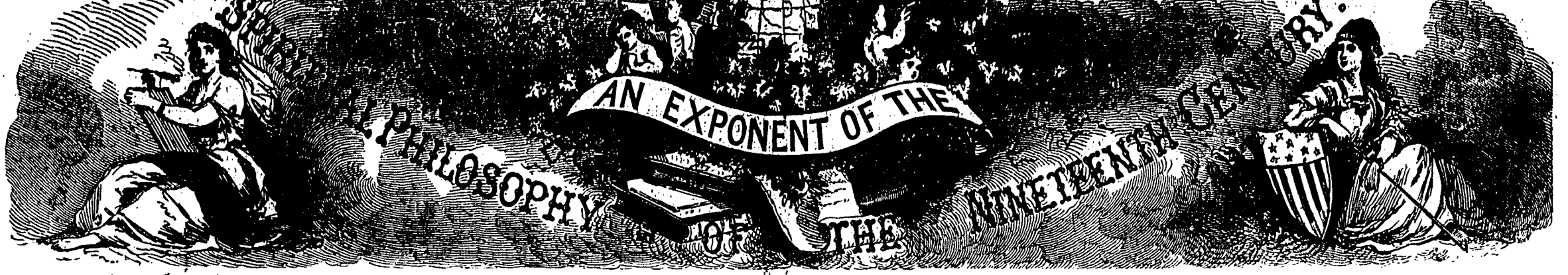


BANNER OF LIGHT.



VOL. 73.

COLBY & RICH,
9 Bowditch St., Boston, Mass.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1893.

(\$2.50 Per Annum,
Postage Free.)

NO. 9.

Original Story.

MARY ANNE CAREW:

WIFE, MOTHER, SPIRIT, ANGEL.

BY CARLYLE PETERSILEA,

Author of "Oceanides: A Psychological Novel," "The Discovered Country," "Amy Lester," Etc., Etc.

(Copyrighted by Carlyle Petersilea.)

CHAPTER II—CONTINUED.

She clasped both her hands within her own, and I rose up light as a thistle-down, a heavenly elixir running through all my being. She placed me in the large chair, then seated herself on a low cushion at my feet, leaning her beautiful arm on my knees. I felt a little faint, for this was the first time I had sat up for weeks. My eyes naturally closed for a few moments, and then my mind rushed back to my husband and children. I involuntarily cried out:

"Oh! am I never to see you any more, my darlings? Am I really dead and separated from you?" and a great wave of sorrowful emotion shook me; my eyes flew open, and the sweet orbs of my nurse were looking hopefully into mine. A sudden inspiration seized me, and I cried:

"You have told me so many strange things, perhaps there are other things equally as strange, such as ghosts. You know I have always heard about ghosts ever since I can remember—how those who are dead appear to the living. Can I make myself a ghost and appear to my husband and children?" and I tightened my grasp on her hands in my eagerness.

"We will see what can be done in that direction." "Then we can go where they are," I cried. "I can see my little babies once more. Oh! tell me. Oh! I know we can. I see it in your eyes."

"Yes," she answered, "we can. Are n't you glad? You are beginning to like this heaven much better than you would that other heaven, are you not?"

"Oh! yes, yes; if I can go from this place to see my husband and children. How soon can we go? I am very impatient."

"Just as soon as you are strong enough," she replied. "But you have not been here more than an hour, and they are all weeping so bitterly over your worn form, which is devoid of yourself, we had better wait a few hours more; you will then be stronger, and they will have had time to become more calm."

I was so delighted by the thought of returning that I readily acquiesced.

"Mary," she said, "you have not asked me about the friends whom you have here. Are there none of those who departed the earth-life you would like to see?"

"Surely; yes. I have three children here, and a dear sister, besides many other friends and acquaintances. Certainly, I should like to see them all; but more than any my own little Joey, who died so many years ago—my first little baby boy."

"Your little Joey is not a baby now."

"Is not a baby now?" I repeated, surprised. "What, then, may he be, pray?"

"He is a beautiful boy of eight or nine years, and loves his mamma very dearly."

The prospect of seeing my first child gave me great delight, and I asked:

"How soon can I see him? Are we to go where he is, or can he come to us, here?"

"Joey!" called the nurse in a soft voice, "you may come in now: mamma is prepared to see you."

CHAPTER III.

MY BABIES IN HEAVEN.

I GLANCED eagerly at the open doorway, heard a springing, blithesome step, and a sweet little boy glided softly into the room; he paused when about midway, as though waiting until I should observe and recognize him.

This child died when but six months old, and, of course, in this well-grown boy of nine I could not recognize the babe of six months; but he had his father's dark eyes, although his complexion was fair and his hair a golden-brown: the eyes alone told me plainly that he was my own child, for I had gazed into them hours at a time when he was a wee babe, and could not forget their expression. There were the same eyes, the same forehead, the same sweet mouth. The nurse rose up, and my little Joey threw himself into my arms, crying:

"Mamma—dear, sweet mamma! Joey is so glad you have come," and he fondly stroked and kissed my hair, eyes and cheeks, then nestled his dear head lovingly on my breast.

Ah! my man of six, whom I had left, could not compare with my man of nine, whom I had found.

When I had fondled and kissed my darling Joey to my heart's content, I again raised my eyes and involuntarily looked toward the door. Two little cherubic forms stood there, clasping each other's hands, their sweet eyes looking full into mine. They were little dimpled darlings, one four, and the other two years of age. I knew them at once. They were the two dear little girls who had died, one a few weeks after its birth, the other when but two months old.

Joey ran to the door and led the children toward me. My beautiful little darlings! the youngest with eyes of blue and flaxen hair, the elder with brown eyes and dark auburn hair. I took them both on my knees, and caressed them until my mother-heart was once more filled with joy.

"Ah! my three beautiful babies who were lost, but found once more!"

If a mother on earth would like to know how I felt, let her imagine her little innocents lost in a deep, dark forest, filled with wild beasts, her soul racked and tortured with fear—perhaps they were starving, perhaps torn by wild beasts; poor little lost wandering babies!—and then let her imagine that after days, or perhaps, months of anguish, she at last finds them uninjured, and clasps them to her bleeding and frenzied heart; she will realize something of my joy at finding my lost babies; beside, they were grown, and ten times lovelier than they had been before.

The little ones now left my side, and commenced some pretty, harmless play near the open window. I know that my face was absolutely beaming with joy, as once more my eyes rested on my nurse. She was gazing at me with a mysterious smile, at the same time she slowly untied and removed her large white apron; she then raised her hands to

her head and took off the lace cap, shook down her long auburn curls, and behold! my darling, sweet sister Annie was revealed to my astonished gaze.

I rose up from my chair in my great surprise, and we mutually clasped each other in a warm and fond embrace. My darling sister had been dead about ten years. She was only sixteen when she died. She was older and far more beautiful now, yet the same sweet Annie as formerly.

When I became a little calmer we again seated ourselves, for I longed to have her talk to me.

"You are much happier now, dear Mary," she said, "than you were a short time ago. Darling, you are just peeping through the gates of heaven! Would you not rather clasp these dear, lost babes to your heart than to behold the saints? There will be time enough for that in the future. And would you not rather see me, your virgin sister, than to behold the one who has been called the holy virgin? Am I not nearer to you than she could possibly be—she whom you never saw—she who lived more than eighteen hundred years ago, and was only one of millions of other mothers? And really, dear Mary, was only a mother like yourself? Are you not as blessed as she possibly could have been? Every pure and right heart holds a worshipful feeling toward a blessed mother, let her be whom she may."

I sat with my hands folded in my lap, my eyes fixed intently on my beautiful sister's face. Her words could not be gainsaid. Were they not true?

"Then, Annie," I at length asked, "is there no heaven, no hell, no purgatory?"

"Yes, Mary," she replied; "in one sense all these things exist, but not in the way you and I were taught to think when we lived on earth. Darling sister, heaven, hell and purgatory are conditions, not places. When you first awoke in this life you were very unhappy to think you were dead, and had lost your husband and children; in one sense that was hell to you: although you were in this beautiful room yet you were in hell or unhappiness, for unhappiness is all the hell there is, and hell is unhappiness; you are now in purgatory, or an intermediate state between hell and heaven, for heaven is happiness, and you are not yet happy. Heaven is yet in store for you, my sweet sister, and heaven can be in this room as well as anywhere else."

All this, which my dear Annie was saying, seemed very strange to me, my education on earth had been so entirely different; yet I much preferred to be here with my lost children, my sweet sister, together with the prospect which she had held out to me that I could go back to the earth, visit my darling babies and my dear husband.

"Annie," I questioned, "can we take these dear little ones with us when we return?"

"We can do so if we wish," she replied; "but I think, dearest Mary, we had better leave them here until our return. You are very weak yet, and it will require all my strength to aid you; they shall go with us at another time, after you get stronger."

"And will my precious children be safe here all by themselves?"

Annie smiled, giving me a peculiar glance.

"Safe?" she said. "What do you think could happen to them?"

My mind ran swiftly over the list of accidents which mothers usually fear when called upon to leave their little ones alone, the oldest not being more than nine years of age. I glanced about the room, thinking of fire; and then perhaps there were stairs down which they might fall; there might be knives or other sharp instruments wherewith they might cut themselves; they might wander off and get lost. There might be, for all I knew, water in which they might get drowned. These thoughts ran like lightning through my mind, yet I had not spoken them to Annie. It seemed to make no difference, however; she smiled sweetly and stroked my hair softly.

"Mary," she said, gently, "you forget that a spirit cannot be injured. These dear little ones are spirits now; they cannot be injured. Fire cannot harm them, knives cannot cut them, neither can they be drowned. Does it not make you happier, my sweet sister, to feel that they cannot be hurt? It removes a load of care from the mind, does it not? and that is a little step nearer heaven."

"Yes," was my reply. "But, still, my little darlings on the earth might meet with all those accidents."

