

THE APPEARANCE TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, OF THE HOUSE AT HYDESVILLE, N. Y., WHERE THE RATS FIRST ORIGINATED.



# 49TH ANNIVERSARY.

investigation, the two ladies on the floor, where the two ladies were heard as distinctly as at other places, and that part of the committee heard the rapping on the wall better than them. A number of questions were asked, which were answered, not at all together right or altogether wrong. In the afternoon they went to the house of a clerk, and there they were again heard on the outside (apparently from the front door, after they had entered, and on the door of a closet. W. the hand was placed upon the door, the jar was sensibly felt when the rapping occurred. One of the committee placed one of his hands upon the feet of the ladies and the other on the floor, and though the ladies were not in the room, a distinct jar on the floor, on the pavement and the ground the same sounds were heard. A kind of double rap, as a stroke and a rebound, were distinguishable. When the ladies were separated at a distance, no sound was heard; but when a third person was interposed between them the sounds were heard. The ladies were given the opportunity to the committee to investigate the cause fully, and would submit to a thorough investigation by a committee of ladies if desired. All

David Fox, of Newark, a brother of famous Fox sisters. Her name is L. Fox Sanford. Here the exercises of morning ended and the Spiritualists came materialists by enjoying bas lunches, which were discussed with great relish.

In the afternoon brief exercises were

"There is a glory and beauty in everything that tells us that the heavens are watching over us, but phenomena are not all, they lead to something. They are the pathway but not the end of the journey. But to grow better spiritually and morally as we advance in our investigations is the glory

the whole lump, and bring salvation to the heathen in the churches.

(Continued on page 3.)

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**Prof. W. B. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., New York**



## (Continued from page 2.)

The speaker then dwelt upon the pessimistic belief that the world is getting worse and worse all the time, and so that they were wrong because truth was prevailing, and truth is ever in the direction of prosperity. Continuing:

"Spiritualism is the nurse of economic patriotism, the patron of industry, the guardian of integrity and the guide to success. Religious liberty is the most resplendent gem in Columbia's diadem. Our sense as a nation should be spiritual righteousness. We must let the nation see that the true spirit of heaven above earth is not the god of war, but peace."

"A little discovery was made in 1844 not by scientific nor philosophical geniuses, in fact it was not a discovery at all, but it came as a revelation. People who were underground have been knocking at our doors and saying that the time has come for us to know that there is no death, no more acceptance by faith, no more supposition, but knowledge, and demonstration. It came as a thief in the night. Not indeed a

James T. Morrison, of Ithaca, was the next speaker, whose subject was "Spiritualism, the Religion of Reason." For the last eighteen years Mr. Morrison has been interested in the temperance cause and in his address he gave that subject more or less prominence. He recited several poems whose authorship he ascribed to his daughter who had died at three months of age and who was now twenty-five years old in the spirit world.

The last speaker of the morning was W. M. Lockwood, of Chicago, who has been called the "spiritual scientist."

of the youngest adherents to the faith and is looked to as a prominent exponent of the cause.

After a solo by G. E. Jones, Mrs. Kates said that she had been asked to give some tests under the manifest influence of her controlling spirit "Fritz." She complied with the request and then in a broken German-English accent carried out her tests, which were similar to those given at previous meetings.

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Published every Saturday at 40 Loomis Street.  
J. R. FRANCIS, Editor and Publisher.  
Entered at Chicago Postoffice as second class matter.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1897.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS FLED.

"I believe that God is actually withdrawing his Holy Spirit from his church as a body," said Rev. A. T. Pierson, D. D., in an address at a missionary rally, in Scranton, Pa., so cited in that great Presbyterian organ, the New York Observer.

Before The Progressive Thinker can endorse the statement of the Reverend Doctor, it will require proof that the Holy Spirit has ever been an indweller in any orthodox church. It is of the opinion that the creeds of all ecclesiastical churches are quite too contracted to retain any spirit, unless a very evil one.

It is not surprising churches are discouraged. Turn which way we may indications of departed glory are apparent. All remember the piteous appeal of the Rev. Angelus Moody, on the eve of the new year, for help. He prayed to God loud and long to make a demonstration of his power, by arousing the church to activity. Where are the converts? Here and there maniacs have been posted off to asylums, family feuds have been engendered, numerous murders have followed; but somehow real genuine, noble, collected, and cheerful, trembling, saints shouting, the ransomed sinner, and the godly beggar sinners to come forward to be prayed for; while the younger sisters, with the hands of the sinners in theirs are weeping, and imploring them to be seated on the mourner's bench and be saved, seem not to have been the order of exercises in the church. Moody and his lieutenants have never labored harder; but the Holy Spirit would not respond to their importunities.

Col. Ingersoll, the stalwart anti-Christ, finds overflowing houses wherever he lectures, and the people pay generously for hearing him. The church is attempting to get out of the hall in which he speaks, if only bulls are closed larger ones are opened to him. Every movement to silence the Colonel has resulted in giving him larger and more interested audiences. So great was the pressure on his time he was compelled to abandon the bar that he might fill lecture engagements.

On second thought we are inclined to the opinion that if the Holy Spirit was in any way connected with the churches it has actually withdrawn therefrom, as the Reverend Doctor alleged, and has gone over to Colonel Ingersoll. It is well known the old pagan gods used to get disgusted with those they served, and would occasionally go over to the opposite camp. There are many characteristics in common with the Christian's God; they were as changeable as those who made them, repenting and sorrowing for the past, loving to-day and hating to-morrow; they peopled the world, then drowned the inhabitants. And now it would seem, our Holy Spirit has fled to the "other world." Well, well, well, who thought it would do so so soon?

## SETTLED AT LAST.

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"The evangelist declared that every book, every chapter, every verse, and every line of the Bible was true. He accepted and demonstrated even the Jonah and the whale story. Calabers—and there were many in that vast audience—were conquered, for the time at least, by the Christians who returned against the Devil. 'Give up your life but don't give up the Bible,' shouted the evangelist in a voice full of command and warning. The church-members stood ready to do it."

Scholarship does not count in a contest with such a man. Faith, blind, unreasoning faith, is the only guide with such a person and his deluded followers.

## MODERN AND BIBLE LAW.

"Whoever . . . shall sell or offer to sell or keep for sale any flesh of any diseased animal or other corrupt or unwholesome provision shall be confined in the county jail not exceeding one year, or be fined not exceeding \$1,000, or both, at the discretion of the court."

—Statutes of Illinois.

"Ye shall not eat of anything that dieth of itself; thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien; for thou art a holy people unto the Lord thy God."—God, Deut. xiv:21.

It seems there are those who prefer the latter law, because it was enacted by God, and is part of an incorrect Bible.

## A SENSIBLE CHRISTIAN.

A learned writer in the Quarterly Review, devotes thirty-two pages to the discussion of the "Lord's Day," and has brought logic and fact to his support, favoring the opening of museums and galleries of art to the people on Sunday; making the day one of happiness and pleasure, instead of darkness and gloom. Discouraging on the Jewish observance of their Sabbath, he says:

"There is no hint before the [Babylonian] captivity of any Sabbath service other than the sacrifices of the Temple, which were followed by feasts. The only references to offense or shortcoming with regard to Sabbath law are to engagements in what we call business or servile work." The writer goes on to show how a rigid observance of the Sabbath was developed until:

"Nailed shoes may not be worn on the Sabbath, for this would be to bear a burden; grass may not be walked upon, more than the latter said. A large number of little prohibitions will make a large sum total, and thus extend the field of our labor and usefulness. The same suggestion will apply in all cases of renewal of subscription. A single copy of the Progressive Thinker will experience no difficulty whatever in inducing Spiritualists to subscribe to the Progressive Thinker, for not one of them can afford to be without the valuable information imparted therein each week, and at the price of only about two cents per week."

