

THE PARAGON MONTHLY

A MAGAZINE OF WONDERFULLY STRANGE AND INTERESTING STORIES

DREAMS
AND THEIR
MEANINGS
OCCULT
POWERS
ASTROLOGY
HYPNOTISM

TELEPATHY
PERSONAL
MAGNETISM
CLAIRVOYANCE
HIDDEN
POWERS
ETC.

APRIL

1906

"AT ONE CORNER OF THE ROOM I FOUND A STATUE." See page 3.

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HE who acts with a view to please God alone, wishes to have that which it pleases God that he should have, and at the time and in the way which may be best for him; and, whether he have it or not, he is equally tranquil and contented, because in either case he obtains his wish, and fulfils his intention, which was no other than purely to please God.—Lorenzo Scupoli.

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"I FOUND MYSELF IN AN IMMENSE ROOM"

SECRET OF CHAPULTEPEC

By L. S. Merchant

MEXICO with its romantic and pathetic history, had always strangely interested me, so when, health and fortune having failed, I was asked by my brother to go to Mexico as his representative and examine some mining property which had been offered him, I eagerly accepted his proposal, glad of the chance which the change of climate might give me to recover my health, and glad also of the opportunity of visiting the land of the Montezumas, of which I had read and dreamed so often.

A month later found me in the City of Mexico, and I already began to feel returning vigor, the promise of future health and strength. I spent the first week roaming about the city and on far-famed Chapultepec. Meanwhile I had met my brother's correspondent and talked with him about the property, which lay west of the city about twenty miles and higher up the mountains. A few days later Signor Morio signified his readiness to accompany me on a visit to the mines, and we started the next day on horseback and made our way over roads as fine as any I had ever seen, the old roads built by the Aztecs. We passed several extensive ruins of towns long since passed away. Signor Morio could tell me no more of these than "They are very old, built long before my countrymen came here."

It was late in the day when we came to the small group of buildings comprising the little village of Terasco, where we put up for the night with friends of Signor Morio. The mine I was to see was about four miles from Terasco, but could not be visited until the next day, as darkness would be upon us before we could reach it. The spot where the little village was situated was beautiful beyond anything I had ever seen; such a wild luxuriance all around; great trees, palms, tree-ferns and aloes growing in beautiful confusion, and as a background for it all the mountains standing up against the azure sky.

The next day we went to see the mine, getting an early start. The road was a good one for the first three miles and then became a mere bridle path, up which our horses went with the greatest ease and brought us to the mine, which I was told had not been worked for centuries. Geology has been a favorite study of mine; this fact was one of the reasons which influenced my brother in sending me to look over the property. A cursory examination gave me great satisfaction. There was a rich vein of onyx which even to my unaccustomed eyes gave promise of future wealth, especially as I had seen a considerable stream of water running down the mountain at no great distance from the mine; this in itself saying much to the discerning mind, if the company my brother was interested in should decide to purchase and work the claim. We spent several hours in our examination, and were about to return to the village when I told Signor Morio that if Jose would take charge of my horse I would walk back. He looked at me as if he thought I was "out of my head." No Mexican can understand how it is possible that any sane man would rather walk than ride.

"But," said the signor, "you would better ride, Mr. Stanfield. You will be very tired if you walk."

"After being in the saddle so long yesterday, I much prefer to walk," I replied. "We of the North are used to walking."

He demurred a little longer, then said: "I fear you will be lost."

"That," I said, is not likely, as Terasco is in plain view most of the way."

With that he bade me "good-by," saying: "We will meet at dinner."

On my way up, about two miles from Terasco, I had noticed some ruins at no great distance from the road that looked as if they might prove interesting. It was this fact that principally determined me to walk back rather than ride, so that I might have a chance of examining these at my leisure. Reaching the point where I had seen the ruins, I made a detour and found I had struck a very interesting place. The ruins were of much greater extent than had appeared from the road. To all appearances a vast palace had once stood here. Walking around, I could discern the outlines of the walls, some parts of which were standing; the rest covered by a dense mass of vegetation. Many of the stones were covered with beautiful carvings. I was oblivious to time, and spent

some of the pleasantest moments of my life it wandering through the ruins which had once been peopled by a race that had passed away. Within what had been the court of the palace (without which no building of importance was complete), in the midst of a tangle of vines and huge plants through which I strove to force my way, I saw something which arrested my attention. I had noticed pieces of an ancient pavement; in the midst of this was a framework of stone containing a weather-beaten slab of onyx about four feet square. The framework was of gray stone and beautifully carved. What could have been the purpose of the onyx slab with the stone frame, which evidently occupied the centre of the old courtyard? As I stepped upon the slab, a hollow sound was returned. I tried to move it, but without avail, and finally desisted as the sun was rapidly sinking to his home in the west. My curiosity was whetted and I determined to return the next day and examine at my leisure and seek to solve the riddle.

After dinner I wrote my brother about the mine, giving him full particulars regarding it. As I must await an answer to my letter, and in the light of my discovery of the afternoon, I said to Signor Morio that I would stop at the little village for a few days before returning to the City of Mexico and enjoy the beautiful mountain air. So he and Jose went on without me. My knowledge of Spanish was sufficient to serve me without an interpreter in the little village. That night I dreamed of the onyx slab and saw it open, and looking through the opening, I saw stairs descending. Then I awoke.

As soon as I had dispatched my breakfast I once more made my way to the spot which had so interested me the day before, determined, if possible, to solve the mystery that was puzzling me. I armed myself with a heavy geologist's hammer and told mine host I was going up the mountain to search for specimens. I took a light lunch with me and soon arrived at the spot I was seeking. Upon examining the stone and frame, in the light of my dream, I was convinced that there must be some means of opening it. I noticed in the frame at regular intervals certain round figures "bosses"—were repeated. I struck one after another of these bosses, until I had gone nearly around when I struck one which I fancied, yielded to the blow. I pressed with all my strength upon the handle of the hammer, which rested on the knob, when it moved slowly down, and as it did so, I saw the slab

rising. I cannot describe my delight at the success of my efforts when I saw the slab was upright. At my feet was a beautiful stairway leading down—where? This I must find out. I fortunately was a smoker and, equally fortunate, I had with me a box of vestas. I went down twenty-five steps into a hall lined with onyx. This led into a spacious room in which were many statues and a beautiful altar, as I surmised it to be. Behind this altar I saw a slab of onyx set in the wall, with the same design upon the frame as was carved on the one above. As there was no other exit from the room, I decided this must be a door, to be opened in the same manner as that I first found. I soon discovered the secret spring, and the door stood open, disclosing a passage, along which I went for a distance of several hundred feet, when I found my way was stopped by another door, which opened in the same manner as the others. Stepping through the doorway, I found myself in an immense room, nearly one hundred feet square and about thirty feet high. This room was not wholly dark, for at the end opposite the door by which I had entered, and about ten feet from the floor, there was across the entire distance a strip about five feet wide of some translucent material which admitted a subdued light—onyx, I felt sure—as I could discern faint lines of color here and there. As my eyes became accustomed to the "dim religious light," I was dazzled by what I saw. On every side, was gold, glittering gold; furniture covered with the costly metal crusted with gems; vessels and utensils of every size and shape, made of the precious metal; and, what at first sight bewildered me most, four great rolls of sheet gold, that still retained the shape of the carvings they had covered. At last! Was it possible I looked upon the gold that once adorned the entablature of the Temple of the Sun, the disappearance of which had puzzled the Spaniards so much? As I examined it more closely, I became convinced that my surmise was correct. On one side of the room were niches, each containing a beautiful urn—like everything else, covered with gold and jewels; and in front of each niche was a carved chest, inlaid with gold and gems. Opening these, one after another, I found they were made of cedar and contained garments of the richest description, and always among them a cloak of the marvelous green feathers which might only be worn by a Montezuma. There were jewels and personal ornaments of every description, and in every

make themselves receptive by a spirit of Faith.

Your Faith will create Talent. If blind Faith has in the past been known to work miracles, what may not your Faith accomplish when it is guided by the Light of your highest Ideals? So again I say: Believe; believe in all Life, in Self, in Others. Affirm the Eternal Goodness. Become a living Affirmation, and thus a blessing to yourself and to everyone. Waste no longer the Days, which contain every one of them, some Golden Opportunity. Take things just as they are and make the most of them; this means improve them.

Those who despise and look down on the early, crude efforts of others are not the real masters. Clever people give their praise to every sincere work. Sincerity contains a sure promise of Fulfillment. The man who honestly tries must achieve success.

Your capabilities are not to be prescribed in one single direction. You will often find that a failure simply points a new and larger field for you. Concentrate your energies, have a system in your work; but move on. Let your concentration and your system be your servants. Follow out each work to its limits; only remember that each work has its limits.

Allow yourself to grow. Let the forces of your Being have an outlet. Recognize what you are and give your Energies exercise, for Faith is Life and Exercise is Growth.

PRINCIPLES OF PROGRESSION

By J. P. Cooke

It is largely, and I believe wisely held, by the spiritual philosophy that the human being has an eternal privilege and capacity for progressive development; not mere change, but onward and intelligent improvement.

Between a living, prospering spirit and a dying spirit, there is this primary and important difference—the one is going up toward the higher spheres of light and goodness, as the result of personal improvement, adding light and love to its own inner being, or heart life, and throwing off darkness and earthy, sensual dross, while the other is drifting and dropping away from the light afforded in this scene of life, and is consciously or unconsciously drifting toward the outer darkness, which is that utter and dreadful lack of the light of life which is darkness, indeed.

By reflection, we may all note that our individuality comes to us gradually. We have lost the identity of childhood. It has been merged in the identity of manhood. So it is with regard to the inner life, or spirit. The degrees come slowly and steadily upon us. Individuality is a succession of states of being that belong either to the personal spirit or to the animal life.

One man "passes over" well developed in his moral and spiritual organs—his ethical life. Another has lived a sensual, selfish, grasping life and goes his way undeveloped. The former returns to earth to encourage and to bless humanity, telling of the light and the love which he has found in the "beyond." The other may return, sorrowing and telling of the fearful darkness that is with him everywhere. Now, this darkness is real to him. It is a mutual, conscious, spiritual condition. It is not a delusion; it is not an atmospheric condition.

There are millions of souls who are in this darkness that exists with souls after death. They have not sought or gained in any measure the inner light of the true life. They do not understand themselves or their surroundings. They desire change and improvement, but do not know how or where to reach out for it. This is the sadness of darkness and of spiritual ignorance or undevelopment. In this earthly life we live under a law of infinite progress; we are never beyond the action of that law.

Progression is another name for change, for change in the right direction. The soul progresses in cycles, as all life does, repeating itself again and again, and if it is faithful to the higher leading, at each revolution it takes on newer and purer life; it shows some more perfect attributes, stretches out further toward the Infinite Light of the Over soul, becomes wiser, better, more developed, more blessed. Nature preaches this progression with all the voices of the Spring.

Let us go into the woodland paths and see how she has preached it in the bud that bursts its ragged sepals of bark and sets sweetly at its opening on the bare old trunk; preached it in the young grass, lifting its leaf above the chilly ground and waving a welcome to the warming skies; preached it in the white crocus and the purple violet and the azure hyacinth. The very robes of the soul put on this beautiful garment of progress.

The ancients, in their Winter and Spring tide festivals, celebrated the rising of the earth spirit from the cold grave of Winter. We celebrate the arising of the progressive human spirit from the grave of darkness and sensuality. They celebrated the resurrection of Nature; we celebrate the resurrection of the spirit of Light and Love in spiritual Manhood and womanhood. We would glorify the light of God and his blessedness.

These eternal verities are not mutable in time. This inner progression, this spiritual ascension, is not a brief event, but a process; the labor not of a day, but of seasons. The Spring is slow in coming. Its weeks are full of broken promises. The new life advances fitfully, contending with cold winds, gusty days, dashes of wintry rain, and flurries of snow, gleams of sunshine ever and anon darting cheer from rifts of cloud, and tempting men to rejoice prematurely over the immediate prospect of a new Summer.

So it is with the progressive development of this inner life. The ascension of this spirit is man follows the analogy of nature. It is gradual; often it is tedious. But let us never grow weary in this spiritualization.

Mizpah's Dream

MIZPAH was married, poor girl! She was scarcely more than a child, but she entered into the new life with a great wealth of undeveloped ideals.

She was inclined to be romantic, but then it is the so-called romantic nature in which lies the capacity for the developments of great nobility of character.

Some great and discerning soul has caused to be carved on the headstone which marks the grave of that grand woman, Kate Field, this simple tribute: "Spirits are not finely touched, but to fine issues."

Thus was Mizpah "finely touched," and she must be led through the purifying fires to attain to the "fine issues."

Her husband was her senior by ten years; a man of the world, devoid of the traits of character which grow and produce "fine issues."

Mizpah grieved and moaned in her hours of disappointment when this knowledge had forced itself upon her. He did not understand or sympathize with her aspirations; he trampled upon and crushed them, but he could not destroy germs of the Divine Spirit within her young heart.

One day a younger brother came to visit her. She talked with him quietly and earnestly, telling him to seek the noble things of life. Looking back at it now, after years of struggle and pain, it seems like the first conscious utterance of her inner self, the first faint glimmerings of the Divine Spirit of light groping in the darkness for its manifestation.

Years of time dropped away into the past and Mizpah hungered and thirsted after righteousness—and was fed! Only a little at a time, just enough to keep Hope alive and save the spirit from perishing under the fiery trials, even though it left her still hungry and groping for more.

In the midst of it all she dreamed a dream, and it ran like this:

She was walking with her husband along a rocky road. The rocks were large and in places piled one upon another; some with only space enough between to enable one to thread one's way carefully among them. The task was slow and painful as she led the way, her husband, weary, sat down to rest; he would journey no more on such a tiresome road. But something spurred her on—she would go alone.

Toiling patiently along over rocks and boulders, she began to perceive that the light was growing dim, and the rocks were not so large.

The darkness deepened as she traveled on, but never a thought of turning back came to her through it all. She must go on—on—on—as if propelled by some unseen power behind her.

After a while the darkness seemed suddenly to become more intense, and she found herself closed in by thick walls. In front of her the road ended abruptly and a straight, smooth wall rose perpendicularly high above her head.

Her courage did not leave her; she would not turn back; she must find some way to climb the wall! She raised her arms as high as she could reach and placed her hands against the wall. She thought she caught a glimpse of light above her as she raised her head. As her eyes became accustomed to the darkness she began to feel carefully over the wall with the tips of her fingers. In a moment she found that there were small projections jutting out from the surface of the wall; examining these more closely, she discovered that books piled one upon another formed the wall. She also found that by pulling each of them out a trifle, she could climb up by their aid.

Slowly and carefully she climbed step by step. When she reached the top, which was only a few feet above her head, she saw that she was on the top of a hill; the clear, blue sky was all around her, and the peace and quietness soothed her panting breast.

She awoke from her dream with a sense of joy and thankfulness pervading her whole being.

She sat in meditation many times and wondered about the dream, but it was not until years after that she thought she could interpret its meaning. When it was revealed to her by the beautiful books she read, books which came to her hands in such peculiar ways, and she had been led to see the light and the wonderful meaning of life, then she realized the meaning of her dream. She had been brought into the light of the clear blue sky.

Another time she dreamed: She thought she was crawling on her hands and knees, underneath bushes and dried sticks, over stones and dust, that she might reach a place of open blue sky which she could see beyond.

Now, after a life of difficulty and hardship, there is a joyful thought overbalancing it all, that she was found worthy to suffer all these things. For it is only through suffering that the dress of self is burned away, and the fruits of the Spirit have room to grow.

Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance are the fruits of the Spirit, and they grow on the tree of pain.

And now Mizpah grieves and moans no more, for she has been taught to feel that the serene blue sky was a token of promise, and she can in the quiet years look upon all these trials of life as blessings to be used as stepping-stones toward the life of the spirit. With Paul she can say:

"Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."—Emily C. Scaddan.

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A Treat to Our Readers

WE are pleased to present to our readers a series of articles prepared by Mystic No. 7, who has returned from a visit to Egypt. Valuable facts have been ascertained concerning the Pyramids, Mummies, Temples and Brotherhoods of Ancient Egypt, as well as the manners, customs and religion of the Egyptians.

The next article, appearing in the May issue, we promise you will be especially interesting. Do not miss one of these articles, or fail to speak of them to your friends.

(Continued from March Issue)

OFTEN at night when the City of Cairo is folded in the deepening shadows, a monotonous chant may be heard, varied occasionally by a sharp cry of pain uttered by some ecstatic worshipper. The chant is an Arabic recitative called a song, and it is voiced by a group of dervishes as they gather about the tomb of a *walee* or saint, or in the midst of their strange contortions at some religious ceremony. The tombs of the *walees* are considered to have marvelous healing powers, and many cures are instantly effected.

During the birthday of the Prophet and other religious celebrations, Mohammedans of all sects and ranks attend. The whirling dervishes, in their sugar-loaf hats and white or black robes, whirl round and round in the midst of the praying and chanting of other worshippers. Frequently they whirl until utterly exhausted, and are then looked upon as *melboos*—that is, clothed with Divinity. And this is the object of all the contortions, dancing and frenzy. To be bereft of all the senses, to feel and think only "Allah," is their highest aspiration.

Do you not see, Brothers, how the very same hunger after God is in every form of religion? It has been voiced in the statements of philosophers, the prayers of the Mystics, the lives of the saints and the sufferings of all humanity. Even the "mysteries" practiced so many thousands of years ago in this old Egypt were founded on truths revealed only to the soul. Like a thread of gold through the gloomy warp and woof of human history has run this yearning search for more of the Divine Light, and all manners and methods have been tried in the searching.

We look afar over the stretches of the Libyan Desert to the Arabian Mountains and recall the life of that grand old monk, St. Anthony, who was the first of the Christian Brothers in Egypt, and recall how he loved his lonely mountain and the peace of the arid desert, because they enabled him, as he thought, to live the purer life. This was his way of finding God. Here, in this rare, clear atmosphere, where the sun shines with such brightness and the stars leap like globes of celestial fire out of the black curtains of the night, it seems not hard to attain a nearness to the shining splendor of the Divine Presence.

The hermits of old Egypt wanted nothing near to cause other thoughts than those of abstract contemplation and reflection; the solitudes and the calm silence of the wide and high places of desert mountains uplifted and illumined their souls; and in the earliest days of ancient Egypt, when there were monks and nuns who lived near Memphis and on the plateau where the Pyramids stand, they were actually walled in, with only a small aperture, in which could be inserted their food and drink.

In one of the old temples we visited was a small, dark room, where pious Brothers, even to-day, go for solitude and meditation. First one and then the other of us went in and shut the door, and even the few moments we remained brought vibrations of peace and power indescribable.

Of the occult and secret Brotherhoods we can say little, save that they exist, and their knowledge, power and spiritual influence are truly marvelous. Egypt is the cradle of all science, philosophy and religion, not even dividing honors with India, though the truths and principles anciently known in one were known in both lands.

In Egypt, as in India, are countless evidences of knowledge of occult law and mental practice, even such as are known and practiced to-day.

Here is a brief extract from an old M.S. on the "Natural Law of Miracles," written 400 B.C., suggesting and mystic power:

Wherefore, touching illusions and impressions whatsoever, these nerves and brain sensations are easily conveyed from one human subject to another. The subject will see exactly what you choose him to see, hear what you wish him to



ON THE WAY TO THE PYRAMIDS. THE PALM AVENUE FROM GEZIREH TO GIZEH.

hear, etc., and if you understand the laws of light and sound and air vibrations, you will be able to continue the relation for an indefinite period."

And so of all the profound truths the Egyptians were masters and expounders. Looking beyond the vale of their symbology we find forever sparkling the light of the one Truth which underlies all statements of religion. The One Supreme, the Most High God, was known and praised in Egypt, as in India, China, Greece, Persia or Palestine.

Compare the following hymn with our own and other Scriptures and see how beautiful is the expression concerning the Maker and Creator of all.

This is an extract from the hymn to Amen-Ra, the hidden Diety, the self-existent Light:

"Hail to thee, Ra, Lord of the Law, whose shrine is hidden; Master of the Gods; by the sending forth of his word, the gods sprang into existence."

"Hail, Gok Atmu (Light), Maker of Mortals. However many are their forms, he causes them to live; he makes different the color of one man from another. He hears the prayers of him that is oppressed; he is kind of heart to him that calls unto him; he delivers him that is afraid; he judges between the mighty and the weak."

"O Form, One, Creator of all things, O One, Only Maker of existences. He maketh the green herb to make the cattle live and the staff of life for the (use of) man. He maketh the fish to live in the rivers, the winged fowl in the sky; He maketh birds of all kinds to live, and the reptiles that creep and fly. Hail to thee, O Maker of all these things, thou Only One."

Not only was the unity of the God-head known by the priest-hood of Egypt, but the Triune aspect also was emphasized in their teachings.

"I am Pmu in the morning," says the Creator in a passage in the Ritual, "Ra at noon, and Harmachi in the evening."

This was interpreted as being a reference to the dawn, noon and sun-set as three distinct forms, co-existent and co-equal in the substance of the sun which illustrated the three divine attributes which exist co-eternally and co-equally in the substance of uncreated Light.

The whole vast system of temples, definite and co-ordinate in every relation shows the worship of Egypt to have been fundamentally based on universal Fatherhood and the conception of a majestic and all-embracing Unity.

But the doctrines of the One God and the Divine Trinity are not the only secrets of the Ritual. The Divine Motherhood, the spiritual mysteries which can only be understood by the advanced soul, were taught with marvelous and indescribable clearness.

Back of the civilization of to-day, back of all that the world knows of the truths of soul

and life and the powers of mind, the wonders of the heavens and the laws and principles governing the universe, stands Egypt, the morning land where the sun of knowledge first dawned upon the minds of men. The true mystics of to-day are reviving the ancient lore and putting into form that which will prove the oneness of the Light of Ages.

At last we visit the Pyramids! Out through the broad, more modern streets of the city, past the new Egyptian Museum, where the treasures of centuries are on exhibition, where the real Pharaoh who drove the Israelites into the Red Sea lies as though but sleeping in his mummy case, out to the wonderful Nile Bridge, which is guarded by a majestic carved lion on either side of the entrance, out to the broad roadway bordered by thick-branched *lebbek* trees, where we take the tram or street car to the Pyramids of Gizeh. This roadway is one of the principal thoroughfares entering Cairo, and on market days is crowded—as you see in the picture—with throngs of merchants and their donkeys or camels, with overflowing paniers of fruit, grain, vegetables, hay or corn.

The scene is one of ever varying and deeply interesting variety. On one side of the road lie the green fields of the Nile farm lands; on the other, grounds and gardens belonging to the Gezireh Palace Hotel, which formerly belonged to the Khedive. There is a high fence about the Gezireh gardens farther on, but the palms, banana and other trees tower above, giving a hint of the beautiful grounds within. By some, this is considered one of the most beautiful gardens of the kind in the world. At frequent intervals, as the car sped on through the avenue of stately *lebbek* trees, we passed poor women beside their heaps of fresh melons (which had been brought by a loaded camel and deposited in the shade of a friendly tree), where they sat hour after hour, the close, black veil over their faces, and patiently waited for customers, while the children played in the dust near by.

The eight-mile car ride was nearing its close. We gazed spell-bound at the sand-colored cones towering toward the sky. At first they seemed so much smaller than we expected. Was it possible we were at last able to look upon the Pyramids—that we were really at the land—yes, at the foot of the Pyramids themselves?

As we approached nearer they increased in size; they become immense, vast, over-powering. Can it be true that St. Peter's, at Rome, could stand within the Great Pyramid if it were hollow, "like a clock under a glass dome" or that "if the Pyramid were pulled down a wall could be built all around the frontier of France with the stones"? Yet this is what has been said by those who know.

With our first moment of descent from the car we are surrounded, almost taken possession of, by the chattering Bedouins, who vie with each other in offering donkeys, and camels on which we may ride the few remaining yards; but we find our faithful Sobh Mensi and Abdul Hassan and their good little donkeys which are to take us nine miles over the burning sands of the desert to the Pyramids of Sak-kara, so we walked slowly up the hill, take a long look at the immense mass built by the great Cheops, and his two companions, pass the Sphinx crouching in the hollow several hundred yards beyond, and then, mounted the donkeys, start on the long ride farther north. To Sak-kara, Memphis, Bedranashien and back to Cairo by rail is our plan, so reluctantly we leave the fascinating Pyramids of Gizeh, with the camels, the palm trees and Bedouins, with the anticipation of returning to this place of wonders on the morrow.

That ride over the hot sands of the desert! Shall we ever forget it?



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Direct to you from our great wholesale tailoring shops. No storekeeper's profit, no jobber's profit, no agent's profit to pay, but you buy from first hands when you trade with us and save all the middleman's and retailer's profit. To widely advertise our great tailoring shops and make them known to every man of men's clothing in America, we will sell 10,000 men's suits of best union wool blue black serge cheviot at \$3.95 each. They are stylishly made in latest single-breasted sack style to fit perfectly, are serge lined, sewed with pure silk and in a new thread, and are guaranteed equal to exclusive clothier's \$10.00 suits or no sale. In our beautiful art book of men's clothing, which we send free upon request, we display a big cloth sample of our men's \$3.95 suit, together with 150 fine cloth samples of Men's Ready-Made Suits at \$3.95 to \$15.00 and Made-to-Order Suits at \$10.00 to \$35.00 in an immense range of colors, patterns and fabrics to suit all tastes and ages. It tells how to measure correctly, shows latest fashion plates, gives our liberal G.O.D., subject to examination terms and our "guaranteed to fit" or no sale agreement, rigidly in your favor and at our risk. Write for the samples to-day. We are headquarters for

Men's Furnishing Goods at wholesale prices. Underwear 20c up, hose 5c up, silk neckties 10c up, dress shirts 33c up, gloves 8c up, soft and stiff hats 45c up, caps 7c up, umbrellas 43c up, working shirts 20c up, and every kind of apparel worn by men and furnishing goods catalog to-day.

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Our STEEL-WIND AMERICAN movement watch has SOLID GOLD LAD CASE, ENGRAVED ON BOTH SIDES. Fully warranted (disclaimer) of proper size, appears equal to SOLID GOLD WATCH GUARANTEED 25 YEARS. We give it FREE to Boys or Girls for selling 20 Jewelry articles at 10c each. Send address and we will send jewelry postpaid when sold and \$2.00 and we will positively SEND watch EXACTLY AS DESCRIBED by return mail; also GOLD LAD CHAIN, LADIES' FINEST'S STYLE, HAND MFG. CO., DEPT. 380 CHICAGO.

Farmers' Sons Wanted with knowledge of farm stock and fair education to work in an office, \$60 a month with advancement, steady employment, must be honest and reliable. Branch offices of the association are being established in each state. Apply at once, giving full particulars. **The Veterinary Science Association, Dept. 19, London, Canada.**

Trackless desert? Yes; not a trace to guide our footsteps, excepting the general direction given by our goal, the Step Pyramid, away in the distance. Occasionally we came across clear, wavy lines in the sand, which, Abdul Hassan said, had been made by a serpent.

