

SPIRITUALISM.

[REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ABROAD.]

No. 167.-VOL. IV.]

LONDON, JUNE 13, 1873.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.

HOW DR. SEXTON BECAME A SPIRITUALIST. AN ORATION DELIVERED BY DR. SEXTON, AT CAVENDISH ROOMS, MORTIMER STREET, LONDON, ON SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 1873.

Mr. Benjamin Disraeli, in one of his early publications, wrote as follows :-- "We are the slaves of false knowledge. Our memories are filled with ideas that have no origin in truth. We learn nothing from ourselves. The sum of our experience is but a dim dream of the conduct of past generations-generations that lived in a total ignorance of their nature. Our instructors are the unknowing and the dead. We study human nature in a charnelhouse, and, like the nations of the East, we pay divine honours to the maniac and the fool. A series of systems have mystified existence. We believe what our fathers credited, because they were convinced without a cause." 'Tis true these words were written in reference to metaphysical speculations, but they are, nevertheless, marvellously applicable to almost all the opinions entertained by society at large. Mankind in general do not care to investigate or to think, and it is not at all to be wondered at that they should not, for investigation is a trouble, and thinking a laborious process. It is far easier to take one's opinions readymade than to arrive at them by reason and reflection. The great mass of mankind will therefore probably always follow the fashion in matters of judgment, as in all things else. "An ounce of custom," says Hommel, "outweighs a ton of reason." I think it was Dr. Watts who said that if you were to put the question to a hundred believers in Christianity as to why they were Christians, the probability is that not more than one could give you any other reason than that he had been so trained and educated. We are in the habit of receiving our creeds as a part of our patrimony handed down from our ancestors, and we hold them to be too sacred to be in any way mutilated by a change of opinion. He who is an orthodox Christian in Eigland would in too many cases, had he descended from a follower of the Arabian prophet, or been bom in a latitude within reach of the influence of the Koran, have zealously fought and died, if the circumstances demanded it, in defence of the Mohammedan faith; a Hindoo on the banks of the Ganges, a fire-worshipper in Persia, a Roman Catholic in Spain or Portugal, for the same reason that he is a follower of Martin Luther and a believer in the Protestant religion in England. We are born in a certain faith, our parents take great trouble to show us in childhood that their way is the only true one, and we accept their teaching as well-nigh infallible. When we leave home we pass into other and still more powerful hands. The priest takes the place formerly occupied by the guardian, and a sort of theological terrorism is brought into play to keep us sound in the faith.

I do not offer these remarks at all in the spirit of an apology for having changed my views, because such a fact needs no apology. Change of opinion, if for the better, is always desirable; and certainly he who does not change cannot improve. Advancement in mental growth necessarily implies some sort of change, although of course all change does not involve advancement. There is, generally speaking, a deep-rooted prejudice against a change of opinion—a prejudice which has sapped the vitals of progress, and perpetuated error and hypocrisy to an alarming extent. The man who embraces a conviction contrary to that which he was known previously to entertain, is too frequently stigmatised with all sorts of uncomplimentary epithets; a course of procedure only compatible with the belief that the persons so denouncing him are possessed of infallibility. Now, as none of us lay claim to that power except the Pope—and he, poor old man, is quite welcome to

the delusive opinion that he has it, if in his old age it affords him any consolation—it is certainly in no way consistent to entertain so strong an objection to change. The right of private judgment is professedly the fundamental basis of the Protestant faith, but the results that necessarily flow from this noble principle are admitted by but very few. "If," says the Rev. George Armstrong, "I dispute the right of private judgment, the Church denounces me as a Papist; if I acknowledge it and act upon it, she discards me as a heretic. I am allowed and enjoined to inquire on the condition that the conclusions arrived at shall be, not my own, but those settled beforehand for me by the Church;" or he might have added, society at large, for fashion is as tyrannical as are churches.

In relating my experience on this subject, I shall have to go back some twenty-five years; not that I knew anything of Spiritualism at that early period of my life, but because I then came into contact with a class of phenomena which I now see are most intimately connected with the spiritual philosophy, and only explicable by its aid—the phenomena known by the name of mesmerism. At that time I had a friend at Norwich who was taking a great interest in mesmerism, and who wrote to me that he had witnessed some most extraordinary cases of clairvoyance. As he was a man for whom I had very great respect, I became somewhat annoyed that he should have become a believer in what I could not help thinking was most preposterous nonsense, and I went therefore to Norwich partly for the purpose of reasoning him out of his whimsical notions and bringing him back to something like common sense. When we met, and I endeavoured to point out to him his error in embracing views so utterly opposed to all principles of sound philosophy, he very calmly inquired if I had seen anything of mesmerism. I replied that I had not, and didn't want to do so, as I was convinced that the whole thing was a delusion. He asked me if I considered it compatible with the principle of proving all things, so frequently enunciated by me from the pulpit, to condemn a thing of which I knew nothing, and to refuse to see any facts that might tend to change my views in regard to it. I replied, that mesmerism could not be true because it was opposed to common sense and all the recognised principles of philosophy, and that, moreover, it was antagonistic to the Protestant belief that miracles ceased with the apostolic age. I had à priori reasons for my opposition-reasons very much akin to those that are frequently urged to-day against Spiritualism, reasons based upon preconceived opinions, and which pay no regard whatever to facts. The most determined, the most obstinate, and the most unreasonable opponents of any movement are the men who talk loudly about general principles, and who fall back in their reasoning upon some à priori argument against the possibility of the matter in question. If facts are against them, they say virtually, if not in so many words, So much the worse for the facts. They act upon the principle that no amount of evidence can establish the truth of certain theories, because it has been already decided that such theories are impossible. This is been already decided that such theories are impossible. This is exactly the course taken by many of the opponents of Spiritualism to-day. "Facts," says Sir Charles Bell, "have been denied with a pertinacity which I can never understand." You all remember the case of the man who denied the possibility of motion on some such principle as the following: If I move, I must move either where I am or where I am not. Now, I cannot move where I am, for while I remain where I am there is an emption is and I accurate for while I remain where I am there is no motion ; and I cannot move where I am not, for a thing cannot act where it is not. This is no doubt most conclusive. The answer of the man thus This is no doubt most conclusive. The an addressed was, he got up and walked away.

Well, at last I consented to see some meameric phenomena; I became very soon startled and utterly bewildered. The patientor, as we should now say, the medium-was a lad without any education, destitute of culture or of any knowledge of philosophy, who worked at the humble occupation of shoemaking, and who, in the normal state, was as unpretending and as uninformed as could be desired for the purpose. He was thrown into the mesmeric sleep without any difficulty whatever, and in that state speedily dis-played powers which utterly astounded me. He gave a description of the house in which I resided in London-he nover having been six miles out of the city of Norwich in his life ; he described the landlady and other members of her family with whom I lodged, entered into minute details as to the character of the furniture in the rooms, the pictures on the walls, my books on the shelves-even mentioning the names of some of them-told the number of rooms in the house, of houses in the street, and other particulars too numerous to mention. He went to another part of the town-mentally, of course-and described the church in which I occasionally officiated, both inside and outside, with a degree of accuracy which I very much doubt whether I could have equalled, although in the habit of being there personally two or three times a week. Such facts as these you may very naturally suppose startled me not a little, and on socing such repeatedly, my opposition gave way-my so-called common-sense philosophy was blown to the winds, and I saw that measurerism was true. I now took up the subject with a good deal of enthusiasm, and lectured on it in London and elsewhere. There are persons present tonight who know me at that time, and who can attest to the truth of what I say. In these loctures I had with me a clairvoyante a young girl name. Reeves who will be remembered by some of my friends present, and whose powers were very marvellous. When in the sleep, you might bandage her eyes as firmly and as securely as you pleased, and having done so, take a book from your pecket, which neither she nor I had ever seen before, and she would read it with as much ease as she would have done had she been awake and her eyes wide open. This she did before large, and frequently very sceptical, audiences many scores of times. She would describe accurately scenes and events hundreds of miles away, of which she knew nothing in the waking state, and display other very marvellous powers familiar enough to those who have devoted any attention to mesmerism, and still more so to those who have had any experience of Spiritualism. I met with many cases of this clairvoyant power, and in a few instances succeeded in bringing to light matters of very great importance by its agency. I found persons susceptible of the development of this faculty in the circle of my private friends, and some very marvellous results were obtained. These I have not time now to describe-nor, in fact, is this the proper occasion for doing so. Some day I shall probably publish all that I know of these marvellous phenomena, and give the key to their solution-the only one, I am now convinced, that is of the slightest value-spiritual agency; that is, the operation of spirit acting apart from the body. I do not say that mesmerism is the same thing as Spiritualism, but it is exceedingly analogous to it, and subject very much to the same laws. The one is psychological, the other spiritnal; by which I mean, that the one is produced by a spirit still in the flesh, and the other by a disembodied spirit; but both clearly prove the immateriality of the soul, and that mind can act independently of its material organs.

