# Spiritual

A Monthly Epitome of the

Transactions of Spiritual and Psychological Societies,

AUXILIARY TO THE SPIRIT CIRCLE, MEDIUM, AND LECTURER.

REPORTS-ANNOUNCEMENTS-REVIEWS.

Vol. I.-No. XVIII.]

DECEMBER, 1879.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

BRITISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUALISTS. | DALSTON ASSOCIATION OF ENQUIRERS INTO SPIRITUALISM. (ESTABLISHED 1873.)

38, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

President:-ALEXANDER CALDER, Esq.

President:—ALEXANDER CALDER, Esq.

This Association possesses a Library, which contains a larg collection of the best works on Spiritualism and occult subjects, and a Reading Room, where Spiritualist and other newspapers and periodicals from all parts of the world are regularly supplied. The Offices of the Association are open every day, Sundays excepted. Saturdays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; other days, from 2 p.m. to 9,30 p.m.

A subscription of five shillings a year entitles to Membership in the Association, with a vote at the Annual and other General Meetings, and the right of purchasing tickets to the Séances. A further payment of half-a-tuinea a year entitles to one book from the Lending Library. A subscription of two guineas a year includes Membership, use of the Reading Room and Library, two books from the Lending Library, free entrance to the Fortnightly Discussion Meetings, and admission at low charges to the Séances of the Association. of the Association.

All communications and enquiries should be addressed to the Resident Secretary, Miss C. A. Burke, 38, Great Russell Street, to whom Post Office Orders may be made payable, at the Great Russell Street Office.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER, 1879.

Monday, 1st.—Discussion Meeting at 8 p.m. Paper by Mr. G. F.
Green, on "Spiritualism and Positivism in Retion to Problems of Government."
Friday, 5th.—Séance Committee at 6 p.m. Séance with Mrs.
Corner at 7 p.m. precisely.
Tuesday, 9th.—General Purposes Committee at 5.30 p.m. Finance Committee at 6 p.m. Council Meeting at
6.30 p.m.

Friday, 12th.—Soirée Committee at 5.30 p.m. Séance with Mrs. Corner at 7 p.m. precisely.

Monday, 15th.—Discussion Meeting at 8 p.m. Paper by the Rev. Maurice Davies, D.D., on "Spiritualistic Positivism."

Thursday, 25th.—Scivica, Music, Conversation, and Refresh-

Thursday, 18th.—Soirée. Music, Conversation, and Refreshment. Rooms open at 6.30 p m. Admission to Members and Friends, 1s. each.
Friday, 19th.—Séance with Mrs. Corner at 7 p.m. precisely.

CHRISTMAS CLOSING.

The Rooms of the Association will be closed on Tuesday evening, 23rd, and will re-open Monday, 29th inst.

C. A. BURKE, Secretary.

# DRAMATIC RECITATIONS

#### MISS ELLA & FRANK DIETZ.

#### SECOND PROVINCIAL SEASON.

LIST OF ENGAGEMENTS with Institutes, &c.:—
Upper Norwood (Normal College for the Blind), Dec. 3;
Huddersfield, Highfield Lecture Society, Dec. 9; Shifnal, Salop, Dec. 10; Greenock, Dec. 12; Dumfries, Dec. 15; Helensburgh, Dec. 16; Falkirk School of Arts, Dec. 17; Dumbarton, Dec. 18; Busby (by Glasgow), Dec. 19; Montrose (Lecture on "American Humour," Dec. 22; Edinburgh Philosophical Institution, Dec 23; Bonnybridge (Lecture on "American Humour") Dec. 25; Stranser, Dec. 26; Glasgow Saturday Evening Concerts (2nd time), Dec. 27; New Swindon (2nd time), Dec. 31. 1850:—Coalbrookdale (3rd time), Jan. 20; Madistone (2nd time), Feb. 17; King's Heath and Moseley, Mar. 8; Perry Bar (2nd time), Mar. 9. Other engagements pending. Favourable terms en route; or for consecutive nights. For vacant dates, &c., address Mr. Frank Dietz, 54, Denbigh Street, London, S.W. LIST OF ENGAGEMENTS with Institutes, &c. :

