

INTERESTING FACTS.

The Key to All Miracles and Mysteries.

It is said by some of our modern writers, that Spiritualism furnishes the key to all the miracles and mysteries which have ever come to the notice of mortals to puzzle and perplex them, because unable to to solve them correctly. Now, here it is, the emphasis belongs to the word "correctly," for unless a

which is correctly solved or demonstrated, still remains a mystery, and spiritualists attempt to solve it by such light upon perplexing problems, as by no means furnished the key that unlocks all secret shrouds or reveals to the understanding of mankind the processes of the mysteries of the ages. Take man, for instance, how much has been said by all the poets, prophets and sages of the ages concerning him, and yet of his nature, yet, yet it is not clear to the majority of men, when in the language of the poet it is said "soul is the man and doth the body make." We say positively, all mortals take form from the germ life of the soul, and the body is made of the soul, immortal, but souls have, as

planning nor ending, but are eternal, is God's eternal. But, the forms the soul dons, through which to act, change, because they have beginnings and endings on those planes where they are formed, for such service.

Viewing this the soul can die, it is only the form that is cast off and exchanged for one that is better fitted for the progressive soul. All this works in accord with the involution and evolution of all things, man included.

These crude material planets evolved from the cosmic seed-beds of crude substance, are brought up higher and higher until in their turns they become adapted as immortal worlds, because the

development of substance, and its rate of transformation so determine, owing to the numerous stable nature of forms that can be maintained and changed without cruder intermediate processes which mark the disjunction between immortals and mortals, new planets are continually evolved, so that transformations involving their upward courses are not greatly observed or comprehended by the earthlings.

Each new cosmic evolution for a new planet and its outfit, man included, is under the direct supervision of one wiser and subtler spirit and his selected assistants. These are compact of creativeness and power. This chief master of such

impact of great works is, in some, Father and God of the newly-brought forth races, and is bound by immutable laws to lead to the individual progress from the crude to the angelic states. It is here the distinction of world's savior comes in for Jesus of Nazareth, or Jesus the Christ. He came by special fiat. An exalted spirit, he took upon himself the mortal form to show by his life and labor the way to heaven, and to demonstrate the love of God for all people. The sinners and afflicted were especially sought and helped, for, said he, "The well need no physician, and the righteous no re-

The conditionally and morally submerged need a redeemer now, as then, and well it is for all to turn to God and walk in the paths of purity and rectitude, as that is the only way to the Father or to heaven. Jesus as the shower of the grace can be followed confidently, for he leads to heaven and everlasting joy. All mortals are but treading earth, they have here no real abiding place. They are in different grades of learning and should so view their mutual difference of opinions and live harmoniously together.

What Is Life?

One explanation of life given me is this: Life is, in conjunction with love and wisdom, the essence and externalization of God. When the life of mankind, freighted as it is with its Divine heritage which is its guarantee to eternal endurance and enjoyment, is considered, then it becomes a sacred duty as well as a pleasant contemplation and reflection.

Spiritualism is directed to the souls of mortals to arouse them to action. It makes itself known in feelings of the life-affluents. It thus awakens the soul-powers and continuously brings forth new things stored in the soul.

In the past half century, a great massing of forces has been in process by the myriads of immortals who are active in joint labor with mortals to raise humanity higher spiritually, as well as in general ways, and these labors for human weal become more and more manifest as time goes on.

MRS. M. KLEIN.
Van Wert, Ohio.

Spirits Appear at a Cheese Factory.
Mysterious nightly apparitions and appearances are reported from the cheese factory between Theresa and

Combs, the Chicago police chief, said that the
blood-curdling sound roars
through the building. Window panes
and globes of lanterns fall to the floor
but break not; doors open and shut,
and keys fall over seemingly of their
own accord. This adds another mystery
to this already curious vicinity. The
owners of the factory in Chicago have
been notified and detectives are expected
to investigate thoroughly. The fac-
tory was lately sold to its present own-
ers.—The Horicon Reporter.

One of Unflinching Interest Throughout
—It Should Be in the Hands of
Every Spiritualist and
Freethinker.

This book, containing nearly 500 closely printed pages, should have a million circulation. Price \$1. It is a shockful of rapid-firing ideas, and is the ablest debate, on both sides, ever published.

"Just gang roon wi' the hat."

Nothing is so atrocious as fancy without taste.—Goethe.
It is a joy to think the best we can of human kind.—Wordsworth.

One genius had made many clever friends.—Martial.

Are you sure, sir, that you "saved" the life of Midshipman Aiken?

They are the weakest-minded and the hardest-hearted men that most love to leave it undone.—Gillpin.

shockful of rapid-firing ideas, and is the ablest debate, on both sides, ever published. Read it.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1903.

TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The price of The Progressive Thinker per year to foreign countries, is \$1.75.

TAKE NOTICE.

All books advertised in the columns of The Progressive Thinker are for sale at this office. Bear this in mind.

HUDSON TUTTLE.

Editor-at-Large for the National Spiritualist Association.

Mr. Tuttle has been engaged to answer all attacks in the secular or religious press on Spiritualism. Send him clippings when an attack is made, giving date and name of paper. Address him at Berlin Heights, Ohio.

An Eye-Opener.

Quite a good many years ago an esteemed Methodist minister, who was also editor of a radical prohibition journal, had occasion to state that he could not see eye to eye, on the temperance question, with the editor of a leading Republican daily. Whereupon the wicked editor of the Democratic daily said: "We suggest that the gentlemen take an 'eye-opener' together."

Suggestion plays an immense role in the affairs of the business and social world, and is now utilized to a great extent in the field of therapeutics, or the cure of mental and physical ailments that afflict humanity.

In this opening of a new year we deem it an appropriate time to make a suggestion or two to our readers.

First, we suggest that they take an eye-opener together with their non-Spiritualist friends, with whom perhaps they have not been able to see eye to eye in the past.

The Progressive Thinker is a grand eye-opener. It is eminently replete with healthful suggestion. It is full of incitement to thought, and as an eye-opener it is unsurpassed in the field of spiritual literature. Get your neighbor interested in reading it—it will prove an eye-opener to him or her.

Second, we suggest there are many, too many Spiritualists who go from year to year without a spiritual paper. They, too, need an eye-opener—something that shall stir their drowsy energies, and arouse them from their mental lethargy. It would awaken them and do them mental and spiritual good to read the bright thoughts and interesting events recorded in the pages of The Progressive Thinker.

For their good and the good of the cause, get them to subscribe.

Now is a good time to begin work.

Evidences of Progress.

When one examines an old hymn-book, it seems impossible that such things could have been sung by the past generation. The advance of intelligence and refinement, a nicer sense of the fitness of things, has relegated these "holy songs" to the waste heap, where the rubbish of the past is mercilessly thrown. The most curious of all old hymns, and remarkable for its popularity in its day among the Baptists, is one called the "Salt Hymn." Surely if a choir should sing it in a church today it would be sensational, and draw a crowd more surely than the preacher.

Thy saints, O Lord, do season all.

Amongst whom they do live;

Salt all with grace, both great and small.

They may sweetly relish give.

But O the want of salt, O Lord!

How few are like the salted meat;

How few are like the salted meat;

Salt Thou Thine Israel!

Now see, ye saints who are His salt,

And let all seasoned be,

With your most holy gracious lives;

Great need of it we see.

The earth will grow corrupt and stink,

And live to Him who salted you.

Now, and for evermore.