Two hours and a half, with the hot wind blowing from afar over the sandy plains almost scorching our faces, and the heat of the sand like that from an oven; yet we reached the old house of Marriette Pey at last, and, dismounting, are met by our Arab host, who brings cool water and delicious coffee for our refreshment. Then, while the boys and the poor little donkeys rest in the shade, we start out with a guide who will take us to the old Apis Tombs which were part of the subterranean portion of the old Egyptian Serapeum. Apis, the sacred bull of the god Ptah, was worshipped in a special temple at Memphis and these tombs were built especially to receive the bodies of the sacred animals. It was in the Serapeum, also, that the ancient hermits or monks dwelt in the strictest seclusion, occupying small cells which were without light or air, except what might come through very small apertures or air holes. These men were learned in the mysteries of religion and attained to marvelous occult powers.

The Apis Tombs of to-day are all empty, and a feeling of melancholy awe possessed us as we entered the dark and silent temple cut out of the solid rock, deep down under the golden sands of Sakkara.

The long, vaulted passages are so deep and so far into the rock that the temperature remains the same all the year round. Once inside, the darkness, with the help of our tallow candles, becomes luminous enough for us to see one by one the imposing granite sarcophagi, twenty-four in number each carved out of a single stone and large enough to receive the body of a standing bull. Both inside and outside surfaces of these royal tombs are highly polished, some of them having inscriptions in hieroglyphics. The stones came from the Syene quarry, five hundred miles up the Nile. Just how they were transported and placed where they now are, no man can say.

The mastabas (tombs) of Ti and Ptahhotep are deeply interesting, containing some of the clearest cut and best preserved hieroglyphics that we saw anywhere.

The great Step Pyramid is the oldest monument in the world, and is the largest of the group of eleven pyramids composing the Sakkara group. It is only 196 feet in height, and evidently is a pleasant elevation for a dwelling place. A family of Arabs live in a little hut they have built almost at its top, and came scrambling down to see who and what we were as we drew near to inspect it.

The Step Pyramid is built of sun-dried bricks and constructed in a series of six successive stages or platforms, from whence is derived its name.

But the afternoon is waning. We still have several miles to travel to the old site of Memphis, and so we again mount our patient steeds and leave the dreary wastes of desert sand, and, with a farewell glance at the marvels time has spared, canter away toward the oasis of palms in the foreground, our faithful Mensi and Hassan running behind.

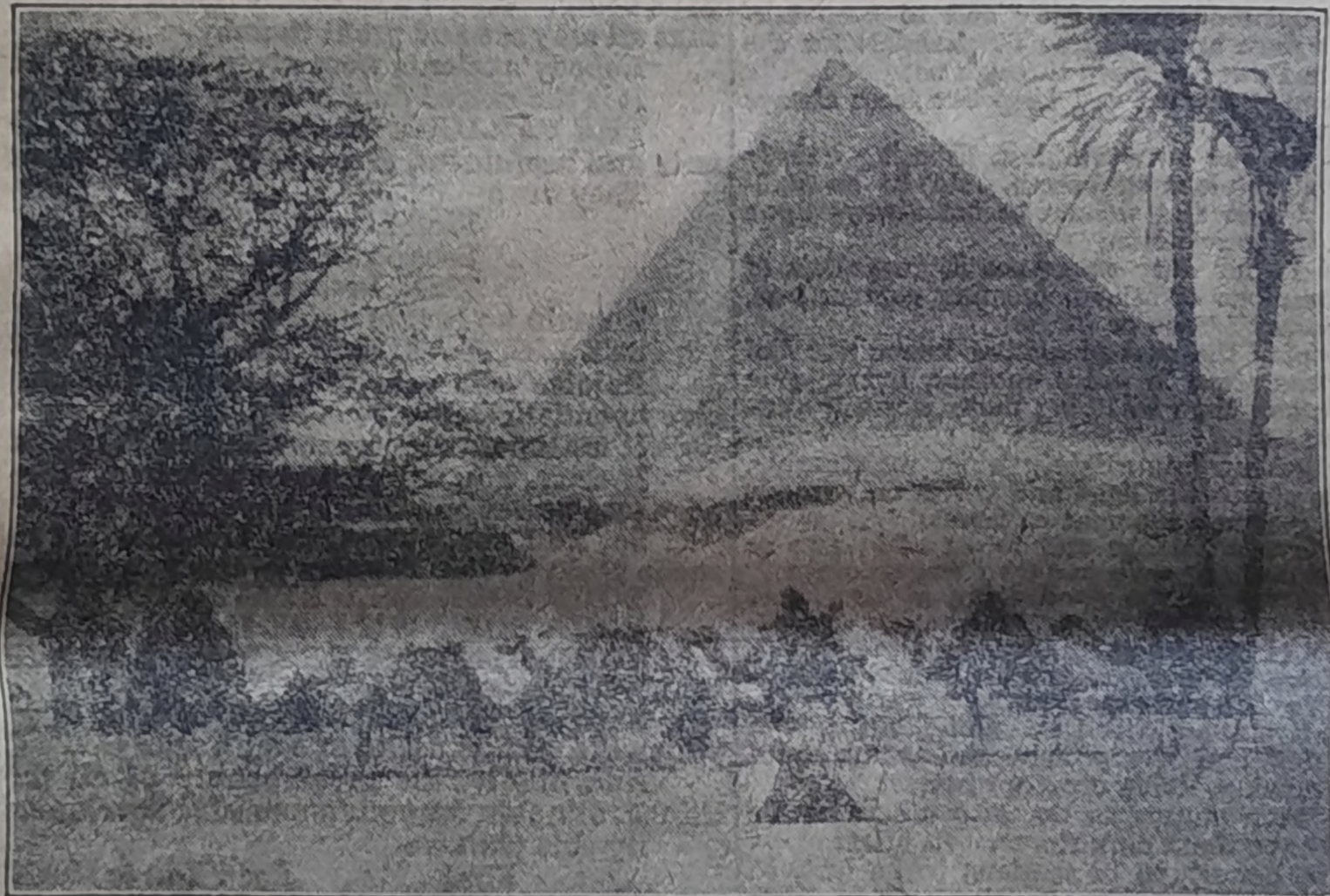
Memphis! Alas! it is indeed but a name of the past. All we can see of the ancient Temple of Ptah are some huge, flat slabs of granite, a few carved and broken pillars scattered, massive, square cubes, which are imposing even in their pathos, and the broken remains of the two Memphis colossi of Ramesis II. One of these is tolerably well preserved, and, although lying on its back and with one leg and the crown broken off, still inspires awe and admiration for its age and preservation. You can, perhaps, imagine its proportions when we say the setting of the ring on the third finger of one hand was a comfortable seat, as we can testify through experiment.

This image of Ramesis II is inclosed by a wooden fence which has recently been built for its protection, but its mate is lost beyond repair, the poor, decapitated and broken head lying in neglect and ignominy in the open field, where goats, cows and donkeys are its boon companions.

Our good boys gathered fresh dates from the heavily laden palm trees, and, after a drink from the freshly filled water jar at the well near by, we hastened on to Bedrashein, where we, with boys and donkeys, took the train for Cairo. So ended a never-to-be-forgotten day, of which we have only told the poorest part. The best is beyond words to describe.

Yours in Holy Love,

Mystic No. 7.



THE PYRAMID OF CHEOPS, OR THE GREAT PYRAMID

HOPE ON, TOIL ON

Oh, my brother, are you weary?
Does the way seem long and dreary
That leads up to the new era
You have pictured in your dreams?
Is your portion one of sorrow?
Yet be brave, and try to borrow
From the glory of the morrow
That beyond your vision gleams.

"Never." Cease the wail of "never,"
For mankind moves on forever
Up the highway of endeavor
To the heights that onward glow
There is no room for despairing,
But for action and for daring,
And for helping and upbearing
One another as we go.

Oh, my brother, cease complaining!
See, the night of wrong is waning,
And the king of light is reigning,
And the flag of hope's unfurled.
There are evils left for righting,
There are battles left for fighting,
There are beacons left for lighting
To illuminate the world.

Better days are breaking o'er us
From the nearing goal before us
We can hear a joyous chorus
Wafted o'er the years to be,
Through the portals, open swinging,
Notes of sweet and rapturous singing
Down the Future's aisles are ringing
From the anthems of the free.

F. A. Edgerton, in Denver News.

HOW TO BE HAPPY

Are you almost disgusted with life, little man?
I'll tell you a wonderful trick
That will bring you contentment if anything
can—
Do something for somebody quick.

Are you awfully tired with play, little girl?
Weary, discouraged and sick?
I'll tell you the loveliest game in the world—
Do something for somebody quick.

Though it rains, like the rain of the flood, little man,
And the clouds are forbidding and thick,
You can make the sun shine in your soul, little man—
Do something for somebody quick.

Though the stars are like brass overhead, little girl,
And the walks like a well-heated brick,
And our earthly affairs in a terrible whirl—
Do something for somebody quick.

WHEN my ill-schooled spirit is aflame,
Some nobler, ampler stage of life to win,
I'll stop and say: "There were no succor here
The aids to noble life are all within."

Matthew Arnold.

Make Over Your Hair

Make it new again! Get rid of that old, faded color! Arrest old age! Restore freshness, strength, youth to your gray hair! Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer will do all this. Sold for 60 years. For the whiskers and moustache we make BUCKINGHAM'S DYE. It colors a rich brown or a soft black. E. P. HALL & CO., Nashua, N. H.

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1 CENT IS ALL IT COSTS to write postal for our big Free Bicycle catalog showing all models at lowest prices. **DO NOT BUY** a bicycle or a pair of tires until you learn our marvelous new offer. We ship on approval without a cent deposit, prepay freight, allow 10 Days Free Trial! All our new and wonderful propositions with catalogues and much valuable information sent you FREE for the asking. **WE WILL CONVINCE** you that we sell a better bicycle for less money than any other house. Buy direct from the factory. If you want to Make Money or Earn a Bicycle write for our Special Offer. **Tires, Coaster-Brakes, built-up wheels and all sundries at half usual prices. Do Not Wait,** but write us a postal today and learn everything. Write it now. **MEAD CYCLE CO., Dept. 1-13, Chicago, Ill.**

50 BULBS 25 Cents. Will grow in the house or out of doors. Hyacinths, Tulips, Gladiolus, Crocus, Fuchsias, Oxalis, Tuberoses, Begonia, Jonquils, Daffodils, Chinese Lily, Dewey Lily, Gloriosa, Lilies of the Valley—all postpaid, 25c. in stamps or coin. As a premium with these Bulbs we will send FREE a big collection of flower seeds—over 200 kinds. **HILLSIDE NURSERY, SOMERVILLE, MASS.**

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Top Buggy, guaranteed 3 years. Sold on 30 Days Free Trial. The biggest buggy bargain of the year. 100 other styles, vehicles and harness. 1906 catalogue free. The Ohio Carriage Mfg. Co. H.C. Phelps, Pres. Street 224 Cincinnati Ohio

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Send us roots, for 5 beautiful colored cards and our club plan. You will receive cards from all over the world for exchange. We have over 200 views of unusual interest—historical, entertaining, instructive—in and around Boston, showing Old South Meeting House, Bunker Hill Monument, Old State House, Faneuil Hall (the cradle of liberty), the Old Washington Elm at Cambridge, Longfellow's Home, Harvard College Buildings, etc., etc. Start a collection to-day. Collecting cards is now all the rage. Write us promptly and begin receiving cards daily. Address **STANDARD CO., Dept 10, P. O. Box 5308, Boston, Mass.**

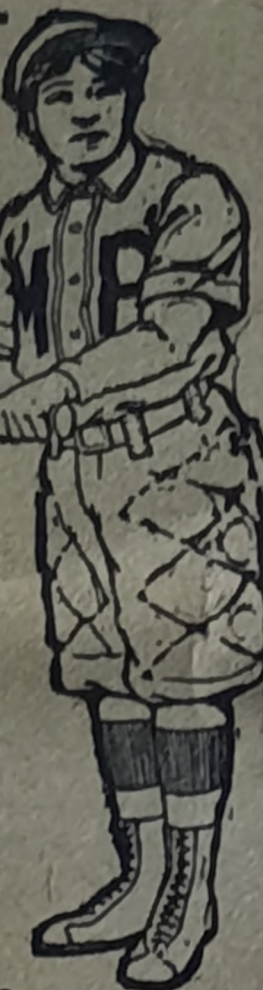
A GENUINE 21 JEWELLED \$3.75 \$50.00 GOLD WATCH. \$1.75 buys an elegantly engraved Double Hunting Case Watch fitted with an accurate Swiss Watch and set, high-grade Ruby-Jewelled movement. **GUARANTEED FOR 25 YEARS** and a handsome "Gold" watch chain and charm. Send us this ad and write if you want to order or test. Watch & chain, \$2.00. We will send them for FREE examination & after you examine the watch & watch chain at your express office & find it is equal to a 21 Jewelled \$50.00 Gold Watch pay \$3.75 and express-charges and they are yours. **RELIABLE WATCH CO., Dept. 126 Chicago.**

BASEBALL OUTFIT FREE

A very strong, substantial suit made of extra good quality gray flannel. Outfit consists of shirt, pants, cap and belt.

The shirt is League pattern and is large and comfortable; seams are double stitched; pants are extra heavy, full padded, hip pockets; belt straps. Cap is made of flannel well lined. **NO MONEY IS REQUIRED.** Just write us for twenty articles of fast selling jewelry to sell at 20 cents each. When sold, send us the \$2.00 received and the **SAME DAY** that we receive it we will send the above described suit absolutely free.

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DEPT. 623 ATTLEBORO, MASS.



**FREE
TO BOYS**
THIS HANDSOME
AIR RIFLE
express charges prepaid
for only \$24

Of our fast-selling, good handkerchiefs at 10c. each.

Our Rifles Are Beauties

Genuine black walnut stocks; steel barrel nickel plated pistol grip, etc.; **Shooting B.B. Shot and Doves**; shooting barrel can be removed so clogging. We trust you will write for handkerchiefs to sell.

STERLING MANUFACTURING CO.
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8 TOOLS IN ONE
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Every Farmer Wants One at Sight
One of our agents says he will make \$1500 next year. We believe him. This is the best offer we ever saw. Write for Special Order and plan to Agents. Make money now. J. B. Foote (Dept. 307) Edry. Co. Fredericktown, O.
The Great Agents Supply House.

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Big profits—quick sales—exclusive territory. Write quick for our liberal money making special offer to agents. Our new self-sharpening scissors are the quickest sellers for lady agents. NOVELTY CUTLERY CO., 47 BAR STREET, CANTON, O.

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Agents given 30 days' credit; pay the wholesale price for what is delivered, and keep the profit. No money needed; everything furnished except the sweat; you manage the business; we will show you how to succeed. Many of our 900 agents cleared over \$1800 last year. We sell portraits for 35 to 75c; frames 15 to 50c and a full line of sheet pictures, stereoscopes and art supplies. Big Catalog and Free Sample Outfit now ready. CONSOLIDATED PORTRAIT & FRAME CO. 290-586 West Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

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ROYALTY PAID ON SONG-POEMS and Musical Compositions. We arrange and popularize. Address PIONEER MUSIC PUB. CO., (Inc.) 507 Manhattan Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

THE HIGHER LIFE

To dwell with the Most High it avails us nothing to dwell much with our errors and mistakes. It is always wise to seriously reflect on our foolish acts, to look deep down into our souls and hearts and minds and have holy moods of repentance. But to live much in condemnation is weakening and drowns sweet hope, the great healer and adjuster of our ills. Sidney Smith said: "We must look downwards as well as upwards in human life. Though many have passed you in the race, there are many you have left behind. Better a dinner of herbs and a pure conscience than the stalled ox and infamy is my version."

Every burden of sorrow seems like a stone hung around our neck, yet they are often like the stones used by the pearl divers, which enable them to reach the prize and rise enriched.

If we are filled with love, kindness, gentleness, tolerance and optimism, we are also filled with the wonderful, mysterious something men are pleased to call Personal Magnetism.

Some men are greater than the God of theology and orthodoxy, because they do forgive and forget, and are never angry nor wrathful, and are calm and serene under any and all circumstances.

It was only a little leaf;

But on it did shine the sun.

The wind did caress, the birds did sing, And it lived till its work was done.

It was only a little leaf;

But it took its glad some part

In the great earth's life; and at last

Earth clasped it to her heart.

SOME LIFE THOUGHTS

By Ralph Waldo Trine

To live to our highest in all things that pertain to us;

To lend a hand as best we can to all others for this same end;

To aid in righting the wrongs that cross our path by pointing the wrongdoer to a better way and thus aid him in becoming a power for good;

To remain in nature always sweet and simple and humble, and therefore strong;

To open ourselves fully and to keep ourselves pure and clean as fit channels for the Divine Power to work through us;

To turn toward and keep our faces always to the light;

To do our own thinking, listening quietly to the opinions of others, and to be sufficiently men and women to act always upon our own convictions;

To do our duty as we see it, regardless of the opinions of others, seeming gain or loss, temporary blame or praise;

To play the part of neither knave nor fool by attempting to judge another, but to give that same time to living more worthily ourselves;

To get up immediately when we stumble, face again to the light and travel on without wasting even a moment in regret;

To love all things and to stand in awe or fear of nothing save our own wrongdoing;

To recognize the good lying at the heart of all people of all things, waiting for expression, all in its own good way and time;

To love the fields and the wild flowers, the stars, the far-open sea, the soft, warm earth, and to live much with them alone, but to love struggling and weary men and women and every pulsing, living creature better;

To strive always to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. In brief:

To be honest, to be fearless, to be just, to be kind. This will make our part in life's great and as yet not fully understood play truly glorious, and we need then stand in fear of nothing—life nor death; for death is life.

Or, rather, it is the quick transition to life in another form; the putting off of the old coat and the putting on of a new; a passing not from light to darkness, but from light to light, according as we have lived here; a taking up of life in another form just where we leave it off here: a part in life not to be shunned or dreaded or feared, but to be welcomed with a glad and ready smile when it comes in its own good way and time.

The Paragon Prosperity Circle

The Law is that Health, Wealth and Prosperity are for Each and all of God's Children.

"Ask, and it shall be given you. Seek, and ye shall find."

HEALTH.	WEALTH.	PROSPERITY.
Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. Third Epistle of St. John.	Wealth and Riches shall be in his house. Psalm cxli, 3.	If they obey and serve Him, they shall spend their days in Prosperity, and their years in pleasures. Job xxxvi, 11.
For I will restore Health unto thee. Jeremiah xxx, 17.	And I will give thee riches and Wealth and honor. II Chronicles I.	

HAVE you ever recognized the very important fact that **YOU ARE A GREAT UNRECOGNIZED CAPACITY?**

It is a fact, and we can prove it, for you certainly are such, if you have not yet made a success of your life.

In plain words, this means that You have within yourself the power to accomplish something much better than the average man or woman.

Something that will **BRING TO YOU A DEFINITE SUCCESS.**

Naturally You want to know what that Something is.

WE CAN TELL YOU.

We reveal the true and only way whereby **YOUR VERY SOUL WILL BE AWAKENED TO THE GREAT POSSIBILITIES THAT DWELL WITHIN YOU.**

It is simple.

It can be understood by anybody who can read our psychic rules as laid down in **The Three Lessons.**

When You have mastered these, You are in a position to receive just what You desire, Money, Friends, Health and Power.

Perhaps the First thing you need to know is to

KNOW HOW TO LIVE.

WE CAN SHOW YOU HOW.

Enjoy the great benefit of the great Spark of the Divine that lives in every human being. Allow this Divine Spark to spread into a flame of Lasting Light and Love, that all may see and profit thereby.

Nobody's talents were given him to hide under a bushel.

It is the sacred duty of every one of us to use them to a successful end.

THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE will show You how to develop your talents and usefulness, and it is by Three Steps or Lessons.

They are:

First Lesson
Second Lesson
Third Lesson

Health
Power
Prosperity

Remain no longer outside this **CHARMED CIRCLE** that bids You enter it.

SEE LIGHT AND LIFE AS THE MYSTICS SEE IT.

Rejoice with us and be glad that You are privileged to live in this glorious, progressive twentieth Century.

It makes no difference whether You be sixteen or sixty.

If sixty, You will feel like sixteen again—and if sixteen, You will have the knowledge and power one should have at sixty.

So, You see, everything life holds of interest is touched upon, illuminated and made plain by the Mystics to every man, woman and child.

YOUR SOUL WILL RISE TO ITS FINEST ENDEAVORS.

YOUR BODY WILL BE MADE WHOLE.

YOUR MIND WILL BE READY TO MEET ANY EMERGENCY, no matter WHAT

it may be, and

YOU WILL ACHIEVE SUCCESS,

which is the chief desire of each one of God's Children.

And finally, the great beauty of all this is, that, like all really great and good things, our plan for your successful development is extremely simple.

By this plan we

First
Second
Third

Lead You to Health
Lead You to Power
Lead You to Prosperity

First Month.
Second Month
Third Month

But you must read and re-read the occult and mystic writings we send with each Lesson to fully realize success.

With love, peace and good-will to ALL beings in the universe, we are, always for grand success,

Distinctly understand, **THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE** is in no way a money-making organization. For what we do for YOU in helping to make you successful and happy, we will expect you to help us to partly pay the expenses of supporting the Circle—printing, postage, clerks, etc.

To that end, send your own subscription and four new subscriptions, for five years each, at our special price of fifty cents. Upon receipt of the four subscribers with two dollars, together with your own, making two dollars and fifty cents in all, you are entered on our membership books as a Full Life Member, enjoying all the privileges of the CIRCLE, with no further dues or payments of any kind whatsoever.

We then mail you the First Lesson—Health Lesson—which, by working out, giving to it about one hour each day, will put you on the road to perfect and permanent Health. At the end of thirty days we mail you the Second Lesson—Power Lesson; and in thirty days more the Third Lesson—Prosperity Lesson.

It takes three months to work through the Three Lessons, and YOU are then in a far more healthy, receptive and attractive condition than you ever thought of being here on this earth-plane of existence. Some will develop the most perfect clairvoyant and clairaudient powers, which are always helpful to success; ALL will be more successful than they ever thought possible. Now, at the end of three months is the real beginning of REAL and PERMANENT SUCCESS.

At the end of three months all of your Psychic-Mental power will have been developed to a most wonderful degree, and new doors will open to you for Prosperity, and Life will be beautiful.

Come, Beloved, we speak to you in love, sincerity and earnestness: join hands with us for life, and help us spread the glad song of hope, health, courage, optimism and success to the whole world.

This is the golden opportunity of your life. Go into the Silence and ask the God within the soul about it.

THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE is organized and founded by men and women who want YOU and every other human being to realize tremendous success, and it will be in a prosperous and forceful condition as long as there is one discouraged soul on this planet.

Encouraging and hopeful words will be printed here in this department each month.

With love, peace and good-will to ALL beings in the universe, we are, always for grand success.

THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE,
Care of **THE PARAGON MONTHLY,**
24 North William Street, New York City, U. S. A.

30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL

SEND NO MONEY. LET US SEND YOU THIS SUIT TO TRY ON, wear it for thirty days and then decide for yourself if you want it, ON OUR FREE TRIAL PLAN.

\$5.95 IS OUR PRICE, BUT IT'S WORTH \$15.00

OUR FREE OFFER. Cut this advertisement out and send to us, tell us how much you weigh, how tall you are, number of inches around your body at breast, taken under arms, over vest with coat off, number of inches around body at waist, number of inches around body at hips, largest part, also length of pants leg, inside seam from tight in crotch to heel. (Don't be afraid you will make a mistake, we guarantee a perfect fit). We will then send you this suit by express C. O. D., subject to examination, you examine and try it on at your nearest express office: If you find it a perfect fit, highly satisfactory, the equal of any suit you could buy elsewhere at \$15.00 to \$20.00, then pay the express agent \$5.95 and express charges, then wear the suit thirty days and if at any time during the thirty days you become dissatisfied with the suit or have any reason to think you haven't received at least twice as much for your money as you could get elsewhere, YOU CAN RETURN THE SUIT TO US AT OUR EXPENSE AND WE WILL RETURN YOUR \$5.95 AND EXPRESS CHARGES.

THIS WONDERFUL SUIT as illustrated, from a very fine all wool black thibet cloth, line and trim it with extra special quality materials throughout and promise you better style, workmanship, fit and finish, and more dressy, better hanging, better wearing, better looking suit than you could buy elsewhere for \$15.00. **OUR WONDERFUL \$5.95 OFFER** is made to advertise our big Clothing Department. We know if you order this suit you will ever after buy your clothes from us and we know your friends will send their orders to us.

BIG SAMPLE BOOK FREE. If you don't let us send this wonderful \$5.95 suit, then on a postal card or in a letter be sure to say,

"Send me your Free Clothing Sample Book," and you will receive by return mail, postpaid, a beautiful book of 100 pages of Men's Clothing, fashion plates, fashion figures, and all our wonderful and most valuable free that will surprise you.

WE HAVE HUNDREDS of our sample suits let us surprise you with a beautiful piece of furniture, or you can get the \$5.95 suit or the \$15.00 suit. We will send you the sample suit free of charge.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.



God Has Not Failed

By Dr. J. E. Roberts

HUMANITY is the half-finished product in the workshop of the Eternal. Man is growing, not grown. Civilization is coming; it is on the way; it has not yet arrived. It has had heralds and forerunners; men who have told of Edens and Utopias; who have said and sung of millenniums and earthly joys. The prophets and heralds have been jeered at and spit upon and persecuted; they have been burned at the stake and crucified, and then, after the funeral, this inconsistent world has burned their ashes, immortalized their dreams, enshrined their names in symbol, song and prayer, and patiently waited for other prophets to immortalize and other dreamers to nail to the cross.

By the old theory God made man and woman fair and beautiful and left them together as He should have done. He went away, the tempter came and the devil was to pay. God came back after a while and looked on the world that He had made and was sorry that He had made man. He expressed no regret for having made the devil. The old world grew very bad. God tried to make it good by the most drastic measures. He tried floods and plagues and earthquakes, and at one time killed everybody but four couples; all to no avail. The descendants, the replenishers, still had a world filled with strife, injustice and suffering; men devoured each other, they learned the art of war, they practiced robbery, they were altogether bad. Then God despaired of the world, and the faithful despaired of it, too. The chief business of man in this world was to get out of it, to prepare to die, to take the wings of death and emigrate to some other world and give God another chance; perhaps He would be able to keep the devil out of the world—perhaps.

Waiving differences of opinions, ignoring disputed philosophies, theologies and creeds, none can deny that the old way of looking at the world had most potent and baneful effects upon the lives of men. What is more mournful, more tragic than a world despairing of itself? What could be more disheartening than a widely disseminated idea of God as a creator who has made the world and made a failure?

The ideas that are inculcated in religion, in song, in hymns, and symbolized and dramatized in all the various and passionate ways employed in worship, have subtle and far-reaching effects upon the lives and thoughts of men. God had despaired of the world and was waiting to burn it. Disseminate that idea, reiterate it, let it echo and re-echo through the centuries, and it will more effectually hedge the way of progress than anything else could do. What is the use of trying to improve a world that has been despaired of by its own Creator?

We must not forget that for a great many centuries it has been the aim of religious teachings to make men think as bad as they could of themselves and of the world. Men were in this world because of sin, and they were here with inherited natures of guilt. They were under condemnation of God. When I think of the aggressiveness, the power and the ability with which our Western world's religion has been administered, I am amazed that the old world is not a thousand times worse than it is. It has made progress in spite of the baneful influence of the subtle idea.

