made sublimely happy,  
And your hour is doubly blest.

Then you hear your loved ones calling,  
As they cross the intervening space,  
Floating with angelic splendor,  
Replete with beauty, and with grace—

Calling out your name so clearly,  
In a voice so soft and sweet,  
Voicing their loving message,  
With love and cheer replete.

At times you are touched by Spirit fingers—  
A hand is pressed upon your brow;  
And in writing you these words,  
I feel their presence, even now.

They called you their beloved,  
You're embraced within their arms;  
Oh! how dear, to feel their presence,  
How dear to know their charms.

The babies come in hearts of roses,  
Shielded from all thought of harm—  
Nestling, Oh, so sweetly,  
In the curve of mother's arm.

Their pink faces, sweet and smiling—  
So pure, so sweet, and so dear.  
We always do feel better  
When the babies have been here.

Then a Father, and a Mother,  
Come to see us once again—  
Comfort us, and assure us,  
That they suffer no more pain;

They bless us, and advise us,  
As they did in days of yore;  
And they promise that they will  
Guide, and love us evermore.

Then a Brother, and a Sister dear,  
Come close to us again;  
Let us ever make them welcome,  
Never let them come in vain.

While they press around us,  
And their loved ones embrace,  
They will waft a kiss of greeting  
On each happy, smiling face.

#### NOTICE.

The columns of The Spiritualist Messenger are open to free expression of opinion from all workers. Each writer is alone responsible for his or her article, and we are not to be held responsible for what others may think and say.

The Editors.

What a blessing if we could have a grouch week, and get it all done up in a week.

#### A TESTIMONIAL.

The readers of this magazine will no doubt read the article in this month's issue by Lida W. Amerige, as well as her advertisement.

Mrs. Amerige is one of the veteran workers in the field of Spiritualism, having known Andrew Jackson Davis years ago in the East.

Mrs. Amerige makes a specialty of the Science of Numbers, and I feel safe in saying that she has mastered the art thoroughly, judging by the reading I have received from her. I am an entire stranger to her, and all I furnished her was my full name, and birth date; the reading she mailed me is accurate insofar as I can judge, or have knowledge. I have no hesitation in recommending her work.

—Merton Verrill.

#### CHARACTER ANALYSIS

Know Yourself from Your Birthname and Birthdate. Send \$2.00 for a brief Numberscope, or \$5.00 for a fuller one, or \$8.00 for a complete one.

Forecast for 6 months from your birthdate—\$1  
or 3 months—50c.

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**LIDA W. AMERIGE**

610 Geary Street

San Francisco, Calif.

#### YOUR NAME.

(Written for The Messenger.)

By Lida W. Amerige, Numerologist.

Your name was not given you by chance, for this world is not run that way, but by Divine Law. Each one has attracted the name he bears, and it fits him like a glove. It is the sum total of the result of former lives, and the lessons already mastered. Everything is named according to its rate of vibration, and we are tuned to the name we carry.

Often a discussion arises about naming a child. Someone wishes to give it a name that is not fitted to it. Ofttimes the minister at the christening gives the right name, ignoring the one given by the parents. Whoever gets the message subconsciously from the incoming soul, gives the name to the child.

A soul who desires to learn music or mechanics selects the parents who can give it the proper advantages, but if it has led a destructive life in its former existence, it cannot choose its parents. The Masters of the Spheres do this for them, and select parents who will give them the lessons they need to make them constructive beings. Hence you often hear of the "black sheep" of the family, who has been placed there for reformation by right associations.

Many little children are old souls, attracted to earth to get some needed lesson and we say "they are wise beyond their years." Again we see those who are mature in years who are mere children in intellect; we must have patience with them and not quarrel through a difference of opinion. We may have been once where they are now on life's pathway.

Each of us vibrate differently, and hence think and act differently. No two of us are alike, for even father and son bearing the same name would enter this life at different times when the world was in a different stage. Each has a different consciousness according to our unfoldment.

If we knew our own vibrations from our birthname and birthdate, we would understand why we are attracted to some people and repelled by others. They may be excellent people who get along nicely with others, but antagonize us and we do not desire their companionship; we vibrate differently.

We are all sending out certain rates of vibration, and one who is highly developed can sense through this whether another is kind and truthful, or is deceitful and hypocritical; can know immediately whether they are using their vibrations constructively, or destructively, or are negative.

Our thoughts are vibrations, and through them we can attract whatever we want. A constructive thought held in mind with faith long enough will objectify. Whatever you send out in thought returns to you bringing your desires; thus you can create health, harmony and happiness in your life.