We know from experience that very often dreams that have taken place are entirely forgotten on waking, since sometimes a triffing circumstance will afterwards call them to mind, and not unfrequently we wake up in the night having a most distinct recollection of a dream, the details of which we may be desirous of retaining; on going to sleep again, however, the whole thing disappears, save only the recollection that there was a dream which, when we awoke before, was most vividly impressed upon the mind.

Dr. Macnish, whose work on Sleep is very widely circulated, clings to the physiological, in other words materialistic, theory of dreaming. He says, "I believe that dreams are uniformly the resuscitation or re-embodiment of thoughts which have formerly, in some shape or other, occupied the mind. They are old ideas revived either in an entire state, or heterogeneously mingled together. I doubt if it be possible for a person to have in a dream any idea whose elements did not, in some form, strike him at a previous period. If these break loose from their connecting chain, and become jumbled together incoherently, as is often the case, they give rise to absurd combinations; but the elements still subsist, and only manifest themselves in a new and unconnected shape." Now, is this invariably the case? Everyone knows that it is not. Dreams frequently occur that are by no means made up of elements that have entered the mind through the senses in the waking state. A case given by Dr. Macnish himself is directly opposed to his own theory. "The following events," he remarks, occurred to myself in August 1821. I was then in Caithness, when I dreamed that a near relation of my own, residing three hundred miles off, had suddenly died; and immediately thereafter awoke in a state of inconceivable terror, similar to that produced by a paroxysm of night-mare. The same day, happening to be writing home, I men-tioned the circumstance in a half-jesting, half-carnest way. To tell the truth, I was afraid to be serious, lest I should be laughed at for putting any faith in dreams. However, in the interval between writing and receiving an answer, I remained in a state of most unpleasant suspense. I felt a presentiment that something dreadful had happened, or would happen; and although I could not help

blaming myself for a childish weakness in so feeling, I was the blaming in solution which had taken such the to get rid of the painful idea which had taken such possession of my mind. Three days after sending away the what was my astonishment when 1 received one written in subsequent to mine, and stating that the relative of whom dreamed had been struck with a fatal shock of palay in before—viz. the very day on the morning of which I had the appearance in my dream. My friends received my here days after sending their own away, and were naturally and at the circumstance. I may state that my relation was in health before the fatal event took place. It came upon him thunderbolt, at a period when no one could have the an anticipation of danger." The elements that entered into u position of this dream could not possibly have found they the mind through the senses, since the event seen had not a when the senses became locked in repose on the night in me " The minds of sleeping persons," says the Elder Cyrus, " manifest their divine origin ; for when they are free and from corporeal infinences, they foresee much that is to b sommambulism all this is shown still more clearly, since have frequently arisen from bed and written paems, painted and solved difficult problems in mathematics without way such cases the eyes are usually closed, and when open are to not sensible of any impressions made upon them by the Moreover, the achievements accomplished have often been than the person was competent to perform in the normal or state.

My attention was first drawn to Spiritualism by Robert whose name I still hold in the very granteet veneration. It a man who went through life with one object, that of dailing a man who went through the with the way always how he to his fellow-men. His first thoughts were always how he he henefit society most, and no sacrifice did he consider to he henefit society most, and no sacrifice did he consider to henefit society most. be made on behalf of suffering humanity. He was mission some of his views-as he does not hesitate to admit now, be entire life was one long struggle to elevate the fallen, and the oppressed. It was about the year 1854 when he canse the the oppressed. It was about the year 1854 when he asked he asked. I replied, "Well, Mr. Owen, it will take some time he asked he "you will read them, won't you? The result we will have told him that I would, but that it was very improbable that it would produce any effect upon my mind. As he was less said, "Mr. Owen, tell me why you have brought me these had He replied, "I will. It is this, I have received a communication He replied, "I whit. It is this, I have be done to be at the assistance in carrying on this movement." I laughed hand although respectfully, at this, and said, "I think your friends have made a great mistake this time." It is worth the remarking here, that for many years afterwards, when I we lecturing against Spiritualism, I used frequently to relate the conversation, and remark when I had done so, "You set the much the spirits knew about the matter: here I am, an anbeliener yet, and likely to remain so." That the good old man coming to believe in my ultimate conversion, even after he left the earth, is evident, since I frequently received what professed to be messages from him, to which of course I attached no important not believing that they really had this origin. The following was given at Glasgow early in 1869, the medium being my fried Mr. Harper, of Birmingham :-- "Dr. Sexton thinks our philosophic a crude and ridiculous theory, simply the want of more investigation tion. Everyone of the thoroughly educated scientists needs to be well crowded with experiments and evidence. George Case saw how powerfully the rudimental stages of human embryone are affected by spiritual influence, and how, too, the composit causes of human character are evidently of an occult and enter character. Sweet and noble teachings have yet to be given through the Doctor, who is eminently gifted for the purpos-ROBERT OWEN.

Well, I read the books that he left with me, and some others, but I must say that the impression that they produced upon my mind was rather unfavourable than otherwise. It seemed that the spirits were engaged in most absurd and trifling occupations

I saw a good deal of what were called manifestations, but they were always of a physical character, and as such seemed to me to be by no means competent to establish the truth of the transdous theory that the spirits of the departed communicated with the inhabitants of earth. I suspected that "mediums" pixel tricks, and that the whole affair was frequently nothing be clever conjuring by means of concealed machinery. occurred to me to try and get manifestations in my own house: and if it had, in all probability I should not have taken the trouble to make the attempt. An old and highly respected friend of mine, Mr. Turley, for many years a Materialist, and well known among the Secularists, took to investigating Spiritualism for the purpose of exposing it, and in a few months became a firm When he told me of the result of his investigations believer. I laughed, but the fact made a deep impression on my mid-I went to Mrs. Marshall's, but saw nothing but what I thought could be explained without spirit-aid ; the physical manifestations were of a marvellons character, but I did not consider, and do not now, that any possible merely physical phenomena can prove the truth of Spiritualism. If this table were raised from the platform and floated in mid-air, untouched by any human hand, it would not prove that spirits had been the agents by which

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THE MEDIUM A t has been accomplished; it would simply show the existence of a force, and the question of the nature of the force would have of a force, and the question of the nature of the force would have of a force, and the question of the nature of the force would have of a force, and the question of the nature of the force would have to be 1864 I think that is the correct date the Davenport network day asked for some one to go on to the platform and the when and in other ways watch the business on behalf of the dens. I at once rushed forward for the purpose. As soon as I public, the platform some one in the audience should out, "He's a combe known me better, remarked, " Dou't correct, who seems to have known me better, remarked, " Dou't reaches a control of the audience should oni, "He's a control known me better, remarked, "Don't you know who seems to have known me better, remarked, "Don't you know who that to have known me better, remarked, "Don't you know who that to have known me better, remarked, "Don't you know who that to have known me better, "Why," said he, "that's Dr. Sexton." "I be to be the set of the s ad, in order to guard against anything like trickery, we requested and in order to guard against anything like trickery, we requested them not to bring any ropes, instruments, or other apparatus; all these we ourselves had determined to supply. Moreover, as there were four of them, viz. the two Brothers Davenport, Mr. Fay, and Dr. Fergusson, we suspected that the two who were not tied might really do all that was done. We therefore requested only two to come. They unhesitatingly complied with all these requests. We formed a circle, consisting entirely of members of our own families and a few private friends, with the one bare exception of Mrs. Fay. In the circle we all joined hands, and as Mrs. Fay at at one end she had one of her hands free, while I had hold of the other. Thinking that she might be able to assist with the hand that was thus free, I asked as a favour that I might of the other. Thinking that she might be able to assist with the hand that was thus free, I asked as a favour that I might be allowed to hold both her hands—a proposition which she at once agreed to. Now, without entering here at all into what took place, suffice it to say that we bound the mediums with our own ropes, placed their feet upon sheets of writing paper and drew lines around their boots, as that if they moved their feet drew hnes around their boots, so that if they moved their feet it should be impossible for them to place them again in the same position; we laid pence on their toes, sealed the ropes, and in every way took precautions against their moving. On the eccasion to which I now refer, Mr. Bradlaugh and Mr. Charles Watts were present; and when Mr. Fay's coat had been taken off, the ropes still remaining on his hands, Mr. Bradlaugh requested bat he coat might be placed on Mr. Fay which was immediately that his coat might be placed on Mr. Fay, which was immediately done, the ropes still remaining fastened. We got on this occasion all the phenomena that usually occurred in the presence of these extraordinary men, particulars of which I shall probably give on another occasion. Dr. Barker became a believer in Spiritualism from the time that the Brothers visited at his house. I did not see that any proof had been given that disembodied spirits had had any hand in producing the phenomena ; but I was convinced that no tricks had been played, and that therefore these extraordinary physical manifestations were the result of some occult ordinary physical manifestations were the result of some occult force in nature which I had no means of explaining in the present state of my knowledge. All the physical phenomena that I had seen now became clear to me; they were not accomplished by trickery, as I had formerly supposed, but were the result of some undiscovered law of nature which it was the business of the man of science to use his utmost endeavours to discover. The Daven-port Brothers were afterwards attacked in the *National Reformer*, and I wrote a long letter defending them against the charge of impostare, which letter appeared in that journal on January 15th, 1865. This letter was reprinted in the MISDIUM of October 11th last year, and I am desirous that all my friends should read it, in hat year, and I am desirous that all my friends should read it, in order that they may see what attitude I have assumed towards Spiritualism for the last eight years. Since that time I have always declared that the phenomena were true : at the same time, antif, comparatively speaking, recently, denying, or at least dis-believing in, the sp rit hypothesis. This really, not only in my expensee but in that of most other persons, was the first step towards a belief in Spiritualism.