It is from the relation to Freethought of progress that these remarks have been made, in order that by contrast it may be more clearly seen how diverse from the old religious ideas are the new. The difference is most conspicuously seen in that the end, the aim of Freethought, is the betterment of this world, this old, common, every-day, adorned, beautiful, divine, throbbing globe—that is the aim of Freethought. Whether it is religion, or education, or philosophy, or philanthropy, or economics, or whatever form of activity it may take. That is the ultimate end. Underneath that there are some fundamental propositions. One is that the old world is improvable. No man would be foolish enough to undertake to improve a world if he thought it was past helping or beyond the reach of succor. So the first proposition is that the old world is in the making, not made; it is coming, not yet arrived. It is an improvable planet, not a condemned and damnable planet.

That is the fundamental proposition of Freethought. It is radically, irreconcilably and eternally opposed to the old traditional theological church presumption that man has gone to the devil and the world has gone there too, and only by some marvelous display of intervening power from the skies can a few be snatched out of it like brands from the burning. It stands forever opposed to the idea. I fancy if Freethought were ever to write a creed—which, of course, it won't—one of the first propositions would be that the old world is a good world, no matter who says it isn't. It is an improvable thing.

The old idea was: "Prepare to meet your God." If there is one thing in this world that I am tired of it is that cant-worn, hypocritical phrase. The new idea is: "Prepare to meet your fellow-man." The man who has met with justice his fellow-man can meet without fear his God. That is the end, the aim, the passionately desired goal of Freethought, and now its method.

First of all, it depends upon knowledge and enlightenment. It is a work of instruction and development rather than of faith. The Freethinker can't get down on his knees and pray himself or anybody else into peace or pardon or Heaven; he must get upon his feet, take off his coat and go to work. In that scheme there is no provision for a drone, none for a sloth, no room for the dreamy ecstasy of in-

action. It means work; it means business. The great curse of this world is not its badness; the great curse of this world is its ignorance.

Men do not know enough, or they would be better than they are; it is only the fool that does wrong. It is because he is ignorant. There is no folly comparable to that of wrongdoing. That's what sin is—the result of ignorance. Tens of thousands of people imagine that they can achieve or attain to some good by a short cut. It can't be done. The laws that govern the moral life of this life are as irrefragable as the laws that govern the material world. The man who is down through sin or the disobedience of laws is there simply because he was ignorant or a fool.

One of the most beneficent, kindly, beautiful things about this world is that when a man breaks a law he must suffer for it. I don't refer now to man's laws—some of them are made only to be broken, and some of them are made for a few chosen ones to break, and the rest for the common people to keep—I am not talking about man-made laws, but the laws that surround and govern the moral world. Let a man step across the line of right, of justice, of equity and he is bound to suffer; let a man transgress any law and the punishment, or the consequence, will be met, and there is no escape. I think that one of the things that has enervated the moral life of the world is the old doctrine that because of somebody else's suffering some transgressor could escape the consequence of his deeds. The doctrine of the Atonement is like a drug; it puts a man to sleep and causes him to be visited with wondrous ecstatic dreams, and then lets him wake up at last wishing there was no such thing as a drug, feeling out of line

with effort, with ambition, with hope; it is enervating. That is the safety of this world—that a man cannot escape the consequences of his deeds.

This enthusiasm of humanity will in time change all of our conduct and our convictions about each other. For the most part men are isolated, divided into classes; they look down or they look up upon each other. They judge and they condemn. This is the ultimate need of enthusiasm for humanity, men who will know that everywhere on this inhabited globe all the children of men are made of the same stuff, that there is no difference. Do you know that the hateful thing that this old world has ever known or suffered is man's condemnation of fellow-man? There is no falseness to virtue more glaring than for one human being to pass judgment upon another. But for the fortune of circumstance, or good birth, or breeding, or luck, or we know not what, you or I, or yours or mine, might be where they are of whom we speak as fallen, depraved, outcast. I would not by the erasure of a single hue or tint make evil less odious, but I would say that between the one that is lowest and the one that is highest there is not an unimaginable or infinite distance. Give Nature time and the sour changes to sweet, the sugar comes to the apple that waits and co-operates with soil and sun. Give Nature time, and the sour and bitter life will change, will become sweet, and the marks of the sad trinity of suffering, sin and shame will disappear.

When a man defies existing laws, he creates others for himself more rigid and severe than those from which he breaks away.

IF I SHOULD DIE TO-NIGHT

By Solon L. Good

If I should die to-night
What would my entrance be
Into a strange and vast
Unknown eternity?
Disclose, O spirit world,
Some whispered hope to me.

If I should die to-night
As conscience tears my soul,
Would Death unfold his scroll,
O'erfraught with deeds unwise,
And would forever roll
The tears from mem'ry's eyes?

If I should die to-night
Would demons mock with glee,
And on the river's brink
Despoil and torture me?
Or would my poor soul sink
In dark oblivion's sea?

If I should die to-night,
O, whence could my soul flee?
Would spirit lips once clothed
With dead mortality
Kiss my immortal brow
And gladly welcome me?

If I should die to-night,
O Christ, I'd cry to Thee
For Thy love's deep and broad—
Wide as some shoreless sea,
And in that love I know
Would be a place for me.



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THE GOSPEL OF OPTIMISM

By Henry Wood

THE great need of the present hour is cheer and hope. While philosophical optimism is theoretically accepted, there is a strong everyday current of its opposite which the average man finds hard to stem. The ubiquitous great black headlines of the daily press, with their burden of abnormality and crime, stare him in the face, and he finds himself immersed in a mental atmosphere of negative and unwholesome character. Even if he be aware of this general misuse of the law of suggestion, he finds it not easy to isolate himself from the seething panorama about him. The quality of consciousness and even character is determined by what the thought dwells upon.

Men to-day need hope, faith, and encouragement more than cheap fuel or beef. Material things are good in their place, but even these are won through a spiritual optimism, while a chronic state of discouragement tends toward industrial weakness and failure. We are saved through high ideals. They kindle the intellectual forces, invigorate the physical energies, and make success more easy in every line of effort. An undue emphasis upon material things and a craving for physical luxury makes man like an over-fatted beast. Unless he strive to mount in thought and consciousness, he sinks through an earthly gravitation, and things own him instead of his possessing them.

The slums need optimism more than temporary bread and meat, because encouragement is the road to permanent material achievement. Independence, manhood, and character are the shining goals to draw men forward. Poverty is made worse and more helpless by a despairing envy and class prejudice. Men need to be leveled up, and not made more dependent. A true socialism and a vigorous individualism are but two sides of the grand human unit. That is a counterfeit socialism which mainly emphasizes some mere division of seen things as a panacea for human ills. Moral socialism is a spiritual quality, inside of man, and when once there it will find suitable outward expression.

The humblest task is honorable, and may be idealized. If a man digs a ditch, let it be a good ditch, and he has fulfilled a worthy mission. The offensive ostentation of wealth—or rather some wealthy people—is a sign of dry-rot in our civilization. It should be socially reproved and not aped and encouraged. But selfishness and even oppression are not confined to any particular class or rank.

Some people almost seem to expect humanity in general to be dishonest and corrupt. Let us rise to better things and see the good side of our neighbor, and thereby help him to make it manifest. The evolution of the race is upward, and a deeper view will reveal more of the divine in our fellow-men than we are apt to see upon the surface. Let us emphasize character, which is the only thing that lasts. Let the valleys be filled and a human highway cast up upon which men may move forward toward higher ideals and a diviner destiny.

A DREAM FULFILLED

As though in fulfillment of a dream her husband had some time ago, Mrs. Catherine Donovan, wife of Bartholomew Donovan, superintendent of repairs in the Department of Public Buildings, Lighting and Supplies, died at her home, in East One Hundred and Fifth street, about a week after, of heart failure, superinduced by rheumatism, with which she had been suffering for the last two weeks.

Mr. Donovan had frightened his household by relating a dream he had the night before, in which he saw his wife lying dead in a coffin. The dream was so realistic that as soon as he awakened he visited the room in which his wife lay ill, and satisfied himself that it was not an actuality. In church, a few hours later, he was startled when he heard a request that prayers be said for Catherine Donovan. Although this was not the Catherine Donovan who was his wife, he was greatly disturbed, and was still further annoyed when friends of the family inquired after Mrs. Donovan. His unsettled mental condition was noticed by his wife, and she asked him what was worrying him, persisting in her inquiries until he had told of the vision and the happening in the church.

Mrs. Donovan laughed away his fears and assured him she was not then near death's door, nor did she anticipate her illness would result fatally. In fact, she was so sanguine of her recovery that she really began to improve, and had so far regained her strength that on Friday evening she asked her daughter to trim her bonnet so she might wear it Sunday, as she intended going out to buy a birthday present for her grandson.

The husband, however, was troubled about his dream, and each morning he visited his wife's bedside on arising, to satisfy himself that his foreboding had not come true. Yesterday he looked into her room and saw her sleeping, as he supposed, but he could not hear her breathing, as on other mornings, and, fearing she might have suffered a relapse, he hastily summoned the family physician. The doctor pronounced the woman dead.

Mrs. Donovan was fifty-eight years old, and until her recent illness had always enjoyed good health.—N. Y. Herald.

"In love, if love be love, if love be ours,
Faith and unfaith can ne'er be equal powers,
It is the little rift within the lute
That by and by will make the music mute;
And, ever widening, slowly silence all."

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Glove large enough for any player, soft and well made. Cap, Pittsburgh National shape, long double visor, made of best flannel, full-lined and first class in every way. Belt is made of strong webbing with patent clasp. Or an outfit consisting of first-class ball, full-size, hand wound and sewed (not the cheap kind). Splendid fielder's glove, made of high-grade kid leather. Large catcher's or first-baseman's mitt, made of extra quality leather. Extra long belt; can be adjusted to any length. Flannel cap any size you desire.

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LIFE

Toiling, climbing, longing,
Life is like a mighty dream.
Life is like a giant ladder,
With good deeds the rounds between.
Every good one builds it higher,
Every bad one takes away;
Thus we are building, striving,
Just a little every day.

Life is like a mighty battle,
Good and bad at times prevail.
Let us raise our banner higher,
Make our motto, "Never Fail."
Onward, onward, Christian brother!
Evil on us casts its gloom;
Right at last must surely conquer,
For in defeat we read our doom.
Fred Hill, O. T. N.

TO YOU

THE world may read these lines, dear,
And the world will find them true;
But the words of truth I have written here
Came straight from my heart to you.

For I wanted to share with you, friend,
The knowledge that came to me,
That each of us, in his upward trend,
Is like a ship at sea.

Love is the glowing, quenchless fires
By coals of pure thoughts fed;
Will is the steam that still aspires
To reach some goal ahead.

Determination, the engines strong
That Faith well oiled should keep;
And Courage, the lookout, though tried long,
Must not one moment sleep.

GLORY be to God! The Past, the Present,
and the Future have melted into blessed
Eternity, and I am that.—A. Z.

TO WOMEN WHO DREAD MOTHERHOOD

Information How They May Give Birth to
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No woman need any longer dread the pains of child-birth, or remain childless. Dr. J. H. Dye has devoted his life to relieving the sorrows of women. He has proved that all pain at child-birth may be entirely banished, and he will gladly tell you how it may be done absolutely free of charge. Send your name and address to Dr. J. H. Dye, 101 Lewis Block, Buffalo, N. Y., and he will send you, postpaid, his wonderful book which tells how to give birth to happy, healthy children, absolutely without pain; also how to cure sterility. Do not delay, but write to-day.

Farmer, owning his farm, would like to correspond with an honest young lady, about thirty; references given. This and many other similar announcements are printed each month in our Correspondence Club. Send 2 cent stamp for a sample copy of our paper, THE GENTLEWOMAN, 22 North William Street, New York City.

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TO MARK THE GRAVE OF YOUR DEPARTED? IF YOU CAN BUY the finished stone, the best workmanship possible at one-third the prices others charge. If you could get from us a handsome, large, beautifully carved and finished Monument or Elaborate Tombstone, which, when set up on your lot, would cost you much less money than you would have to pay anyone else for the smallest headstone or marker. If you knew you could do this, would you not write for our FREE TOMBSTONE CATALOGUE? WRITE FOR OUR FREE TOMBSTONE CATALOGUE, and you will receive by return mail the handsomest tombstone catalogue ever published; many beautiful illustrations, showing all styles, kinds, and sizes in Markers, Headstones, Tombstones and Monuments, a big variety of marble, all colorings, color samples, descriptions, suggestions for lettering, new and special ideas for carving, shaping, designing, lettering, etc.

OUR LOW PRICES WILL SURPRISE YOU, a mere fraction of the prices charged by others. Why we use better stone and marble, why our designing, finishing, carving and lettering IS BETTER than you would be likely to get elsewhere at three to five times our prices is fully explained.

OUR PAY AFTER RECEIVED TERMS, our style, quality and satisfaction guarantee will be fully explained. You will get our very latest monument and tombstone offer, the most astonishingly liberal proposition ever heard of. Don't fail to write for our FREE TOMBSTONE CATALOGUE TODAY if at all interested. Address, **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.**

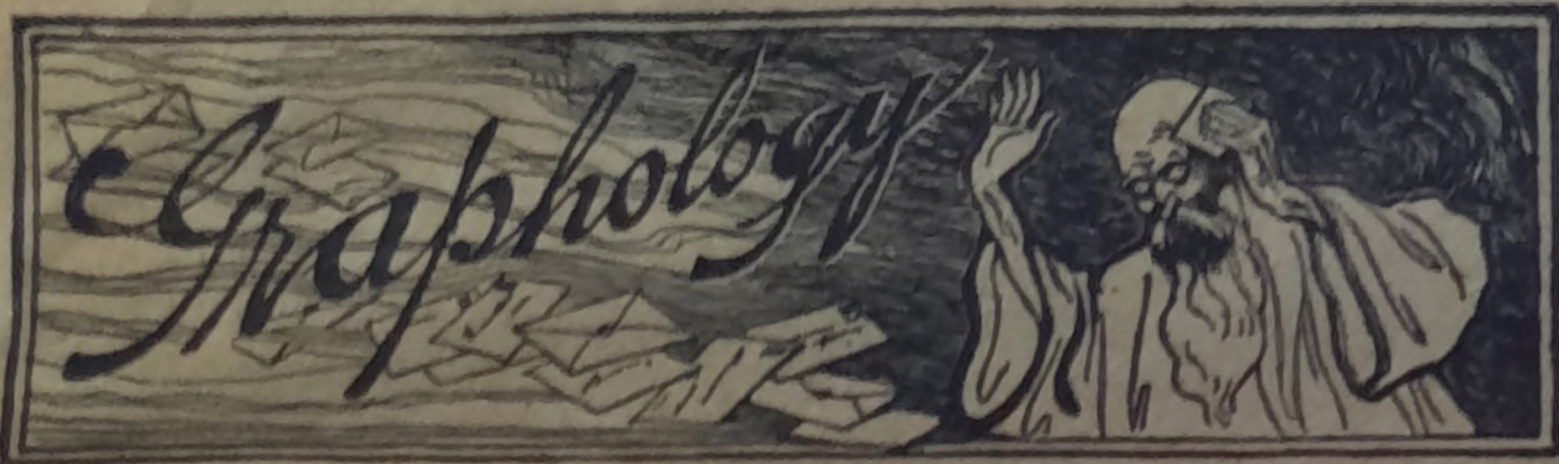
This ELEGANT Watch \$3.75
Before you buy a watch cut this out and send to us with your name and address, and we will send you by express for examination a handsome WATCH AND CHAIN C. O. D. \$3.75. Double hunter case, beautiful engraved dial and stem set, fitted with a richly jeweled movement and guaranteed a correct timekeeper, with long Gold plated chain for Ladies or vest chain for Gentlemen. If you consider it equal to any \$35 GOLD FILLED WATCH Warranted 50 YEARS and the expense same \$2.75 and it is proven. 30 day guarantee sent with each watch. Mention if you want "Ladies" or "Gentlemen" style. **M. FARRER & CO. 439, 451 Quincy St., CHICAGO.**

ANXIOUS MOMENTS FREE!



Send 10 cts for three copies of Woman's World (different issues) and we will also send you postpaid this beautiful picture "Anxious Moments" an exact copy in colors of one of the grandest of modern paintings. The good doctor has done everything possible for a sick child and the distracted mother and father are shown in the background. This grand picture is large size, 16x20 inches, in eight different colors and finished with a magnificent lithographed facsimile scroll frame on a solid gold background, ready for the wall as received from us. This offer is made to introduce Woman's World. Send 10c (stamps or silver) for sample copy of paper 3 months and picture. **WOMAN'S WORLD, Picture Offer 20, Chicago.**

CUT THIS OUT If you want 100 different samples, send 10c. for 1 year's subscription to The Welcome Guest, the best original magazine published, which you will receive for 12 long months and 100 samples as promised. Address The Welcome Guest, Portland, Me.



WE have secured the services of Prof. Grapho, who has had a lifelong experience in the most interesting and useful science of modern times, which is the reading of character from handwriting. We will print your delineations from your handwriting in these columns without charge. All that we require is that you must be a subscriber to THE PARAGON MONTHLY. Send twenty cents for a year's subscription. If you are now a subscriber, your subscription will be extended for one year. If you want a useful and beneficial delineation of your character through handwriting, take advantage of this offer immediately and send Prof. Grapho, care of THE PARAGON MONTHLY, eight or ten lines of your own handwriting in ink and your delineation will be printed as soon as possible.

Sign your full name and some fictitious name for us to print, that you may readily recognize your delineation when printed. Be sure to write your full name and address besides the assumed name or initials for printing, and your birth month as well. We never print the real names in this department unless so requested. This is a special offer to each of our subscribers to secure for himself a scientific delineation of his character.

Any reader of this Department may have a SPECIAL DELINEATION of his character mailed direct to him upon receipt of 50 cents.

This means a Delineation written by Professor Grapho himself, in his own hand.

This is a SPECIAL OFFER and one that should be taken advantage of, if you are interested enough in YOURSELF to know what HIDDEN POSSIBILITIES you may possess.

Address PROF. GRAPHO,
Care of THE PARAGON MONTHLY,
22 and 24 North William Street,
New York City.

M. C. B., Olympia, Kansas.—Most assuredly you may become a member of THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE upon the payment of two dollars and fifty cents. It will help you immensely in every way—financially, mentally, morally and spiritually. Your handwriting shows courage and enthusiasm, with just enough aggressiveness to make you successful in all your undertakings. You seem to know exactly what you want, and you are not afraid to forge ahead and work until you get it. You are both musical and occult, and you can, if you will, make life what it should be.

Virginia St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.—An extremely generous and affectionate handwriting. Kind and considerate, and very sympathetic with suffering. Nobody ever goes away from your door empty-handed. The spiritual side is rather well developed, the mind is broad and the reasoning powers are excellent. You think little of money for itself, and are consequently a little careless about it. A love for the arts and sciences is plainly indicated. You are a good talker and read much. The best trait I see in this finely lined writing is that of absolute unselfishness.

"Lost Hope," Shadowville, Wisconsin.—Courage, my good friend, courage. There should be no place in your heart for discouragement, for the reason that you already have so many blessings for which to be thankful. The only trouble with you is that if conditions are not harmonious you at once become sick and discouraged. You are quick of perception, orderly, methodical and can work like a Trojan when you want to. Naturally, you aspire to a home of your own, and you can get it by being constantly cheerful, ever keeping your desire in mind, and faithfully working toward that end. Try it. Write me later if you like, and let me know how you come out.

"Mayo B.," 2351 Market St., Wheeling, West Virginia.—This interesting specimen of penmanship shows gentleness, straightforwardness and good moral principles. You give away too much of yourself, your time and your money. In order to centralize your forces, you must learn to concentrate. As it is, they are scattered, and naturally, to a great extent, lost. Your sympathies are kept in constant action. This has a tendency to retard your growth and best development. Your enthusiasm, however, will lead you to great heights. You have a fine sense of justice, love freedom, and like to give a good time to everybody who comes your way.

New Subscriber, Lucedale, Mississippi.—Rather a fine, even temper for the most part. When you do become angered it is in a just cause, and you would not mince matters at all, but would step right into the breach. You are loyal, full of fine ardor, and can be trusted to keep a secret. To do this is a test of the highest honor. A certain amount of care and caution are also indicated. You ought to be able to use both hands with almost equal ease. If, as you say, you are interested in astrology, why don't you have your full horoscope cast? I would be happy to do it for you. It would prove an invaluable guide to your future, and the future is what we all want to know about.

"Lady Arbella," Catano P. R.—I can see at a glance that you have a very generous heart, that does many kindly acts with never an idea of a reward, or even gratitude. Versatile, talented, quick to anger perhaps, but quicker to quiet down. Liberal and impartial in your

opinions. The mind is particularly broad and noble. You rise to the occasion when an emergency presents itself, but you worry yourself into fiddle-strings over trifles. The personality is a charming one, and a certain simplicity and unconventionality add greater charms. You love independence and harmony, and would almost sell your soul rather than have a row.

C. B. Langley, Langley, Washington.—Your clear, firm, evenly stroked handwriting is a pleasure to read, and it tells an interesting story. You are a young man with simple, unaffected manners. This endears you to many. You know how to obey, and if necessary to command—a duality of qualities often meets within your sign. You are possessed of a firm will and a generous heart. Courageous, yet prudent. The mental powers are of a high order, and from what I can see you should be a very successful business man. At all events, it is in you to be such.

"Dunno," White, West Virginia.—I am afraid you are inclined to be a little melancholy. Now Melancholy is a ruthless jade, and she will take the edge off your finer qualities if you are not careful. You really belong to the realm of the fine arts; anyway, you are artistic in your tastes and should cultivate this gift. You are naturally endowed with much latent power, which when understood and revealed will lead you to exalted heights. In other words, you may be whatever you wish to be. Any door upon which you knock will be opened unto you. Only, don't forget to knock.

Eaf Buford, Buford, Georgia.—The best and surest way for you to regain your health is to join our PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE. It will cost you practically nothing. All you have to do is to secure four subscribers at fifty cents each, then send your own along with these, making a total of two dollars and fifty cents. This gives you and the subscribers the PARAGON for five years, and makes you a life member of the Circle. You are magnetic and sensitive, and can quickly tell as to whether you like a person or not. Indeed, in time, you will be able to heal others, because your hands are full of curative power. I hope you will soon become one of us, and thus prove for yourself what THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE can do.

"Remember Me," V., Iowa.—To be sure, you can become a clerk in a bank. The very fact alone that you are enthusiastically interested in that line of business, would make you successful in this your chosen career. What you want to do is to go right ahead now and study how to master the details of your business. Any practical bank clerk will be glad to teach you what he knows, for a consideration. As to music, you could study that at home. But don't start in with this study unless you intend to faithfully pursue it. I am afraid, as the case stands, even now you are too ambitious to accomplish too many things. Learn how to do one thing well. Then success is certain to come to you.

"Thyrza," Nebraska.—Yes, You are soon to find comfort, rest and freedom from financial worry. You can certainly succeed as a vital healer, because you possess just enough of both the spiritual and the material make-up to win honors anywhere. Take the trouble to let your friends and acquaintances know of your power to heal. I know dozens of people who would willingly give much to be relieved of headaches. Your physical mediumship is excellent, and I think you have the gift of clairvoyance as well. You are quick to read the minds of others, hence you can act at once and in perfect sympathy with them. Success to you.

S. W. Albug, Albuquerque, New Mexico.—Talented in many ways, firm, courageous and loyal. Not afraid to fight for your rights or those of your friends. You know your own mind, and always give an honest opinion when asked for it. There is much life, energy and magnetism expressed in this firmly, clearly traced handwriting. Your hand and brain work in harmony. You are very proud and would prefer starvation to dependence. A splendid giver, but reluctant to receive. A whole-souled, helpful, generous woman—fond of all the higher pleasures this world can give, and more than willing to pass those pleasures along to others.

"Sook," Silvercreek, Mississippi.—I can only advise you as I have advised others who are looking for practical, financial success, and that is to join THE PARAGON PROSPERITY CIRCLE. Read the conditions at the bottom of the Circle page. I am sure they are easy enough to abide by, and then think what you receive for practically nothing—Health, Prosperity and Power! You are young, energetic and ambitious, and want to make a place for yourself in the world. Your judgments are keen generally, concerning people and events, and for the most part correct. Now, don't waver. Make up your mind that success is to be yours. Then plunge in and win.

All who subscribe now will receive this paper for one whole year, for only 20 cents, or five years for 50 cents.

TRY THIS BICYCLE 10 DAYS FREE



WE WILL SEND YOU THIS BICYCLE to ride ten days FREE, and if you don't say it is the easiest running, highest grade, strongest, handiest, most graceful, comfortable and easy riding bicycle you ever saw, the ten days' trial won't cost you one cent. Our FREE Bicycle Catalogue shows this great genuine ten days' free trial offer. \$11.75 BUYS OUR NEW 1906 MODEL KENWOOD, the long famous \$75.00 bicycle, strictly high grade, worth three of the bicycles sold by others at \$16.00 to \$25.00, a wonderful model, guaranteed for two years and offered on ten days' free trial, all fully illustrated and described in our new Free Special Bicycle Catalogue. In our Free Bicycle Catalogue we show our entire line of beautiful new 1906 model bicycles for men, women, boys and girls, the finest wheels ever put on the market, and our low prices, liberal terms, guarantees, free trial plan, offers, induce the FREE Bicycle Catalogue.

THIS SILVERWARE SET FREE

YOU CAN GET THIS HANDSOME INITIAL SILVERWARE SET (any initial engraved and complete in leatherette case) FREE if you buy from us or take orders for a few bicycles; or you can get your choice of a gun, camera, watch, clock, suit of clothes or many other valuable articles given FREE for sending us your orders. This astonishing offer is also shown in our Free Bicycle Catalogue. Write us a letter or postal note and say: "Send me your Free Bicycle Catalogue," and the big book with handsome pictures of all our new bicycles, showing every place and part, why our bicycles are the highest grade bicycles made in the world, the wonderful construction which makes them so easy running, so strong and durable, why we can make such wonderfully low prices, such liberal terms, such remarkable offers, such broad guarantees, the free silverware offer, our extra offer of valuable articles free, everything will be sent to you at once by return mail, FREE and postpaid. DON'T FAIL TO GET OUR NEW 1906 BICYCLE PROPOSITION; it's a marvelous offer. Write this minute. Address,

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

FREE TO THE RUPTURED



I cure rupture without operation, pain, danger or loss of time. When I say cure I do not mean hold, but a cure that stays cured and does away with all trusses for all time. My method closes the opening with new flesh and muscle in the same easy, safe, yet certain manner that a bricklayer fills up an opening in a wall.

To convince you and your ruptured friends that my Discovery actually cures, I want you to test it without one cent expense to yourself. Remember, I am not trying to sell you a truss, but I offer you an absolute, perfect and permanent cure that means freedom from pain and suffering, a largely increased physical and mental vigor, a fuller enjoyment of life's blessings and years of comfort and satisfaction added to the length of your life.

Do not send any money, simply tell me the size and location of your rupture so I can give you full instructions for curing it.

Do not neglect this important matter a single day or continue to wear cheap, ready-made trusses, nor waste your time or trifle with your life by using any so-called cures, which do not and cannot possibly cure you. My remarkable free offer is the fairest ever made, and should induce you to write me today.

