

BANNER OF LIGHT.



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RUINS.

BY MRS. ANNA H. WOOD.

Ruins gray and ivy-mantled,
Through whose broken arches stray
Rays of soft and silvery moonlight
Where the shattered columns lay,
Speak to me in voiceless sadness
Of the Past; the wild winds moan
Ever through their silent chambers,
Telling of their glory gone.
But the heart—the heart in ruins,
Broken, wasting day by day,
Light and joy and bloom long vanished,
Sadder seems than ruins gray!
Friendship's green perchance may wreath it—
Love's warm, roseate blooms be seen
Mantling o'er the ruined temple,
Where the spoiler's hand hath been.
Oh, the heart hath sombre chambers,
Darker far than ruins gray!
Where Hope's star-beams never enter,
With their cheering, blissful ray!
Chambers in life's early spring-time,
Filled with love-light, mirth and flowers—
Now are dark, and echoes faintly
Toll of happy bygone hours.
There are chambers—silent chambers,
Where dark Sorrow, day by day,
Sighs for treasures long departed—
Idols broken—borne away!
Ay, the heart hath darksome chambers,
Silent nooks where shadows stay,
Gloomier, sadder than the arches
Through whose rifts the moonbeams stray.

Biographical.

JAMES V. MANSFIELD,

THE MEDIUM FOR ANSWERING SEALED LETTERS.

The readers of this number of the *Banner of Light* have here presented to their view most excellent likeness of James V. Mansfield, Esq., the distinguished amanuensis of the Immortals—a picture strikingly illustrative of his physical features and their animating soul.

From its beginning, having been "called to be an apostle" of Spiritualism, Mr. M. has been identified with that greatest movement of the present age, as a test writing Medium.* This is his forte. There is no better exponent of the evidences of the truth and divinity of this new Religion. Its foundations rest on spiritual phenomena. Their examination leads into the vast fields of Philosophy and Science. In their explanation are involved the laws which govern universal mind and matter. Through him most largely have been contributed invaluable testimonies from the Spirit Realm, to establish its claims upon the credence of all mankind. This age of the world is fast making history—Spiritualism is already historical—and the subject of our sketch is one of its most marked and worthy characters.

The portrait before the reader strongly indicates the physique of this great medium, which is that of a large, portly, and healthful gentleman. His height is five feet and eight or nine inches—his weight exceeds two hundred pounds. He was born at Southbridge, Worcester County, Mass., April 8th, 1817. His paternal ancestry is English. The traditions of his family claim for him relationship to that celebrity of history, Lord Mansfield, that great luminary of the law, whose equal administration of justice broke the bonds of Somerset, and forever afterwards made it impossible for slaves to breathe the air of England. Two brothers of this name immigrated to this country in the year 1600, one of whom settled near New Haven, Conn., the other in Waltham, Mass.; from the latter of these, this medium derives ancestry. From about the age of six years to the fifteenth year of his age, he passed his life with his parents on a farm, attending a country district school, during the winter months, and laboring on the farm with his father and brothers during the summer and fall. Aside from this he never received any schooling until he reached his twentieth year; at that time he attended an Academe School for about six months, pursuing the usual English studies. In the interim, from fifteen to twenty, he was sick, and no expectation of his restoration to health entertained by the family or physician. So hopeless his case, he was given up to die seven times, during these five years of debility and prostration. It has been supposed by some that those physical sufferings may have contributed in some mysterious way to his development in after years as a medium, though this mediumship, as a seer, can be traced back into the early years of his infancy, it having been ascertained that when only two years old the child saw spirits unequivocally. His health having been, in a measure, regained, and having a fondness for books, he managed to study evenings, thus improving his time as occasion warranted, until he was nearly twenty-one years of age, when he entered upon a clerkship in a country store, where he continued till he arrived at the age of twenty-two years. The next three years he spent in travel and teaching penmanship (few are his equals in cigraphy) in Virginia, North and South Carolina, etc. Having returned to the paternal dwelling, he resumed his former occupation—clerkship. This, and merchandizing on his own account, engaged his time for several years subsequently, with various fortune. He married and settled in Norwich, Conn. At this place, while in trade as a wholesale and retail dry-goods merchant, he was burnt out, by which he lost all he had made by years of hard labor and attention to business. In the course of events, and after the lapse of years spent in business pursuits, while a resident of Boston, Mass., the medium powers of Mr. M. began to unfold themselves, and especially in being able to write in response to sealed matter

addressed to spirits. Satisfied that he possessed such peculiar powers, he consented to gratify the public curiosity when it did not interfere with his business affairs. The fact that such a wonder could be done, was soon heralded throughout the land, and letters by the hundred came swarming to him, for answers. He replied as often as he had time to do so; but finding it required nearly all his time to attend to such demands, at length he was induced to make it a business, and to charge for his services in the premises. He remained in Boston several years subsequently to making this his constant business; that is, writing to mail matter. Becoming extensively known to the public, he was requested to leave Boston, and to travel through the States, that the people might see the man who possessed this wonderful power. He consented to travel. He first visited Philadelphia, then Baltimore, Washington, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans, in the years 1859, 1860, 1861.

Afterwards he left home for California. Remaining on the Pacific Coast for about three years, he returned home overland by way of Salt Lake. After a journey of five weeks and upwards, he reached New York City, in which place, for the last four years, he has been writing for the public. During these three years of travel he kept a journal or diary, in form of correspondence with his wife, devoted to the various matters engrossing his attention and observation while absent. These writings alone to his wife, from California, make sixteen thousand seven hundred pages, commercial size note paper! The good lady has had these papers all duly arranged in proper order, and bound in volumes.

In furtherance of the object had in giving to the public a sketch of one of the ablest and most useful mediums of the present period of time, I cannot forbear placing upon this record a portion of a biographical outline prepared by a distinguished Spiritualist and friend of Mr. M., in the earlier days of his mediumship. It supplies a hiatus which otherwise might not be filled:

"From his earliest recollections in life, to the present time, Mr. M. has seen spirits almost daily. He sees them really and tangibly, and converses with them as mortal converses with mortal; he hears their voices as he hears the voice of any mortal, and answers the same. He calls spirits at his pleasure, and seldom fails to get a response. In this way he gets information that is interesting and useful in his every-day life. How beautiful, how pleasant, how valuable is this power; it is the key to the fountain of knowledge, and the gateway to power, freedom and heaven. No earthly influence can intercept it, even prison walls cannot shut it out; no material condition can suspend it or take it away. It is above the power of man and the influence of matter. Many, many times, when he has been alone, spirits have audibly spoken to him, and have warned him of approaching danger, and have told him of coming events; and he has found their prophecies ever reliable and truthful. This capacity of communicating with spirits in a normal condition, has, through his whole life, gradually increased, and is greater now than at any previous time.

At Mr. Mansfield's first sitting in a circle of Spiritualists, it was communicated to him, through another medium, 'Sit one hour in fifty-four consecutive days, and you will become a writing medium.' This he did; and on the fifty-second day his hand was mechanically moved to write.

