

THE SUNFLOWER.

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NUMBER 4.

A THANKSGIVING DINNER -- THAT -- DID NOT MATERIALIZE.

By E. BACH.

THE early education of so-called civilized or Christian nations runs in the same groove. By the term education is meant that which we get from our surroundings and from the people with whom we come in contact and not from schools, colleges, etc. There is a distinct education outside of these channels that has a more distinct bearing upon our lives than they do, and is harder to rid ourselves of.

Probably no idea is more strongly ingrained among Christian nations (and it is stronger as you descend in the scale of mental development) than the one that man was created immortal; that death was not an original condition but was brought about by the transgression of a very simple law on the part of the first woman.

Had it not been for this -- every devout Christian will tell you -- this so much feared monster, death, would never have entered the world. Every child that was born would have lived forever.

There is Scriptural authority for this idea. We are told in Genesis that the Lord prohibited our first parents from eating the fruit of a certain tree, saying: "For in the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die." As they did not die for several hundreds of years afterwards, it has been held that it meant a change from an immortal condition to that of mortality and for this reason there has been a universal feeling of resentment against our first mother, sometimes reaching to such a degree as to cause Christian (?) gatherings to discuss the question as to whether woman was possessed of a soul or not.

One can not but depict the happy condition of the race had this sinning not taken place. Thorns and thistles would not have grown; no weeds, fruit or grain destroying insects; no hail storms, cyclones, earthquakes or equinoctial storms; serpents would have walked on their tails and would have been as "upright" as any of us; peaches and cream would have grown on every bush and strawberries would have been as plentiful as pig weed in a potato patch. Had the serpent been otherwise engaged that afternoon, think what a difference there might have been in the world.

Let us now take a stride forward -- 6000 years -- and note the result.

Every child born has lived and, obeying the Biblical injunction, has "multiplied and replenished the earth" and Adam and

(continued on page 10)



N. H. EDDY.

DON'T SHIRK.

I know not whence I came,
I know not whither I go;
But the fact stands clear
That I am here
In this world of pleasure and woe;
And out of the mist and murk
Another truth shines plain --
It is in my power
Each day and hour
To add to its joy or pain.

I know that the earth exists,
It is none of my business why.
I cannot find out
What its all about --
I'd but waste my time to try.
My life is a brief, brief thing,
I am here for a little space,
And while I stay
I would like, if I may,
To brighten and better the place.

The trouble, I think, with us all,
Is a lack of high conceit;
If each man thought
He was sent to the spot
To make it a bit more sweet,
How soon we could gladden the world,
How easily right all wrong,
If nobody shirked
And each one worked
To help his fellows along.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

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REPORT OF THE National Spiritualist Lyceum Association.

BY

MATTIE E. HULL, SECRETARY.

KNOWING that you are interested in all that pertains to the Lyceum, and that your valuable little paper is published for the advancement of the Cause of Spiritualism in every way, I send a brief report of the work that was done in Washington, D. C., at the late convention of the N. S. A.

I would state however, that the meeting I am about to report was held on the day following the adjournment of the N. S. A. convention, but the delegates to the N. S. A. convention were the workers in the convention called by the Committee on Lyceum work.

The Committee on Lyceum work was appointed by the chair, during the Convention of 1897. The members of that committee were: J. B. Hatch, Jr., Mass., C. W. Stanglen, Md., Mrs. M. J. Stephens, Washington, D. C., W. H. Bach, N. Y., and Mattie E. Hull, then of Mass.

Little could be done during the year but to agitate the subject and enlist the interest of our public workers on behalf of the Lyceum movement. The writer was appointed Secretary, and although I kept my pen and type-writer busy for days at a time, addressing officers of Lyceums, and persons, who, it seemed to me, ought to give time and means to the movement, I met with the poorest kind of encouragement and although a born optimist, I really began to look on the dark side of the cause before the meeting at Washington.

I found on meeting the committee, that every member was

Enthusiastic in the Work

we had been chosen to perform and we immediately went into a conference, formed plans, and marked out a line of work. We were aware that the first thing to be done was to effect an organization, elect officers, and in convention, discuss ways and means, whereby the National Spiritualist Lyceum Association could be sustained.

Realizing in advance of the N. S. A. convention, that the work in regard to the Lyceum movement must be done in a meeting appointed for that special purpose, the committee secured Masonic Hall for the day and evening, Friday, Oct. 21.

Notwithstanding the rain fell in torrents and the delegates were weary from the arduous work of the convention, there was a good attendance and the meeting in every way was considered

A Great Success.

The first thing in order was the report (Continued on page 12.)

THE N. S. A.

A Report from the New President and Secretary.

THE National Convention of 1898 has passed into history, having made its record in its own way and outlined the labor of the N. S. A. for the fiscal year ending October, 1st 1899. It is fitting, at the outset, to glance at the N. S. A. itself to see it as it is, and mark the steps up the hill of difficulty for the past few months.

It will be remembered that the convention of 1897 found the National society with an apparent cash balance in its treasury, in reality several bills were outstanding, which if they were pushed, would have left an actual deficit of nearly or quite \$700. During the past year, the officers of the Association have labored under this burden, and

Have Done Their Best

to meet it, and other claims against the Association, when presented. The Spanish war came and completely paralyzed business in many sections of the Nation. Parties who had made pledges at the convention of '97 found themselves unable to redeem them, owing to the stringency of the money market. The financial disaster of the Jubilee still further embarrassed the N. S. A., and its revenue seemed to be cut off from nearly every quarter.

Despite these several disasters the N. S. A. held on its way, and came down to the convention of 1898 with

A Plain Statement of the Facts

in the case to place before the delegates in attendance. Towards the close of the fiscal year dues, collections and donations began to come in. When the books were balanced September 30, 1898, there was a cash balance of \$256 in the treasury, with liabilities to the amount of \$1,600. From October 1st to October 28th sufficient money was received to pay all outstanding bills, with the exception of about five hundred dollars in round numbers. In face of the heavy odds to which we have alluded, we believe the showing is far from being as bad as might have been expected. To be sure there was a rebate on the salary of the President that helped to lessen the amount of the deficit for this year, but the fact remains that the liabilities of the N. S. A. November 1st, 1898, are no greater than they were November 1st '97; in fact, a trifle less if anything. It will be seen from the above statement of facts that the N. S. A. has done exceedingly well to weather the heavy financial storm of the year as well as it has.

It is now entering upon the sixth year of its existence and feels that it can appeal with confidence to the Spiritualists of America for support. Its officers present no false claims to the public, but merely state the truth in all simplicity, asking that the N. S. A. be given a trial in its new methods of work. Its friends realize that it is not perfect, but it is surely pointing the right way, and its faulty machinery is being repaired from year to year. It now asks the Spiritualists of America to endow it with means to enable it to do its work. Rigid economy is to be practiced in all directions. The President serves without salary, while the Secretary receives the small stipend of nine hundred dollars per year, with no provision for clerk hire. Expenses are to be reduced in

printing and less meetings of the Board of Trustees will be held during the year in order to economize.

Including the deficit above stated, it will take nearly or quite three thousand dollars to take the Association through the coming year, and leave it on a sound financial basis. The items of expense will include the deficit, Secretary's salary, rent, printing, gas, water, coal, postage, stationery, express, and the traveling expenses of the Board of Trustees. The expense in each of these items has been limited to the minimum figure, and no unnecessary outlays will be made.

The Board of Trustees pledges itself to manage the affairs of the Association in

A Business-Like Manner.

Its members will endeavor to faithfully discharge the duties pertaining to their offices, and will honestly repay trust with trust. The present management makes no claim to perfection; mistakes are liable to occur in many ways, but the Board will, as a unit, honestly and conscientiously endeavor to correct every error as soon as it is made known. It makes no complaint against the administrations of past years, but simply desires to carry forward the work that has been well begun.

The National Association is the

Servant of the People.

Its present management knows no clique, no faction, and no enemies in the discharge of its duty.

it Stands for Spiritualism

first, last, and all the time and means to deal fairly and impartially with all classes of people. It aims to carry out the aims and objects for which the Association was formed, and, with that end in view, invites the Spiritualists of America to unite in the support of the N. S. A. Schools, homes for the indigent, hospitals, sanitariums, libraries, local Spiritualist societies, missionary work, etc., etc., are needed in every quarter of this Nation. The N. S. A. asks the people of America to put the means into the hands of its officials to enable them to establish these important reforms. Let us hear from those who are disposed to assist in this good work at once.

Address all communications to the Secretary, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., S. E., Washington, D. C.