In 1865 I began to hold seances at home, and this is, after all, the nost satisfactory way of purshing the inquiry. I would recommend every person to adopt the same course who is desirous of finding out how much truth there is in Spiritualism. The first median that came to my house was, I think, Mrs. Jennison, a lady whose husband I had known for many years. Sometimes we got hardly any manifestations, and at other times some very extra-ordinary communications. Occasionally great intelligence was displayed, but I could never bring my mind to believe that this and of some one present. Facts were told regarding many becaused friends of those present, professing to come from some mataive who was in the other world, and involving matters of which we knew the medium to be totally ignorant; but then I concluded that the answers must have found their way by some proses from the mind of the questioner. I could, had I time, the ascore of such cases, any one of which would be sufficient to convince most men of the truth of spirit-communication, but they wind the most men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the prosent men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the most men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the most men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the most men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the most men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the most men of the truth of spirit-communication but they find the most men of the truth of spirit-communications does to Mrs. In 1865 I began to hold seances at home, and this is, after all, The second such cases, any one of which would be sufficient to common most men of the truth of spirit-communion, but they failed to break down my scepticism. I went one day to Mrs. Marshalf's, and a spirit came professing to be my grandmother, who had died when I was about eleven or twelve years of age. *Krw*, no one in London, except my own family, know her mame, I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. *I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly Mrs. Marshall could never have heard it. I most certainly for the professed apprint to appell her name, and this was imme-I mangh mither of them were very common. Still I was not I most certains I thought the answer might be after all a*

reflection of my own mind. An intimate friend of mine, John Watta, for many years editor of the National Reformer, passed away in 1866, and very speedily began to communicate with me, which he has done at intervals ever since. One curious fact I may name in connection with him. He was in the habit during may name in connection with him. He was in the habit during life of greatly ridiculing Spiritualism, and he had an anecdote about a scance which he always told with great glee. It was to the effect that Lindley Murray had been present on one occasion, and when some one had asked, "Are you Lindley Murray?" the great grammarian had answered, "I ARE." "Now," said my friend, "after I am dead, if I come to you, and you ask me, 'Are you John Watta?' I shall reply, 'I are;' by this you will recog-mise me." Is it necessary to say that I have received this very answer again and again? Only a short time since I was at a scance in a country town where I had been lecturing, and my friend professed to communicate. I at once asked, "Are you John Watta?" and the medium's hand wrote in an instant the words, "I are;" all present, including the medium being convolution friend professed to communicate. I at once asked, "Are you John Watta "" and the medium's hand wrote in an instant the words, "I are;" all present, including the medium, being completely puzzled to know what they could mean. These facts are very trifling ones, and not worth much; but a number of them aerve to make some slight addition to the overwhelming proofs that we have of apirit-existence and spirit-communion. From all this it will be seen how reluctant I was to accept the spiritual hypothesis, and how powerful must have been the evidence that compelled me afterwards to give way. The proofs that I did ultimately receive are, many of them, of a

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character that I cannot describe minutely to a public audience, nor indeed have I time to do so. Suffice it to say, that I got in my own house, in the absence of all mediums other than those members of my own family and intimate private friends in whom mediumistic powers became developed, evidence of an irresistible character that the communications came from deceased friends and relatives. Intelligence was again and again displayed which could not possibly have had any other origin than that which it professed to have. Facts were named known to no one in the circle, and left to be verified afterwards. The identity of the spirits communicating was proved in a hundred different w Our dear departed ones made themselves palpable both to feeling and to sight; and the doctrine of spirit-communion was proved beyond the shadow of a doubt. I soon found myself in the position of Dr. Fenwick in Lord Lytton's "Strange Story." "Do you believe," asked the female attendant of Margrave, "in that which you seek?" "I have no belief," was the answer. "True science has none: "I have no belief," was the answer. "True science has none: true science questions all things, and takes nothing on credit. It knows but three states of mind—denial, conviction, and the vast interval between the two, which is not belief, but the suspension of judgment." This describes exactly the phases through which we wind has mered

my mind has passed. In the meantime the movement goes on. Spiritualism every day widens its domain, and the ground of the materialistic philosophy is gradually being cut away from under the feet of its devotces. The small light which, a few years ago, was only like a star of the fourth or fifth magnitude, has gone on increasing in brightness, until at present it shines like the moon shedding her silvery beams over the face of night, and will still increase as we hail its approach, and ever move upward towards it, until it shall burst upon the earth like the sun in its meridian splendour, and all shall come to feel that they have a home in heaven and a loving Father in God.

CAN any reader inform us of a mesmerist in Bath or Bristol who would undertake a case in the former city?

Is last week's MEDIUM, in a notice of a paper read by Mr. Jones, Birmingham, the word "twice" was misprinted for "since."

A. J. DAVIS & Co., 24, East Fourth Street, New York, will hence-forth act as agents for all our publications, including the "Dialectical Report.'

LIVERPOOL.—On the evening of Friday, June 20, Mr. A. Fegan-Egerton will give a public scance at the Assembly Rooms, Islington. The proceeds are to be devoted to the benefit of the Spirit al In-stitution. Fegan-

A COURESPONDENT writes :- "Since we went down to Manchester to bear your valuable lecture, I have held a circle at our house twice a week, and we are fast developing six mediums. Out of a company of ten or eleven we shall have two good clairvoyants and four trance-mediums, and one, I think, will be a physical medium."

THE CORRESPONDENCE on Spiritualism has been continued in the Man-THE CORRESPONDENCE on Spiritualism has been continued in the Man-chester Examiner. Our space will not permit of a reproduction of Mr. Reimers's letter, nor that of Mr. Foster, who gives an account of direct spirit-writing received at his circle in characters of black and gold, though there was no gold fluid in the room. We still continue to receive letters from various parts of Yorkshire and Lancashire for "rules for the spirit-circle," in response to the announcement which appeared in the Manchester Examiner several weeks ago. Cannot our triends repeat the same announcement in other papers?

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

A list of Meetings and Beances at the Spiritual Institution, in London, and in the Provinces, may be found on page 200).

THE MEDIUM AND DAYBREAK.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1873.

THE "JOHN KING" NUMBER.

We are so much encouraged by the orders which come in daily for the "John King" number of the MEDIUM, that we have been impressed to place in the way of our readers special facilities for extending the circulation of that number. There is such a wide field open for successful labour, that it seems a pity to allow one corner of it to remain unworked. We have, therefore, given as a supplement this week a special address on the subject, and a form on which to collect the names of subscribers who will either purchase a certain number of copies, or give a sum to a general fund to be expended in circulating that number in the locality. A general subscription, even if small, promoted by all who have the cause of Spiritualism at heart, would result in a sum sufficient to distribute many copies in almost every part of the country.