"True," she replied; "and if they were to meet with any of them, another sweet babe would be here with you and its brother and sisters. It might also learn to love its auntie a little," and she gave me a roguish glance, pinched my cheek softly and kissed my lips.

"Why, so they would, Annie!" I said, my eyes widening slightly in mild surprise.

I knew this before, still the fact was presented to my mind in a different way. It began to dawn upon me that I really had lost nothing, but gained a great deal; still, I was looking through a glass darkly. Things were not clear yet.

Joey now came up to me.

"Mamma," he asked, "can we go out to play, my little sisters and I?"

The two little girls were now standing at my knees, their sweet, bright eyes fixed on mine. I caught them in my arms, pressing them rapturously to my heart. They were exceedingly beautiful. They kissed and fondled me with their little hands, and Joey laid his noble head against my arm. I glanced at Annie. She smiled a gentle assent, and I said:

"Yes, darlings. You may go if you want to," and they ran out of the door with joyous, playful laughter.

"Wouldn't you like to see the children at their play, Mary?" asked Annie.

That desire had just entered my mind.

"Am I strong and well enough to go out of doors?" I asked.

My mind was still clouded with earthly conditions; I had not yet outgrown my weakness.

"Not quite strong enough yet, my sweet sister, but you are rapidly getting well. Let me wheel this easy-chair to the window, where you will have a nice view of the outdoor world and at the same time observe the children at their play."

She placed her hands on the back of my chair, pushing it gently toward the window. It was a very large oriel window. She wheeled the chair into a position so that I could look in all directions, excepting backward, and then raised each sash. Sweet, fresh air struck my face, which seemed the very elixir of life, odoriferous with the perfume of flowers and balsamic pines. I drew long inspirations, and with each breath my spirits rose, my heart bounded with renewed health and joyous hope. The fresh breeze wafted itself all through my unbound hair, lifting and waving it about until it seemed as though each hair was instinct with life and subtle perfume.

I now allowed my eyes to rove around over the beautiful landscape, and if this were purgatory, or the intermediate state, surely what must heaven be?

I saw the children playing near a fountain, in a beautiful garden filled with flowers, directly in front of the window—and goodness! What was that creature playing with them? Could it be possible? I turned and looked at Annie in the utmost astonishment.

"Annie—Annie!" I cried, in great confusion. "Am I dreaming, or is that a dog I see? And look, sister; there are ever so many birds flying around out there! See that Bird of Paradise perched on Joey's shoulder! Oh! surely, it all must be a dream. I must try and waken myself; yet the dream is so sweet I really don't want to."

I had covered my face with my hands as I said this, for I could not believe in its reality.

Annie stroked my head softly, and patted my shoulder.

"Mary, darling," she said, "you are not dreaming. It is real. You have been taught to believe that nothing but man was immortal. What you have been taught about the immortal country is nearly all wrong. People in the earth-life have been looking through a glass darkly. Mary, all life is immortal, in whatever form it may appear. The flowers, the birds, the animals are all immortal. Look up, sweet sister. There is no death. Every beautiful thing that you have ever seen on earth you will find here. Did you think that earth could boast of more life and beauty than heaven? Earth is a small type of the grandeur and beauty of heaven."

I clasped Annie's hand within my own to gain courage and strength. These truths at first had a stunning effect on me, for my mind had never even conceived of things as they were, and therefore they astounded me. Again I looked. The children were playing, laughing and shouting joyously; the little dog was barking and gamboling with them; the beautiful birds were flying about, perching on their heads and shoulders; the little girls were holding some of the most beautiful of them out on their fingers, their little faces wreathed in happy smiles. Presently, a small, black pony, with golden trappings, trotted up to Joey, laying his nose down on the boy's shoulders as though beseeching him. In a second Joey was on his back, and off. The pony went in an undulating, graceful lope.

"Oh, my boy—my beautiful boy!"

My heart swelled with love and pride. The child appeared to be clothed in black velvet, and perched on his flying curls was a little cap tasseled with gold. I watched him until he had ridden far out of my sight.

The two little girls were looking straight into my eyes, clapping their hands and shouting gleefully. To see my lost darlings so happy made me as happy as myself. Presently they came running in, their little hands filled with flowers, which they laid on my lap.

"Mamma," said Agnes, the older of the two little girls, "Joey is a boy; he don't like to stay with little girls always; if they are his sisters, and he has gone to ride on Nobby's back. Nobby is Joey's little pony, mamma."

The little dog entered with the girls, and stood, his eyes fixed in doggyish fashion on mine, as though he would like to become acquainted with me. I involuntarily put out my hand. He jumped up with his fore-paws resting on my knees, lapped my hand, and presently I gained courage to pat his head, which seemed to please him as much as it would any pet dog on the earth.

"Mamma," said Agnes, "can you spare us a little while? We want to go back to school."

"What can you mean, my darling? You don't go to school here, do you?"

"Why, yes, mamma; we go to school. We live in a school. Can we go now? We will come and see you again, just when you want us."

I glanced at Annie. Surprises would never cease, I thought.

"Mary," she said, "it is just as necessary that children should be taught here, as it is on the earth. Children do not remain children here, for they grow, their little minds develop, and they need schools and teachers as much, perhaps more, than they do on earth."

"Yes, darlings," she said, "run away to school. Mamma's getting weary. Kiss her, and run."

They wound their little arms about my neck once more. Annie kissed them fondly, and they disappeared hand in hand. Constant surprise had really wearied me somewhat, and Annie wheeled my chair back.

"Mary," she said, softly, "this is enough for one lesson. Lie down on the bed once more, lose yourself in sleep, and when you awake we will take the little journey that you so much desire."

"Can one sleep?" I asked. "Is there such a thing as sleep here?"

"Yes," she replied. "A weary, undeveloped spirit often sleeps. Lie down, darling, and I will sit here by your side until you awake. A little sleep will give you more strength for the journey."

I did as she requested, and soon became unconscious.

CHAPTER IV.

SIGISMUND.

HOW long I remained unconscious I cannot tell; but my sleep was the sweetest and most restful I had ever known.

When at last I opened my eyes they rested on a form I had not seen before. My sweet Annie still sat by my bed side, apparently conversing with the person whom I had not previously met. The stranger was a gentleman, and I was exceedingly surprised at his appearance. My sister's hand was clasped within his own, and the expression of his eyes, as they rested upon her, was unmistakable; they expressed the most devoted love and adoration. I thought I would feign sleep for awhile, that I might observe them more closely, without their knowledge, as well as listen to what they were saying.

"Annie," said the gentleman, "it is not well for you to work alone longer; you will need all the help and strength that I can give you to conduct your sister back to earth. And I am sure it is time now for her to understand that marriage exists in heaven as well as on the earth. When she awakes we must tell her of our union; we must make her comprehend that you are not a youthful virgin now, but a more perfected soul; that you are not the separated half of a whole, but a perfect whole, and that I am the other half of yourself. By a natural spiritual law we have become united. It would be very hard for you, my darling Annie, to accompany your sister alone and leave me behind. Really, it is time now that she understood something about heavenly union."

"You are right, dear Sigismund," replied my sweet sister. "I shall need your aid. It is very doubtful whether I should be able to escort dear Mary back while she is yet so heavy and uninformed of spiritual life. Yes; I agree

with you that it is now necessary she be made acquainted with spiritual marriage."

I had heard enough, and opened my eyes. "Would wonders never cease?" My earthly teaching had been that marriage did not exist in heaven, but that all were like brothers and sisters. Their conversation had undeceived me, and I must say it pleased rather than grieved me. It made me happy to think my dear sister was not alone, and the noble-looking gentleman by her side was her husband. Surely, if ever two human beings were matched they were. Human beings, did I say? Ah! they were spiritual beings, and were past the stage of human earthly life. The gentleman did not wear his hair and beard cropped, but just as nature intended he should, full and flowing. He was as like my sister as a man could be like a woman. The shade of difference between them was just enough to distinguish them male and female. I moved slightly, then raised myself. Annie pressed my hand softly as she asked:

"Are you rested, dear Mary, and ready to be surprised once more?"

"I have been listening to you for some time," I replied, "and have already learned who this gentleman is, and the relation existing between you. Surely, Annie, I am very glad that you are not alone, for my own marriage has taught me that it is far better to be wedded than to live single; yet I never thought that marriage existed after the death of the body, but that all heavenly beings were like brothers and sisters."

"If that were so," replied Annie, "it would not be necessary that man be created male and female."

"Why, yes," I said, "it would be necessary while they were on the earth, but I do not yet clearly understand why there need be sex in heaven."

"Well," replied Annie, with a smile, "all the answer I can give is that a man remains a man forever, and a woman a woman; that the man and the woman, when rightfully mated, constitute one perfect soul, and when separate are but the sundered halves of a rounded or perfect thing. Now, dearest Mary, we must bear you, between us, back to earth. I am certain I should not be able to escort you unaided."

Thereupon her husband gave me his hand, my other hand was held fast in my sister's clasp, and, between them, I felt as light as a thistle-down; thus we floated, rather than walked, but into the sweet, fresh air. We had not gone far when I begged them to stop. I wanted to look about me, for such beautiful scenery I had never looked upon before.

The landscape, spread out before me, was in many respects like that of earth; that is, there were mountains, hills and valleys, trees, grass, flowers, and sparkling streams of water. There were also villages, towns, and sequestered homes; but the whole was so radiantly, gloriously beautiful, that I caught my breath in rapturous surprise.

"Mary, do you find this more beautiful and satisfying to the mind than you would a much smaller heaven with golden streets?" asked Annie.

"Am I to understand that there is no such heaven as we have always believed in?"

