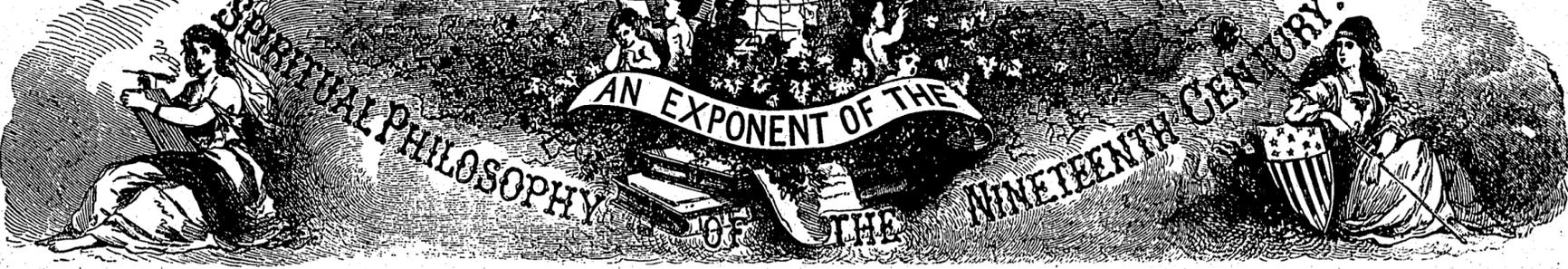


BANNER OF LIGHT.



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NO. 12.

HE LOVES ME STILL.

BY MRS. C. L. SHACKLOCK.

He loves me still! The soul's sublime transition,
From earth's dim vales to its bright home above,
Sovers no sacred tie; in realms ethereal
The heart expandeth, for our "God is Love."

The fond, endearing words are all unspoken,
The silence fills me with a sense of pain;
But well I know, by many a mystic token,
That voice shall thrill my heart with joy again.

With the dear one I hold a sweet communion;
Heaven cannot be so very far away,
Our souls are blended in such loving union;
I feel his presence when I kneel to pray.

Does he not hover o'er my pathway, keeping
A gentle watch, as in the days of yore?
Does he not guard me in the night-time, sleeping?
In dreams I fold him in my arms once more.

Perchance they are not dreams, but the unveiling
Of our dim vision, by some kindly hand;
One shadowy glimpse of future bliss revealing—
One gleam of brightness from the spirit-land.

I need the comfort of this bliss assurance!
God will not that those who love should part.
'T would be a grief beyond the soul's endurance,
To feel that we were severed, heart from heart.

How can I wander, when the ties which bound me
Closely to earth, now draw me far away?
How sin, with such a love shed all around me?
An angel guards my footsteps lest I stray.

The night will soon be gone; when morning breaketh,
The Shepherd will my precious lamb restore.
Our treasures in his tender love he taketh,
To keep them pure and spotless evermore.

Spiritual Phenomena.

ACCREDITED MANIFESTATIONS.

THE APPARITION OF THE MURDERED BOY.

At the commencement of the French Revolution, Lady Pennyman and her two daughters retired to Lisle, where they had hired a large and handsome house at a very trifling rent. During their residence in this abode, the lady received from her husband, Sir John Pennyman, a draft for a considerable sum, which she carried to the banker of the town, and requested to have cashed. The man, as is much the custom on the Continent, gave her a large portion of silver in exchange. As Lady Pennyman was proceeding to pay some visits, she requested that the banker would send the money to her house, of which she described the situation. The parcel was instantly committed to the care of a porter; and, on the lady's inquiring of him whether he understood, from her directions, the place to which his charge was to be conveyed, the man replied that he was perfectly aware of the place designated—that it was called the "Haunted House." The latter part of this answer was addressed to the banker in a low tone of voice, but was overheard by Lady Pennyman; she paid, however, no attention to the words, and naturally supposed that the report connected with her habitation was one of those which are raised by the ignorant respecting every dwelling which is long untenanted, or remarkable for its antiquity.

A few weeks afterwards, the words were recalled to her recollection in a manner that surprised her. The housekeeper, with many apologies for being obliged to mention anything that might appear so idle and absurd, came to the apartment in which her mistress was sitting; and said that two of the servants, who had accompanied her ladyship from England, had that morning given warning, and expressed a determination of quitting her ladyship's service, on account of the mysterious noises by which they had been, night after night, disturbed and terrified. "I trust, Carter," replied Lady Pennyman, "that you have too much good sense to be alarmed on your own account by any of these superstitious and visionary fears; and pray exert yourself in endeavoring to tranquillize the apprehensions of others, and persuading them to keep their places." The persuasion of Carter was ineffectual; the servants insisted that the noises which had alarmed them were not the operations of any earthly beings, and persevered in their resolution of returning to their native country.

The room from which the sounds were supposed to have proceeded was at a distance from Lady Pennyman's apartments, and immediately over those which were occupied by the two female servants, who had themselves been terrified by them, and whose report had spread a general panic through the rest of the family. To quiet the alarm, Lady Pennyman resolved on leaving her own chamber for a time, and establishing herself in the one which had been lately occupied by the domestics.

The room above was a long, spacious apartment, which appeared to have been for a long time deserted. In the centre of the chamber was a large iron cage; it was an extraordinary piece of furniture to find in any mansion; but the legend which the servants had collected respecting it, appeared to be still more extraordinary. It was said that a late proprietor of the house—a young man of enormous property—had, in his minority, been confined in that apartment by his uncle and guardian, and there hastened to a premature death, by the privations and cruelties to which he was exposed; those cruelties had been practiced under the pretence of necessary correction. It was alleged he was idle, stubborn, inattentive, and of an untoward disposition, which nothing but severity could improve. In his boyhood, frequent chastisements, continued application, and the refusal of every interval of relaxation, were in vain essayed to urge and goad him to the grave, and to place his uncle in possession of the inheritance; his constitution struggled with the tyranny of his unnatural relation, and, wast-



THE APPARITION OF THE MURDERED BOY APPEARS TO MRS. ATKINS.

ed as it was in the unmitigated oppression; still resisted with an admirable vitality the efforts which were ingeniously aimed against his existence. As he drew nearer the age in which he would have been legally delivered from the dangers and impositions of his uncle, his life was subjected to more violent and repeated severities; every, even the slightest offence was succeeded by the most rigorous inflictions. The iron cage was threatened, was ordered, was erected in an upper chamber. At first, for a few weeks, it remained as an object of terror only. It was menaced that the next transgression of his guardian's wishes would be punished by a day's imprisonment in that narrow circle, without the possibility of rest, or the permission of refreshment. Twice the cage was threatened and remitted, from an affected show of mercy, and the better to cover and to palliate the premeditated enormities. The youth, who was about sixteen, from the dread of this terrible infliction, applied himself with sleepless diligence to labors difficult to be accomplished, and extended, purposely extended, beyond the capacity of the student. His lessons were exacted, not in proportion to his abilities, but his endeavors and performance.