DR. W. S. KICE, 97 Main St., Adams, N. Y.

WE WANT NAMES.

We want YOU to send us the names and addresses of from ten to twenty-five farmers living in the United States, each one having five cows or more. You can send us the names from any number of different post-offices. If you will send us these names we will send you FOUR BEAUTIFUL PICTURES FREE. These pictures are reproductions of the most celebrated paintings in the world, and they are of high quality, and we know that you will be pleased and delighted with them; no pictures will be given for a list of less than ten farmers.

We want to send a sample copy of the special dairy issue of the RURAL HOME to a lot of farmers who are not now taking our paper and that is the reason we want these names. Send us immediately a list of at least ten farmers and we will send you, ABSOLUTELY FREE, FOUR REPRODUCTIONS OF THE WORLD'S FAMOUS PICTURES. Address THE RURAL HOME, 20 North William St., New York, N. Y.



DO YOU KNOW "THE GENTLEWOMAN"?

It is an up-to-date woman's magazine that would interest YOU. Its varied and attractive departments meet every taste and requirement of womanhood; for instance, its BEAUTY PARLOR gives in the next issue an article on "HOW TO GIVE YOURSELF FACIAL MASSAGE" by Isabel Johnson, the well-known beauty specialist, who conducts the department regularly each month, and in the OUT OF DOORS columns of the same number Mr. William Dutcher, the great authority on birds, will tell the readers of "THE GENTLEWOMAN" about "SOME AMERICAN WILD BIRDS." Mr. Dutcher is an enthusiastic follower of the famous Audubon who inspired so many of his countrymen with their ardent love for birds. The above cut gives some idea of what the cover for this number will be like. Inside the magazine will be a charming sketch giving an account of the personal and intimate side of Martha Washington. Nothing like this has ever appeared in such a form before, the facts having been gathered from old records and letters that give the best idea of what this truly great woman was like at home. THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE TO "THE GENTLEWOMAN" IS ONLY 20 CENTS A YEAR. OR, IF YOU WANT THE BEST BARGAIN THAT WAS EVER OFFERED TO A WOMAN, YOU CAN HAVE IT FOR FIVE YEARS FOR ONLY 50 CENTS. BUT SEND NOW, IF YOU WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OFFER. Send 20 cents for one year, or 50 cents for five complete years. Address

THE GENTLEWOMAN,
German Herold Building, New York City.

CURE FOR LIQUOR AND TOBACCO
The Kansas Anti-Liquor Society is mailing free a recipe for the cure of the liquor habit. It can be given secretly in food. Also one for the tobacco habit, that can be given secretly. The only request they make is that you do not sell recipes, but give copies to friends. Address, with stamp, Kansas Anti-Liquor Society, 6, Gray Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Young man (22), splendid character, would like to correspond with a young lady between seventeen and twenty-five. Object future marriage. This and many other similar announcements are printed each month in our Correspondence Club. Send 2 cent stamp for a sample copy of our paper, THE GENTLEWOMAN, 2 North William Street, New York City.

Take Your Pants Off

We will make you a new \$5.00 Pair FREE. And Give You Besides a Fancy Vest and Suit Case with your first order for Suits.



Have your next suit made by the best tailors in the U. S. We are. We make to order from strictly all-wool fashionable clothes cut and tailored in the latest style and finished. Equal to the Very Best SUITS for only \$10.00.

If a suit made by us is not exactly as claimed or if you find a single thread of cotton in the cloth from which we make our \$10 Suits you may keep the Suit and we will give you YOUR MONEY BACK. We have customers in every state of the union now wearing our \$10 Suits, why not you? Remember,

an extra pair of fine worsted stylish \$5.00 pants, also a fancy dress vest, and a patent suit case, all FREE with every suit.

We dress you in style for everyday and all occasions, all for only \$10. Write for free samples, fashion plate, tape and measurement blanks. Address, THE FIFTH AVENUE TAILORS, 557 Kessler Bldg., Chicago, Illinois. Reference: Royal Trust Bank. Capital and surplus, \$900,000.

ACCORDION FREE

A sweet-toned and deep-voiced instrument with which you can play beautiful music for home amusements, concerts and dances. Frame very large, ends 4 1/2 by 21 inches; 10 keys, full set reeds, 2 stops, double bellows, ebonyized case, nickel-plated valves and trimmings. Best value instrument we ever gave. Send us your name and address for only \$5.00 package of BLUINE to sell at 10 cents a package. Return our \$2.50 and we will send you, without delay, the splendid solo accordion as shown and described above. Write today. We are the old, reliable firm which has given away 2,000,000 premiums. Address, BLUINE MFG. CO., 596 Mill St., Concord Junction, Mass.

FREE Gold Watch and Chain with Ring FREE

Beautiful Watch, correct time-keeper guaranteed by makers. American movement. Solid Gold case looks like a Solid Gold Watch and weighs only three ounces. The Chain is handsomely designed in gold plate. The Ring is 14 karat Solid Gold filled, hand-chased and will wear for years. Send your name and address for 2 pieces Swell Art Jewelry to sell at 10 cents each. When sold we will send you all three premiums. FRIEND SUPPLY CO., Dept. 557, BOSTON, MASS.

Pain Paint

Return this with 50 one-cent stamps and I will mail you a Dollar of Wolcott's Pain Paint powder, with full directions to make sixty 25-cent bottles. Pain Paint stops pain instantly; removes Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, in one minute; cools faster than ice; burns will not blister. A spoonful taken four times a day kills Dyspepsia. Sold 40 years by agents E. L. WOLCOTT, Wolcott Building, New York.

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME.

\$1200 year and upwards can be made taking our Veterinary Course a home during spare time; taught in simplest English; Diploma granted, positions obtained for successful students; post within reach of all; satisfaction guaranteed; particulars free. ONTARIO VETERINARY CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL, Dept. 10, London, Can.-la.

How Deaf People are Made to Hear

Sound Magnifiers Invented
by a Kentuckian.

Invisible, When Worn, but Act
Like Eye-Glasses.

Ever see a pair of Sound Magnifiers?

They are so soft in the ears one can't tell they are wearing them.

And, no one else can tell either, because they are out of sight when worn. Wilson's Ear Drums are to weak hearing what spectacles are to weak sight.

Because, they are sound-magnifiers, just as glasses are sight-magnifiers.

They rest the Ear Nerves by taking the strain off them—the strain of trying to hear dim sounds. They can be put into the ears, or taken out, in a minute, just as comfortably as spectacles can be put on and off.

And, they can be worn for weeks at a time, because they are ventilated, and so soft

in the ear holes they are not felt even when the head rests on the pillow. They also protect any raw inner parts of the ear from wind or cold, dust, or sudden and piercing sounds.

The principal of these little telephones is to make it as practical for a deaf person to hear weak sounds as spectacles make it easy to read fine print. And, the longer one wears them the better his hearing should grow, because they rest up, and strengthen the ear nerves. To rest a weak ear from straining is like resting a strained wrist from working.

Wilson's Ear Drums rest the Ear Nerves by making the sounds louder, so it is easy to understand without trying and straining. They make Deaf people cheerful and comfortable, because such people can talk with their friends without the friends having to shout back at them. They can hear without straining. It is the straining that puts such a queer, anxious look on the face of a deaf person.

Wilson's Ear Drums make all the sound strike hard on the center of the human ear drum, instead of spreading it weakly all over the surface. It thus makes the center of the human ear drum vibrate ten times as much as if the same sound struck the whole drum head. It is this vibration of the ear drum that carries sound to the hearing Nerves. When we make the drum vibrate ten times as much we make the sound ten times as loud and ten times as easy to understand.

Deafness, from any cause, ear-ache, buzzing noises in the head, raw and running ears, broken ear-drums, and other ear troubles, are relieved and cured by the use of these comfortable little ear-resters and sound-magnifiers.

A sensible book, about Deafness, tells how they are made, and has printed in it letters from hundreds of people who are using them.

Clergymen, Lawyers, Physicians, Telegraph Operators, Trainmen, Workers in Boiler Shops and Foundries—four hundred people of all ranks who were Deaf, tell their experience in this free book. They tell how their hearing was brought back to them almost instantly, by the proper use of Wilson's Ear Drums.

Some of these very people may live near you, and be well known to you. What they have to say is mighty strong proof.

This book has been the means of relieving thousands of Deaf people. It will be mailed free to you if you merely write a post card for it today. Don't put off getting back your hearing. Write now, while you think of it. Get the free book of proof.

Write for it today to The Wilson Ear Drum Co., 579 Todd Building, Louisville, Ky.



Told by the Fireside

By OLIE MAXFIELD

OUR home is way down over the southern border of Arizona, in that dreamy old country, Mexico. It stands in the hills—a massive pile of rocks, older than the oldest inhabitants of the surrounding country. Tradition said it had been built by the Jesuits for a mission, but the Apaches, resenting the white men's advances, had murdered the little settlement.

My brother and I were born here, and our mother had never known another home.

We, my brother and I, called the old place "The Pile," and gradually the servants and the Spaniards of the surrounding country have adopted the name, until now, if you were to come here, anyone could direct you to "The Pile."

It is not prepossessing as a building and yet there is something weird about it. The massive rock house, which might be called a castle is set in a garden of beautiful flowering shrubs and southern vines. You reach it by a winding path up the hillside, through groves and beside little streams.

One side of the house, the old historical portion, is almost hidden by vines, some of which are in bloom nearly the entire year. To the right of "The Pile," perhaps five or six and twenty rods from the original building, rises a broken marble slab, which marks the last resting place of our maternal grandfather. I remember playing there with my brother all during the long summer days, with our mother sitting on a rustic bench sewing and our dear grandmother beside her, with us yet not seeing us, dreaming of the past when yonder sleeper wooed and won her in her Northern home among New England hills.

Sometimes she would wake from her reverie and tell us children of her girlhood days. Ah! those must have been happy times "when Grandma Carthage was a girl."

For over forty years she had lived here and never been any further from "The Pile" than grandfather's grave. She spent every pleasant day there at his tomb, dreaming of the past parting and the future meeting. She had her own chapel adjoining her room, where, even yet, we gather for family worship.

In the warm, dreamy evenings we would gather around her chair, in her cozy sitting-room, especially during the damp winter season, when a cheerful fire was kept burning in the open grate.

The rainy season set in early this year, and never before did we enjoy those happy evenings in our grandma's room as we did that winter. My brother Lawrence had returned to "The Pile" to spend the holidays. On Christmas Eve we were sitting by the open grate, popping corn and telling stories, much to the delight of our elders. Laurie had related a wonderful tale of the pranks played on the worthy professor and had completed the series of stories by one of a "ghost."

This set us all to telling of haunted houses, headless bodies and other equally exciting visitations.

I said that all shared in this sport. Grandma Carthage sat in the centre of the group, her head resting on a cushion and her eyes studying the portrait of her husband, which hangs over the mantel. My mother saw, and correctly translating her mood, kept us talking—father, Laurie and I—until grandma, noting a pause, said with such a sad look in her eyes: "Children, I do not feel as strong as usual to-night. I fear I will not be with you many more times, but when I have passed to the other shore, I shall like to think that you are all sitting here as we have for so many years. I want you to feel that, although I have passed from you, I have only gone before. I want to tell you one more story, the last I shall probably ever tell you. It is sacred to me, therefore it will be such to you."

"You all know the story of my girlhood—how I was born and raised in the dear old New England hills. I was sixteen when I first met your grandfather—Allan Carthage. He was very handsome and popular. The son of a wealthy Senator never lacks popularity and friends.

"Our love was mutual from the first, and in less than two years we were married. "Soon after our marriage, not over a year, the Mexican War broke out, and my husband enlisted. My whole life seemed to go with him that sad day as I stood at the door of our cottage and watched him until he was far down the little village street, so tall and handsome in the evening twilight. I never saw him after that," and Grandma Carthage wiped away a tear.

"One day, about three months after he left, I was busy about my work. The sun never shone brighter and has not since," with a sigh.

"The birds caroled in the trees, flowers bloomed and all Nature seemed jubilant over the return of summer. It was one of those rare days when you feel restless and long to be doing. I remember I was singing an old love song, when I heard a quick step on the porch, and my mother came into the kitchen.

In her hand she held a letter, and I knew, without anything terrible had happened, that she had just received a letter from Allan. "What has happened?" she asked. "Allan is here!"

husband, had been killed in an encounter with the Mexicans. They said I stood like one dazed, and as the news in all of its terror penetrated my benumbed brain I fainted.

"Many long days wore themselves into weeks before I regained consciousness, and when I did your mother, my poor, fatherless babe, was placed in my arms.

"The weary war dragged to an end, and one day I received a letter from my husband's colonel. He said that my husband had been faithful and brave and had died like a hero. He was wounded several times, but not fatally, and insisted on staying on the field until he fainted from the loss of blood. He was carried to an improvised hospital, where he died, and they laid him to rest near by.

"My mother had died during the war and left a large fortune to be equally divided between my brother Henry and myself, and this, with my husband's estate, left me independent.

"A great longing to see my husband's last resting place caused me to persuade my brother to bring me here, but he did not consent without considerable coaxing.

"On arriving here, after a long and tiresome journey, for you see we did not have as easy a time traveling then as now, we found many evidences of the fierce battle that had been fought here only a few months before.

"We made inquiries and found the negro who had helped to nurse the wounded, and he told me about my husband.

"He remembered him well as a very brave man. He pointed out the spot where he received his wounds, the room in which he died and his bare, unmarked grave. He told me that the place was for sale, that it was impossible to find a purchaser, as it was said to be haunted, and he related tales that would vie with yours, Laurie, in the spectral line.

"It was no easy matter to persuade Henry to let me buy it, but again I carried my point, but only on condition that he and his wife were to live here with me. So it was settled, and we came here to live, over forty years ago: I have never left these hills, nor shall I. Your mother was educated in the States, where she met your father, Francis Rivers, and they were married here, and you two, Laurie and Elaine, were born here.

"I remember as well as though it were only yesterday the first day and night spent here. Henry and his wife occupied the little room adjoining mine, now my chapel; I stayed here in the room where my husband died. I could not sleep, so I slipped on a loose dress and sat down by the window, thinking and mourning. The marble monument gleamed in the pure, silvery moonlight. I could see the tall, white lilies nodding their pretty heads in the soft breeze, and it seemed as though I could almost read the inscription on the stone:

"ALLAN CARTHAGE,
"Jan. 20th, 1822—June 24th, 1846,"

and below it the words:

"Greater love hath no man than this—that he lay down his life for his friends."

"My baby's cradle stood there, just where your mother is sitting, and the quiet breathing told me that she slept.

"I sat there in deepest misery for a long time, it might have been two or three hours when suddenly the lonely, desolate feeling left me, and I seemed to be at peace. I cannot describe it; I seemed to know that I was safe and to feel my husband's protecting presence. It was like sitting beside him in the dark, without touching, seeing or hearing him. I did not pause to reason. I simply realized that my husband's wondrous love had conquered all obstacles and come to me from the great Unknown, through the Gates of Death.

"For an indefinite length of time we sat there in silent communion. Then some impulse caused me to rise, and crossing the room, I knelt at my baby's cradle. For only a few minutes the living and the dead knelt beside the silent sleeper, and then, with what seemed to me a soft caress, he left me. As I felt him leave me something seemed to snap here—laying her hand on the base of her brain—and I awoke from what seemed to be a stupor.

"I rose and went to the window. Everything was as quiet and peaceful as before. The moon shone just as brilliantly, and the fragrance of the jessamine was carried in through the open window. It certainly was not a dream, for I had not slept, nor did I that night. Daylight found me still sitting by the window.

"With the return of the sun came my brother's wife, to see how I had slept. She was very frightened when she saw the bed untouched and me dressed by the window, nor did it ease her mind any when I told her of the night's experience. She tried to persuade me to go to bed and let her send for a doctor, but I knew that I was not sick. I saw how earnest I was she changed her mood and humored me.

"I know that you think my broodings have turned my brain, but, be as it is, my life has been happier for it, and when I die I pray that it may be there by the window where I have passed so many peaceful hours.

"Now, kiss me and go; I am not as strong as usual to-night."

We did not laugh at our grandma, but each received her "good-night kiss" and left her in silence.

In the morning, when we went to her room, we found her sitting in her armchair by the window—dead—with a peaceful smile on her lips. Her spirit had passed over the river into that vast, unknown future. She had gone as she had wished—with her husband.

As I gazed at her peaceful face I wondered if her trouble had really turned her brain, or is it possible for such deep, true love to return to its companion spirit? Let none of us judge.

Whether real or imaginary, the presence of her husband had helped her to pass many a sad, restless hour. It taught her submission, faith and love, and gave to us a sweet companion.

Another mound was built beside grandfather's and another inscription was carved on the monument:

"HELEN COSWELL CARTHAGE,
August 4, 1826—May 29, 1894."

♦♦♦

DEATHLESS

THERE lies in the centre of each man's heart

A longing and love for the good and pure.

And if but an atom or larger part,

I tell you this shall endure, endure,

After the body has gone to decay—

Yea, after the world has passed away.

The longer I live and the more I see

Of the struggle of souls toward heights above,

The stronger this truth comes home to me,

That the Universe rests on the shoulders of

Love—

Love so limitless, deep and broad

That men have renamed it and called it God.

And nothing that ever was born or evolved,

Nothing created by light or force,

But deep in its system there lies dissolved

A shining drop from the great Love Source—

A shining drop that shall live for aye,

Though kingdoms may perish and stars may die.

Elia Wheeler Wilcox.

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If you are afflicted with a humiliating, disgusting growth of hair, or any other blemish on face, neck, arms or hands, write me at once and I will tell you how to DESTROY IT FOREVER FREE. Many claim to remove hair (temporarily). I enable you to absolutely kill it forever at home, privately, painlessly without the slightest risk of bad effects, and at the same time to secure a perfect complexion and be Beautiful. Don't experiment with dangerous apparatus, lotions, liquids, powders, etc. My method is endorsed by scientists and doctors, and is guaranteed by me. (\$100,000 assets back of my guarantee.) Write today and be glad forever. Remember this offer is free. Simply write me.

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"THE PETITE"

14-Karat Gold-Plated
Handsome Engraved with
Your Initial on the Case.

The minute you see this handsome little watch, you are sure to exclaim, "Isn't it a darling!"

I have had one of the largest and most reliable watch manufacturers in the United States working for three years on a small, dainty lady's watch, and at last they have succeeded. "THE PETITE" is the result—it is the smallest, daintiest and prettiest lady's watch.

Your Own Initial Engraved on the Case

I am determined to please you, I am going to engrave your own initial on the case of this charming little watch. Can you imagine anything more beautiful than a small 14-Karat gold-plated watch with your initial engraved on the case? FULLY GUARANTEED—I am not only offering you the smallest and handsomest lady's watch, but also a watch that will keep perfect and accurate time. The watch is fully warranted by the manufacturers.

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I give every girl and every lady an opportunity to get one of these beautiful little gold-plated "Petite" watches. If YOU want one, send me your name and address and I will immediately send you 30 packages of quick-selling novelties. You are to sell these novelties at only 10 cents each, and when sold send me the \$3.00 you have collected, and I will at once forward you a "Petite" gold-plated watch with your own initial handsomely engraved on the case without cost.

You are at no expense, whatever. I take all the risk. I will send you a quick-selling novelty.

WILLIAM S. GARDNER, 20 South Park, New York, N. Y.

GORPOSANTS

By William Alva

ONCE in mid-ocean, when the air was charged with electricity, it was our privilege to observe this beautiful form of Nature's electric display, from which no damage can result directly.

At the extremity of each tapering mast there was visible a weird, flickering flame, or luminous brush. Some say that such sights are not uncommon at sea during thunderstorms, but we are of opinion that seamen may be years afloat without witnessing one.

Sailors speak of these electric illuminations as "St. Elmo's Fire."

These manifestations were well known to the ancients, and being unexplainable in the remote past, very naturally excited the superstitious awe of mankind. Caesar states that one night a dense cloud arose, followed by a hailshower, and on the same night it was noticed that the points of the spears of the fifth legion glowed spontaneously. Seneca gives a description of a star that settled on the lance of Gylippus as he sailed toward Syracuse. Pliny is still more explicit. He had watched these striking apparitions glowing upon the points of the soldiers' spears, while patrolling the ramparts by night. Similarly Livy relates that some soldiers in Sicily seemed to carry spears tipped with fire.

In the "Philosophical Transactions" for 1745 it is stated that Alphonso d'Ovale, when traveling on the highest mountains of Chile and Peru, was an eyewitness of something similar. Both the men and the beasts of burden shone from top to toe with a bright light.

Coming down to more modern days, we find that some officers at Algiers in 1831 were walking with heads uncovered, along the terrace of the fort, when they were amazed at beholding each one's hair stand erect, like "the quills of the fretful porcupine." Every separate hair was embellished with a tiny luminous tuft; every finger-tip glowed on raising their hands above their heads.

Strange to say, in August of the same year a similar scene was being rehearsed at Barbados. The Rev. Mr. Pindar was watching two negroes wending their way across his garden during the height of a hurricane, when he was surprised by seeing St. Elmo's fire resting upon them, and sparks passed from one of the negroes, much to the consternation of his companion and himself.

A writer in the French scientific paper, *La Nature*, vividly described his peculiar experience while traveling in Persia, where atmospheric electricity was most marked.

On a dark night they were marching along with the caravan. Suddenly the tails of the mules glowed supernaturally in the gloom. Moreover, sheaves of sparks flew from the flanks of the plodding animals whenever they flicked their bodies with their tails. The disruption of the fibres, caused by slowly tearing a sheet of paper, gave rise to a lively glow.

Corposants have often been seen upon church steeples and even the extremities of branches of trees have been illuminated with a pale blue tinge.

Columbus, in 1493, on his second voyage, was under the influence of a severe storm, with thunder and lightning, which boded ill for the safety of his frail craft. Then, in the quaint diction of the old-time translator, St. Elmo appeared on the topgallantmast with seven lighted tapers.

Good churchman as Columbus was, his thoughts reverted to the sacred fane where probably prayers were regularly offered up for his safe return.

His rude sailors were convinced that this display proceeded from the body of the saint. Litanies were piously chanted and thanksgivings proclaimed, because they thought that as soon as St. Elmo blessed them with his peculiar presence the storm had certainly passed over them and sail could soon be made.

Magellan's seamen were firmly possessed with a similar superstition. Good old Dampier has left a well-drawn word-picture of a storm which he experienced near Canton River in 1687.

When the thunder and rain had abated a corposant was seen at the maintopmasthead, on the very summit of the iron spindle which carries the vane.

This lurid light made his people rejoice exceedingly, for he says the height of a storm is generally over when corposants are seen perched aloft.

A corposant is, as it were, the cherub that sits up aloft to watch over the life of poor Jack, who certainly cannot cry "Save me from my friends."

Their pleasing anticipations, however, were not realized, as it eventually blew harder than ever.

Some shipmasters are of opinion that corposants portend worse weather. In 1696 a ship was caught in a thunderstorm in the vicinity of the Balearic Isles, when more than thirty corposants were shining in full splendor at one time. An exceptionally fine specimen on the vane of the mainmast was more than eighteen inches in length.

Our ancient mariner was of a curious turn of mind. He sent a man up to the masthead to bring down the vane, which, being accomplished, the lambent light remained at the pinnacle of the spar without diminution of intensity, until it vanished on the dissipation of the atmospheric electricity.

A brand-new ship, the *Dover*, when in mid-Atlantic on the 9th of January, 1749, had some very large corposants make their appearance on the vane spindles at her mastheads.

Shortly afterward she was struck by lightning, as often happened in those days when lightning conductors were unknown, which inverted the polarity of her compass needles.

Most magnificent illuminations, both by lightning and by corposants, are occasionally seen by those that go down to the sea in ships.

The ship *Southern Cross*, Captain Howe, was in fifty-eight degrees south, seventy degrees west, on a night in the month of September. The heavens were intensely black and starless. Her crew were witnesses of such a sublime sight as seldom falls to the lot of man.

The struggling ship plunged heavily, burying her bows beneath the boisterous billows that threatened to overwhelm her at the behest of the biting blast, which shrieked across her rigging in its mad career. As if at the touch of an enchanter's wand, the seldom-seen Aurora Australis became visible. At once the ship, the sea and sky were illuminated with a deep crimson glow, as though in the presence of awful conflagrations. St. Elmo's fire nestled high aloft on the extremities of her spars.

It was a sight surpassing in its grandeur any transformation scene, with its gorgeous mountings, that even the most skilful could produce.

In August, 1881, in fifty-eight degrees south, sixty-two degrees west, the large iron ship *Oimara* met a heavy gale, accompanied by snow. At early morn she was intensely illuminated. A corposant shone on each masthead, like electric lights; but softer and of a bluer tinge. Nearly all the ends of the crossyards, the thicker ropes and the masts on the sides which faced the wind were covered with small, star-like lights.

The large iron sailing ship, *British Merchant*, was about six degrees due south of the Cape of Good Hope, when she was struck by a squall, toward the close of a stormy night, in May, 1880. Men and boys were hastened aloft to shorten sail and make her snug.

Suddenly St. Elmo's fire appeared at her mastheads, yardarms, and perched upon her rigging at various places. The brilliancy of these weird meteors decreased from the trucks toward the deck; but the features of the crew stretched along the topsail yard were plainly perceptible, although the night had hitherto been as dark as Erebus.

The steamship *Cephalonia*, a Cunarder, when off Cape Cod on the 7th of October, 1888, had a heavy thunderstorm at 2 a.m. Lightning ran down the rigging and played about the deck like molten silver. Corposants at her mastheads and yardarms were preternaturally brilliant.

About two o'clock in the afternoon of a lovely day in May the steamship *Kaskoura* was in the vicinity of the River Plate, making the best of her way home.

A strong breeze blew, but the weather was fine and the sky clear. Without warning, a small ball of electricity struck the steamer about her bridge, directly between the officer of the watch and a quartermaster. It shone with a pale blue light for three or four seconds, and emitted a sound similar to that caused by the discharge of a small pistol.

Other examples might be given, but enough has been written to shadow forth the glories of God which may be seen in His works both ashore and afloat.

SUBJECTS OF THOUGHT IMMORTALITY

I KNOW not of what good fate my thoughts have been always fixed upon things to come, more than upon things present. These I know by certain experience to be but trifles; and if there be nothing more considerable to come, the whole being of man is nothing better than a trifle. But there is room enough before us, in what we call eternity, for great and noble scenes; and the mind of man feels itself lessened and straitened in this low and narrow state, and wishes and waits to see something greater. And if it could discern another world coming, on this side of eternal life, a beginning glory, the best which earth can bear, it would be a kind of immortality to enjoy that prospect beforehand, to see, when this theatre is dissolved, where we shall act next, and what parts, what saints and heroes, if I may so say, will appear on that stage, and with what lustre and excellency. How easy it would be, under a view of these futurities, to despise the little mops and honors, and the momentary pleasures of mortal life.—Lord Bacon.