When a destructive thought goes out from your mind, it attracts of its own kind the sicknesses, worries and cares of those around you. All undesirable things are brought about through destructive thinking.

When one represses his feelings, always taking in and never giving out, he may be likened to a pond that has no outlet. They become unwholesome and disagreeable. So it should be the aim of all to use their vibrations constructively and thus build up their lives instead of tearing down that which was built up in former lives.

It is comforting to know that we can make and unmake our lives, and are not mere puppets of fate. We can be what we will to be, through understanding ourselves and working with our vibrations constructively. We are each evolving something and have certain lessons to learn. Why not find out the great purpose of our life, and our own special vibrations? We should know ourselves, and others with whom we come in contact with, in order to help along the progress of the soul.

Editor Spiritualist Messenger:

Electricity is eternal energy. Eternal energy is life. It is everywhere. Everything vibrates. The rate of vibration determines the nature of things. Thoughts are things. Thoughts and electricity constitute the propelling power of the universe. These things had no beginning, they are eternal; always were and always will be.

Thoughts have color. Good thoughts are white. Evil thoughts are black. There are numerous shades of thought, varying according to the amount of good or hate contained in them.

Good thoughts are constructive. Thoughts of hate are destructive. Everybody can and does witness the action of thought every day, but they

are so accustomed to it that they are unconscious of it. Just as we are unconscious of the enormous pressure of the air upon our body. Just as the fish are unconscious of the pressure of water on them.

The human body is the most powerful natural electric battery known of. No mechanical device can take the place of it, as regards sensitivity.

Each and every person is gifted to perform along certain lines; thus providing for a pleasant and intensely interesting existence. But mankind, not knowing of the simple workings of natural law, throws obstacles in the way. Hence the "war and rumors of war" in the world. A baby must first learn to creep before it can walk; to walk before it can run and so on. So it is with us. The world is full of false teachings. Unity, and harmony, and co-operation must be had in order to have world peace. Education will bring that, "Truth crushed to earth shall rise again."

Frank J. McCarthy.

### SPIRITUAL PSYCHOLOGY.

What has spirituality to do with health? Everything, almost. We are a community of invalids, says the Reasoner, because we lack spirituality and the education that teaches what spirituality stands for. Health does not inhere in the body; neither does disease. Health inheres in the soul. Most of our ill health is brought on through fear. The coward's legs are weak and tremble as he runs, making him thus the more easy victim to his pursuers. We should have a series of textbooks on soul culture written by the ripest scholars in spiritual psychology and mental therapeutics. Now, do not sneeze at the term "spiritual psychology." It is correct, and I use it advisedly. Every teacher should be required to pass an examination in these branches. The Prodigal Son has wandered about far enough, eating husks with the swine. Let him come home now and feast upon the fatted calf. Disease is a bugbear, a hallucination of the mind, and is brought on, like other nightmares, by improper mental food. Let the people be taught these things, and disease will disappear.

"Talk happiness. The world is sad enough Without your woes. No path is wholly rough; Look for the places that are smooth and clear, And speak of those, to rest the weary ear Of earth, so hurt by one continuous strain Of human discontent, and grief, and pain.

"Talk faith. The world is better off without Your uttered ignorance and morbid doubt. If you have faith in God, or man, or self, Say so; if not, push back upon the shelf Of silence all your thoughts, till faith shall come; No one will grieve because your lips are dumb.

"Talk health. The dreary, never-changing tale Of fatal maladies is worn and stale. You cannot charm, nor interest, nor please, By harping on that minor chord, disease. Say you are well, or, all is well with you, And God shall hear your words, and make them true."



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## The Progressive Spiritualist Church.

121½ E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Mich.  
 Sunday Services: 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7:30 p. m.  
 Services conducted by local and transient  
 Speakers and Message Bearers.  
 President: Mrs. Anna L. Reason, 519 An-  
 derson St.  
 Secretary: Mrs. Mary E. Hewlett, 521 Carlton  
 Terrace.

Everybody Welcome!

\* \* \*

## The Spiritual Science Church.

A O. U. Hall, 421 Lackawana Ave., Scranton, Pa.  
 Sunday services, 8 p. m. The public welcome.  
 President, Speaker and Message Bearer:  
 Eugene A. Pryor, 1049 Blair Ave.  
 Secretary: Mrs. Jennie M. Gangwere, 111  
 Prospect Ave.