The taskmaster eventually conquered; then followed the imprisonment, and the day without food. Again the imposition was set—again executed with painful exertion—again lengthened—again discovered to be impracticable, and again visited with the iron cage and the denial of necessary subsistence. The savage purpose of thus murdering the boy, under the pretence of a strict attention to his interest or his improvement, was at last successful. The lad was declared to be incorrigible; there was a feigned necessity of more severe correction; he was sentenced to two days' captivity and privation. So long an absence from food and rest was more than his enfeebled frame and his broken spirit could endure; and, on his uncle arriving, with a show of hypocritical leniency, an hour previous to the appointed time, to deliver him from the residue of his punishment, it was found that death had anticipated the false mercy, and had forever emancipated the innocent sufferer from the hands of the oppressor.

The wealth was won; but it was an unprofitable acquisition to him who had so dearly purchased it. "What profit is it," demands the voice of Revelation, "if a man should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" His conscience haunted him; the form of the dead and inoffensive boy was constantly before him. His dreams represented to his view the playful and beautiful looks that won all eyes toward him, while his parents were yet alive to cheer and to delight him; and then the vision of his sleep would change, and he would see his indefatigable exertions in attempting the accomplishment of difficult exertions, and his pale cheeks, and his wasted limbs, and his spiritless countenance; and then, at last, there was the rigid, bony and distorted form, the glazed open eye, the mouth violently compressed, and the clenched hands, on which his view had rested for a moment, when all his wicked hopes had attained their most sanguine consummation, as he surveyed the corpse of his murdered relative. These recollections banished him from his home; the mansion was left tenanted; and, till Lady Pennyman had ignorantly engaged it, all had dreaded to become the inmates of a dwelling which had been fatal to one possessor, and shunned as destructive to the tranquillity of his heir.

On the first night of two of Lady Pennyman's being established in her new apartment, she met with no interruption; nor was her sleep in the least disturbed by any of those mysterious noises in the Cage Chamber (for so it was commonly called in the family), which she had been induced to expect by the representations of the departed servants. This quiet, however, was of very short duration. One night she was awakened from her sleep by the sound of a slow and measured step, that appeared to be pacing the chamber overhead. It continued to move backwards and forwards with nearly the same constant and regular motion for rather more than an hour—perhaps Lady Pennyman's agitation may have deceived, and in-

duced her to think the time longer than it really was. It at length ceased; morning dawned upon her. The lady naturally felt distressed by the occurrence of the night; it was in every point of view alarming; if she doubted its being the effect of preternatural communication, there was only another alternative, which was almost equally distressing—to suppose that there was means of entering the house, which were known to strangers though concealed from the inhabitants. She went down to breakfast, after framing a resolution not to mention the event.

Lady Pennyman and her daughters had nearly completed their breakfast before her son—a young man who had lately returned from sea—descended from his apartment.

"My dear Charles," said his mother, "I wonder you are not ashamed of your indolence and your want of gallantry to suffer your sisters and myself to finish breakfast before you are ready to join us."

"Indeed, madam," he replied, "it is not my fault if I am late. I have not had any sleep all night. There have been people knocking at my door and peeping into my room every half-hour since I went up stairs to bed. I presume they wanted to see if my candle was extinguished. If this be the case, it is really very distressing, as certainly I never gave you any occasion to suspect I should be careless in taking so necessary a precaution; and it is not pleasant to be represented in such a light to the domestics."

"Indeed, my dear, the interruption has taken place entirely without my knowledge. I assure you it is not by any order of mine that your room has been looked into; I cannot think what could induce any servant of mine to be guilty of such a liberty. Are you certain that you have not mistaken the nature and origin of the sound?"

"Oh, yes; there could have been no mistake. I was perfectly awake when the interruption first took place, and afterwards it was so frequently repeated as to prevent the possibility of my sleeping."

More complaints from the housekeeper; no servants would remain; every individual of the family had his tale of terror to increase the apprehensions of the rest. Lady Pennyman began herself to be alarmed. Mrs. Atkins, a very dear and approved friend, came on a visit to her. She communicated the subject which had so recently disturbed the family, and requested her advice. Mrs. Atkins—a woman devoid of every kind of superstitious fear, and of tried courage, understanding and resolution—determined at once to silence all the stories that had been fabricated respecting the Cage Room, and to allay their terrors by adopting that apartment for her own chamber during the remainder of her residence at Lisle. It was in vain to oppose her purpose. She declared that no half measure could be equally effectual; that if any of the family were to sleep there, though their rest should be perfectly undisturbed, it would have no efficacy in tranquillizing the agitation of the family; since the servants would naturally accuse either Lady Pennyman or her son of being interested witnesses, and doubt of the fact of their having resided in the centre of the ghost's dominions, without undergoing any punishment for the temerity of their invading them. A bed was accordingly placed in the apartment. The Cage Room was rendered as comfortable as possible on so short a notice, and Mrs. Atkins retired to rest, attended by her favorite spaniel, saying, as she bade them all good night, "I and my dog, I flatter myself, are equal to compete with a myriad of ghosts; so let me entreat you to be under no apprehension for the safety of Rose and myself."

Mrs. Atkins examined her chamber in every imaginable direction; she sounded every panel of the wainscot to prove that there was no hollow-ness which might argue a concealed passage; and, having bolted the door of the Cage Room, retired to rest, confident that she was secure against every material visitor, and totally incredulous of the airy encroachments of all spiritual beings. Her assurance was doomed to be short-lived. She had only been a few minutes asleep, when her

dog, which lay by the bedside, leaped, howling and terrified, on the bed. The door of the chamber slowly opened, and a pale, thin, sickly youth came in, cast his eyes mildly toward her, walked up to the iron cage in the middle of the room, and then leaned in the melancholy attitude of one revolving in his mind the sorrows of a cheerless and unblest existence. After a while he again withdrew, and retired by the way he entered.