That is not as cheering a revival song

as the following, which sung in doleful

tones would make the flesh creep and

the teeth chatter.

In the dark regions of the Deep,

Where Devils rage, reserved in

Chains,

Despising sinners howl and weep,

Blaspheming God amid their pains.

The Lake with Brimstone ever burns,

And endless clouds of Smoke ascend,

While Deity, incensed, returns

Their Deeds in torments without end.

Now comes consolation and the anx-

ious seat:

Ye Sinners, listen and beware!

Ye from this fiery Wrath to come!

Be to thy Saviour, and prepare

To 'scape the endless, fearful Doom!

If some one would compile a book of

these blasphemous hymns, what a sad

commentary it would be on the past age

and the religion that made such hymns

possible!

"Continuity of Life a Cosmic Truth."

By Prof. W. M. Lockwood. The work of

a strong, logical thinker, on a deeply

important subject. Price, cloth, \$1.

The Gila Monster From the Higher Spiritual Standpoint.

The Chicago American, with its usual enterprise devotes a page to the surprising qualities of the venomous Gila Monster—a veritable combination—apparently—of all that is hellish, despicable and devilish.

Words are inadequate to fully describe this wonderful concentration of all that is hideous in this one animal. As in every human being, however low down in the scale of existence, there is a potent element of good, which, if properly cultivated, has marked redeeming qualities, so in the Gila Monster—this undefinable something—there is a vestige of a genuine divine quality that, under proper circumstances, works for good.

The poison of the bee and the venom of the rattlesnake have been utilized for curative purposes, and in the disagreeable nettle, Huxley discovered the protoplasm which is considered the physical basis of life.

The evolution of the sublime and beautiful fact, that in all things there is a potent element which, when carefully and conscientiously utilized, becomes an efficient factor for good, does much to restore harmony and order out of the seemingly discordant relations that exist in the universe.

The apparent evil in the world has done much to distract people's attention, from that one Supreme Force that seems to control all things as time moves along in its never-ending ebb and flow. One has never been able to fully detect divine Providence in the sting of a bee, until its poison was appropriated for health-giving purposes.

No one was ever willing to admit any particular goodness or usefulness in the rattlesnake until its poison was found efficacious in certain diseases, and the protoplasm in the nettle restored it to the confidence of the analytical mind.

Under these circumstances it is refreshing to know that the Gila Monster has certain well defined redeeming qualities.

Perhaps in the evolution of the inhabitants of this earth to a higher plane, it is absolutely necessary to mingle the bitter with the sweet, calamities with peace and gentleness, and a poison that kills with wonderful healing properties.

The Gila Monster was undoubtedly evolved by the same God, Force, or What Not—anything you wish to call it—that brought forth the most beautiful animal in nature, the one that ever existed, and He, She or It—whatever the name—knew what it was about.

But without moralizing further we will proceed to dissect the Gila Monster.

Just think of the concentrated poison of this hideous animal; its venom so poisonous that one drop has to be diluted with one hundred times that amount in water, and then a drop of that mixture is then again diluted with one hundred times that quantity of alcohol, and so on until the amount of venom in the mixture represents one one-hundred-thousandth part of the whole or, in other words, "one drop of the pure venom to five quarts of alcohol."

Now, under these circumstances one is able to a certain extent to interpret nature. There is danger in too much of anything. Too much of delightful, soul-ravishing music would become a veritable poison to the refined soul if compelled to listen to it constantly. What of any delightful game!—too much of it is wearisome until finally, if not relinquished, it becomes absolutely annoying and hideous. The ball game is delightful for an hour or so, then a reaction occurs, and you want to retire from the scene. Thoroughly diluted, one drop of the Gila poison to five quarts of water provides the medicinal properties are developed—the one redeeming quality of the dreaded animal. It has cured effectually paralysis. In one case "the disease had mounted up from the ankles to the patient's waist. A few weeks' treatment with the Gila Monster's venom has brought her back to health and the woman is now taking care of her house and family."

Dr. Calmette, the eminent French scientist, has just completed a physiological study of the venom of rattlesnakes, cobra di capello and other deadly reptiles with a view to ascertain the extent of their curative qualities.

"In order to preserve the venomous serpents in a living state," says he, "I was obliged to have constructed a 'hot house' specially arranged for this purpose. Therein the reptiles live for several months, provided they are fed by force, since they almost always refuse to take food spontaneously in captivity.

"The poison is collected about every two weeks in the following manner: I fix the serpent's head by a long forceps with flat branches, and afterward grasp the reptile by the neck with the left hand in such a way as to deprive it of any point of support. Whatever the head is then disengaged and left at liberty, and an assistant introduces between the jaws a large watch glass. I then compress the poison glands on each side of the upper maxillary; whereupon the venom flows through the fangs into the watch glass.

"The product obtained is immediately dried in a vacuum in order to assure its preservation. The venom resembles powdered resin.

"The serpent is afterward fed by introducing a glass funnel into its oesophagus, and breaking therein two of three raw eggs, the contents of which flow directly into the stomach; after which the reptile is put back into its cage.

"For experimentation, the dried poison is dissolved in a 3% per cent solution of salt water. I then prepare an exactly proportioned dose (such as dog, for example) that will permit of determining the toxic dose per kilogram of living animal. Ordinarily, with the venom of the cobra, a dose of the solution corresponding to 0.5 of a milligram will kill a two-kilogram rabbit in two or three hours by simultaneous inoculation.

"Such dose, surely mortal, being fixed, it is possible to make use of a solution of the same proportion for vaccination purposes. Such animals as dogs, horses, and these animals are injected, at first for several days in succession, very minute quantities of poison incapable of producing grave accidents, and then the quantity injected each time is gradually increased with great precaution. At the end of a certain length of time, say about sixteen months, with horses, the latter may be made to support, without causing sickness, doses of poison two hundred times more deadly, that is to say, doses capable of killing two hundred non-vaccinated horses.

"Such horses are then ready to furnish a serum preventive and curative of envenomation. They may be bled two or three times, and at every bleeding there may be obtained from six to eight litres of blood, which will furnish two or three litres of active serum."

The Pasteur Institute of Lille and the Pasteur Institute of Paris are now sending anti-venomous serum to all countries in which poisonous serpents

BELIEVED THAT A YOUNG LADY WAS DEMATERIALIZED

Not a Trace Left Behind Her—Pretty Crookston Girl Vanishes—Companions Hear No Outcry—Glove, Still Warm, Is Found on Log at Side of Small Fire.

Judge A. N. McGinley, of Duluth, thinks it possible Miss Strassburger has become dematerialized or translocated to the world without the agency of the phenomenon usually called death.

"I don't think there is anything impossible about it," said Judge McGinley. "In fact, there are instances where such a thing has taken place. Moses Hurl, the great Spiritualist, said in my hearing, that he knew of an instance of a man becoming invisible suddenly, and reappearing in his companion after he had traveled thirty miles. Such happenings are controlled by laws not generally understood, and so by most deemed impossible. If this temporary obliteration is possible, why not a permanent one?"

"If Elijah was translated from the mortal to the spirit world without the agency of the phenomenon known as death, why may not the same happen in our day? Are the laws of nature and of the Creator of nature different now than then?"

"I believe it is entirely possible that this young woman was suddenly called into the spirit world which is all about us. This is not unreasonable. For myself I think—may I know—there is no such thing as death. What is known as death is merely a translation, and the life which it seems to break is continuous, indestructible and eternal.