We can now say something as to the nature of this forth-coming number. It will be of full double size, and will therefore contain sixteen pages. The assistance which we have been fortunate enough to meet with, enables us to promise a paper of these dimensions. It will therefore contain an immense amount of information, indeed shout as much as is usually shained for of information-indeed, about as much as is usually obtained for sixpence; and its extensive circulation is, on that account, of greater importance. "But when will it appear?" hundreds are asking. Our answer is, That it will be impossible for us to print it till the new machine is at work. We are informed that it is all in a state of readiness to be fitted up; and, no doubt, in a couple of weeks or so we shall be able to go to press with this extra number of the MEDIUM. With our present facilities for printing it would take more than a couple of weeks to print the quantity required, which is evidently quite out of the question. As it is, we must regard it as a favourable omen that the first

20 Mr. Tink 100 Mrs. Butterfield 20 Pritz 20 Mr. Clarkson, Selby 220 Mr. Faueitt, Bishop Auckland 100 Mr. J. F. Young, Llanelly 50 Mr. Templeton, Hampton 100 Mrs. Bullock, Kingston 250 Mr. Poster, Presion 100 Mr. P. Derby, Northampton 25 S., Southampton 40 Mr. J. Wilds, Hagg's Lans 20 Mr. M. Martin, Waterhouse 60 Mrs. Parker, Dundee 20 Mrs. H. 40 Mr. Harrison, Bursless 20 Mr. Kingdom, Farmbord 109 Mr. Ousman, Stoke 150 Mr. Morgan, Worcester 20 Mr. Josse, Brieson 40 Mr. Toromy, Bristol 12 Mr. H. Noyes, Cumberland 100 Mr. B. 100 Mr. Graut, Maidstone 40 Mr. Armfield, Pimlico 500 Dalston Association 40 Mr. Miller, Birmingham 20 Mr. Truman, Ventsor 20 Mr. Stripe, Southees 100 Mr. Smith, Bradford 260 Mr. Maynard, Marylebone Association 100 Mr. Blake, Newcastle 60 Mr. Hitshesek, Nottingham 20 Dr. Blunt, Northampton 40 Mr. Pearson, Brierly Hill. 50 Mr. Foley, Birmingham 12 Miss Prior, Bath 20 Mr. Hall, Bromegrove 100 Mr. Hocking, Camborne 10 Mr. Jeonison, Wapping 20 Mr. Appleyard, Brighouse 20 Mr. R. Green, Ashton 20 Mr. Davis, Hornsey Rise 20 Dr. Dixon, Great Ormond St. 12 Signor Damiani, Naples 100 Mr. Cooper, Eastbourne 20 Mr. Hackett, Colney Hatch 100 Mr. J. Lingford, Leeds 20 Mr. Wilson, Clapham 60 Mr. Cross, Leeds 10 Miss Pearce, Cornwall 40 Mr. R. Green, Ashton 10 Mrs. Cowper, Bayswater 20 Mr. Aldridge, Weedon 20 Macbeth, Forres 20 Mr. C. Reimers, Manchester 20 Mr. J. Suteliffe, Linthwaite

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Dr. SERTON's oration on the "Claims of Modern Spiritualian and Public Attention" has been published in a nest tract; price ld, o's per 100. The first edition is nearly all taken up already.

20 Mr. T. Judson, Keighley

SPIRITUALISM.

Epigram à la Welsh Englyn. Stoopeth the cloud, and steeping The mountain in its kindly keeping ; The mountain minds not, stupid thing, The bliss of Heaven's blessing !

J. REGISLES OVER

MR. JOHN LEANING, the medium, through whom was writes "Account of the Planet Neptune," has recently passed away she painful illness, leaving his widow quite destitute. He was a vortain man, and wholly illiterate; but, under influence, wrote in various have writings, and produced matter far above his usual style of composition His "Description of the Planet Neptune," though incongruous in su points, was a genuine mediumistic production, and was in many respect a suggestive and remarkable tract. Any good friend, who feels display to help the poor widow, especially to pay her fare to her friends in in north, will thereby perform an act of real charity. Remittance all be made to J. Burns, 15, Southampton Row, London, W.C.

JUNE 13, 1872

job done by the new machine will be to print a periodical on Spiritualism of such importance and in such a large number.

We hope our readers will heartily join with us in wishing success to this new effort, and that the time is not far distant when our paper will be issued weekly of this enlarged size, and also enjoy such an extensive circulation.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

1000 Sir Charles Isham, Bart. 20 Mrs. Gribble, Brighton 20 _____, Bacup -, Bacup 100 Mr. Richmond, Darlington 40 Mr. Swinburne, London 100 Mr. Foster, Darlington 150 Churwell Society 20 Mr. Raper, Jarrow 20 Mr. Crane, Ossett 220 Mr. Ashworth, Halifax 20 Mr. Hunt, St. Helen's 100 Mr. Blinkhorn, Walsall 200 Mr. Spencer, Leyburn 50 Mr. Reedman, Stamford 20 Mr. E. Lloyd, Frith Street 50 Mr. Tarry, Bugbrook 200 Mr. Howard, Bury 20 T.B.

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Swirr through the boundless ether, through vast illimitable state in myriads roll the countless worlds that fill the universe with long orbs of light. Silent they roll in one great harmony, each in its pas a living world. These shine throughout the night, whilst the break spirits of the Holiest shows in the page. spirits of the Holiest alone keep watch o'er sleeping man, save she in isolated spots the pale votaries of science with studious ere to a content whilst others rest in sleep to contemplate the wonders of the sky. To these the glories of the firmament are living things, and spei with wondrous though with silent tongues of the immeasurable and boundless might of the Omnipotent. Bright reason shivers at the awful depth of that great vault that o'er us seems to have so pears set with its myriad gens of sparkling light, and the wearied mind is length gives up the hopeless task of fathoming infinity's abyes, and new its sole reliance on the great all-powerful Sustainer of the one great harmony of worlds. Such than the limit of the one great harmony of worlds. Seek, then, the living God, and let your thought to Him direct their aspirations, and your life, by angel-ministrant made glad, shall be one great eternity of bliss and sweet repose J. FRANKLIN.

MR. BURNS'S VISIT TO STOKE-ON-TRENT.

On Sunday, June 15, Mr. Burns will visit Stoke-on-Trent Psycho-On Suffering while to, mir. Burns will visit Stoke-on-Trent Psycho-log and Society as an honorary deputation from the Spiritual Institution, log preach two sermons in the Court Room, Stoke.

"Concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you "sporant." Syllabus: What are spiritual gifts? How can we gain provided of them? How can we exercise them? What relations do these gifts bear to religion? The promises of Jesus and the message of the Gospel exemplified in what is called Modern Spiritualism.

The evening service will commence at half-past six.

Statt: "If a man die shall be live again?" Syllabus: The doctrine of immortality an essential element of religion. The difficulty of obtaining demonstrable proofs of immortality. Have we any inewledge that the dead do exist? The philosophy of spirit-communion, tests of spirit-identity, proofs of man's continued esistence after death.

relantary offerings will be received towards defraying expenses. All are earnestly invited to attend whether of Christian or Secularist andencies.

In the afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, a conference will meet at the house of Mr. Ousman, South Street, Mount Pleasant, Stoke, to house the deputation from the Spiritual Institution. Mr. Burns where to see a good muster of the Spiritualists of the district, that they have ad and encourage each other in the most work in which the and and encourage each other in the great work in which they are arraged.

DR. SEXTON'S ORATIONS.

The Carendish Rooms were again crowded on Sunday evening to ber Dr. Sexton's experiences as to how he became a Spiritualist. The mion is copiously reported in this number, so that nothing as to the mied needs to be repeated here. We take the opportunity, however, disjing that the meeting was a great success; and at the close Dr. Settin was unanimously requested to give another oration on Sunday The subject, by request of the meeting, will be :-

CONJURERS AND MEDIUMS,

min special reference to the performers at present pretending to expose spinitualism in London. Dr. Sexton said he could give a thorough description of the means used by Maskelyne and Cook, and others, in scomplishing their tricks, imposed upon the public, as simulations of portual phenomena. We need say no more, as the great interest subsend in this aspect of the subject is sure to fill Cavendish Rooms w crerflowing. Cavendish Rooms are situated in Mortimer Street, the top of Wells Street, Oxford Street, W.C.

MRS. BUTTERFIELD AT THE CAVENDISH ROOMS.

To those who attend the Sunday Services it will afford much pleasure to how that Mrs. Butterfield will deliver an address, in trance, on Sunday evening, June 22nd, as she intends visiting London by a trip which leaves Darlington on the 19th, and returns on the 23rd. Her short stay in London prevents her giving addresses elsewhere, and no doubt the public will amply avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing her at the Cavendish Rooms.

THE COMING CONFERENCE.