"Dear Mary," she replied, "I have been in this life, as you know, for ten years or more, and I have not found such a heaven, and am not acquainted with any one that has. The spiritual heavens are composed of the life-principle of all things that exist on earth, but you are, at the present time, a newly-born spirit, corresponding with the newly-born infant of earth, and are not yet able to understand this life. Your spirit must be fed, and grow very gradually, as the infant does at its mother's breast. You have been the mother of so many sweet infants that you will find no difficulty in understanding this great natural law. It would certainly be a very unnatural law for a spiritual baby to step into the highest and most glorious heaven at one immense stride. In truth, dear sister, there is not such a law throughout all nature. Think as deeply as one may, one can find no such law. Your greatest and most natural desire, at this time, is to again behold your husband and children. Your heart, at present, knows no other love so strong as the mother-love, and the confiding, wifely affection. The saints, at present, would have very few charms for you. All in good time, my sweet sister."

"How far are we from the earth?" I asked. "Will the journey be a very long one?"

"No," answered Sigismund. "It is about five miles, as distance is reckoned on the earth. The first Spiritual Sphere rests upon the atmosphere of the earth, and surrounds the earth as the atmosphere does, and is as much larger than the earth as the distance of five miles in thickness would necessarily make it; still, there are many valleys where the distance is not more than three miles; especially in those places on the earth where the atmosphere is very rare."

We were floating gently along while my sister and her noble husband were imparting to me this information. Glancing downward, I said:

"This earth looks very tangible, although it is spiritual or heavenly. How are we to get down through it?"

Sigismund turned his brilliant blue eyes full upon mine as he replied:

"At present we must bear you downward as an infant must be borne by those older, wiser and stronger than itself, just as we fetched you hither while you were yet unconscious, but your spiritual tutelage will be very rapid compared with that of the earthly infant. No human or spiritual being can perform any voluntary act without exercising will-power; in other words, wish-power or earnest desire and concentration of purpose. If one desires a thousand things in a second or two of time, one will gain nothing. In order to gain any desire the will or wish must be fixed and earnestly concentrated on some one particular thing at a time. But, at present, like the infant, you are weak, and we will accomplish your desire for you. Having once observed how it is accomplished, you will readily do the same thing for yourself at another time."

I now observed that we were floating downward, or what seemed to be descending a gently sloping hill. Ah! that sweet journey I shall never forget! The hill or mountain was clothed in the most beautiful verdure, soft, mossy and green. Trees of all kinds abounded. The most gorgeous and beautiful flowers were blooming everywhere. Little brooks were leaping and dancing in the soft, mellow light. Squirrels and other small animals were running and skipping on the ground and up through the trees. Beautiful birds were singing and flying around, and everything was life—life—beautiful life! "Ah! could it be that this was death?"

"Yes," replied Annie, to my thought. "This is the immortal spiritual life that has no further use for the grosser material covering, which it has thrown off, and is gradually ascending, step by step, as you perceive."

[To be continued.]

OUR INSPIRATION.

Let no good worker in the cause despair,
Or halt a moment on the way so long,
Be bold of heart, resist the present wrong,
And that the right succeeds, be this our care;
We victory and sorrow equal share
With all the heroes of triumphant song,
And they are with us still to make us strong,
If we with them would only do and dare!
Some fair advance the world with us may make,
If we are true to light and love we own,
If we of their devoted zeal partake.
And let our thoughts to needy minds be known,
Intent and earnest soldiers of the strife,
Like them receive the glorious crown of life!

And should we work with meek like this in view?
Ah! well, dear heart, consider not o'ermuch;
Respond in soul unto the passing touch
Of what reformers did and we may do:
The great demand of time is this—be true!
We of ourselves are strong, and need no crutch;
And yet we share the smiling welcome, such
As daring spirits have when time is through!
And out weak hearts, it is delight and strength
To think of fellowship with martyrs old,
And feel assured that we with them at length
Shall walk in bliss of triumph manifold;
Our inspiration is the flash of day,
That beams in gloom along the heavenly way.

WILLIAM BRUNTON.

The Spiritual Rostrum.

Life Here and Hereafter; What Are Its Lessons? and What do They Teach?

A Lecture delivered before the First Society of Spiritualists, New York City, Sunday, March 6th, 1898, by

MRS. MILTON RATHBUN.

(Specially Reported for the Banner of Light.)

IN all its intricate ways; in its numerous meanings; in its various unfoldments; in its hidden mysteries, life is entirely beyond complete interpretation, analysis or explanation by the human mind. The most advanced thinker, the closest observer, or the best trained intellect, can, at best, but faintly conceive or portray the great problems of life, daily presented in phases more bewildering and complex with the dawn of every new morning of our earthly existence. This being true, how futile it would seem for one of such limited mental calibre to attempt to give you even a few hints touching our theme, of such vast incomprehensibility that we stand in awe before it. We can only hope, as an humble instrument in the hands of our spirit guides, to give you, possibly, a few thoughts in a practical line, to direct your minds into certain channels of activity, which shall as a sure outcome lead to deeds advancing the Cause for which we have enlisted, both for the life here and the life hereafter; that we may, perchance, stimulate or strengthen any lacking the courage of their convictions; that we may meet skepticism fearlessly, if not in the night of eloquence, or with the argumentative logic of the learned and ready thinker; that we may cheer the depressed, and, better than all else, give crumbs of comfort to any in despair, or in the shadows of bereavement.

Life, as we have stated, is so varied, so complex, so mysterious, and its problems so baffling, whenever the human mind best fitted seeks to understand its ways, meanings and mysteries, that the masses are content to drift, accepting without question the deductions offered them by their more interested and palinstaking fellows. Whenever a new statement is made in accordance with or as an outcome of research, experiment and careful estimation, the world at large jogs on, giving but little heed. The thinking portion of humanity shakes its wise head and says: "This cannot be! It is an absurdity!" etc., etc. The fact that it is new is quite enough to condemn. But for the quiet persistence, the indomitable courage and marvelous patience of the world's benefactors termed inventors and discoverers, we should be doomed to weary years of waiting ere the light of problems already or partially solved would shed their blessed radiance upon our earthly pathway. All honor, then, to the thinkers, and the so-called "dreamers," who have forced upon an unwilling world the light of their discoveries in science, in evolution, in physics, in language, in religion, in government, ethics, and in all forward steps in civilization. We cannot crowd too many encomiums upon them, nor can we place too often the wreaths of laurel upon their brows. Our hearts beat in rhythmic unison when we gratefully and joyfully celebrate their anniversaries—even hundreds of years after the great events transpired.

We are glad that Spiritualism proves to us that in our fêtes and celebrations commemorating great events which have for many years, even centuries, brought to us greater and increased wealth in benefits—I say that we have the advantage in knowing by the proofs of Spiritualism that Columbus may return and witness the tardy recognition of his great service in tracing the lines of connection between the old countries and this new-born "land of the free and home of the brave": Queen Isabella, too, may find sweet satisfaction in the remembrance of many of her sisters in the human family, if the brothers do forget to give public recognition to her noble devotion and deeds of self-sacrifice which made it possible for Columbus to carry forward the gigantic scheme which is being this year so justly and honorably remembered by all grades and ages of both the native and foreign elements of our glorious country. It is no rare instance to hear people of intelligence remark: "If only our honored dead could know that, at last, they have the homage, the tribute paid them which was theirs by right while here on earth—but which, alas! was withheld until some of them suffered for the necessities of life to sustain and nourish the physical body, while their souls, starved for words and deeds born of just appreciation!" The fact, so well established that they are fully cognizant of every attempt to atone for past neglect, as well as to continue the just acknowledgment of merit and service rendered, while it is comforting to the millions in its happy possession, gives no excuse or palliation for our remissness, let the time be days, weeks, months, years or centuries. The time to acknowledge merit is now, not in the future—unless it be in anniversary celebration, which is eminently just and proper, having a double object in honoring the memory of public benefactors and in keeping fresh in our hearts the deeds thus recognized, amid the flowers of gratitude, love and reverence.

And while we thus honor living and arisen heroes, let us not forget the many who daily, in heroic love, make constant self-sacrifice—sometimes laying down their own life for

that of some dear one—the heroes and heroines who in humble simplicity illustrate that love of which it is said: "Greater love hath no man than this—that he lay down his life for another." While President Garfield was a suffering victim of the assassin's deadly aim, Mrs. Garfield was justly praised and lauded by the press of this and other lands for her bravery and fortitude. That was right; but we could not help daily thinking of and drawing comparisons between two women: One, surrounded by every luxury, upheld, counseled and sustained by the strongest and best of the whole land, with floods of prayerful sympathy turned upon her every hour of the day and night, with trained skill at her command, with everything comforting save the one great boon for which her heart cried to God in vain: The other, a soldier's wife in one of our Western States, where she had gone with her husband and babe to fight that fell destroyer named consumption, hoping God in his mercy would spare to her both husband and son. A great sorrow came in the loss of their little one, and then she soon saw that this enemy which had seized upon her husband would not yield—that the inevitable was before her, and she summoned her courage to struggle with poverty amid strangers, far from a single loving or sympathizing friend or relative. Sometimes the wolf looked in at the door—but by exertions almost superhuman, this heroine earned for her husband and self not only the necessities of life, but was able to sweeten the dreary hours of his last days with luxuries and dainties, all earned by wearisome toil in every odd moment which she could spare from his bedside—for a servant or nurse was not to be thought of in their reduced circumstances. The point I wish to make in the two cases, by comparison, is this: Many of our unsung and unhonored ones are greater heroes and heroines than some who justly receive their meed of praise and share of laudation. Through all the wearisome days and nights, when worn with watching and spent with anxious thought for to-morrow's needs, when yearning for the loving sympathy of some personal friend; when, through injustice and no fault of hers or that of her companion, those who should have been her natural helpers, protectors and comforters turned heartlessly away, leaving her to suffer in proud silence—still wincing under the injustice which had been her portion—not once in all that weary trial did her sick husband see the shadows upon the face of this brave woman—not one tear-drop called to his falling senses the fear which such a sign would have brought to his frail spirit—not once did he hear a murmur of discontent; not once did he look into her face and fail to see the loving, tender smile which made him feel, as he expressed it: "So long as my wife smiles, I know that all is well." The last of his earthly vision rested upon the sweet smile of the brave wife, and he murmured "All is well." Was our afflicted sister at the nation's head more heroic than our afflicted sister whose case we have cited? We think not. Let us, then, in passing, pledge each other that from this time on we will, in the present, give honor and praise wherever praise and honor are due—be the heroes or heroines lofty or humble, high or low, rich or poor, known or obscure.