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## A LIE OVERTAKEN AT LAST.

When collusion among witnesses is suspected during the trial of a cause, on the suggestion of the adverse party the court will send them out of hearing of the witness being examined. In extreme cases all may be kept separate from each other until the evidence is closed. Many a nice scheme to defeat the ends of justice, aided by a rigid cross-examination, has thus resulted in exposing a deplorable plot of crime.

The preachers in these times, with no general head to direct schemes of fraud, are too numerous to successfully practice the old-time arts of the profession. For many years they have claimed that infirmaries, hospitals and schools for medical learning owed their origin to Christianity, as has been heretofore shown in these columns. They have repeated the assertion so often, and with such pertinacity, they seem to have convinced themselves they were telling facts.

It is an axiom that "children and fools tell the truth," and this to the discomfort of their superiors. Without classing Rev. DeWitt Talmage with either of these, he unwittingly exposed the falsehoods of his colleagues, in his sermon of the 28th ult., from the words of Paul, "I am a fool, as touching the Greeks and the barbarians." In that discourse Talmage gave a brief sketch of Hippocrates, the reputed father of medicine, and said:

"He was the father of all the infirmaries, hospitals and medical colleges of the last twenty-three centuries." Hippocrates died 301 years before the alleged birth of Jesus. Should not the testimony of this witless witness, and he a Christian, the most unscrupulous of his sect, though scholarly, put this foundationless falsehood of fiction-makers forever at rest?

## DYING STATE.

A distinguished major-general of the American Revolution, in his will, quoted on page 34, volume 2 of the Life and Times of Washington, said:

"I desire most earnestly that I may not be buried in any church-yard, or within a mile of any Presbyterian or Anabaptist meeting-house; for since I have resided in this country [he was a native of Wales], I have kept so much to myself, and have been so long, that I do not choose to continue it while I live."

When the Indian chief, Hatney was captured by Velasquez, and was condemned to be burnt alive, he was told that by embracing Christianity he could go to heaven. He inquired if there were any white men there. Answered in the affirmative, he replied: "Then I am not a Christian; for I would not go again to a place where I must find men who are so cruel."—See Prescott's Conquest of Mexico, p. 365, vol. 1.

## WILL C. HODGE.

Will C. Hodge is visiting friends and speaking at Beloit, Wisconsin. He is open for engagements in any locality and on terms in accordance with the times. He desires correspondence with parties who contemplate holding grove or camp-meetings. He will attend funerals. Address him at 40 Loomis St., Chicago, Ill.

## ANNIVERSARY AT CANTON, OHIO.

The Spiritualist meeting was opened by the reading of the poem, "The World is Moving On." Mr. E. J. Bowtell, the lecturer, said: "We have been considering external observances practiced by religiousists of the various sects. There is one now to be considered which the regulators of the religions consider of the greatest importance. This, the duty of public worship, is so essential to the professors of religion that all other observances pale before its over-weighing importance. We will now bring that observance to the attention of those professing the faith called 'Spiritualism,' and will make some of the observances before noticed, we find this to be of true importance: Do Spiritualists profess their faith? Aware from actual experience that the so-called dead can communicate, they imagine that it is enough for them to hold their faith without acknowledging it before the world. We, on the spiritual side, implore those of our brethren to publicly acknowledge their faith. This coming together with minds intent on one thought, will give the cause proclaimed by the public assemblage of Spiritualists great strength, for, if the exercise of one human will be of such potency, how great the power of the united will of a multitude. The better the intention, the stronger the power that goes with it."

"Come not seeking self—that is the element of union, but of disunion. We, individualizations of the divine spirit, are yet but one in the great whole. As we with our spiritual vision survey assembled congregations, we behold as one, and not as many, portrayed—each seeking his own will. Let self-love be eliminated, and the fraternity of humanity and the law of the divine be the one thought of the assemblage. For, as you assemble, so you depart. So we say to all Spiritualists, come together for the worship of All-God."

"I would throw down to you the life-line which would save you. Will you cling to that line and leave the perishable things of earth?"

"O, how sad the condition of one who has lived for himself! He has laid up treasure which must remain on earth, while he is torn from it."

"We are in the temple of the living God, for we are one. Therefore, we say, my humanity be blessed, uplifted, and come to know the power of life, and may everything that interferes with soul-development be overcome."

MRS. E. J. BOWTELL.

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

To the Editor:—Will you kindly allow space to note the meetings held every Sunday afternoon and evening by the colored medium, Miss Thomas. The meetings last Sunday evening the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism, Miss Thomas took for the subject of her lecture, I. Samuel, iii, and drew a very clear and pretty connection between the child medium, Samuel, and the Fox children several thousand years later. The calling of Samuel by the Lord "spirit" was very nicely told and explained through the lecture, and brought down to the present day reference to the different prophets, "mediums," in the Old Scriptures and the followers of Christ in the New Testament, and since to many that have given evidence of their gifts of mediumship as public men—notably Lincoln and Blair. The will, corner of Washington Boulevard and Paulina street, was crowded in the evening over the standing room, and the interest was manifest from the fact that all remained to the close of the lecture, when Miss Thomas punctuated the lesson by many remarkable tests. H. H. G.

## GOOD SENSE.

Is it not possible little Elsie was right after all? Her mamma had chided her for having neglected to say her accustomed prayer on going to bed the night before. She concluded her gentle reprimand with:

"What do you think God would say to you were you to meet him this morning, for your neglect to remember him and ask his blessing before going to sleep?"

"He would say, 'Don't mention it, Elsie,'" replied the budding skeptic.

## VANISHING POINT IN SIGHT.

According to the Congregationalist, during the last six years the theological students in German Universities have decreased from 4,627 to 2,956—a diminution of over one-third. The causes are ascribed to a weakening of faith through the liberalization of the over-crowding of the ministry. At the same rate of decadence for a series of years, and the vanishing point is not very remote.

True statesmanship is the art of changing a nation from what it is into what it ought to be.—W. R. Alger.

"Those there are whose hearts have a look southward, and are open to the whole noon of nature.—Bailey.

# 49TH ANNIVERSARY.

Special to The Progressive Thinker.

## THE ROCHESTER CONVENTION AND THE HYDESVILLE HOME.

To the Editor:—Your correspondent left the city of Rochester, N. Y., on the afternoon of March 28th, arriving at Rochester, N. Y., at 4 a. m., the following morning. We made the New Osborne House our headquarters, and found it to be one of the best kept hotels in the United States. On Tuesday morning at 10:30 we went to Pittsburgh Hall, the place where our Spiritualists friends were in session, considering the feasibility of holding next year the Fifty-first Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism in Rochester, and making the occasion one long to be remembered, and to consecrate anew the "Rap," as the messenger of science, and the harbinger of good will to man. Some divergence of opinion existed as to whom the management of this desired celebration should fall—whether the N. S. A. should run and finance the undertaking, or whether it be left to the control of the local society and its friends. The pros and cons were entertained by the chairman, Brother Kates, and their spirit of fraternal courtesy seemed to pervade the entire issue, whether the local society and its abettors, would not have more influence with the business men of Rochester, in securing donations, making special railroad rates and hotel reductions, or whether the N. S. A. as a corporate body, solicited through the Rochester Chamber of Commerce, and railway managers such aid and concessions consonant with so large a convocation as this special celebration would call out. The matter is still unsettled and will be considered duly by the friends of the movement in all of its local and official bearings.