HARRISON D. BARRETT, Pres.

MARY T. LONGLEY, Sec.

THE development of mediumship should be accepted as a sacred trust, for it is an unfoldment that lifts you up to the highest and noblest powers of your being, brings you into relationship with the solemn possibilities of life, links you to the immortal world beyond, and as you rightly use it assures you not only the comfort arising from the presence and guidance of wise and loving angels, but by it you will gain a knowledge of the laws and principles by which they can come to you; by it you will inform yourself of your spiritual possibilities here and now. Better than all, it will enable you to crown your days with health of body, soundness of mind, and purity of soul, without which the grandest mortal achievements fall into sorrow and darkness, but when accompanied with these three divinely glorious possessions, life becomes a long summer dream of use and beauty to your fellows and yourselves.

From Practical Occultism, J. J. Morse.

ESTELLE HOWES BAILLET.

SHE IS MAKING A LECTURING TOUR.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

WHILE a medium's life is not one of ease and comfort, there are, as we go hither and thither, many pleasant experiences which feed the soul life and give compensation for our efforts.

After leaving Lily Dale for my annual trip through the eastern part of this state and western Penn. I was entertained in the pleasant home of John F. Titus of Hindsdale a little village of about 500 inhabitants. Before coming into Spiritualism they were sincere workers in the Salvation Army; during a sitting given by my Indian control Pensacola, last April, his little son returned, giving facts which none but the father knew. He then visited our beautiful camp where he had the pleasure of taking a course of lectures, of two of our brightest speakers and teachers of its philosophy, the Hindu Pandit Lalau, and Clegg Wright. Since my return here, he assured me that he never received so much real knowledge in all his years in the church as he did in the short time he has investigated Spiritualism.

I then visited Hornellsville, finding their once harmonious society scattered, and but a few of its "old stand bys" remaining. Many home circles are held and when a speaker visits the place who can not only present the philosophy, but demonstrate the phenomena as well, the pleasant hall is crowded to overflowing. They are, taking all into consideration, a nice intellectual class of young married people and young men. If a Young People's Union could be organized, a good work could be done.

Several mediums have developed since my former visit, one of whom is Mrs. Clem Stewart. She is an inspirational musician, controlled by a German for vocal and instrumental music. She called on me and invited myself and friend to her home. Words fail to express the Spiritual feast we had in that harmonious home where two years ago Spiritualism was opposed bitterly. She was controlled to sing by three different persons one of whom was a brother who had passed from earth to spirit. The mother came to close our little love feast with a benediction through her own child's lips. As we listened with eyes filled with tears to the words of encouragement, blessings, and God speed to each one of us, it sounded like an echo wafted from our spirit home; as though the very gates of heaven had opened wide to receive us.

I held a meeting Wednesday evening, Oct. 26th subject: "Spiritualism." It rained all day and there was a small attendance, yet as the time came for my departure there were many who urged me to remain a week longer.

I was entertained one night and Sunday by some members of the old society, about four miles distant, also at a real estate agent's home in the city and was kept busy giving private sittings up to the morning I left. With a promise to return in the near future I bade them good bye. I would like to speak of another home. It was that of a German Catholic family. The husband a bright German of about thirty-five years of age, came into the broader fields of thought and knowledge about two years ago and has since become thoroughly converted to Spiritualism. He began by forming a home circle comprising his wife and five little ones, the oldest a girl of eight years. In this family the Scripture saying "a little child shall lead them" is literally fulfilled. Three of their little ones are fine clairvoyants and through the little girl's mediumship many good tests were received through her innocent interpretations. The whole atmosphere of the home was illumined with sincerity.

At present writing I am in Friendship; from here I visit Belmont, returning to Hindsdale, from there to Erie, Penn. and may write again later on.

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ASTROLOGY.

N. H. EDDY.

While Astrology is one of the oldest sciences and has had many adherents in the days gone by, there has always been a certain class who have sought to refute it; but time, in its onward march, brings with it revolutions, evolutions and continual progress. It has also brought into existence minds that have reached out into the vast spaces of the starry heavens, watched the planets as they wended their way onward, saw the ever changing current of events, and, after ages of investigation, proved that there was a connection between the actions of the planets and the actions of humanity.

Never, in the history of humanity, has there been a more active search into Nature's mysterious forces than at the present time. Never has the human family, with one accord, delved deeper into her mysteries trying to solve the law of being, the cause and purpose of life; never have the subtle forces been the subject of so much careful investigation by all classes of people as at the present time.

It is not to be wondered at, that the time honored idea of stellar influence should attract its share of attention. Combining, as it does, scientific knowledge of the stars and their relative positions, aspects, influences and magnetic natures, with time honored faiths, hopes and wisdom.

The advent of the Nazarine was heralded by a star: "We have seen his star in the east." The birth of many great men of the days when Astrology was in common vogue, was heralded by a star and the "wise men" visited them and paid homage to them. Even in common parlance we use the expression: "He was born under a lucky star" or an "unlucky" one, not knowing just why we say it or why one star should differ from another.

The great dome of the heavens, filled with glittering gems, is one of the grandest sights of nature. Those far off lights are full of meaning. What is it that animates those bright points? What class of beings inhabit them? What are their natures and customs?

Science, religion, love, fear, hope and despair have asked the question in numberless forms but

Astrology Alone Can Tell You.

Astrology is the key that will unlock these mysteries. It says that the stars are standards of time placed in the heavens not alone to elevate our thoughts but to afford us some knowledge of the laws and principles of life and nature.

It teaches us that every person born into this world, or sphere of existence, is ruled by the planet or planets and sign of the zodiac that is rising at the time of birth. These planets are magnetic bodies. At the time of birth the child begins its individualized existence. Previous to that time its existence depended upon the mother. At the time of birth, its existence becomes aerial; with its first breath it draws in the magnetic conditions and influences of the planets; it receives an impress from each one according to its position and relative aspects to other planets. Through the ever changing movements of the planets, these influences continue, in the same manner that an impression given to a child by its parents will follow it through life and will influence it in all its actions. Although this influence may be for good, the child may not always follow the pathway its parents taught on account of counter influences. So the influence of the stars may point out one path, yet it will not of necessity be followed by the native, the counter influences acting as above stated.

The earth turns upon its axis once every twenty-four hours or one degree every four minutes thus bringing a new sign into the ascendant about every two hours, or causing each of the twelve signs to ascend every twenty-four hours, with its ruling force and significance, according to the lord or ruling planet of the

house.

Aside from the fixed stars pertaining to each sign, there are the planets ☿ Mercury, ♀ Venus, ♂ Mars, ♃ Jupiter, ♄ Saturn, ♅ Uranus, ♆ Neptune, and the ☼ Sun and ☾ Moon, each of which has its motion, nature and influence. By their motions they form different aspect towards each other as they come by transit and direction into the several relations, exerting their natures and influences upon the individual, thereby characterizing and effecting their results in the experiences of life's drama in accordance with their different configurations and the magnetic stamp of birth.

The stars and planets are the instruments by which the seven creative principles manifest themselves. They influence externally by their attractive sympathies and repulsive antipathies, the cosmic life forces, which, in the realm of spirit are controlled by their celestial rulers.

By this is meant that the various orbs, called planets, act as so many magnetic centers, each planet having its specific influence and nature, acting upon life according to that nature when not in correlation with the combined aspects of other planets and tempering and being tempered by its aspects with other planets; some combinations bringing harmony while others act the reverse.

♄ Saturn absorbs the attributes which express themselves as coldness, reserve, melancholy, selfishness, inharmonious, and dissatisfaction; in action it has a blue ray. ♃ Jupiter absorbs the attributes of harmony, cheerfulness, warmth and generous impulses but with dignity and command. The action of this vibration corresponds to the purple ray. ♂ Mars expresses itself more on the lines of fiery, combative or aggressive nature; its color is red. ♀ Venus people will not stand dictation; they generally want to be leaders or at the head of affairs.

The ☼ Sun is the life giving force and expresses itself by that self reliant principle which gives power, dignity and command; it expresses the orange ray. The ☾ Moon's effect upon the inhabitants of earth is constant but is varied by the rapidity of its movements bringing it into aspect with the other bodies, also by polar changes. Its color corresponds to the green ray.