Shortly after Mr. Mansfield was developed as a medium for answering sealed letters; and so many applications were made to him that he was forced to choose between his former business and this, and, deeming that it was his duty to devote himself to the cause, he chose the latter alternative, sacrificing, therefore, considerable pecuniary interests.

Ever since Mr. M. became acquainted with modern Spiritualism he has felt an indescribable love for it, and a deeper and truer interest in it than in all earthly things. He says uncounted millions of earthly treasures can have no influence to draw his love away from it; for one is uncertain, and endures but for a little time; the other is certain, abiding and eternal.

Mr. M.'s time, for the last three years, has been devotedly given to answering sealed letters, without breaking the seal—generally in such a way as to preclude the possibility of reading them, or knowing what they contain, without opening them. The spirits move his right hand to give the answer, while his left hand is held in contact with the letter. Thus he writes answers, and returns the letters, with the answer written through his hand, to the writer, or answers the letter in the presence of the person who wrote it. Every answer given is an answer to the question contained in the letters. The average number of letters sent for answers, and returned without answers, is one in every five; and four in every five are answered with correctness; and every answer has a test.

The philosophy of answering letters in this way no science of earth can explain, independent of the recognition of some unseen power and intelligence. In the last three years Mr. M. has written thirty-one thousand answers to letters, twenty-one thousand of which have been written and sent free, without any pay or any demand for pay; about ten thousand he has received compensation for, which compensation has fallen short of the expenditures of his family, during that time, and office expenses. As the answers he sends are written very coarsely on printing paper, postage stamps form no inconsiderable item in these expenses, sometimes as high as twenty cents being put upon one letter, and as the postage must be paid in advance, even while he receives nothing for his services, it will be seen how the amount he receives may be dwindled.

This does not appear like a desire for making money out of Spiritualism, for Mr. M. left a profitable business, which gave his family an ample support, with a conscientious and hearty desire to make himself a useful instrument in the proclamation of the new and beautiful gospel of Spiritualism to mankind.

He must have bread and clothes for himself and family, and his receipts are insufficient, from the exercise of his mediumship, to supply these wants. Thus his position is not an enviable one. He works very hard; he early and late at his office. From skepticism he has had very severe and unkind things said and written to him. But these sayings he passes over as easily as he can, without allowing them to turn him or change his course, for he knows that he is doing right—he is fulfilling a good mission.

Through him letters are seldom, if ever, answered that would disturb domestic peace, or add to the secular gain; and it is perhaps for this reason that letters sent to him for answers of this nature, pass unnoticed by the higher influences that control him, and are returned without an answer, and this accounts, in many cases, for his reputation of occasional failures.

Letters, too, have been written to him of most deceptive character—trivial and false; these have been treated, too, with indifference, or with most severe rebuke, accompanied with most extraordinary tests.

A letter was written by a gentleman of this city, addressed to a person living in the form. This letter was intended for Mr. M. to answer,

and to be carried by the writer on the following day, and presented to Mr. M., under the disguise of being addressed to a spirit who had left the form. On the evening previous to the presentation of this letter, Mr. M.'s hand was moved and wrote the name, appearance and full description of the man who wrote the letter, his intentions of trickery, the full contents of the letter, and the precise time when he would bring it. This man was a perfect stranger to Mr. M. He came the next day at the hour predicted, and was immediately recognized from the description. And while he yet held the letter in his hand, Mr. M. told him the contents, the name of the person to whom it was addressed, that he was still living, and his plan of deception.

Many most ingenious devices of a similar nature have been practiced upon Mr. M., whether to test his claims of spirit power, or for imposition, it matters not; they have been met and disposed of by a power that sees and knows the hidden thoughts of men the same as spoken words.

Sealed letters have been written to him for answers in Hebrew, Greek, Spanish, French and Chinese, and correct answers have been returned, written in the same language through Mr. M.'s hand, which languages to him are perfectly unknown.

In many instances he has had pronouncement of the death of friends, which has happened as predicted. He has had written through his hand in two instances the death of friends immediately after their decease, many hundred miles distant, whom he supposed to be in perfect health; and letters subsequently received have proved the truth of the communications.

The following paragraphs are from other writers abundantly qualified to speak concerning Mr. M. and his most wonderful powers as a medium:

"Mr. Mansfield professes to be a medium through whom the spirits of persons who once inhabited this world are enabled to answer letters of inquiry, or to give information to the relative, friend or even stranger, who may send it, the medium himself having no knowledge of the contents of these letters. Now the main, practical point in this matter is this: Does Mr. Mansfield answer such letters pertinently, giving clear and specific replies, without any knowledge of their contents, or volition on his part? Some of the enemies of the cause in which Mr. Mansfield claims to be but an humble instrument, dispose of the whole matter by calling it a humbug; others assert that by some ingenious contrivance he learns the contents of these letters and then writes out the answers; and still others, and perhaps a larger proportion, at this day, believe that he does really answer these letters without a knowledge of their contents, but have no definite belief or interest in the matter. But those who are intimately acquainted with Mr. Mansfield, believe him to be just what he professes—a medium for the transmission of intelligence outside and independent of himself. He is always gentlemanly and kind in his demeanor; indeed, he seems to possess a transparency of character which reveals, even to the stranger, his inmost thoughts; and everything in his manner is the very opposite of concealment; indeed, one can hardly avoid the conclusion that he is an honest man.

But what is the evidence that he possesses these peculiar and remarkable powers of mediumship? No hasty newspaper article can do justice to this, the main point in our subject. Ministers of the Gospel, of nearly every denomination, statesmen, judges, lawyers, physicians, tradesmen, persons of every calling and profession, from every city, State and Territory in the Union, and some from Europe, and not a few eminent for learning, have either written or called upon him to test his powers, making, in the aggregate, about twenty-five thousand different communications given to seal-



JAMES V. MANSFIELD.

ed inquiries, addressed to the spirits of persons once the inhabitants of this world. The usual course of these who send by mail is, to address interrogatories to some deceased friend, and to seal them as securely as possible from human sight, using the various means which the skill of each writer may suggest. Indeed, every method which human ingenuity is capable of is used to keep the medium from reading the contents, and to detect him in case he should attempt to unseal or in any way remove the envelope. Some enclose the letter in three or four different envelopes, sealing or pasting each as firmly and securely as possible. Various opaque substances are used to conceal the contents. Some sew the package with peculiar thread and stitch, while others will make the letter and envelope a solid mass by the application of paste; and still others place in the inside of the covering some minute object, so that the package cannot be opened without disturbing it."