Mrs. Atkins, on witnessing his departure, felt the return of her resolution. She was reassured in her original belief in the impossibility of all spiritual visitations. She persuaded herself to believe the figure the work of some skillful impostor, and she determined on following its footsteps. She took up her chamber lamp, and hastened to put her design in execution. On reaching the door, to her infinite surprise, she discovered it to be fastened, as she had herself left it on retiring to her bed. On withdrawing the bolt and opening the door, she saw the back of the youth descending the staircase. She followed till, on reaching the foot of the stairs, the form seemed to sink into the earth. It was in vain to attempt concealing the occurrences of the night. Her voice, her manner, the impossibility of sleeping a second time in the ill-omened chamber, would necessarily betray that something of a painful and mysterious nature had occurred.

The event was related to Lady Pennyman. She determined to remain no longer in her present habitation. The man of whom the house had been engaged was spoken to on the subject. He became extremely violent; said it was no time for the English to indulge their imaginations, instituted something of the guillotine, and bade her, at her peril, drop a single expression to the injury of his property. While she remained in France no word was uttered upon the subject; she framed an excuse for her abrupt departure. Another residence was offered in the vicinity of Lisle, which she engaged on the pretext of its being better calculated to the size of her family; and at once relinquished her habitation, and with it every preternatural occasion of anxiety.—*Reynolds's Miscellany.*

EXTRACTS FROM A DIARY OF SPIRITUAL PHENOMENA.

BY A. E. CARPENTER.

Tuesday, May 10th.—This afternoon, Dr. Storer, Mrs. Friend and myself, were sitting in the office together, when the doctor asked me to memorize Mrs. F., as he had some experiments in his mind that he would like to make. I made a few passes across her forehead, and she immediately passed into the interior state, but before the doctor had an opportunity to ask any questions, she said—"I see Dr. Brown, (her spirit guardian,) and he holds a letter in his hand. I see it distinctly. The envelope is pink colored; it has a two cent stamp upon it, and is post-marked 'Boston,' and addressed to Dr. H. B. Storer, 116 Harrison Avenue. The handwriting is like the printed capital. The handwriting, a lady's, done in blue ink." Dr. Storer asked if he was to receive such a letter, and he was told by the spirit that he would the next day. Says Dr. Brown, "The letter is already written, and I have given you an accurate description of it. My purpose in doing so is to convince you of our ability to obtain and give to you information such as the medium can know nothing about."

In the interest awakened by the talk about the letter, Dr. Storer forgot about the experiments, and after the medium had returned to a normal condition, the conversation turned upon the subject of spirit manifestations. Storer and I both coincided in the opinion that we should be willing to sit regularly for an indefinite period if we could have manifestations produced of such a nature as to preclude all possible chance of their being of mundane origin. We finally decided that we would have sittings, and see what would be done, commencing that evening.

About seven and a half o'clock, Mrs. F., Dr. Storer and myself, sat down around a small stand in the examination room, Mrs. F., however, being previously influenced to lay four blank half

sheets of paper on a large table standing near the one at which we sat. Pencils were lying at hand. By the directions of the spirits through Mrs. F., I arose and darkened the room, the doctor holding her hands. After I had done so I resumed my seat, and we joined hands, remaining so until the light was called for.

We had sat but a short time when the medium says, "I see a spirit standing at Dr. Storer's right hand; it is a man;" and she continued to give a careful description of him. "Now," she adds, "I see the letters L. J. P." Storer says, "I recognize him now." Mrs. F. says, "he walks round to the table, takes up a pencil, and writes upon the paper that I laid there. He folds up the half sheet upon which he was writing, and goes up with it. Now he approaches the evergreens that are fastened over the mantel, puts the paper behind the highest point of them and disappears."

I then lit the gas, and we first looked for the four pieces of paper. Only three could be found. The next thing was to see if the missing piece was in the place where Mrs. F. saw the spirit put it. Standing upon the floor, we looked up at the point indicated, but could see no paper. I said "I do not believe it is there." But the medium and Dr. Storer both being confident, I pursued the investigation further by clambering, with Dr. Storer's assistance, and at the risk of my neck, upon the mantel, from which elevated position I could just reach the place where the paper was said to be. Thrusting my hand in back of the evergreens, I grasped something, and drawing it forth, found to my astonishment that it was the identical half sheet of paper that was missing, although it had been folded into a very small compass, which accounted for its being so perfectly concealed. We hastily unfolded it and read the message which we found within, written in a plain, bold hand:

Dear Brother H. B. S.: This is a glorious day for me. I am conscious that I live now, and shall live forever. L. J. P.

The medium had given a perfect description of our ardent brother, L. Judd Pardee, whom she had never seen. He had shown her the initials of his name, and to make assurance doubly sure, he had written with his own hand this message, so brief yet so significant, to his friend and co-laborer, Bro. Storer. Mrs. Friend's integrity and truthfulness are above suspicion, yet for the benefit of skeptics who may see this, I will mention that she had not been left alone in the room from the time when Dr. Storer and myself proposed having the sitting in the evening, said sitting being proposed by us, and designed more for the development of our own medium powers than for any manifestations through her. Moreover, the paper could not have been placed where it was without assistance, or other means such as were nowhere at hand.

After receiving the message we again seated ourselves, and soon loud raps were heard, which continued for some time, Brother Pardee responding in this way to various questions asked by us. Thus passed our first sitting, which, considering the brief time occupied, only one half hour, we thought a very profitable and propitious beginning. Our spirit friends promised, if we would continue our meetings, they would do more, and still better things.