SERIES of FORTNIGHTLY TUESDAY A SERIES OF FORTINIGHTLY TUESDAY
EVENING SUBSCRIPTION SEANCES, under favourable
test conditions with various mediums, will be commenced on
Tuesday, 2nd inst., at 8 o'clock. Medium, Mr. W. G. Haxby
A limited number of Tickets will be issued for each Séance to
Members only, price 2s. 6d. Members can obtain tickets for their
friends, price 5s. Applications for tickets must be made prior to
date of each Séance of the Hon. Sec., 53, Sigdon Road, Dalston
Lane, Hackney Downs, E.

### THOMAS WALKER

(THE RENOWNED ORATOR OF MELBOURNE).

R. THOS. WALKER is now in England, A. INOS. WALKER IS HOW IN ERIGHMA, Philosophy, and Teachings of Spiritualism. Mr. Walker proposes visiting London early in February, 1880, for the first and last time prior to his returning to Melbourne in April next; and requests those who desire to secure his services to make their arrangements without delay.

For terms and dates, address Mr. Thomas Walker, 24, Walpole Street Blackburn.

Street, Blackburn.

#### EDWIN CLAFTON,

STORS HILL, OSSETT,

Begs to notify that he is now open for Engagements as Trance Healing Medium.

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RECEIVES DAILY AT

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Public Lectures at Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour Street, on Sunday evenings throughout the year.

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26, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON, W.C.

Mr. Firman will be at home every day, except Sunday, from 12 to 5, to make arrangements for Private Sittings.

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(ESTABLISHED 1873.)

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Allied Societies.

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L'Union Spirite et Magnetique. Secretary—M. Charles Fritz, 121, Rue de Louvain, Brussels.
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The Spiriter-Forscher Society, Buda-Pesth. Secretary—M. Anton Prochaszka, Josefstadt Ezzherzog Alexander-gasse, 23, Buda-Pesth, Hungary.
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Sociedad Espirita Central de la Republica Maxicana. President—Senor Refugio T Gonzalez, 7, Calle de Almedo, Mexico.
Sociedad Espirita di Bogota, Colombia, South America. President—Senor Manuel Jose Angarita.

#### MR. FLETCHER AT STEINWAY HALL.

WE have not had the pleasure of attending the Sunday evening services of late at Steinway Hall, but we hear that Mr. Fletcher is still pursuing his work there with marked success. The following, which we take from the Sporting Gazette, having been contributed to that journal by one of its correspondents, must certainly be regarded as an impartial testimony to the excellence of Mr. Fletcher's tests :-

"I never could understand why London should have the reputation of being a dull place on Sunday. There may be no bands in the parks, the theatres may be shut, the music-halls closed, and the shops barred and bolted; but there are other enjoyments besides these, and in the English capital they are happily to be found. I told you last week how I passed the previous Sunday evening, let me now relate how the Sabbath just gone closed with me. I should premise that I am not a Spiritualist, that I can walk through a churchyard at night without expecting to meet a ghost, that no goblin haunts me, that rappings and tappings of the mediumistic kind are never heard in my rooms, that I strongly doubt whether any of my ancestors or friends are able to return to the abodes they long since quitted, that to me the other world is a place unknown. Yet, withal that, I am no obstinate, frivolous jester, but ever anxious to learn all about this or any other state of existence.