"Some of the most ingenious devices have been resorted to; indeed, it would seem as if nearly every possible method had been tried. The usual course of these who attempt to test this matter believed he alone was capable of detecting the medium in his wiles, and giving an explanation of the whole affair, notwithstanding all that has been published relating to his strange powers. And yet, to Mr. Mansfield, it is all the same whether the letter to be answered comes in a single or double envelope; whether it is filled with traps, dots and marks, or packed into one solid mass. He submits each to the same process as his own comes. He lays the envelope containing the interrogatories on the desk before him—and these letters often come to him without any address, being enclosed in an envelope, addressed to the medium—and, placing his left hand upon it, sits patiently awaiting the influence which shall move his right hand to write the reply.

It is very easy for persons who stand aloof from these exhibitions of spirit-power, to imagine that they are nothing but pranks played off by artful and designing men; but to those who seek a personal investigation, a more difficult question is furnished for solution. I went to Mr. M.'s rooms for the purpose of investigating the phenomena which his peculiar phase of mediumship furnishes, and I say frankly that I saw no attempt or any indication of a desire to deceive me; and I do not believe that any person, possessing common sense, and placed in the same situation I was, could be persuaded that they were deceived. I have always been in the habit of believing my own senses, when there were no conditions to interfere with their direct action, and it is within my own knowledge that J. V. Mansfield did answer my interrogatories, when he had no possible means, in his ordinary condition, of knowing their import. Moreover, the appearance and whole bearing of Mr. Mansfield forbids the imputation of collusion on his part. His personal appearance is good. His speech and manner show him to be a man of heart and frank; his deportment is gentlemanly and unassuming, and I believe him to be, what his whole bearing indicates, an honest man. Consequently, I am confident that a large majority of those who may form his acquaintance, will come to the same conclusion I have. It is but simple justice to Mr. M., to say that his acquaintance should be made, and his manner of answering sealed letters carefully and critically observed. Until such knowledge is had no man has a right to pronounce upon the wonderful powers with which he is unquestionably endowed."

The reader not acquainted with Mr. M., and uninformed of the methods through which are made to appear his astonishing spiritual gifts and powers, may be interested as well as profited by some illustrations founded on actual occurrences and real events within my own spiritual researches.

Indulging his taste for things curious and antiquated, or historically associated, the reception rooms of Mr. M., besides their spiritual prestige to render them attractive to visitors, have much of the air and style of a miniature picture gallery, or well-arranged museum of carefully selected and curious articles, artificial and natural. Among the many valuable and choice curiosities here clustering, may be seen suspended from the wall of the parlors, an article thus labeled:

"This cane belonged to Judge Ward, who condemned and hanged the so-called witches, in Salem, Mass., A. D. 1680."

How suggestive this historic memorandum and its subject! How significant the flowing lines of Longfellow, portraying the tragic deeds of those days!

"Who would believe that in the quiet town
Of Salem, and amid the woods that crown
The neighboring hills, and the sunny farms
That fold it safe in their paternal arms,
Who would believe that in these peaceful streets,
Where the great elms shut out the summer heats,
Where quiet reigns, and breathes through brain and breast
Of the tradition of unbroken rest—
Who would believe such deeds could find a place
As those whose tragic history we retrace?"

Thinking I might, perhaps, get a response to an inquiry concerning the above mentioned case of walking stick, on the occasion of a call at these parlors, and finding Mr. M. disengaged and willing, at the time, to allow me a few moments, he bade me sit at his table and write. So long time ago it since I had examined the cane and the note attached thereto, that I really had forgotten the name of the reputed ancient owner. I resolved it in my mind whether it would be consistent, with that abundant caution demanded by skeptics, for me to arise and examine the cane and its label—though not skeptical myself, nor believing it possible for my medium friend to deceive me in any respect, but for the sake of others, however, to whom I might relate my adventure, I deemed it best to remain sitting, and to proceed with my letter addressed in blank. While writing, the medium sat on the opposite side of the room, at a distance rendering it impossible to discern what I wrote. When finished, I folded my writing so as to render it impossible to be read by any mortal eye, and gave it to Mr. M. He proceeded further to fold my paper, looking on vacancy or out at the window, folding and unfolding the same till its folds were eight in number, being reduced to small dimensions—this roll he enveloped in another like paper, with several more foldings. I sat in his presence and saw his every motion till the reply was written, and well know that he could not and did not see, or learn from me in any way, the contents of my letter. The following is a copy of the unfolded writing:

"Will Judge —, the reputed owner of the walking stick, or rather bludgeon, now kept in these parlors as a curiosity by my friend Mansfield, please to inform me whether the stick is the veritable one with which he used to walk in his earth-life? Also please to state whether the

* We call the attention of our readers to Mr. Mansfield's terms and locality under "Business Notices."—E. B. BARRETT.

(Original.) BRIGHTER DAYS.

There's a brighter day a-coming! I can see it through the gloom, Like the shining light of heaven...

The Reviewer.

Better Views of Living:

Or, "A life according to the doctrine, whatever it is, Right." By A. B. Child, M. D. Published by Adams & Co., Boston.

As every river serves a use, and runs until its destiny is fulfilled, so every passion serves its use, and runs until its mission is fulfilled.

As rivers drain the surplus water from the land, for a producing life, health and vigor, in place of death, stagnation and decay...

As rivers are God's rivers and Nature's rivers; so human passions are God's passions and Nature's passions.

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thor. He touches upon matters which the Jews claim were specially committed to them; and while he acknowledges the benefits resulting from obedience to the Ten Commandments, he also perceives and unflinchingly vindicates the spiritual blessings springing from their violation.

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whilst on earth to his godfather, Mr. Home. Spirit forms now showed themselves—not so clear in outline as seen on former occasions, but as grey or luminous figures, well-known to spirit seers, clothed in robes, with a girlish, the whole appearance not sufficiently distinct to enable those who saw them to say whether they were male or female.

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"The Spiritual Harp." THIS popular work, having been thoroughly tested before the public, ranks among the first in the United States. It need only be examined to merit commendation. Already it has reached its third thousand, and is still in active demand.

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CONNECTICUT.

The Missionary Work. As people are asking what the Connecticut Missionary is doing, and as the person acting in that capacity is expected to report to the people the result of the Missionary effort, I make a brief report of my labors for the first quarter.

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A Singular Case.

The New York Evening Post says there is a young lady in Brooklyn who has existed for twenty years in a semi-cataleptic state. She is twenty-three years old, and for two and a half years has eaten no food of more substance than the juice of a few grapes, at long intervals.

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TESTIMONIALS.

The New York Independent, one of the ablest edited papers in the country, notices the HARP as follows: "This book is made, primarily, for the use of Spiritualists, in their public and social meetings; but, besides the hymns which bring into view their peculiar sentiments, there is a great variety of others, suited to the wants of people of every religious denomination, and fitted especially for use at philanthropic and social gatherings, picnics, etc."

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Spiritual Phenomena.

From the London Human Nature for January. Mr. Home's Manifestations. LIFTING OF A HEAVY BOOKCASE—EXTRACTING ALCOHOL—LEVITATION OF THE BODY—SPIRIT VOICES, ETC.

Sir—I have now to record one of the most remarkable séances that has ever come to my knowledge; for the particulars of which I am indebted to the kindness of the Hon. the M—

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A Remarkable Medium.