"This being true, that transition may be accomplished by a sudden wafting over from one state to the other, a sudden change of clay to its elements, and a freeing of the spirit unaccompanied by any earthly manifestations.

"There is nothing in philosophy, correctly interpreted, to gainsay this. While Miss Strassburger's disappearance may have been accomplished by physical and material agency, it also may have been brought about in the manner I have stated.

"Time will prove that Spiritualism, in all of its premises on occult subjects, is correct. That time is near, and I believe that in the life of this generation many of the things which now appear dark, mystic or impossible will be seen, understood and admitted by all intelligent people."

Crookston, Minn., Dec. 27.—No darker, more terrifying mystery than that surrounding the strange disappearance of Miss Gertrude Strassburger, three weeks ago, has ever confronted the residents of this city.

So great is the mystery surrounding the taking off of the young woman that there are many persons in this neighborhood, who are disposed to believe there was something supernatural about it.

Every Clue Followed.

Every possible clue has been followed to the end, but to no avail—each clue reveals only the fact that the girl dropped out of sight, while skating on the river, when left alone by her companions, for less than five minutes.

That Miss Strassburger was not drowned is certain, for there was not an inch of open water within several miles of where she disappeared; that she did not leave the city, as was at first believed, is equally as certain.

Nor is it believed that she was abducted.

Was She Dematerialized?

Among the believers in the supernatural the theory that the girl was dematerialized is steadily growing. Smile if you will, and say that such a thing is impossible, but just remember there are more mysterious things in the world—and out of it—than scientists can explain.

When the authorities first began working on the disappearance case they were sanguine the dropping out of sight of the girl would be explained in a short time, yet three weeks have passed and the mystery is no nearer a solution than it was at the time Miss Strassburger disappeared.

Reward Is Offered.

The city council has offered a reward of \$250 for the girl, dead or alive, and to this amount the citizens of Crookston have added a like amount, but thus far nothing has come of it.

A search widespread in its character and thorough in its scope has been carried on by trained detectives, yet one and all confess themselves beaten—there is absolutely nothing on which to work.

On the evening of Dec. 2, Miss Strassburger, in company with several friends, left her home and went to the Red River, a short distance away, to skate.

In the party were several young men and a number of young women, all close friends.

Arrival at the River.

Arriving at the river, skates were strapped on, the merry party darted to and fro for half an hour or more, laughing and shouting as only happy young people can.

A race to the bend of the river, possibly a quarter of a mile away, was proposed.

All, with the exception of Miss Strassburger, professing to be a trifle tired, said she would sit on a log by the river side, and be the judge.

One of the young men, gathering a few small branches, started a fire near the log for the young woman, and the last seen of her she was sitting near the blaze, warming her hands, which had become chilled.

Drops Queer Remark.

Miss Strassburger had been the life of the party up to a short time before the race was proposed. Then she let fall a remark that may or may not

exist, and principally to Australia, India and South America. It has been employed in a great number of cases since 1896, and always with success. It produces so rapid curative effects as to cause surprise at the intensity of its action.

Now if opinion extracted from the Gila Monster (the technical name bestowed upon this miraculous curative of facts, can be not consistently concluded there is good in everything? And that there is a Divinity of some kind—she, or it—that shapes, to some extent, at least, the destinies of nations as well as individuals. There being some good in the Gila Monster, gives us a higher concept of that SOMETHING that permeates every living thing, animate and inanimate, in the universe.

for the society of the young men of the city.

Victim of Abductor.

In the minds of many persons there is an impression, gained from the knowledge just now, that Miss Strassburger is the victim of an abductor, or that she has been slain and her body disposed of.

While it is possible that such a fate has befallen the girl, her friends are at a loss to understand how the crime could have been accomplished without having attracted the attention of her companions, who were less than half a mile away when she dropped out of sight.

Resolution Is Passed.

The crime theory is a strong one, however, as will be seen by the following resolution recently adopted by the Crookston city council:

"Whereas, it has come to the notice of this council that a resident of this city, Miss Gertrude Strassburger, has disappeared from her home, and that it is believed such disappearance has been caused by the action of a criminal or criminals; therefore be it

"Resolved, that the city council of Crookston hereby offers a reward of \$250 to such person or persons as shall produce evidence sufficient to convict any person or persons of a criminal action in connection with such disappearance."

By Unanimous Vote.

This resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote of the aldermen, who are of opinion, however, that the reward will never be claimed. They argue that if the girl had been abducted the abductor would have left a trace behind.

Miss Strassburger is 21 years of age, dark complexion, dark eyes, and with fair hair.

She has always been a deep thinker, and at various times in her life has paid more or less attention to Spiritualism, telepathy and the occult sciences.

Believed In Reincarnation.

To some of her friends she has confided at various times that she was inclined to believe in the reincarnation theory, and that she would not surprise her to any day fade away in thin air, without leaving a trace behind.

Her parents are almost heartbroken over her disappearance, and, while not wealthy, would willingly part with all their property if by so doing they could recover her.

One thing is certain, however—the disappearance is the sole topic of conversation here, and the believers in the theory, and that the girl was dematerialized by the spirits of the air and taken home with them.—The Duluth (Minn.) News Tribune.

TO THE PUBLIC.

To the Editor:—Permit me, in Mrs. Barrett's name and my own, to extend sincere thanks to the many friends whose letters and telegrams of sympathy have been of so much help to us in our recent great sorrow. We can not respond to each one of them now, but hope to do so in the future. We use this method to express our appreciation of their kindness, and to assure them we never shall forget the same. Gratefully yours,

HARRISON D. BARRETT.

Boston, Mass.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The failure of my health, forces me, under the advice of skilled physicians, to cancel all lecture engagements, and to abandon my editorial work for an indefinite period. Vice-president Locke will be acting president of the N. S. A. during my enforced absence. A staff of competent editors will faithfully attend to the Banner of Light editorial work, and correspondence. My whole time and all of my energies will now be devoted to the task of getting well. Wish you, Mr. Barrett, a happy New Year. I am, Fraternally yours,

HARRISON D. BARRETT.

Boston, Mass.

Made a Mistake.

Judging from the report of the Chief of Police, we made a mistake in allowing Isaac Lee, of Quincy, Illinois, to air his wants in The Progressive Thinker. In the future no appeals for assistance for any one will be published in The Progressive Thinker without first being submitted to the state or National organization.

A Tribute of Love.

On the evening of Christmas day, in Clinton, Iowa, the Philosophical Society of Spiritualists held a memorial service in tribute to Abby A. Judson, little Xilla Barrett, and the venerable Morris Pratt, so lately passed to spirit life. Short addresses interspersed with the reading of beautiful poems, and sketches of the lives of the arisen ones, together with appropriate music and floral offerings, expressed the love and respect with which our hearts overflow, and the deep sympathy we feel for the dear ones still in the flesh, who sit in the shadow of a great grief, and mourn the absence from the physical world, of the loved ones gone before. Resolutions of respect and sympathy for Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Barrett were adopted as follows:

Whereas, by the sudden and tragic passing to spirit life of their loved and only child, Xilla, our brother and sister, Harrison D. and Marguerite C. Barrett, were stricken as few are stricken in this world, and whereas by this sad event Mr. Barrett's labors with our society were brought to an untimely end, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the Philosophical Society of Spiritualists of Clinton, Iowa, extend to Mr. and Mrs. Barrett our deepest sympathy in this their hour of sorrow and irreparable loss; and be it further

Resolved, That these dear stricken ones be made the object of our special helpful thoughts and prayers. May their grief be lessened by a conscious presence in the spirit of each of their little daughter. May the light of the spirit world shine through the cloud of sorrow that rests upon them, and may they be strong to endure and brave to live on and work upon this earth plane, until they shall be privileged to pass into the joys of the higher life.