The Psychological Society of Liverpool wish to make public as far as they can this announcement—that on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of August will be held the Annual National Conference of Spiritualists in the above-named town, the basis of which will be a broad, free, and open platform, where every grade of thought and opinion may be repre-sented, whether of the Scientist, Religionist, or Freethinker-all can meet upon the ground of universal brotherhood and fraternity. The open door will be wide to admit all who wish to make search of the truths of Spiritualism. It will recognise no head, but look upon all men as equal, and co-workers in the great field of truth, asking all true and earnest labourers to come and assist in carrying on this great and noble work of man's universal redemption. The Psychological Society d Liverpool wish also all true and earnest investigators to sacrifice their own interests for a time and unite to carry out the end in view, a progumme of which will be laid before the public in due time by the sectory and committee appointed for that purpose.

JOHN CHAPMAN, HON. Sec.

DR. GULLY'S RELIGIOUS VIEWS.

To the Editor .- Dear Sir,-I regret having misrepresented Dr. Gully's religious opinions; but having seen it stated, on p. 30 of Mr. Benjamin Coleman's "Rise and Progress of Spiritualism in England." that both Dr. Gully and Dr. Wilson of Malvern were Materialists, and that both were converted by Mr. Coleman's instrumentality to

Epitualism, I concluded I might quote the statement as a fact. It would be interesting to know how many of the most prominent Spiritualists formerly were Materialists or Atheists; for in discussing subject in the public journals it is a good argument against the pour abhorrence of the orthodox to be able to point to the good work Spinitualism is doing in this direction .- Yours obediently, Manchester. FRITZ.

Tuz new edition of the Dialectical Report is expected to be ready ter: week.

Or the "Seed Corn" series of tracts, 65,000 have been sold in less than a year.

In Monse's address next week will be, care of Mrs. Forsyth, 19, Upper Brook Street, Manchester.

AR. ARHMAN'S HEALING CLASS .- This class met at the Spiritual Latitution, 15, Southampton Row, on Tuesday evening. There was a fooly number of pupils. The series of lessons will be continued on Total evening next, and on the same evening of the week following.

MR. MORSE'S VISIT TO WALES.

It is quite impossible for me to give any idea in words of the pleasure and instruction we have received from Mr. Morse's visit to Llanelly. His utterances in all cases were listened to with almost breathless This unterances in an cates where internet to with annest previous of attention, and many who attended have been not only convinced of the genuineness of Mr. Morse as a medium (an important fact, as most were sceptical on that point previous to his coming), and his gentle, quiet, and unaffected manner as a man, but also of the grandeur, sublimity, and depth of the discourses given through his lips. Every-one was struck with the constant flow of language-no stopping or hesitation-as also with the change of countenance, voice, and manner attending each control. A deputation of friends bade Mr. Morse fare-well at the station on Monday morning. He carries with him our heartfelt wishes for his welfare and success in the redemption of humanity, and we are looking forward to the time when we shall again meet in "soul's sweet communion."

The reporter of our weekly paper, the South Wales Press, was in attendance on each occasion, and to his kindness, and the manly spirit of its editor (which others would do well to imitate) we owe much, both in giving publicity to the coming lectures, and also in giving a very large amount of space to the report of the whole of the orations. Books and publications from the Spiritual Institution were distributed and sold at the meetings. J. F. Young.

[The South Wales Press gave three columns, reporting addresses through Mr. Morse, on "Phenomenal Spiritualism," and the "Spirit-Spheres." About 200 persons attended the public meeting in the Athenaeum.-Eo. M.]

MR. FOSTER'S CIRCLE.

We have repeatedly had occasion to report proceedings at Mr. Foster's circle, of Preston. It is by many considered the most impor-tant circle out of London. Here is a sentence from an address from one of the guides of the circle :-

"Seek earnestly for the truth ; you are in the way for learning it, as the system you are investigating with so much earnestness will enable you to obtain it, and also enable you to answer all inquiring minds about it faithfully and truly; but do not attempt to make proselytes, for remember, 'Truth is mighty, and will prevail.'"

At another time the following was given :-

"We are happy to think, that what we have to give will be received in a proper manner, as it does us as much good as it does you. You will not get the ignorant to receive it in a proper manner. It is very difficult for us to manifest when there are such sceptical men present, as think they know everything, and come with the intention, not of hearing us, but to try to find that what is done is the result of trickery. It is, then, very difficult for us to manifest, and does us harm as well as the medium.

We may also add, that a scurrilous fellow intruded himself into the seance one evening, and afterwards published a false account of the proceedings in the newspapers, charging the medium with trickery. Such conduct can scarcely be guarded against ; but if defence is of any use, Mr. Foster's able letter in the *Preston Guardian* must make his unprincipled opponent feel small, if he has any moral sense left. It need not be wondered at that this false account of what took place at Mr. Foster's seance has been eagerly quoted by newspapers as fact. Anything will do for the newspapers, if it only discredits Spiritualism and Spiritualists.

HALIFAX.-Mr. Kitson, of Gawthorpe, will deliver two addresses in the Hall of Freedom, Back Lord Street, Lister Lane, on Sunday, June 22nd, in the afternoon at half-past two, and in the evening at half-past six o'clock.

SOWERBY BRIDGE ANNIVERSARY .- The Spiritualists of this place will hold their annual meeting in the Town Hall on Sunday next, when the speakers will be Mrs. Scattergood (of Bradford) in the morning and evening; and in the afternoon Mr. Edward Wood of Halifax.

KEIGHLEY .- The annual festival of the Spiritual Brotherhood, East Parade, will take place on the 22nd instant, when a variety of mediums will be in attendance, including Mrs. Scattergood. The Keighley friends acknowledge their indebtedness to the Rochdale Committee for deferring Mrs. Scattergood's appointment to oblige them. Service to com-mence at 2 and 5.30 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM .- We did not say that Mr. Proctor's paper "opposed" Spiritualism, but that it "questioned" the spiritual theory though his own experience went to support that theory. In short, the position assumed by the essayist was tentative, which a letter from him fully bears out. At the same time he enlarged on the beauties of the spiritual theory which he holds, though he allows to others that his convictions may not be proof to them. He leaves the question open.

NOTTINGHAM .- The seventh anniversary and pienic of the Children's Progressive Lyceum will be held at Wilford, situate on the banks of the Trent-a place at which the picnic was held on a previous year-at which the party will be made thoroughly comfortable. The recreation ground will be supplied with swings, balls, cricket, and everything to make the afternoon a pleasant one. The Lyceum now meets at Church Gate, Low Pavement. The date of the pienic is changed, but particulars will be given next week. Communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. J. B. Herod, 19, Robin Hood Terrace, Nottingham.

MR. COGMAN's weekly lectures were opened at 15, St. Peter's Road, Mile End, on Tuesday evening, by Mr. Burns lecturing to eight or nine persons. They were all investigators, with the exception of Mr. Cogman and Mr. Wootton, so that the number of real inquirers was as many as is usual in the contents of a room of the size. The lecturer went at his work with enthusiasm. The influences were good, the audience deeply interested, and altogether a fair and encouraging beginning was made. As Mr. Mulford has gone to Vienna, Mr. Burns will again visit Mr. Cogman's institution on Tuesday evening, and answer questions from the audience. Mr. Cogman will have his quarterly tea-meeting on Sun-day evening. June 22nd. Tickets, 1s. each; to be obtained at the Spiritual Institution.

(Mrs. Olive's scance .- Spirit-Guide, " Marie Stuart,") June 5th

Notwithstanding the thundery weather on this occasion, a rather small but very intelligent circle gathered around Mrs. Olive, to listen to and interrogate her controlling spirits. "Hambo" came first. In reply to questions, stated he had passed away to the spirit-world, when about sixteen years old, for about thirty years after had been engaged in educating himself, and for the last twenty had taken a great interest in Spiritualism, labouring for its advancement, and developing and coneducating himself, and for the last twenty had taken a great interest in Spiritualism, labouring for its advancement, and developing and con-trolling many mediums. At present he was studying to be a doctor, which he defined as understanding the laws of health and the best way to help Nature. He explained that spirits could see anything material that had life, or gave forth any emanations such as human beings, animals, plants, and minerals did. The earth has a spirit, or otherwise it could not bring forth its fruits. "Sunshine" complained of that tiresome "Hambo" having stayed so long, he ind used up so much of the power she wanted to enable her to give tests, so she did not remain many minutes. An unknown spirit then assumed the control, and announced himself as a historical personage who had lived some 300 years ago. He had been asked by many he had met if Spiritualism was a new thing, but after many inquiries had satisfied himself that spirit-com-munion was a fact in Nature that might be traced not only through all historical times, but far, far beyond them. When on earth he mucion was a fact in Nature that might be traced not only through all historical times, but far, far beyond them. When on earth he had been a medium—a seeing, hearing, and writing medium ; his mother. Mary Arden, after her death was his spirit-guide, and used often to write through him, and the visions of the night were committed to paper during the day. He had always been familiar with spirits, and hence his plays so often represented on the stage had, whenever it was possible, a ghost in them. He was William Shakspeare, and wished to disclaim the undue praise that had been bestowed upon him by the public; he was merely the medium through whom these plays had been delivered. Socrates had been his inspirer, and Marie Stuart was ever his beau-ideal of a true woman. Socrates whom those plays had been delivered. Socrates had been his inspirer, and Marie Stuart was ever his beau-ideal of a true woman. Socrates had since that time ascended to higher spheres, and did not now visit earth; yet his influence was through other spirits transmitted to those on the earth-plane. Some interesting conversation followed, to those on the earth-plane. Some interesting conversation followed, and the subject of reincarnation having arisen, the spirit referred to "Dr. Forbes" as being more competent to give information than he was. He therefore relinquished the control, and the "Doctor," after first giving a prescription for an absent friend, proceeded to show the utter uselessness of reincarnation; that it could serve no good purpose, and therefore, as Nature never did anything uselessly, it was not true—was, in fact, an impossibility. He further explained how the spirit of a child was an emanation from the spirit-world, but which emanation did not, until it was incarnated in a physical body, become conscious of any individualised existence. This was a very interesting and highly instructive meeting. It is