♀ Venus absorbs the attributes that give expressions of grace, honor, beauty, love, affection, art, music, etc. It corresponds to the yellow ray. ☿ Mercury, the messenger, expresses its influence in activity, restlessness, change, mental energy and in lines of intellectual force, which find expression in the violet ray. ♅ Uranus is a planet of energy. It is positive electric and exerts a magnetic force, but is sudden and impulsive in action. ♆ Neptune expresses itself more in the cold and phlegmatic nature but gives firmness, dignity, grandeur and sublimity; also gives psychic powers and intuition.

The foregoing qualifications are but parts of each and these in their tendencies are varied in expression of force by the correlation or configuration of each other's vibrations.

Further consideration will be given at some future time.

Send sex, place and date of birth, (hour, if known) for a short reading in this column. Those who receive readings are requested to let us know whether they are correct or not.

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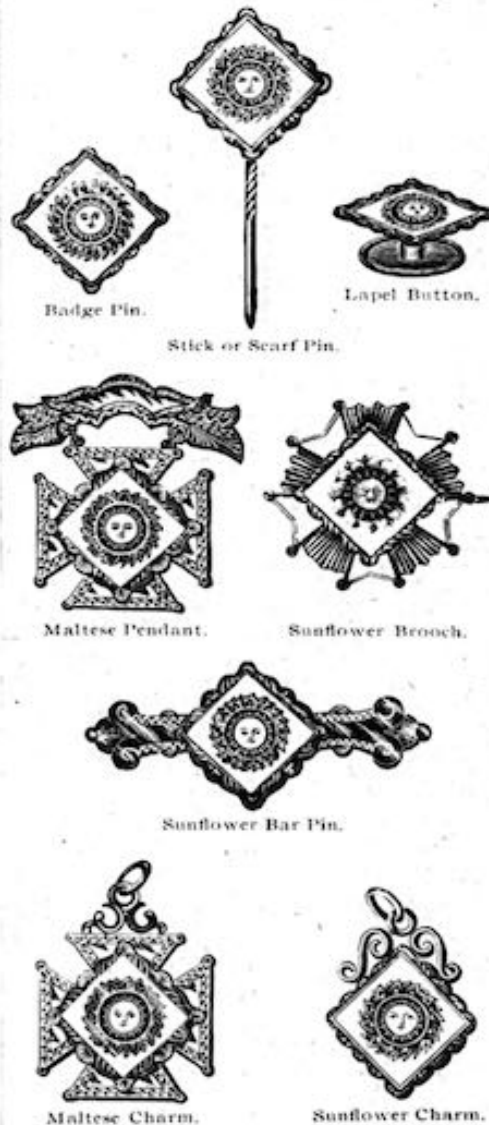
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W. H. BACH, Editor and Publisher.
EVIE P. BACH, Assistant Editor.

LILY DALE, N. Y., NOVEMBER 15, 1898.

THE SUNFLOWER The first number of **ENLARGED.** THE SUNFLOWER was four pages and was issued August 20, 1898. The September issue was eight pages, the October, eight pages and a four-page supplement, while beginning with the November number, and continuing until further notice, we will issue a twelve-page monthly.

THIS IS PROGRESS. We wish to begin issuing **TWICE A MONTH** and we will do so if our patrons will interest themselves in our behalf.

SPECIAL OFFER. In another column will be found a special offer that will reduce the cost of the papers covered by it.

SEND US ONE NEW SUBSCRIBER If each of our subscribers will interest themselves to secure one new subscriber we can safely begin issuing semi-monthly January first. If people do not wish to take advantage of our clubbing rate, THE SUNFLOWER alone is well worth the fifty cents for a yearly subscription.

We have many good things in store. You should take advantage of them.

OUR ASTROLOGY DEPARTMENT. We desire to call the attention of our readers to our Department of Astrology. This study is rapidly coming to the front and in order that our readers may receive the best there is, we have secured the services of one whom we consider as careful and competent a student of the science as can well be found.

Mr. Eddy will also give readings by Astrology. He is very careful in these matters and letters from his patrons all over the U. S. bear witness to the accuracy of his prognostications. His prices range from \$1.00 upwards, according to the details desired. Those of our readers who wish to investigate the subject should send him sex, place and date of birth, hour, if they know it, with \$1.00 for trial reading. He also teaches the science, either in person or by mail.

Raphael's books are the standard works upon Geocentric Astrology and we carry a complete line of them, a list of which will be found on page 3. The Almanac and Ephemeris for 1899 is ready for delivery and will be sent to any address for 35 cts.

Kind words have been sent to us by so many friends that it is impossible to reply to all personally. The friends will take into consideration that in starting a paper of this kind it is necessary for the editor to be general roustabout in the office, doing all kinds of work from setting a stick of type to proofreader and from — um — ah — sanctified satan, to head pressman. THE SUNFLOWER office is no exception and we take this means of thanking our friends, one and all, for their kind wishes.

We hope that your interest will continue, that you will send us short notes of the doings in your community and articles of interest upon subjects germane to the thought of the day, for insertion. In return, we will try to give the best paper it is possible for us to get out.

The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of Dr. s Peebles and Burroughs on the twelfth page. Dr. Peebles has been well known for a number of years as a writer, speaker and physician. He has recently returned from his third trip around the world and, although seventy eight years of age says he is going again. Dr. Burroughs has grown up in Dr. Peebles home and is a graduate of two medical colleges, in addition to his Psychic powers.

WHAT'S IN STORE? The readers of a paper like to know something about what is in store for them. We have arranged for the following good things that we believe every one of you will enjoy. December will bring an article from the pen of

MOSES HULL

subject; "How the Higher Criticism is affecting the Popular Belief in the Bible." You all know it will be good. The Editor will contribute an article on "The Astrological and Astronomical Origin of Christmas Legends." We expect to publish a fine half-tone picture of "Our Moses" and also one of the Bangs Sisters. For the Young People's Department we shall publish an article upon "The Work Proposed by the N. Y. P. S. U." by I. C. I. Evans, a paper, prepared by Mrs. Lou Porter-Moore, which was read at the N. S. A. convention, besides other Union items, also an article from a prominent Lyceum worker.

January will inaugurate a new departure which will interest all of you. The plan includes some of the most prominent questions by the most prominent people of the day.

In another column will be found the report of the Secretary of the N. Y. P. S. U. It is a terse business-like report and shows that the Union did not err in selecting the incumbent of that office. People are continually being asked to contribute to the support of all public institutions whether they are in the line of charity, religion, free-thought or anything else that is done *pro bono publico* and it is a sign of great business judgment and foresight upon the part of the Union that its officers have been instructed to make quarterly reports of the progress of the work and especially of the financial part of it. We commend their action to the N. S. A.

Thanksgiving Day Farce. Again our President has been forced by the law of custom to go through the farce of appointing a day of thanksgiving.

Setting aside a day of special thanksgiving for blessings received is an acknowledgement by our government, or its judicial head, that there is an arbitrary power that will, or can, take cognizance of the utterances of humanity.

Such being the case, it would be proper for some to give thanks. The family who sit down to a big, fat turkey, with all the trimmings that "Mother Eve" wanted, with no sickness in their home, no vacant chairs which were occupied one year ago by some loved one, who has been called by the vicissitudes of life away from the home circle and who is eating a Thanksgiving dinner among strangers, or possibly not eating one at all or who has been called to another sphere of life or action by the grim reaper, death, would have occasion to give thanks.

But how about their antipodes? How about those who, through sickness lack of employment, financial disaster, or the many other causes that afflict humanity, have no turkey, etc.? How about those whose family boards are rendered desolate because some loved one, whose face ever lighted up the festal board on such occasions, was not with them? How about those whose homes were homes of mourning because all that was mortal of some loved one rested peacefully in death's sad embrace?

"Honor to whom honor is due." But we do not honor the criminal, even though we know he does some good work. We do not nestle the viper to our breasts even if he does not strike us.

If there is a great power we should thank for our blessings, then that same power is responsible for our misfortunes. Fortunes and misfortunes are the lot of all of us. Then why thank Omnipotence for our fortunes and remain silent about all else?

Had the ship not arrived just as it did; had that day of fasting and prayer not been turned into a day of feasting and rejoicing, it would have been forgotten long ago. But we enjoy feasting. We enjoy getting our loved ones together and, with loving caresses and feasting renew life's hopes and stifle its fears. Let us keep the Thanksgiving feast and frolic but let us do away with the farce of thanking an arbitrary power for what would not be without constant vigilance on our part.