At 11:20 a. m. the convention listened to an able essay by Brother Morrissey of Ithaca, N. Y., whose fraternal sympathies would extend in true Christian spirit the right hand of fellowship and the spiritual philosophy to the world; and whose advanced years and poetical brain, softens into rhythmic measure the needs of the hour. In the afternoon a brief address by Brother E. J. Bowtell, followed by others, your correspondent being included.

In the evening, Brother Rabbi Weil opened the services with prayer, after which Lyman C. Howe gave one of his characteristic lectures, entitled "One World at a Time." In this lecture Brother Howe suggested that whatever may be the theories of the materialist, the affairs of this planet and its inhabitants depended upon the sun for light and heat and the constellations of space for the recurrence of the seasons and their fruitage; that the changes promoting vegetable growth and animal life, regulating the seasons and their atmospheres, affording all types of existence, were held in being by the sun, the moon, and the stars, and that the "one world at a time," but to the mutations of myriads of central suns and their correlated systems. The lecture was timely, and keenly enjoyed by a very large audience. Other speakers followed, the writer of this closing the evening session with a brief talk upon the philosophy of the world, and the future of the human race.

## HURRAH FOR HYDESVILLE.

Wednesday morning at 8:20 found fifty-one of our number at the station, where a special car was attached to the Eastern bound train which took us to Newark, N. Y., about thirty miles east of Rochester. The train runs within half a mile of the celebrated Hydeville home, but the station must be fully a mile or more away. Carriages, hacks and omnibuses conveyed those who desired to ride to the cottage, which at the present time is vacant. Wm. Hyde, son of the former owner, and who is the present proprietor, was the host of the occasion. Seating benches, and chairs from a schoolhouse near by, putting up a stove to warm the chilly atmosphere, and many other acts of fraternal courtesy, were not lost nor forgotten by the guests. Many of the Spiritualist pilgrims assembled. Brother Howe gave us an inspirational poem that ought to have a place in the progressive literature of our philosophy, and as a souvenir of the occasion, that many besides those present would enjoy.

Mrs. James R. Sanford, formerly Miss Leah Fox, daughter of David Fox, who is the brother of the Fox sisters, is a writing medium residing at Newark. Being present, she went under control and wrote two messages, one signed A. L. Underhill, formerly Miss Ann Leah Fox, one of the daughters of the Fox family, and sister to Margaretta and Kate, and the other was signed Horace Greeley. The first message received reads as follows:

"Good people, I am with you to-day. I will enlighten you all I can, for I am the spirit of one gone that you all know. While on earth, I prayed for development to be made, that might prove the truths you know must be true. Work for the cause, love one another, and you will all be friends, and my spirit."

Signed A. L. UNDERHILL.

The other message reads as follows:

"My spirit cannot tell all I would like to say. Never, was I so happy to think the cause must be brought forth, must come to light. Our dear ones on earth must know that their departed ones are not gone, but are still with us in death. Each person here has a loving spirit close to the other world, and they all want to say something. So it is very hard to control a medium intellectually. However, we must say something that will let you know as a fact, that we are all with you to celebrate this Anniversary of Spiritualism. I am a spirit, and one of you all will be glad to know, and enjoy a spiritual belief in the other world. You know the spirit of"

## HORACE GREELEY.

After a picnic dinner, a few remarks were made by the writer of this, and by Mr. and Mrs. Kates, after which a vote of thanks, was tendered Mr. Hyde. THE COTTAGE.

The cottage is again an old-fashioned story-and-a-half building, facing the Northwest and is about eighteen by twenty-four feet square. All of the inside partitions are made of inch boards, and the stairway is a very plain old-fashioned affair of half a century ago. A summer kitchen is on the back side of the house, made of common boards. The house is well furnished and belongings is the same as when the "rap" first disturbed the slumbers of its occupants, save that of color, which to-day is green. Formerly it had no paint. I could not help thinking that here out of humble circumstances had been born to civilization its greatest truths and its greatest minds. The story of Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was blind, and who for a bottle of electricity to harness to possible industries, in connection with the philosophical postulates of "Poor Richard," is known to the Thinker. The poverty of Morse as he struggled to give to the world of commerce the telegraphic system and its alphabet, is a matter of history. The "rap," rap, rap, at the Hydeville home, aroused the dormant faculties of thought

throughout the length and breadth of our civilization, and when the world of thought can be made to comprehend the rap of the telegraphic key and the "rap" from inside their mysteries solved, and their secrets revealed, by a clear comprehension of electricity as the vehicle for the transference of all modes of motion known to time and space, and conscious volition as the operator of lines telegraphic and psychopathic, the relations between the material and the spiritual, and a realm invisible will be known as the basic truth of all time.

## BROTHER KATES AND WIFE.

We cannot close this article, without saying a word of commendation for the success and rhythmic flow of this convention, so much of which is due to the thoughtful management and active effort of Brother Kates and his estimable wife. Little matters of practical value in the various details of a convention received that prompt attention which predistinquishes a successful management. From beginning to end the convention was a great success, and the local press, be it said to their credit lent their columns to the aid of the movement. This was achieved largely through the many influence of Brother Kates during his brief stay at Rochester, his upon popular opinion, and through this channel, upon the press. We wish that more of this courtesy of kindly spirit, and executive excellence, could represent the practical details of the philosophy of Spiritualism everywhere.

W. M. LOCKWOOD.

## THE ANNIVERSARY AT CANTON, O.

The Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism was celebrated here last Sunday in an appropriate manner. The celebration was held in the large parlors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Tiffany, 335 West 10th street. During the services in the forenoon, addresses were made by E. J. Bowtell and Jacob L. Bellart. The morning services consisted of appropriate addresses, readings, singing, etc. When the dinner hour came, about forty of those who were present adjourned to the large dining room and partook of a bountiful supply of the good things of earth that were so satisfying, please and fill up the inner man.

At 2 p. m. a joint session, free to all, was held by Mrs. Tiffany, Mrs. Elsie Reynolds, George Renner and Charles Miller. Mrs. Tiffany and Messrs. Renner are home mediums. Mrs. Reynolds is one of the strongest materializing mediums in the country, and has been doing some excellent work here. Many through witnessing the phenomena of her seances have been convinced of immortality and have joined our ranks. I will not at this time attempt to go into details of the seance, but one thing I wish to say, is it was grand. Sunday evening Mrs. Reynolds held one of her grand phenomenal seances in the parlors, for full form materialization, to about forty people. I was told by one who kept count of the materializations, that sixty-five distinct forms materialized that evening, and among them were a number who had passed out from Canton, and were readily recognized by mortal friends who were there. Our attention is now given to organizing, and a good organization we must and will have in the near future. With Brother J. L. Bellart as leader, and a number of other good and determined workers with their shoulders to the wheel, success is assured.

A meeting has been called for Friday night of this week, at Assembly room, City Hall, to complete the organization. When I say, in the near future we will have speakers, I mean to say, I voice the sentiments of all earnest workers in the cause here; but those speakers must come well recommended.