EMMA J. KNOWLES, CHRISTINE COOPER, L. A. DAY, Committee on Resolutions.

"The Life Booklets." By Ralph Waldo Trine. Three daintily beautiful little booklets, finely adapted for holiday presents. The titles are, "Every Building by Thought Power," "The Living Creature," and "The Greatest Thing ever known." The matter is of high-toned spiritual character, and of helpful purpose. Price 35 cents each.

"The Present Age and Inner Life." Ancient and Modern Mysteries Clarified and Explained." By Andrew Jackson Davis. We have a few copies of this work by the celebrated seer.

"Why I Am a Vegetarian." By J. Howard Moore. An address before the Chicago Vegetarian Society. Price 25 cents.

"Detective Are Baffled." Shrewd detectives have visited place where the girl was last seen, and the entire neighborhood as well, without finding out much as a trace of the young woman.

At one time it was thought that possibly Miss Strassburger had gone to the depot and taken the night train away from the city, but this was disproved by the fact that there was no trace of her footprints in the snow, and the further fact that the crew of the night train, who had often seen the girl, were positive she had not ridden with them.

The elopement theory was gone into at length, but not the slightest foundation on which to base it could be found. The girl, while popular, had few men friends, and seemed to care but little

Medium Freed on a Technicality.

We learn from the Baltimore (Md.) American that in the case of Samuel D. Brooks and seven other Spiritualistic mediums, who were committed by Justice Lewis, of the Northeastern Station, as fortune-tellers, some to the city jail and some to the house of correction, Judges Phelps and Stockbridge, sitting as of the city court, in habeas corpus proceedings, which were commenced last week, ordered the release of the mediums. Assistant State's Attorney John Phelps, who appeared for the state, concluded his argument, claiming that the commitments on their face were valid.

He was replied to by Attorney Thos. J. Mason, who acted as leading counsel for the accused, representing, as he said, the Spiritualistic Union of Baltimore City. Mr. Mason contended that the commitments should show on their face a waiver of a jury trial, under that the magistrate obtain jurisdiction, and he quoted a large number of authorities in support of his contention. He further contended that the commitment did not set out the crime within the statute, inasmuch as the penalty provided in the act was death, and no mention of fortune-telling in section 868 of the new charter, which is the penalty section of the statute. It was further contended that the mediums were not fortune-tellers, but were Spiritualistic mediums, standing in their denomination as pastors to their flocks, and as such receiving proper pay for their services. Judges Phelps and Stockbridge, after hearing the arguments, adjourned to their private room for consultation, and returned in about a half hour, when the judge pronounced by Judge Stockbridge, as follows:

"As to waiver of a jury trial, which, it is claimed, the commitment should show on its face, authorities are conflicting, and the court will not decide that point in the present case. As to the second point, the court deems the same well taken, as the statute does not provide a penalty for fortune-telling, and the prisoners are accordingly discharged.

The courtroom was crowded with the followers of Spiritualism, and there were present a number of leading attorneys, who took great interest in the arguments. Mr. Mason said, after the hearing, that he would advise his clients hereafter in all cases at the station house to demand a jury trial.

The decision of the court seemed to be a very popular one with the audience, and is in line with Judge Burke's decision at Towson in the cases of Slaughter and Raney, whose commitments were similar to the commitment of Brooks et al.

Besides Brooks' which was the test case, those released under the decision were Henrietta Foreman, Carrie Aicher, Thomas R. Brown, Elizabeth Karslens, Eva Fisher and Mary Monroe.

Spiritualists in Beloit Easily Duped.

Prof. H. H. Miller visited Beloit, Wis., claiming to be a medium—clairvoyant, slate-writing and materializing medium. He set forth in his advertisement that "Health, Wealth, and Happiness might be gained by consulting him—psychic occult wonder and palmist."

The professor almost claimed omniscience. He wanted "suckers," and he found them at Beloit, for not many there read a Spiritualist paper. If they had been readers of The Progressive Thinker, they would have developed an analytical, critical mind, and would not have been so easily duped. The Daily News of Beloit, says:

"After a brief but profitable sojourn in the city of Beloit, Prof. Miller, a seer, clairvoyant, slate writer, and clairvoyant and medium, has shaken the snow of the town from his feet and passed on to other pastures green. During his stay here he sold one 'subject' a block of 4,000 shares of gold mining stock for \$160, and how many more were victimized is only known to the victims themselves. So far but one has made complaint to the police."

Marcel Scheibel has investigated the case and come to the conclusion that he could do nothing even if he knew where to lay his hands on Miller, who was very clever in covering up his tracks. The stock was made out on regular stock certificates bearing the name of the 'Navajo Consolidated Mining Co.,' and was apparently all right. Notwithstanding the fact that the par value of the shares was shown in small type on the face of the certificates to be but 1 cent each, Miller's victim paid four times that amount.

Miller, or whatever his right name was, came to Beloit about three weeks ago and opened an office at the corner of School and Pleasant streets. Although the room was fitted up as a bedroom, the 'professor' did not sleep here, but had another room elsewhere.

He started in to advertise on a larger scale than any of his predecessors and seemed to have plenty of money. When he left town his memory failed him and one or two advertising accounts were left uncanceled.

"The man said he came here from Minneapolis, but as he possessed a great variety of names it would be hard to tell where he came from or had located next. One thing is certain he did his work thoroughly—at least one part of it."

Mrs. P. D. Basford, of Beloit, writes: "Professor Miller is a small man, not over thirty years of age; medium build; dark hair, eyes, or dark. He has small gray eyes and is very glib of tongue; wears a diamond ring and an elaborate watch chain; in a word, he is a dupe. He claims to have materialized as many as twenty seven forms at once, in bright light, and says he was developed under 'Farmer' Riley."

We have but little patience with Spiritualists who will patronize such a man. His advertisement, if nothing else, condemns him. As usual, Prof. Miller was well groomed, well fed and apparently very prosperous—all those advertising as he does never fail to find plenty of dupes who have money, and in the

A Lecture Delivered in Chicago,
By C. W. Leadbeater, London, Eng.

be greater, so that this truest life will be wider and fuller for them. As the improvement continues, this causal life grows larger and fuller, assuming an ever larger proportion when compared with the existence at lower levels. And as he grows the man becomes capable not only of receiving, but of giving. Then, indeed, is his triumph approaching, for he is learning the lesson of the Christ, learning the crowning glory of sacrifice, the supreme delight of pouring out all his life for the helping of his fellow-men, the devotion of the self to the all, of celestial strength to human service, of all these splendid heavens to the aid of the struggling sons of earth. That is part of the life that lies before us, these are some of the steps which even we, who are as yet at the very bottom of the golden ladder, may see rising above us, so that we may report them to you who have not seen them yet, in order that you, too, may open your eyes to the unimaginable splendor which surrounds you here and now in this world. This is that part of the temple which Theosophy brings to you, the certainty of this sublime future for all. It is certain because it is here already, because to inherit it we have only to fit ourselves for it.

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The above is the number of the present issue of *The Progressive Thinker*, as printed at the top of the first page, right hand corner. If this number corresponds with the figures on your wrapper, then the time you have paid for has expired, and you are requested to renew your subscription. This number at the right hand corner of the first pages advanced each week, showing the number of *Progressive Thinkers* Issued: up to date. Keep watch of the number on the tag of your wrapper.