Among our advertisers, none are more welcome than Mrs. Dr. Dobson-Barker. The work of Dr. A. B. Dobson was widely known while he was at Maquoketa, Iowa and San Jose, Calif. It was his wish, often expressed, that if he should pass out first that Mrs. Dobson should continue his practice which she has done with credit to herself and benefit to humanity. It is said that "It is not good for man to be alone" (which is equally applicable to woman) and she joined her fortune with that of Dr. H. M. Barker. The work begun by Dr. Dobson is still continued, Dr. and Mrs. Barker working hand in hand.

Send your ideas of an N. Y. P. S. U. badge to Mrs. Rozella Lauferty, 320 E. Main St., Van Wert, Ohio.

A PURGATORIAL LOTTERY. IT IS RUNNING IN MEXICO.

The *Mexican Express* is authority for the statement that a lottery has been established in Mexico for the purpose of freeing souls from purgatory.

For one dollar (worth about forty-eight cents in our money) a ticket can be bought giving a chance of drawing a number that will release a friend from the torments of purgatory. Tickets can be purchased of the priests and the drawings take place in the Church of the Savior, Catholic Parish, Mexico. Of course, the sale of tickets will not be limited to Mexico and doubtless many of Uncle Sam's dollars will find their way into the treasury of the church for these tickets.

Is it not time that lawmakers stopped talking about Spiritualists and Freethinkers and devoted a little time to the misdeeds of their orthodox friends? How about this list of relics that are on exhibition?

The stone on which Abraham undertook to sacrifice Isaac; the stone on which Mary rested on her way to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised; the column from Solomon's Temple that was "rent in twain" at the crucifixion; a stone that lay under the cross when Christ was crucified; enough relics of the cross of Christ to load a ship; a stone out of Solomon's Temple; part of the table of stone on which "the finger of the Lord" wrote the decalogue; a piece of the cross on which the repentant thief was crucified; one of the nails of the cross of Christ and two thorns of his crown; a piece of the Virgin Mary's veil; the lance that pierced Christ's side; eight columns of the Temple besides the one "rent in twain;" St. Augustine's cruse of oil which never diminished in quantity; the inexhaustible cruse of holy water; the chain that confined Peter in prison; the column to which Christ was tied to be scourged; a piece of a table on which an angel once sat; a piece of the table on which Christ fed the hungry; half a dozen "holy coats;" and dozens of other equally absurd relics. A fee is collected for examining them.

While it may be said that these are all Catholic, protestants have things of the same order. Let us be consistent and if we attack fortune telling and mediumship—foretelling future events—why not compel preachers to stop prophecying condemnation to those who do not accept the orthodox statements?

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES — of the —

New York State Association
of Spiritualists.

Adopted April 15, 1897.

We believe in the Infinite Spirit and intelligence called God and the immortality of every human being.

We believe that every individual is a divine germ capable of infinite unfoldment.

We recognize the universal brotherhood of man.

We assert that a continued life is proven by present revelations of positive intercommunication between the mortal and spiritual worlds.

We believe in love, purity and fidelity as the spirit of religion and justice as the highest moral law.

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

We will send

THE SUNFLOWER
From the First Number,
AUGUST, 1898,
— to —
JANUARY 1900,
FOR FIFTY CENTS!

For \$1.25 we will include one year's subscription to either of the following papers:

Progressive Thinker, Light of Truth, Religio-Philosophical Journal, The Dawning Light, The Coming Light and Lichtstrahlen (a German Spiritualist paper.)

Progressive Thinker and Art Magic, 1.50

Art Magic and Ghost Land, 2.00

Banner of Light, 2.00

The New Time, 1.10

The Free Thought Magazine, 1.10

REMEMBER

that you can get either of these papers ONE YEAR and

THE SUNFLOWER
UNTIL JANUARY 1900
including ALL the Back Numbers.

Send us five subscribers, for any of the above offers, and we will send you a cloth bound copy of BIG BIBLE STORIES and a Sunflower Pin for your trouble.

Send them along! If a sufficient number are received we will begin issuing THE SUNFLOWER TWICE A MONTH January 1st.

MYRA F. PAINE IN SYRACUSE.

Editor of THE SUNFLOWER: According to promise I drop you a line for your bright little paper to let you and your readers know the condition of this part of the "Vineyard of the Lord".

I find in Syracuse one Spiritualistic Society, so thoroughly organized and officered as to enjoy the usual harmony. They hold meetings every Sunday evening. There is also a class for "Psychic Study," every Sunday evening, conducted by Mrs. M. H. Cowan, which seems to have a fair attendance and steady growth.

I have concluded to take a week day evening for my lectures, so as to have an opportunity to attend the others, and hope to see some of them at mine. I speak every Wednesday evening, hold classes in Divine Science and Spiritual unfoldment, three times a week and give sittings for Psychopalm readings daily. The friends are giving me a very cordial welcome. I attended a Theosophical meeting last Thursday evening, at the residence of Dr. Barnes, which was very enjoyable. Am invited to address them next week. As you know, I am quite cosmopolitan in my ideas, so I find entertainment and instruction among all seekers after truth.

I shall expect a visit from THE SUNFLOWER next month, when I will introduce it to my callers and hope to increase its list of subscribers.

Yours for Truth,

MYRA F. PAINE.

415 E. Jefferson St., Syracuse, N. Y.

Mrs. Paine will answer calls for lectures and the friends in that section should see that she is kept busy. She will also attend funerals. [Ed.]

MEDIUMSHIP.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A MEDIUM?

Mediumship is not dependent upon any special mental capacity—that is the real fact of possession of mediumistic powers—but rather upon that peculiar magnetic condition of the body which makes it vibrate in harmony with the finer forces in nature's laboratory, thus making the medium an instrument upon which the spirit intelligences play. If the instrument is in tune, the manifestation will be good; if not, its manifestation will be, to a certain extent, unreliable, according to the number of discords which are produced in rendering the selection. Do you understand the simile? Do you understand that, as an instrument in the hands of the Spirit controls, you occupy the same relation to them that a piano bears to the player, and that the piano must be tuned to make each cord vibrate in harmony with the other, without which the finest operator would be unable to produce a presentable piece of music? Please bear this in mind through your entire experience in mediumship, and you will find that it will smooth over a great many rough places and will help to make your mediumship of benefit and a pleasure to yourself and others.

A medium is the sensitive, the negative pole of the battery, and must be passive, receptive and in a condition to absorb the finer emanations which are thrown off by the intelligences from the other side. The positive must act upon the negative; the Spirit control must be the positive pole; the medium, the negative pole, thus constituting a natural battery, when the magnetic current will flow readily from the positive to the negative, carrying the impressions with it and making definite manifestations. All of this working (as I have before stated) exactly in accordance with the natural conditions and laws governing electric and magnetic phenomena.

Many will say after reading the last paragraph: "Then Spirit phenomena are produced by electricity, are they?" By no means. What we term electricity and magnetism are only means to an end; not the end itself. Ever since time began electricity and magnetism existed; the expansive power of steam was shown; the waters of the river flowed to the sea; but until man produced a machine that could take a passive position and allow these positive forces to act upon it, there were no electric or steam engines producing power (manifestations); neither did the water wheel do its work. So in the case of mediumship; vital magnetism existed from the beginning of human life, at least, but until a proper machine was furnished the operator, no manifestations occurred; the moment a proper machine (condition) is made, that moment the manifestation will take place.

Then, if you wish to develop mediumship, remember that, as all this is produced by the operation of nature's forces, you must give them natural conditions to work with.

Place yourself in a passive position; then invite the higher powers to visit and influence you.

From "Mediumship and its Development."

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE SUNFLOWER. 50c.

LIGHT FROM EVERYWHERE.

NORTH

SOUTH



EAST

WEST

This department is conducted to assist our public workers to keep in touch with each other and with the people. Send us notice of your engagements or any other items of interest. Secretaries of societies are requested to send short reports of their work. Full name and address must accompany every article intended for publication.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlisle Petersilea are giving musical entertainments in California. Address 651 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, Cal.

If you want a year's subscription to this paper FREE, write for particulars to F. N. Foster, Spirit Photographer, 305 Tompkins Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Spiritualism is attracting increasing attention everywhere, notwithstanding the work done, both inside and outside of our ranks, to injure its standing.

George H. Brower is a new aspirant for favor as an inspirational painter. Our California exchanges speak very highly of his work. We wish him success.

F. Corden White, and Chas. Campbell, held two seances at Bradford, Pa., with the best of results. They were well patronized by the Best people of the city.

Will C. Hodge, formerly of Chicago, has opened meetings at 330 1/2 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif. Bro. Hodge is an able worker and should have a good attendance.

If all of our friends would do as well as Mrs. L. LeSieur of Chicago, THE SUNFLOWER would be a weekly paper inside of three months. Don't you think you could interest someone to take a subscription?