May 11th.—We watched for the coming of the promised letter to-day. The last mail came, and still no letter. We came to the conclusion that for some reason Dr. Brown had made a mistake. Knowing, as he evidently did, our disappointment and anxiety, Dr. Brown seized the hand of the medium, and wrote the following communication, addressed to her:

"My Dear Child—You are feeling greatly disheartened upon the subject of the letter; but be perfectly calm; nothing was wrong except the time of its arrival, which is deferred a little. When it comes, as it will by to-morrow certainly, you will see that it is dated the 10th. When you see the letter it was written and ready to be sent, but for some reason the writer delayed the mailing, and that is all there is about it. Had I talked at the time, instead of showing you the letter, I should have said you would receive it to-day, unless something delayed it a few hours. We always give you things as correctly as we possibly can, under the circumstances, and you must not particularly, may not be inflexible. You cannot appreciate the many obstacles that constantly arise in the way of our getting messages to you unmixt with other influences. The machinery we use is so often at fault that the mistakes cannot justly be charged to us. However, we work on patiently, feeling that it is better to communicate with you imperfectly than not at all. I wish you could feel entirely at rest in this matter, as well as in everything else, as by constantly being troubled and worried in your mind you draw largely from your physical system, and intense suffering is the result."

I am ever your best friend, A. BROWN.

This was certainly a very consistent statement, and our confidence was renewed.

May 12th.—All the mails had come to-day save one, and no letter; when Dr. Brown entered the medium and said, "The letter will come, and as an additional test I would say that the substance of what the lady writes is some great trouble which worries her very much; and her name is Margaret." Sure enough, when the next and last mail came, Dr. Storer received a letter, the exterior corresponding in every minute particular with the description given by the spirit. Opening it, he found the date May 10th, the writer speaking of some great trouble, and signed with the writer's full name, "Margaret" being the given name, as stated by Dr. Brown. We were delighted. The test was perfect, and one of the best on record.

This evening we had another sitting. When we had taken our seats, the room being darkened, Mrs. F. says, "I see a spirit standing near Dr. Storer. He says he used to work with him in the printing office at New Haven, a long time ago." After describing him, she continues: "I get his name now; it is Clarke." Storer says, "I remember him well; the description is a good one." Mrs. F. says, "He has got something in his hand

The New England Woman's Suffrage Association

Held public meetings in this city, in Tremont Temple, May 23d and 24th. James Freeman Clarke president. Large audiences were in attendance. Speeches were made by Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Lucy Stone, Mrs. S. S. Foster, Mrs. Dr. Jackson, Mr. Calthrop, of England, Mrs. Lucrotia Mott, William Lloyd Garrison, William H. Channing, Wendell Phillips, Mr. Blackwell, Mrs. A. C. Bowles, Mrs. Cutler, Rev. Robert Collyer, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, and Mrs. Cora L. V. Tappan.

Mr. Clarke said the suffrage question was not one that could be put down by ridicule. It did not come from women, but from men who believed that the time had come when woman should be called to aid man in all that he does.

Mrs. Howe spoke against the imprisonment of women, and urged them to press their demand for equal rights and wages; the truth was growing nearer; the best men, and the most delightful—Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, George William Curtis, Henry Ward Beecher, John Stuart Mill and others—were working with them.

Mrs. Cora L. V. Tappan, of Washington, commented on a Congressional resolution establishing equal pay for females who perform equal work with men, by saying that women would accept the pay, but not the title, as it came from a conservative source. She did not believe that the Massachusetts Legislature represented the people; for if it did, the people were to be pitied. Men should insist that they would not vote until their wives, mothers sisters and daughters were granted the privilege.

William Lloyd Garrison said Massachusetts, Vermont, Minnesota, Illinois, had recently voted down the female suffrage project, which action had led a New York paper to assert that the movement was tending backward. Such assertions should not disappoint its friends, as all righteous reforms were dependent on enlightenment. Nothing could be brought against this movement. Women have been ruled out by all men in all ages from every sphere—even those most appropriate for them to fill—a usurpation of power unjust, inhuman. The men of this country voted, undisturbed by the women; the women did not vote, and very few men acceded their right to the ballot. The men were but half the people who were mentioned in the Declaration of Independence; the other half were deprived of what had been taken from them.

It was the duty of the people to provide equitable means for making laws for the government of the whole. Practically, he said, the association was at war with the fundamental principles of the constitution of the United States and of Massachusetts. There were tens of thousands of women who did not dare to speak out what was in their bosoms, and it required in a vast field of moral courage to tell the grievances where the wrong would all be closed by giving twelve reasons why women should be no longer a disfranchised class, as follows:

- 1. They have the same natural and inalienable rights, and the same common interests as men.
2. They have as much concern in the establishment of justice, the insurance of domestic tranquility, providing for the common defence, promoting the common welfare, and securing the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity, as men.
3. They are naturally as capable of understanding and determining what laws will be equitable, and what measures effective to these ends, as men.
4. They have as pure a love of country and as exalted and pure a patriotism as men.
5. They are taxed without representation, and in many ways are subjected to unjust legislation.
6. They are made amenable to the laws, even to the extent of capital punishment—laws which they have had no part in enacting, and to which their consent has never been asked or given.
7. Deprived of the ballot, they have no means of self-protection against legal and judicial injustice.
8. With the ballot they will possess an equal share of political power, and thus be able to redress every wrong.
9. All caste legislation is oppressive.
10. A government which excludes one-half of the population from all participation in its affairs is not a government of the people.
11. To make such a ground of exclusion from the possession and exercise of equal rights, is as unjustifiable as that of a tyrant as it has been to make the color of the skin the ground of a similar exclusion.
12. To withhold the ballot from women is to assign them to a state of guardianship, through sheer usurpation and the strong arm of brute force; and, consequently, is injuriously to affect the character, the policy and the destiny of the country, and to make a pure and just administration of government utterly impracticable.

Massachusetts State Spiritualist Association.

This organization met in Convention at the Melancon Hall, (Tremont Temple), Boston, on Thursday, May 25th—holding three sessions. The opening meeting was much better attended than is usually the case. The audience was called to order at half past ten by the President, William White, who introduced the Secretary, H. S. Williams. This gentleman proceeded to read the published call of the Convention, also a portion of the records of the last meeting—March 2d.

Albert Morton, A. E. Carpenter, M. V. Lincoln, Dr. C. C. York and Dr. Hodges were appointed as a business committee, and, by a subsequent vote, were also empowered to present a series of resolutions for the consideration of the Association. William White, President, delivered an opening speech. I. O. Ray presented and spoke upon a resolution against the recognition of God in the constitution; after which the committee reported, as order of business: A general conference in the morning; afternoon, the presentation and discussion of resolutions, and additional remarks from various speakers; evening, addresses from Prof. William Denton, Cora L. V. Tappan and others. The remainder of the morning session was spent in general conference, remarks being made by A. E. Carpenter, John Wetherbee, I. C. Ray, of New Bedford, P. B. Randolph, Mrs. Frohock, Mr. Merton and others, after which the meeting adjourned to half past two p. m.