This was a very interesting and highly instructive meeting. It is much to be wished that investigators would oftener come prepared with intelligent questions, whereby they might draw from the spirits the information they are so capable of giving, and so render these meetings still more satisfactory than they already are both to themselves and others. others.

MR. WILLIAMS AT MRS. MAKDOUGALL GREGORY'S.

<text> found written on the paper :

" God bless-good night-we are glad."

This is the first direct writing Mrs. Gregory has had for some time ; let us hope it is the first droppings of a shower of good to come.

AN EDITOR ON MR. MORSE'S MEDIUMSHIP.

The South Wales Press has behaved nobly in reporting Mr. Morse's visit to Llanelly. Last week three columns of matter were given, and on the previous week two columns, from which we make the following extract

"Mr. Morse gave a scance in Mr. Young's house on Monday evening to a limited but discerning company, and on Tuesday he gave another scance at the Athenaeum, when he delivered an oration while in a state of trance, on 'Humanity; its Nature and its Needs.' The chair was occupied by Mr. George S. Mee, and there were about 200 people

For nearly an hour and a half the orationist present lecturer, or whatever name he chooses to go by, speke with a f a logical and grammatical correctness, a fitness of language and upon this abstruse subject which no half-dozen orators in R could in their normal condition hope to equal, and those which half-dozen only with the most laborious preparation beforehand the greatest coolness during delivery. Notwithstanding the also ness of the subject, the audience were thoroughly attentive, and came into the hall prepared to make game of the lecture exertions (if they made any) produced no disturbing effect as in his normal state, and his articulation is somewhat indices when he spoke on Tuesday evening his voice and articulation when he spoke on Tuesday evening his voice and articulation pronunciation was good. The few grammatical errors which has mitted were such as are in their nature common to all rangeod most orators could scarcely have hoped to escape with so lew speech of an hour and a quarter's duration upon so abstrue a soil could in their normal condition hope to equal, and those speech of an hour and a quarter's duration upon so abstrase a solid He never paused except when a pause was necessary for magnetic effect; word after word, sentence after sentence rolled out with greatest fluency and logical sequence, and only once or twice do check himself to add an adjective or qualifying word."

MR. HERNE AT MRS. BERRY'S.

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IN A LETTER from "C." the following extract occurs in reference to a scance lately held by Mr. Herne at the Spiritual Institution. We may We may remark, that on a subsequent occasion the reverend gentleman had further manifestations of a very remarkable kind :---"The rev. gentleman had not been before to any seance of the kind, but he acknowledged but not been before to any seance of the kind, but he acknowledged, but during this one and at the close, that all was most convincing, as there was no room left for doubt. I suggested that as Mr. Herne and I had just completed our task of perfectly deceiving each other for our mutual delectation, according to the theory of the adverse critics of the day, at the moment he asked leave to join us, he should sit between us, and in his right hand hold both of my hands, and in his left hand hold both of Mr. Herne's hands. This he did most satisfactorily to himself While doing so, his chair was removed and placed on his head. The his chair was hung over his arm, and the medium's chair was, thely hung over his arm : on each occasion a way light heing strand here to his chair was hung over his arm, and the medium's chair was, then hung over his arm; on each occasion a wax-light being strack by met-give ocular proof. 'Katey King' also placed the guitar on mine set the rev. gentleman's shoulders for a few minutes, striking the chork-upon it pleasantly while it remained there. Finally, some cloth fell upon the arm of our investigator, he said, and on my striking a light again by request, Mr. Herne's coat was off and hanging over their arms Mr. Herne was now entranced, and the operating spirit tolius in a foreign accent, that he was one of 'John King's' pupils, who perform a some of the physical manifestations such as this, and begged us to examine and see if a single stitch of the coat had been broken." and see if a single stitch of the coat had been broken.

and see if a single stitch of the coat had been broken." BALL'S POND Association.— Last Monday evening Mr. Emms of Bethnal Green, delivered a lecture on "Christianity, Secularism, and Spiritualism." He had formerly been an active Sunday-school teacher, then Atheist or Deist, and now he is a confirmed Spiritualist. In re-ferring to the healing power of the spirits, he mentioned that on our occasion, having a violent attack of tic-doloreux, his wife, who is a medium, and who was sitting with him, was impressed that he should place his face on the table, which he did, when he experienced a shock similar to that given by an electrical battery, and the pain instantly left him, which fact he attributed entirely to spiritual agency. On Monday evening next (June 16) Mr. Stephens intends doing battle of healt of Spiritualism, by delivering a lecture on the "Spiritualism ef-On Monday evening next (June 16) Mr. Stephens intends doing battle of behalf of Spiritualism, by delivering a lecture on the "Spiritualism of the Old and New Testaments, and Modern Spiritualism." It appears that he was formerly a member of the Church of England, then Dest, and afterwards Atheist. He challenges refutation, by Christian of Materialist, of the weighty facts which he intends to bring forward of the occasion in support of his subject. A discussion is to follow, and if appears that several Materialists of Mr. Bradlaugh's community have expressed their intention of being present in secular armour.

DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING AT DARLINGTON.

Ms. Somos,-It is with much pleasure that I now send you a report Ms successful quarterly tea-meeting we held here last Tuesday even-et de one half of our large room was occupied by two long tables down each side of it; and in striking contrast to the snowy that were upon them, vases, &c., of beautiful flowers, fresh were placed along in nice arrangement, together with sundry and the senses of sight and smell, which and a pleasing and harmonising effect upon the mind at the offset.

Sold after five o'clock our friends began to draw up, until the number Sold after five o'clock our friends began to draw up, until the number o' about fifty-five animated the scene, among whom we were glad to o' about back again our medium, Mrs. Butterfield, who had just arrived webserpool, feeling tired and weary from the actional just arrived Liverpool, feeling tired and weary from the active part she had from daying there for the last three weeks, and glad to get home again. Weing seated, the tables were presided over by Mrs. Fooks, the two Windes, and Mrs. Liddle, and in homely phrase the business of the evening set in. It seems to me, Mr. Editor, there is a wonderful interest in a cup of good tea; you should have seen our lady friends, seemed to enjoy it mightily, to which we were no exception. Fradd a word of advice to kindred societies : if you want to have a is show of female members, get up a good quarterly tea; give them mething to do that is highly interesting to them, for depend upon it w such means their sympathies will be drawn out, and it's no use greeting a society to flourish without the support of the fair sex; we annot get along without them, nor do we want,

puring the time the tables were being cleared away and seats arreged for the meeting, most of the friends took a short walk, to be enertained by the setting sun, the pure air of a fine day, and the arching of the birds, and I doubt not would warble their own tunes in are other's ears, and thus harmonise with nature and nature's God. The seats being arranged, and friends having returned, the meeting commenced by Mr. Fooks being elected to the chair. " Hand-in-hand with angels " was sung with life, and an aspiring prayer offered by bother Hinde, asking the Omnipresent Father-spirit to grant an envoy of bright ones, excellent in intelligence, to prompt, inspire, and direct the proceedings of the evening. Having no cut-and-dried programme, we new allowed the inspiration of the hour to unfold the evening's proceedings. After the secretary's report and speech, the chairman singled outmembers of the different circles in the locality, and invited them to give to the friends present a statement of the progress being effected by heir efforts. Mr. T. P. Hinde reported for the Eastbourne circle, Mr. Foster for Hope Town, Mr. M Gowan for Albert Hill, and Mr. Soft for Harrowgate Hill; and to give you a summary of the whole, I may say that the cause is rapidly spreading. The evidences of the life breater and angel ministry are systematically being given and received a the various circles in the town. I know of thirteen mediums undergoing a steady course of development, and hope before long some of them cleast will be the instruments of great good to the world. The spoken reports of our friends were interesting and instructive-one of them so smusing as to call forth merry peals of laughter; I refer to that of Mr. M.Gowan, who commenced by saying he had only one eye, but that, he thought, was a very good one, as it had enabled him to see into the phenomena of Spiritualism, which very many of his friends around possessed with two could not accomplish.