The latest reports indicate that Hon. A. Gaston, president of the Cassadaga Camp meeting has been elected Congressman from the 26th district of Pennsylvania. The vote is very close but this report seems to be official.

F. Corden White has been in Bradford, Penn. the last two weeks. He left for Pittsburg November 15th where he will remain until January 1st. He will give platform tests during December. He will be located at 418 Penn Ave.

Campbell Brothers spent a week at Bradford, Penn., also took short trips to other points. They will go to Titusville the latter part of the month and will reach Pittsburg about the first of December and remain during that month. We call our readers' attention to their advertisement on page 12.

THE SUNFLOWER office is prepared to do all kinds of printing and binding at reasonable rates. As a sample, we will send you 100 sheets of writing paper, letter size, ruled or unruled, and 100 envelopes, with your card and the sunflower emblem printed on them, for \$1.25 postpaid. How would they suit you for a Christmas present?

The Southern California Campmeeting Association will hold a mid-winter meet-

ing January 29 to February 19, 1899. The climate is beautiful and it is pleasant out-of-doors and the people North, South, East and West are invited, so the announcement reads. For full information address George E. Rogers, Corresponding Secretary, San Diego, Calif.

Geo. W. Walrond, writes: "THE SUNFLOWER is received and it is a bright sparkling Spiritualistic paper. It is worthy of a large patronage." Bro. Walrond is doing a good work in Denver where he holds Spiritualistic meetings, gives mediumistic and Astrological readings and conducts an occult book store. His address is 6 Opera House Block, Denver, Colo.

A letter from our good brother, J. R. Alter, Stuttgart, Ark., informs us that he has been quite sick for several months but is now improving slowly. Also that the society have been compelled to give up their Temple, not being able to meet an incumbency upon it. He advises fifteen feet of inch rope as an adjunct to each circle as a preventive of fraud. The Spiritualists of Stuttgart have been exceedingly unfortunate.

The Annual Congress of the American Secular Union and Freethought Federation will be held at Washington Hall, 70 E. Adams St., Chicago, Ill., November 18th, 19th and 20th. Eugene Macdonald, Editor of the *Truth Seeker*, L. K. Washburn, Editor of the *Boston Investigator*, Watson Heston, the great Freethought Cartoonist, Jas. A. Greenhill, Paul Carus, Editor of *Open Court*, Judge C. B. Waite, Clarence S. Darrow and many others will be present.

We have some souvenirs of the Fox Family that all Spiritualists should be interested in. A cabinet photograph of the entire family, father, mother, the three sisters and the home, 25¢; a plaque, hand painted, of the cottage, 25¢ 5¢ extra for postage and packing; a fine photograph of the Hydesville Cottage, 5 x 8, 25¢ 11 x 14, 50¢; a fine pin, photographed in colors on celluloid, 10¢; 3 for 25¢; 75¢ per dozen. Any of these would make an appropriate Christmas present.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Sprague have been filling engagements in Lansing, Pottersville, Bellevue, Hastings, Fenton, Danville and Charlotte, Mich., Canton, Minerva and Alliance, Ohio. They go to Cleveland for the last two Sundays of November, Philadelphia for January. They have December open for engagement. Address until Dec. 1st., 142 Greymont St., Cleveland, O. Permanent address, 416 Newland St., Jamestown, N. Y. Mr. and Mrs. Sprague are active workers and should be kept constantly employed.

Oscar A. Edgerley writes from Atlanta, Ga. "We received THE SUNFLOWER and are very much pleased with it. I will remain in this city until January 1st and have all of my time engaged for the next year excepting two Sundays in January, two in March and the month of July. I would be pleased to arrange for them. We are meeting with fine success in this city. Audiences are increasing continually. We have some customers for the Sunflower Badges and hope to get some subscriptions to THE SUNFLOWER."

The newly elected Board of Trustees of the National Association is as follows: President, H. D. Barrett, Boston, Mass.; Vice President, Judge A. H. Dailey, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Secretary, Mary T. Longley,

Los Angeles, Calif.; Treasurer, Theodore J. Mayer, Washington, D. C.; Trustees, Allan P. Brown, San Antonio, Texas; Hon. D. P. Dewey, Grand Blanc, Mich.; C. D. Pruden, Minneapolis, Minn.; Ervin A. Rice, Chicago, Ill.; I. C. I. Evans, Washington, D. C. This is a business board and they will give a good account of the N. S. A. for the coming year.

M. Y. Thompson, Arkadelphia, Ark. writes: "You will remember that we bought a PSYCHE and that we got independent writing within five minutes of the time we began using it. My son, now seventeen years of age, was the medium. This development has continued until we get all kinds of phenomena. The latest development is that of independent spirit telegraphy. Our friends claim they can answer any question that is put to them. We are sorry that we are not able to let the people know what a wonderful medium we have here for all kinds of phenomena."

We have had occasional letters from brother Thompson for some time and are pleased to congratulate him on the developments in his own home. It would seem as though some society in that vicinity could aid this promising young medium to get a hearing and become a grand worker for our cause.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

PROF. LOCKWOOD'S ARTICLES.

We stated last month that we would publish an article by Prof. Lockwood in this issue. On account of pressure of other work in the lecture field he was unable to prepare it in time and it arrived as our last form was being closed. It will appear in our December number.

THROUGH DEATH TO LIFE.

St. Paul Minnesota, Spiritualists have been called upon to mourn the departure from earth life of two of their oldest and staunchest Spiritualists recently.

Merrell Ryder came to St. Paul in the early days and has been a prominent figure in its growth. He was a pronounced Spiritualist and was a great favorite with the Indians who always visited him as they passed through the city.

A letter just received from M. T. C. Flower informs us that his companion of sixty two years passed silently and peacefully into the great beyond. She had been a great sufferer and was anxious for the change.

GET COMMUNICATIONS AT HOME.



HAS AIDED

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE
TO DEVELOP THEIR MEDIUMSHIP
And Get Communications.
YOU CAN DO THE SAME.

Sent by express, charges prepaid, for \$1.20 including THE SUNFLOWER one year, \$1.50 PLANCHETTES, postpaid, 60¢.

NEWS FROM LILY DALE.

Visitors.

Mrs. Anderson of Pittsburg, Pa., has returned home after a two weeks visit with Mrs. Green. Frank Cooke, proprietor of the Grand Hotel, drove up from Fredonia, Sunday, November, 6th; all were glad to see his familiar face. Mr. Bower's brother from Ohio, made him a several weeks visit. Clifton Shaw has secured a position in Buffalo; he spent Sunday at the Dale with his mother. Mary J. Ramsdell, one of our mediums, spent a few days with us and is at present located in Chicago. Mrs. Lutes' daughter-in-law, from Sweden, is visiting her.

Returned.

Mrs. Eliza Page has returned home from a visit with relatives in Toledo. C. Carroll has returned from a short trip to Pennsylvania. Gracian Green was called home on account of the serious illness of his mother. His brother Lee, of Philadelphia, has also come. Her many friends will be deeply grieved to learn of her serious illness and hope she may recover her usual strength. Mrs. Smith, of Indianapolis, Ind. has returned, and will make Lily Dale her future home.

Social Events.

Mrs. Chaney gave an "English Tea" followed by card playing. Mrs. Carroll and Mrs. Enches also gave Tea Parties which were enjoyable occasions. Mr. and Mrs. Northrop gave a very enjoyable party for Mrs. Garrison in honor of her 67th Anniversary. All who were present proclaimed an enjoyable evening. The little folks enjoyed a Birthday Party given by Master D. Foote, age 4. Mrs. Enches gave a number of interesting parties while her daughter Miss Watson, was visiting her, and to close the program Miss Watson surprised her friends by joining her fate with Mr. Benson of Hornellsville.

Left for the Winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Carver and Mrs. Emma Huff left for Florida October 24th to spend the winter. F. Corden White and wife returned to spend a couple of weeks with us but have departed for Pittsburg. Madam Vignier and daughter have gone to New York City for the winter. The Madam is a French scholar of rare ability also a graduate from a School of Expression. Dr. Eddy, the well known Astrologer, has also gone, and is located at 332 Niagara Street, Buffalo, N. Y. Mrs. Tillinghast has gone home for the winter; she is well known on account of her past services in the Library and Lyceum and has many friends here. Mr. Le Roy, "Pop Corn Man" the past two seasons is in Virginia for the winter. Mrs. P. C. Chaffee and Mrs. Dr. L. L. White have located in Cleveland for the winter, where they expect to turn their attention to healing the sick. You will find them at 77 York Street. Mrs. Waterhouse has gone to her home at Fredonia. Mrs. Covell and father have gone to Corry, Pa. Mrs. Enches has returned to her home, Corry, Pa.