"Having said so much, let me introduce you to Steinway Hall, Lower Seymour-street, as I saw it last Sunday night. Scene—a fairly good audience facing a platform whereon, close by a large grand piano, are seated ladies and gentlemen, some in evening dress-a choir, in fact, of no mean pretensions. They are not alone on the stage, for in a chair not far away rests, book in hand, a tall thin man, with black hair and very bright hollow eyes, attired in clawhammer coat and low vest. He has read a poem, said a prayer, delivered a sermon, and is now about to offer his audience some tests in support of his assertion that he sees spirits familiar to some of them floating round him in the room. Suddenly he rises, and approaching a reading-desk looks towards the ceiling. There is a pause, and then he begins to describe minutely the form of a lady who, he says, is hovering near. She has died of fever, he says, leaving behind a husband, present, and a babe no longer here. That child she has since fetched away, and now, giving the name of Hetty, she has a message for the widower, which the speaker repeats. Does anyone recognise this? 'Yes,' says a young man in the front of the hall. 'all you have said refers to my dead wife and me.' Stay! There is another spirit, that of a soldier who has been in the spirit world less than a year, some seven months perhaps, and he has a message for someone on the right, who is no relative, but the husband of the dead one's only sister. The name of the deceased is short, and begins with a 'B.' He is desirous that the friend present should take a message to his sister relative to some papers that are on the way to England, and he says sowith such-and-such a face and appearance? We cordial support.

look round, and slowly there rises from the centre of the hall one of Her Majesty's most trusted and respected servants—a man as well known in the literary as in the military and civilian worlds-and claims the defunct as his brother-in-law. And as I afterwards leave the hall in his company, I hear how a young soldier was killed little more than half a year ago in Afghanistan, and how exactly all that has been said describes him. I feel that I cannot explain the coincidence, but, somehow or other, I still feel that my Sunday evening has not been quite thrown away.

#### YORKSHIRE NOTES.

THE success attendant upon the efforts of the Yorkshire District Committee is most encouraging. Last month Mr. E. W. Wallis and Mr. F. O. Matthews fulfilled a fortnight's engagement each. Both earned golden opinions. The nett cost of each meeting was about 6s.: a more practical lesson on the benefits of co-operation it would be impossible to teach.

The Committee, not content with supplying speakers to societies already in existence, are endeavouring to break open new ground in every direction. The friends in Leeds, Booth Town, and Crosshills will probably be the first to take the initiative and form well-conducted, regular services. The need for public meetings is apparent to all.

Every lover of progress who visits Yorkshire should pay a visit to the Progressive Lyceum, Sowerby Bridge. The children, numbering about forty, go through a series of instructive exercises. keeping time meanwhile to the music of a harmonium. The lessons taught embrace a variety of subjects; amongst others are noticeable scripture history, phrenology, physiology, elocution, music. An entertainment will shortly be given by the children for the purpose of raising a fund to pur-chase additional books. Any donation toward this laudable object will doubtless be gladly received by the secretary, Mr. H. Robinson, Gatrix-

The friends at Halifax have had a glad awakening since the formation of the District Committee. Their room, failing to accommodate the increase of visitors, necessitated an enlargement. It is gratifying to know that in its enlarged state the room is crowded every Sunday.

Bradford appears to be the centre of the movement in Yorkshire. There are three societies, each holding regular week-day and Sunday services. The Spiritualist Church being the larger and more central is the best attended. During the visits of Mr. E. W. Wallis and Mr. F. O. Matthews the rooms were uncomfortably crowded. A want long felt by the more intelligent is the formation of an "improvement class," reading-room, and library. This might readily be effected by the united action of each society. Will the friends take this hint, and convene a meeting to consider the matter?

Active measures are being taken by the friends at Bingley, Ossett, and Churwell to give the move-ment every publicity. This, however, cannot be done without the aid of effective speakers, and the friends are to be congratulated for their wisdom in and-so. Does anyone recognise a young soldier according to the Yorkshire District Committee their

The Second Quarterly Conference of the District | has also Facit, another small town a mile further Committee will be held at Batley Carr on Sunday, January 11th, 1880. Sessions at 10.30, 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. Mr. W. H. Lambelle will speak in the afternoon and evening. A large attendance is antici-YORKSHIREMAN. pated.