DEAR BANNER—Permit me, through your columns, to call the attention of the public to the remarkable powers of Peter West, a medium recently developed in this city. He is a man about forty years of age, by trade a painter. The wonderful manifestations given through him, radically altering the attention of scientists, and awakening renewed interest in Spiritualism. One peculiarity of his mediumship is the variety of phases it assumes.

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LOVE NEVER DIES.

She loved him then, she loves him still, Though years on years have rolled away; Nor hers the power, nor hers the will To bid affection stay.

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Gone Home.

Bela Marsh died at his residence on Harrison Avenue, in this city, Wednesday morning, Jan. 20th, after a lingering illness of one year, at the ripe age of seventy-one years and eleven months.

Our friend Lysander Spooner, Esq., who knew Mr. Marsh intimately, pays him the following just tribute:

Having had very intimate relations, both of business and friendship, with Mr. Marsh for more than twenty years—more intimate, probably, than any other person not of his own family—I feel it a duty, as well as a pleasure, to speak of his character. He was certainly one of the best of men; innately and scrupulously kind, conscientious and just; a man who never gave just cause of suspicion that he would, from any possible motive, knowingly do a wrong to the person, property, reputation, or feelings of any one.

ALL SORTS OF PARAGRAPHS.

The Annual Report of Mr. A. E. Carpenter, State Missionary, shows what energy and perseverance can accomplish. He has received in money over a thousand dollars, besides disposing of spiritual books and taking subscriptions for spiritualistic publications.

As we have received no manuscripts from Mrs. Willis the present week, we presume she is still sick. Under these circumstances we are obliged to apologize to our readers for a suspension of her story.

"Thoughts on the Hereafter," by F. V. Powers, an essay, is accepted and will appear soon.

There are a thousand and one things which are needed by persons living at a distance from the great commercial centres; but which they either cannot obtain at home, or only at exorbitant prices.

ImpRACTICABLE men are continually pushing forward schemes which they feel confident are practical, but which, nine times in ten, prove entirely futile.

FREE SPEECH IN CAMBRIDGE.—A few Sundays ago, Rev. A. W. Stevens, pastor of the Leostreet Unitarian Society, Cambridge, preached a sermon so very liberal in sentiment, that some of the pew holders doubted his theological soundness.

PUBLIC CIRCLES.—Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Hatch, trance mediums, hold public circles every Thursday and Sunday evenings at No. 8 Harrison Avenue.

A NEWLY DEVELOPED MEDIUM.—We are informed that Miss Susan Taylor, fifteen years of age, daughter of Mr. Charles Taylor, of Salem, Mass., has recently been developed as a trance medium.

The daily papers chronicle volcanic eruptions in the moon, observed by M. De Crety, a French savan. The facts were reported to the Academy of Science in France, by Dr. Montucci, who says: "This is a phenomenon hitherto unheard of in the annals of astronomy."

AS IT SHOULD BE.—The birthday of the patriot, Thomas Paine, is to be celebrated, in different parts of the country, on the 29th inst.

We thank, in behalf of the angels, Mrs. Jennie M. Anderson for the beautiful bouquet of flowers which she placed upon our circle-room table recently.

When is a woman called an old maid? When she is a virgin (verging) near forty.

The New York Observer thinks there is no college more sectarian than Harvard, and that the Unitarian is one of the narrowest sects in Christendom.

No wonder the Boston Investigator is hated by Old Theology. This sheet has done its duty well. It has been a faithful sentinel upon the watchtower of Freedom for many years, and the fruits of its labors are observant to-day in the dying struggles of priestcraft, their rallies at Horticultural Hall to the contrary notwithstanding.

Lyceum Entertainments.

The First Children's Progressive Lyceum, of Boston, will give their third entertainment at Mercantile Hall, Wednesday evening, February 3d. The exercises will be more varied than heretofore.

In addition to the above, a series of Tableaux are in preparation, and all who patronize it will go away well satisfied that it was "good for them to be there."

Tickets, 25 cents. Reserved seats, 35 cents. Can be procured of either member of the Committee: Daniel N. Ford, Miss M. A. Sanborn, Miss M. F. Haynes, G. W. Metcalf, Miss E. Fessenden, or at the Banner of Light office.

A GRAND LYCEUM MASQUERADE

Will be given at Nassau Hall, on Thursday evening, February 11th. This will be one of the finest parties of the season.

New York Department.

BANNER OF LIGHT BRANCH OFFICE, 544 BROADWAY.

WARREN CHASE, LOCAL EDITOR AND AGENT. FOR NEW YORK ADVERTISEMENTS SEE SEVENTH PAGE.

Large Assortment of Spiritual and Liberal Books.

Complete works of A. J. Davis, comprising twenty-two volumes, all neatly and substantially bound in cloth: Nature's Divine Revelations, 13th edition. Great Harmonia, in five volumes, each complete—Physion. Teacher, Ser. Reform, and Thinker. Magic Staff, an Autobiography of the author.

Persons sending us \$10 in one order can order the full amount, and we will pay the postage where it does not exceed book rates. Send post-office orders when convenient. They are always safe, as are registered letters under the new law.

News.

The Columbian (Pa.) Spy says "the Spiritualists of New York are said to be rapidly increasing in numbers." This may be the news in Pennsylvania, and many other parts of the country, but it is well known in this city, even among its enemies.

The public mind seems to be at last satisfied that what could not be killed nor silenced by the churches and the ridicule of the press and the bar-room rabble, added by bulls of the Pope and threats of the prison and asylum, and which has steadily gained in spite of them all, until it has become a power in the land, and has gained its defenders in the highest ranks and best classes of society, must have truth and merit in it.

Twenty years in these days of rapid advancement are equal to a century or more in the early days of Christianity, and the general intelligence of the country is more favorable to Spiritualism than to any irrational and inconsistent theory or fanaticism.

We are expecting very soon to see the old clock-face of the New York Observer turn its so long stationary dial-plate around toward us, and strike.

Execution of a Criminal.

Our duty as a journalist, rather than pleasure or profit, prompts us to sometimes read the statements of murderous executions performed by officers of justice under sanction of law and approval of Christian gospel, one of the most revolting of which has recently taken place at Rome, N. Y.

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Yielding.

Almost every day we see new evidence that both pulpit and press are yielding to the accumulating evidence of spirit-life and intercourse. We clip the following candid acknowledgment from a well written notice and review of the Planchette's Diary, given in the Liberal Christian, by Rev. J. W. Chadwick:

They come from the unconscious operation of the human mind? Perhaps, but who is bold enough to hazard an assertion which is destitute of every analogical support? Do they come from disembodied spirits? Certainly the evidence all points that way, and greatly preponderates in favor of that explanation.

The Illuminati.

This is the name of a new and spiky little paper just started at Rochester, N. Y., which sets out with some of the best objects and principles we have seen on the face of any new paper in a long time, and which we hope it will be able to add to complete success.