On the Sick List.

Mr. Thomas Skidmore has been suffering with acute rheumatism but is again able to be out among his many friends who are rejoiced to see him. Mrs. J. C. Dedrick, who has been confined to her bed for some time is improving. Mr. A. Campbell has been threatened with pneumonia. The damp weather has caused an unusual amount of sickness this fall and many have been suffering from severe colds.

Miscellaneous.

W. C. Evans shot a Pileated Woodpecker a few days ago. The bird is a native of Florida. The magnetic attraction being so great it came up to visit the camp. Mrs. Champlin and her son Harry are visiting her daughter Mrs. Wildrick of Buffalo, who is quite ill. Judge Baillet has gone to Friendship, where he will join his wife and when her missionary tour is finished we will have them home again. Harry Dalton, an active Spiritualist and medium, and his wife, from Warren, Pa., formerly of Chicago, have come to make their home among us; they have rented the Shaw cottage on Library St. Miss Deemer has rented part of Nellie Warren's cottage. The many friends



MRS. MAGGIE WAITE.
TEST AND BUSINESS MEDIUM.
121 Buhl Block, - Detroit, Mich.

of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cooke extend their sympathy to them for the loss of their little baby who has been in such delicate health; it passed to spirit life a short time ago. Mrs. Pettengill was called to Cleveland last month on account of the sickness of her daughter, Chas. Toby spent a day in Jamestown. Jacob Scheu made a trip to Buffalo. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Raynor and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Cook have come for the winter. We had our first snow November 11 but the ground is again bare but for the fallen leaves.

LAKE HELEN CAMP.

LAKE HELEN CAMPMEETING for the year 1899 will open its season the first Sunday in February and continue five Sundays. Our camp is only four years old but we have about twenty nice cottages, a hotel of thirty rooms, an apartment house of sixteen rooms and eight kitchens, all furnished, (which are rented very cheap.) Brigham Hall of twenty rooms, and a nice dancing pavilion, floor, 30 x 40.

The camp fronts on a silvery lake, surrounded by lofty pines, and is on about the highest ground in Florida. The climate in winter cannot be equaled in America. We are on the water shed midway between the east and west coast; flowers constantly in bloom and shubbery green.

The management have secured the best talent attainable for this season's camp and a large attendance is indicated. Mediums for all phases will fill the demands of the investigator, all the Spiritualist papers will be represented and cheap excursions are being arranged via Clyde line from New York and other Northern points by H. A. Buddington, 91 Sherman Street, Springfield, Mass.

During the camp, special service is run by the Queen and Crescent line and its connections, leaving Cincinnati in the morning and arriving at camp next day with but one change of cars. Full information concerning this route may be obtained of W. C. Rinerson, G. P. A., Cincinnati, O.

For special information concerning the camp, address Emma J. Huff, Lake Helen, Florida. J. D. PALMER.

BOOKS. BOOKS.
WE HAVE A COMPLETE LINE OF
SPIRITUALISTIC, OCCULT,
Astrological, Theosophical and other
BOOKS FOR SALE.

Y. P. S. U. ITEMS.

Subscribe for THE SUNFLOWER, the official paper of the N. Y. P. S. U., and keep in touch with the Young People's movement.

We are proud to note that three of the Special Officers at the N. S. A. convention, were from among our most active Young Workers. They are certainly competent or they would not be selected for the positions. This is an encouraging sign for the Union.

Philadelphia is to have a Y. P. S. U. in the very near future. A society of a large number of very enthusiastic, progressive and up-to-date young people are engaged in completing the formation of their Union and as soon as formulated will apply for a charter.

Miss Rambo, State Agent for Kentucky, has recently organized a Y. P. S. U. with forty members. This is the first Union to be formulated under the auspices of the N. Y. P. S. U. We are proud of our Sister State having achieved such success. Which State will be next?

Mr. I. C. I. Evans was the official stenographer at the recent convention of the N. S. A. Mr. Evans has reported verbatim the proceedings of the last three conventions, was also Assistant Secretary at the third convention. Our worthy President is to be congratulated upon his election as Trustee of the N. S. A.

Miss Anna M. Steinberg, 506 12th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., Secretary of the N. Y. P. S. U., has been appointed Historian of the National Union. Miss Steinberg will not only keep a briefly written compendium of the Union, but she also intends to keep a scrap book containing clippings of the various publications of all references to the N. Y. P. S. U. She will consider it a special favor if anyone would send to her, for filing, clippings from various papers regarding the Union.

B. Grant Taylor, who was the stenographer of the N. Y. P. S. U. at its last two conventions, rode on his bicycle during the last month from Lawton Station, N. Y. to Washington D. C., and return. He attended the N. S. A. Convention while in Washington, and served as Sergeant-at-Arms during its session.

Lyceum Lesson Sheets.

We have not had a very generous response to our proposition to publish a Lyceum Lesson Sheet, but these are a couple of them.

"I will agree to take 20 of the Lesson Sheets each month and will take 50 of the first issue. I will also try to get them generally used in the state. H. C. Madding, M. D., Murdock, Neb."

"I think your idea of Lyceum Lesson Sheets is a good one. The sooner they can be made a reality, the better." Mattie E. Hull.

THE PROPOSITION IS

to publish a Lyceum Lesson Sheet, containing lessons for one month at 1½ cents each, in lots of twenty or more, if 1,000 copies are ordered, or, at 1 cent each, if 2,000 copies are ordered. The lessons will be furnished by the leading Lyceum Workers of the country. Let us hear from you if you are interested. If we do not get a more generous response this month, we shall drop the project.

The N. Y. P. S. U.

AT THE N. S. A. CONVENTION.

THOSE who have been watching the onward movement of the National Young People's Spiritualist Union have been aware that the Sixth Annual Convention of the National Spiritualist Association would have considerable bearing on the future of the Union, as the proposition of the affiliation of the two bodies would then be acted upon. The Convention of the N. S. A. being an event of the past we take pleasure at this time in reviewing the field for the benefit of our readers.

As has been previously announced in THE SUNFLOWER, the question of the Union joining the N. S. A. was unanimously concurred in at our Convention in August, and a committee of four, consisting of Miss Anna M. Steinberg, of Washington, D. C., Secretary of the N. Y. P. S. U., chairman, Mr. W. H. Bach, Lily Dale, N. Y., Mrs. Margaret C. Barrett, Needham, Mass., and Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, Philadelphia, Pa., together with the writer, who was elected as fraternal delegate, were chosen to confer with a like committee of the N. S. A. to consider and formulate such a proposition of affiliation as would be satisfactory to both organizations.

Papers were prepared by the President and Secretary of the N. Y. P. S. U., addressed to the delegates of the N. S. A., briefly outlining the work accomplished by the Union; setting forth its desire for affiliation, and requesting the appointment of a committee by the Convention, for conference on this subject.

The assignment of a special hour for the presentation of our plea was obtained, at which time the papers above mentioned were presented. The Convention immediately sanctioned the request and the chairman appointed a committee of three to confer with the committee of the Union. That committee consisted of Mr. F. A. Wiggins, N. Y., chairman, Mr. B. B. Hill, Pa., and Mr. Lloyd M. Norris, Md.

After due deliberation and conference they presented the following report:

"Your Committee to which was assigned the report of the President and Secretary of the National Young People's Spiritualist Union, respectfully report:

We heartily agree with the recommendations of the National Young People's Spiritualist Union to join the National Spiritualist Association as an auxiliary body, and note with pride the progress that has been made by that Union in organizing the young people of Spiritualism into an active working body, and, in accord with its recommendations, offer the following by-law for adoption by this convention.

We recognize the National Young People's Spiritualist Union, as organized at Rochester, N. Y., May 26, 1898, as an auxiliary body of the N. S. A., and pledge to that Union our hearty support and encouragement as the young people's branch of the N. S. A."

Signed: F. A. Wiggins,
B. B. Hill,
Lloyd M. Norris.

The above report was then referred to the Committee on amendments, with instructions to act, which committee in due time offered the following by-law, which was adopted by the convention.

"Sec. 6, Art. IV. The Board of Trustees shall also have power to charter auxiliary young people's societies, or other auxiliary societies, having local, state or national jurisdiction, at its discretion."