E. R. KIDD.

## PORT HURON, MICH.

## Large Attendance at Society Hall Sunday Evening—Eloquent Address by Mrs. M. A. Root.

Society hall was filled on Sunday evening, the special occasion being the observance of the Forty-ninth Anniversary of the development of Modern Spiritualism. The principal address of the evening was delivered by Mrs. M. A. Root, of Bay City, and was both eloquent and logical. Mrs. Root showed that the belief in survival of the individuality after death, which is the most important doctrine of the Christian churches, is based entirely upon alleged spirit manifestations. There are, she said, over two hundred cases of alleged spirit manifestations reported in the Bible. The philosophy of Spiritualism sets forth clearly and forcibly, showing that it lifts the souls of those who accept it upon evidence out of the pit of terror in which the creeds of churches hold mankind, to a level where they can behold as they are, the Father, and God as He is—the universal life, and soul perfect in all things. No one can cast his sins upon another; he must atone for them himself and work out his own salvation.

Mrs. Robinson followed Mrs. Root with a few eloquent words, suggesting the highest moral and religious sentiments.

"Wm. T. H. Riker closed the evening with tests, most of them recognized under circumstances which precluded the possibility of collusion."

All the Christian churches of the city were represented among the audience.—Port Huron Times.

## THE PEOPLE'S HOME SPIRITUAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor:—The People's Home Spiritual Society, at Bricklayers' Hall, Sunday evening, March 28, celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism with very interesting exercises. The hall was filled with a large and interested audience.

Brother G. L. S. Jenifer, the president, introduced the program, as follows: Dr. D. S. White read the opening address, which was highly instructive. A congregational hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," was followed by a recitation by Mrs. Mueller, entitled "Thirty Years With a Shrew." Piano solo, Miss Henrietta Groat. Mrs. M. Rogers, organist, played "The Rose Tree" and "The Swan." His act as a musician amused all. Mrs. Peters sang and gave spirit tests. Mr. H. M. Trench, test medium, demonstrated spirit communion. Mrs. Delos Hill sang. Miss Della Ashby, six years old, in a beautiful recitation delighted all. Miss Dollie Jacob closed in psychology.

Dr. J. H. Randall, ever pleasing and popular as a delightful and scientific speaker, closed the services. His remarks encouraged all advocates of our glorious philosophy with enthusiasm. The whole event will be remembered by many friends. Brother Jenifer expects to give many thanks to all participants. All did well. Thus closed another year in harmony. G. G. W. VAN HORN.

## ANNIVERSARY IN BOSTON.

The Anniversary celebration in Boston, Sunday and Monday, was a grand success. About 4,500 people attended the meetings in the two days.

J. B. HATCH, JR.

# 49 TH ANNIVERSARY.

Special to The Progressive Thinker.

## HOW THE DAY WAS CELEBRATED AT CASSADAGA.

To the Editor:—Celebrating the advent of Modern Spiritualism at Cassadaga Camp, has become a yearly custom looked forward to with pleasing anticipation, participated in with earnestness and zeal by believers and defenders of the cause.

Sunday, March 28th, was the day of grace in this year, 1897.

The first attraction on the very attractive program was a musicale on the evening of the 27th under the management of Professor B. H. Bowen, assisted by the Fredonia Male Quartette and local talent.

Sunday evening dawned bright and beautiful, bringing a fair concourse of people to mingle with other visitors and residents that filled Library hall.

Hon. A. Gaston, the association's President, who graciously consented to act as chairman of the day, presented in a brief introductory address, on the occasion, the speaker of the forenoon, Mrs. Clara Watson, of Jamestown, N. Y. The topic of her very able discourse was "Practical Spiritualism," the opening thought of which was the absence of drilled methods and systematic education received through sectarian colleges, among spiritualist speakers, the greater portion of whom were taught by ministering angels. Then followed a passing notice of the growth of Spiritualism since its humble birth forty-nine years ago. Though scorned, persecuted and constantly ridiculed, it has steadily advanced in power, influence and numbers of adherents, this being especially true during the past year as the result of efforts of the N. S. A.

The raps heard at Hydeville have reverberated over the wide earth, revolutionizing thought and belief, and demonstrating that the grave is not the end of man's existence but the entering portals to the broad avenues of eternality. Hereafter we made the spiritualist ceremonies against which this movement has all along been battling.

Regardless of charlatans, fakirs, fops within and fops without that like barnacles fasten themselves on the ship of Spiritualism, it has plowed right on in its noble mission of enlightening the world. The world needs Spiritualism with its hope, its philosophy, its phenomena as well. Despite all opposition it cannot be crushed, even though as a distinct separate movement it may in time disappear, the principles it involves will live forever. Whatever tends to elevate is of practical good.

Spiritualism presents the most useful knowledge that has ever come to the world. It has rescued old friends from death, has performed a practical part in inventions, revealed through dreams, opened the avenues whereby the sick have been healed, evil spirits cast out and the dead been raised. It has taught humanity the laws of health and happiness, confounded the wise with its teachings, has entered the soul, freeing it from fetters, proved that life is eternal, opened the doors of occultism, assisted in the popular criticism of the Bible, taken part in all reforms of the age, and still greater things will it accomplish for its scope of usefulness is broad as the universe.

Theology banished the soul to a cold and far off, unknowable place, science and her knowledge at the gates of death; Spiritualism alone has brought the knowledge that



## ORGANIZATION.

This leaves no nucleus for Spiritualism as an organization, except the desire to encourage others in a modest and not too insistent manner to investigate for themselves.

If this be true, and I certainly believe it to be true, the deadliest enemies that the spiritualistic organization has are those who invest truth with a big and teach "not like the scribes and pharisees, but as one having authority." These would lead us to think that truth is inspired into man instead of found out by him. It is historically demonstrated, on the contrary, that, as long as the world held this view, it did not find truth at all; and that since people gave up being enlightened and proceeded to investigate, they discovered

ANNIVERSARY.

## ANNIVERSARY.

CELEBRATION AT INDIANAPOLIS  
INDIANA

Good nature is the very air of a gentleman, the sign of a large and generous mind, and the peculiar soil in which virtue prospers.—Goodman.

## THE SPIRITUALISTS.

SHADOW LAND.  
Mrs. Pfunter spoke of Shadow Land,  
the abode of suicides and other unfortu-

## SHADOW LANE

solve. But the fact that in the period of a half century this new religion has spread all around the world, having found its adherents men and women of every walk of life, the philosopher, the astronomer, the scientist down to the most humble citizen of the kingdom, empire or republic, this fact it may be repeated makes the circumstances attending the discovery that the dead may communicate with the living, of special interest.

## ORIGIN OF SPIRITUALISM

Forty-nine years ago Modern Spiritualism was born in Hydesville, New York. There are many persons who know nothing of Spiritualism or its origin. To others it is a sealed book, a mystery which they do not care to solve. But the fact that in the period of a half century this new religion has spread all around the world, having found its adherents men and women of every walk of life, the intelligent, the astronomer, the scientist, down to the humble citizen of the kingdom, empire, or republic, this fact it may be repeated makes the circumstances attending the discovery that the dead may communicate with the living, of special interest.

Faith is letting down our nets into the transparent deeps, at the divine command, not knowing what we shall take.—Faber.

## Studies in Spiritual Thought

**LARGENESS OF INSPIRATION.**  
The word of God is not limited to any

### LARGENESS OF INSPIRATION

THOUGHT CONTROLS · EVERY-  
THING.