In the world's broad fields we find scope, breadth and opportunity to develop or unfold, to beautify and enrich, the many veins traversing our life lines. We may become almost what we will, so great and varied are our gifts and privileges and aids in progressive avenues. If we take our one talent and hide it away in a napkin, like the foolish one of old, we may not hope for growth or unfoldment. If, on the other hand, we carefully use and seek to enlarge and add to our talents, our unfoldment will be not only a marvel to ourselves, but to our friends as well. If we have a lack of spiritual gifts, and yet have aspiration, we can grow spiritually, and our gifts will increase, until, perchance, we may become acknowledged leaders and benefactors in paths leading toward or into and through spiritual progression.

So-called earthly gifts are not to be overlooked or despised. If we have poetry in our natures, or the artist's touch to call into life the dreams of our waking hours, or to copy, "true to life," the "studies" which nature places before us in every form and tint of beauty, in contrasts and harmonies, in the wealth of profusion, and the dainty bareness of an autumnal or winter landscape; if we can call forth by word of speech or pen the answering response from kindred spirits, or call to life the dormant energies or possibilities of sluggish souls, or place in living contrast the difference between dreaming and being awake and attuned to the throbbing interests and movements in the great panorama of life; if we can, by voice or pen, in a whole lifetime, set in motion even in one human mind a train of thought which shall bear that soul on and on in the great sea of living issues, ready to recognize, anxious to forward, all movements tending toward the ultimate redemption of the human family from its degrading slavery of ignorance, crime, superstition and intolerant bigotry; if we can, by word or example, incite the apathetic to interest, the vicious to repentance and atonement, the haughty to seek the jewel of humility, the careless to become painstaking—in fact, if, by the use of any gift which we now have or may acquire, we can put our shoulder to the wheel of Progress, thereby making its velocity in revolution greater, shall we be content to sit idly waiting for our mission in life, or for the world to grow better?

One of the most solemn and most important lessons in earth-life is that of individual responsibility. As we have many times said, You cannot do our work—we cannot do yours. We must individually "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling." Our lives are so intermixed and blended that this startling statement is a fact. We cannot do all our work faithfully and well except by your aid and cooperation. If we fail to hold you up in your work in the various departments of life, you will not succeed as you should, nor as is your right. How important, then, that we learn the double lesson of individual responsibility, and of harmonious cooperation in work of all kinds.

Another lesson which we shall do well to heed with all diligence, is the duty of those in the sunlight to extend the hand of loving, charitable ministrations to those in the shadows of misery or crime. Not that we may condone offenses or take the law into our hands, but spiritually and morally and materially, if need be, we must be a strength and help to those weak in their moral natures and bereft of material support. We stand aloof, and commiserate their condition and their deeds. We feel that we are not like unto them, which is in part true, but we fail to consider that we

differ only because of our environments, and the more favorable conditions to which we were born, and which have noted as our sunshine in rounding out and mellowing our characters and our hearts. It is quite time that the lesson of brotherly love shall enter our hearts, and, taking root, bring forth works worthy of the great inheritance which has placed us above those in the scale of life whom we commiserate. It is quite time that we ask ourselves to what extent are we responsible for the distressing scenes from which we turn in disgust, or, at best, in despair of a remedy. How long shall we sit in comfortable sadness, sighing over the wickedness and suffering caused by it? How long shall we close our eyes to the admonition: "Work while the day lasts!" If by a word or a dollar, or their combination, we can remove a burden or relieve a small part of suffering, shall we keep silent, with our hands clutched upon our purses? Is not this attitude a sure indication that we are unworthy of our stewardship? It is often asked why our spirit-friends, if able to return and powerful to assist, do not help us more in acquiring that wealth represented by money and its equivalents? It seems to us that question is easily answered. To most of us worldly prosperity is deadly in its effects upon our natures. As we grow rich, we grow in the desire to cling to and add to our gains. Our hearts become calloused, and we turn with impatience from "a tale of woe," or listen with well-feigned patience. If we contribute for benevolent enterprises, we rarely do so free from the pride born of the adulation of those seeking our favor for its moneyed value. We are safer in the clutches of poverty than in the vice of wealth accumulated at the expense of our unfoldment in all that tends to make us better men and women in this life, and the happy inheritors of the life in the hereafter, where we may, while on earth, build for the eternities.

Too much cannot be said in favor of a daily life in accordance with "the Golden Rule." If we do unto others even as we would have them do unto us under like circumstances, we shall readily discover and adapt the teachings of life's lessons, both for this and the life to come. To uphold selfishness is an important lesson. Sometimes we become anxious to have selfishness cast out of our neighbor's garden, failing to see that our own is choked by that and other weeds of rank growth. We must seek by all means to cultivate the graces which will beautify and adorn our souls, and beware of and avoid all conditions which tend to cramp and hinder our growth toward perfected manhood and womanhood.

When we have discovered and obeyed the teachings of the important lessons in life, we shall be an "open book," that "he who runs may read." Our less fortunate brothers and sisters who have missed their way, and erred in blindness, will feel our love for them, and give heed to our counsel, because it will give forth no uncertain sound. When we would extend to them our hand in sympathy and in earnest desire to do them good, we shall not be spurned or rejected, as is often the case now, in our lack of the true elements, but shall be met with eager desire for reform, or at least with respectful attention when we disinterestedly seek to do them good.

If our hearts are molded in selfishness we shall be disturbed and ill at ease, perhaps petulant, yea, even angry, when called upon to look away from our pleasant surroundings into the environments of the needy and suffering ones, who extend their hands, and cry aloud for help, or bear their burdens in either brave or sullen silence. We have no time or money to spare when our hearts are stony in their coat of mail made of selfishness; but divested of this armor by the lessons of life, mellowed and subdued by the teachings of life's lessons, we become changed beings. Our hearts soften, and our purses open in proportion.

We see, then, the danger of disregarding these important lessons. If we are wise we shall be diligent seekers after and students of the truth; we shall seek to live according to the highest light attainable, and to diffuse that light upon others. We shall not be content to reach a high point alone, but be anxious to have many share with us victory upon victory which we may achieve in the struggle for the supremacy of right living.

The philosophy and truths of Spiritualism are great helps to this end. The wise and learned, the progressed and earnest workers from the other life come not only at our call, but unbidden and unsought to inspire, aid and cooperate with us, in finding and applying the lessons of life with their wondrous teachings. They would through us continue or take up their life-work. They come to heal not only our wounded spirits, but to cure our bodily ailments. Given the required conditions, and their powers are exerted to a marvelous degree for our good. Give them the required conditions, and there seems to be nothing impossible with them.

When our loved ones droop and falter by the way, and our hearts grow sick in anticipation of that time when the seal of death shall be set upon their foreheads, we are often unaccountably sustained, and enabled to perform our loving ministrations with the gentle touch and serene mien so necessary to the declining invalid. We wonder at ourselves. We would not marvel could we see the band of loving spirits who are with us comforting and strengthening—giving to us that sustenance which makes us capable of enduring; but for their aid we might lose our reason, we surely would lose our self-control, and perhaps fall ere our dear one entered the life beyond, of which we know so little and yearn to know so much. When the final blow is laid upon us, and we feel that the earth has been robbed of all its brightness—that we can never smile again—that we would lie down to join those taken from the earthly life to the realms beyond our vision (unless our spiritual vision has been opened to us)—when we grow numb with grief and terror as the truth presses upon us that our beautiful dead have been taken and that we are bereft: In that dreadful hour our loving friends return to help us to recover our equilibrium; to make us see those left to us, whom we have perhaps in our grief for our loss for the time overlooked or forgotten. We are calmed, and, beyond our comprehension, life presents its claims upon us and we become ourselves once more—saddened, it is true, yet able to take up life's duties and anew to seek life's lessons with their teachings of reconciliation and the hallowed results of discipline.

In the silent hours of the night, or in the day-watches of the stricken heart, we do not see the gentle ministrants who enter and with healing in their hands touch the wounds bleeding and sore; yet we are conscious of relief—we think more calmly of the ones taken from us, and often feel, unaccountably, that they are

not so very far away after all—and our hearts grow stronger, and we rise with more interest and a growing desire to fill the measure of our remaining days with usefulness. We cannot see the radiant joy of our loved ones, who have been able to comfort and inspire us by their silent but effective presence.