This committee also presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the convention:

"Resolved, That we hereby recognize the National Young People's Spiritualist Union organized at Rochester, N. Y., May 28, 1898, as a fraternal auxiliary of this Association, and pledge that Union our hearty support and encouragement as the Young People's branch of the National Spiritualist Association, and hereby direct the Board of Trustees to grant them a charter, with National jurisdiction, when applied for."

Steps have already been taken towards the procuring of this charter and by the time this article is presented to our readers it will undoubtedly have been obtained.

The benefit thus obtained by the Union is obvious to all, as it gives to us the official support and recognition of the N. S. A., and welds the two organizations with a more fraternal feeling of co-operation.

Through the kindness of Mr. J. B. Hatch, Conductor of the National Lyceum Association, two hours of Friday's meeting was conceded to the Union, for the delineation of its aims and objects. In this delineation the following members and friends participated, and by their earnest, sincere and eloquent statements, created among their hearers a feeling of affiliation and co-operation that will inevitably abound to the benefit of the Union as it did to their personal credit. Mrs. Margaret C. Barrett, B. Grant Taylor, Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, B. B. Hill, and F. A. Wiggins.

Very able papers prepared by Mrs. Lou Porter-Moore, Vice-President of the N. Y. P. S. U., Walter I. Prentiss, 3rd Trustee of the Union, W. E. Clendaniel, of N. Y., and Mrs. Gertrude Bangs-Burns, of Philadelphia, Pa., formerly of Washington, D. C., were read and received well deserved applause.

We regretted exceedingly that Mr. Bach was unable to be present at the convention, as Mr. Bach is a host in himself, but very fortunately B. Grant Taylor, of Lawton Station, N. Y., was present, and very ably acted as his substitute on the Committee of the N. Y. P. S. U.

My article has already attained such length I am constrained to bring it to a close, and will endeavor, in the next issue of THE SUNFLOWER, to supplement this with a paper outlining the work which the Union hopes to accomplish; the benefits to be derived by such an organization, also a summary glance at the advantages derived from the experiences of our elder brothers and sisters of the N. S. A.

I. C. I. EVANS,

President, N. Y. P. S. U.

THE SUNFLOWER

has been devoting much space to The Young People's Movement. We are willing to devote as much or even more if the Young People will take an interest in filling the space devoted to it.

Send us reports of your doings or any short items that you think would be of interest and show the paper to your friends.

FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT of the SECRETARY N. Y. P. S. U.

To the members and friends of the Union,

GREETING:

The first quarter of the fiscal year ending August 1st 1899, has just closed, and marked signs of progress are beginning to appear in the form of organizing Young People's Local Unions.

So far this office has received but few applications for charters; this, however is due to the fact that some societies are just beginning to re-open their meetings for the season, and are not fully prepared. Encouraging reports are coming to this office, and one especially is worthy of comment. It comes from our efficient state agent in Kentucky, Miss Cora Rambo, of Newport, who recently called a meeting and succeeded in bringing together

Forty Young People.

Is this not an incentive for others to try in their respective localities?

To those who have applied for charters, we will say that they have been granted and will be sent as soon as they are ready. They are to be tasteful documents and the cost to the Union will be materially lessened by the generous offer of Mr. Chas. Stanglen, of Baltimore, to defray over half the expense. We hope to receive many applications for charters this month, and ask the assistance of our friends to this end.

Our revised Constitutions and By-Laws have been furnished our state agents as far as possible and all members will receive the same, as soon as our supply warrants. Model constitutions in blank have also been issued for the guidance of new societies who desire the same. They will be sent on application to the Secretary. This office is also prepared to supply those who want them, with application cards for membership, and we bespeak your earnest efforts to secure individual members for the National Union, where local societies, clubs, or Unions, cannot be found. Please remember that members of societies can also become individual members by paying the membership fee of 50 cents and annual dues of the same amount. The holders of individual membership cards, paying annual dues, have the privilege of a voice in our annual conventions in their own behalf even if they are not delegates from a society.

Our first annual convention was a general success, financially included, as will be seen by the financial account of the quarter, hereto appended.

The recent meeting held in Washington, D. C., on National Lyceum Day, October 21, when Mr. J. B. Hatch, Jr., Chairman and now President of that association, kindly gave up a portion of that day to our Union, and the work of your committee in the recent N. S. A. convention, is spoken of elsewhere by our worthy President, hence it is not necessary to dwell on this point. A pleasant incident in our meeting was the reception of an encouraging letter, from our staunch friend, Capt. E. W. Gould, enclosing a substantial gift for the Union. The papers received from absent friends and read at the meetings were of such high order, that it was deemed advisable to have the same published in the Spiritualist press, and they will appear accordingly — several in THE SUNFLOWER, one in the Banner of Light and two in the Progressive Thinker. The thanks of our Union are due to the Spiritualist press for their assistance, especially the Banner, whose kind management has accorded us so much space in that valuable paper.

Our office is now in possession of a beautiful seal, donated by our friend, Mr. B. B. Hill, of Philadelphia, who has rendered our Union assistance in many ways since its inception.

Group pictures of our First Annual convention are for sale at headquarters at 35 cents each. Every member should have a souvenir of the First Annual Convention and it will be

A Thanksgiving Dinner That Did Not Materialize.

(Continued from page 1.)

Eve are sitting in their Paradisical cottage, he whittling a soft pine stick reflectively and she busy knitting - not because they needed stockings or mittens, but simply to have something to do - while they brought up reminiscences of the past.

Imagine mother Eve casting a glance at father Adam, and, with the sweet voice owned by the mother of all mankind, saying: "Adam, my dear, it is a long time since we had a family reunion. I believe we now know but a small portion of our progeny; they have gone from us and we see but few of them. It is near Thanksgiving Day and what more fitting time could there be for gathering them around the family board once more."

Adam looked up with his old look of affection and replied: "You are right, my dear, it is a fact that we have not seen as much of the darlings as we should and it will make our whole family exceedingly happy to be gathered together under one roof again."

Mother Eve urged that invitations be sent out at once but father Adam, having arrived at years of discretion, replied: "There is no hurry; let us complete arrangements first and send the invitations afterwards. Something may happen to prevent the reunion and I do not want to disappoint them. There are many details to be settled. We do not know how many there are for the blank pages for recording them gave out long ago and it will be necessary to estimate their number as we cannot examine the baptismal registers of every land. Let me see; the records show that we have lived in Paradise something like 6,000 years. Now to get a basis to work from, we might say that our children married at the age of thirty years and had offspring at the rate of three to a family."

Mother Eve said: "It will not do to figure on that basis at all. While our children became somewhat aged before they got married at first, I think that the age at which they now marry is far below that and as all children that are born live forever, I think there are many more than five in a family."

Father Adam concluded, however, that all of them could not come and that it would be safe to figure on that basis. He therefore got out pencil and paper and after several hours of calculating, he looked up and said: "Here are my figures, my dear, our family, whom we might expect, number 661 sextillions, 108 quintillions."

The next question was to decide upon the eatables. Father Adam, having a good appetite himself, said: "It is my opinion that a good healthy person will eat about four pounds at a Thanksgiving dinner. They will come from all over the world, will be very hungry and there must be enough for all of them. Four pounds for each of the darlings will take quite a little amount and I will see how many tons of food will be required." So he plied his pencil a few minutes and announced: "I find it will take 1 sextillion 322 quintillions, 216 quadrillions tons of food."

Mother Eve said that Thanksgiving without turkey would be no Thanksgiving at all and the first question must be the turkey question. Father Adam agreed and said: "It is my experience that a good healthy person will eat a pound and a half of turkey for a Thanksgiving dinner. There is never very much left of a fifteen pound turkey when a family of ten get through with it and I shall figure on that basis."

Again the pencil started and the result announced as follows: "Let us call the average turkey ten pounds; at one and one-half pounds to a person, it will take 495 quintillions, 831 quadrillions, tons of turkey or at the rate of 200 to the ton, it will take 99 sextillions, 166 quintillions, 200 quadrillions of turkeys to grace our festal board."

Mother Eve smiled complacently as the preliminaries were being settled, and begun to go into details. "There are many things that will be wanted. You know I am very particular about stuffing. That will require stale bread, milk, eggs, sage, pepper, salt, oysters, and sausage to garnish the turkey with, besides condiments and spices to give a proper flavor. Then we will need fresh bread, oysters for the stews, soup bones, sweet and sour pickles, some fish, sugar, tea, coffee and chocolate, vinegar, spices, cranberries, and if we could get a little game such as venison, wild and tame geese, jack rabbits, etc., they would not come amiss. There must also be a quantity of flour, cider, celery, sweet and Irish potatoes, crooknecked squashes, cabbages, carrots and other vegetables, as well as apples, bananas, oranges and such things. Then there must be mince pies, and as I prepare my own mince meat, we must not forget the raisins and other fruit - oh yes! and some chickens and shrimps and a few other things."