\* \* \*

## Spiritual Science Church.

10427 St. Clair St., Cleveland, Ohio.  
 Sunday Services: 3 and 7:45 p. m.  
 President and Pastor: Rev. Emma Raymond,  
 1449 E. Ninety-second St.  
 Secretary: Mrs. Minnie Puhl, 14607 Orinoco  
 Ave., E. Cleveland, O.

\* \* \*

## The South Side Spiritualist Church.

Indianapolis, Ind.  
 Fountain Block, 3rd floor, Fountain Square,  
 Cor. Virginia Ave. and Prospect St.  
 Sunday Services: 7:45 p. m.  
 Thursday Service: 2:30 p. m., Ladies Auxili-  
 ary Message Service, and Social Hour.  
 Pastor and President: Rev. A. A. Hamilton,  
 607 N. Garfield Ave.  
 Message Bearer: Mrs. Bertha Holtz Hamil-  
 ton, 607 N. Garfield Ave.  
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 Sunday Services: 7:30 P. M.  
 Sunday School: 9:30 A. M.  
 Ladies' Aid, Thursday: 2:30 P. M.  
 Pastor—Rev. Gretchen Niedhammer, 804 Eliza  
 St., Ft. Wayne, Ind.  
 President—Robert Niedhammer, 804 Eliza St.,  
 Ft. Wayne, Ind.  
 Corres. Sec'y.—Mr. K. E. Hewes, 305 Y. M. C.  
 A., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

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I. O. O. F. Temple, Seventh and Elm Streets,  
 Cincinnati, O.  
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 President—Mrs. Augusta Tauschardt, 1714  
 Elmore St. (Cumminsville), Cincinnati, O.  
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 Sec'y—Mrs. K. Shepard, 746½ Virginia Ave.  
 Pastor—Rev. Eliza E. Hoyt.  
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## THE GOLDEN HOUR SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

K. of P. Temple, S. 8th St., Terre Haute, Ind.  
 Sunday Service—7:45 P. M.  
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 Ave., W. Terre Haute, Ind.  
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 Woodmen Temple, 154 Bostwick Avenue.  
 Sunday Services: 2:45 and 7:30 p. m.  
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 You will find at this church a warm welcome,  
 and a friendly people.  
 Spiritualist Messenger on sale.

o

## HE WAS BARRED.

When the Sunday school teacher asked all  
 her pupils who wanted to go to heaven to raise  
 their hands, Jimmy's was not in evidence.  
 "Don't you want to go to heaven, Jimmy?"  
 "Can't," was the brisk answer, we got a Ford  
 now and Pa says anywhere the Ford can't go, we  
 can't either."

o

With a smile on your lips  
 And love in your heart;  
 All shadows and worries  
 From you will depart.

o

The crest and crowning of all good, Life's  
 final star is Brotherhood.—Edwin Markham.

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## THE SPIRITUALIST MESSENGER.

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The Official Board of The S. M. A.

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### Declaration of Principles.

Adopted Feb. 6, 1918.

1. We affirm, that Spiritualism is the Philosophy of life.
2. We affirm that Infinite Intelligence can be attained by acquiring a correct understanding of the phenomena of Nature, Spiritual and Physical.
3. We affirm, that living in accordance with truth constitutes the true religion.
4. We affirm that REAL PROGRESSION is attained only by and through the development and use of the Good in the individual.
5. We affirm, that the existence and personal identity of the Individual continues after the change called Death; that Spirit return and communication is a fact in Nature, therefore a Science.
6. We affirm, that Progression is a natural law; that the degree of Progression attained will correspond to the individual desire for, and understanding of Progression.
7. We affirm, that man is potentially Infinite, inasmuch as man is Spirit, and Spirit being eternal and progressive, is therefore capable of attaining Infinite Intelligence.

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## WHICH SHALL IT BE?

(Written for The Spiritualist Messenger.)

By Merton L. Verrill.

Which shall it be, O Child of the Night,  
A sin-scarred memory, breeding blight?  
Or a soul like the dawn of a perfect day,  
Shedding radiance along the way?

Which shall it be, O Child of the Morn,  
A joyous glance, or a look forlorn?  
A heart of gold—an even mind,  
Or a craven heart, to evil inclined?

Which shall it be, O Child of Earth,  
An ignoble career, doomed at birth?  
Or one of endeavor, honest and brave,  
Leading to Glory beyond the grave?

Which shall it be, O Child of Infinite Power—  
Wisdom attaining with each passing hour?  
Grace unfolding on the upward way?  
Tell me, O Spirit encased in clay!