**THE SPIRITUAL
SIGNIFICANCE.**
A VERY IMPORTANT WORK.

The Spiritual Significance is by Lillian Whiting, author of "The World Beautiful," "After Her Death," "Kate Field, A Record," "A Study of Elizabeth Barrett Browning." Cloth, \$1.00.

Miss Whiting finds the title of her new book in these lines from "Airrauc's Leight":

"If a man could feel
Not one, but every day, least, fast, and
working-day,
The spiritual significance burn through
The hierarchy of material things,
Henceforward he would paint the
globe with signs."

The aim of this volume is to reveal the curious close relation existing between the developments of modern science and spiritual laws; to note that new forces

as discovered and applied. In wireless telegraphy, are simply laws of an undivided Being into which humanity is rapidly entering and which will transform its environment. From this evolutionary progress, as illustrated by physical science the author of "The World Beautiful" continues the same argument presented in those volumes in a plea that the future life is the continuation and development of the present life and its faculties and powers, and that the present may be divinely preserved by the constant sense of the Divine Presence, and that the future life is the continuation of his relations to God, tend to a higher morality and increasing happiness. The book is characterized by the same essential style and qualities that have inspired for "The World Beautiful" volumes an almost world wide popularity.

OTHER BOOKS BY LILLIAN WATSON JONES.

Kate Field, A Record, Price \$2.
A Study of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Price \$1.25.
The World Beautiful, Three Series, Each \$1.
From Dreamland Bent, and Other Poems, \$1. These books are for sale at this office.

KEEP POSTED

In Current Spiritualistic and Occult News.

You can do it by reading each week The Progressive Thinker, The Philosophy and the Spiritualistic and Occult

WINTER EVENINGS.

Then is the Time to Devote to Spiritualistic and Occult Subjects.

During the long evenings of the coming winter, while sitting by the fire, thinking, dreaming of children far away in the busy marts of life and of those arisen in some fairer land, you will grow sad and weary with life without something to read to remind you of the

future. The Progressive Thinker in your home will come like a weekly messenger from the Spirit-land, bringing peace and soul comfort.

Now is the time to send in your subscription, and begin promptly with the soul-feasts, the intellectual harvest of high-class scientific, literary and occult readings, induce your neighbors to subscribe also, and form your reading circles for the coming season and join us in this good work. Build up the educational side of the cause and perform a lasting deed for your fellow-man. See our special inducements elsewhere in this paper.

Remember, the cause you love so well needs your most hearty support and co-operation here and now, and let us hear from you at once.

"THE DREAM CHILD,"
A Fascinating Romance of Two Worlds. By Florence Huntington. Price, cloth, 75 cents. Booked like "The Dream Child," your humanity can't make more and more demands of this nature and will open up new heights and depths of spiritual knowledge.—Ella Wheeler Wilcox. With I believe, take its place beside "Zerkow," "Zenoni" and the "Seraphita" as one of our simple and Capital, Potomac, Kansas. Inflammable—The dream child, entrails the mind to the extent of fusion of other thoughts, until the last page.—Minneapolis Sunday Times.

— THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE,
Or The Threefold Power of Sex. By Lois Walcott. Price, 60 cents.

"THE DREAM CHILD,"
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..GENERAL SURVEY..

THE SPIRITUALISTIC FIELD—ITS WORKERS, DOINGS, ETC., THE WORLD OVER.

CONTRIBUTORS.—Each contributor is alone responsible for any assertions or statements he may make. The editor allows this freedom of expression, believing that the cause of truth can be best subserved thereby. Many of the sentiments uttered in an article may be diametrically opposed to his belief, yet that is no reason why they should be suppressed; yet we wish it distinctly understood that our space is inadequate to publish everything that comes to hand, however much we might desire to do so. That must account for the non-appearance of YOUR article.

WRITE PLAINLY.—We would like to impress upon the minds of our correspondents that The Progressive Thinker is set up on a Linotype machine that must make speed equal to about four compositors. That means rapid work, and it is essential that all copy, to insure insertion in the paper, all other requirements being furnished, be written plainly with ink on white paper, or with a blue ribbon tied around his neck. He will sit by me for a long time. I think mediums must have souls.

H. E. Pomeroy writes: "In our present state religion is a necessity. While the masses are not thinkers they are imaginative, superstitious and, consequently, devoid of reason and common sense. The bill, meets the necessity, but dawns the intellect and reason. It is desirable that the race should emerge from under this cloud and see clearly what priestcraft has done for it? No, it is not. The spiritual is the real after all, and must be reckoned with."

Oscar A. Elderly writes from Evansville, Ind.: "During the month of December I have filled an engagement with the Society of Spiritualists of Evansville, Ind., and I can truly say that it has been a most profitable labor with a most earnest and sincere people than I have ever met. This society consists of. They pursue such methods as are calculated to interest the general public and in consequence we had large audiences at every meeting. I am pleased to think that the lectures given by my guides were appreciated, judging from the very kind words received by me from my listeners. On Sunday, Dec. 21, the society installed their officers and the following: President, Jonas Goldsmith; vice-president, Fred C. Guthrie; secretary, Michael Keller; treasurer, Charles Cramer. Frank T. Ripley will be the speaker for this society during January. I am engaged for the month of January with the Spiritualist Society of Englewood, Ill. I am open for engagement for March and April. My home address is 29 Public Square, Lima, Ohio."

J. H. Cushman writes: "Your last issue contains a letter signed by Titus Merritt, and as it misrepresents our motive in notifying him of the decision of our board of managers to have the sale of his papers discontinued at our hall, I hasten to correct the false impression such a letter would convey. Mr. Merritt was present when I publicly stated the new arrangement, and heard me urge our people to become subscribers for at least one of the Spiritualist papers, and after reading them bring them to the hall to give to strangers."

Mr. L. E. Johnson writes: "The Grand Rapids (Mich.) Spiritualist is progressing under the guidance of Rev. D. A. Herrick, who is our speaker for the winter. We have been able to do away with the admission fee and are surprised by the free will offering of the people. In the absence of our speaker on account of sickness in his family, Mrs. D. A. Morrell, a young very able, filled our rostrum with good solid lectures. We see for her a bright future as a lecturer. The members of the board would gladly recommend her to any society in need of a speaker."

Hattie G. Webster writes from Columbus, Ohio: "The lecture of the West Side Spiritual Church, Columbus, Ohio, celebrated Christmas, Dec. 24, and the exercises were conducted by the lecture scholars under the direction of the conductor, Mr. H. E. Boersler. The lecture hall was filled with an audience of fifty-four scholars enrolled on its books, and nearly all were present and took part in the entertainment. The parents and friends came in on good numbers. The exercises consisted of drills, songs, and recitations. Miss Flora Jordan, one of the lecture scholars, opened the exercises with an invocation. All the songs and recitations were given with spirit and justly fitting to the memory of the departed. The exercises were conducted by the lecture scholars, who came to earth taught brotherly love and intercommunion with the angels. Mrs. D. H. Little, one of the lecture scholars, presented a class. This lecture recently purchased Lecture Guides of Brother Hudson Tuttle, and is making rapid progress. Each scholar and visitor were given candy, nuts, etc., and all went home happier for having been with us. Mrs. Williams, our efficient organizer, added greatly to the exercises in her rendition of marches, etc. Mrs. M. Foreman, secretary of the lecture, presented Miss Gladys Chevie with a beautiful gift for having brought the most new scholars since the opening in October. Mr. Harry Moore, Dr. A. P. Conant and Dr. P. Valenzuela Rondies came to the platform and complimented the scholars on their work and gave words of encouragement to the teachers. The lecture is growing and we feel that a great deal is being done through the children for the future of the world. We have quite a number enrolled whose parents are not Spiritualists, but are becoming interested through their children."