And so she rattled on, anticipating much pleasure, while she urged father Adam to hurry the arrangements.

Father Adam remained seated at the table toying with his pencil. Finally he took some paper and began figuring. Rapidly he filled sheet after sheet and as the pages grew more numerous he cast pitying glances at his companion who continued to plan her Thanksgiving dinner. After figuring for a long time, covering sheet after sheet, recasting his figures, adding subtracting, multiplying and dividing, he laid his pencil down and casting a glance of affection and pity on mother Eve said: "My dear woman, I fear that our dream can never be realized. We have been plain people, living in Paradise, while our offspring have gone out and spread over the earth. But the calculations I have made have upset our plans and must spoil our

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anticipated pleasures."

"The number of our offspring is so large that the fact appalls me. If the earth is not larger than it is reported to us, there is not room on it for our dear ones. I try to think that there is an error, but these stubborn figures tell me differently. Mathematicians tell us that 'figures do not lie' when properly handled and I have tried to do it."

"If my figures are right, there is not standing room on earth for our darlings; on the contrary, if each one only occupied a square foot of space, if the space covered land and sea, if others stood upon the shoulders of those who stood on earth, they would reach so far into space that the moon would make a hole in the mass at every revolution; even Venus and Mars would crush them and I do not know but they would reach out beyond the sun; I can not realize it. If each of them weighed but 100 pounds, they would far over balance what my figures tell me the earth weighs."

"My calculations show me that it would be impossible to feed the multitude. It would take all the substance of the earth to do it. As for turkey, if the earth was covered miles deep with them, it would still fall short of the required number. As for oysters, if the seas were many times larger than they now are, and were filled from top to bottom with them, there would still not be enough to stuff your turkeys with, not to mention stews. The four rivers of Paradise would not be sufficient to give each one a drink of water."

"As for vegetables and flour and the other things you mentioned, the earth is so covered with our dear ones that there is not an inch of bare ground upon which to raise anything and while I am exceedingly sorry, I am afraid we will have to content ourselves with a plain family dinner."

Grandmother Eve sat with dimming eyes and tried in vain to suppress her tears and went out into the balmy air of Paradise to overcome her disappointment.

This is too long now; the figures are probably not mathematically correct (I would not vouch for them) but they illustrate the principle. I count 6,000 years as the time the earth has been inhabited. Millions would be nearer it, and yet, today, there are people who accept this old immortality fable. It seems incredible that such things can be. The whole structure rests upon such a basis. No fall, no redemption; no redemption, what use for this religion?

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The two forms will be given side by side, examined and critically analyzed; it will be shown that much of our progress would have been impossible had some of them been observed, while those possessing value are older by far than the Bible.

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W. H. BACH, Lily Dale, N. Y.

BOOK NOTICES.

Among the books that have been published within the past year, none are of more interest than Prof. W. M. Lockwood's pamphlet "The Dogmas of Re-Incarnation and Re-Embodiment." There has been a growing interest in these subjects for some time and both sides have been granted a thorough hearing. Prof. Lockwood does not believe the doctrine and his book is an effort to show that it is strictly out of accord with the principles of nature and has not received nor is it capable of receiving positive confirmation. Whether you accept the ideas or not, this pamphlet will give any careful reader food for thought.

It is for sale at this office, 25 cents postpaid.

Raphael's Almanac and Ephemeris for 1899.

The 79th Annual Address of Raphael to the people of the world has arrived and is now ready for delivery. Raphael's books have been the standard for the world for some time and doubtless will continue to be until some radical change takes place in the study of Astrology. The almanac for 1899 is a particularly interesting work aside from its Astrological features. It contains a complete ephemeris for the year, which contains several new features, and with birthday information, tables and about 125 pages of general information, is one of the most valuable books of the year. Prof. Wilson, the present "Raphael," deserves great credit for his pains taking. Price postpaid, 35ct. For sale at this office.

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N. S. L. A. REPORT.

(continued from first page.)

of the committee; this was presented by the chairman, J. B. Hatch, Jr. He stated that the Committee had prepared a Constitution and By-Laws which would be submitted to the delegates at that time; The document was passed to the Reading Clerk, and after friendly discussion on some points where there were differences of opinion, changes were made, and then Constitution and By-Laws were adopted as a whole. I will not ask space here for the printing of the Constitution and By-Laws, they will appear in this, or some other Spiritualist paper in the near future.

After the adoption of the Constitution etc., the subject of Ways and Means were discussed at some length, and many practical suggestions were offered by Mrs. Hatch of Mass., F. A. Wiggins, now of N. Y., Mrs. Loring of Mass., Mrs. Renssieu of Conn., Mrs. Ada Pratt of Mass., Hon. Dewey of Mich., G. W. Kates of N. Y., Mrs. Tillie U. Reynolds of N. Y., Mrs. Cadwallader of Pa., C. W. Stanglen of Md., and many others.

One source of revenue towards the support of the N. S. L. A. will be the charter fee for local Lyceums, two dollars; another an annual contribution of two dollars from every Lyceum chartered by the National and still another, the Contributing Membership, which should amount to one thousand or more the incoming year.

The officers elected for ensuing year are: Conductor, J. B. Hatch, Jr., Boston, Mass., Assistant Conductor, C. W. Stanglen, Baltimore, Md., Guardian, Mrs. Mary J. Stephens, Washington, D. C., Assistant Guardian, Mrs. Tillie U. Reynolds, Troy, N. Y., Treasurer, W. H. Bach, Lily Dale, N. Y., Trustees: George W. Kates, Rochester, N. Y., Capt. E. W. Gould, Washington, D. C., Dr. A. A. Kimball, Malden, Mass.

It may occur to the reader that the officers are from what may be called the East. There is but one reason why this is so; Lyceums of the West were not represented, and it was thought the most practicable to elect those who were

Known To Be Active

and in full sympathy with the movement. As far as holding an office in this Association is concerned, it means *hard work*, nothing more, except the satisfaction of knowing we are doing something to help those who are to come after us.

I cannot, in this communication, set forth the plan, nor make the suggestions I hope to do in some future paper. I would state however, that as far as the N. S. L. A. is concerned, it is the aim of its officers that the benefits shall not all be on one side. Its main object is to centralize the work, inaugurate a system whereby local Lyceums may co-operate with each other, create a greater versatility in the way of lessons, in fact, to promote Spiritualism in the broadest sense among young and old.

I cannot close this communication with out urging that every one who sympathizes with the movement send fifty cents as a Contributing member, and receive in return a handsome Certificate from the National Lyceum Association.

I am prepared to receive all kinds of objections to the New Movement, I am also prepared to meet every one of them. I have had a long experience, I have given weeks of hard labor to the Lyceum Cause

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every summer for years; I have worked from time to time for the re-establishment of Lyceums in those places where I have had lecture engagements, and left the Lyceum when my term of labor had expired, with a hope the work might go on. I am aware that Lyceums have been organized in many places where all that remains to tell the story is a chest containing what was a Lyceum paraphernalia, perhaps a few Lyceum Manuals, some little badges, musty and moth-eaten, aye, there may be other things, the little books containing names of the children who, so long ago sang the sweet songs and responded in the readings. I have looked into some of these old chests, always with a sob in my heart and tears in my eyes. Yes, I am sensitive in regard to these matters; I have heard so many sweet messages from the Spirit Side from the children who were once enrolled as Lyceum pupils; they always say "I thank you my parents" or "my friends" as the case may be, "that you led me to the Spiritualist Lyceum. The lessons I learned there have been a help to me in the world where I live." These are common experiences to me.

Why has the Lyceum Disappeared in so many places where it was once a thriving and a popular institution? It was not killed by outside opposition, the children were not at fault, there MUST be some cause; it is not that the Lyceum is not needed as much as ever. In every instance, as far as my knowledge has gone, *the Spiritualists themselves have been the slayers of the best Sunday institution we have ever had for the young.*

I trust we have all grown wiser by experience; now let us work as one, for the cause we espoused. I believe that the officers of the N. S. L. A. are determined to sink self in the work and labor hard and earnestly for the Higher Education.

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J. B. Walker, Caddo, I. T.

July 13, 1898.

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