\* \* \* \* \*

"Which shall it be?" I answer thus, O Man:  
Hopefully, may you, the future scan.  
You are a Child of Night and Morn,  
A Child of Earth, of Infinite Power born.

Your soul IS the dawn of a perfect day,  
By grace of radiance shed, along the way;  
Your heart of gold, your even mind,  
Redeems the craven, to evil inclined.

Your brave endeavor—a noble career;  
Your teachings pure—your reasoning clear.  
Doomed, you were, to be true and brave  
In revealing life beyond the grave.

You are the Child of Infinite Power,  
Wisdom acquiring with each passing hour.  
Which shall it be? Upon each summit, ASK,  
Then turn again, to your Infinite Task.

\* \* \*

**Which shall it be?** Truly, a most momentous question—one which each soul will ask many times. At every turn of the road it confronts humanity; it is found in the every-day life, the petty details of the necessary small affairs, as well as in matters of great import, demanding instant attention and decision.

Which shall it be? Broken-hearted men and women have asked this question—writhing in agony of spirit; asked it with tears streaming from their eyes, and with bodies racked with pain; some have asked it soberly and solemnly, some asked it carelessly.

It has been asked by husbands and wives; it has been asked by fathers and mothers; it has been asked by friends; truly, a most universal question.

The lives of men and women have trembled in the balance, while those in authority sought the answer. Thrones have swayed and tottered; governments crashed and crumbled; men and women have been betrayed, dishonored, and murdered; religious bodies have warred, pillaged, mutilated, outraged and killed suffering human beings; little innocent babies have had



their brains dashed out, and womanhood dishonored—yea, HELL itself has been established in the minds of human beings, because of this question.

Which shall it be? Have we not had enough of violence? What has the world profited by war? What has the world profited by the intolerance, persecution and bigotry of the old forms of religion? Have we not had enough of the partisanship, the greed, graft, and mudslinging of politics? Have we not had enough of those methods which have been the means of destroying the sacredness of HOMES? Which shall it be? Why not "about face?" Why not drop the vileness, the deceit, the greed, the graft? Why not have done with hypocrisy, and jealousy? Why not be honest with ourselves, and with one another—laying aside the overwhelming love of material things, which has been a curse? Why not agree to let the divine attributes of your nature have the ascendancy in all the affairs of life? Why not let that which is spiritual have its innings? Why not be impartial, and fair minded? WHY NOT?

#### THE HAND OF POWER.

I think of a hand with sinews of steel  
And muscles that know no fatigue;  
And power is there for woe or weal,  
For a task that is little or big.

And skill is there, the skill of one  
Who is trained to do useful deeds;  
And the owner knows, when his task is done,  
He has satisfied some soul's needs.

For the tasks of the world need hands of power,  
And souls that are willing to do;  
And the man that does is the man of the hour,  
Be it by brain or sinew's thew.

Another hand—it is tender and weak,  
The muscles can scarce be told;  
'Tis a baby's hand, reached out to seek  
Some object that it can hold.

For the hold and grip of that hand is small,  
A man's little finger fills it;  
But the heart is dead that misses the thrall  
Or spurns the clasp that stills it.

Yet there's power in that hand—a power  
supreme,  
That every true soul must feel;  
For two hearts are bound with a strength that  
would seem  
To mock the strength of steel.

Yes, the world needs power in the hands of men,  
To do the things that irk;  
And it needs the power in a baby's clasp,  
To give courage to those who work.

Humanity shall realize that they are the  
Temple of God, as God has said:

I will dwell in them, and walk in them. And  
I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

—2 Cor. 6:16.

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#### RUDE THING.

Census Taker—And how old are you,  
madam?

The Lady—I've seen 26 summers.

Census Taker—And how long have you been  
blind?

## THE CHURCH BULLETIN

### FROM TOLEDO, OHIO.

Mrs. Minnie Snyder, speaker and message bearer, and a member of The Spiritualist Mediums' Alliance of the United States of America, has closed a successful series of meetings at Toledo, O., and has organized a Local Society, whose President is Arthur D. Halford, a popular medium of that city. The Meetings have been held in Iota Hall, on Jefferson Ave., and have been well attended.

Mrs. Snyder was aided in the work by Louis Lisemer, and G. B. Marshall, who occupied the platform as lecturers and treated various phases of mediumship in an explanatory manner, and also of Spiritualism in general.