Could we but understand how much we would gain, and how much they would be gratified and rejoiced, we would more often court their presence, yea, call and woo them to our side! Unconsciously, and sometimes willfully owing to false ideas, they are repelled, or held afar off, where they mourn their inability to lift the burden, holding to the earth the dear mother, father, sister or brother left to mourn disconsolately, as one without hope. Spiritualism comes to these sorrowing ones with proofs of spirit-return, and the possibility of direct communication with their loved ones—they will not or cannot listen; perhaps later on their attention is attracted by the recital of some one who has thus been reached and comforted, and they seek to know in truth whether "if a man die, shall he live again?" If he continues life beyond the stroke called death, can he return to tell us of that life which he has entered, but which we cannot penetrate with mortal sight? At last, perhaps after years of earnest seeking, the conditions are right—the lines are established—and mother and child are once more reunited. No power can again separate them; both look forward to the glad hour when they shall meet on the further shore of the river of death, and can go on hand in hand seeking new lessons, ready and anxious to be taught in the joys and mysteries of that better and higher life into which they have been taken by the death-angel. Silently but surely do the messengers of light come, embracing every opportunity to do us good, and through us to reach others, perhaps less sensitive to spirit-return, or less desirous of availing themselves of its benefits. If you are prayer haired, and your form is bent with age, rest assured that your mother in spirit-life has never lost her interest in you; on the contrary, the maternal love has increased with the growth of years; her joy or sorrow has doubtless been in proportion to the light or shadow across your pathway; if you have been thoughtful of her, and lived in accordance with her wish, or as she would have directed had you been in direct communication with her, your path has been flooded with sunlight; if, on the other hand, you have lived the life of materiality or sensuality, have formed habits hindering your progress in spiritual development, have grown worldly and hard-hearted, if dollars have grown larger in your sight as years have been added to your life-record; if you have failed to seek life's lessons, and profit by their teachings; if you have "missed the law of kindness"; if, in short, you have forgotten the Golden Rule, which is the main plank in the platform of all good mothers' teaching—rest assured the shadows which lie across your pathway have darkened the spirit of your sainted mother. May God and the angels show you, while still on earth, the better way, leading to the fountain of sweet satisfaction, where you may drink of living waters, and be released from the bondage of worldly thralldom.

Spiritualism offers to all the proofs of its claims, and brings to saint and sinner alike the opportunity to intelligently explore the archives of this life, and to reach beyond the lifted veil dividing the two worlds. If we are skeptics, but honest ones, we are treated fairly, and the spirit-world makes every effort to accede to our most exacting terms, and under those terms to convince us of the power and fact of spirit-return, and of intelligent spirit-communication. If we are hypocrites, we may deceive the medium, but not the spirit controls; we will be punished for our duplicity, or perhaps attract deceitful, hypocritical spirits who will delight in giving us a "set-back."

This suggests one of the most serious lessons connected with the life hereafter. It is dangerous to tread questionable ground in this life, for by so doing we attract through natural law those in spirit-life yet in the bondage of the lower planes, who come to still indulge in their perverted tastes and appetites. Then are we doubly responsible, for we not only forge an extra link in the chain dragging us downward, but help to lengthen the chain of a spirit or spirits still in bondage.

The teachings of this startling lesson should lead us to seek to make our aura or atmosphere so pure and holy that even the progressed of spirit-life may approach and become en rapport with our spirits; if we are able to do this, then shall we be a living blessing to all about us; none can approach without being made better, and we shall become towers of strength.

Let us pray, then, for aspiration—for that constant outreach toward the good—that in coming years we may be unto many a refuge and stronghold in time of trouble—that we may lead, rather than grope our way in the darkness.

Spiritualism comes not to make us idle dreamers, but practical, earnest workers. If we are true Spiritualists we will be better husbands and wives, better, more judicious parents, more thoughtful, tender brothers and sisters; in our dealings with our brother man business ways will be shorn of so-called warranted devices to insure gain; we shall be honest, upright, and "our word" will become "as good as our bond"; we shall command the respect of all mankind.

We are painfully aware that many who profess to be Spiritualists fall far short of our ideal standard of possible attainment; we sadly fear that many use Spiritualism as a cloak to hide their moral deformities. How foolishly deluded are these careless hypocrites! They may thrive and flourish for a time, but be sure "their sins will find them out." The day will come when, in a lesson of life here or in the life hereafter, they will be forced to learn and face the truth which they now so flippantly set aside.

We cannot all arrive at the same degree of spirituality, owing to the diversity in our natures and our surroundings; but if we each strive for the mastery over self—if we are able to place our spiritual natures in the ascendancy over our physical—if we can hold in check our passions and our appetites—if we can wield an influence born of the fact that we practice what we preach, and can at the same time wear the serene mien of satisfaction in deeds well done—we may be sure of a welcome entrance into that life where we are told no masks are worn, where no words are needed, for all can read the true status, one of the other, as an open book!

When we grow sick at heart because of the hurrying to the ground of some idol, it is a comfort to reflect that one day we shall live beyond the pale of earthly deceit, where "we shall know as we are known"; where the cruel iron will nevermore enter our souls; where we shall be judged for what we are, and not for what

we seem. When in adversity's hour we are left almost alone—bereft not only of the belongings to our prosperity, but of friends whose friendship was, according to declaration, to be lifelong, and beyond the power of any fate to disturb or destroy—it is a comfort to be assured that in that other life we shall have with us only those who are truly attracted to us; our friends will be so real that nothing can divide or separate us. Hand in hand we will seek the fields of progression and march onward. Our missions there—according to testimony vouchsafed by reliable witnesses—will be blended, and individualized, as here; we shall be able or perhaps compelled to continue our earth-work. Surely when from the enlightened standpoint on the other side of the border line dividing the two worlds we stand and view the needs of this life, we shall be anxious to join the bands of ministering angels who return to earth on their varied errands of mercy and loving good-will. We shall then know how difficult will be our task. We are told, also, that with the difficulty increases our desire to seek channels whereby we can reach the objects of our desires.

Let us, then, wisely seek to know all we can of life here and life hereafter. If we can obtain any knowledge of the life beyond we ought to avail ourselves of the privilege. We must gain an attitude of receptivity, careful to accept all truth, yet cautious lest we accept false teachings or statements. We should heed the injunction to "try the spirits" and to "hold fast that which is good."

In all ways and by all means must we not only seek good, but resist evil, or undeveloped good. If we earnestly desire to be led in the true way, we shall never call in vain for those who can and will guide our steps and place our feet upon the rock of everlasting salvation.

Finally, let us in all earnestness remember that the duty of each passing moment cannot be crowded into the space destined for another duty. Our opportunities for doing good never return; if unimproved, they pass on to be recorded against us in the great account which will at the end of our earthly sojourn confront us, to our joy or regret as we have filled the measure of our days.

When we cross the river called death, may our souls be joyful because of the clear title we shall have gained in the favorable record of our daily lives. We cannot be too industrious, too earnest, too loyal or too intelligent in our works of mercy and benevolence. When bidden by the death-angel, may we all "come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves"—a glorious harvest, which shall entitle us to an inheritance of good beyond naming in the language of mortals.

Then, with our feet upon the border-land and our eyes upon the beautiful regions, we will shout our hosannas and raise our psalms of thanksgiving that while clothed in our house of clay we could find and to some degree interpret and apply the teachings of the Lessons in Life on earth and in spirit-realms.

May Magazines.

THE MAGAZINE OF ART.—A profitable study for an artist is the frontispiece, "Shere," an original etching by Percy Robertson, R. P. E. Its value will be recognized in its delicate gradation of tone, its just massing of light and shade, and the tenderness of its lines. "British Etching" is the theme of the opening article by Fred Wedmore, with five illustrations. With the same number of illustrations Alfred Marks contributes an interesting paper on "The 'St. Anne' of Leonardo da Vinci," and Mr. Spielmann one on "The National Gallery of British Art, and Mr. Tate's Collection." Other features of this number are, "Recent Illustrated Volumes," three illustrations, "The Portrait of a Poet," five, "Temple Newsam," ten, and "Illustrated Note Book," four. New York: Cassell Pub. Co.

WORTHINGTON'S ILLUSTRATED.—Mary A. Livermore continues "In 'Old Virginia' Fifty Years Ago," "Some Women Artists in New York City" are interestingly sketched, with reproductions of their works, by Lita A. Rice. "A Summer in Hoch Tyrol," illustrated, "Sailor Slumber Song" and other attractions in prose and verse. Hartford, Ct.: Worthington & Co.

THE QUIVER.—R. M. Ballantyne, who in England is writing for his third generation of boys, describes how he does it. "Spiders, Webs and Silk Spinning" are described in illustration of "God's Hand in the Book of Nature." Continuations of two serials and two complete stories comprise the fiction. "Love or Duty?" is the frontispiece. New York: Cassell Pub. Co.

Hall's Hair Renewer contains the natural food and color-matter for the hair, and medicinal herbs for the scalp, curing grayness, baldness, dandruff and scalp sores.

NEW MUSIC.—We have received from White-Smith Music Publishing Co., Boston, Mass., the following: Vocal: "A Twilight Serenade," by Lindsay Lennox; "If I were You" and "A Glean of Sunshine," soprano and alto baritone, Louis Campbell-Tipton; "To a Rose" (soprano), words, Edna A. Foster, music, Robert Bruce; "Six Modern Beau Brummels," Song and Dance, Geo. Schieffarth; "Dar's a New Coon Wedding," A. B. MacKenzie; "Over the Hills at Break of Day" (mixed voices), Adam Gelber; "God is Everywhere," "Easter Time" (anthem), C. C. Stearns; "Of Loving Will the Token," trio, Schumann, arr. with violin obligato, by Carl Flueger. Instrumental: "The Accordion Dance" (piano), Ewan Galt; "White Squadron Patrol," Loren Bragdon, arr. for two pianos, by G. L. Lansing; "Piedella" (dance—piano), J. T. Clark; "Castañet Dance," Paul Kellar; "Love's Dream After the Ball" (four hands), Alphonse Cebulka; "The Robin's Lament," Baltheier Melinger; "Fawn Galop," O. R. Blum; "The Golden Rod" (waltz), F. E. White.

Unlike the Dutch Process
No Alkalies
—or—
Other Chemicals

are used in the preparation of
W. BAKER & CO.'S
Breakfast Cocoa

which is absolutely pure and soluble.
It has more than three times the strength of Cocoa mixed with Starch, Arrowroot or Sugar, and is far more economical, costing less than one cent a cup. It is delicious, nourishing, and EASILY DIGESTED.

Sold by Grocers everywhere.
W. BAKER & CO., Dorchester, Mass.
Jan. 14, 1898.

Camp-Meeting and State Association, To all Spiritualists of the State of Washington, greeting. Realizing the need of closer and more harmonious relations between the Spiritualists of the State of Washington, we, the representatives of various local societies, hereby issue this call for a State Convention and Camp-Meeting to be held in Seattle, Wash., commencing Saturday, June 19, and continuing one week during which time a permanent State Association will be organized and such action taken as to advance the Cause throughout the State.