Afternoon Session.—Meeting called to order by the President, who announced as Finance Committee the names of A. E. Carpenter, I. C. Ray, Mary C. Stearns and Susie A. Willis.

M. V. Lincoln, in behalf of the Committee on Resolutions, here presented a series. Discussion followed by Messrs. L. S. Richards, John Wetherbee, A. E. Carpenter, I. C. Ray, H. S. Williams, Dr. H. B. Storer, Rev. J. M. Still (colored), P. B. Randolph, — Harrington, Prof. Clark, and J. H. W. Toohy; George A. Bacon presented a resolution favoring justice to the Indians, which was adopted after some remarks by Mrs. Cora L. V. Tappan, and others. After some further business the meeting adjourned till half past seven p. m.

Evening Session.—Called to order by Vice President L. S. Richards. Dr. H. B. Storer presented two resolutions, which, after some discussion, were adopted. Speeches were then made by Prof. Wm. Denton, Cora L. V. Tappan, Prof. J. H. W. Toohy and A. E. Carpenter; I. C. Ray and others made general remarks concerning finances and other matters. The series of resolutions presented in the afternoon by M. V. Lincoln from the committee, were then adopted, and after some closing words from Mr. Toohy the meeting adjourned.

Anniversary Week brought to our city many leaders of the so-called Christian sects. Rain came with them, as a matter of course, but more sunshine. They compared notes, looked into their financial affairs, and . . . went home.

ALL SORTS OF PARAGRAPHS.

Bro. Tilton of the Independent desires the names of all those in favor of the rights of woman, which includes now free suffrage. Place us on the list, Mr. President, of course. We mooted the subject thirty years ago, but got no endorsers at that day. We are sometimes inclined to the belief that everything comes exactly at the right time. What do you think?

In the "Songs of Life" may be found just the tunes for which a want has long been felt in circles and all gatherings of a progressive nature. It contains the popular "Evergreen Shore," and many other appropriate pieces never before published, such as "They'll welcome us home," "Our Guardians," "Angel Care," "Let me go to the better land," "Passing Away," &c., &c. Send in your orders, friends, and get a supply before the picnic season comes off, that the woods may resound with these appropriate melodies. See advertisement.

DEATH OF A PROMINENT MAN.—The Boston Journal says: Kimball C. Gleason, a wealthy resident of Methuen, and a representative in the Legislature of 1869, died at the Somerville Asylum on Saturday, May 21st. He had met with heavy losses, but probably left two hundred thousand dollars.

During the last one hundred and sixty years France and England have each granted 80,000 patents. During the same period the United States has granted more than 100,000 and rejected 50,000.

A coquette is described as a rose from which every lover plucks a leaf; the thorn remains for her future husband.

MUSIC HALL SOCIETY.—At the close of the meeting of Rev. Mr. Alger's Society, in Music Hall, Sunday, May 22d, a plan of organization was submitted by the committee, in which the name of the society was given as "The Music Hall Society of Boston," and its objects are "the public worship of God; the instruction and edification of its members; and the general diffusion of the principles of a true morality and religion among the people." The members of the society shall be composed of all persons of both sexes who approve its objects, attend its meetings for public worship, and contribute toward its expenses the sum of one dollar or upward annually. The following officers were reported for the year ending May 1, 1871: President, Newell A. Thompson; Treasurer, George W. Forristall; Secretary, Eben R. Frost. The report of the committee was accepted, and its recommendations adopted.

In Delaware, where "White men's parties" and "whipping posts" abound, the school trustees acknowledge that one-third of the entire population are unable to read and write.

The consumption of wood in the United States is enormous. Railway sleepers alone require 150,000 acres of the best timber every year. The annual expenditure in wood for railway buildings, repairs and cars is \$38,500,000. The locomotives in the United States consume annually \$56,000,000 worth of wood. The wood industry amounts to \$600,000,000. There are 400,000 artisans in wood.

Mrs. Phebe Cozzens, one of the shrewdest and prettiest of the woman suffrage advocates, undertakes to demonstrate that man's sphere, biblically laid down, is to do housework, and especially to "wash the dishes," by this scriptural allusion (see 2d Kings, xxi: 13)—"I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish; wiping it and turning it upside down."

Indications now are that the apple crop all over the New England States will be large the present season.

The canker worms, which have caused such havoc among the apple trees for the last few years, are reported to be disappearing, and are succeeded by the currant worm, which are equally destructive of the smaller fruit.

A good natured traveler fell asleep in a train a short time ago, and was carried a few miles beyond his destination. "A pretty good joke, is n't it?" said he to a fellow passenger. "Yes, a little too far fetched," was the rejoinder.

Dr. Ammi Brown, one of our most thorough dentists, who has had large experience in the care of children's teeth, intends to practice in Salem on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, commencing June 1st. We congratulate our friends in that vicinity on being able to secure the services of one so entirely devoted to his patients.

STYLE BEFORE EDUCATION.—A lady recently sent a fur cape to a fur establishment for repair, explaining her wishes in the following note: "I want my kape mendid whar the mices nored it in gud shalp."

It is estimated that five million trees are planted annually in the State of Iowa. Two farmers in Grundy have set twenty-six thousand this spring.

Rev. Mr. Schermerhorn, called to succeed Rev. George H. Hepworth, at the Church of the Unity in this city, was formerly a Presbyterian clergyman of New York State.

U. S. Licenses for "Healers."

We are in receipt of a communication from Dr. Simon Van Etten, a healer of disease by the laying on of hands, stating that he had, up to the present time, made it a practice to take out a license, but that doubting the legality of paying such a tax, he induced the Assessor at Staunton, Va., to apply at headquarters for a decision on the matter. The following reply from the chief office of the revenue department, sent us by the doctor, is published for the benefit of all concerned:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Office of Internal Revenue, Washington, May 6th, 1870.

Sir: I reply to your letter of the 3d inst., that persons who profess to heal diseases by laying on of hands, but prescribe no medicines or perform no surgical operations whatever, are not regarded as physicians or surgeons within the meaning of the law, and should not be required to pay tax as such.

Very respectfully, J. W. DOUGLAS, Acting Commissioner.