Mrs. Snyder, who has returned to Cincinnati, her home, to take up her work there for the Cause, is a fluent and entertaining talker, and a conscientious and accomplished medium; she has a plaintive voice, which is musical, and therefore pleasing. Like Louis Lisemer, the psychic, she found her way to Spiritualism through sorrow, her life having been saddened by heavy disappointments and the passing away of dear ones. Mortals who have such experiences, find comfort in Spiritualism's religion, philosophy and science. The strength of her mediumistic power is nicely illustrated thusly: I had just come from having a sitting with Dr. Helen Weyant, the venerable medium who has lectured for the Cause in nearly all parts of the English-speaking world, and who had given me startling revelations while deeply entranced; on my way to Iota Hall, my mind was perturbed by them, but I dispelled them from my mind, and when I entered the Hall, Mrs. Snyder was voicing messages; she at once directed her attention to me, and gave me the identical ominous message which I had just heard from the lips of the entranced Dr. Weyant, and in her exact words.

To say that I was dumfounded, is expressing it mildly. It was new and strange to me. After the meeting, I appraised Mrs. Snyder of my most singular mediumistic experience with Dr. Weyant, and with her, and she was agreeably surprised, and replied, 'How happy I am to realize that my mediumship is unfolding! I live for the Cause.'

Mrs. Snyder is one of Spiritualism's jewels, and it is to be hoped that in her travels, that she will visit the baby society of the S. M. A. in Toledo.

Louis Lisemer.

\* \* \*

### FROM DETROIT, MICH.

Sister and Brother Readers of The Spiritualist Messenger:

I have been wanting to write to you for a long time, but something always prevented.

In the first place I want to tell you about the picnic of "The Bright Light Spiritualist Lyceum," which was held in Palmer's Park, De-

troit, on Sunday, August 3rd. One of our members, Mr. White Cloud, together with his wife, called for us about 10 a. m., with a big motor truck, into which we packed our baskets, a tub of ice and 4 cases of delicious soft drinks, which Mr. White Cloud kindly donated; then came a 14½-pound ham, donated by Mr. Androutis, a crock of butter donated by Mr. Monberg, and mountains of the most wonderful EATS donated by the ladies, too numerous to mention. Finally we found room in the truck for ourselves, and a jolly crowd and a happy one, was on its way for an all day outing in one of nature's most beautiful Parks, where we were met by many of our friends and members; altogether, there were more than 40 present, including Dr. and Mrs. Venning of Windsor, and his sister from Strathroy, and our dear friend Dr. Estes, and we certainly had a wonderful day.

After our lunch, we, as usual, enjoyed an hour of social exchange of opinions, and then formed a Circle, and the Rev. Marie Herrick conducted the Lyceum Service of the day, in her own sweet way; then we had an hour devoted to a free expression of thought, many new thoughts for our better living, and many wonderful experiences of those coming into our Truth were related. Then we joined hands, sang, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds," and then once more gathered around the lunch table, and full justice was done in disposing of much of the many goodies spread before us. We then went to the Church, where we had the pleasure of greeting a large audience, and one of the best meetings of the summer was held. At 10:55 we sang the Doxology, and closed one of the happiest days of the season—the First Annual Picnic of The Bright Light Spiritualist Lyceum No. 1, of Detroit, Mich., and although it was a tired crowd that homeward wended its way—it was a happy one.

I wish to announce that we have moved to our new home, three-quarters of a mile from the Village of Redford, where we have a typical farm house, with an acre of land, an orchard, and lots of shade trees. Now, here is the reason for this explanation: We are going to hold Open Air Services on our Acre, August 31 and September 1. The Union Spiritual Church and The Bright Light Lyceum extend a cordial invitation to all, to come and be with us in this new line of work; let us work together for the Cause, and make these meetings something to be long remembered by all.

Send in your names and phases of mediumship, so we can arrange our program; let us put the S. M. A. on the map at Redford, and let the effort of all be as the effort of one.

Address Rev. Ainsworth-Maxey, R. F. D. No. 3, Redford, Mich.

\* \* \*

### FIRST SPIRITUALIST ALLIANCE CHURCH, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

On August 8th, this church enjoyed the second Social of the season, meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Purley Struble, where twenty or more enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant evening. Music, games, and all the ice cream and cake that you could eat made up the program of the



evening. As this date was the tenth birthday of Jerome Funk, nephew of the hostess, he became the recipient of numerous presents, one being a Birthday Cake, presented by Mrs. Joy Weston.

As at the previous Social, nearly all, sad to relate, went on "a tear"—tearing paper so as to resemble a camel, I believe it was, and some had to "hump" themselves in the effort; the prize went to Mrs. Joy Weston.

This will be the last Social previous to the opening of the Church services on the last Sunday of August.

—Correspondent.