O. D. KNIGHT,
MRS. C. CONNELLEY,
MR. AND MRS. ROSSCOE,
MR. D. L. BROWN,
D. O. ARMSTRONG,
J. H. ARMSTRONG,
MR. AND MRS. SPAULDING,
MR. AND MRS. HYMMELE,
L. AND OTHERS.

BANNER OF LIGHT BOOKSTORE.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Colby & Rich, Publishers and Bookkeepers, 9 Bowditch Street, Boston, Mass., keep for sale a complete assortment of Spiritual, Progressive, Reformatory and Miscellaneous Books, and all kinds of Stationery.

Those desiring to purchase books, to be sent by Express, must be accompanied by bill or check for the amount of the order. Orders for books, to be sent by Mail, must be accompanied by cash or check for the amount of the order. We would remind our patrons that they can remit us the exact amount of a dollar in postage stamps—ones and twos preferred. All business operations looking to the sale of books on commission respectfully declined. Any book published in England or America (not out of print) will be sent by mail or express, and orders for subscriptions to the BANNER OF LIGHT and orders for our publications can be sent through the Purchasing Department of the American Express Co., at any place where that company has an agency. Agents will give a money order receipt for the amount sent, and will forward us the money order, attached to an order to have the paper sent for any state time, free of charge, except the usual fee for sending the order, which is one cent for any sum under \$5.00. This is the safest method to remit orders.

In quoting from THE BANNER care should be taken to distinguish between editorial articles and correspondence. Our columns are open for the expression of important free thought, but we do not endorse the varied shades of opinion to which correspondents give utterance. No attention is paid to anonymous communications. Name and address of writer in all cases indispensable as a guarantee of good faith. We cannot undertake to preserve or return canceled articles.

Newspapers sent to this office containing matter for inspection, should be marked by a line drawn across the article or articles.

Banner of Light.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1893.

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING FOR THE WEEK ENDING AT DATE.

Entered at the Post-Office, Boston, Mass., as Second-Class Matter.

PUBLICATION OFFICE AND BOOKSTORE, No. 9 Bowditch Street, corner Province Street, (Lower Floor.)

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL AGENTS: THE NEW ENGLAND NEWS COMPANY, 14 Franklin Street, Boston.

THE AMERICAN NEWS COMPANY, 89 and 41 Chambers Street, New York.

COLBY & RICH,

PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

Isaac B. Rich, Business Manager. John W. Day, Banner Editors.

Matter for publication must be addressed to the EDITOR. All business letters should be forwarded to the BUSINESS MANAGER.

Before the coming light of Truth, Creeds tremble, Ignorance dies, Error decays, and Humanity rises to its proper sphere of knowledge.—Spirit John Pierpont.

The Rev. T. E. Allen of Grafton, Mass., (Secretary of the American Psychical Society) will consider, in the next BANNER, "The Problem of the Resurrection."

The Struggle in Connecticut!

"To the medical doctors I would say, regulate your own practice in your own domain, and instead of trying to place any obstacle in the pathway of those whose efforts lie in the unseen life, where you have not yet learned how to work, look up from materialism, and reach out in welcome to this product of evolution, which is from the Almighty, and which the hand of man cannot stay."—Hon. Mrs. Albert H. Walker (Harford) to the Judiciary Committee.

The determined resistance which the friends of freedom in medical practice in Connecticut are now making to the latest movement of the grasping medical oligarchy in that State toward curtailing the people's liberty, shows that the citizens thereabout are opposed to the enactment of a "doctors' plot law," whatever its "regular" advocates may avow to the contrary.

From fifty to one hundred persons, it is reported, attended each of the three hearings, prepared to speak or read a paper against the bill. For want of time few were heard, but those who were, demonstrated the intelligence and earnestness of the thousands of remonstrants represented by the petitions.

Notwithstanding the efforts of Joseph L. Barbour, Esq., Prof. Alex. Wilder, J. H. Benton, Jr., and Miss Frances Ellen Burr, Mrs. Walker and others, we note that on the 27th of April the Judiciary Committee at Hartford brought in a bill "to regulate medical practice"—which the *Harford Times* of the 28th ult. says "is somewhat modified from the more drastic measure formulated by the doctors and their lawyers," though that paper adds that said bill "does not seem to be much changed."

It would seem that the usual sinuous tactics were followed, in this case, by the "regulars" and their representatives; under the terms of the agreement between the advocates and remonstrants, the lawyer for the bill was to be accorded the last word, and he improved the opportunity in such a peculiar manner as to call out a review of his remarks (published in *The Times* of April 4th) from Mr. Barbour, who represented the remonstrants, but not being able to reply before the Committee (the hearing having closed) was forced to have recourse to the vehicle of a public journal.

The great point to be kept in view in all this discussion is the right of individual choice—which is the constitutional possession of every free citizen of Connecticut—to select any person or system of treatment he or she may choose, wherefrom to obtain remedial aid when attacked by disease. The plea that "the art of healing" and "the practice of medicine" are things of a different nature, may safely be admitted by those who have carefully compared the work of the progressive "irregulars" who follow that "art," and the fossilized "Regulars" who engage in the "practice"; but no one at all familiar with human nature can fail to perceive that once given the reins of power, and the unsuccessful "practice" will claim the whole field, to the destruction of all "patients' rights," and legally interdict "the art" in all its forms. Mr. Barbour makes this point especially clear in his admirable review:

"Is it possible that he [the lawyer for the M. D.s] intends his hearers to infer that because Section 8 of the bill says that applicants to practice medicine and surgery shall be examined in anatomy, etc., [?] and does not require that any one else shall be examined, that, therefore, this bill will not interfere with mental scientists, magnetic healers, clairvoyants, etc.? His argument is without force so far as this point is concerned, unless that is his intention; and yet the bill itself shows that he is wholly in the wrong, if that is the inference he desires made."

Will it be true that by the terms of the bill only applicants to practice medicine, etc., need be examined, yet it is also true that by Section 7 of the bill; no person, after the first of October, 1893, is to be allowed for compensation, gain or reward received or expected, to treat, operate or prescribe for any injury, deformity, ailment or disease, actual or imaginary, of any other person, nor practice surgery, unless or until

he has obtained a certificate of registration as herein after provided."

The unprogressive character of the proposed measure is shown up by him as follows:

"Under Section 2, any resident of this State, who at the time of the passage of the act shall be, or previously thereto has been, actually engaged in this State in the practice of medicine or surgery or any alleged practice of healing, may, before the first day of October, 1893, file with the State Board of Health duplicate statements, giving particulars as to his practice, etc., and upon receipt of such statements the Board of Health shall issue a certificate of registration. This, of course, will enable persons now engaged in any alleged practice of healing to continue in practice. But how about the magnetic healers, clairvoyants, hydropaths, natural bone-setters, etc., who may arise after Oct. 1st, 1893? Can they procure a certificate from the Board of Health without an examination before one of the three committees provided for in the bill? No, indeed, unless they are graduates of a medical college which is recognized as reputable by one of the chartered medical societies of the State, as provided in Section 3 of the bill, or unless, as provided in Section 4, they are residents of some town in another State adjoining the boundary line of this State, and actually engaged there in practice at the time of the passage of the act, and then they must obtain their certificate before October 1st, 1893."

This proposed "medical regulating" act will, it is announced, be the special order of the day for consideration, in the Connecticut Senate, Thursday, May 4th. Let all true friends of humanity join in the hope—fortified by the endeavor—that the minds of the law-makers may be so guided that their votes shall crushingly defeat this latest effort on the part of a titled few to legally ride "rough-shod" over the dearest rights of the many!

Compulsory Arbitration.

A till-then novel decision of Judge Ricks of a United States Court (Toledo, O.) was made not long since under the interstate commerce law, which has since, as to its influence, operated like a stone dropped in the lake, sending out wrinkles of interest and activity to the furthest shores of the labor-and-capital question in this country.

If the United States Courts have power to prevent the employees of railroad companies from leaving their posts whenever they like, it no less denies to railroad companies the right to discharge their employees, or even to act in numberless emergencies in the same direction. That means, in the view of more than one of the public journals of the country, the ultimate absorption of the great railroad lines of the United States by the general government; in other words, the nationalization of the railroads.

It has to be admitted that the responsibilities of railroad corporations and railroad employees to the public are reciprocal. So that if employees are to be forbidden to abruptly abandon their work by reason of the great inconvenience thereby entailed upon the public, neither can railroad corporations abruptly discharge their employees, for the same reason. Both hold a position of a sufficiently public feature to forbid their obstruction of the public welfare and convenience by engaging in a contention of any character.

As an exchange pointedly puts it, the general reasoning thus applied to railroads will apply to other forms of public service as well, such as street car service, lighting and water companies, and in fact all forms of traffic in the nature of public service. It may involve a restraint of the right of employees to leave their work at such a time and in such a manner as to injure the public interests; and this would do away almost entirely with the right to strike in any effective manner against any great corporation, since no strike is effective that does not impair the business of the employer, and if the employer is a monopoly, engaged in furnishing to the public articles of necessity and comfort which no one else can furnish, such a strike must likewise affect the public interests. This is held to be a logical application of the reasoning of the various decisions which have since been arrived at. If carried to this extreme, as they clearly may be, they would involve the practical enslavement of workmen by all established monopolies. There is but one way of escape from such a consequence, and that is by the public's securing possession of such monopolies and operating them.

There is another view taken of this matter, which is strikingly set forth by the *Christian Union*. Summarized, it is this: That if the courts will intervene to prohibit employees from leaving the railroad corporation when such abandonment of employment threatens to work irreparable injury to the corporation, they cannot refuse to intervene to prohibit corporations from discharging employees when such discharge threatens to work an irreparable injury to the employees. That says the *Christian Union*, is precisely the principle of compulsory arbitration. Another editorial brother says with truth in regard to this labor-capital problem that "To deny labor the right to cease work is really a promise on the part of the State that it will examine into the contested matter, and make everything reasonably satisfactory. This is all labor has ever asked."