Z. F. Vallier writes: "Mediums, we have the word of great price. We have the grand and noble truth in our grasp. We have the instrument to move the cloud of ignorance is to be rolled away; then why should we fear the scorn and contumely of the priest who is bound to his idols? Right here let me ask, What is the difference between an idolater and a Christian? The first makes an image of some person or thing to represent the attributes of their imaginary divine being. The latter sets up the image in their own mind; and in the first instance, all are supposed to worship the imaginations of one person while in the second each person worships his own imaginations. What else is it but idolatry? Now, what I want to say to the mediums is, let us unite. Let us clasp hands and work to overthrow our common enemies—Ignorance, Superstition and False Teachings."

Mrs. W. T. Jacobs, writing of a spirit portrait she had obtained through the mediumship of the Bangs Sisters, says: "That portrait is now treasured in our home, together with the spirit photograph."

When writing for this paper use a pen or typewriter.

ters from our son, and other loved ones in the spirit world, which I wish to state were obtained under strict test conditions. But highly as I prize both portrait and letters, they are as chaff among the wheat, in comparison with the marvelous, comforting and glorious experiences I have had in the past seance with them, which proved to me beyond the shadow of a doubt that not only do our loved ones live on, but it also convinced me that it is possible for them to materialize so that we can recognize them positively, and I believe it is a pleasure to them to comfort their bereaved relatives in this manner."

A very pretty wedding took place at the home of J. M. Judge, of Alliance, N. Y., and Addie Hovey, of Syracuse, N. Y., were joined in wedlock, the Rev. Amanda L. Coffman officiating. The London Times has a St. Petersburg correspondent who declares that the czar of Russia is under the influence of a Spiritualist named Philipp. The czar was introduced to this medium nearly a year ago, and since that time has been under his influence to an alarming extent. It is said that he gives no important decision without first consulting Philipp, who in turn consults the highly educated spirits who are in communication with him. San Francisco Examiner.

W. B. Wright writes from Sava, Tex.: "I want to tell you about my medium boy. He has been holding seances in our house for six months or more, and some very grand results have developed through him. He talks three or four different languages, and he has become a great mystery to everybody down here in Texas. Last night he went to bed early, and went to sleep. Another son and his wife came to his room, and on returning home about 9 o'clock, they saw a very bright light in this medium boy's bed room. They came into the house and asked me what that light was doing in the other room. We only had one lamp, and had used it all the night. On investigation there could be nothing found of which to make a light. Just what made the light we don't know. Was it a light from the spirit world?"

Mrs. J. Lindsey is at Grand Rapids, Mich., where she can be addressed for engagements. She lectured in Kalamazoo, where she found a harmonious society. She also lectured lately at the Soldiers' Home to a crowded house.

D. A. Morrell writes from Grand Rapids, Mich.: "Wishing to do something at the beginning of the New Year for the cause of our philosophy, and the spreading of the truth of spirit return which it teaches, I send you a few more subscriptions to The Progressive Thinker, which, when added to your already long list of subscribers, will reach a few more homes and the grand truths it teaches will be accepted by a few more who are hungry for the truth. I hope that I may be able as time rolls on, to do more for the cause of Spiritualism. I know when I send you a name as subscriber to The Progressive Thinker that I am doing some good; that I am helping to spread some light that will be appreciated by spirit friends. Mrs. Hill has now entered the grand field of labor as lecturer, and she would like engagements with societies and for the coming camp season of 1903. For references write to D. A. Morrell, 296 North Tonia street, Grand Rapids, Mich., who is the president of the Briggs Park Camp Association, and pastor of the Grand Rapids Spiritual Society; also T. J. Haynes, 166 Scribner street, Grand Rapids, Mich., secretary of the Briggs Park Camp Association. Address all communications to Mrs. D. A. Morrell, Grand Rapids, Mich."

E. W. Sprague and wife, missionaries for the N. S. A., are at present working in Ohio. They will begin work in Michigan about January 12. Their services may be secured to organize new societies, encourage and build up old ones, and for other needed work in the missionary field of Spiritualism. Address them for the present at Sturgis, Mich. Home address, 618 Newland avenue, Jamestown, N. Y.

Dr. Sarah M. Dudley, inspirational speaker and platform test medium, desires engagements for societies and camp meetings. Address her at No. 1047 York street, Newport, Ky.

Alfred Curtis, president, writes: "The annual Christmas tree gathering of the Progressive Society was held on Sunday, Dec. 28, in the hall, corner North Avenue and Erie street, St. Paul, Minn. The hall was packed. The service opened by thirty little children, members of our lecture, singing, 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star,' which was rendered with intense childish simplicity. Each little member of the lecture either gave a recitation or sang some short hymn. Mr. Hill then addressed those present. Following Mr. Hill, the children paraded the hall with banners and flags, and in the spirit of the Christmas season, Santa Claus rushed in with his merry jingling bells and presents for all the members of the lecture, consisting of boxes of candy and beautiful books; then every little one in the audience received a box of candy and books, etc., from Santa Claus. Then Santa Claus presented to the president a beautiful Spiritualist book, a book of poems, 'Hawthorne,' and a magnificent book, 'Seers of the Ages; or Spiritualism Past and Present.' Santa Claus then turned his attention to our organizer, Mr. Nickels, and presented him with a splendid spiritual button, a large book and other gifts; next, our pastor was given a handsome fur coat. Then our good and kind lecture teachers, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. G. W. Kates, were presented with a very appropriate gift, a Lecture Guide, from Santa Claus. Mrs. Struch then recited a Christmas greeting; the president read a poem on the 'Comparisons of Life'; then followed a well known and prominent worker, Mrs. Ella J. Bloom, with messages. Next was Mrs. Struch, who recited in a truly grand way, 'A Storm on the Ocean.' Mrs. Hillbert then gave messages which were well received. We are to have our first public christening, January 11, Mr. Leighton's infant daughter."

Mrs. A. E. Sheets writes from Grand Rapids, Mich.: "I take this way of announcing the death of my dear son, Michael, and the managers of camps, that owing to the improved state of my health I do not feel obliged to go to the coast, as was my intention. I shall remain at Grand Rapids, and will answer calls for funerals within reasonable distance from my home. I have a few camp dates at my disposal and will re-center the field at the approach of warm weather. If scholars are not all supplied, and any desire me."

Mrs. C. Catlin writes: "Feeling that those who have lived and suffered for any cause, deserve more than a passing obituary notice, I want to report the sudden passing to spirit life of one, who in the early days of Spiritualism unfurled his banner, bore persecution for its sake, and to the moment of his transition, remained loyal to its principles. At the age of 72 years, Mrs. Jane M. Hill of 469 West Madison street, St. Paul, Minn., died. She was a welcome summons to 'come up higher.' Simple in life and speech, she was not as widely known as many other workers, but to

TAKE NOTICE.