### PROVINCIAL NOTES. By J. J. Morse.

THE Newcastle-on-Tyne friends are to be congratulated on the successful issue of their late bazaar, £122 being the gross result of the sales. Mr. James Burns, of the Spiritual Institution, London, accepted the invitation to open the bazaar, and as an evidence of kindly sympathy with the object in view, presented a valuable parcel of books to one of the stalls. This was the second bazaar ever held in this country in behalf of Spiritualism. The first was held by the British National Association

some four years ago.

The colliery districts in County Durham contain many Spiritualists, and a goodly number of private and semi-private circles and meetings are regularly held. Preston, Pelton, Bewick Main, Consett, and Chester-le-Street, with several other villages, are deserving of notice for their constant labour to keep the cause alive in the face of many difficulties. The warm enthusiasm with which workers are welcomed in the "pit districts" is an experience worth having, and if one does not get all the polish of town life, there are, what is better, honest hearts and true souls such as command respect wherever Mr. E. W. Wallis has lately made a brief tour in these districts, and he assures me that the work is going bravely forward. Mr. Wallis is winning troops of friends by his earnest genial nature, and is rapidly taking a position of importance among the workers in the field.

Will my co-workers in the south-east, south, and west counties let me hear from them as to their position, progress, and prospects? Surely all the work is not done in the midland and northern

counties.

The Midland District Committee held its fourth quarterly conference in Derby on Sunday, October 26th. One course of lectures had been held during the past quarter, Mr. Wallis being the speaker. The previous committee were re-elected. As it was the first annual meeting, the president, treasurer, and honorary secretary retired from office, but the first and last-named were unanimously reelected. The treasurer resigned office, being also the treasurer of the Derby Psychological Society. The officers of the committee for the present term are :- President, Mr. R. Harper, Birmingham ; treasurer, Mr. Farnsworth, Derby; honorary secretary, the present writer.

The cause in Liverpool has undergone a decided advance, and gives promise of a return to its former excellent position. The Sunday evening meetings are now frequently crowded to excess. A similar satisfactory condition of affairs prevails at Bolton, where the local society is renting a larger hall, and a gratifying increase of attendance has been the result. Rochdale is also improving, the Sunday services having been very well attended for some time past. Whitworth, an adjoining

on; while Pendleton and Salford have each established meetings which are virtually offshoots from

the parent society in Manchester.

I recently passed a pleasant evening in company with Mr. Thomas Walker, the able trance speaker, who has lectured so successfully in the colonies. Mr. Walker's account of the position of our cause at the Antipodes gives one a very high opinion of its status there. Some day I hope to grasp our Australian brethren by the hand. Mr. Walker is kept busily employed, and as he is a courteous and genial gentleman, in addition to being an excellent lecturer, it could hardly be otherwise. The Goswell Hall Sunday Services Committee should secure him for their platform.

I shall be in Lendon at the close of the month, and will be pleased to meet old friends and new ones at Goswell Hall on Sunday, the 28th inst. As my stay will only embrace a week, friends desiring to meet me should communicate with me

Dr. Mack's work, "Healing by the Laying on of Hands," has now been issued. All "healers" should procure it, and Spiritualists generally will

find in it much interesting matter.

My Glasgow correspondent sends me a most cheering account of the progress of Spiritualism in our northern metropolis. The Trades Hall has been engaged for six months, and the audiences have increased with a startling rapidity, and are composed of thoughtful, intelligent, and attentive listeners. Mr. T. Walker, Prof. J. Coates, Mr. E. W. Wallis, and myself are among the speakers engaged, while the two last-named trance speakers have been further engaged for 1880. Forty friends have guaranteed the expenses of the meetings, so that our Gospel may be preached free. If in Glasgow, why not in other towns? If the collection-box could be disestablished it would be a blessing. Let us try to do it.

# Proceedings of Societies.

#### BRITISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

MEETING OF COUNCIL.

THE Council met on Tuesday, November 11th, Mr. Alexander Calder, the President, in the chair. The other members present were Mr. M. Theobald, Mrs. Fitz-Gerald, Mr. Desmond G. Fitz-Gerald, Mrs. Maltby, Miss Withall, Mr. R. Pearce, Mr. E. Dawson Rogers, Mr. E. T. Bennett, Miss Houghton, the Rev. W. Stainton-Moses, Mr. W. H. Coffin, and Mr. C. Pearson.