Timely Indian Talk in the Right Quarter.

The *Washington Post* well says that one of the most important duties belonging to the office of the new Secretary of the Interior is that of protecting the Indians, and it expresses the hope that he will exert his most anxious and intelligent care in this direction. The Indians, remarks *The Post*, have been victims of governmental neglect and official ignorance and rapacity, to an extent at once incredible and disheartening; and that in the interest of civilization, as well as for the sake of abstract justice, they should be treated fairly, kindly and considerately. It affirms that almost any army officer of experience among the Indians will say that most of their murderous uprisings have been provoked by the cruelty and ill-treatment of the whites. The American red man, like any other savage, resents bad faith and broken promises; he could much more readily forgive an open attempt upon his life, deception and treachery infuriate him.

The Secretary, adds *The Post*, need waste no time in consulting politicians who know nothing about it, or frontiersmen who have a direct interest in promoting hostilities. Let him, it advises, talk with men like Senator Vest, who has made a careful study of the subject, not from a distance, but among the Indians themselves; or with army officers whose duty has brought them in contact with the situation, and who have nothing to gain by goading the Indians to frenzy. It will not take him long to discover that the Indian problem is the simplest one imaginable; we have only to select humane and honest men as agents, and to enable them to keep our promises sacred, and there

will be no more trouble on, or off the reservation.

Why, as the *Washington Post* asserts, the Indian problem is the simplest one imaginable, is because it is capable of being solved by our dealing justly by the Indians, instead of allowing greedy men to invade their domain, defraud them in traffic, steal their lands away from them, and break our solemn promises to them. Any people, white or red, would revolt at such treatment persistently pursued toward them. In no instance is the Indian the aggressor in the troubles that occur; these are invited and provoked by our continued breach of faith, our contempt of solemn treaties.

The Early Experience of the Fox Sisters.

In *London Light* of April 6th Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britten writes with much feeling, and sets forth some facts in the early life of the sisters, more especially of the two youngest, that are worthy of consideration by those who may be hasty to condemn in ignorance of causes of which the events they refer to in their condemnation were the legitimate results.

Mrs. Britten has known and been intimate with the Fox family since 1856. After referring to the happy marriage of the eldest of the sisters (Mrs. Underhill) to a wealthy and respected gentleman of New York, who removed her from much public effort, "though," says Mrs. B., "she was ever to them as a refuge and pitying, guardian angel—in short, in all her relations of life, one of the best and noblest of women," Mrs. Britten continues:

"The two young sisters, who were many years her juniors, were driven from their humble peasant home, and the seclusion of a lonely village, by howling mobs, followed by insults and excommunication from strangers, threats of prison discipline from the authorities, and of eternal condemnation from their religious teachers. And all this for no fault or act of their own! Think, then, of the position in which these unfortunate children—not either of them even in their teens—were then placed. Drugged before force, antagonized, public audiences; subjected to constant rude examinations before committees of their own sex; taunted, reviled and threatened with lynch law when they even appeared openly in the streets; day and night forced, to meet companies of hostile, scrutinizing investigators; hurrying from town to town, always in hotels or strangers' houses, and all the while the subjects of powers of which they actually knew as little as the crowds that surrounded them! What kind of a life or education was this for two young country girls, under fifteen years of age? I have seen them, and sat with them at some of their evening circles, when, with the life ebbing out of their thin fingers, heavy eyes, and pale, weary faces, by the expenditure of their magnetic forces, they have sat monotonously counting over the alphabet to the spirit-rappings, hour after hour, year in and year out, sometimes all day, not unfrequently all night also. They had no youth—no enjoyments appropriate to their age and sex—and no other compensation for a restless, homeless and too often thankless life, than the petty fees that afforded them and their good, faithful and most excellent mother the means to procure daily bread."

Side by side with the martyrs of all ages—the reformers, who have ever been in the van of the world's progress, and who have been rewarded for their noble work by death at the hands of the race they have most benefited; in a word, with all who have suffered or perished by the savage inhumanity of man to man, should we place poor Kate and Margaretta Fox; and when the world scoffs and rebukes, nay, even reviles, the faults into which their all too hard lives have betrayed them, let humanity remember that the tiny tap, tap of the spiritual telegraph that first sounded through the poor, little, ignorant, helpless and uneducated Hydesville children, Margaretta and Kate Fox, was the first blast of the trumpet-call that now, in the choral of millions of spirit-voices, rebukes the solemn words, "I am he that liveth and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore."

Craig's Point.

If on Maine's map you're prone to look, You'll find the Lake Maranacook,

which is a fine summer resort—the very best in the country—cool and comfortable in all respects. It can be reached by the Maine Central Railroad. On the Lake is a fine hotel, with excellent picnic grounds near by, and on an arm of land running out into the Lake—nearly a mile in length—is *Craig's Point*, upon which seven cottages are already erected, owned by Boston and New York parties; but there is plenty of space for more, which will undoubtedly be utilized as soon as the public ascertains what a salubrious climate that locality is. It is infinitely superior to a mountain residence; the scenery all along the Lake shores is indeed pleasant to the eye of the lovers of nature. Wealthy individuals, who are on the lookout for a healthy and cool summer retreat, should at once inspect Maranacook Lake, and build cottages on Craig's Point. For special information upon this point they are requested to address Mr. DAVID W. CRAIG, 72 Sudbury street, Boston, or Messrs. Colby & Rich, No. 9 Bowditch street.

The parties owning this eligible location are wealthy Spiritualists, and have no land to sell, but building lots will be given to those who are congenial to our Cause, that thus a fraternal community of Spiritualists may be built up in the above locality embracing the whole United States.

Dr. J. V. Mansfield,

A veteran medium of world-wide fame for answering sealed letters, is at present residing with his son on a farm at Ipswich, Mass. The Doctor has now attained to the age of seventy-six years, and is very feeble in health—almost unable to take out-of-door exercise unattended. Those who may wish to communicate with one of the oldest pioneers of Modern Spiritualism may address him P. O. Box 280, Ipswich, Mass., in care of John W. Mansfield.

While the London Spiritualist Alliance is a live institution, and doing good work for our Cause, The American Spiritual Alliance, which was brought into existence several years ago at the instance of John W. Edwards and eleven other spirits, to day is dead as a door nail. It seems to us that this legal institution should be speedily reconstituted, to combat in every way possible the bigots all over the country who are striving through State Legislatures to have statutes enacted putting down Modern Spiritualism by law! It seems to us it is high time that New York Spiritualists move in re this Alliance matter, to the end that it may, as a centre, with ramifications all over the country, become a power in defense of the Spiritual Philosophy and its devoted media instruments. Theological bigots are evidently the instigators of sumptuary laws to retard the grandest movement of the nineteenth century.

A fourth edition of that masterly work, *MANUAL OF PSYCHOMETRY*, by Dr. Joseph Rodes Buchanan—now of Los Angeles, Cal.—has just been brought out. Copies are for sale by Colby & Rich, 9 Bowditch street, Boston.

Woman and Civilization.

The Farmer and Labor Review of Los Angeles, Cal., reports the abridged address of Prof. J. H. Buchanan on "Woman Suffrage, before the Woman Suffrage Association, on March 17th, embodying the salient points and most important ideas of the speaker—which address was received by his audience with demonstrations of the utmost satisfaction. Before the dawn of civilization, said Prof. Buchanan, it might have been a question whether woman had any rights that a man was bound to respect; and it might still be a question in the Hottentot tribe, in which a youth establishes his standing as a man by showing that he is able to whip his mother; but it was not a debatable question to day. Yet what is the substantial difference whether the individual man whips the individual woman, or the collective man—the nation—subjugates and robs its women through the myriads of the law? The rights of woman are the highest and most sacred of all rights, whether considered in the light of justice or expediency. The right of the laborer to whatever his labor produces is a question that already convulses the thought of the country. But whose was the labor that produced the laborer himself? Was it not his mother's? Is not he a valuable production of human labor, and does he not justly belong to the woman who, with great toil, produced, developed and cultivated him, gave him a body and a soul, and constituted him so very valuable a property that if he had had a black skin he could have been sold forty or more years ago for a thousand dollars, without any education, but, being white and well educated, he may be worth twenty or thirty thousand dollars?

Then, again, does not both he and all that he makes—houses, farms and salary—belong rightfully to the woman who made him, as long as she lives? If she ever gives him up to another woman she can give a clear, full, fee simple, warranty deed for him and all that he has; and if any woman wants him, she should go and make the bargain for him with his mother. If a husband is a desirable piece of furniture in the house, the speaker confessed he saw no reason why a woman should not go shopping for just such furniture as she wants. Is not this fair reasoning? he asked. Is not the laborer always entitled to what he produces? And is it not much harder work to produce a thousand dollar man than to produce a watch, a dress, or a carriage, which are recognized as the property of the person whose labor produced them? The man-made laws of most of our States have deprived women of the right to their offspring, in which is their life-blood as well as their labor. The old Latin law maxim is familiar—"Patrius sequitur ventrem."

The trouble is, women are too amiable to assert and enforce their rights; they live to give life and happiness to others; they submit to every form of oppression, and often seem sweetest when most oppressed, as flowers that exhale their perfume when trodden on. The mother's rights are the paramount rights, the world over, to all its wealth, its beauty and its grandeur. Nevertheless, women are toiling in our cities on starvation wages of three to five dollars a week, when men would raise a bloodthirsty mob if they were crushed down to the same extent. Morally, the man is the mother's property. If she is not now able to carry him in her arms, his size in no way diminishes her rights. She may not be able to chastise him for misconduct, but he may be able to overpower her, Hottentot fashion, and thus assert his independence. If a person can raise a calf until it has grown into a fierce and dangerous bull that he dares not approach as he bellows in the pasture, does he then cease to be that person's property because he is afraid of him? In the human race, the bull-headed strength of the man has so overpowered the gentleness of the woman that he sometimes loses all idea of the loyalty and allegiance due to the author of his being, and there is not a government in the world controlled by man which has shown any just and complete conception of the rights of woman, or of her paramount importance to the world.