Our minds are much disturbed by vain imaginations, and disease in both mind and body is often created. Much of our misery is due to our thinking we need this thing and that thing to make us happy, or this and that place to reside in. Our ambitions are usually far beyond our powers to realize them. The soul whispers patience and a rational contentment, and when the mind obeys its voice we are more at ease. To manifest the divine within, we must not look for power without. External conditions are always adjusted to a right balance by Internal action of the soul. The Yogi Adepts say: "Each soul is potentially divine. The goal of all souls is to manifest this divinity within by controlling Nature—external and internal. Do this either by Work, or Worship, or Psychic Control or Philosophy, by one or more, or all of these—and be Free. This is the whole of Religion. Doctrines or Dogmas or Rituals or Books or Temples or Forms are but incidental and secondary details."

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LOSS OF SIGHT, DEAFNESS, CONSUMPTION and many other afflictions find their origin in Catarrh poison lurking in the blood and cannot be cured until this primary cause is removed. Read carefully the following symptoms.

EYE Do your eyes water; do they itch or burn; does matter accumulate in corners of eyes during sleep; is vision impaired; are the eye-lids inflamed or granulated? If so, you need the best treatment obtainable.

HEAD AND THROAT This form of Catarrh is most common, resulting from neglected cold. Is your nose tender or stopped up; does your nose discharge; is there pain in the front of head; do you hawk to clear the throat; is your throat dry in the morning; do you sleep with your mouth open? You can easily be cured now—do not allow it to become complicated.

BRONCHIAL TUBES When Catarrh of the head or throat is neglected or improperly treated, it extends down the wind-pipe into the bronchial tubes and in a short time it attacks the lungs. Have you a cough; do you take cold easily; have you pain in the side; do you raise frothy matter or spit up little cheesy lumps; are you growing weaker? It is dangerous to neglect these warnings. Stop the disease before it reaches the lungs.

EARS Catarrh extends from the throat along the Eustachian Tubes into the ears, frequently causing partial or complete deafness. Is your hearing falling; do your ears discharge; do you hear better some days than others; do you have roaring or cracking or other noises in your head? You need prompt treatment.

KIDNEY DISEASES result in two ways; by taking cold, and by overworking the kidneys in separating the Catarrhal poison which affects all organs. Do your hands and feet swell; do you notice it more at night; is there a pain in the small of back; has the perspiration a bad odor; is there puffiness under the eyes; do you have to get up during the night? Watch out for Bright's Disease.

LIVER DISEASES The liver is frequently affected by Catarrhal poisons carried from the stomach through the ducts into the liver. Do you get dizzy; see specks before the eyes; have you cold feet; feel generally miserable; get tired easily; have hot flashes; easily discouraged; rumbling in the bowels; constipated; sallow skin? If you have any of these symptoms, prompt treatment is necessary.

STOMACH Catarrh of the stomach is due to swallowing mucus which drops from the head and throat during sleep. Do you suffer from nausea; or belch up gas; is your tongue coated; do you bloat after eating; is there a constant bad taste in the mouth; have you a foul disagreeable breath; do you vomit or spit up your food? If you neglect these symptoms, you will surely regret it.

NERVOUS DISEASES The majority of nervous diseases are caused by poisons in the blood. Is your mind dull; are you easily excited; does your heart flutter; do your muscles twitch; are you irritable; suffer from sleeplessness; do you get up as tired as when you went to bed; do you suffer from Neuralgia; do you have bad dreams; have you gloomy forebodings and always a feeling that something is going to happen? To delay treatment is dangerous.

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Mrs. E. M. Graham, Odessa, Texas.—Am delighted to know you want to become a life member of The Prosperity Circle. The conditions are that you send your own subscription and four new subscriptions, for five years each, at our special price of fifty cents. Upon receipt of the four subscriptions with two dollars, together with your own, making two dollars and fifty cents in all, you are entered on our membership books as a Full Life Member enjoying all the privileges of the Circle with no further dues or payments of any kind whatsoever. Your dream of floating denotes that you will victoriously overcome obstacles which are seemingly overwhelming you. The repetition of the dream is a double assurance of this.

Miss Mabel Turney, 320 W. Brooks St., Galesburg, Illinois.—Your dream is both good and bad. Riding on the bicycle in itself signifies bright prospects, but the darkness and mud, and the fact that no assistance of any kind was near means that you will have cause to lose confidence in friendships, and there might be losses and disturbances in family circles.

Mrs. Dora Hurley, 227 So. 7th St., Arkansas City, Kansas.—Because you do not go to dances in reality, is no reason why you should dream of doing so. One can dream of almost anything. Some unexpected good fortune is coming to you through seeing the trees. The black crow will bring some worry.

E. Bane, Moonstown, Pennsylvania.—It certainly is a strange coincidence that all your family have dreamed along the same lines. It must be that you are very closely and harmoniously united. Hearing the singing betokens a cheerful spirit and happy companions. Receiving the three letters containing the information mentioned holds a warning that you must guard your health. Simply live upon a wholesome diet, breathe plenty of fresh air, and take a daily walk. This should be very easy to do where you live. I can only say that if you neglect to follow this advice, your health will suffer, and your dreams will be unpleasant as well.

Minnie Blaco, 2240 Spring Grove, Cincinnati, Ohio.—The reason your cousin did not speak was because it was your place to speak first. He passed with the hope that you would. A reconciliation can be easily effected. It all rests with you. Being able to raise your body at will, as described, partakes of the nature of flying, and it means that some unexpected happiness is coming to your family through a conversation you will have with a friend. The crowd of people eating and making merry denotes personal gain, cheerful environments and prosperous undertakings. You did not mention the kind of flowers growing in the public garden.

"Jet," Barry, Illinois.—Naturally, all sorts and conditions of people come to you for sympathy and aid. You possess great vitality and vibratory force through electromagnetic influences. Anybody who comes under your personal guidance is benefited, and it is your duty to cultivate these God-given talents to their fullest extent. To see or use spoons in a dream, denotes favorable signs of advancement. Domestic affairs will be brighter and happier. Naturally, I am much interested as to the outcome of the spoon you found, and I hope you will keep your promise and tell me exactly what happens.

"Rosita," San Francisco, California.—Your aunt and cousin, from whom you have been estranged so long, are evidently making overtures to restore the former happy relations. Bringing the bunches of flowers would indicate this. There was a beautiful spirit shown on your part when you offered your cousin a cup of water from the scant store you had on hand. The one is the complement of the other—I mean, the flowers being brought to you, and your giving him the water. The other person you refer to has no intention whatever of doing you an injury by word or deed. The disagreeable coincidences are the result of an entirely different chain of events.

Mrs. Melissa Miller, Reedley, Fresno Co., California.—There is no trouble ahead for you, but there is for the man in armor. All your troubles will be dropped as one would a cloak because the waters receded from you, and did not in any way reach your feet. The second dream is finer and broader. Sailing on an open, clear sea with a congenial companion means that the many hopes you have so long cherished will become realities. Even the promise given you in the dream was a splendid one, and if you want to enjoy what was promised, just keep your mind on the dream as much as you can. The desired result will come quicker in this way.

"Forsaken," Carrick, Pennsylvania.—To be sure, the first part of the dream was anything but pleasant. The events in the second part redeem it beautifully. The command you received from the priest with the white dove appearing on his shoulder should make a lasting impression, for it means you are to enjoy the confidence and loyalty of your friends. The ending of this peculiar dream was particularly spiritual. It looks as if you would have unexpected news of the recovery of a friend you had mourned as dead. Many more dreams on the same plane should come to you, and I trust you will let me know when they do.

Mrs. Claudia Mott, Sydney, Florida.—Thank you very much for your appreciative words as to the high aims of THE PARAGON. Yes, I think you are right in saying it is the only magazine lending its columns to the interpretation of dreams. Your own dream carries a warning to be careful in the choice of your companions. This is a most important thing to do, that is, if you wish to be successful. You will have a disagreeable encounter with a friend, but it will amount to nothing except for the time being. The new part of the rosebush means that you will make new friends and keep them—the old part, that you will drop some of your old friends—the undesirable ones.

O. B. I., Olive Branch, Illinois.—The dream, as you give it, means, for a man, that he will be arraigned for some illegal action, and that many most annoying things will occur to bother you during business hours. If a woman has this dream, she will fail to hold her husband's affections, letting her temper and spite overwhelm her at the least provocation. If it is with her husband's friend, she will be justly ignored by her husband. Her rights will be cruelly trampled upon by him. The man may think he can escape with a lighter punishment than the woman, but in the end he pays the price just the same.

Mrs. Jennie W. Blount, 1306 W. Clay St., Richmond, Virginia.—While your dream was a very short one, it is rather significant. The crowd of people standing on the banks would mean that you are to enjoy many pleasant associations with friends. Being rescued from any danger denotes that you will be threatened with some small misfortune, and you will escape with a slight loss. Now, do not allow this to dwell on your mind for a moment, for all of us must go through the same experience some time in our lives. Just keep up your courage, and never be afraid to relate your dreams just as they occur. It is the best way in which to get the clearest and true meaning.

Myra Briggs, Donze, West Virginia.—Quite to the contrary, your dreaming of babies is a sign of good luck—particularly is this the case when a woman has the dream; so you should count yourself doubly happy. As a rule, it means you are about to make new and charming friends, or that old and tried ones are to come into your life again. The significance of the dream would have been finer had one of the babies been your own. You seem to resent the fact that you had this dream. All I can say is that the oftener you dream of the little ones, the luckier will it be for you.

Mrs. H. S. J., Douglass, Kansas.—Your dream contained more incidents than any that have ever come under my notice. The meaning, as I see it, is that you must look out for deceit and double dealing. You will not suffer any serious consequences, to be sure; but even so, be on your guard, for discretion is the better part of valor. The disagreeable plight in which you found yourself in the cellar your friend was building or digging, and the salt banks are the unfavorable signs in the dream that lead me to believe that your affairs are not resting on the solid basis they should.

Jacob Pastor, Canandaigua, New York.—Your dream ends rather abruptly, and unsatisfactorily too, in a measure, but what there is of it is good—very good. It means that you are brave—that you would not hesitate for a moment to make a rescue, even in the face of danger. The fact that you picked up a wad of greenbacks means nothing, but the sailing in the air in an airship means some extra good fortune is coming to you, not necessarily of a financial nature, but more in the line of general success, which is greater, and more to be desired in the end.

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What is Meant by Psychic Development

By MRS. JAMES FRENCH-KING

PSYCHIC development is the awakening of the intellectual consciousness to the "fact" of the superconscious power of the intellectual creature. It is the knowledge gained through interest and effort—without which nothing is ever revealed to the human understanding—of the superphysical energy which lies hidden and secluded here on the "natural plane" of existence.

It is the development which produces evidence of a more advanced state of existence and a finer degree of intelligence than is the present condition of man's consciousness, and it is gained through the efforts and visions of the "credulous," by which all secrets are opened and made manifest to the "practical" doubting Thomases of the "fact" world.

I have said the superconscious and superphysical power and energy which lie hidden and secluded on the "natural plane" of Existence. Now there is no plane of existence which is not natural, whether it is the physical, mental, moral, psychical or spiritual, for they are all expressions of the One Law and it is the Natural or Spiritual Law.

All manifestation is expressed by the natural Law of the Spirit, the primal Energy, which is natural and self-existent. It is the law of the Essence, the Energy of all INTELLIGENCE, manifested or unmanifested.

It operates all the planes of existence, the known and the unknown and unguessed.

On the physical plane of its manifestation it works according to the need and nature of the adjustable compositions of material Substance.

On the mental plane it directs the intellectual action of the attributes which separate and distinguish the mental reasoning creature from the lower or less reasoning brute creature; here it is the Intellectual Law.

On the moral plane it works in accord with the intellectual expression and cultured observances whereby "to civilize the rude, unpolished world," "to make man mild and sociable to man," and "make human nature shine."

This is called the moral law and is developed by men from their intelligence and refinement. It is here that man begins consciously to co-operate with the Higher Intelligence and the natural Energy of the Spirit where he finds the necessity of a discipline of the undeveloped "animal" nature.

Is not this the state of the world to-day, and is it entirely out of the "animal state" yet?

But there is a "sign," many of them, in fact, that mankind has reached a point in its development where it is met with an apparently entirely different expression of power and which is expressed in what is called "phenomena," something that transcends the natural plane of action and hints of another "world" outside of this natural world plane.

Is it? Let us see. We find that we do not have to leave the body in order to secure evidence of this "superphysical," "supernatural," superhuman power; so it must be right here and now that the intellectual powers must be exercised for a knowledge of this new and unexplored region of capacity and "eternal measurement."

Here is a new action of the Natural, Spiritual Law. Who is it that makes this discovery, and how is it done?

The intellectual Creature does it with the mental forces with which he comes armed into this manifestation of Existence, by the mental powers which lift him from one state of consciousness to another, on through the various Substances of his Eternal development, by which he develops his understanding of the hitherto Unrevealed, by which force he makes effort for his release from one state to another, aided by his curiosity, credulity and faith. By these does the Soul knock upon the door of the Unseen, which opens its super-sensitive intellectual Energy, its Spiritual Intelligence inherent in the flesh-incorporated Soul-Man, the Natural man armed with superconscious power, superhuman intelligence, superphysical strength, supernatural energy, who has the capacity to unwrap the "coiled" forces within himself and discovers new and hitherto unused power, not only within himself, but all about him.

On this plane of fresh experiences we find that the "faculties" must be directed to a finer inspection than has been necessary in the plane of purely intellectual gatherings of information and purely materialistic searches.

The operations of the Law here are super-fine and subtle and act with the finer internalized "mentation" of the faculties, which prove the presence of the intellectual Essence, and reveal another department of the ever-expanding nature: A supersensuous, super-conscious plane of phenomenal energy and ability; that is, something not known before or acknowledged.

Here is where we come into contact with a new order of things, and so it is NAMED the Psychic Law, or the law of the Soul, which operates and is operated upon, according to the nature and purpose of its Creation.

There are but One God, One Nature, One Law. Within each of these is the manifestation of the ONE Intelligence in which are infinite revelation, unfoldment and manifestation.

Development means "to open that which is wrapped up in an envelope" through effort, either consciously as in man or unconsciously as in the animal or the plant.

Psychic development is the soul's effort for manifesting its consciousness on the physical plane, where everything must be manifested in order to become known and of "practical" service and use to the Inhabitant who is to have dominion "over the whole earth."

Now, is not this Inhabitant a natural production, as well as a natural producer? Is he not armed with internal powers for this evidence of production?

What are these powers which cause him to produce evidence?

They are his Faculties, NINE "sacred heralds" of the greatest forces in the Universe for opening the secrets of Nature and developing its hidden and secluded resources.

The Plane is then within MAN himself, who is an eternal Inhabitant of all the Natural Worlds in an eternity of Existences and manifestations.

You ask me what is the spiritual plane; it is a culmination of all the planes, a gain of ascendancy where KNOWLEDGE begins to open its coils of Wonders to the Spiritual intelligence of the spiritually developed creature, the natural Man who, having passed through all planes, is all that has ever been, and having gained, through the exercise of his intellectual Faculties all the intelligence below him (or back of him, for there are no directions in the growth of intelligence) he is ready to enter into the newer plane of that real Knowing, which he is beginning to guess about even now; just now he is beginning to realize the finer forces of his nature and the natural world about him, which his faculties have, through his efforts, developed to his consciousness.

Nothing so Natural as the Spiritual World and all its marvels!

"Every phase and form of life, the fundamental principle is superphysical or spiritual," and it might have been added natural. Why, the world is just beginning to awaken from its physical plane of existence and is slowly merging into the Psychical consciousness, where it will exist a long time before it will begin to make practical use of its marvelous energy.

How else does the Race climb but through these intellectual efforts of the intellectual creature?

"The seeker after the occult has no need of leaving his own personal premises to find what he seeks." This is saying that each one has the natural ability for gaining this super-conscious information and manifesting his own evidence.

Now nothing of any importance (on any plane) is developed either to a nation or to a man until they are ready for it, and seek

(Continued on page 16)

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for it; nothing comes unsought, not even disaster. We make our own Day of Judgment, right here and now.

The Psychic plane is not yet consciously serviceable to men, for it is not yet sought for that purpose, not much beyond the idle curiosity of the doubting Thomases (for he had, if you remember, "the curiosity to examine the signs of the crucifixion"), and so the intellectual consciousness is not yet sufficiently awakened or exercised for a serviceable use in the practical affairs of mankind.

It has operated naturally all along, but the world has not been developed to its service. Electricity has been eternally serviceable, but man has not yet developed his need nor his intellectual understanding to its practical power and his ability to harness and control it.

Psychic power is incalculably more powerful, more serviceable, but we must wait for the need before we can expect to see its service.

At present it is superserviceable and must wait for the higher exercise of the Soul's intellectual powers and the general interest in order to make it useful. The need for it must be developed first.

Each Plane has its Era of development; every age of the world's history accords to this, in a correspondence of definite marks of change and wide departure from the old, which is not seen at the time, but which is revealed in future "summings up."

In the future this age will be looked upon as one of the greatest the old Earth has ever experienced and the children of men have ever developed.

God never leaves the world without a Witness to His marvelous power and Immanency. There are always those who bear testimony to Wonders and Signs long before the Mass are able to recognize the possibility of a new and better way.

Jesus Christ has been the greatest expression of Psychic understanding this planet has ever known. His words and His deeds, as well as Himself, were prophetic of the present day. His miracles were "facts" of psychic power, but the people would (could) not believe. Prophecy is never recognized until it has "come to pass." In the day to come the world will understand His work and His coming.

Prophecies have not yet been recognized, except by "the few, who are, in themselves, prophecies of the New Time, so close at hand; these are the leaven in the lump of the New Humanity."

A psychic consciousness is the next step in the development of this humanity; the masses are being slowly delivered of their ignorance and consequent weakness. 'Tis true, there is much vagueness as yet, and a "tropical principle" of terms in the teaching and suggestions for development, and necessarily so, because with every new de-

velopment, in whatever line, a new language must be manufactured, wherewith to expound the method and measure of its purpose.

How is this psychic consciousness gained? By the use of the Soul's intellectual faculties, the exercise of mental attention, and in no other way under heaven, for there is no other way by which a man may be saved save through the exercise of his soul's power!

All development comes through Meditation—consciously or unconsciously.

Man's redemption is within himself; in the action and assertion of the faculties of the SOUL.

A little of the Infinite is projected into the consciousness by a little attention to the large subject of the Infinite, but excite the mind with a larger and a more continued attention and Meditation and there will be seen and felt, heard, tasted, and smelt, the open fields of the Infinite expanse, of which no one may dream who has not vitalized his Perception, his Imagination (that Prophet of the mind) and his entire mental force with effort for this finer life of the Soul.

What are the signs which attend those who are developing the psychic nature?

It would create a great "stir" in the religious world, and in society generally, if the deep and earnest interest that is being taken by many of the most learned divines, as well as intellectual "lights," was known—men and women who would not care to be "classed" among the "sensitives, who are visited daily by the people," to have it known that they were experiencing peculiar developments for which, in many ways, they cannot account, and seeking with all the intelligence they are able to command to account for the "added" power that has come upon them, almost without seeking. "Signs" are indeed attending many in these "latter days."

A general sensitiveness to condition is prevailing to quite a remarkable extent. I know of several persons (and not women at that) who are perfectly aware of the approach of any sort of change in the weather by the peculiar sensations, both mentally and physically, with which they are never affected at any other time. They are mostly earnest folk, desiring spiritual truth.

GOD'S KISS

A LITTLE lad at Lady Henry Somerset's Home for Slum Children, after he had finished his prayers, put in another petition as a kind of postscript, "And please, God, would you mind giving my mother a kiss?"

PLEASE, God, I have finished my prayers, But there's one thing I want to say, My mother lives up at the top of the stairs, And she's lonely now I'm away.

You'll be sure to know her, because There ain't nobody half so good; And she's just the dearest that ever was,— I'd die for her if I could.

The neighbors are not very bad, But, of course, they aren't like me. I've got for to think what will make her glad, And to get her a cup of tea.

And sometimes, please, God, she ain't strong, She has got such a lot to do, And it frets her so much when folks do wrong And she thinks no end of you.

When she's tired, she likes to sit On the floor and lean against me, For it comforts her aching head a bit To rest it upon my knee.

I sit all so still and don't stir, And she calls me her bit of joy, And tells me I'm like a mother to her, As well as her sonny boy.

It does hurt me to think of her, All alone by the firelight, And she ain't got me to comfort her, To love her and hold her tight.

So, please, God, I hope you won't mind If I ask you just to do this,— I'm sure she'd take it so very kind If you'd please to give her a kiss.

She'll miss me before going to bed, And she'll feel so lonely then; It will be nice if you'll kiss her instead, And I'll thank you, dear God,—Amen.

Mark Guy Pearse, in Wisdom.

THE LIFE THAT COUNTS

This life that counts must toil and fight; Must hate the wrong and love the right; Must stand for truth by day, by night— This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must aim to rise Above the earth to sunlit skies; Must fix his gaze on Paradise— This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must hopeful be; In darkest night make melody; Must wait the dawn on bended knee— This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must hopeful be; The cares and needs of others see; Must seek the slave of sin to free— This is the life that counts.

The life that counts is linked with God; And turns not from the cross—the rod; But walks with joy where Jesus trod— This is the life that counts.

THE POWER OF TRUTH

Petrarch (a celebrated Italian poet who flourished about 400 years ago) recommended himself to the confidence and affection of Cardinal Colonna, in whose family he resided, by his candor and strict regard to truth. A violent quarrel occurred in the household of this nobleman, which was carried so far that recourse was had to arms. The Cardinal wished to know the cause of this affair, and that he might be able to decide with justice, he assembled all his people, and obliged them to bind themselves, by a most solemn oath on the Gospels, to declare the whole truth. Every one, without exception, submitted to this test; even the Bishop of Luna, brother to the Cardinal, was not excused. Petrarch, in his turn, presenting himself to take the oath, the Cardinal closed the book and said: "As to you, Petrarch, your word is sufficient."

There are many teachers who profess to show the nearest way to excellence; and many expedients have been invented by which the toil of study might be saved. But let no man be seduced to idleness by specious promises. Excellence is never granted to man but as the reward of labor. It argues, indeed, no small strength of mind to persevere in habits of industry, without the pleasure of receiving those advances which, like the hand of a clock, while they make hourly approaches to their point, yet proceed so slowly as to escape observation.

There is one precept, however, in which I shall only be opposed by the vain, the ignorant and the idle. I am not afraid that I shall repeat it too often. You must have no dependence on your own genius. If you have great talents, industry will improve them; if you have but moderate abilities, industry will supply their deficiency. Nothing is denied to well-directed labor; nothing is to be obtained without it.—Reynolds.

DIFFIDENCE.—The celebrated Abou Yussuf, who was the chief judge of Bagdad in the reign of the Caliph Harun, was a very remarkable instance of that humility which distinguishes true wisdom. His sense of his own deficiencies often led him to entertain doubts where men of less knowledge, and more presumption, were decided.

It is related of this judge that on one occasion, after a very impatient investigation of facts, he declared that his knowledge was not competent to decide upon the case before him.

"Pray, do you expect," said a pert courtier, who heard this declaration, "that the Caliph is to pay for your ignorance?" "I do not," was the mild reply; "the Caliph pays me, and well, for what I do know; if he were to attempt to pay me for what I do not know, the treasures of his empire would not suffice."—Malcolm.

The healing power is not mental, but is the Truth, and the healing is worked out by the individual will allowing the mental to give way that the Truth may express itself. The Healing Power is free, and the healing in and of itself is free. It is all of the Spirit of Truth, and every person has equal access to it and has equal claim to its beneficence. Our work as administering to the bodily and mental needs of humanity is not in aid of the Truth, but is in aid of the individual, that he may allow the Truth to manifest its perfectness in him. Not the Truth, but the time that we give up to this service for you when you come to us for help is what you pay us for, and certainly no one presumes to expect another to give up time to them in their personal service without a recognition of the obligation that in turn devolves upon themselves. But what we expect and take pay for is our time.

THINK Health; think Self-mastery; think Self-sufficiency; think of the Infinite Power that you are. As you exercise think of yourself as Spirit (or as Mind, or as Power, for these are all one), and think that by this action you are letting the Power flow into expression; are materializing Thought into muscle; building out of Thought your body to your ideal. Hold this ideal before you, and as surely as bud unfolds into rose, so will this ideal bloom into body and environment. Remember that you are only materializing Will. The amount of Will, of Thought, will determine the amount of benefit and the line of benefit.

A DREAM

A rich lady dreamed that she went to heaven, and there saw a mansion in process of erection. Upon inquiring for whom it was being built, she was informed that it was for her gardener.

She was astonished, and at once replied that he gave away so much of his substance to the poor that the house in which he lived on earth was but a tiny cottage with barely enough room for himself and family.

The workmen could give her no information other than that the mansion was being built for her gardener.

Farther on she saw a tiny cottage in process of erection. Upon inquiring for whom it was being built, she was told that it was for her. She was even more astonished, and replied, "But I live in a mansion on earth; I would not know how to live in a cottage."

Reverently she was told that the Master Builder was doing the best he could with the material that was being sent up. Whereupon she awoke resolved to lay up for herself treasures in heaven.

The story closes with the question, "What are we sending up?"—Christian Work.



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HEART TALKS

Written expressly for THE PARAGON MONTHLY

THESE are days when every word spoken is pregnant with good or ill to those who hear it. There are so many sensitive souls who, like aeolian harps, respond to the lightest vibration, and every thought or word going forth from us is, as it were, breathed upon them. We must see that it is fraught only with that which is comforting and inspiring.

I received a letter a short time ago which began by saying: "I must thank you for your kind words. They have helped me more than I can say, for at this time I have so many burdens," etc. The writer little knew how much her words meant to me, for I, too, seemed heavy-laden, and these appreciative words were cups of refreshment to my thirsty lips. As it is with ourselves, we find it is with others—a little word will help us far on the way. Our trials may be very different; one word may mean more than another, and yet with thoughtfulness we can soon learn which word to speak.

There are many now who need faith—the kind of faith that will make them still, trusting moment by moment that every supply will be met, all necessary conditions fulfilled. To such, the word "Peace" spoken from the heart that is trustful, will be like oil upon troubled waters. It may have to be spoken often or held quietly in the mind in connection with the one to be helped. There can be no real faith as long as there are unrest, fearfulness, anxiety. These are tempestuous thought-waves that will engulf those who think them. And it is this word "Peace," dear hearts, which I wish you to receive as a breath of benediction. Perhaps you have thought of the word many times before, perhaps you have even sat down in the silence and tried to feel the realizing sense of its quality, but no matter how many times you have used it before, use it now. Let it be your watchword for a month. Let it be as a magic talisman to lift you out of despondency, forebodings or any troubled emotions.

Consider what kind of peace it is. It is not the kind that comes after having eaten a good meal, or having received a present, or having been invited to a party. It is the kind that fills the whole being with a nameless calm. It is the kind that Paul describes as the peace that passeth understanding. This must be because it cannot be described. It can be

known only as it is experienced. It is the kind of which Jesus said: "My peace I give unto thee; not as the world giveth." It is the kind that quiets all turbulence of the emotions, that brings into the mind beautiful pictures of pacivity and calmness, such pictures as we find in the 23d Psalm. It is the kind of peace that dwells with us as an ineffaceable memory, even when it has passed away as experience. When we can feel this peace it will enable us to pass days and nights of perfect tranquillity, even though our cupboard may be bare and our pocket empty.