This intensity and exaltation con-

It is this ethereal world which is the world beautiful the world in which all potencies are stored, from which every form of progress, success, and happiness can be drawn. It is the world wherein all who live the life of significance may dwell.

## KEY TO A HAPPY LIFE

THE key to a happy life—one that is full of serene exaltation—is to fill the days with significant experience. The choice of these experiences is entirely, it may seem, a thing largely and almost inevitably dependent on circumstances, but it is not; for thought is greater than circumstance or event, and dominates them. Significance or insignificance in the quality of life is, like good or evil, a matter of personal choice with the individual. It is possible to eliminate the mundane hours and make every day tell in the measure of a life of purpose. Nor is this possibility restricted to the city dweller, in the heart of all that which is finest in art, literature, and ethics. It is a matter of individual choice rather than that of individual opportunity.

\_\_\_\_\_

It is necessary in this life to see to the concerns that pertain to our own well-being here; but it is possible, while paying due attention to these things, to live a life not wholly absorbed in things of earth—to live, in truth, a life whose realm is the world spiritual, the world beautiful, whose thoughts and aspirations are in close conjunction with the

and manifests His wondrous pow'r  
In self-creation—God alone

The being's self of all things k

Beacon Light Spiritual Church observed Anniversary Day with two services conducted by G. F. Perkins and E.

S. Perkins, at 617 N. Clark street, Sunday, March 29.

Many thanks to the donors of flowers and pictures. The meeting will continue indefinitely at this hall.

Chicago, Ill. G. F. PERKINS.

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ANNIVERSARY AT LEONIDAS,  
MICHIGAN.

To the Editor:—We as an association wish to say to the readers of *The Progressive Thinker*, that we are still progressing, and that we did celebrate the Forty-fourth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism, Sunday, March 28, 1897. Dr. H. C. Andrews was with us and gave us three very fine lectures, and we were glad to see him again. He is a first-class speaker and a perfect gentleman. He also gave some very satisfactory tests after his lectures. We can safely recommend Dr. H. C. Andrews to those who may wish to secure him for work. JAMES R. LOWTHER,  
Leonidas, Mich. Sec. L. S. A.

TOLEDO, OHIO.

Ladd, LL.B., of the San Francisco Bar. This book is of more than ordinary value, giving the results of much patient thought and research by a mind well qualified to sift evidence and arrange facts. In compact form it gives just what is needed on the subject. Paper, 75 cents. Cloth, \$1.50. For sale at this office.

## ANNIVERSARY.

## ANNIVERSARY.

## ANNIVERSARY

50 cents.

"Mahomet, His Birth, Character and Doctrine." By Edward Gibbons. This is No. 6 of the Library of Liberal Classics. It is conceded to be historically correct, and so exact and perfect in every detail as to be practically beyond the reach of adverse criticism. Price 25 cents. For sale at this office.

**FIFTEEN CENTS!**

PROF. BARRETT'S ADDRESS

Remember, please, that in order to obtain these three books for \$1.25, you must send along a year's subscription to *The Progressive Thinker*; the paper, one year, and the three books cost only \$2.25. It is the subscription to the paper that enables us to send you these three books at cost.

Three books at \$6.95



# THE FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF MODERN SPIRITUALISM WAS ALSO CELEBRATED ON THE SPIRIT SIDE OF LIFE, AND GREAT WAS THE REJOICING.

## 49TH ANNIVERSARY.

### HOW THE OCCASION WAS OBSERVED AT DENVER, COLO.

The Forty-ninth Anniversary of Spiritualism at the First Spiritual Church, was observed in the morning of Sunday, March 28th, by a series of exercises of the musical, dramatic, reasoning, students in occult lore. The church was handsomely decorated with potted and cut flowers set off effectively by festoons of the graceful smilax. The pastor, Dr. G. C. B. Ewell, introduced as the first speaker, Mrs. M. A. Griddle, who spoke for nearly half an hour in her earnest, convincing manner, her convictions of the truth this day commemorated in its advent, convictions founded on an experience of thirty years in revelations to her own individual consciousness. In part her remarks were quite:

"As we take a retrospective view of the past we see how ready a world of spirit has been to answer the yearning inquiries of the human soul concerning its destiny, on the laws governing its existence. What have the forty-nine years accomplished since the time that announced the presence of the deities of that undiscovered country? The development has been rapid, to the fuller demonstration in materialization, in independent writing, in mental or spirit telepathy manifested in individual message or thought-vibrations, and the grand presentation and utterance of sublime philosophy beyond the power of mortal in his limited sphere of vision to command unaided.

"The various lines of philosophical and scientific research have never within a given previous one, and evolution and advancement have become creative as the inherent nature of existence law.

"The spirit's mission is for the relief of oppression on every hand. The human mind is not understood, but living as close students of Nature's laws, we can psychometrically trace the veins of gold in the mountains' sides, and read the language of the heavenly bodies, and before twelve months will pass such comprehension may be had of psychic law through our present investigation, that communication will be had between the planetary worlds of which we are one."

"This is but the outline of a discourse full of encouraging, sublime thought. Dr. Ewell followed in a brief retrospective glance saying: "It is but natural that the mind turns to the contemplation of the past—our history, our progress, having swept back the mists of superstition and ignorance in a degree, and parted the veil which has concealed for centuries the passage to our life beyond.

"This our Easter-tide brings us together in a church evidencing that progress, having swept back the mists of superstition and ignorance in a degree, and parted the veil which has concealed for centuries the passage to our life beyond.

"The divinity of true fatherhood and true motherhood has been revealed, and a knowledge which is to outrun centuries in the future for generations yet unborn.

"We are not waiting for these forms to be returned to mother earth to recognize our immortal rights and privileges, but here, we are to stand beside the throne of wisdom and accord to the advancement of our day enter the school of ever-advancing progress.

"We celebrate to-day the death of death; we pass into another cycle of unfolding, wonderful still mysterious life; we stand dead to the past, alive to the present; the stone for us has been rolled away—these are the unfolding principles that are lifting us as day after day; it is for this we celebrate our jubilee.

"As we gather together with our songs of thanksgiving, it is meet we should remember those who have struggled and passed into the kingdom of a higher life. They may have made mistakes, but they were martyrs who preserved for us this new dispensation, and made possible the triumphs of today, which we to-day are made rich. Those lives stand as stars in the galaxy of life in the firmament of our existence, and live to-day, not for our worship but for us to imitate and emulate in all fidelity.

"We are standing on the eve of developments more wonderful, physically, mentally and spiritually, and a baptism of power is now awaiting us.

"Do not let us lose recognition of our responsibilities. Let us roll still farther back the stone of ignorance, of egotism, and comprehend the true dignity of the soul which is to outlive all kingdoms, all dynasties.

"Grander powers than we dream of are ours, let us go forth stronger, leading the lives of purity for the power the angels have brought. We shall triumph we shall overcome, and place this knowledge before the world. But let us recognize the power of spirit, and arise in that divinity which is our own and links us with systems on systems, of creative life and power.

In the Sunday evening service, the reception of new members was made a very interesting feature, flowers being the symbol of expression made use of by the inspiring forces through Dr. Ewell, Mrs. Griddle gave the hand of fellowship, with her beautiful, loving thoughts.