A letter was read from Mr. Christian Reimers, proposing for honorary membership Dr. Robert Friese, of Breslau (a co-worker with Professor Zöllner), and M. Charles de Rappard, Vice-presi-dent of the Psychological Society of Paris; and the Council unanimously resolved to invite those gentlemen to accept honorary membership of the Association.

Resignations of membership were accepted from

Mrs. Bellew and the Misses Ponder.

The following were unanimously elected members town, has quite a little colony of Spiritualists, as of the Association :- Mr. G. P. Allen, Mr. Prichard, Mrs. Prichard, Mr. W. Chapman, Mr. A. Firman, | cord, placed her own very comfortable apartments Mrs. Rees, and a gentleman who does not wish his name to be published at present.

A letter was read from the Baroness Guldenstubbe, expressing her pleasure at having been elected a member of the Association.

The following letter was read from Mr. G. Tommy, of Bristol:-

A. Calder, Esq.,—Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of the circular signed by you on behalf of the B.N.A.S.; and, as its object appears to be to elicit the opinion of the members regarding the questions at issue between Mr. Harrison and the Association, I have much pleasure in stating that my sympathy is entirely and unreservedly with the Association. I have for some time past noticed with regret the course adopted by Mr. Harrison, and I consider its tendency has been inimical to the welfare of the Association and detrimental to the cause of Spiritualism generally .- I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

GEORGE TOMMY.

3, Montrose-terrace, Argyle-road, Bristol.

A volume of poems by the Marquis de Leuville, presented by the author, was received with thanks.

A letter from Mr. Walker (Australia), now lecturing in this country, was referred to the General

Purposes Committee.

Mr. E. Dawson Rogers said that Mr. Harrison Green and other friends had spoken to him of the desirability of cultivating friendly relations with provincial associations, and he moved that the General Purposes Committee should be requested to take the necessary action in the matter. This

was agreed to.

Miss Houghton moved, "That a cordial letter of congratulation be written to the Newcastle Spiritual Evidence Society upon the success of their bazaar, expressing also our regret that our funds have not enabled us to offer any pecuniary aid in their praiseworthy effort; but that they, and all true-hearted workers in the dissemination of a knowledge of Spiritualism and its great teaching and aims, have our warmest sympathy; and that we hope a time may yet come when our power to help on all sides will equal our desires."

This was seconded by Mr. Bennett, and cor-

dially agreed to.

Mr. C. Pearson said he had been kindly authorised by Mr. Tebb to send four quarterly parts of the Psychological Review to any society he thought advisable, and he should have much pleasure in handing them to the Secretary of the B.N.A.s. to be forwarded to the Newcastle Spiritual Evidence

Society. (Applause.)

Mr. DESMOND FITZ-GERALD moved the following resolution:--" This Association, recognising as it does the value of co-operation in the endeavours made to promote the cause of Spiritualism, wish it to be understood that they are not only willing but anxious to do all in their power to aid all provincial societies, and that they will at any time be happy to receive suggestions as to the direction in which such aid could be rendered."

This was seconded by Mr. Theobald, and agreed

Mr. E. Dawson Rogers reported that the séances with Mrs. Elgie Corner had been eminently successful, and he said that their warmest thanks were due to Mrs. Maltby, who had, for the pur-

at the services of the sitters.

Miss Withall, as president of the Soirée Committee, reported that the last soirée had been in every way a satisfactory one-in point of attendance, the best which they had ever had; and she moved that the thanks of the Council be sent to all the friends who kindly gave their valuable assistance on the occasion. This was agreed to.

Mr. Dawson Rogers said that he had received an offer from Mr. W. Chapman, on the part of Mr. Firman, offering to give a séance for the benefit of the Association, if the Séance Committee, after a preliminary sitting, were satisfied with the character of the manifestations. He moved that the Séance Committee be authorised to accept Mr. Firman's offer with thanks. The motion was adopted unanimously.