You may think this is not possible, but, dear hearts, it is. There are hundreds of people to-day who are being fed as though by ravens, day by day, not knowing where the next meal will come from. Are they sitting down with no effort to do anything to obtain supplies? Are they merely waiting in passive expectation that a raven will come to them? No, they are doing what their hands find to do, knowing that their Father will send, in His own way, their reward. And He does. This wonderful peace of mind with which they work and in which they dwell is like a great, calm, broad-bosomed river upon which ships, laden with supplies, float to them. More plainly speaking, their placid state draws to them friends, opportunities or even supplies of whatever kind they need.

Have you not read the wonderful experiences of the faith-workers, such as Dr. Cullis, of Boston, who built and sustained for years a Consumptives' Home through his faith in the Divine power? He had no money to begin with, but he prayed and believed that his prayer would be answered. It was answered in a most marvelous way. Money and supplies of all kinds were sent to this institution without any outer seeking. In the same way George Müller, of England, founded and carried on an Orphan Asylum. In the same way Mrs. Mary Whittemore, of New York, founded the "Door of Hope" mission. In the same way hundreds of institutions are being founded and sustained. Their splendid, steady faith, their unyielding peace put them in direct relation with the Giver of Gifts and made it possible for them to receive the answer to their every prayer.

You and I may not have a Consumptives'

OUR AIM

This magazine will ever strive to give hope and courage to those who suffer from poverty and sorrow.

Our editors and writers are persons who are full of life, force, vigor and sympathy.

We write from the soul, the heart, and a mind that believes in cheerfulness, health, prosperity, happiness.

We believe in looking on the bright side of life—in seeing lots of good everywhere.

It is the Law of the Universe that as we think so we will be.

No one can have success who continually thinks failure.

This world has progressed because there have always been in it enthusiastically cheerful souls who have inspired others to be hopeful, strong and courageous.

The highest type of man is cheerful, honest, courageous, fearless. Moreover, such a person is always a worker—a helper of mankind. So our aim shall always be to make this magazine bright, cheerful, helpful and inspiring, and it will be an inspiration to read it with regularity.

We are always pleased to print cheering letters from our readers. To do good by a deed or word is ennobling.

Subscribe now—only 20 cents—and we will send you THE PARAGON MONTHLY for a whole year.

Home or an Orphan Asylum to support. We may have only ourselves or our families to look after. Is there any reason why we may not have the faith and consequently the peace that puts us in touch with God? Let us see. Try it for one month. Live the faith-life, be at peace and see if it is not true that your prayers will be answered. It is only when the mind is at peace that we know how to pray, believing, and it is this kind of prayer that will be answered. Before you pray, then, be sure that your heart has peace, the peace that comes of this wonderful faith.

Here are a few suggestions, if you would like something more practical, for if we are to practise a month we must have a definite

plan as to how to proceed. In the first place always be sure to go to bed with the most peaceful thoughts in your mind. In order that you may be more fittingly prepared for this peaceful mood, retire to your room a little earlier than usual. After everything is ready and you are robed for the night, taking care to have plenty of fresh air in your room, sit down quietly and spend at least three minutes in taking long, deep breaths, thinking the word "Peace" as you inhale. After you have paid especial attention to the breath for this length of time, merely hold the word in your mind. Realize its quality and let it sink into your very soul, as it were. When you find that you are growing calm, again

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We now have over 3,500 men and women in different parts of the country delivering and collecting for our goods, to whom we are paying more money than it is possible for them to earn at anything else.

Having recently more than doubled our manufacturing capacity, WE NEED MORE HELP AND NEED IT QUICKLY, in order to take care of the increasing sales; therefore, we want to get in correspondence immediately with 5000 more bright Men and Women to look after our interests in parts of the country where we have no representative. We are willing to pay from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00 per year and expenses. No experience necessary.

Six years ago we inaugurated the CO-OPERATIVE AND PROFIT SHARING PLAN which has been a phenomenal success. It's the plan by which every person connected with the Company's shares alike, from the President down to the man who works by the day in the factory—all one great family—each sharing in the profits in accordance with their attentiveness to the business entrusted to them.

Our Co-operative and Profit Sharing Bonds.

Every order or shipment made to our representative is accompanied by Profit Sharing Bonds in proportion to the amount of goods shipped, which is in addition to your regular pay. These bonds are just as good as though they were issued by the Government, only they don't bear interest, but they are transferable and redeemable by us at their face value at any time.

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the PROFIT SHARING PLAN so successfully as the Soap business. Every person uses soap—rich and poor, old and young, and at all seasons of the year. There is big money in the soap business, more than you ever dreamed of. Write to us and we will give you confidential information about the big profits in the soap business—information that the great Soap Companies have kept under cover all these years, in order to prevent competition. This information shows how we can pay from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00 Per Year and Expenses:

Instead of paying out the largest portion of the profits in expensive newspaper and other advertising, we give this profit to our representatives. Then again, instead of giving another large portion of the profits to Jobbers and Retail Merchants, all over the country, allowing several merchants in every town to share in the profits, we propose to turn this amount also over to our representatives. So you can see what a big saving their is to be made on our plan, and why we can afford to pay so liberally for the services of one honest man or woman in each locality.

By allowing each representative to become, as it were, an active partner in the business, they are as loyal to our interests as though the business was their own; but we cannot afford to appoint any one who is dishonest, for such would soon ruin our business.

In our six year's experience on the CO-OPERATIVE AND PROFIT SHARING PLAN, we find nearly ninety per cent of the people are honest, and will do as they agree, provided they have the money with which to make their promises good. Financial backing is the greatest need of every ambitious man or woman. We furnish the backing, furnish the goods, furnish you with a

Free Sample Case and Samples and all the attractive advertising you want; in fact, we furnish everything. All we want is your co-operation and influence, for which we are willing to pay you from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00 a year and expenses.

This is certainly a chance of a life time for some bright man or woman in each locality. So don't miss the opportunity to get in touch with us immediately. We can say but little here in regard to our Soaps, Perfumes, Toilet Articles and Flavoring Extracts, or even give you a faint outline of the many advantages we have to offer. Be sure and write us asking for our book entitled "A Trip Through Our Great Factory." It tells all about the manufacture of soap—how to tell good soap from poor soap—and when you have read this book through you will understand why so many have gotten rich in the soap business. It also tells about our PROFIT SHARING PLAN.

We hesitated a long time before we decided to publish our plan and advertise for representatives in such a public manner, but we need the help; therefore, we take this means of getting in touch with at least 5,000 men and women who are desirous of the positions we have to offer—a position where you will be controller of your energies—and well paid for what you do. You will be proud of the position, not only because you will be making money, but because you will be associated with one of America's largest Soap and Perfume Makers, sharing in the profits without one cent of permanent investment.

Better write us today for all the particulars, for remember we make but one appointment in each locality, and after we have made that appointment all the powers on earth could not induce us to change it. Your future success depends largely upon your writing us immediately. Don't wait. If your application gets in first, your income will commence just as soon as arrangements can be completed. It is very likely that such an opportunity may never come to you again, as we will not have another position to offer after your territory is occupied.

Address your letter to our President, Mr. W.W. Terriff, in care of Wolverine Soap Co. 642 Cass Avenue, Portland, Michigan, and mark it "personal." Write at once, before it is too late. The editor of this paper is a personal friend of the President, and if you write him he will advise you to consider this offer and accept it quick. Send for our free book, "How to Make Money." It should be in the hands of every ambitious man and woman.

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YOU WILL RECEIVE OUR OFFER to send you these SIX FULL SIZE, HEAVY, HARD-WOOD CASE SEATED DINING ROOM CHAIRS.

By our wonderful offer you have your choice, free of any cost to you, these six chairs, or your choice of hundreds of valuable articles if you send your orders to us. On a postal card or in a letter to us simply say: "Send me your Free Organ Offer" and you will get the big Organ Catalogue and all our wonderful offers by return mail, postpaid, free. Write today sure; send this minute. Address, **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.**

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breathe out "peace," realizing that you are giving a benediction of peace to the world. Breathe it in, realizing that you are receiving it. After you have spent a few moments thus, you are ready to make your request. Then retire. Having the thought and feeling of peace so deeply impressed upon you, you will sleep well and in the morning rise refreshed and joyous.

Before leaving your room, repeat the same exercise as you did the previous evening. Carry the thought of peace with you all day. In whatever you do, be sure of that background, as it were, in which you rest. If anything occurs to disturb you, either mentally or physically, take a few deep breaths with the thought of "peace" and in a few moments you will find calmness again possessing you. Thus, go on from day to day, practicing "peace," and in a month you will scarcely know yourself to be the same being that you are to-day. This is the word that you will not only breathe in, but breathe out continually. A little word, but a blessed one, which will carry benedictions to all who come within your sphere.

Do not be discouraged if at times you feel in a perfect vortex of emotions quite contrary to peace. Keep right on, do your breathing, resolutely turn your thought away from every suggestion that would lead you astray. It is doing the thing at the crucial moment that counts. This is what will break up the old habit and check all tendencies to defeat. No matter if you find yourself sobbing with heartbreak, stop the tide of sorrow by saying "Peace," thinking, breathing "peace," even though the tears still rain down your cheeks. Very quickly they will cease; very quickly the new and desired mood will come. It is practice, as well as will to do, that brings results, and it is practice that brings power. So the practice of the idea and ideal of peace will bring us into the consciousness of the Divine realm wherein is all spiritual power.

"The soul's vision clears when the golden gates of its inner life are closely shut upon the outside world. It then learns to examine its inner depths, to discover the Divine forces which are its very essence. God speaks to the soul in silence, as the Mystics say, and reveals to it the dignity and majesty with which He has endowed it."
Peace be with you all!

RISE ABOVE IT

By J. A. Edgerton

Why become a slave to chance?
Why be crushed by circumstance?
Rise above it and advance
Over all adversity.
You're a king, and can create
For yourself your own estate;
You are master of your fate;
You are free.

All of this is ancient lore,
Often has been said before,
But I'll tell it o'er and o'er,
Sing it to the heart of youth.
Howsoever long 'tis told,
'Tis a lesson never old,
For it bears a thread of gold—
It is truth.

Rise above the petty things
That would bind your spirit wings;
Hear the inner voice that sings
Songs of beauty all the while.
Drive the demon of despair
From your heart; and, free and fair,
Meet the broods of Grief and Care
With a smile.

Circumstances make us not;
Life is substance to be wrought
In the workshop of our thought;
We can mold it as we will.
All the hardships that affright
If we brave them take their flight.
They are tests to try our might
And our skill.

Be not buffeted about
By the things that lie without;
Be not ruled by fear and doubt;
Dare to worship toward the dawn,
Dare believe in truth and right,
Dare to seek the higher light;
And the wisdom infinite
Follow on.

Spite of calumny and threat,
Dare to have a purpose set.
Keep it; and do not forget
You are monarch of your own.
Dare pursue, against the stream,
Your ideal and your dream.
Keep your soul a king supreme
On his throne.

DON'T TAKE IT TO HEART

THERE'S many a trouble
Would break like a bubble,
And into the waters of Lethe depart,
Did not we rehearse it,
And tenderly nurse it,
And give it a permanent place in the heart.

Fighting Death

IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS OF
HEART DISEASE

YOU MAY BE CONSTANTLY FIGHTING WITH DEATH!

Unless an effective remedy is used, death may triumph in the end. All heart troubles, however slight, should be promptly treated. Hundreds doctor for diseases of the lungs, kidneys, liver or nerves, when the trouble is all with the heart. If any of the following symptoms are present in your case it is an indication that you may be in danger of

HEART FAILURE

Fluttering; Palpitation; Shortness of Breath; Tenderness, Numbness, or Pain in the Left Side, Arm, or under the Shoulder Blade; Fainting Spells; Dizziness; Difficult or Asthmatic Breathing; Hungry or Weak Spells; Spots before the Eyes; Sudden Startling in Sleep; Dreaming; Nightmare; Choking Sensation in Throat; Oppressed Feeling in Chest; Cold Hands or Feet; Painful to lie on Left Side; Dropsy; Swelling of the Feet or Ankles (one of the surest signs); Neuralgia around the Heart. Not all the above symptoms are present in every case, but any one of them is sufficient to warn you that you may be in danger. Just to convince you of the

FREE

real merits of my Heart Tablets, and to prove their value, I will mail a FREE TRIAL BOX to any sufferer who will send me name and address. Enclose stamp for postage. They are not a secret or "patent" medicine, and a complete list of their ingredients is sent with every trial box.

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The Air Rifle shoots B B shot or darts by compressed air, with sufficient force to kill at a distance of 50 feet. The barrel and all working parts are made of steel and are finely nickel plated. All parts are interchangeable. It has genuine black walnut stock with pistol grip and improved globe sights.

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TRUTH

THE Truth makes man patient, willing, cheerful, hopeful and happy—optimistic. Truth is constructive. Error is destructive. Truth makes one fearless. Truth frees us from sloth and makes us true workers and true helpers in the world. Truth makes us at ease and destroys disease. Truth demands and commands us to work in peace, harmony and melody as a god and not as a coward or slug-gard. Truth plainly tells us what to do, when to do, where to do and how to do.

Do what you can,
Not what you cannot;
Not what you think ought to be done,
Not what you would like to do;
Not what you would do if you had more time,
Not what somebody else thinks you ought to do,
But do what you can.

Thus says Truth. The Great Spirit of the universe always whispers this grand truth to the soul: "Do what you can." Moreover, do what you can with love, with a cheerful heart and a glad mind.

Truth keeps the soul in the real path of progress and evolution and takes out of the mind all vain delusions. With Truth as our guide, we do no unseemly thing and are not perniciously active. Truth makes a man willing that God should order and run the universe; it takes our weak and puny hands off the lever that regulates all the machinery of the universe. Truth shows us how best to fit that part of the great machine for which we were intended and not try to be the whole machine. Truth makes man a true and blessed worker for the good of the Whole and not a disturber or agitator—a retarder of progress.

FLASHES FROM THINKERS

THERE is something wrong with the religion of the home where the children hate the Sabbath.—*Ram's Horn.*

OUR life is but the childhood of our eternity, the schooldays preparatory for the immortal years beyond.—*Archdeacon Farrar.*

It only for an hour man gets at least a glimpse of the larger, nobler life, the grind is taken away from life, and visions of peace stir the energies of hope.—*Berry.*

Visions, dreams, apparitions and even "ghosts" ought not to frighten anyone. Certainly they are perfectly harmless. These phenomena only help us to decipher the book of being—the riddle of life.

SPIRITUAL hunger cannot be satisfied by general resolutions, stereotyped speeches and formal prayers; but only by closer communion with Christ and personal effort of one soul for the welfare of another soul.—*The Anchor.*

THE Scriptures must be read by us in the same spirit that dictated them; thus also must they be understood. You will never enter into the meaning of St. Paul unless you first have his illuminated mind. Never will you understand David unless you realize by experience the feeling of the Psalms.—*St. Bernard.*

As all the stars are pervaded by one law, in one law live and move and have their being, so all minds that reason and all hearts that beat act in one empire of one king; and of that vast kingdom the law the most sweeping, the most eternal, is the law of loving kindness.—*Swing.*

To be disinterested is to be strong, and the world is at the feet of him whom it cannot tempt. Why? Because spirit is lord of matter, and the world belongs to God. "Be of good cheer," saith a heavenly voice; "I have overcome the world."—*Amiel.*

In the other world, as long as men who die in their sins continue to remain in sin, they will have to take the consequences.—*Dr. Sweetser.*

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Is our special offer price for a limited time. It is our cost of the range made in our own big foundry in Newark, Ohio; a special price offer made to further advertise our Stove Department. To create a demand that will enable us to still further enlarge our mammoth Newark, Ohio, stove foundry and, if possible, still further reduce our manufacturing cost, we make this special offer price of \$17.70 for this wonderful Acme American Range, all complete, as illustrated, with high shelf and porcelain lined reservoir. \$17.70 is about one-third the regular retail price of such a range that will compare in quality with this wonderful Acme American. It is a price very much less than a stove dealer could buy from his manufacturer or jobber such a high grade range as the Acme American. It is a price less even than the foundry cost of any other stove foundry in the world, because there is no stove foundry in the world as large as ours, and no foundry where the manufacturing cost has been so greatly reduced. In our Newark, Ohio, stove foundry we buy our pig iron and all other materials in such immense quantities, we turn out so large a number of stoves daily, use the most wonderful labor saving automatic machinery, that our manufacturing expense on each stove is very much less than any other foundry where they make a smaller number of stoves daily than we do. The Acme American is the highest grade, the most improved, the most beautiful cast range made in any foundry in the world.

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wonderful Acme American Ranges in every section of the country. It will greatly advertise our Stove Department. We will get one or more stove orders from every neighborhood where we place an Acme American. Everyone who sees it will admire it, ask where it was bought, learn the wonderful price, and we will certainly receive several orders for a stove from that neighborhood. That is the reason we make this wonderful low foundry cost price of \$17.70 on the beautiful Acme American Range for a limited time.

THIS BIG, FULL SIZE SIX-FOOT UPOLSTERED COUCH FREE. If you send us your order for an Acme American Range and from time to time send us additional orders for merchandise, as soon as your orders amount to \$50.00 we will send you, FREE, this handsome overstuffed upholstered couch in the latest improved velvet cloth, in a handsome variety of colors, or you can get a beautiful Morris chair, or six hardwood cane seat, embossed dining room chairs, a handsome iron bed, or other valuable articles when all your orders amount to \$50.00. When your orders amount to \$100.00 we will send you, FREE, a larger sum you can get MORE VALUABLE ARTICLES, such as AN UPRIGHT PIANO, A BEAUTIFUL PARLOR ORGAN, A BEDROOM SUITE or A TOP BUGGY, ALL ABSOLUTELY FREE OF CHARGE TO YOU.

PLEASE LET US SEND YOU THIS WONDERFUL RANGE

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YOU CAN USE IT THREE MONTHS, and if you don't like it, the trial won't cost you one cent; we take all the risk. IS OUR GREAT SPECIAL FOUNDRY COST OFFER PRICE for this wonderful big cast iron steel range, the finest, most improved cast iron range ever built, and WE WANT YOU TO TRY IT THREE MONTHS AT OUR EXPENSE AND OUR RISK ON THIS GREAT LIBERAL PLAN. mention this Special Offer No. 207E, and we will send you the big Acme American Range, just as illustrated and described, the greatest cast iron range ever offered, and it will go to you immediately, the day that we receive your order, by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. When it arrives, go to your railroad station and examine it carefully. If you consider it without question the greatest value in a cast iron range ever produced, then pay the railroad agent the balance, \$16.70, and freight charges; take it to your own home for a full three months' trial; set it up at home (it is no trouble to do this, for the range will reach you ready to use; simply unpack it and put on the stove pipe); use it for ninety days, put it to every test you please; compare it with any range in your neighborhood; any range that may be offered by your dealer; do all your cooking and baking on it for three months; and if you don't find that it is the very best range you ever used, if it isn't the handsomest, most improved range you ever saw, a better cooker and baker, if it doesn't use less fuel and do more work than any other range; if it is not easier to operate, easier to control, better and more heat distribution; if you don't think it is of finer material and workmanship; if you don't believe that it will outwear two or three steel ranges offered by others; if it is not just as good, most likely better, than any steel range that is offered by any dealer at even \$30.00 or \$40.00, far better than any cast iron range sold at double or special price. If after three months' trial in your own home, you are not convinced of all this, you are at liberty to return the range to us at our expense of freight charges, and we will immediately return all your money, including the freight charges you paid, and the three months' trial won't cost you one cent. The freight charges are a small item, hardly worth considering as compared with the enormous saving in price. The big range weighs 440 pounds and the freight for 500 miles will be about \$1.50, greater or less distances in proportion. It is shipped direct from our Newark, Ohio, foundry, and regardless of where you live, North, South, East or West, the freight charges on the range to your town will be only a very small item considering the immense amount of money we save you. If you live west of the Missouri River or south of Tennessee, send \$5.00, balance payable C. O. D. if the range is perfectly satisfactory.

EVERY ACME AMERICAN RANGE is covered by our written binding guarantee, guaranteeing construction, and every piece or part that gives out through defect of material or workmanship will be repaired or replaced by us free of charge. We carry a full line of repairs for every stove we make in our foundry, and in the years to come, if you should need a piece or part through some accident or otherwise, we can furnish it at a moment's notice.

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RANGE we make. It is our new improved Acme American Range. Will burn anything, hard coal, soft coal, coke, wood, coals, anything that will burn can be used in the Acme American, and it will operate perfectly. It is furnished with our celebrated duplex grate, by use of which you can burn either wood or coal. (If you burn wood exclusively, we will furnish it with an extra large fire box, 22x29x9 inches). This is a six-hole range with five solid covers and one graduated nest cover. Made from the very finest southern pig iron, which makes the best castings in the world. A beautiful elaborate rooco design, extra large oven, tin lined oven door with automatic foot trip opener, large, deep removable porcelain lined cast reservoir; strong, substantial base, high rooco design shelf, beautifully nickel trimmed throughout with nickel teapot holders, nickel towel drying rack, nickel medallion plate, nickel drop door panel, pins, hinges, knobs and handles, has cut centers, large flues, balled ash pan, slide hearth plate, has every improvement, every improved feature of high grade ranges with the defects of none. A range that there is no wear out to, for the plate will never warp or fire crack, a range that has no equal for beautiful design, fine material or superior workmanship, a range that is a model of the stovemakers' art, one of the

FINEST RANGES TURNED OUT OF OUR NEWARK, OHIO, STOVE FOUNDRY.

THE ILLUSTRATION will give you only a slight idea of its appearance; it must be seen to be appreciated. Note the extreme beauty of the design, the elegant pattern, the generous proportions, wide cooking surface, the handsome nickel plated ornamental chair, couch, dining room chairs and hundreds of other valuable articles entirely FREE. All this will be sent to you if you simply write and appreciate the value it represents. It is a marvelously high grade range and \$17.70 is just foundry cost of material and labor.

Has six No. 8 cooking holes with No. 8 lids, one of which has nest rings.
Oven size is.....16x17½x11½ inches.
Size of top, including reservoir, 42x25 inches.
Size of wood fire box.....17x8x8 inches.
Height to main top.....28 inches.
Shipping weight, 440 pounds.

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Religion the Basis of Society

By His Eminence James Cardinal Gibbons

Selected by Cardinal Gibbons from his writings and published by the Cardinal's Special permission to the New York World

"I hold that Religion is the only solid basis of Society. If the social edifice rests not on this eternal foundation, it will soon crumble to pieces."

RELIGION is the bond that unites man with his Creator. It is a virtue by which due honor and worship are paid to God. It embraces all those fundamental truths that involve God's sovereignty over us and our entire dependence on Him. I employ the term religion here in its broadest and most comprehensive sense, as embodying the existence of God; His infinite power and knowledge; His providence over us, the recognition of a divine law, the moral freedom and responsibility of man; the distinction between good and evil, the duty of rendering our homage to God and justice and charity to our neighbor; and finally, the existence of a future state of rewards and punishments.

I hold that religion is the only solid basis of society. If the social edifice rests not on this eternal and immutable foundation it will soon crumble to pieces. It would be as vain to attempt to establish society without religion as to erect a palace in the air or on shifting sands, or to hope to reap a crop from seed scattered on the ocean's surface. Religion is to society what cement is to the building; it makes all parts compact and coherent. "He who destroys religion," says Plato, "overthrows the foundations of human society."

The social body is composed of individuals who have constant relations with one another; and the very life and preservation of society demand that the members of the community discharge toward one another various and complex duties.

What does society require of your rulers and magistrates? What does it require of you? It demands of your rulers that they dispense justice with an even hand. It demands of you that you be loyal to your country, zealous in her defense, faithful in the observance of her laws, conscientious in the payment of imposts and taxes for her maintenance and support. It demands that you be scrupulous in observing your oaths and vows, just in the fulfillment of your contracts and obligations, honest in your dealings and truthful in your promises. It demands that you honor and respect your lawful superiors, that you be courteous toward your equals, condescending to your inferiors, faithful to your friends, magnanimous to your enemies and merciful to the poor and oppressed. It demands of the married couple conjugal fidelity, of parents provident vigilance, of children filial love. In a word, it demands that you "render to all men their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear, to whom fear; honor, to whom honor"; and that you "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."

How can these social virtues be practiced without sufficient motives? These motives must be strong and powerful, because you have passions and self-interest to overcome. They must be universal, because they are binding on all members of society. They must be permanent, because they apply to all times and places.

What motives, religion apart, are forcible enough to compel legislators, rulers and magistrates to be equitable and impartial in their decisions? What guarantee have we that they will not be biased by prejudice and self-interest? Will a thirst for fame and a desire for public approbation prove a sufficient incentive for them to do right? How often has not this very love of glory and esteem impelled them to trample on the rights and liberties of the many, in order to win the approbation of a few sycophants, just as Roboam oppressed his subjects that he might be admired and praised by his young courtiers, and as Alexander enslaved nations to receive the applause of the fickle Athenians.

Would you vote for a Presidential candidate that avowed atheistic principles? I am sure you would not. You would instinctively distrust him; for an unbelieving President would ignore the eternal laws of justice, and the eternal laws of justice are the basis of civil legislation.

What principles without religion are binding enough to exact of you that obedience which you owe to society and to the laws of your country? Is it the dread of civil punishment? But the civil power takes cognizance only of overt acts. It has no jurisdiction over the heart, which is the seat of rebellion—the secret council chamber where dark schemes are concocted. The civil power cannot enter the hidden recesses of the soul and quell the tumults raging there. It cannot invade the domestic circle to expel the intemperance and lewdness that enervate and debauch both mind and body. It cannot suppress those base calumnies, whispered in the dark, which poison the social atmosphere with their foul breath and breed hatred, resentment and death. You might as well expect to preserve a tree from decay by lopping off a few withered branches while allowing the worms to gnaw at the roots, as to preserve the social order without religion. Religion is the only principle which will prevent some of the most serious evils of the human race. It is the only principle which will lead you to the true path of duty and to the true source of happiness.

ders, how futile would be the attempt to do so without the co-operation of moral and religious influence!

Still less do you fear the judgment that posterity may pronounce on your conduct. For if you believe neither in God nor in a life to come the condemnation of after-ages will not disquiet you, the censures of future generations will not disturb your ashes reposing in the tomb.

Nor can you suppose the emolument of office an adequate incentive to induce you to be an upright and law-abiding member of society. The emoluments of office are reserved for the privileged few; the great bulk of society will always be consigned to private life.

Do not imagine, because you happen to be a man of irreproachable private life, integrity of character and incorruptible justice, that your fellow-citizens will seek you out, as the Romans sought Cincinnatus, at the plow; that they will cowardly embrace you, force you from your cherished seclusion and bestow upon you some office of trust and distinction.

The esteem of your fellow-men will not be a sufficient inducement to make you a virtuous citizen; for the great mass of virtues—even of those virtues that influence the well-being of society—are practiced in private and are hidden from the eyes of men, like the root which gives life and bloom to the tree, or the gentle dew of heaven which silently sheds its blessings on the labors of the husbandman.