We shall not deal in metaphysical subtleties or transcendental speculations, but in that which concerns all men—the ideal, only as the perfection of the real; the beautiful, only as the summit of the true.

We shall demand the right of the Protestant to worship according to the light of his conscience; the Roman Catholic to practice his own form of devotion; the Hebrew to conscientiously follow the footsteps of Moses; the Mussulman to still forbear to tread on a printed or written thing, lest it contain the name of God, and to worship his Prophet; the Celestial to burn his Joss offering to Fu and the Lama; and to the Hindu—his old-time physical and speculative knowledge, long departed—we cannot and will not deny the sad satisfaction of eating hashish to-day in the presence of Krishna, and leaving tomorrow his friend the Juggernaut to-morrow, to be crushed with the lesser worms of our common mother earth.

The following note also has the true ring: "Any person feeling aggrieved by anything which appears in this paper unassigned or uncredited, will please consider the undersigned personally and solely responsible for the same." Respectfully, Geo. D. Brown, Editor.

One more Evidence.

An old and esteemed friend, and one we have known from boyhood, and also as a soldier, writes us as follows: "My wife has been bedridden sixteen months, and had to be lifted in my arms like a baby. I carried her to Dr. Newton on a bed, and in five minutes he had her on her feet; in ten minutes she walked across the room, and in twenty minutes took his arm and walked out in the street; she has gained ever since very slowly."

On Saturday evening, January 9, that silent visitor, Death, came noiselessly in at the upper windows of 514, above our office, and left the imprint of his icy fingers on the heart of Mrs. Place, the colored lady who has most honestly and faithfully served as janitor for the building for some time past.

A very handsomely printed card, done in colors and bronze, large size, of the Banner of Light, giving price, etc., will be sent free to any address where the paper is sold, on application to William White & Co., 158 Washington street, Boston.

Business Matters.

Mrs. E. D. Murphy, Clairvoyant and Magnetist Physician, 1162 Broadway, New York. 5w/2.

COUSIN BENNY'S POEMS are for sale at this office. Price \$1.50.

JAMES V. MANSFIELD, TEST MEDIUM, answers sealed letters, at 102 West 15th street, New York. Terms, \$5 and four three-cent stamps.

ANSWERS TO SEALED LETTERS, by R. W. Flint, 105 East 12th street—second door from 4th avenue—New York. Inclose \$2 and 3 stamps—7c.

THE BOND OF PEACE.—The only Radical Peace Paper in America. Published monthly by E. James & Daughter, No. 600 Arch street, Philadelphia. \$1.00 per annum.

THE BEST PLACE.—THE CITY HALL DINING ROOMS for ladies and gentlemen, Nos. 10, 12 and 14 City Hall Avenue, Boston. Open Sundays. J25w C. D. & I. H. PRESHO, Proprietors.

MISS M. K. CASSEY will sit for spirit answers to sealed letters. Terms \$2.00, and 4 red stamps. Address, 24 Wickliffe st., Newark, N. J. N28.

Special Notices.

MATHELDIA A. McCORD, 933 Brooklyn street, St. Louis, Mo. keeps on hand a full assortment of Spiritual and Liberal Books, Pamphlets and Periodicals. Banner of Light always to be found upon the counter. Aug 1.

Agents wanted for Mrs. SPENCER'S POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE POWERS. Printed terms sent free, postpaid. For address and other particulars, see advertisement in another column. Jan 2.

Spiritual and Reform Books. MRS. H. E. M. BROWN, AND MRS. LOU E. KIMBALL, 137 MADISON STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

Keep constantly for sale all kinds of Spiritualist and Reform Books, at Publishers' prices. July 18.

Herman Snow, at 410 Kennerly street, San Francisco, Cal., keeps for sale a general variety of Spiritualist and Reform Books at Eastern prices. Also Planchettes, Spence's Positive and Negative Powers, etc. Catalogues and Circulars mailed free. Feb 13w

BE YE HEALED.—Of whatsoever Disease ye have by the GREAT SPIRITUAL REFORMER, SPENCER'S POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE POWERS, send a brief description of your disease to Box 10, New York City, and those mysterious, wonder-working Powers will be mailed to you, post paid, 1 box \$1. 6 boxes \$5. Jan 2.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Our terms are, for each line in Agent type, twenty cents for the first, and fifteen cents per line for every subsequent insertion. Payment invariably in advance.

Advertisements to be Renewed must be left at our Office before 12 M. on Thursdays.

SPENCER'S GREAT AMERICAN PURCHASING AGENCY.

Take this method of informing our friends and customers, and the public in general, throughout the United States and Canada, that we have completed arrangements with the principal Bookellers and Publishers of New York, and also with the principal manufacturers and wholesale houses of the city, by which we are enabled to supply purchasers in any part of the United States and Canada with Books of all kinds, not only at 42 cents, Wares and Merchandise of every description (except Groceries and Dry Goods) at the lowest New York prices.

Send to us for any of the Spiritual and Reformatory Books which you have seen advertised in any of the Spiritual Papers or elsewhere. Send to us for Books of any kind and on any subject: Religion, Science, Philosophy, Physiology, Medicine, Phonology, Photography, Dentistry, Agriculture, History, Poetry, etc. Send to us for any Book which you have seen advertised elsewhere. Do not forget that we can buy for you, at the lowest New York prices, any Book which is for sale in New York, whether it be published in Europe or America.

Send to us for Planchettes.

Send to us for Magnetic Batteries, Surgical Instruments, Chemical and Philosophical Apparatus.

Send to us for Sewing Machines, Pianos, Washing Machines, Clothes Wringers, &c., of any style, make, or manufacture.

Send to us for Agricultural Machines and Implements, Cutlery and Hardware.

Send to us for anything (except Dry Goods and Groceries) that the great City of New York affords, at the lowest New York prices. In sending for anything that you have seen advertised for sale in New York, send us the address of the advertiser, if you have it.

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Mediums in Boston.

LAURA HASTINGS HATCH, Inspirational Medium, will give Mediums every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, at 8 o'clock, at 141 Bedford street, opposite 69 Friend St., Boston. Terms 25 cts. Jan. 16-17.

MRS. M. E. BEALS, TEST, Business, and Medical Clairvoyant Medium, Office hours for private sittings, 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. Free Circles Every Wednesday and Friday, at 3 P. M. Evening Circles Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday evenings, at 8 o'clock.

DR. MAIN'S HEALTH INSTITUTE, AT NO. 228 HARRISON AVENUE, BOSTON. THOSE requesting examinations by letter will please send \$1.00, a lock of hair, a return postage stamp, and the address, and state sex and age. 13w-Jan. 2.

MRS. A. C. LATHAM, MEDICAL CLAIRVOYANT AND HEALING MEDIUM, 272 Washington street, Boston. Mrs. Latham is eminent in curing Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sciatica, and all Bilious Complaints. Parties at a distance examined by a lock of hair. Price \$1.00. 13w-Jan. 2.