#### DALSTON ASSOCIATION OF ENQUIRERS INTO SPIRITUALISM.

NINTH ANNIVERSARY CONVERSAZIONE.

Owing to a variety of causes, there was an exceptionally small attendance on Monday evening, 10th ult. In the absence of the President, the Hon. Secretary expressed his regret that there was not a larger muster of the members, especially as an attractive programme had been prepared under the kind direction of Madame Ourry. The evening's entertainment comprised some vocal and instrumental music, contributed by Madame Ourry, Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Coldrey, Miss Kate Coldrey, Mrs. Elgie Corner, Miss McKellar, Miss Gertrude Holloway, Miss Sparey, Mr. R. Bodmer, and Mr. T. Blyton. After an interval for refreshment, dancing was commenced and kept up until past midnight.

#### SESSION OF COUNCIL.

The Council met on Thursday evening, 13th ult., Mr. R. Pomeroy Tredwen in the chair. Mr. Thos. K. Howden and Mr. R. Bodmer, F.C.S., were proposed and elected members of Council.

Correspondence of general interest was read from Miss Susan E. Gay, Mrs. Rees, Mr. W. Eglinton,

Mr. John Rouse, and Mr. James Mather.

Presentations were reported and accepted with a cordial vote of thanks from Mr. Wm. Tebb, Mr Epes Sargent, Mr. R. H. Mould, Mr. J. Tozeland, and Mr. James Mather.

Mr. W. Langham Millard was proposed and

elected an ordinary member.

The current cash accounts were submitted by

the hon. treasurer, and passed.

A letter was read from the British National Association of Spiritualists respecting the proposed interchange of full members' privileges between the two Associations, but which could not be entertained at present.

The Hon. Secretary having reported the proceedings of the ninth anniversary celebration, a very cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the several artistes and friends for their

kind assistance.

The thanks of the Council was voted to Mrs. Thos. Everitt for her séance on October 30th last.

Letters were read from Mr. James Bowman, Mr. J. Coates, and Mr. Thos. Walker, of Melbourne, poses of these seances, kindly and of her own ac- respecting the contemplated visit of the last-named gentleman to London for lecturing purposes; and on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, October the Hon. Secretary was instructed to ascertain particulars, and submit an estimate of the expenses for a public lecture by Mr. Thos. Walker, a guarantee fund being opened to meet any possible loss.

The Hon. Secretary was deputed to negotiate for a friendly visit of a medium on the last Thursday

A proposal was made for organising a series of subscription séances, under favourable test conditions, with various well-known mediums; and it was resolved that the Hon. Secretary be authorised to arrange for such séances, on some other than Thursday evenings, on a self-supporting financial

The Council then adjourned.

#### SEANCE WITH MRS. EVERITT.

On Thursday, the 30th ult., there was a large attendance of members and friends at the rooms of the Association to meet their esteemed honorary member, Mrs. Everitt, whose well-known mediumship is always a source of great attraction. Considering the large number of sitters, some of whom were comparatively new to Spiritualism, the conditions were favourable and harmonious. An excel-Ient séance took place, to the gratification of all present. The usual phenomena of spirit lights, movements of the table and furniture, the direct voice, &c., were abundant; and the wise sayings of "John Watt" and the mirthful comments of "Znippy," alternately instructed and amused their hearers. It appeared that "John Watt" had not manifested for some time past, so that the Association was specially fortunate on this occasion. The coming of "John Watt" to the circle was heralded by the usual striking manifestations, viz., a heavy sound, gradually increasing in intensity, resembling the muffled marching of many feet. This interesting séance lasted nearly an hour. Mr. Tapp (in the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the President) presided, and the proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Everitt.