Nor should you be surprised if your good actions, instead of winning the applause of your fellow-citizens, will sometimes even draw upon you their suspicion, their jealousy, their odium and their calumny. The wisdom and integrity of Aristides were such that the Athenians surnamed him "The Just"; yet they condemned him to exile. On the day on which the people were to vote upon the question of his banishment an illiterate burgher, who did not know him personally, requested him to write the name of Aristides upon his ballot. "Has that man done you an injury?" asked Aristides. "No," answered the other, "nor do I even know him. But I am tired of hearing him everywhere called 'The Just.'"

The case of the Founder of the Christian religion is still more familiar to the reader. Who was so great a benefactor to society as He? He went about doing good to all men. He gave sight to the blind, and hearing to the deaf, and walking to the lame, and comfort to the afflicted, and even life to the dead. He promulgated the most sublime and beneficent laws that were ever given to man; He invariably inculcated respect for ruling powers and obedience to their authority; and yet He was branded as a seditious man, an enemy of Caesar, and He was put to death by the very people whom He sought to deliver from spiritual bondage.

BETTER THAN SPANKING.

Spanking does not cure children of bed-wetting. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 46, Notre Dame, Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her to-day if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.

Young lady (18), who is an heiress, would like a correspondent between 20 and 30 years old. This and many other similar announcements are printed each month in our paper. Send 2 cent stamp for a sample copy to Correspondence Club. THE GENTLEMAN, 22 North William Street, New York City.

The best wedding present for young couples, or birthday gift for adults, is Dr. Foote's Home Cyclopedia (Plain Home Talk)—a guide for healthy, happy homes. All readers say "That's so." Get it of book-sellers or at 129 E. 28th Street, New York.

Good For Little Folks

Don't torture the children with liquid and pill poisons. The only safe, agreeable laxative for little ones is Cascara Candy Cathartic. All druggists, 10c, 25c, 50c.

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If you suffer from Epileptic Fits or Falling Sickness or have children that do so, my New Discovery and treatment will CURE them, and all you are asked to do is to send for FREE BOTTLE of Epilepside and Test it. Thousands CURED where everything else failed. Complete directions with free treatment, also testimonials and 64-page book, "Epilepsy Explained," free by mail. Give AGE and full address.

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Send for a GOLD WATCH with a SOLID GOLD CASE.

Why I Wish To Tell YOUR FORTUNE FREE

A young lady in Nebraska once wrote asking me to reveal her fortune by Astrology. Among other questions, she asked me to tell the color of her eyes and what color her hair was painted.

I mention this to show the mistaken ideas which many people hold regarding Astrology.

It was to show what my system of Astrology really means, and to prove my power to aid and assist humanity, that I began, many years ago the sending of Trial Horoscopes to all persons interested enough in their future to send me a two cent stamp.

Dear Reader, I wish also the privilege of convincing you of my ability to look into your future, to guide your steps in the right path, to lead you (as I have led many, many others) to success in business, love, in the attainment of any praiseworthy object.

Life is not all luck, as many would have you believe. Those who crowd to the front, are those who understand themselves and their possibilities thoroughly. No guess work, no waiting to see what may turn up.

When a prominent New York financier has been known to daily consult an Astrologer before entering upon speculation, is it not high time for you to learn your fortunate periods, time for you to look into this science and see what fate has in store for you?

Did you ever hear of a divorce where two people were married in harmony with their Astrological indications?

Did you ever stop to think that some of your rivals, who are perhaps outstripping you in the race for money, love, or fame, are pushing forward in the clear light of Astrological knowledge, whilst you are groping blindly in the dark?

Why not turn to me for advice and help yourself the successful leader?

I have drawers filled with letters from grateful patrons, letters which I hold sacredly confidential, letters telling me of financial advancement, of success in love and marriage; also many sad letters regretting that my advice had not been asked years ago.



Your entire statement of past and present is absolutely true, lucky days, forecasts, that treacherous friend all correctly named—
Winthrop, Cal. Thomas M. Jennings.

It is wonderful how you can describe everything and answer my questions without the slightest error.
Lake City, Colo. Mrs. Mary A. Hougard.

Am well pleased with Reading, and am only sorry I did not have it years ago, for I know I would have been spared much trouble.
Fairport, N. Y. Harry A. Miller.

The totally unexpected discovery that you forecast has since developed, and it will startle the medical world.
Weatherford, Tex. B. C. Yates.

You described my life as if you had always known me, my friends are all going to write you.
Boston, Mass. Mrs. E. W. Iveson.

Read these testimonials, published with full permission and doubt no longer.

you will also be glad to refer your friends to me, and in that way repay me for the cost of the Free Horoscope which I will send you.

Write me to-day lest you forget.

Send me to-day your full name, date of birth, sex and if married or single, with a 2 c. stamp for return postage and this Horoscope will be mailed you at once FREE

Prof. Edison, 52 "A" Street Binghamton, N. Y.

\$100 IN CASH PRIZES. Solve This Puzzle and Win \$25.00.

NEWREJSEY AHOD AWIO AXSTE

Rearrange these four different sets of letters so as to spell the names of four states in the U. S. Do not send us any money. The following cash prizes will be paid to the persons sending us the nearest correct solutions to this puzzle: First prize, \$25.00; Second prize, \$20.00; Third, \$15.00; Fourth, \$10.00, and \$5.00 each to next 15 contestants. Don't think you must send us any money with your solutions to this puzzle; we don't want it. THERE ARE NO CONDITIONS OF ANY KIND, except to try and send the nearest correct answers. Use the letters only as many times as they appear in each set for a name; your cash prize depends upon it.

We will pay your cash prize, if you win, as soon as the contest is decided, in May, 1906; immediately on receipt of your reply to the above puzzle, we will send you our big list of valuable prizes in

ANOTHER CONTEST.

entirely separate and apart from the above puzzle, and of no connection with it. In this other contest, we propose to give other prizes to persons sending us the largest list of subscriptions. We publish one of the most interesting and popular 25 cent magazines in the world—THE ILLUSTRATED COMPANION—established 25 years ago, and have given away thousands of dollars in the past and intend giving away thousands of dollars in the future, to secure subscribers, for it pays us to do so—to advertise our paper.

THIS AUTOMOBILE IS THE 1st PRIZE IN THE SUBSCRIPTION CONTEST.



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Everybody knows what an automobile is and everybody is crazy to own one and we are going to give away this splendid machine (cost \$3,700.00) as a FIRST PRIZE in our subscription contest. In this same subscription contest we shall also give away ten beautiful talking machines, equal to those retailed at \$30 each, on which can be played hundreds of musical selections as rendered by bands, dances, dancing, waltzes, cornets, also selections from the opera, popular songs, recitations, etc., which will edify and amuse all who hear them; we shall also give away in this subscription contest 75 diamond rings, ladies' and gents' sizes. Our list of gifts to be given away in this contest will explain just what we want you to do for us to earn the gifts and it will be very easy for you to comply with our requests. Please bear in mind that we shall not ask you for any of your own money—we want you to do us a favor among your friends—that is all.

REMEMBER, the contest in which the cash prizes are given, as explained at the top of this announcement, is entirely separate and distinct from the subscription contest in which the elegant automobile and other presents are given as prizes, as will be more fully explained to all persons who first rearrange the letters spelling out the names of the four states above referred to.

Act quickly and get your name on the competitive prize list.

Address M. HYLAND, Dept. PAR, 65 Chambers St., New York.

PEACE

But perhaps you will say that a natural sense of justice, independently of religion can exercise sufficient influence in inducing you to practice the duties of an upright citizen. But to discard religion and yet profess to believe in natural justice, is self-contradictory. It is grasping at the shadow and rejecting the substance. It is unconsciously clothing oneself in the garment of religion while rejecting its spirit, "having, indeed, an appearance of godliness, but denying the power thereof." If you seriously reflect, you will discover that natural justice has no solid foundation unless it rests on religion. Natural justice may sound well in theory, but it is a feeble barrier against the encroachments of vice.

Tell me what becomes of your natural love of justice, or what influence does it exert on your conduct, when it stands in the way of your personal interests, pleasures and ambition?

Is it swept away like a mudbank before the torrent, because it has not the strong wall of religion to support it?

Would your love of justice lead you to give a righteous decision against your friend and in favor of a stranger, though you were persuaded that such a decision would convert your friend into a lifelong enemy? Would it prompt you to disgorge ill-gotten wealth, and thus to fall in a single day from affluence into poverty? Would your natural sense of duty inspire you with patience and resignation if you were defrauded of your property by the treachery of a friend? Would a mere natural sense of duty or propriety restrain a Joseph for a Susanna from defiling his or her conscience and violating the sacred laws of marriage? Would a natural love of truth and honor compel a guilty man to avow his secret crime, that he might vindicate the innocent falsely accused? Such acts of justice, patience and truth are not uncommon in the Christian dispensation; but they would have been deemed prodigies of virtue in Pagan times.

There are many that consider mental culture a panacea for every moral disorder. "Let knowledge," they say, "be diffused over the land. Social order and morality will follow in its track."

The experience of other nations, as well as that of our own, shows it to be a very great illusion to suppose that intellectual development is sufficient of itself to make us virtuous men, or that the moral status of a people is to be estimated by the widespread diffusion of purely secular knowledge.

When the Roman Empire had reached the highest degree of mental culture it was sunk in the lowest depths of vice and corruption. The Persian Empire, according to the testimony of Plato, perished on account of the vicious education of its princes. While their minds were filled with knowledge, they were guided by no religious influences. The voice of conscience was drowned amid the more eager and captivating cries of pas-

sion, and they grew up monsters of lust, rapine and oppression, governed by no law save the instincts of their brutal nature.

It does not appear that vice recedes in the United States in proportion as public education advances. Statistics, I fear, would go far to prove the contrary to be the fact. The newspapers published in our large cities are every day filled with startling accounts of deep-laid schemes of burglary, bank falsifications, premeditated murders and acts of refined licentiousness. These enormities are perpetrated for the most part not by unlettered criminals, but by individuals of consummate address and skill; they betray a well-disciplined mind uncontrolled by morality and religion. How true are the words of Kempis: "Sublime words make not a man holy and just, but a virtuous life maketh him dear to God."

If neither the vengeance of the civil power, nor the hope of emoluments, nor the esteem of our fellow-men, nor the natural love of justice, nor the influence of education and culture, nor all these motives combined, can suffice to maintain peace and order in society, where shall we find an adequate incentive to exact of us a loyal obedience to the laws of the country? This incentive is found only in religious principles. Religion, I maintain, is the only sure and solid basis of society. Convince me of the existence of a Divine Legislator, the Supreme Source of all law, by whom "Kings reign, and lawgivers decree just things"; convince me of the truth of the Apostolic declaration that "there is no power but from God, and that those that are, are ordained of God, and that, therefore, he who resisteth the power resisteth the ordinance of God"; convince me that there is a Providence who seeth my thoughts as well as my actions, that there is an incorruptible Judge, who cannot be bought with bribes nor blinded by deceit, who has no respect to persons, who will render to every man according to his works, who will punish transgressions and reward virtue in the life to come; convince me that I am endowed with free-will and the power of observing or of violating the laws of the country—and then you place before me a Monitor, who impels me to virtue without regard to earthly emoluments or human applause, and who restrains me from vice without regard to civil penalties; you set before my conscience a living witness, who pursues me in darkness and in light, and in the sanctuary of home as well as in the arena of public life.

Religion teaches me that we are all children of the same Father, brothers and sisters of the same Redeemer, and, consequently, members of the same family. It teaches me the brotherhood of humanity.

Religion, therefore, is the fostering mother of charity, and charity is the guardian of civility and good-breeding, and good-breeding is one of the essential elements of the well-being of society. Worldly politeness, devoid of religion, is cold, formal and heartless; it soon degenerates into hollow ceremony. Good-

breeding, inspired by religion and charity, inculcates a constant self-denial. It is sincere and unaffected, it has the ring of the genuine coin, it passes current everywhere, and it is easily distinguished from the counterfeit. A stranger, who would feel oppressed by the rigid mannerism which rules in the salons of Paris, would be charmed by the quiet dignity and genial warmth with which he would be received by the simple and religious people of the Tyrolean Mountains.

The Christian religion is all-pervading. It influences the master and the servant, the rich and the poor. It admonishes the master to be kind and humane toward his servant by reminding him that he also has a Master in heaven who has no respect to persons. It admonishes the servant to be docile and obedient to his master; "not serving to the eye as it were pleasing men, but, as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart."

It reminds him that true dignity is compatible with the most menial offices, and is forfeited only by the bondage of sin.

LIFE

SAID my heart to my soul;

"What meaneth this?
That a part of the whole
Infinite bliss

Is not in the living,
But in the dying—
For death is life-giving,
Sorrow-defying."

Said my soul to my heart:

"Readeest thou right?
The whole, and not a part,
Of perfect life

By death is given birth,
As a seed of grain
Slumbers within the earth,
Then shoots forth again."

Florence Gounod.

MY SAFE RETREAT

UNDER the shadow of Thy wings,
Close to Thy loving, throbbing breast,
My chastened spirit sweetly sings—
Content to find so pure a rest.

What if the sky be overcast,
I take no heed of passing things,
Not burning heat nor biting blast,
Under the shadow of Thy wings.

THERE is no love like the love of God within you.

Heed not thy feelings; do thy work.
Be patient with everyone, but above all with yourself.

Strive to realize the state of inward happiness independent of circumstances.

THE WAY TO BE HAPPY

WOULDEST thou be wretched? 'Tis an easy way;

Think but of self, and self alone all day;
Think of thy pain, thy grief, thy loss, thy care—

All that thou hast to do or feel or bear;
Think of thy pleasure, of thy good, thy gain—
Think only of thyself—'twill not be vain.

WOULDEST thou be happy? Take an easy way;
Think of those 'round thee—live for them all day;

Think of their pain, their grief, their loss, their care—

All that they have to do or feel or bear;
Think of their pleasure, of their good, their gain;

Think of those 'round thee—'twill not be vain—

♦♦♦♦

'Tis an old maxim in the schools
That vanity's the food of fools;
Yet now and then your men of wit
Will condescend to take a bit.

—Swift.

I NEVER KNEW

I NEVER knew, before, the world

So beautiful could be
As I have found it since I learned
All care to cast on Thee;
The scales have fallen from mine eyes,
And now the light I see.

I never knew how very dear

My fellow-men could be,
Until I learned to help them with
A ready sympathy;
Their inner lives have made me know
A broader charity.

I never knew how little things

As greater ones could be,
When sanctified by love from One
Who doth each effort see;
But now a daily round of care
May win a victory.

I never knew; and still, dear Lord,

As through a glass I see,
And perfect light can only come
When I shall dwell with Thee;
When, in Thy likeness I awake,
For all eternity.

♦♦♦♦

WHEN home is ruled according to God's word, angels might be asked to stay a night with us, and they would not find themselves out of their element.—Spurgeon.

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Shortly after he was satisfied that nothing serious was the matter, and he went out into the garden to take a breath of fresh air. He had not proceeded far when he noticed some one following him. The follower was between him and the palace, and he could do nothing but depend upon himself in case of an attack. No matter where he walked, this man followed him, so he sat down to see if the straggler would venture nearer. But the man did not. He stood still and watched.

The king thought that he never could be attacked if he allowed his prospective assailant to know that he was watched. So he shouted for help, and in an instant a dozen servants were at his side.

"That man yonder is following me to kill me," he cried, pointing to the man who stood near.

"No, your majesty, he is not," replied the spokesman of the servants. "He is the man who follows you as a guard, to prevent others from killing or molesting you."

"Is it, then, so common a thing for kings to be killed in this way, that it is necessary to have a constant guard?"

His servants assured him that such was the case.

This disturbed his peace of mind to such an extent that he began immediately to question the absolute happiness of being a king.

When he returned to the palace, there were hundreds of people waiting to see him, on all kinds of business—people to have petitions signed, ministers with schemes of every description, so that the king's head spun, and he didn't have time to think.

After he had been a king two weeks, he was completely undone, physically and mentally, and he regretted the day he had given up his hovel for a palace.

"Perhaps the old king," he thought, "is as tired of my lowly habitation as I am of his crown. I shall go and see if he will exchange places with me." So the king put on his finest robe and his crown, as the old king had previously done, and drove away in his grandest carriage. . . .

As soon as the old king had placed his crown on the head of the peasant, and had seen him vanish in the distance, he went out where the peasant had been digging, and continued the work. After he had worked half an hour, all the rheumatic pains, of which he couldn't rid himself as a king, departed. And he sang as merrily as the birds in the trees, and felt happier every minute. At dinner he had such an appetite that he enjoyed every morsel in a way that he had never done during his entire reign.

That night he slept as he had been unable to sleep while burdened with the affairs of his country. He didn't toss about at all, and he did not wake up until the sun was high. Then he hurried down and had his breakfast while the birds hopped about the door or sung in the rose-bush by the window.

"I am as happy as a king is supposed to be," he cried, "and I should be happy to know that the present king, poor fellow, would ever be as contented as I am now."

And the old king worked on in perfect contentment for several days, feeling safe from the conspiracies of enemies, and on the best of terms with his own conscience, so that he was indeed a happy man.

The garden was progressing finely and the new occupant grew happier every day, and saw nothing but sunshine. This continual flow of happiness was never disturbed until one night when the king-peasant had a terrible nightmare. He awoke fearfully agitated and in a cold perspiration.

He had dreamed that he was king again. He hastily arose and lighted a candle to take a look at the surroundings, to make sure that he was not in a palace, and was not a king. He was afraid to go to sleep for fear the dream might be repeated.

That very day, while he was working and singing in the garden, he saw a great dust down the road, and in a few moments the carriage of the king stopped at the gate.

"How is the garden getting on?" said the new king.

"Splendidly."

"Would you not like to give me my hovel back in exchange for your palace and crown?"

"I would not think of it," said the old king. "You must go to some one who has never been a king, if you want to make such an exchange. If you go on a little farther down the road you may find some man who would be glad to wear a crown."

So the new king drove down the road, and asked the first laborer he met if he would like to be a king.

"No," replied the laborer. "I was a king for a few days, and that was enough for me. I traded off my crown for this shovel and pickaxe, because the king who had given it me for a small hut refused to trade back."

The king rode on, and, much to his surprise, every man he met refused the unhappy monarch's offer to make him a king, each one stating as his reason that he had already been a king for a greater or less period.

It seems that every man in the neighborhood had worn the crown at one time or another, and that the king, who was trying to exchange places with the humblest being in the realm, was simply the last man in the land to get it.

Thus it was that the nation was filled with the people who found the greatest happiness in the humblest spheres of life, and learned to be contented without nursing an ambition to be great and powerful.

The peasant-king had to rule all his life, for no one would exchange with him. And when he was bent and tottering with age he would go to the bridge that commanded the main avenue of his domain, with an umbrella over him to keep off the sun and rain, and persistently offer his crown to every passer-by. But no one would accept it.—R. K. Munkittrick.

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TRUE OPULENCE

By Edward M. Dawson, Jr.

OPULENCE does not mean merely riches; it means far more. Money is simply one phase of it or, we may better say, the result of it. It is its shadowing forth on the material plane. While true opulence necessarily brings material prosperity with it, nevertheless it is a state of mind, not a material condition, as so many imagine. It is what we all insensibly seek; for, when obtained, "all things shall be added unto us."

It may be objected here that there are many rich men that manifest scarcely a spark of genuine love, and have almost no spiritual development, so deep are they sunk in materialism, so entirely do they come within the category "of the earth, earthy." These may even have acquired wealth by unjust dealing, by cruel oppression and extortion. Why, you say, should these men manifest opulence? Nevertheless, they possess it in some of its manifold forms, such as energy, foresight, fertility of resource, etc. These must reap their harvest, and in time be pictured forth in the world of matter. Their possessors have no faith in spiritual laws, it is true; but they have a blind (though none the less unquestioning and thorough) confidence in their own ability to meet any and all crises. The moment this confidence is shaken, however, they are apt to lose all they have gained, since they have no firm anchor for this faith. And frequently, when a man of this stamp has amassed a fortune, it is more like a millstone around his neck than otherwise; for he does not know the true, as well as truly pleasurable, way to spend it—that is, by helping others. He imagines that, since by his own strenuous efforts his fortune was made, it should all be expended for his own peculiar and personal ends; and in carrying out this idea he never obtains true satisfaction. There is always something just above his reach that, Tantalus-like, he feels he must have, and that eludes his grasp. This restless reaching out is caused by the revolt of the God within him against materialism, the desire to express the highest attributes of Being. Until these are expressed, there are never present the deep-seated joy and content that come to the man that lives up to the best he is conscious of.

Then, too, it may be said that many writers, historians, poets—many spiritually-minded and cultured people—are almost entirely without means. They possess the higher qualities that make for opulence, and, as far as mentality and spirituality go, are opulent in the best sense of the term; but they lack the energy, the foresight, the prudence perhaps, that are indispensable to the material picturing forth of opulence. Yet how incomparably richer and grander a genius like Columbus, poets like Homer and Dante, than men whose only boast is that of material riches! Who of the thoughtful and wise,

if they had to choose, would not prefer to be one of the former class? Not that money should be undervalued, nor that we should not give due credit and admiration to the perseverance and energy that, starting at nothing, have, thread by thread, woven the gigantic fabric of a huge fortune; for money is a great and good thing if used wisely. It is only a curse when misused, when applied to oppression and wrong. It may and should be simply a stepping-stone to culture and benevolence.

The truly opulent and successful man is a compound of both qualities. He has all the grit, the energy, the perseverance, the forethought of the materially successful man, as well as the highest and noblest of inspirations and motives. He cares not for money in itself, knowing it to be just so much metal or paper; yet he strives to make it, since to help himself and others it is necessary to do so. However, he will not debase himself in order to gain in a monetary sense, since he knows by so doing he loses in moral stature. He prizes his own integrity far more than he does a few paltry dollars; therefore, cheating and "sharp" business practice are impossible to him. And others, assured of his honesty and squareness, instinctively deal justly by him. He does not have to pinch and scrape, for he has faith in the assurance of that unfailing supply. He fears no "rainy day," and dares to spend or invest his last cent, since he is certain that to-morrow will bring with it the sure solution of all problems. This faith, however, does not make an idler of him; for he knows he must do his part—that the "Lord helps him that helps himself." And he does not hesitate to consecrate his best efforts to the cause of ennobling and uplifting humanity by his deeds, his thoughts, or his writings. He has the poet's eye for the beautiful in Nature, art, or sentiment and makes it his own. And, most of all, he has an all-pervading sense of his relationship to his Creator and to his fellow-man, and calls every man his brother—if not in blood, yet in spirit. Such are a few of his main characteristics. Such a man cannot fail. "All things" are added to him, for he seeks first the "kingdom of God and His righteousness."

How, you say, can one attain to true opulence? By simply following the example of Christ. Christ was the truly opulent man. Think only loving, peaceful, just thoughts, and let your actions be inspired and directed by the God within you. Reject all unworthy thoughts as soon as they come into your mind. Confide yourself entirely to the Father's loving care, knowing that to-morrow will only open up new vistas of peace and joy. Regret not the past nor worry about the future, but live entirely in the present, and live every moment as if it were your last, utilizing it for the highest you are conscious of. Let the majesty and beauty of the soul shine through its veil of flesh!

LIFE AND SORROW

I SAID to Sorrow, "Thou and I shall part;
Hereafter I must seek the open way,
Before the wine of life leaves dry my heart,
That I some destined eve to Death may say,
The cup is drained, so welcome now thou art;
Deep did I drink, and I have had my day!"

Alone in her dark chamber Sorrow wept,
And I went forth by field and fragrant lane,
And reached a wondrous garden Pleasure kept
In that fair land where never fell the rain;
And gaily drawn to me this woman steep
Between the roses, and I laughed again.

"I was most happy in that land of flowers,
Only at times the old life I had known—
As in the night the sound of passing showers—
Some far and deep autumnal undertone
Awoke and flashed across the languid hours,
Where I still watched, unhappily alone.

Entombed amid a thousand roses there,
I stood walled round by towers I could not see;
But still the keeper of that garden fair
Laughed at my fears, and still withheld the key.
Then wept I for some little cross to bear,
And Sorrow came by night, and set me free!
Arthur Stringer.

I WILL BE SILENT

I WILL be silent, that the wise
May wisdom teach me, day by day.
'Tis only clattering fools despise
The tongue that doth no thoughts betray.

I will be silent. Nature speaks
Alone when human lips are mute.
The voices of the mountain peaks
Await the stillness absolute.

I will be silent, and the flower
Perchance its magic will disclose;
'Twere more than worth a quiet hour
To win the secret of a rose!

The hush of day, the calm of night,
Will unveil mysteries to my soul,
Till heaven may open to my sight
Through Nature's ever-changing scroll.
—Emma C. Dowd.

THIS WAY

I WOULD not but have passed this way,
Where soul to soul is known.
I would not but have passed this way—
I'm never more alone.

I would not but have passed this way,
For one delicious thrill,
Which knows no night, which knows no day,
Holds all my Being still.

I would not but have passed this way,
Where symphonies divine
Unite as one—two vibrant chords—
And passed from thine to mine.

O blest are they who pass this way
And catch the low refrain,
The sweet surprise, when all else dies—
Would I might pass again!

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(Mr. Ellis is also the President of two other large and successful companies, one of which publishes this paper, THE PARAGON MONTHLY. President Ellis owns shares in these companies valued conservatively at \$250,000. Mr. Ellis has other investments in New York City real estate, bonds, stocks and mortgages to the amount of many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Any bank or mercantile agency will tell you his guarantee is as good as gold. Here is a successful man who wishes you for a Co-partner, as a shareholder and Dividend receiver in his company. Remember, you do business personally with Mr. Ellis in this matter.—EDITOR THE PARAGON MONTHLY.

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The Education of Boys

A PHILOSOPHER has said that true education for boys "is to teach them what they ought to know when they become men." What is it they ought to know, then?

First. To be true, to be genuine. No education is worth anything that does not include this. A man had better not know how to read, he had better never learn a letter in the alphabet and be true and genuine in action, rather than being learned in all sciences and languages, to be at the same time false in heart and counterfeit in life. Above all things, teach them that truth is more than riches, more than culture, more than earthly power or position.

Second. To be pure in thought, language, life, pure in mind and body. An impure man, young or old, poisoning the society where he lives with smutty stories and impure examples, is a moral ulcer, who ought to be treated as the lepers of old, who were banished from society and compelled to cry, "Unclean!" as a warning to save others from the pestilence.

Third. To be unselfish, to care for the feelings and comforts of others; to be polite, to be generous, noble, and manly. This will include a genuine reverence for the aged and things sacred.

Fourth. To be self-reliant and self-helpful, even from early childhood; to be industrious always and self-supporting at the earliest proper age. Teach them that all honest work is honorable, and that an idle, useless life, dependent on others, is disgraceful. When a boy has learned these four things, when he has made these ideas a part of his being, however young he may be, however poor, however rich, he has learned some of the most important things he ought to know when he becomes a man.—Thompson's Island Beacon.

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"I like singing for Parisian audiences, too; they are sensitively sympathetic and appreciative in the highest degree. I like to sing to great artists, because it is their marvelous wealth of feeling that enables them to be such great artists. It gives me great pleasure to sing at a benefit for an artist.

"There cannot be too much *esprit de corps* among us. Pride in one's calling or profession, whatever it may be, is an element of success and should be encouraged. We artists entertain, amuse, mayhap help and elevate a great part of the human race. Why should we not do a little for each other?"

"By helping others one helps himself. I desire to keep young and cheerful, and I am young. What's the use of growing old fast?"