\* \* \*

### THE FIRST ALLIANCE SPIRITUALIST CHURCH, TOLEDO, O.

On Sunday, August 10th, this church had a wonderful service, with a packed Hall, everybody smiling and friendly, with best of conditions for good work.

The Local Organizer installed the Board, and then presented the S. M. A. Charter. The President, Mr. Arthur Halford, and the Vice-President, Mrs. Cecile Ritzman, are Individual Members of the S. M. A., and proud of it. A letter written by the S. M. A. President, Rev. Merton Verrill, and addressed to the Membership of the new Church Society, was read by Mrs. Minnie Snyder; this letter was greatly appreciated, judging by the applause.

Mrs. Gale Childs favored us with two vocal solos.

The lecture, "What has Spiritualism brought to the world?" was delivered by Mrs. Snyder. An inspirational poem was read by the author, Mrs. Cecile Ritzman. Messages were given by Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Segur, Mrs. Ritzman and Mrs. Snyder, which were all recognized and thankfully accepted. Demonstrations of Divine Healing were given by Mr. Halford, and Mr. Williams, and much benefit derived thereby. A rising vote of thanks was given the Organizer, and she was asked to arrange for a Mass Meeting to be held in the early Fall, to be attended by the S. M. A. President.

A letter of appreciation, and profound reverence from the Church Workers was read by President Halford, and handed to Mrs. Snyder.

My work in Toledo is completed—a new S. M. A. Society has been launched—au revoir has been said, and we are off for other fields.

—Mrs. Minnie Snyder.

### SPIRITUALISM VS. MURDER.

(Written for The Spiritualist Messenger.)

With the eyes of the world focused upon the Loeb-Leopold case; with degeneracy rampant, and various crimes too hideous to mention, a common every day occurrence—we who know Spiritualism to be the truth of life, can only smile wearily at the ignorance of the courts, and slayers, as we recall Emerson's words:

"If the red slayer thinks he slays,

Or the slain thinks he is slain,

They know not well the subtle ways

I keep, and pass and turn again."

A little bit too subtle for the average lawyer,

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or defendant to understand, but we know it to be the truth.

No Spiritualist would commit murder as the means of ridding himself of an adversary or opponent; murder is neither the end, nor the means to an end; it is but the BEGINNING. It is only a poor, ignorant fool who resorts to the gun, the knife, the bottle of poison, or to the brutality of his own hands to force another spirit out of its body; he becomes like Hercules writhing in the embrace of the Nessus shirt that he has put on, rending his own flesh in an attempt to escape its poisonous web.

A true Spiritualist has only pity for the murderer, and for the MURDERED. The murdered one feels that he has been outraged, and generally has his fancied revenge by making life miserable for the killer—except in a case where the Spirit is very far advanced; in that case, he will have no enmity, and in many cases will try to aid the victim of the flesh.

There are, of course, many causes for murder, as there are many kinds of murderers, and many kinds of murders, including capital punishment, which is murder by the state: this is all unnecessary and avoidable, if we would only heed the "still, small voice within"—the voice of love.

—Sylvia Fredericks.

471 Central Park, W., New York, N. Y.

Care of Asplund.

### THE REWARD OF LIFE.

Let us look at the last verse of Aylmer Harding's, *The Spirit of the Sphinx*.

"I have lived, live, and shall live," is the text.

There is no mystery when attuned to truth;

Her voice melodious, soundeth when most still

The Soul is. Greatest power most manifest

In deepest silence. Herein find the Key.

"Follow the gleam," until the Eastern Light,

Resplendent, rises in thy consciousness,

And know that in thyself, is Truth Supreme.

Part of the Sun's pure flame, that o'er thy path

Shall e'er illumine all life's way to God.

It has always been popular to cloth religion and philosophies of the world with that which is mysterious and beyond the comprehension of the understanding of the average individual. Its purpose was twofold. All people have an unborn desire to know and understand the great desires and mystery of life and death. By creating a dogmatic mystery that no one understands, it is easy to explain and yet leave the individual more perplexed than ever. Also it places the teacher in a position of power and respect. We have seen man's way of imposing on his fellow-man to satisfy the greed and lust of wealth and power. Now let us glance at the way of the Supreme Creator of the Universe, that Master Workman that doeth all things well. We find that every essential fact necessary for the life of man to know in accordance with this particular life just where one who uses reason would expect the Great Supreme Intelligence to place it and each fact appearing in its importance in the life of man.