The speaker affirmed that the mother woman is the rightful queen of all kingdoms and all republics; and when we recognize her rights, but not until then, we shall enjoy the divine blessing; and just in proportion to our denial of these rights do we fall under that curse which offers the greatest punishment of a nation to its greatest crimes, which can easily be shown. Divine wisdom has ordained, and all history shows it, that every nation that exalts its women shall rise to a higher civilization, to greater power and prosperity in all respects, while any nation that tramples on the rights of woman to the same extent, dooms itself to failure and disgrace, to ignorance and poverty, to disease and crime, to helplessness and famine, and to the contempt of the rest of mankind. A single century is long enough to insure the downfall of the nation that is grossly guilty. For this reason Prof. Buchanan asserted that the destiny of every nation depends absolutely and entirely on its treatment of its women; and the historians, political economists and doctrinaire philosophers who have discussed every other cause of the rise and fall of nations, but have overlooked this one, are but superficial quacks.

And turning from the preëminent and sacred rights of the mother to those of the wife, they, too, are no less imperative, for the wife is the representative of posterity. In her exists potentially the more than thousand coming centuries who depend on her for their existence and character. Kill her, and you annihilate them. Debase her, and you debase them. Oppress and torture her until, in her wretchedness and despair, she learns to hate you, and you send that hatred and despair as a river of poison down the centuries; but cherish and love her as you love yourself, and you fill her with happiness, joy, health and gladness, and you send these blessings as a river of life down the ages. Hence, if you do not love and cherish her, you are debasing human destiny, and you are a criminal though you may be out of the reach of the law. This is not specially a woman question, a question of woman's rights and interests; it is a national question, a race question, a world question; for man and woman are eternally bound together, as the masculine left brain in the head is interlinked anatomically and physiologically with the more feminine right brain to make the complete human head; and however low the woman is borne down by false institutions, the nation is borne down with her; and however higher condition, the glory and power of the nation becomes its expression. The Gracchi at Rome were the expression of Cornelia, and Nero was the expression of the criminal Agrippina. The interests of the sexes are identical.

It is indeed strange, proceeded the Professor, that a truth so emblazoned on all historical records has attracted so little attention from philosophers and statesmen, as if they had forgotten the time when, in their own puny helplessness, they owed everything to a mother's care, as well as the life she gave to body and soul. Our duty in this matter becomes very plain, when we look into the higher law of life, the law of unlimited and undying love, which was uttered and illustrated by Jesus Christ; which would lead the world, if the world could follow, out of all its ills, its despotism, poverty, crime and suffering, for they all disappear in the light of love as darkness disappears at sunrise; and philosophy assures us that, in proportion as this divine law is established in society, the life of woman, surrounded by love and relieved from every shadow, drawing into her life all the beneficence of the universe, would express in her offspring the nobler qualities and powers for which the loving mother prays, and a nobler race would appear on the earth. The perfect race suggested by the law of evolution as yet coming in the future can come only from the perfect family; which we should strive to establish. The conjugal union in perfect love is a mutual reinforcement. Each receives new motives, new hopes, new joys and new strength. They put forth all their powers; and if life becomes a battle it is well fought by two. It is a period of advancing prosperity, love adds to this the joy and romance which mingle poetry with the wholesome joy of life. The divine ideal is approached, for where two live in the sphere of mutual love the injunction to "love thy neighbor as thyself" becomes intelligible to them and does not seem entirely impossible. The warmth

of fraternal love still gleams in the eyes when they are turned to less familiar faces.

If we look all through history, we find the reign of desolation and barbarism where man has declined as woman has been degraded; but a bright advancing civilization everywhere to the extent that woman has been honored. The Western condition is sustained womanhood and advancing civilization, while a degraded womanhood and a stagnant or declining civilization is the Oriental condition. The dawn of the grandest and most ancient civilization, and its brightest ethical, social, intellectual and scientific development, was in Egypt, where woman was more respected and honored than in any realm or any century that history records; and in signal contrast to Egypt we have the pseudo-civilization of far larger and more powerful empires in India and China, which have maintained their existence by vast territories and immense populations, which ought to have made them the leaders and rulers of the world. But their civilization was without a living soul; it was rotten to the core, for it ignored and trampled upon woman, and therefore paralyzed every noble attribute, making China, though apparently the greatest nation in the world, the most unimportant and stagnant; and India, ranking next to China, not only unimportant and stagnant, but the helpless slave of a handful of foreigners; and both, though living amid the richest bounties of nature, are the most wretched and poverty-stricken of civilized nations, existing upon the borders of famine and pestilence, by which they have lost more than fifty millions of their people every century.

Prof. Buchanan made a graphic historical display of the social degradation of India and China, their horrible barbarity and cruelty toward women, and the wonderful rise of the petty tribes of the skin-clad barbarians of the Western world, among whom woman was universally honored. Rome became mistress of the world; and the Germans, who honored their women, have grown into the greatest European power; while England and America, pursuing the same course—and each approaching simultaneously now to the full recognition of woman's equality—are clearly destined to lead the race, and probably to make the English language, English literature and English institutions for the protection of human rights, the dominant power of the world.

Demise of a Noted Medium.

We regret to learn of the demise of Mrs. James Redpath, who was a very reliable trance medium. She was well known in Washington, D. C., for many years, and was a dear friend of the late Judge Black. Her influence as a medium among Congressmen was very extensive. This lady was formerly known among Spiritualists as Mrs. Carrie V. Chorpennig. She passed to spirit-life on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 25th, at her late residence, 130 West 22d street, New York City. We are promised a full account of her mediumistic gifts for publication in THE BANNER soon.

Notice to the Musical Public.

Those who have not secured a copy of C. P. Longley's fine book of songs, "ECHOES FROM AN ANGEL'S LYRE," and desire to do so, are advised that the present edition of that choice work is nearly exhausted, and another will not appear. Therefore, those who wish to procure copies must order them at once. For sale by Colby & Rich, 9 Bowditch street, Boston, at one dollar per copy, postpaid.

Prof. Longley has other musical compositions in preparation which will soon be issued from the press.

Mr. Colville in the East.

W. J. Colville will lecture in the Spiritual Temple, Exeter and Newbury streets, Boston, Mass., Sunday, May 7th, 2:30 p. m.; subject, "A World's Fair in Heaven, and Its Correspondence upon Earth."—[His classes in Spiritual Science open at 18 Huntington Avenue (suite 4), Monday, May 8th, at 2:30 and 7:45 p. m.]—Mr. Colville will also speak in Brittan Hall, Haverhill, Mass., at 7:30 p. m.

The sight presented on Broadway, New York, on Friday, April 28th, was remarkable. The serried ranks of the battalions of nine nationalities, with the national flag of each waving over them, marching together with no feelings save those of the greatest friendliness, presented a spectacle long to be remembered, and probably never to be seen in any other country. Stirring, indeed, must it have been to hear the cheers which arose from the multitude in greeting the armed and equipped warriors from many lands associated in a spirit of peace and good-will. The event was certainly historic, and must surely have aroused the emotions, not only of the thoughtful spectators, but of the participants in the international parade.

Mrs. Sarah Newton (widow of the late A. E. Newton)—known at one time as a widely active and remarkably-gifted medium—passed on to rejoin the loved in spirit-land on Saturday, April 23rd. The funeral rites occurred at 3 p. m. on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 2d, at the residence of her son-in-law, the poet and litterateur, J. T. Trowbridge, Arlington, Mass.—Dr. H. B. Storer of Boston and Rev. Mr. Gill (Unitarian) of Arlington officiating.

THE GRAND MAY FESTIVAL, under the auspices of the Children's Lyceum of Boston, will occur at MUSIC HALL, MAY 6TH, afternoon and evening. The solo dancing will be attractive, and of a new and varied character, we are informed, while the fancy dances, representing the different seasons, "Sailor," "Coon," and other dances, will be unique and delightful to witness. There will also be a grand march, in costume, of two hundred people.

Mr. Julius Carroll of Foxboro, Mass.—whose recent passage to spirit-life formed the occasion of the memorial meeting held last Sunday by the Providence (R. I.) Spiritualist Society—was a firm and devoted friend of the Cause, and a kind and liberal patron of the BANNER OF LIGHT. His translation was sudden—taking place Tuesday, April 25th. Burial service was held in Foxboro, Mass., from his residence, on Friday, April 28th—being conducted by Dr. H. B. Storer of Boston. [Mr. Whittem's tribute to his memory will appear next week.]

If Gov. Flower of New York signs the anti-medium, anti-Spiritualist bill rushed through its late Assembly at the last moment of the last session, he is not the man all honest people take him to be. Such sumptuary laws on the statute books of the United States will breed revolution sooner than anything else.

We learn from our correspondent, Mr. George A. Bacon, who is one of the most efficient clerks in the Agricultural Department, Washington, D. C., that his mother, at the ripe age of eighty-five years, is soon to pay him a visit, and is so healthy that she will not require an attendant for the journey.

The New York Psychical Society pays its respects, on our eighth page, to the "Edwards" bill, practically aimed against Spiritualist mediums.—Read what was said and done in the same direction by the Spiritualist meetings held last Sunday at Carnegie and Adelphi Halls.

The attention of our readers in Ohio and elsewhere at the present time is called especially to the article by Dr. Smith, on our seventh page, entitled "Regular Etiquette—Irregular Success."

The local societies everywhere, to whose reports we give much space, should devote some of their energies to circulating THE BANNER.