DR. JAMES CANNEY CHESELEY, No. 16 Salem street, Boston, Mass. Eclectic and Magnetic Physician, cures many kinds of diseases. If you wish to become a medium of cure, call on Dr. C., the great healer and developer of clairvoyance. Developing circles Monday and Thursday evenings. Mrs. B. J. Stebbins, 16 Salem street, Medical and Magnetic Medium, also a Test Medium; the spirit of your dead takes control and talks with you about the affairs of the departed. Hours from 10 to 11 A. M., and 2 to 5 P. M. Jan. 20-19w.

MRS. GRIDLEY (formerly Mrs. Spafford), has returned to Boston, after an absence of a year, and rooms at No. 44 Essex street, where she will be pleased to resume her sittings, in answer to the earnest solicitations of former patrons. Hours from 10 to 11 A. M., and 2 to 5 P. M. Jan. 20-19w.

MARY M. HADLEY, Test and Business Medium, No. 91 Park street, Boston, Mass. Sealed Letters answered by enclosing \$1.00 and two red stamps. Circles held at 8 o'clock. 13w-Jan. 2.

MRS. R. COLLINS, Clairvoyant Physician and Healing Medium, still continues to heal the sick at No. 19 Pine street, Boston, Mass. 13w-Jan. 2.

MRS. ARMSTEAD, Test Medium, No. 3 Wintthrop place, leading from 1819 Washington st., Boston, Jan. 20-3w.

MRS. M. A. PORTER, Business and Medical Clairvoyant, 8 Lagrange street, Boston. 13w-Jan. 2.

MRS. A. J. KENISON, Clairvoyant, Impresible and Healing Medium, 187 Harrison Ave., Boston, Jan. 9-13w.

SAMUEL GROVER, HEALING MEDIUM, No. 13 Dix Place, (opposite Harvard street). 13w-Jan. 2.

Miscellaneous. SOUL READING, Or Psychometrical Delination of Character. MR. AND MRS. A. B. SEVERANCE would respectfully announce to the public that those who wish, and will give in person, or by correspondence, a medium of their own, will give an accurate description of their leading traits of character and peculiarities of disposition; marked changes in past and present life; physical and mental adaptation of order to be successful; the physical and mental adaptation of order to be successful; the physical and mental adaptation of order to be successful; the physical and mental adaptation of order to be successful.

OBED GRIDLEY, M. D., THE Celebrated Naturopathic Physician, office 44 Essex street, Boston. All diseases of a curable nature treated. Chronic Rheumatism, Neuralgia and Catarrhs cured. Chronic Bronchitis, Asthma, and Consumption cured. Chronic Catarrh of the Bladder, and all diseases of the Urinary and Naturo of diseases, also for prescribing remedies for their removal. Office hours from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. Jan. 20-19w.

MRS. HATTIE E. WILSON, TRANCE PHYSICIAN, HAS returned to the city, and will be happy to meet her friends at her rooms, No. 21 Carver street, few doors from Joyland street, Boston. 2w-Jan. 23.

A. S. HAYWARD, HAS taken rooms at 118 W. Washington street, Chicago, where he will use his POWERFUL SPIRIT MAGNETIC GIFT to heal the sick. 1f-Jan. 2.

ANNIE DENTON CRIDGE continues to make Psychometrical Examinations. Terms for metals, \$1.00; for minerals, \$2.00; for crystals, \$3.00. For sittings, \$2.00. Address, No. 16 Hill, Row, 11th street, East, Washington, D. C. Send for Circular. 4w-Jan. 16.

MRS. MARY LEWIS, by sending their photograph, or lock of hair, will give psychometrical delineations of character, or answer questions. Terms \$1.00 and red stamp. Address, MARY LEWIS, Storion, Whitehall Co., N. Y. Nov. 7-20w.

Miscellaneous.

THE GREATEST MEDICAL BLESSING OF THE AGE. Dr. Kennedy's Rheumatic and Neuralgia Dissolvent. READERS, you may consider this a sort of a spread-eagle heading, but I mean every word of it. I have been there. When your system is racked with RHEUMATISM, you and cannot even turn yourself in bed, or sitting in a chair, you must sit and suffer, in the morning wishing it was night, and at night wishing it was morning; When you have the NEURALGIA, when every nerve in your being is like the sting of a wasp, circulating the most venomous and hot poison around your heart, and driving you to the very verge of madness; When you have the SCIATICA, (that I have just got through with), that most awful, most benumbing, most strength-destroying, most spirit-breaking and mind-ruining ailment of all the diseases that can afflict our poor human nature; When you have the LUMBRAGO, lying and writhing in agony and pain, unable to turn yourself in bed, and every movement will go to your heart like a knife; now tell me if relief and a cure of any of these diseases in a few days is not the Greatest Medical Blessing of the Age, tell us what!

Directions to Use. You will take a table-spoonful and three spoonfuls of water three times a day, and in a few days every particle of Rheumatic and Neuralgia pain will be dissolved and pass off by the kidneys. Manufactured by Dr. KENNEDY, Roxbury, Mass. Wholesale Agents, -George C. Goodwin & Co., 85 Burr & Co., Russ, Bro. & Bird, Carter & Wiley, Gilman & Bro., Weeks & Potter, Reed & Cutler, Boston; W. F. Phillips, Y. W. Perkins & Co., Portland; Joseph Balch & Son, Providence. At retail by all Druggists. Price \$1.50 per bottle. 24w-Nov. 14.

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J. M. PEBBLES, Editor.
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REV. ROBERT COLVER, Chicago, is exceedingly anxious to have the press all free in the "Unity Church"...

A. R. FRENCH is meeting with eminent success in his lecture efforts before the First Society of Chicagoan Spiritualists...

MISS C. R. DE VERE is giving great satisfaction to Spiritualists, and such inquirers as convene each Sunday in Crosby's Hall, Chicago...

REV. A. D. MAYO, Unitarian, gives us this paragraph in the Liberal Christian of January 10th:

That ably conducted Unitarian periodical, the Liberal Christian, comments as follows upon the Universalist papers of the country:

They are pitched to the level of the mass of uneducated readers, rather than the tastes and needs of a cultivated class...

Eastward.—Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Woodruff. Mrs. Woodruff, (formerly Mrs. Clark), having discontinued her missionary labors in Michigan...

Sturgis, Mich.—C. B. Lynn. This society of Spiritualists, in Sturgis, composed of so many substantial men and women...

Illness of Mrs. Washbrook. DEAR BANNER—Permit a word in behalf of our good sister, Lois Washbrook...

lent" or the "Superannuated." The few thousand copies we have purchased of her are doing a good work in Southwestern Missouri...

Milwaukee, Wis. EDITORS BANNER OF LIGHT—The Children's Progressive Lyceum here gives greater signs of success in the future than at any period of the past...

The music for the gymnastic exercises and marches of this Lyceum is furnished gratuitously by the Severance and Williams celebrated Quadrille Band...