#### DISCUSSION MEETING.

At the fortnightly discussion meeting on Monday last, Mr. R. Pomeroy Tredwen in the chair, a paper "On Methods of Spiritualistic Investigation" was read by Mr. Thomas Blyton as a substitute for one announced by Mr. C. W. Pearce, who was unavoidably detained in Manchester. In the course of the discussion, Messrs. R. P. Tredwen, G. R. Tapp, W. T. Reynolds, and F. Berkeley took part, and the proceedings were brought to a close with the usual thanks to Mr. Blyton.

#### NEWCASTLE SPIRITUAL EVIDENCE SOCIETY.

On Sunday afternoon, October 26th, the Rev. W. Stoddart delivered a lecture on "The Gospel of Spiritualism." He said that Spiritualism came to demonstrate the facts that occurred 1800 years ago. Spiritualism was spreading and would continue to spread, and would remain a permanent light to the world. In the evening he lectured on "Man, Mind, or Mud," to a large and overflowing audience. The address was of an exceeding interesting character, and was attentively listened to through-

A Bazaar was held in the rooms of the society

28, 29, and 30, for the purpose of providing a new hall more worthy of the cause. There was a large attendance each day, and the total gross amount taken realised £122 17s. 3d. For this result great credit is due to the ladies' committee, amongst whom may be mentioned Mrs. Hammarbone, the Misses E. H. Elliott, C. E. Wood, M. Coltman, J. Anderson, S. Martin, J. Fenton, Mrs. Compton,

On Nov. 2, Mr. J. J. Morse commenced his usual monthly engagement, lecturing in the afternoon at 2.30 p.m., on "Dreamers," and in the evening at 6.30 p.m. on the "Ascent of Humanity." There were large audiences on both occasions, in the evening it being found necessary to close the doors. On the Monday he delivered his concluding address on "Beauty and its Influence." Numerous

questions were put and answered.

On Sunday afternoon, Nov. 16th, Mr. E. W. Wallis lectured in the Lecture Hall, and also in the evening at 6.30 p.m. on "The Atonement, Spiritually Considered." There was a very large audience, the hall being completely full. lectured again on the Monday evening on "Our Homes, and How to Build Them." A few questions were answered at the close.

Mr. Walker, of Australia, lectured in the Lecture Hall, Nelson-street, on Sunday and Monday, November 23rd and 24th, and November 30th. He

was very cordially received.

Miss Wood's seances continue to prove very satisfactory to all, remarkable phenomena taking place whilst the medium is under the strictest test Prof. Friese, of Breslau, was present on Thursday evening, November 20th.

A Spiritualist Society has been formed at Gateshead, and regular meetings are held on Sunday evenings in the Temperance Hall. Pretty large

audiences congregate on each occasion.

Regular Sunday evening meetings are held at the Felling in the Temperance Hall to crowded audiences. The lecturers are Mr. W. Westgarth,

Mr. Livingstone, &c.

A great number of Spiritualists reside in South Shields, but no society has been formed, and when the friends wish to hear lectures they have to come to Newcastle. This is a great pity, as they have some good workers as well as good mediums amongst them. It is said that there are several

private circles. The Corporation of Newcastle-on-Tyne are now starting a Public Free Library in that town, and the members and friends of the Newcastle Spiritual Evidence Society, being desirous that the literature of the movement shall be well represented on the shelves and in the catalogue of the library, have subscribed together and presented the following works to the Free Library, viz.:—Two copies of Wallace's "Miracles, &c.," two copies of Crookes's "Researches, &c.," two copies of the Dialectical Society's "Report," two copies of "M.A. (Oxon)" "Psychography," two copies of "M.A. (Oxon)" "Spirit Identity," Barkas's "Outlines," Owen's "Debatable Land" Owen's "Footfalls &c." "Debatable Land," Owen's "Footfalls, &c., Howitt's "History of Supernatural" (2 vols.), Tuttle's "Arcana of Spiritualism," Doten's " Poems of the Inner Life," Doten's "Poems of Progress, Morse's "Leaves from my Life," Tappans' "Discourses," and Spicer's "Sights and Sounds."