This was but the beginning of anniversary days—meetings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday followed, with baptism or consecration of children on the last day, and the Ladies' Auxiliary supper and social in the evening, was the program. A series of sessions on the same counterpoint of one occurring last year at the same time, interfered somewhat with the success of the closing day, especially in the financial part of it, but we Spiritualists are so accustomed to financial strains that our lives would not be completed without it. I know our countrymen the stronger for every effort, so we can only have compassion for those who having the means and refusing to contribute, deprive themselves of the growth which comes with effort and suffer atrophy as the natural sequence, and more than that, in this depleted condition they have to face the accumulation of responsibilities and liabilities some day. They are never avoided but temporarily, but accumulate the greater with interest the longer the payment is deferred.

But your correspondent always gets to preaching, and a correspondent should not preach.

I would like to tell the Children's Progressive Lyceum celebrated the day on Sunday 28th with afternoon meeting in the Unity Church. The Lyceum established on the South Side was also present by invitation, addresses by Professor Waldron, Rev. Mr. Utter and Myron Reed of Unity Church, ministers of the Unitarian faith. The program was quite interesting, in recitations and music also, but I presume you may have a fuller report from other correspondents and I will forbear.

With sincere love and fellowship in the cause.  
SARA L. HARD,  
Secretary First Spiritual Church, Denver, Col.

## THE OCCASION AT LYNN, MASS.

To the Editor:—The Lynn Spiritualist Association, J. M. Kelly, president, celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary at Cadet Hall, 36 Market street on Sunday, March 28th, large audiences being in attendance. The desk was tastefully decorated with choice flowers. Upon the platform were Mr. L. D. Milliken, Mrs. V. H. Goodwin, Mrs. Albert Lewis, Mrs. Dr. Child, Mrs. Dr. Chase and Mrs. Anna Cunningham of Boston. Mrs. Cross presided at the organ. After an invocation by Mrs. Dr. Chase, President Kelly welcomed the large audience in a spirited address appropriate to the occasion, followed by above gifted speakers. Dr. G. W. Fowler closed the interesting exercises with words of reminiscence and encouragement. A very toothsome repast had been provided by the ladies in the banquet hall, to which more than 150 did ample justice, after which an hour and a half was spent in social converse and enjoyment of the gifts of the many mediums present.

The evening exercises opened promptly with an increased attendance, taxing the capacity of the hall. The organist was assisted by The Thomas Orchestra, whose several numbers were very much enjoyed, as were all the exercises from the platform by above named speakers and mediums.

The Quarterly Convention of the Massachusetts State Association will be held at the above hall of our society, April 28th, all day and evening. Many gifted speakers and mediums will be in attendance, and a cordial invitation is extended. Admission will be free. Dinner and supper will be served in the banquet hall.

We regret to learn of the sudden transition of our friend and Brother Joseph D. Styles, of Weymouth, Mass., who filled his last engagement with our society March 21st. Mr. Styles possessed a rare phase of mediumship, being gifted in impromptu poems, and singing full measure, and descriptions coupled with accurate relationships of departed spirits, and is well known all over New England and to those attending the various camp-meetings. A more extended notice will appear later.

DR. G. W. FOWLER.

## ANNIVERSARY.

### THE CELEBRATION AT SOUTH BAIRE, VT.

To the Editor:—We wish to let the world know that we keep in touch with the modern movement. Our society celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of our noble cause, Modern Spiritualism, every back when Sister Gridley and myself united with others in the grand city of Brooklyn, and later in various places, with various co-workers—all scattered now in different fields of labor.

"This our Easter-tide brings us together in a church evidencing that progress, having swept back the mists of superstition and ignorance in a degree, and parted the veil which has concealed for centuries the passage to our life beyond.

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SARA L. HARD,  
Secretary First Spiritual Church, Denver, Col.

Sleep, I know all our lifetime about one's, night hours all day in the boughs of the fir tree—Emerson.

## 49TH ANNIVERSARY.

### THE CALIFORNIA SPIRITUALISTS CELEBRATE—PROFESSOR LOVELAND, MRS. LILLIE, JOHN BROWN, THE OLDEST AND MOST REMARKABLE LIVING MEDIUM, AND OTHER NOTABLES TAKE PART.

The California State Spiritualists' Association gave a fitting celebration of the Forty-ninth Anniversary of the advent of Modern Spiritualism at Sutro Hall, San Francisco, on April 1st, admission to all meetings being free.

The exercises commenced at 10 o'clock a. m., by the reading of a poem by President Thos. G. Newman, entitled, "There are angels I know," after which he delivered the opening address, dwelling upon the methods taken by the spirit world in bringing to the notice of mankind the fact of our continued existence after the change called death.

Professor J. S. Loveland followed with an able address in which he illustrated the marvelous effect that Spiritualism had brought to bear upon the inventive genius and the religious systems of the past half century, and said that sooner or later it would supersede all old effete systems, whether social, political or religious.

Other prominent speakers and mediums who took part in the morning exercises were: Mrs. Kate Heussmann, Mrs. Mary Dryman, Mrs. Harriet Wrenn, Mrs. Lois Walshwick and John Brown, Sr. The latter will be remembered as "John Brown, the Medium of the Rockies," whose marvelous experiences as a medium have often appeared both in the Spiritualist and secular press for some three score years. More than a decade before the advent of Modern Spiritualism he saw spirits and foretold future events with unerring accuracy, saving many lives from the Indians by his power on the Western borders of civilization. He presented a very interesting and instructive paper, which was read by his wife, he being too old and feeble to read it himself. Sadie E. Cooke presided at the piano.

At 2 p. m. the afternoon exercises were held, followed by Mrs. D. N. Place, Mrs. C. Mayo-Stiers, Mrs. H. A. Griffin, Mrs. Jennie Robinson, Mrs. Eggert-Aitken, Mrs. C. J. Meyer, Mrs. F. A. Logan, Mrs. Dr. Smith, Dr. Webster Hyde and Chas. Anderson, the "Boy Medium," and Mrs. Lillie, lecturer, also President Thos. G. Newman.

Tests or speeches were given, as "the spirit moved," the mediums, and there was a feast of reason and a flow of soul. The lyceum question came up and was strongly supported by all who spoke upon the subject, President Newman showing how important it was that children should be taught that they would not be compelled to "unknow" in later years.

In the evening some fine piano solos were rendered by J. T. Lillie, after which he sang some of his most beautiful solos, accompanied by Mrs. Jennie Tulley. Mrs. Lillie then gave a magnificent lecture, which was highly respected. I remember the day when the family histories of all the skeptics present seem to be an open book.

An address by Chas. Dawbarn concluded the exercises.

Among the many strong points made by Mrs. Lillie, she said that the antagonism of all classes of Spiritualists was due to the fact that the spiritualists were divided into many rooms, I recognize that David was right when he said we are all alike. We are growing more alike. I thank my spiritual friends for putting a new phase on death. The last funeral service I attended there was no crepe on the door. I remember when men coming together to make death a horrible thing. Now we go hopefully to the cemetery, which is made beautiful by flowers and by eternal memories of the resurrection.

Rev. Mrs. A. Brockway delivered an address. She said "Spiritualism is a subject which demands a great deal of attention. I am glad to see so many people interested in it, and bringing peace and happiness to all their homes. We know Spiritualism is a truth. We see that we are emphatically living in an age of investigation. There is no other age in the history of civilization that has been characterized by such tendency to thought. All the civilized nations are agreed that the thought that man is a progressive being, and that the tendency of the human mind is upward and onward."