Any person who has made any observation of the state and progress of the human mind by observing his own can not but have observed

that there are two distinct classes of what are called thoughts: those that we produce in ourselves by reflection and the act of thinking and those which bolt in on their own accord. Of the latter kind many new ideas and higher attainment comes. We who are real Spiritualists can easily understand that those thoughts are sent from the Spirit World by someone who has lived such an experience in their earth life. As our intelligence grows we can determine between the good messengers of the highest Spiritual realms and those who must suffer the earth bound penalty which is often called Hell by those who will not listen to the reason of their own intellect. If each would do his part on the earth plane, and make the most of both the physical and mental, there would be no such a thing as earth bound Spirits, and all would be attuned in perfect harmony.

Illumination or growth of the soul must come from within. Any advancement is growth. True it takes time to attain it, yet its start is as an awakening from a sound sleep. Life is ever present on all planes—the seen and the unseen alike. Life, life everywhere, though it may change its form as we may change our clothes. Life is ever with us. The western world has become profoundly materialistic and a real atheism has grown up in and around the churches. This condition is due to the fact that the real Spiritual truth has long been crushed out of the churches and the creed of man substituted for the divine truth of the Great Architect of the universe. Among God's fold, as they are pleased to call themselves, there has been only blind leaders of the blind. Few are able to give the reason of the creed faith which they profess.

Development of reason and the physical body in the last forty years has led many to the very edge of the borderland between the earth plane and the spirit realms. The few who have investigated Spiritualism have found the **real meaning** of the words, **"Seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you."**

We as Spiritualists have a great work to do. We who have seen and known that which lays beyond the border land. We must teach those who have reached the border land, by our lips, what lies in that space that man made creeds dare not tell. Dare not because, let man once see the Spirit world, he is no longer a blind slave, to do the bidding of a taskmaster whose whole thought is gold and power. His eyes are opened and he is set free from the shackles of fear and superstition. He has seen the fulfillment of the words of that Master Medium Christ: As I am so ye may become. He has seen love rule supreme. He has seen the beauty of Nature. He is **free**.

Everything moves. Everything vibrates. The divine breath of life, is everywhere life is. It is the first supreme fact in the manifest universe. Naught exists without life. From cosmic dust to seraphic hosts, all is instinct with life. It is the "bete noire" of the scientists and the dream of philosophers.

The uniting principle of all things is love, and it is everywhere, in all things, and by man

is variously known also as adhesion, cohesion, desire, attraction, will, love—but it is all one thing, which is not a thing at all, **LOVE**. Harmonious vibration means all things are filled with it. Discord proves its need. Love is that universal solvent so long sought by the alchemist of all ages of man. The one and only thing that can unite Spirit and matter.

What is Spirit? What is matter? They are the two poles of the same thing, one eternally enduring and the other periodically appearing and disappearing.

Spirit is life, love, and intelligence, the supreme fact in time and space. Spirit and matter form two planes. Spirit the inner, the within matter, the outer—the form side of things. One is the perfect being, all enduring, the supreme creative life; the other is imperfect, but each birth continually, eternally perfecting by allowing the inner to become more manifest.

The atom is the beginning. The atom is not the no-thing, but that through which the no-thing manifests.

The fact of unity is the base of Brotherhood. Three is one and one is three. All are within the one and are one, hence the necessary relation of brotherhood. One of the most sublime and important truths that has ever entered into the reason of man. This fact of brotherhood is beautifully expressed in the old saying: "One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." As Spiritualists we can easily understand how this is true. We have the Fatherhood of God within us for we were created in His likeness. When we feel the Motherhood of Nature, we have felt the second, and when we look for the third line to complete the equal lateral equal angular triangle we find the Universal Brotherhood of Man and have then builded the temple not made by hands, yet eternal in His realms.

Is life to eat and drink and laugh awhile?  
Is it to have mansions great and dwell in state?  
Is place, and power, and pelf the all of life?  
Or is it more to smooth a wrinkled brow,  
And calm a troubled heart, and make a soul  
That's laden sore with sorrow thrill with joy!  
Life much doth hold for him who knows it right,  
And most for him who knows it longest, best.  
The youth can scarce await the night to buy  
The fleeting joys for which his daily toil  
Hath yielded but the moneyed price; while he,  
In manhood's prime, for coming age doth build;  
And he whom death is calling, labors on  
In faith that children yet unborn, unwombed  
Shall better be, because he labored so,  
And races yet to be, shall come to know  
That life is only truly lived, when lived  
That others, nobler, better life shall know.