The hour was getting late, being now after nine, and I may say it was with some disappointment we observed this, for we noticed brother Dixon and others itching to get up and hold forth under the influence that had come upon them; and we would have liked a word or two from a renerable-looking gentleman (I did not get his name), recommended, he said, by Mr. Burns to come and see us. He had had the pleasure, a week or so ago, of shaking hands with the spirit "John King," materialised when in London, and a few words from him would have been well received. After singing "Angel Whispers," our friend Mrs. Butterfield was controlled by one of her spirit-guides, who gave us an interesting description of his passing away from the grosser earth-plane to the higher life, and the utter bewilderment that possessed him when he found that spirit-life was so real, and altogether so unlike the heaven that he, while a D.D. in the Church, had spent so many years of his life in preaching about, and at once set about finding a medium whom he could influence to give correct information of that real spirit-world, and root out that foolish and imaginary idea of a heaven which exists only in the minds of the great masses of thinking religious people, the sole occupations of which are to be psalm-singing, palm-waving, white-robe-wearing, and crowned with gold. No! Spirit-life was real, active, intense, infinitely varied in its scenes, occupations, pursuits, and associa-tions; and well was it for those who by culture had unfolded the many fine faculties of their natures, an ample development of which would prepare them for intense enjoyment in the beatitudes of the higher life which would otherwise be passed by unobserved for want of unfolded capacity to receive and appreciate the glories which a kind and all-wise Father had created for our enjoyment and education in the more sublimated and diaphanous plants, &c., hereafter progressive life.—I am, yours, &c., G. R. HINDE, Secretary. more sublimated and diaphanous planes of existence that pertain to the

SPIRITUALISM AT BURY, LANCASHIRE.

To the Editor .- Sir, - I attended two meetings held in the Temper-Institute, Agur Street, Bury, on Sunday, June 1st, both of which Were well conducted, the room being filled both afternoon and enening with a fair sprinkling of persons from the various congre-rations in the town. The subject for the afternoon's discourse was, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good," the trance-speaking medium, Mr. Wood, from Halifax, being a stone-mason and an illiterate person, from whom nothing like the argumentative address given was "pected. His words at times seemed to cut deeply into the prejudiced ands of some present, who could not rest on their seats, some saying that the speaker spoke blasphemy, others that it was no gospel, &c., &c. The chairman, Mr. Sutcliffe, of Rochdale, courted investigation, and desired the present to put questions to the speaker, several of whom availed memory of the opportunity, and answers were quickly given, which and to afford general satisfaction. One or two persons from the and to afford general activities out of temper, and, contrary to all and pendent Methodists got quite out of temper, and, contrary to all and pender, interrupted the speaker more than once during the discourse.

The speaker said he had preached the gospel, but not such a gospel as suited their peculiar views. One of these gentlemen would have begun to rave and shout, and push a little of his own gospel or notions on the meeting, but the audience would not be the second state. meeting, but the audience would not accept of it. The trance-speaker, before he concluded in the afternoon, said that the spirit who had spoken through him was "Robert Owen," and that he (Wood) was in a The trance-speaker, state of unconsciousness while speaking, and that under ordinary circumstances he could not address an audience for ten minutes

In the evening the same trance-medium again addressed the crowded meeting, allowing it is same trainer in Methodist, to select the subject for discussion, and the scriptural text that he fixed upon was, "Jesus wept." I must acknowledge, although I could never be prevailed upon to go anywhere to listen to this strange body of people called Spiritualists-I say I must acknowledge that I never listened to such a discourse or sermon in my life. It was elaborate, eloquent, and scriptural ; the description given of Jerusalem, the pathetic appeals he made as to the cause or causes that made Jesus weep, and the candid truths he enunciated, were truly gems of a master-mind, displaying both research, great ability, and such a powerful intelligence as is seldom if ever met with under ordinary circumstances. In fact the sermon was one continuous burst of eloquence, zeal, scriptural imagery, and traths from beginning to end; the words spoken were like apples of gold in pictures of silver. The audience seemed filled with anazement, wondering and waiting for what might come next, hanging upon the lips of the speaker, each and everyone present riveted with attentive gaze at the person who caused many to inquire how these strange things were brought about, especially when informed that "John Wesley" had made use of Mr. Wood as the medium of speaking to us. When Mr. Wood was afterwards asked to address the meeting in his normal state, he could not speak one dozen words with anything like propriety, and to all appearance he felt shamed and looked full of confusion in even making an attempt to speak thus to an audience, informing us that he was unconscious while addressing us as a trance speaker. From yours truly, one who is not a Spiritualist, Jons Pro 5, Barn Brook, Burg, Lancashire, June 5th, 1873. Joux Pickur, Newsagent,

MADAME LOUISE AT MANCHESTER. We extract the following from a letter giving an account of a seance held at Mr. Hesketh's, 105, Bloomsbury, Manchester ;

"Mr. Stocton, being the medium for physical manifestations, was bound firmly to a chair, the knots being sealed, with pieces of paper and tape placed between them, so that it would be impossible for the medium to have got out of the rope and back again without disturbing the paper, &c., placed between the knots. All being ready the light was put out, previous to which we had all joined hands. I myself holding Madame Louise on one side and a lady holding her hand on the other. Immediately after the extinction of the light the instruments on the table, consisting of a banjo, violin, tambourine, and a small handbell, were carried to all parts of the room, making what may be termed a great discord, and almost everybody in the room stated that they were touched in different parts of their bodies. 1 was touched several times by what appeared to be a number of hands; beautiful lights like small stars were seen floating in different parts of the room. On a light being called for, Mr. Stocton was found still tied, in exactly the same manner as when we last saw him. A gentleman present seemed to think that Mr. Stoeton must have very flexible legs, and was therefore capable of stretching them to an enormous extent, and under that impression was led to make the remark that Mr. Stoeton might possibly do the manifestations with his feet. Mr. Stocton, to satisfy the gentleman, and also those who were present, permitted the doubting person to place his feet on his own, and, the light being put out, manifestations went on in the same manner as before. A lady who was present asked if the spirits would play the lustres. She had hardly made her request when they were carried all over the room with the other instruments. On a light being asked for, Mr. Stocton was found bound as before. The light was again put out, and in a short space of time resumed, when Mr. Stocton was found reclining comfortably on the table, and the rope, with the piece of paper and tape, had been given to the gentleman who had so firmly bound him. He had been released by the spirits.

"We now sat for the spirit-faces, which I need hardly say speak for their genuineness. The spirit calling himself 'Mike' (said to control Mr. Stocton) had promised during the dark seance to show himself, and he appeared first at the aperture, very gracefully bowing and smiling, and then, as it were, faded away before our eyes. Another appeared covered with pure white shining drapery, and was recognised as a niece of one of the ladies present, who had passed away some time since. This, with two or three others who did not appear quite so plainly (the reason of which I afterwards learned was that the power was expended), closed the seance.

"Now this is something which to me is entirely new, never having seen the like before. I am as positive as I am of my existence that during the dark seance all hands were joined; and, furthermore, it would have been impossible for Mr. Stoeton to have done the manifestations himself, first because he was firmly bound to the chair, secondly because he must have had half-a-dozen hands and very long ones-to move all the instruments on the table and touch all the people who were present at the same time.-I am, Sir, yours, &c., "WILLIAM V. MASON.

"16, Kelsall Street, West Gorton, Manchester, June 5th, 1873."

[Madame Louise's seances at Rochdale have given great dissatisfaction, not only to the Press, but to Spiritualists. She always brings persons with her, who are placed so that test conditions are impossible. We warn all investigators to sit with no medium unless test conditions can be employed ; and if Madame Louise will not give this satisfaction, the has herself to blame. - En. M.]

MR. ENMORE JONES is so far recovered that he could leave town for Eastbourne on Saturday last, accompanied by Mr. Home. It is hop d that the salubeious place will soon restore him to his usual health. 110 regards his recovery almost as a miracle, as he was supposed to be ; t the point of di solution.