Another reason Mrs. Lillie assigned as cause of antagonism, was the fact that Spiritualism is not a class, but alike to the rich and poor, the high and low, the educated and uneducated, and that each individual who was convinced of spirit return, continued on his way with all his preconceived ideas, idiosyncrasies and traits of character, yet proclaiming that he was a Spiritualist; and it is the custom of the world to judge a religion by the worst examples of its advocates instead of the best.

BRNEST S. GREEN.

2096 Market St. San Francisco, Cal.  
April 2, 1897.

## ANNIVERSARY AT FLINT, MICH.

The Forty-ninth Anniversary was observed by the First Society of Spiritualists of Flint, Mich., at G. A. R. hall, beginning the evening of March 27th, by a largely attended supper and a fine program of music and recitations, the G. V. Cordingley, past president, presiding at the organ.

The hall was beautifully decorated with flags, palms and cut flowers, and a large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed the services both afternoon and evening. The program of the evening commenced with an invocation and poem opening with an invocation and poem on "The Spirit Rappings of Forty-nine Years Ago." Professor Faels, of Boston, gave a very interesting discourse on "Spiritualism as proved by the Bible." Max Hoffmann and F. Corden White gave splendid tests, and were highly appreciated by the audience.

It was clever and enjoyable as was the humorous recitation of one of our favorite Lyceum pupils, Miss Myrtle Bell, who has the promise of a bright and famous future. Mr. Walter Beaton, the phenomenal baritone, sang several numbers in his usual grand way. Professor E. Willard furnished the instrumental music of the evening, which was beyond any criticism.

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E. C. GRAY.

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S. L. RUSSELL,  
Vice and Acting President.

## 49TH ANNIVERSARY.

### SPIRITUALISTS CONGRATULATE THEMSELVES AT DENVER, COLO. ON THEIR PROGRESS.

The Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism was celebrated in Unity Church, Denver, on Sunday, March 28th, by a varied and interesting character, and the attendance was large. The platform was tastefully decorated with small American flags and banners, while large tropical plants lent an additional charm to the scene. The program included almost everything from an organ prelude to a spiritual test. The exercises were conducted by W. H. Marshall. There were over a thousand persons present.

A number of prominent Spiritualists occupied seats on or near the platform. Miss F. Jeannette Hall performed the organ introduction, after which the congregation joined in singing "Hallelujah to the Soul." Prof. Geo. W. Waldron made the invocation and then delivered the opening address. He said:

"This is a day not only for universal rejoicing, but for universal thanksgiving. It carries us back in memory to 1848. We find a very striking contrast between the conditions of the past forty-nine years and those of the day. We can look back to that time not only in memory, but in spirit, and contemplate the great work that has been accomplished since then. At that time if we were assembled as to-day to celebrate an event, we would have to be guarded by police or military.

THINGS DIFFERENT NOW.

"We could not speak our honest convictions then. Things are different now, as the truth will make all of us free. The changes that have occurred in the past half century are so many and so great, that the human race during the past forty-nine years are the result of the growth of a higher state of spiritual belief. To-day we feel courageous not only because we have been emancipated by liberty, but because our minds have been freed from bondage. The term 'Modern Spiritualism' is a little misapprehension, for the manifestations have occurred since the dawn of creation. The laws of God were the same then as they are now. To-day we celebrate a religion that has in its ranks millions upon millions of believers besides those who are diligent seeking the truth."

I have seen in my travels how unexplored the world is to the spiritual truth. Such was not the case forty-nine years ago. We have much to be thankful for, and the spirits of our liberators are not silent to-day. It is a historical fact that Abraham Lincoln was guided in his actions by the advice of a Spiritualist. Modern Spiritualism is a great and noble religion, and I would ask all skeptics to give it due consideration."

The Rev. Myron W. Reed made a short address. He said: "I like to see a despised cause stand upon its feet in daylight and in the bright sunshine. I saw the day when the best people did not think much of Spiritualism, but I am glad to see the day when it is so highly respected. I remember the day when abolitionists could not get a building in which to hold a meeting, they having to utilize the cross-roads. By coming here today I see a respectable assembly in a respectable church. I have lived to see the earth under one law, one love. I believe that the spiritual world will be divided into many rooms, I recognize that David was right when he said we are all alike. We are growing more alike. I thank my spiritual friends for putting a new phase on death. The last funeral service I attended there was no crepe on the door. I remember when men coming together to make death a horrible thing. Now we go hopefully to the cemetery, which is made beautiful by flowers and by eternal memories of the resurrection."

Rev. Mrs. A. Brockway delivered an address. She said "Spiritualism is a subject which demands a great deal of attention. I am glad to see so many people interested in it, and bringing peace and happiness to all their homes. We know Spiritualism is a truth. We see that we are emphatically living in an age of investigation. There is no other age in the history of civilization that has been characterized by such tendency to thought. All the civilized nations are agreed that the thought that man is a progressive being, and that the tendency of the human mind is upward and onward."

Another reason Mrs. Lillie assigned as cause of antagonism, was the fact that Spiritualism is not a class, but alike to the rich and poor, the high and low, the educated and uneducated, and that each individual who was convinced of spirit return, continued on his way with all his preconceived ideas, idiosyncrasies and traits of character, yet proclaiming that he was a Spiritualist; and it is the custom of the world to judge a religion by the worst examples of its advocates instead of the best.

BRNEST S. GREEN.

2096 Market St. San Francisco, Cal.  
April 2, 1897.

## ANNIVERSARY.

### THE PROGRESSIVE SPIRITUAL CHURCH.

To the Editor:—The Progressive Spiritual Church, Lakeside Hall, southeast corner of Adams and First streets, celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism on Sunday, March 28th. The hall was beautifully decorated with flags, palms and cut flowers, and a large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed the services both afternoon and evening. The program of the evening commenced with an invocation and poem opening with an invocation and poem on "The Spirit Rappings of Forty-nine Years Ago." Professor Faels, of Boston, gave a very interesting discourse on "Spiritualism as proved by the Bible." Max Hoffmann and F. Corden White gave splendid tests, and were highly appreciated by the audience.

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S. L. RUSSELL,  
Vice and Acting President.

## 49TH ANNIVERSARY.

### MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL.

To the Editor:—Thinking that you and the thousands who read your progressive paper, would be interested in knowing how the twin cities of the Northwest celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism, I thought I would write you a short article in regard to it.

Mr. and Mrs. Aspinwall of the First Spiritual Society, and Mrs. Braun of the First Progressive Spiritual Church, secured the beautiful Unitarian Church of Minneapolis at considerable expense for the Sunday of March 28th and April 4th for the purpose of holding the services and also to demonstrate whether the Spiritualists and public would attend in sufficient numbers to pay the increased expenses incurred in the venture. All societies were cordially invited to be present and take part.

Mrs. Lepper, of the Lincoln Band Society, Mrs. Barton of the Unity Society, Mrs. Fryon and her society, Mrs. Courson, Dr. W. C. Gibbons, pastor of the First Christian Science Society, and last but not least the women's eleven-year-old child test medium, Stella Marcotte, all taking part and contributing to the success of the undertaking—Dr. Aspinwall making the opening address and Mr. Miller acting as chairman.

The body of the large church was filled in the afternoon, and in the evening an available space including the galleries and extra chairs were filled. The meeting was a pronounced success from beginning to ending.