A. M. CRANE, Esq., Assessor 6th Dist., Staunton, Va. I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original order. DR. SIMON VAN ETTEN, Staunton, Va., May 20, 1870.

A Voice from Florida.

A correspondent, "J. M. R.," writing from Warrington, West Florida, says: "We would be very much pleased if some good test medium were to come on a trial-trip away down South. We read in the Banner of your glorious gatherings in the North; of the many profs given you from the other side; while we poor folks yearn, and oh, how we long to see and hear from the loved ones gone before. There are very many hoping, wishing and praying that the light may shine upon them."

New Publications.

Geo. P. Rowell & Co., the enterprising newspaper and advertising agents, 40 Park Row, New York, have just issued a book of one thousand pages, octavo size, entitled, THE MEN WHO ADVERTISE, AMERICAN NEWSPAPER RATES BOOK AND DIRECTORY. The book is printed on elegant tinted paper, is beautifully bound, and contains a vast amount of information invaluable to all who advertise, which class comprise all shrewd business men. The American Newspaper Directory is a chronological history of the American press, and is a credit to its editors.

WOODHULL & CLAYTON'S WEEKLY.—We are in receipt of the opening numbers of this new paper, published at 21 Park Row, New York City, by Victoria C. Woodhull and Tullio C. Clayton. That this sheet is of a liberal tendency is proclaimed by the following language in its opening address: "The Press: 'Conservatism is impracticable, while progress is the only principle worthy of a live, intelligent, independent journal.' We are also informed that this paper 'will be untrammelled by party or personal considerations, free from all affiliation with political or social creeds, and will advocate Suffrage without distinction of sex; the harmonious co-operation of labor and capital; liberal national education; the widest action of the citizen compatible with the dignity of the State.'"

First on the list of June magazines comes the ATLANTIC, which abounds in variety, and is fresh and sparkling, thoughtful and entertaining, from the first cover to the second. The story of Bayard Taylor makes progress, and is unflinchingly advanced to be characterized as a literary triumph. We have a paper, by an English contributor, on the excavation of an ancient town in Gaul—a highly interesting description. Mrs. Stowe begins her "Oldtown Fire-side Stories," the first one being "The Ghost in the Mill." Tuckerman discusses William Hazlitt in an admirable paper, instructive and entertaining. Eugene Benson writes about French and English Illustrated Magazines. "Let us be cheerful," by Mrs. Linton, will do the good it was intended to do. M. Farson discusses the Napoleon Correspondence. Simcoe Royalty is depicted; and the literary notices and reviews are richly worth the reading.

THE GALAXY contains two articles that will make its fortune for the next month: one by Jeremiah S. Black, of Mr. Buchanan's cabinet, on Edwin M. Stanton; and the other from the Autobiography of Thurlow Weed. Both will command a very wide and critical reading. They both touch upon the early incidents of the rebellion. Rebecca Harding Davis furnishes a story, and Mark Twain lets himself out in his customary vein. Mr. McCarthy writes on "American Men and Englishmen," and writes well, as he always does. There are other articles in this number of decided interest and value, which make it an excellent production in the magazine line.

LITTRETT comes up smiling with a handsome June presentation, in fact a very bouquet of literary flowers. It has the real magazine flavor. Trulove keeps on with one of his tales, and there is a timely and readable article on "Paraguay and the Lopez Family." Pollard continues the "Virginia Tourist," which is so easy that it will appear in volume form. "The Revolution at the South" is an article full of suggestions for the present time. We likewise have a pleasant "Glimpse of San Francisco;" "Guesses and Queries" are too original and bright not to take with the most eager readers; "The Coming Man" is proved to be a woman; and there is a good paper on "Our Judiciary." Add a few other articles, with poems, to this list, and we have a monthly issue of a first rate magazine, not unworthy of the very best that can be said in its praise.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS steadily pushes on in its prosperous career, the delight and instruction of its readers, and presenting them with the most original illustrations. The June number is another of its brilliant successes.

THE NURSERY for June is a splendid number. Published by J. L. Shorey, 13 Washington street, Boston.

GOOD HEALTH for June presents an unusually interesting table of contents. This magazine is doing a good work for humanity. Published by Alex. Moore, 11 Bromfield street, Boston.

New Music.

Oliver Ditson & Co. have just issued the following new musical compositions: "Sleep Well," for the piano, by G. D. Wilson; "Bright Star of Night," a song for baritone or contralto, by Spohr; "Flur und Hain" (Through Wood and Field), by A. Jungmann; "Das Klare Auge" (The Liquid Gem), one of Brinley Richard's collection for the piano.

Spiritualist Lectures and Lyceums.

BOSTON.—Mercantile Hall being desired by the New England Labor Reform League, wherein to hold its Convention, the Children's Lyceum adjourned to the hall 544 Washington street, and there held its meeting Sunday morning, May 22d. Some of the regular exercises were omitted, singing and marching making the chief attraction. A large number of spectators were present, and notwithstanding the crowded state of the room, all who came seemed to enjoy the occasion highly. Present eighty.

TEMPLE HALL.—The interest in the circles held morning and afternoon at this hall each Sabbath continues unabated, those of May 22d being fully up with their predecessors. Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Chandler spoke in the evening, confining their remarks to a consideration of the claims and teachings of "Christianity."

THE BOYLTON-STREET CHILDREN'S PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM met at Temple Hall at quarter past one, on Sunday afternoon, May 22d, with a good attendance. In addition to physical exercises, marches and the answering of group questions, Miss George Cayvan sang, a selection was read by Mrs. Dana, and seven members declaimed.

CHARLESTOWN.—Washington Hall.—Dr. J. H. Currier, of Boston, spoke at this hall Sunday, May 22d. His subject in the afternoon was, "The Religion of the Past and the Present." In the evening Mrs. Fannie B. Felton, of Malden, introduced the services with an invocation and some personal communications, after which Dr. Currier proceeded to consider the theme of "Spiritual Influence." The lecture season in Charlestown closed with the month of May.

QUINCY.—Harmony Hall.—The Children's Progressive Lyceum held an interesting session Sunday morning, May 22d—services as usual. On Friday afternoon and evening, May 20th, the Mutual Aid Society, connected with this Lyceum, met at Harmony Hall. The ladies assembled in the afternoon, and were joined in the evening by their masculine friends. After some time passed in social converse, the reading of selections, &c., the exercises closed with a dance.