Awake, ye Spiritualists! Awake and journey on and on. Carry the light of truth and reason. Show to the world that path that leads to the Spirit world. Broadcast the wonderful truth that sets you free, that it may also free your fellow-man from the shackles of fear and superstition, and that the Divine Love shall rule his life in perfect harmony with the Divine Creator's command.

**THINK, ACT AND DO.**

—H. E. Wormwood.



### S. M. A. OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING.

Saturday, August 30th, the Official Board of the S. M. A. will convene at Grand Rapids, Mich. Much business of importance will be transacted, and Reports rendered by the Secretary and Treasurer. A meeting of the full Board is expected. Activities for the coming season will be planned, and decided upon. Future Mass Meetings, Missionary, and Organization work, Ways and Means, Co-operation, and publicity, will all be arranged for, and whatever is decided upon, will be executed with vigor, enthusiasm, tact, and promptness. Never did a coming season show greater promise of results. Our foundation now presents a wholesome soundness, and vibrates **Peace, Service, and Co-operation.**

Sunday, August 31, will witness the opening of the new S. M. A. church in Grand Rapids, Mich., The First Spiritualist Alliance Church, which will hold its services in the beautiful and commodious Woodmen Temple, 154 Bostwick Ave., in the down-town section.

Many members of the S. M. A. Board have consented to remain for the opening. Services will be held every Sunday, at 2:45 and 7:30 P. M., and the meetings will be opened promptly at the time designated. The Spiritualists, as well as the Orthodox are cordially invited to attend these meetings which will extend throughout the season. Men and women who believe in Constructive Spiritualism, are invited to become members of the Church; backbiters, gossip-mongers, etc., are not conducive to peace, harmony, or growth, therefore they are not desirable—as members. Grand Rapids Spiritualists who are in harmony with the sentiments expressed above, are invited to meet with the Members and Officers of this Church Organization, that we may work together in unity, for the good of humanity.

—Merton Verrill.

### THE MEDIUM'S MANUAL.

#### A New Spiritual Text Book.

This new Text Book is published by The Spiritualist Mediums' Alliance, and every Lecturer, every Message Bearer, every Healer, and Spiritualist should own a copy. 52 pages—handy pocket size—price \$1.00, postage paid. Order your copy today. Address Merton Verrill, 334 Monroe Ave., or Rev. Sylvia Struble, 15 Elm St., Grand Rapids, Mich.

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A true friend will multiply your joys and divide your sorrows.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO.

If you are a Medium, you should join the **Spiritualist Mediums' Alliance**, and commence to work for humanity, and not for yourself; you should possess a copy of The Mediums' Manual; you should use the Missionary Contribution Blanks, and should become a subscriber to The Spiritualist Messenger, published monthly, at Grand Rapids, Mich.

If you are a Spiritualist, but not a Medium, you should subscribe for The Spiritualist Messenger; you should also possess a copy of the Mediums' Manual, and you should join a Spiritualist Church, attend its services regularly; if there is no Spiritualist Church in your city, you should bend every effort in interesting others, in order that you could ask that a Missionary of the S. M. A. be sent there to organize a church society; you should be a booster for the Cause of Spiritualism, and be a substantial donator, in order that we may have the means to promulgate the religion of Spiritualism; your donations can be forwarded at once to the S. M. A. Secretary, Rev. Sylvia Struble, 15 Elm St., Grand Rapids, Mich.

You should encourage Right-thinking, and Right-living; you should discourage lying and gossiping; you should encourage, and aid the man or woman who is truthful, honest, and reliable—both in their private life, and in their public life; you should discourage the untruthful, the boasting, the dishonest, and unreliable man or woman, and seek to show them a better way. All this you should do, for the reason, that it is well and mete that you should so do; for in this manner, you will establish within yourself, the Kingdom of Heaven.

—The Editor.

### NEVER SAY FAIL.

Keep pushing—its' wiser  
Than stepping aside,  
And dreaming and sighing,  
And waiting the tide.  
In life's earnest battle  
They only prevail,  
Who daily march forward,  
And never say fail!

Ahead then! Keep pushing  
And elbow your way,  
Unheeding the envious,  
And cowards who stray.  
All obstacles vanish,  
All enemies quail  
In the might of their wisdom,  
Who never sail fail!

—Carlyle F. Straub.

### A USEFUL SNAKE.

The latest snake story has as its hero a rattlesnake that was raised as a pet by a naturalist. The snake expressed its gratitude by helping to capture a burglar. It coiled the upper part of its body round the burglar's neck; then hung its tail out of the window and rattled loudly for the police!

It is better to point with pride than to view with alarm.