All books advertised in the columns of The Progressive Thinker are for sale at this office. Bear this in mind.

her the principles she professed, and the mediumship with which she was gifted, did not mean ostentatious display, either of word or action, and the experience I had in the past seance with them, which proved to me beyond the shadow of a doubt that not only do our loved ones live on, but it also convinced me that it is possible for them to materialize so that we can recognize them positively, and I believe it is a pleasure to them to comfort their bereaved relatives in this manner."

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MEDIUMSHIP OF THE GODS.

The Nature of the Gods of the Ancients.

Mankind has made many saints in modern centuries, but in the ages before Christianity there were many gods, and almost all races had a supreme animal for a god of gods and mankind. To know the history of ancient gods is to know the history of ancient animals and mankind. Many of the gods were the same. Grant, Washington, and Lincoln were men. Images of the gods were the works of art to represent a god, the same as a picture of Washington, McKinley and Garfield adorns the homes of many Americans.

I can think of a time when these men may be called myths, the same as some persons call Jehovah and Jesus Christ myths, or signs of the ancient astrologers. A god was a god, a messenger, a mediator between mankind and the gods. A god was prayed to for health in very ancient times, about the same as Christian Scientists in Boston pray to god Mary Baker G. Eddy. A god prepares good for the future, and is a father of fire worshippers. A god, the malignant, destroying god, the chief of the devils; a race of animals before the form of modern man was invented.

Learned men are agreed that God and gods were individuals the same as modern men are individuals. It is said that the ancient gods had all things in common. There were no judges of divorce courts, for the good reason that there were no marriages among the gods, but soul mates by choice. Zoroaster has such an important place in history that he may be numbered one of the gods, the same as Thales was made a god by the Greeks. Zoroaster recognized a spirit, a God beyond him, and he was a man, a president of the United States, a citizen of Massachusetts had a knowledge of a godlike spirit teaching and leading him in public and private affairs during his long life.

How may dull minds be made to know the meaning of the names God and gods? One person says, 'God is Principle.' One person says, 'God is Love.' God is made to say, 'I am a jealous God, thus one God is a God of jealousy. This is in part explaining the meaning of gods among the Chinese. The Chinese gods were at one time of flesh, bone and blood; the same as we moderns are animals. 'God is Love' is very pleasing, but all readers of The Progressive Thinker should read the lives of gods and saints and learn about their works and mediumship. Boston, Mass. A. F. HILL.

PASSED TO SPIRIT LIFE.

Obituaries to the extent of ten lines only will be inserted free. All in excess of ten lines will be charged at the rate of fifteen cents per line. About seven words constitute one line.

The funeral of Jabez Ashley, a very old resident of Diamonddale, Mich., occurred Dec. 21, 1902, at the home. He had been a Spiritualist nearly half a century. His wife, Mrs. Ashley, was a companion and five children. They are sustained by the knowledge of the truths of Spiritualism. Mrs. A. E. Sheets officiated.

Passed to the higher life, Dec. 21, 1902, Wm. Jackson Thomas, of Phoenixville, Pa., in his 75th year. His transition was very sudden and without any pain; he was a whole-souled Spiritualist and his life was a demonstration of true Spiritualism. The funeral service was very beautiful, being conducted by Mr. G. W. Kates, whose words won the hearts of all who listened to him.

Resolutions adopted by the First Association of Spiritualists, Rogersford, Pa.

Whereas, in the sudden transition of our late Brother W. Jackson Thomas, who passed to the higher life, December 21, 1902, our society has lost a most valued member and an active worker, one who had the cause of Spiritualism at heart and was ever ready to assist to promulgate this grand truth. Resolved, That we humbly bow to the inevitable and can rejoice in knowing that his noble spirit is his gain, and that only say, Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

Resolved, That the charter of our society be appropriately draped as a token of our respect for our arisen brother.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to his family.

MRS. ELLA DUFFIELD, Sec.

Passed to a well-learned beautiful inheritance and home in the world immortal from the residence of her daughter in St. Paul, Minn., on Dec. 20, Mrs. Mary A. Gunn, aged 92 years. Mrs. Gunn was born on Dec. 16, 1810, at Lee Center, N. Y., and on Dec. 16, 1902, her 92nd anniversary was celebrated at her home in this city. In the early days of Modern Spiritualism she thoroughly investigated its phenomena, and studied its philosophy, accepting its truths as a great and glorious light to humanity. The services were conducted at the home on Sunday, the 21st, by Mrs. Joseph P. Whitwell. The remains were taken to Beaver Dam, Wis., for interment.

M. T. C. FLOWER.

"Three Jubilee Lectures." By J. M. Peebles, M. D. Doctor Peebles is a trenchant and instructive writer and lecturer, and these three papers on the Jubilee of Modern Spiritualism, are well worthy of being preserved in this tasty form, in print, 35 cents. For sale at this office.

DEAN CLARKE'S POEM.

We are pleased with the privilege to present our readers one of the best poetic effusions from the pen of our talented brother, whose former productions have edited one and all. It is, as will be seen to be, a very ingenious paraphrase of Wm. Knox's celebrated poem, which corrects its materialistic and pessimistic spirit, making our good brother's poem much the best of the two.

After reading this excellent poem, we hope every reader, who has not already done so, will send for Brother Clarke's latest production, which we have heretofore noticed, entitled, "The Triumphs of Man." Enclose a dime and stamp for one, \$1 and two stamps for ten copies, addressed to Dr. Dean Clarke, 7 Wintrop street, Roxbury, Mass.

Why Shouldn't the Spirit of Mortal Be Proud?

(Lincoln's favorite poem reconstructed and improved.)

Why shouldn't the spirit of mortal be proud,

Even though he depart like "a fast-fleeing cloud?"

His spirit in triumph life's banner shall wave

As he marches to victory o'er death and the grave.

Like leaves of the forest our bodies may fade,

Together with them in the dust may be laid,

Yet we in the dust shall not with them

But rise, like the Phoenix, to dwell up on high.

The infant, the mother, the husband who loved,

All who to each other undying love proved,

Find in the grave "their dwelling of rest."

In mansions on high are the homes of the blest.

Though the maid lose the hue of cheek, brow and eye,

And pleasures and triumphs of earth are put by,

An angel in heaven, she's still loved and praised,

For naught of her beauty by death was erased.

Though sceptre and mitre no longer are borne

By the hand or the brow by which they were worn,

No king, priest, nor sage is ever lost in the grave,

But each is a spirit still active and brave.

The peasant, the herdsman, have climbed up life's steep,

To reap its true harvest that all shall yet reap;

No beggar is there in search of his bread,

For all have a plenty in realms they now tread.

The saint upon earth is an angel in heaven,

The sinner still lives, though he be unforgiven;

Neither wise, nor the foolish, the guilty or just,

Remain with their bodies now mingled in dust.

Though "the multitude goes, like the flower of weed,"

That withers away to let others succeed,

As spirits they come, whom seers may behold,

And repeat every tale that as mortals they told.

Yes, we are the same our fathers have been,

And see the same sights our fathers have seen,

And soon, too, in realms as bright as the sun,

We'll run the same course our fathers now run.

The thoughts they are thinking we shortly will think;

From death now not shrinking, no more will we shrink;

To life that's eternal with them we will eling.

And speed on our way "like a bird on the wing."

Their scorn and their grief long since have grown cold,

Their joy and their love for aye shall unfold;

No wall of earth-sorrow from them doth now come,

But the tongue of their gladness no longer is dumb.

"They died," yet still live! yet, more than we now

With the dark earthly shadows o'erarching, and when we are done with this transient abode

How glad we will take their new "ill-grimace road."