LAWRENCE.—The course of spiritual lectures instituted by J. C. Bowker, at this place, was continued by remarks from Mrs. A. M. Davis, Sunday, May 22d.

Movements of Lecturers and Mediums.

Mrs. M. J. Wilcoxson, who has been laboring in Texas during the winter, has returned to Chicago, where she will spend the summer. Those desiring her services can address her care of the Religious-Philosophical Journal. She will return to Texas in the fall. On Sunday, the 15th, she lectured in New Orleans to a good sized audience. Quite a lively interest is being felt there.

Mrs. Abby N. Burnham's address is 10 Chapman street, Boston.

Louis Walsbrooker's address is box 44, Denver, Colorado Territory, till further notice.

Dr. A. S. Hayward and wife have arrived in Washington, on their way to Massachusetts from Chicago. After a short tarry in Washington, they will visit New York; thence home. They are doing a good work in their line—one as a magnetic healer, the other as a test medium.

The First Grand Union Picnic for 1870

Will be held at Island Grove, Abington, on Thursday, June 30th, to be succeeded by several others, and a three days' meeting during the season, of which due notice will be given; also full particulars of the first on the 30th of June in next issue. H. F. GARDNER, M. D., Manager.

To Correspondents.

We do not read anonymous letters and communications. The name and address of the writer are in all cases indispensable, as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot undertake to return or preserve communications that are not used. B. BOWMAN, TEXAS.—We should be most happy to hear from you occasionally.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The rebellion in Venezuela is a success. The revolutionists have captured the capital and inaugurated a new government.

In the Prussian Reichstag the government has accepted a proposition for the abolition of capital punishment, except in cases of malice aforethought and assassination of the Sovereign of the Confederation. The lower house of the Prussian Parliament has passed a bill abolishing the death penalty. The Chambers of Bavaria, by a vote of 79 to 67, have rejected a similar bill.

Our postal affairs, both domestic and foreign, are now in excellent condition, except with France, and there are indications that that government will be compelled to yield to our reasonable demands.

The result of the Plebiscite was formally announced to the Emperor, Saturday, May 21, when he made a brief speech, promising to maintain the liberties already granted, but not by the sacrifice of order and stability.

9039 immigrants arrived in New York last week. Total since January 1, 1863, 301,000. Excess over same time last year, 7704.

The discussion of the dogma of infallibility in the Ecumenical Council, will probably continue until the end of June. Sixty members are down for speeches to be delivered.

Six hundred houses and two ships were burned in Quebec, May 21st.

There are 359,027 members of Good Templar's lodges in Missouri.

The six Chinese companies in San Francisco have decided to oppose the immigration of their countrymen.

Rec'd, in his speech to the Red River Legislature, said Canada by inducing the government of Manitoba, had by no means settled the questions at issue.

At the meeting of the Boston Board of Aldermen, May 23d the Burrill claim was definitely settled, so far as the Board is concerned, by passing an order to pay Gen. Burrill \$40,000.

In the Superior Court, criminal session, held in Boston May 10, Elizabeth Chase, alias McD and the woman who was arrested and indicted for kidnapping the little girl, Nellie K. Harris, a five weeks' child, was called up for trial, charged with the abduction of the child, and pleaded "not guilty." District Attorney May briefly narrated the principal facts connected with the case, and moved that sentence be passed. The prisoner, in response to the inquiry of the judge, had nothing to say in mitigation of sentence, simply shook her head, and Judge Rockwell then imposed the extreme penalty, which was that she be imprisoned in the House of Correction for the term of six years, the first three days to be in solitary confinement, and the residue at hard labor.

Both Houses of Congress have concurred in fixing upon the 15th of July as the day for final adjournment.

Weston filed a writ of 100 miles, May 25th, in 21 hours and 40 minutes, and was fresh enough to make a speech. He walked the last mile in 11 minutes 35 seconds. In the last hour he walked over a mile of "not guilty" and pleaded "guilty." District Attorney May briefly narrated the principal facts connected with the case, and moved that sentence be passed. The prisoner, in response to the inquiry of the judge, had nothing to say in mitigation of sentence, simply shook her head, and Judge Rockwell then imposed the extreme penalty, which was that she be imprisoned in the House of Correction for the term of six years, the first three days to be in solitary confinement, and the residue at hard labor.

A telegram from London says the ship Mariana was sighted in distress, May 7th, in the Indian Ocean. She was hoisted, when it was found that twenty-one of her crew had died from starvation, and the remainder were in a dying condition.

Advices from Buenos Ayres, April 16, bring details of the assassination of Gen. Urquiza. Gen. Lopez Jordan, commanding the revolutionary forces after the assassination of Urquiza, proclaimed himself Emperor of the province of Entre Rios, and was proclaimed Emperor by the national government of the Argentine Confederation.

Mark Lemon, editor and one of the founders of London Punch, died May 23d, aged 61.

The President declines to allow the Big Horn mining expedition to start at present. Sensible!

Quite a large party, composed mainly of members of the Boston Board of Trade, with their wives and daughters, started Monday morning, May 23d, in a special Pullman train of cars, for San Francisco, Cal. May they have a pleasant time and a safe return.

The news from Spain confirm the report that the veteran soldier, Gen. Espartero, will accept the crown if offered him by the Cortes. He is seventy-eight years old, having been born in 1792, in La Mancha, the country of Don Quixote. He was the youngest of nine children of a carpenter, and being of sickly habit in his youth—like many other long-lived persons—the doctor for the cure, privately advised him to gamble, his public life has always been marked by integrity and a severe decorum. The object in turning him the crown now is probably to secure a breathing spell for the various factions who cannot agree upon any other course, and whose rivalry is difficult to settle. A few years under Espartero will determine whether Spain is to be a republic or a monarchy, and if the latter, what shall be its ruling dynasty. The recent revolution ought to have had a more judicious termination than this, but it might have had a worse one.

Portrait of my Daughter in Spirit-Life.

DEAR BANNER—I am a sick man, oppressed with all the dependent gloom incident upon a long, tedious illness, with an ambitious, active nature, continually disappointed in its impatient hopes of speedy recovery. But a pleasing burst of sunshine has for the time penetrated the clouds, through the reception of a life-like, perfectly characteristic portrait of my pet daughter, six years in the spirit-life, coming from the hands of Mrs. Kendall, 23 Winter street, room 39. It is a pleasing story, beautifully proving the incessant care and watchful love of those who go before us to the nether world.