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You cannot scatter sunshine out of a face like a vinegar cruet.

Our lamps do not cast shadows when the true light is shining.

You can measure a man's title to heaven by his deeds on earth.

The church founded from wrong motives can never do right work.

The best way to bring others to our ideals is to get there ourselves.

Environment will no more save a man than a new case will regulate an old watch.

When you have learned to be a true saint in your home, heaven will take care of itself.

To acquire a true knowledge of the laws of life the mind must be kept pure and clean by the exercise of pure and clean thinking. Pure thought will create a sound, perfect body, and "a sound mind in a sound body is a short but full description of a high and happy state in this world. He that has these two has little more to wish for." Health, courage, independence, self-reliance, and all the nobler traits of character are produced by pure thinking. Bad thoughts enervate; they are insidious, corroding, undermining.

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SOCIOLOGICAL POINTS

By Henry Wood

Co-operation is good; but its spirit must be set up inside of men before its political and institutional forms, outside, can have life and duration.

Competition is not in some "system," but in man. If it has unfriendly aspects, they appear because he is not reformed from the centre.

This body politic is a great unitary organism, composed of unlike elements, and, like the human body, "when one member suffers, all suffer."

The only natural and permanent basis for good wages must be skill, energy, and faithfulness. Otherwise a premium is put upon inferiority.

There may be good and bad capitalists and good and bad laborers, but capital and labor are always impersonal and both good.

Wealth is good in its place, but true riches are made up of character.

SENTIMENTALLY, "the State" is a great omnipresent and beneficent administrative Force, but, practically, it is often limited by the politicians of the dominant party.

I Cure Women

OF FEMALE DISEASES AND PILES

I Will Cure You So That You Should Stay Cured—Women No Longer Need Submit to Embarrassing Examinations and Big Doctor Bills.

To Show Good Faith and to Prove to You That I Can Cure You I Will Send Free a Package of My Remedy to Every Sufferer.

I hold the secret of a discovery which has seldom failed to cure women of piles or female weakness. Falling of the womb, painful menstrual periods, leucorrhea, granulation, ulceration, etc., are very readily cured by my treatment.

I now offer this priceless secret to the women of America, believing that it will effect a cure in almost any case, no matter how long you have suffered or how many doctors have failed.

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7 18 5 1 20
16 21 26 26 12 5
2 15 15 11

It consists of a collection of famous Puzzles (with correct answers) which have perplexed all of us since childhood. Each one of the four lines of figures spells one word, and the four words make a sentence. There are 26 letters in our alphabet; we have used figures in the four words instead of letters. Letter A is number 1. B number 2, C is 3, etc., throughout the entire alphabet. You are interested enough to work out this puzzle. Send 12 cents for Our Great Puzzle Book, which will interest and amuse you and your friends for hours at a time.

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MARRY

Thousands want to marry rich. Men want wives. Women want husbands. Big list published each month. Sent free to all. Just send your request for a copy to THE GENTLEWOMAN MATRIMONIAL CLUB, NEW YORK, N.Y.

A VISION.

It was in "The Silence" that this vision came to me. I had read the thirty-seventh Psalm, and had been sitting some time with closed eyes, breathing in the great desire for a more full realization of the fact and power of universal goodness, when I perceived something more than common in the limitless space into which we enter when we shut out from us the objective life.

I seemed to be standing alone in the open of God's universe, all about me gray and neutral-tinted in the twilight, when at my right I perceived a glint of light, and turning toward it I beheld far off up in space a crescent, like a young moon, and sitting in it the figure of a woman. As I looked it came nearer and nearer, the crescent and figure growing larger and more fully revealed, until, when it had passed more than half the distance toward me, the woman slid from the crescent and with swift, gliding motion came on toward me, while the crescent swung back into the far distance. As she came toward me I perceived that she was full of majesty and power. Her hair, bound about her head with a tiara on which blazed in white light the word TRUTH, floated out behind her a golden glory; her garments were of soft white, and about the hem of her robe was brodered in letters of gold, "Holiness to the Lord." In her right hand she held a small whip, on the handle of which was inscribed "Justice," and in her left was a banner, the legend of which was "Freedom." As she came near I perceived that her eyes blazed with the intensity of a great purpose, and suddenly raising her right arm she flung out the lash of the small whip, and as she threw it, it seemed to stretch almost interminably, and I turned to see at what she was launching her correction.

I beheld a monster hideous to look upon; hate, vindictiveness, and greed distorted his countenance. On his forehead was written "Tyranny," and on his garments were blazoned in phosphorescent light ugly kabala of venomous things, venomous legends. As I looked, the lash of the woman's whip struck him over and over again, and he rushed toward her like a maddened wild beast. But the little slender lash stung him now here, now there, blinding him, wounding him, and causing him to shrink away as if he would flee. And now what seemed very wonderful to me happened, and what I fear I cannot graphically describe. The woman, so to speak, began to surround him. Silently, swiftly, she, while still far off, began to circle round him, coming all the time nearer and ever lashing him. Nearer and nearer she came, and I saw him look terrorized and shrink into himself. Still she approached closer and he grew more abject and smaller, until suddenly, without my having seen him disappear, she stood glorious and triumphant where he had been.—H. McL. Shepard Wolff, in Eleanor Kirk's Idea.

All who subscribe now will receive this paper for one whole year for only 20 cents, or five years for 50 cents.

FOR NERVOUS, LONELY AND WEAK PEOPLE.

"A nervous, frightened patient can sometimes be quieted by the simple impressive repetition of that beautiful text: 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusted in Thee.' It falls like soothing balm on the troubled mind, and a wave of courage and hope comes with the 'Perfect trust casteth out fear.' To the lonely and longing for companionship: 'Lo, I am with you always,' and 'He shall give His angels charge concerning thee.' To the faltering and timorous: 'Lord, I believe, help Thou my unbelief, and 'I can do all things through Him who strengtheneth me.' Just for to-day, 'His grace is sufficient'; and to the sorrowing and despondent: 'Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in.' 'Oh, trust in the Lord, wait patiently for Him, and He shall give thee thy heart's desires,' and 'Commit your way unto Him, and He shall bring it to pass.'"

To a life hid in God, encompassed and enshrouded by Divine Love and Strength, no weakness can come, no harm befall.—S. C. Clark.

HEAL thy bodily and mental ailments by invoking the Holy Spirit to rouse thy mind to a true conception of its relation with thy real self—the soul.

A WARM and close communion must be kept open between the heart and those masses of authoritative good denoted by the love of truth, the love of nature, the love of virtue, the love of man and the love of God.—Rev. W. R. Alger.



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75 upwards we offer for sale the largest assortment in the world of light running and noiseless high-grade pivot and BALL-BEARING SEWING MACHINES that do perfect work, among which is OUR HIGH ARM "CLAYTON'S" \$8.65 "Faultless" Ball-Bearing Machine at \$12.00

which equals any sewing machine at any price. We have drop-head, drop-deck, upright and automatic styles, in plain or richly carved cabinets, all fitted with our famous "Faultless" extra high and extra long arm heads, which possess all improvements of \$40 to \$60 machines and many valuable improvements controlled exclusively by us. OUR FREE SEWING MACHINE CATALOG illustrates and describes our machines in detail, tells all about the mechanism and woodwork, gives hundreds of testimonials from people using our machines, and proves decisively that our machines at \$5.75 upwards equal any other machines, no matter what the name may be. We guarantee our machines 25 years, ship on easy terms, C. O. D., subject to examination and allow 80 days' free trial in your home. Write for our Sewing Machine Catalog today and see our wonderfully low prices. John M. Smyth Co., 150-154 W. Madison St., Chicago

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There are 774 square inches of linen and lace materials, consisting of 4 Hollyhock and 1 Forget-me-not centrepiece, and 4 large dollies, Strawberry, Rose, Maiden Hair and Forget-me-not designs, 8 linen collars, prettiest and latest designs for neckwear, making 8 pieces of linen, all stamped in the most exclusive designs.

ALSO BATTERBERG Lace Designs enough for 1 lace handkerchief, 1 tie-end, 2 turnover collars, 2 large dollies, all on special satin-finished cambric, making 14 NEW DESIGNS. OUR SPECIAL OFFER! Send us a club of only two (2) subscribers at fifteen cents each, we will send you absolutely FREE the entire 14 pieces as described, sent postage prepaid. Address THE GENTLEWOMAN, German Herald Building, New York.

FREE CINNAMON VINES. A Grand Offer READ EVERY WORD.

The Cinnamon Vine is beautiful, hardy and fragrant. It will stand the hardest winter and in Spring bursts forth as fine as any lover of beautiful flowers can wish. It is the most charming climber ever imported from China. It will quickly surround an arbor, window or veranda with a great profusion of wonderfully striking green vines, liberally laden down with handsome, glossy, heart-shaped leaves and sweet-scented flowers, making what was once a barren, ugly place a perfect bower of beauty. It will thrive anywhere, and once planted and established, will grow forever, becoming from year to year more and more a source of grateful comfort and pride to its happy owner as he sees it admired by every passerby, as its many clusters of exquisite and delicate white flowers send out a pleasant and distinct cinnamon fragrance that is truly as wonderful as the beauty of the vine itself, and its leaves is indelible. These bulbs recently sold for 25 cents each! We have purchased 50,000 bulbs from the largest grower in the world, and it is with pleasure that we place in a position to offer these bulbs to every reader of this magazine FREE. There is nothing which will give a home a more home-like, useful or cosy appearance, or is a surer index of refinement and culture, than this new and ornamental Cinnamon Vine twining about the porch, windows and trellises. They are God's own natural drapery from the Oriental land, where rest and comfort are always paramount.

The Beautiful, Fragrant CINNAMON VINE. NEW FROM CHINA.

Read Our Special Offer!

We will send (6) six sound and perfect Cinnamon Vine Bulbs FREE, all charges prepaid, to every reader of this paper who sends us twenty (20) cents in silver or stamps for a twelve months' subscription to The Rural Home. Remember, you will receive, all ready to plant, six splendid separate bulbs of this beautiful and as yet almost unknown Cinnamon Vine Creeper, or, more properly, "rapid climber." They will be sent FREE, all charges prepaid. Besides the six Free New Chinese Cinnamon Vine Bulbs you will also receive The Rural Home each and every month for twelve consecutive months.

NOW, ABOUT "THE RURAL HOME."

The National Agricultural Monthly has the largest circulation of any farm paper in the world (with one exception), and goes into 500,000 homes each month. It contains priceless information for the Farmer, Dairyman, Stockman, Gardener, Poultryman. Twenty-four to thirty-two large pages monthly, and is illustrated. Our paper makes the farm earn more money. Large sums of money prizes are offered to the Boy, the Girl, the Wife and the Husband.

A FEW TESTIMONIALS.

John A. Stow, New York, writes: "The Rural Home" is the best agricultural paper that comes to my house."

Mrs. A. Newton, Iowa, writes: "Please send me some more subscription blanks. I can secure many more subscribers. With very best wishes."

K. Nicholl, New Jersey, writes: "Like 'The Rural Home' and feel more than satisfied with my investment. Do not see how you can give so much for so little money. Thanks very much."

Miss Pearl Woodling, McVeytown, Pa., writes: "Am only 13 years old, I feel very proud of it. Everybody is pleased with 'The Rural Home.'"

And hundreds of others.

L. and M. J. Clark, Pleasant Valley, N. Y., writes: "To say that we were pleased with the Cinnamon Vine seems a feeble expression of our thanks. No vine ever gave us so much continued pleasure. The growth is truly phenomenal. Its handsome foliage and fragrant blossoms commend it to every lover of flowers. If its merits were more widely known you would be overwhelmed with orders."

M. S. Denfeld, Columbus, Ind., writes: "The Cinnamon Vines were a delight, with their pure white flowers and bright green waxy-like foliage and sweet perfume. They grew 35 feet, shading the south window, thence to the east window, and on the veranda making a delightful shade."

And many, many more.

IN CONCLUSION.

Do not forget that 20 cents in silver or stamps pays for The Rural Home twelve months and six bulbs, all ready for planting, of this gorgeous and grand New Chinese Cinnamon Vine Climber. All delivered FREE. We are a responsible publishing house, duly incorporated, governed by special State laws. We guarantee you satisfaction in each and every case, or we will cheerfully refund your money, if you should so wish, at any time. We make this offer solely to introduce The Rural Home to you, feeling sure that you will become a subscriber forever, after you have read and enjoyed it regularly for a year. In your letter inclosing the 20 cents be sure to sign your full name and address plainly.

WM. J. THOMPSON, Publisher, 22 North William Street, New York, N. Y.

GENUINE NICKEL PLATED RIFLE FREE!

This is the BEST AIR RIFLE EVER invented. It is the latest model of the most satisfactory style the world has known. Shoots BB shot and darts and will kill small game at 60 feet. Barrel and all working parts are steel, handsomely nickel plated and interchangeable. Black walnut stock, pistol grip, peep sights. Nearly 8 feet long but weighs only 2 1/2 pounds. Marvelously accurate. Send us your name and address for only 20 packages of our Famous Shooting to sell for us at 10 cents each. Return our \$2.00 satisfaction. Write to-day. GAGE RIFLE CO., Dept 422 New Bedford, Mass.

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A Magazine of Wonderfully Strange and Interesting Stories—Dreams and Their Meanings—Occult Powers—Astrology—Hypnotism—Telepathy—Personal Magnetism—Clairvoyance—Hidden Powers, etc.

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ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT, 4 and 7 Beekman Street, New York City, The C. B. Ellis Company, to whom all correspondence relating to advertising should be addressed.

Advertising rate \$1.50 per Agate line. Circulation absolutely guaranteed 400,000 per month.

I want everyone of my readers to stop and realize what a really wonderful magazine THE PARAGON MONTHLY is. Did you ever read such interesting and wonderful stories? Every story or poem or article is out of the ordinary—unique in itself. It is truly the most wonderful magazine published, and that accounts for its large circulation. JUST THINK, I AM OFFERING TO SEND IT TO YOU FOR FIVE WHOLE YEARS FOR ONLY 50 CENTS, OR ONE WHOLE YEAR, FOR ONLY 20 CENTS. I KNOW THAT YOU WILL WANT THE NEXT ISSUE, WHICH WILL SURELY INTEREST YOU—The Editor.

CONTROL YOUR ENVIRONMENTS

EVERY person has certain attributes, conditions and environments.

The environments are conditions which surround him, and seem to overthrow his desire for success, morality and happiness. These environments may be called our invisible opposition, or adverse influences to whatever we desire to accomplish. By some inexplicable law we seem to create our environments; then grant them a proxy or power to govern us, and even the right to thwart and destroy our whole plans and success, says a writer in the Mental Advocate.

This is almost the universal condition of the human race to-day. No person is free from conditions which may develop into insurmountable opposition to his purest and best-laid plans. I claim that we are at fault in all this; these conditions can all be mastered. Man creates all conditions that concern him and should govern his own creations.

The first conception in the case must be this: The man is master of his own being; he can grant success and obedience unto himself. No act of others can successfully oppose his just course. If this course seems impracticable at first, then sit down and take a survey of the situation and conditions, thus: Close your eyes gently, breathe fully and deeply for two or three minutes, then be- come physically at ease—very much relaxed. Withdraw your mind from the great world, and begin to see your internal spirit or mental self. See how easy you are now becoming; see what a mighty power you are; see how irresistible you really are. Claim your whole power over all things, conditions and environments. After a few minutes of inner survey of your self, let your mind radiate to these environments and they will yield instant obedience to your will. While in this restful, silent, relaxed condition seek the mental domain of your enemy (if you have one), and fill his mind with your soul of forgiving love. This is necessary, for every spark of enmity reflects opposition. There is no environment we cannot control. We make them and can control them. It is all a question of knowing one's power, and right to direct, instead of being directed. Seek to understand every work before beginning it; mentalize every feature and factor in it.

No one is a success who is eternally buffeted about by the lesser events of life. Man is creator of his own success, and he who sees clearest into a thing or problem is one who succeeds best in accomplishing that thing. I know of nothing so enriching to our help- forces as an occasional drop into the silence and relaxation for a few minutes, when we can survey the whole horizon before us, and sweep away all opposing environments. Yes, man is master of his environments if he will assert his right.

♦♦♦

Heaven is not reached by a single bound: We build the ladder by which we rise From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies, And we climb to its summit round by round.

42--PIECE MONOGRAM DINNER SET



FREE

Each Dish Decorated With Your Initial.

THIS is the finest dinner set ever offered as a premium. 42 complete pieces. Every dish (except cups and saucers) decorated with the owner's initial. Any lady sending us her name will be sent 24 of our handsome and multi-colored art pictures to sell for 25 cents each or two for 50 cents. When sold send us the \$6.00 collected and this elegant 42-Piece Monogram Dinner Set will be shipped to you at once for your trouble. You only need to sell 24 pictures (no more) to earn this premium. THIS IS A MOST VALUABLE PREMIUM but want to introduce our house at once. Our pictures are large size, 16 inches by 20 inches, in many beautiful colors and exact copies of paintings costing \$10,000.00, ready for wall, just as received from us. We Guarantee our pic- tures to be quick sellers, if they are found not to be, they can be returned at our expense. We run all the risk, pay all postage, trust you with the pictures, take back any not sold and pay you liberally for what you do sell. Order the 24 pictures TODAY and earn this elegant Monogram Dinner Set. We are an old established house, incorporated under the laws of Illinois for \$10,000 and can furnish 1000 references. Address

FREE

Wild Rose Design in Colors and Edges Traced in Gold.

W. L. REYNOLDS, Manager, 63 Washington Street, Dept. 177, Chicago.

\$200.00 IN CASH PRIZES FREE

Other Prizes are Given for Sending us Subscriptions; but THIS \$200.00 IN CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED ON MAY 15, ABSOLUTELY FREE to the persons sending us the neatest correct solutions. :

Arrange the 51 letters printed in the centre groups into the names of six cities of the United States. Can you do it? Large CASH PRIZES, as listed below, to those who send in the neatest solutions, will be given away on May 15. First Prize, \$50.00 in Gold. Second Prize, \$25.00 in Gold. Third Prize, \$15.00 in Gold. Fourth Prize, \$10.00 in Gold. Five Prizes of \$5.00 each. Ten Prizes of \$2.50 each. Fifty Prizes of \$1.00 each. Making a Total of Two Hundred Dollars in Prizes. Don't send us ANY MONEY when you answer this advertisement, as there is absolutely no condition to secure any one of these prizes. RULES GOVERNING THE CONTEST.—In preparing the names of the six cities, the letters in each group can only be used as many times as they appear, and no letter can be used that does not appear. After you have found the six correct names you will have used every letter in the 51 exactly as many times as it appears. These prizes ARE GIVEN, as we wish to have our Magazine brought prominently to the attention of everyone living in the United States. Our Magazine is carefully edited and filled with the choicest literary matter that the best authors produce. TRY AND WIN. If you make out the six names, send the solutions at once—who knows but what you will WIN A LARGE PRIZE? Anyway, we do not want you to send any money with your letter, and a contest like this is very interesting. Our Magazine is a fine, large paper, filled with fascinating stories of love and adventure, and now has a circulation of 400,000 copies each issue. We will send FREE a copy of the latest issue of our Magazine, to every one who answers this advertisement. COMMENCE RIGHT AWAY ON THIS CONTEST and you will find it a very interesting mix-up of letters, which can be straightened out to spell the names of six well-known cities of the United States. Send in the names right away. As soon as the contest closes you will be notified if you have won a prize. This and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the very best New York magazines into every home in the United States. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. When you have made out the names of these cities, write them neatly and plainly and send it to us, and you will hear from us promptly. BY RETURN MAIL. A copy of our fascinating MAGAZINE WILL BE SENT FREE to everyone answering this advertisement. Do not delay. Send in your answer immediately. Understand, the neatest correct solutions win the prizes. WE INTEND TO GIVE AWAY VAST SUMS OF MONEY in the future, just as we have done in the past, to advertise our CHARMING MAGAZINE. We find it is the very best advertising we can get to offer LARGE PRIZES. Here are the names and addresses of a few people who have recently won prizes: PRIZES: M. M. Hannah, Fernwood, Miss., \$75; H. A. Parmelee, Millford, Neb., \$61; Kate E. Dunlap, 128 N. Hill street, Los Angeles, Cal., \$61; Mrs. E. Preiter, Richmond, Tex., \$55; M. G. Christenson, Gregg, Minn., \$50; Mrs. C. E. Welting, 1330 Lauderdale street, Memphis, Tenn., \$50; Mrs. Harriet B. Ballard, 130 Intendencia street, Pensacola, Fla., \$40; J. C. Henry, Box 118, Slicko, Pa., \$35; Henry Perry, Central Italy, L. I., N. Y., \$25; James A. Cozier, Holden, Mo., \$25; Evelyn S. Murray, 182 S. Central Avenue, Austin, Chicago, Ill., \$25; Mrs. L. D. Puffenberger, 340 West Forty-fifth Street, New York City, N. Y., \$20.

THIS IS THE PUZZLE

SEYRASUC
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CAN YOU SOLVE IT?

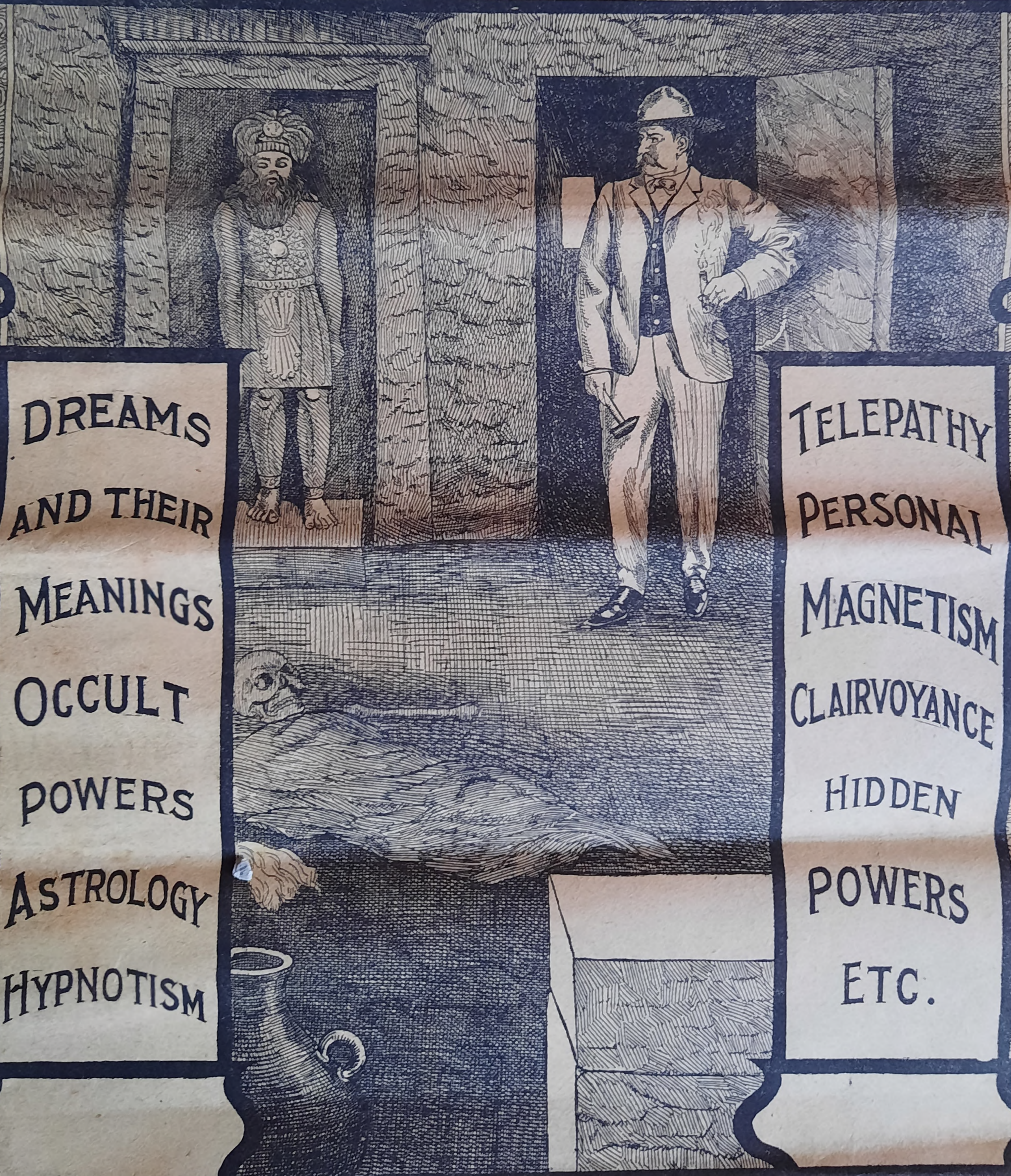
We could go on and point to hundreds of names of people who have gained large sums of money from our contests, but only give a few names. The solution can be worked out by an alert and clever person, and it will amply pay you to TRY AND SPELL OUT THESE CITIES. Brains and energy nowadays are winning many golden prizes. Study it very carefully and let us see if you are clever and smart enough to spell out the cities. We would rather take this way of advertising our excellent Magazine than spending many thousands of dollars in other foolish ways. We freely and cheerfully give the money away. YOU MAY WIN. We do not care who gets the money. TO PLEASE OUR READERS IS OUR DELIGHT. The question is, Can you get the correct solution? If you can do so, write the names of the cities and your full address plainly in a letter and mail it to us, and you will hear from us promptly by return mail. Lazy and foolish people neglect these grand free offers, and then wonder and complain about their bad luck. There are always plenty of opportunities for clever, brainy people who are always alert and ready to grasp a real good thing. We have built up our enormous business by being alert and liberal in our GREAT OFFERS. We are continually offering our readers RARE AND UNUSUAL prizes. We have a big capital, and anyone can easily ascertain about our financial condition. We intend to have the largest circulation for our high-class Magazine in the world. In this progressive age publishers find that they must be liberal in giving away prizes. It is the successful way to get your Magazine talked about. Of course, if you are easily discouraged and are not patient and are not willing to spend any time in trying to work out the solution, you certainly cannot expect to win. USE YOUR BRAINS. Write the names of the cities and send them to us, and we will be just as much pleased as you are. We desire someone to be successful, and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and answer this contest, it will be very foolish for you to pass it by. In all fairness give it some of your leisure time. SUCCESS IS FOR ENERGETIC AND THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE, and the AND THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE, and the cause of FAILURE IS LACK OF INTEREST AND LAZINESS. We suggest that you carefully read this offer several times before giving up the idea of solving the puzzle. Many people write us kind and grateful letters, profusely thanking us for our prompt and honest dealings. It always pays to give attention to our grand and liberal offers. OUR PRIZES have gladdened the hearts of many persons who needed the money. If you need money you will give attention to this special offer this very minute. If you solve it, write us immediately. DONT DELAY. Get your name on our list and win a prize. Write plainly. Address

THE HOPKINS PUBLISHING COMPANY, 22 NORTH WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

THE PARAGON MONTHLY

A MAGAZINE OF WONDERFULLY STRANGE AND INTERESTING STORIES



DREAMS
AND THEIR
MEANINGS
OCCULT
POWERS
ASTROLOGY
HYPNOTISM

TELEPATHY
PERSONAL
MAGNETISM
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