Our tears and despondency, sorrow and pain,

Will soon pass away like a shower of rain.

Then songs of the angels that drown the earth-dregs,

Shall "follow each other like surge upon surge."

But the wink of an eye, and the loss of a breath,

Completes the new birth, so, falsely called death;

The soul is triumphant o'er bio and the shroud,

Then, why not the spirit of mortal be proud?

DEAN CLARKE.

STARTLING FACTS,

OR

Deeds of Darkness Disclosed

This work devotes special attention to Aerial Confession and its relations to sacerdotal celibacy, convents, monasteries, morality and evil and treacherous liberty. It is intended to be an embodiment of facts and documentary evidence of the pernicious influence of the confessional; a trenchant showing up of Romanism, based upon standard Catholic authorities; an eye-opener concerning the methods and spirit, the moral turpitude and evil works of Romanism. Cloth, 75 cents.

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To Extend the Circulation of The Progressive Thinker.

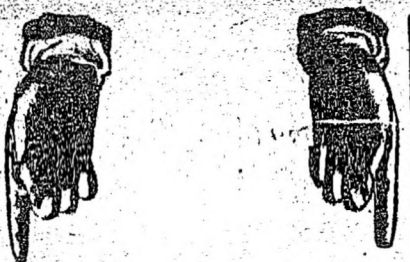
Now is the time to do it. We are now running a series of lectures by that remarkable English psychic, C. W. Leadbeater. They alone will be worth more than the price of subscription, saying nothing of other equally important features of the paper. Induce your Spiritualist friends to send in a dollar for the paper.

"Buddhism and Its Christian Critics." By Dr. Paul Carus. An excellent study of Buddhism; compact yet comprehensive. Paper, 60 cents. Cloth, \$1.25. For sale at this office.

"Just How to Wake the Soul Phoenix." By Elizabeth Towne. Valuable for health. Price 25 cents.

PRICE-LIST AND CATALOGUE OF BOOKS.

Schopenhauer Essays. Translated by T. B. Saunders. Cloth	75
Science of the Soul. L. A. Sherman. Paper 60 cts.; cloth	1 00
Scientific Demonstration of the Future. T. J. Hudson.	1 50
Seers of the Ages. J. M. Peebles, M. D.	1 25
Self Contradictions of the Bible. Paper cover.	1 00
Sixth and Seventh Books of Moses. Paper cover.	1 00
Soul of Things; or Psychometric Researches and Discoveries. Wm. and Elizabeth M. F. Denton. 3 volumes. Each, postage 15 cents.	1 50
Spirit Echoes. Mattie E. Hull.	75
Swept Away. By Moses Hull.	10
Social Upbuilding. E. D. Babbitt, L. D., M. D.	15
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NEW YORK NOTES.

Dr. Savage's Christmas Sermon—Helen

Temple Brigham.

In this great metropolis the Christmas

season is at hand, and in the distance is

the dawn of a new year.

Last Sunday the churches and halls

were crowded in various parts of the

city where special Christmas services

were given, although we had one of the

worst rain storms (with hail and sleet)

of the season, the Church of the Mes-

siah was crowded to hear Dr. Savage's

Christmas sermon, whose subject was

"The Birth of Jesus," a wonderful dis-

course in every sense of the word. Dr.

Savage pronounced the New Testament

stories of that event untrue and revol-

ting. I give a few quotations from this

great discourse. I only wished that

every reader of The Progressive Thinker

could have heard this great preacher

deliver this sermon. Oh what a treat.

"There is no good reason in the New

Testament or in the early church history

for the belief that Jesus was God. I

believe and I assure you that all the

best, unbiased scholarship of the world

is back of this statement, that Jesus

was born in Nazareth, that his father

was Joseph and his mother Mary, about

the year 4 B. C. The month, the date of

the month, nobody knows.

"I believe then, that Jesus was man.

I believe in the divinity of man. I be-

lieve in the humanity of God. I do not

believe that there is any gulf of separation between the divine nature and ours that needs to be bridged by any unnatural and stupendous miracle. "I may trouble some of you by what I am now going to say. I say it however, out of my profound conviction, and I appeal to you to give it the most careful thought. This dogma of the virgin birth is a slur on womanhood. It is a slur on fatherhood. It is a slur on our conception of the Divine. The fact of sex is the deepest, most central, most universal fact of the universe. So far as we know it reaches to the depths and to the heights of things. It must express something which is real and eternal in the being of God himself, else it could not be imprinted upon everything that bears the mark of his thought and his hand.

"Are not babies born of father-love and mother-love sweet and pure? Must a child come into the world without a father to escape this stigma? That is the implication out of which the dogma has come. I believe there is nothing sweeter, nobler, purer on earth than the yearning love of a mother as she clasps to her bosom for the first time the babe that has just been given her fresh from the hand of God.

"I ask no nuns or monks brooding in their darkness to teach me and teach God as to what is sweet and clean. We do not need an unnatural birth in order for God to get into the world. He was born already, and has been all the time. "And so, friends, never in all my life did I so love, so reverence this Jesus of Nazareth, as I do today. I will joyfully and gladly bow in his presence for the divinity that was in him. Let us fearlessly, then, from the light and follow the guidance of the Master as he leads us into the presence of his Father and our Father, his God and our God."

These are only a few quotations taken promiscuously from one of the greatest sermons I have ever heard delivered from any pulpit.

Nellie Temple Brigham has returned from her very successful Australian trip, and is giving her first inspirational discourses in her own rostrum every Sunday. I think one great compliment

was offered Mrs. Brigham and the cause of Spiritualism as follows:

On the Australian vessel which brought Mrs. Brigham to our shores on her trip home, and on the Sunday after she reached San Francisco, Mrs. Brigham addressed to others at the same time, a discourse on the cause of Spiritualism. A private letter from Rome to a Catholic priest in this city gives the make-up of the commission recently appointed by the pope for the special study of the Holy Scriptures. It says:

"The following Cardinals have been definitely appointed members of the Commission for the Encouragement of Biblical Studies, instituted by the Holy Father in his recent Apostolic letter: Parrochi, Rampello, Sagua, Vives y Tuto. The commission will likewise comprise several consultants, both resident and non-resident in Rome, and it is very probable that the studies and researches of its members as well as its official acts and pronouncements will be published in a monthly review toward the cost of which the Pontiff has manifested the intention of generously contributing. The Very Rev. David Fleming, Vicar-General of the Order of Minors, who has been appointed secretary to the commission, was recently received in private audience by Leo XIII., who expressed the hope that the commission would answer the object for which it had been founded."

Hugh O. Pentecost is crowding Mott Memorial Hall, on Madison avenue, every Sunday with his bright thoughts of truth. I was very glad to hear Mr. Pentecost say one Sunday that Dr. Savage's sermon was one of the books. After reading that, set him to thinking before leaving the Baptist church.

Mary Baker G. Eddy has arranged with the Christian Science churches in

this city that the readers shall remain for three years only to make room for others. The first church here was known as Mrs. Stetson's, and the second church as Mrs. Lathrop's. I wonder if this had anything to do with the matter?

Dr. Savage closed one of his discourses early in the season with the following lines, which I think are so comforting:

"Listen, and there will come to you by and by a whisper of such cheer and such trust that you can smile in the face of death itself. Look out through the mist and believe that it will break, and that the light will shine in from that country where there is no darkness at all."

J. OSBORNE LUNN.

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