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SEANCES AND MEETINGS DURING THE WEEK, AT THE SPIRITUAL INSTITUTION, 10, SOUTHAMPTON BOW, HOLBORN.

- Juran 15, Service at Carendish Rooms, Mortimar Street, Longhar inte, at 7 which. Dr. Senton will give an Ocalian on " Median
- MONDAT, JUNE 16, Semate by Mr. Matnat, Medium for Physical Phenomena, at 8 Scieck: Administra, 2s. 64. See advertisement. WRINGERS I, JUNE 18, Afternoom Seance at 3 Science, by Mr. Harns, Admission 2a, 65. See advertisement.
- 2a. 6d. See advertisement. Mrs. Office, Test and Transs-meetings, at 8 o'clock. Admission, 2s. 6d. att, Jurya 19, Durk Senace by Mr. Herne, at 8. Admission, 2s. 6d. (advertisement.). 14.60

SEANCES IN LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

TEAT, JUNE 11, South London Association of Progressive Spiritualists, 24, Lower Stamford Street, Bucatriars, at J p.m. Visitors to write to F. M. Taylor, care of Mr. Weeks, as above.
TURDAY, JUNE 14. Mr. Williams, See advi.
WEAT, JUNE 15, at Mr. Cogman's, 15, St. Peter's Road, Mile End Road, at 7

- Lecture at Temperance Hall, Tyssen Street, Bethnal Green Road, at 1. Whar, Junz 16, Developing Circle, at Mr. Cogman's, 15, St. Peter's Road, Mile End Road, at 8 colock.
 - Mile and, and a solvertisement. Mr. Williams. See advertisement. Ball's Pond Association of Inquirers into Spiritualism, 102, Ball's Pond Road, Islington, at 8. Admission Pree. Bararos, at Mr. Rome's, 48, Bramah Road, Mostyn Road, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 8. r. Joux 17, Sennes at the Temperance Hall, Tyssen Street, Bethnal Green Road, at 8.
- Weekly Lecture at Mr. Cogman's, 15, 8t. Peter's Road, Mile End, at 8.30

Framer, JUNE 19. Daiston Association of Inquirers into Spiritualism. Seance at their rooms, 74, Navariao Roud, Diskton, R., at 9 p.m. Par-ticulars as to admission of visitors on application to the Secretary. St. John's Association of Spiritualists, 7, Corporation Row, Clerkenwell. To commence at 8.30 p.m. Pres. Mr. Williams. See advertisement.

SEANCES IN THE PROVINCES DURING THE WEEK.

Wright, 1 and 2 p.m JUNE 15, KRIGHLET, 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Messre, Shackleton and Fright, Trance-Mediums, Children's Progressive Lyneum at 9 a.m.

BOWRERT BEIDGE, as Mr. W. Robinsin's, Causeway Head, Children's Lycenum, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Public Mosting, 6.30 p.m. Trance-Medium, Mr. Wood.

BERNELEY, Public Meetings, 10.30 a.m., 2.30 and 6.30 p.m. Trance Medium, Mr. Illingworth.

BowLing, Spiritualists' Meeting Room, 2.30 and 6 p.m. Hall Lane, 2 and 6 p.m.

Rowning, in Hartley's Yard, near Railway Station, Wakefield Road, at 2.50 and 6 o'clock.

MANCHENTER, Union Chambers, 15, Dickenson St., Mount St., at 2.39. Cownes, at George Holdroyd's, at 6 p.m.

Happ's Layz Evp. 9 s.m. and 6 p.m. Trance-Mediums, Mrs. N. Wilde and Mrs. R. Hudson.

GAWTHORPZ, Spiritualists' Meeting Boom, 2.30 and 6 p.m. Mrs. 5. A. Swift, Test and Healing Medium. MOZLAY, Mr. E. Bair es's, Town End.

HALLFAX Psychologics Society, Hall of Freedom, Back Lord Street, Lister Lane, at 2.30 and 6.30. Children's Lyceum at 10 a.m. Morrisgmam, Churchgate Low Parement. Children's Lyceum at 2 p.m. Public meeting at 6.30 p.m.

OSSETT COMMON, WARMFIRID, at Mr. John Crane's, at 2 and 6, p.m. Healing and Trance-speaking Medium, Mr. John Crane. BISHOP ADCKLAND, at Mr. Faucitt's, Waldron Street, at 6 o'clock. Notice is required from strangers. BISHOP

CASTLE-OF-TYNE, at Freemasons' Old Hall, Bell's Court, Newgate

treet, at 3 p.m.

Livezpoot, at 5 p.m. Livezpoot, Public Meetings at the Islington Assembly Rooms, at 2.30 and 7 p.m. Trance-mediums from all parts of England, &c. BATLEY, at Mr. Parkinson's, Taylor Street, at 2.30 and 6 p.m. Messrs. Elison and Dewbirst, Mediums.

DARLINGTON Spiritualist Association, Club Boom, Mechanics' Institut Public Meeting at 8 p.m. Mrs. J. A. Butterfield, Inspirational Medi Sourmana. At Mr. W. H. Stripe's, 31, Middle Street, at 6.30,

MONDAY, JUNE 16, HULL, 42, New King Street, at 7.30.

TUREDAY, JUNE 17. KRIGHLEY, at 7.30 p.m., at the Lyceum. Trance-Mediums, Mrs. Lucas and Mesars. Wright and Shackleton. Sowness BRIDGE, at Mr. W. Robinson's, Causeway Head, 8 p.m.

WEEDAY, JUNE 18, BOWLING, Spiritualists' Meeting Boom, 8 p.m. Hago's LANE END. at 7.30 p.m. Trance-Mediums, Mrs. N. Wilde and Mrs. R. Hudson.

Mrs. R. Hudson. MORLEY, Mr. Emmanuel Baines's, Town End, at 7.30, for development. OBERTY COMMON, at Mr. John Crane's, at 7-30. Healing and Trance-medium, Mr. John Crane. DARLENGTON Spiritualist Association. Developing Circle at 7.30. p.m. Mrs. J. A. Butterfield, Developing Medium. Apply to the Secretary, G. R. Hinse, Bright Street.

THUREDAT, JUNE 19, BOWLING, Hall Lane, 7.30 p.m. GAWTHORPS, Spiritualists' Meeting Room, a Developing Circle, at 7.30. WEST HARTERPOOL, Seance at Mr. Hull's, Adelaide Street.

BISHOP AUCKLAND, as Mr. Faunits's, Waldron Street, at 8 o'clock. Notice is required from strangers.

CASTLE-ON-TYNE. 6. Seance at 7.30. Old Freemasons' Hall, Bell's Court Newgate

LEVERPOOL. Seance for Physical Manifestations. Mr. Egerton, mediu at 6, Stafford Street, at 8 p.m. Admission by ticket only, which may obtained at 6, Stafford Street.

Day, June 20, Liverpoot, Weekly Conference and Trance-speaking, at the Islington Assembly Rooms, at 8 p.m. The Committee meet at 7 p.m. Norrasonam, Churchgate Low Pavement, Seance at 8 p.m.

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THE ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

THE ANNOLE MARTING of the LIVERPOOL PETCHI a GENERAL MEETING of the LIVERPOOL PETCHI LOGICAL SOCIETY held on the 29th May last, it was denoted 11 Depression in the Stational Conference of Spiritualists in the size to hold the Annual National Conference of Spiritualists in the size town this year, on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of Annuar : and in order is facilitate the operations of the Committee appointed to carry out is project I should be glad if the Secretaries of Sometics would commun-cate with me at their earliest convenience, in order that some des we be formed as to the number of Delegates likely to be present. 16 South Castle Street, Liverpool. DAVID B. RAMMAT to hold the Annual National Conference of Spiritualists in the size formed as to the influence Liverpool. DAVID B. RAMARY, 16, South Castle Street, Liverpool. DAVID B. RAMARY, Secretary of the Conference Commit-

MR. CHARLES E. WILLIAMS, Medium, is at house fails 11. to give Private Seances, from 12 to 5 p.m. Private Seance attended at the bourses of investigators. Public Seances at 61, Lach Conduit Street, on Monday evenings, admission 2s. 6d.; Thursday evenings, 5s.; and Saturday evenings, for Spiritualists only, 5s.; a) o'clock each evening. Address as above.

MR. F. HERNE, MEDIUM, gives Public SEANOES at the Spiritual Institution, 15, Southampton Bow, London, as follow, On Monday Evening, at Eight o'clock; on Wednesday alternon, a Three o'clock; and on Thursday Evening, at Eight o'clock. Administ to each Seance, 2a, 6d. --Mr. Haava may be engaged for Private Seance. Address, 15, Southampton Row, London, W.C.

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