Some months ago, as I was spending a few days in your city, I attended a small and unpretentious circle, composed entirely of strangers, unconscious of the presence of a spirit-life, when, most unexpectedly to me, my departed wife controlled a medium, identified herself, and told me my little Florrie was present, and she had a child-like desire to have her picture taken, and that there was a medium present who could take it. Whereupon Mrs. Kendall—who knew nothing of me or my family, (as I am from Minnesota and my child died there)—was controlled, and described my daughter, saying, "I thought she could take her portrait. Owing to embarrassment of spirits, it seems to me, to a sad lack of appreciation, some time elapsed before she was able to fulfill her promise. But the result richly repays me for the waiting; and, as I dear one looks down upon me from the painted surroundings of the very vines, blossoms and shrubbery she so much loved to gather about her and imitate while in the earth-form, it seems delightfully real that her very smile, with childish exultation through the correct somberness, at the success of her affectionate scheme. Blessings on the sorrowing ones, who, in the midst of anxiety, privation, and sometimes absolute hunger, thus work out the will of our angel friends and afford us the only actual demonstrations of immortality." Verily they are, who their reward!" as will also those, if any such there be, who generously sustain them.

(For scribble.) Dr. P. CAMPBELL.

Quincy, Mass., May 22, 1870.

Spiritual Periodicals for Sale at this Office.

THE LONDON SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE. Price 30 cts. per copy. Every No. of the Journal of Zoistic Science and Intelligence. Published in London. Price 25 cents.

THE MEDIUM AND DATABOOK. A weekly paper published in London. Price 5 cents.

THE RELIGIOUS-PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL: Devoted to Spiritualism. Published in Chicago, Ill., by E. S. Jones, 249 Price 8 cents.

THE LYCEUM BANNER. Published in Chicago, Ill. Price 5 cents.

THE AMERICAN SPIRITUALIST. Published at Cleveland, O. Price 10 cents.

THE HERALD OF HEALTH AND JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CULTURE. Published in New York. Price 20 cents per copy.

Business Matters.

Mrs. E. D. MURPHY, Clairvoyant and Magnetic Physician, 1162 Broadway, New York. Jel.

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

M. K. CASSEIN answers sealed letters, at 185 Bank street, Newark, N. J. Terms, \$2.00 and four blue stamps. 3rd Jel.

ANSWERS TO SEALED LETTERS, by R. W. Flint, 105 East 12th street—second door from 4th avenue—New York. Price \$2 and 3 stamps. May be returned when letters are not answered. My 23.

Mrs. S. A. R. WATERMAN, box 4193, Boston, Mass., Psychometrist and Medium, will answer letters (sealed or otherwise) on business, spirit friends, for tests, medical advice, delineations of character. Terms \$2 to \$5 and three 3-cent stamps. Send for a circular. A9.

Special Notices.

HERMAN SNOW, No. 219 KEARNEY STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

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Notice to Subscribers of the Banner of Light,

our attention is called to the plan we have adopted

of placing figures at the end of each year, as printed on

the paper or wrapper. These figures stand as an index, showing

the exact time when your subscription expires, &c. The

time for which you have paid. When these figures correspond

with the number of the volume and the number of the

paper they then know that the time for which you paid has

expired. The adoption of this method rendered unnecessary

Message Department.

Each Message in this Department of the BANNER OF LIGHT was spoken by the Spirit whose name it bears through the instrumentality of...

The Banner of Light Free Circles.

These Circles are held at No. 153 WASHINGTON STREET, Room No. 4, (up stairs) on MONDAY, TUESDAY and THURSDAY...

Invocation.

Thou holy Spirit in whom we live, move, and have our being, we are standing as it were upon the outskirts of human doubt, of human ignorance and fear...

Questions and Answers.

CONTROLLING SPIRIT - I will answer your questions, Mr. Chairman. QUES. - Do you know anything of the whereabouts of the "City of Boston"?

Samuel K. Head.

(This spirit took possession of the medium for a moment, but was only able to retain control long enough to give his name.)

Captain Bassett.

I am not suffering with any sickness or disease which afflicted my body before I left it, but I am suffering from painful recollections...

Samuel Harding.

I should not like to come back and bring news of my own death. Thank fortune, my folks know of my death, so I haven't got to be the bearer of my own death dispatches.

Invocation.

Oh, thou who hath decreed that the soul should pass through the purgatory of human life, that it may be educated for heaven, to thee we pray, who art infinite in wisdom, in love and in power...

Questions and Answers.

QUES. - Why are the elements always so perfectly calm preceding earthquakes? What is the philosophy in spirit-life of this particular phenomenon?

John A. Cummings.

Well, brother, since I have ascended I can speak for myself. I know now that there is a life after death, and that I have entered it and that I can return...

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Annie Gardner.

I have got well. I was sick, but I have got well. Tell mother I do not believe I will ever be sick any more. I feel well now. I had a fever. I did not live here. I lived in St. Louis. My name was Annie Gardner. I was most ten years old...

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MESSAGES TO BE PUBLISHED.

- Tuesday, March 22 - Invocation: Questions and Answers; Alvin Nickerson, to his friends on Cape Cod; Samuel K. Head, of Savannah, Ga.; William Henry, of San Francisco, Cal.; to friends; Caroline Corbin, to her son, in Atlanta, Ga.

Donations.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries for J. C. Ecker, W. W. Shearer, and others.

Q - Does prayer without works amount to anything? A - No, certainly not. It is prayer without a spirit, without a soul.

Q - What is life? Is it the same in the vegetable, animal and man? A - Yes, just the same. The manifestation differs according to the instrument through which it works, but the indwelling element is the same.

Q - Is there any difference in life, as manifested in intelligent human life on earth and spirit-life? A - No; life is but life anywhere and everywhere. It is manifested differently, but the life itself is always the same in all things.

Q - By E. J. I. Is Abd-el-Kader, who has presided at this circle, the same who lived in Algeria, and later in Syria? If so, would he mention some event in the drama of his life, by which I could recognize him to be the same person as I inquire after? Would he give the names of one or more writers who may have written his biography, and say if they have also published what has been written of him?