Mrs. Aspinwall, who opened the evening services, received many compliments for the clear and concise reasoning exhibited by her guides in handling the subject used, that of the half-hour given them, and two gentlemen (a lawyer and merchant) said her voice and gestures were perfect, and that it was the best address they had ever heard from a lady.

Mrs. Emily Lepper, who has been an honest worker in the cause for forty years, and was loved and respected by everyone, gave some of her many experiences and soul readings which were very interesting to all.

Mrs. Barton followed with an address and tests, every one of them fully recognized.

Dr. W. C. Gibbons made a stirring address which caused hearty and continued applause. He said he knew Spiritualism to be true and that life was immortal. He knew that he had seen, recognized and talked with his spirit wife. Mrs. Courson and Stella Marcotte both gave excellent tests. The services were interspersed with organ recitals by Mr. Leo. Pomeroy, and vocal solo by Mr. Weatherly, also grand congregational singing.

On Wednesday the 31st we all went to St. Paul and had a very successful celebration, being every seat in the large Odd Fellows Hall. Professor Way and Professor Harrow the divine healers demonstrated their power to relieve pain and heal the sick. All the meetings were completely sold, and the ranks that earnest effort will be rewarded. Continued services in the Unitarian church will be held through April by Mrs. Aspinwall, Mrs. Braun and Mrs. Barton.

Now a few words in regard to our coming camp, which is to commence June 20th, continuing through July. We expect a large attendance, and as all can take advantage of the railroad rate granted the Elks for their celebration, of one-half fare, good for any and all lasting through the month. We expect to have everything in readiness for the reception of guests in our main camp at the lake July 31st and the auxiliary camp between the two cities June 20th, both running through the season. All mediums expecting to be with us, please write so that we can put them on the program to be issued about May 1st.

S. N. ASPINWALL.

## THE FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

### The Oldest Spiritualist Association in St. Louis, Mo., Duly Celebrates.

The St. Louis Spiritualist Association celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism at Howard Hall, 3001 Olive street, on Sunday, March 28th. The hall was handsomely decorated with palms, flowers, bunting, flags and inscriptions. The program was beautiful, the attendance was large, the interest was strong and all things seemed to combine to make these anniversary exercises especially interesting and not easily to be forgotten. They commenced at 10:30 a. m. and continued through the afternoon and until 10:30 p. m. The attendance in the morning was very large and in the evening the hall was crowded until every seat was filled and a large part of the aisles occupied by spectators so interested that they forgot to be tired. In the morning Mr. Grimshaw, the speaker engaged by the association, gave a most interesting and inspiring address, in which he reviewed the history of Spiritualism, its present status and its future prospects.

In the afternoon the lyceum under Miss Hergesheimer, its very efficient conductor gave an entertainment consisting of songs, recitations and addresses which was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, of Philadelphia, who has been spending a few weeks in our city and who has become greatly endeared to all addressed the lyceum in that earnest, inimitable, colloquial way of hers which at once arouses interest, wins confidence and carries conviction.

Mr. Grimshaw spoke also. He too was highly commended for his ability and earnestness, and affectionately regarded for his many amiable qualities.

In the evening there was held a general conference meeting in which the various spiritualistic societies of the city participated through their representatives. The exercises consisted of songs and addresses which were listened to with attention and appreciation as testified by the frequent applause. Neither space nor time will permit even the merest abstract of the many good things that were said. I will only name the speakers, which will be quite enough for all who know them to be sure of the high quality of their addresses. Judge Fortis, Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, Mrs. C. O. Green, Mrs. Price and Mrs. Hadlock. Mrs. Hardestade, Mrs. Stone, Mrs. Young and Miss Swaine contributed greatly to the occasion by their beautiful music. The only cause of regret connected with the celebration of our anniversary, is the serious illness of Mr. M. S. Beckwith, the president of the society. He could not be with us in body, but I am sure he was present in thought and sympathy. All else was most satisfactory, and to crown all quite a handsome sum of money was collected for the N. S. A. SECRETARY.

## VERY SIGNIFICANT.

The Progressive Thinker leads. It publishes more reading matter than any other dollar Spiritualist paper on this green earth. It was the only Spiritualist paper that had enterprise enough to publish a book of essays, and to be before the National Convention at Washington. It covered three pages of the paper. It now proposes to send out 1,000,000 copies of the paper containing his address.

Read the announcement on fifth page, headed "Fifteen Cents," for full particulars.

## THE FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

L. Odell writes from Michigan: "Saturday, March 28th, the Paw Valley Spiritualist Association held their annual meeting and election of officers. The following were elected for the ensuing year: President, B. O'Dell; vice-president, E. C. Towars; secretary, M. L. O'Dell; treasurer, Nellie Phillips; and Editor, J. D. Sherman, Henry Sator and Edna Sator. On Sunday, the 29th, we celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary. Mrs. Marion Carpenter was with us and gave a lecture both forenoon and afternoon, followed by tests and descriptions which were well received and all recognized. Her lectures were fine food for a young worker like me, and she was a great help to me. She also read us a greeting from Francis Woodbury, secretary of the N. S. A. Mrs. Carpenter is a strong supporter of the N. S. A., and is doing a good work for them."

D. G. Carson writes from Rockport, Maine: "The Spiritualists of Rockland, Rockport, Camden and neighboring towns held the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism in Camden, at the Magnolia House, where Mrs. Decrow so kindly invited her many friends to meet with her once more. A goodly number being present, the afternoon was spent in singing and social conversation, with a picnic supper which was enjoyed by all. Mr. C. A. Wheeler, of Rockport, then opened the exercises of the evening with a few remarks, followed by an invocation from Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Carson, and Dr. Clark. Poems were read by Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Wheeler, it being a very enjoyable occasion to those present."

Interest writes from Allegheny, Pa.: "J. Frank Baxter lectured for the Spiritualist cause last three Sunday afternoons of March. On Sunday afternoon, the 28th, he delivered the Anniversary address in which the great truths of Spiritualism were presented and driven home by a master mind. Mrs. M. J. Crilly has just completed a four months' engagement with the city. Mrs. Crilly, who is a home medium, found the interest lagging and the crowds small when she came here. But at once a wonderful interest was awakened and the audiences constantly increased until the last two Sunday nights when they became too great for the seating capacity of the hall, and many were compelled to occupy improvised seats of almost any description, while others stood throughout the services."

## THE FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

The "New Spiritual Church" celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism on Sunday, March 28th, and the hall was well filled to listen to the music, tests, psychometric readings, and the subjects, "What is Spiritualism?" and "What Good has Spiritualism Done?" The First Spiritual Union celebrates tomorrow. "The New Spiritual Church" is growing rapidly, and the interest in the exercises. Even those outside the ranks are being drawn away from the old dogmas, and we feel that the line of work we have laid out will make a change in the status of Spiritualism in San Jose.

DR. A. B. COONLEY.

## THE FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

The Secretary writes: "The Spiritual Society of Maunokela, Ia., celebrated the Forty-ninth Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism on the evenings of March 27 and 28. On Sunday evening, Mrs. J. M. Harvey opened her spacious parlors for the exercises, and delivered an interesting lecture on the subject of 'What is to be the Progress of Modern Spiritualism?' A few remarks, appropriate to the occasion, were made by others present.

A number of investigators were present and seemed very much interested in our beautiful philosophy. On Saturday evening an elegant supper was served and a fine program rendered for the advancement of our cause. Miss Flora Harvey, our organist, furnished the music for both evenings."

## THE FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.