Bro. J. L. Potter spoke to a full house in the evening. Dr. Freeman, the Musical Director, is a staunch supporter of the spiritual cause...

Now a word for Chicago. The Liberal and Spiritual Association hold regular meetings in Crosby's Music Hall...

We have used the Spiritual Harp exclusively for the last four months at the lectures here. The Harp is destined to be the hymn and tune book for spiritual meetings in the future...

From the Ohio Spiritualist. THE COLLEGE MOVEMENT. MESSRS. EDITORS—Your valuable paper, from the first, has been in a measure pledged to the foundation of a College where the children of liberalists might receive an education...

It is claimed that \$4,000 have already been pledged to the College Fund in the State. Four thousand dollars, while most of the Lyceums are without libraries, in debt, and struggling for existence...

It is true that we earnestly advocated the establishment of the proposed College. We still consider it highly desirable. But there are other interests, more precious still, which must be sacrificed...

DEAR BANNER—Many of your readers will welcome a line from my pen, giving an account of the success of our society and the progress of Spiritualism generally in the District of Columbia...

DEAR BANNER—Permit a word in behalf of our good sister, Lois Washbrook, whose ill health, for several months, has unfitted her for the arduous work she has, for a number of years, so faithfully and so efficiently performed...

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until the nations shall be but Groups in the great World's Lyceum, we do firmly believe. Now, let us remain receptive to the untimely suggestion of the good and wise who have preceded us to the Higher Life, and who from the fullness of their experience and the serenity of their position MAY—when the proper time and conditions are reached in the progressive work—entrust to our care another precious germ of future practical achievement...

New Publications.

PUTNAM'S MAGAZINE for February gives the reader sixteen additional pages, and has a table of contents which any lover of current literature ought to be satisfied with. Mr. Tuckerman contributes an article on the Ass in Life and Letters; Mr. Clark has one on Work, Wages, Combinations, &c.; Mr. and Mrs. Stoddard offer graceful verses, carrying fine fancies and pretty conceits, along with tender sentiments; Mr. Richard B. Knaball continues his romances of To-Day; Mrs. Rebecca Harding Davis has a paper on Mrs. Night's, which is of course well worth reading; Edmund C. Steedman contributes an article on the Gallows in America; Steedman and Bayard Taylor review the state of literature at home and abroad; Sinclair Tousey has a characteristic and thoroughly readable paper, entitled A Business Man in Rome; and other good things remain on the list which we have not occupied the space with enumerating. Putnam comes out remarkably strong in this issue, and is speedily and seasonably to suit an epicurean appetite in letters.

THE GALAXY for February evidences the fresh influx of vigor that has entered into its life and conduct. Mrs. Edwards lends out with the story of Susan Fielding; Justin McCarthy writes of Queen Victoria and her Subjects; Dr. Draper shows up Coffee and its Adulterations in New York; Eugene Benson continues his series of analytic and descriptive sketches of the prominent New York Journalists, this time discussing Parko Gordini; Mr. E. C. Steedman has some pretty verses on Violet Eyes; Richard Grant White entertains and instructs us with a timely paper on the Grammarless Tongue; and, besides other good tales and essays, the Galaxy Miscellany yields a fund of engaging reading, which is fitly followed and rounded up by Drift Wood and the Nebulae of the editor. We commend this new number of the Galaxy throughout. The rapid increase of its circulation proves its popular merits.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE for February offers the following table of contents: Beyond the Breakers—An American Novel, Part II; A New Legend; Mr. Thackeray; Now Win in Old Battles; My Ombel; The Price of a Dream; The Phenomena of Memory; American Artists in Rome; Over Yonder; The Secret Agent in Foreign Parts; Southern Reconstruction; A Philadelphia Magazine in 1773; and the usual editorial miscellany. It is an undoubted number in respect to attractiveness and real literary finish and worth.

THE ATLANTIC for February opens a table of contents to the view which is calculated to titillate the most experienced literary palate. One novel feature about the Atlantic is, its engaging the services of the most eminent men in science as well as letters, to set forth the peculiar progress which is continually making in their several spheres of pursuit. By this means the people are secured the reading of the ripest thoughts of men who are full of the important subjects they discuss. We get permanently valuable papers in this way on history, on biography, on criticism, on poetry and literature, on science, on housekeeping, on morals, on art, on physiology, on travel, on invention and discovery—on everything. The conception in its proper execution is calculated to exalt the reputation of a leading magazine above anything previously attained. The February number of the Atlantic has articles of which some of the titles are as follows, whose contents will thus be more than hinted: Our Postal Delinquencies; Co-operative Housekeeping; Charles Baudelaire, Poet of the Malign; Consumption in America; Blandism in England; The New Education; Birth of the Solar System; Tribute of a Loving Friend to the Memory of a Noble Woman; Our Four Servants; and the Literary Notices. This is a strong and rather compact number, excellent for winter reading.

PETERSON'S LADIES' NATIONAL MAGAZINE for February opens with an enthralling steel-plate picture, and is followed with the monthly colored fashion plate, and the bewildering patterns that catch the female eye. The letter-press is light and sparkling, and a new novel is begun by Mrs. Ann S. Stephens. There is a liberal supply of recipes and domestic hints, with comments on an interesting variety of subjects.

OSWALD, the new juvenile magazine of Mayno Reid, and published by Carlton of New York, is crammed in respect of contents which ought to satisfy the hungriest youthful readers. There is a decidedly sensation element in this magazine, however, which cannot help it on to the juveniles or their older counselors. Capt. Reid brings out to the day much of his own experience and observations as a traveler on its pages.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW YORKER has been removed to New York for publication, and been greatly enlarged, amplified and improved. It enters on the New Year with much energy, bringing to the public eye the productions of a large corps of superior special and general contributors. It cannot fail to make its way all over the country from its present central place of issue. We wish it the success its high merits have earned.

JOHN L. SHORE comes out fresh and bright with his "Nunzio" for the New Year, in which the rare editorial care and taste of Miss Fanny P. Seaverns is, as usual, conspicuous. Better wood cuts than print for the pages of this little monthly for the young, cannot be found for the looking-in. They are perhaps the gems and jewels of the magazine. Yet there is nothing in its line that surpasses the reading matter, with its beautiful, open type for bright, young eyes. In fact, pictures, reading, editress and publishers seem to have all come together by the happiest of chances for the delight of the little ones, who were never so catered for before.

THE MANUFACTURER AND BUILDER is the name of a new monthly candidate for public favor, and is published by Western & Co., New York. It is devoted to industrial progress in all its branches. The first number contains a very full body of excellent articles, of real value to those engaged in mechanical or general industrial pursuits. A place for such a monthly, if well conducted, ought to be found at once.

MR. K. P. EIDER has published a useful little manual on the secrets of Book-keeping, which is a practical treatise in every department of book-keeping and management. The book is served up in all his works and ways, with such added suggestions, rules, and recitals of personal experience as will inevitably attract the attention of those who are at present in the book-keeping occupation, or contemplate its pursuit. We commend Mr. Eider's exhaustive treatise on this important topic to general consideration.

THE LADY'S FRIEND, for February, a magazine devoted to literature and fashion, is received from A. Williams & Co. It is beautifully embellished, and well filled with choice reading matter.

SPIRITUAL MATTERS at the Capital. DEAR BANNER—Many of your readers will welcome a line from my pen, giving an account of the success of our society and the progress of Spiritualism generally in the District of Columbia. I have already mentioned the very acceptable and highly appreciated labors of Sisters Middlebrook and Nettie Pease. Since the departure of Sister Pease we have had teachings of the most sublime and elevated character, from the lips of Mrs. Cora L. V. Daniels, which have given more than satisfaction to those who heard her through the month of December. The lecture on the question, chosen by the audience, "What evidence have we of a future life?" was reported, and is in the hands of Bro. White, our Vice President, who will forward it if you desire it. The hall was largely overthrown during her ministrations, and another such a feast of good things would be generally desired, when opportunity may again occur. Bro. N. Frank White is with us during the present month, delighting crowded audiences with his eloquent and philosophic discourses.

At present we have here the great musical medium, Mr. Shepard, who is giving many séances, to the delight of all who witness his extraordinary fingering as a pianist, and bear his surprising-

ly brilliant soprano tones in the highest and most difficult passages of his vocal performances. He is calling the attention of many persons to his peculiar mediumship. We have also the Davenport Brothers and William M. Fay, with their astounding manifestations, who are satisfying a large class of inquirers who were ever asking us to afford them the means of personal investigation. Mrs. Lanston, Mrs. Hull, Mrs. Ferre, Mr. and Mrs. Heron, and several other more private media are quietly doing a great and good work in our midst. Notwithstanding the separation of a second society from ours, in the spring, we have already fully accomplished our former membership; and the sister society (I understand) is in a condition of prosperity under the ministrations of Brother Forster.

New Books.

LABOR REFORM IN NEW ENGLAND. A CONVENTION will assemble at 10 o'clock A. M., and continue, day and evening, through six sessions, in the THEATRE, TREMONT TEMPLE, BOSTON, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, JANUARY 27th and 28th. To explain and enforce the principles of the NATIONAL LABOR UNION and organize a New England Labor Reform League. Communications and contributions may be sent to E. H. IRVING, Worcester, or H. L. SUTTON, "Workingmen's Institute," No. 3 Tremont Row, Boston.

CONVENTION OF SPEAKERS AND MEDIUMS. A Quarterly Convention of Speakers and Mediums will be held at Avon Springs, N. Y., Tuesday and Wednesday, February 16th and 17th, at 10 o'clock A. M. Arrangements have been made with Bro. Whaley, of the Avon Water Cure, to board, at one dollar per day, such of those attending the convention as may be desired by friends. Brothers and sisters, we extend to you a cordial and fraternal invitation. Let us assemble on this occasion, and participate in the services of the most desirable and profitable and harmonious communion with our angelic guardians and guides, and thus help to roll on the majestic car of this new Spiritual Dispensation.

ILLINOIS MISSIONARY BUREAU. Harvey A. Jones, President. Mrs. H. F. M. Brown, Vice President. Mrs. Julia N. Marsh, Secretary. Dr. S. J. Avery, Treasurer. Missionaries at Large—Dr. E. C. Dunn, Rockford Ill. P. O. box 1000; W. F. Jamison, editor of The Spiritualist Standard, drawer 60, Chicago, Ill. Societies wishing the services of the Missionaries should address them personally, or the Secretary of the Bureau. All contributions for the Illinois State Missionary cause will be acknowledged through this paper each month. For circulars, apply to Mrs. Julia N. Marsh, No. 92 North Dearborn street, Chicago, Ill.

SPIRITUALIST MEETINGS. CHICAGO, ILL.—Library Hall.—First Society of Spiritualists hold meetings every Sunday in Library Hall, at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. Children's Progressive Lyceum meets immediately after the morning service. Speakers engaged—A. H. French during January; Dr. H. P. Fairfield during April and May. Crosby's Music Hall.—The Liberal and Spiritual Association hold meetings every Sunday at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. in Crosby's Music Hall, Opera House Building, entrance on State street, E. Spottiswood, President. Speaker engaged—Miss Clara D. May, during January.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The First Society of Spiritualists hold meetings every Sunday in Bowman's Hall, at 10 A. M. and 7 P. M. George Godfrey, Chairman. Speaker engaged—J. L. Potter, during January. The Children's Progressive Lyceum meets at 2 P. M. T. M. Watson, Conductor; Betty Parker, Guardian; Dr. T. J. Freeman, Musical Director.

NEW BOOKS. RALPH AND TOMMY, OR "I Wish I Wasn't Black." By the author of "LITTLE HARRY'S WISH," and "THE BROTHERS OF THE CROSS." PRICE 15 cents. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

WHAT IS RIGHT? A LECTURE DELIVERED IN MOSHALL, BOSTON, Sunday afternoon, Dec. 6th, 1868. BY WILLIAM DENTON. PRICE 10 cents; postage 2 cents. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

THE APPROACHING CRISIS; BEING A REVIEW OF DR. BUSHNELL'S RECENT LECTURES ON THE BIBLE, NATURE, RELIGION, SKEPTICISM AND THE SUPERNATURAL. BY ANDREW JACKSON DAVIS. Author of "Nature's Divine Revelations," "Great Natural Laws," etc., etc. PRICE \$1.00; postage 16 cents. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

JUST PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM WHITE & CO. of the Banner of Light Publishing House, THREE VOICES. By Warren S. Barlow. A POEM IN THREE PARTS. Part I.—The Voice of Nature; Part II.—The Voice of Superstition; Part III.—The Voice of a Pebble.

IT is one of the keenest satirical expositions of the superstitious, bigotry and false teachings of the age, which has appeared for a long time. BOUND IN HEAVY, blue paper; bound in beveled boards, in good style; nearly 200 pages. Price \$1.25; postage 16 cents. Liberal discount to the trade. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

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Free Thoughts Concerning Religion; OR NATURE VERSUS THEOLOGY. By Andrew Jackson Davis. PRICE 20 cents; postage 2 cents. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

NEW EDITION—JUST ISSUED. MORNING LECTURES. Twenty Discourses DELIVERED BEFORE THE FRIENDS OF PROGRESS IN NEW YORK IN THE WINTER AND SPRING OF 1863. BY ANDREW JACKSON DAVIS. 1 vol., 12mo., price \$1.50; postage 20 cents. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

THE APOCRYPHAL NEW TESTAMENT. BEING ALL the Gospels, Epistles, and other pieces now extant, attributed, in the first four centuries, to Jesus Christ, his Apostles, and their companions, and not included in the canonical Scriptures. Price \$1.25; postage 16 cents. For sale at the BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORES, 158 Washington street, Boston, and 544 Broadway, New York.

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