### QUARTERLY MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of this society was held on Monday evening, Nov. 10th. There was a large attendance of members. Mr. John Mould, president, briefly opened the proceedings, after which the minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and confirmed.

The quarterly report was then presented by the Secretary. It showed that the subscribing members were 155; life members, 3; and honorary members 15. The lectures of the society had been very regularly attended, and had comprised twentythree trance and three normal addresses. The séances with Miss C. E. Wood had also been held regularly, and under strict test conditions. She had given thirty-nine séances during the quarter, at which 1177 persons had attended, against 509 the previous quarter. Indeed, the attendance had become so large as to be almost unmanageable, and the Committee were compelled to put the rules for admission strictly in force. The Executive acknowledged with gratitude the very generous gift to the society of the new tests in the cabinets for form manifestations, and the new cabinet in the lecture hall for the same purpose by Mr. and Mrs. H. Norris. They were glad to see that a Children's

The Treasurer's account showed that a balance was left in the hands of the treasurer of £1 7s. 10d. The quarter began with a balance due to the treasurer of £3 11s. 6½d. Amongst the items on the account was the sum of £37 19s. 3d. paid for lecturers' fees, fares, and entertainments, and the collections taken at the lectures amounted to

Lyceum had been started, and trusted that it would

£24 16s. 5d.

be made a great success.

The Librarian reported that the library contained 200 volumes, of which ninety-five had been issued to members during the quarter, and twenty-six were in circulation at present; also that fifty-five members had availed themselves of the privileges of the library.

The report was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously; and other business having been transacted, the meeting concluded with the

customary vote of thanks.

#### IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, November 18th, 1879, Mr. T. P. Barkas delivered the inaugural address of this society in the lecture hall of the Spiritual Evidence Society, Mr. John Mould in the chair. There was a very large audience. The subject of the address was "The Mechanism and Philosophy of Vision," which was treated in a very intelligent and interesting manner. The lecturer traced the history of optics from its earliest stages, and re-viewed the different theories that had been propounded to endeavour to explain it, all of which theories had been found during the last few years to be incorrect. Referring to the subject of Spirit-ualism, he said that he believed firmly that the phenomena which took place in that hall were real and genuine. We know the facts, but we know practically nothing of the philosophy. The facts of the appearance of living forms, like the facts of seeing and hearing, are incontrovertible, but the "how?" of seeing and hearing had not yet been explained, nor had the "how?" of materialisations. These are all facts based upon the evidence of our his prosperity.

senses, but the modus operandi of one and all is unknown. A vote of thanks to Mr. Barkas concluded the proceedings.

#### DR. MONCK.

#### To the Editor.

Sir,—I have been requested by a number of Spiritualists, sympathising with Dr. Monck in his long prostration and loss from illness, brought on by his untiring devotion to the cause we have at heart, to appeal most earnestly for some temporal help which just now he sorely needs.

The Rev. T. Colley, before he left for Natal, appealed to a few friends with some success; but in his hurried departure the work was left unfinished, without a centre round which Dr. Monck's numerous friends could rally and testify to the

value they placed upon his work.

I must not trespass upon your space to say all I could wish on the value of such mediumship as Dr. Monck's, nor to describe the urgent need he stands in now for help to regain such a position as will enable him to place his services once more at the call of Spiritualism in England—if possible, as an unpaid medium; but I, or any of the committee with whom I have the honour to act, will satisfy enquirers that any assistance now rendered will be most valuable, and will be appreciated by Dr. Monck.

The under-noted ladies and gentlemen have authorised the use of their names as a Committee of Reference, and I have pleasure in adding that most of them have subscribed liberally to the pro-

posed testimonial.

May I ask all friends to unite heartily in this matter; and any subscriptions sent to me shall be duly acknowledged in a list I propose to publish shortly? Those who have promised to subscribe are requested to do so at once. Bis dat qui cito dat.—Yours truly,

MORELL THEOBALD.

62, Granville-park, Blackheath; or, 30, Mark-lane, November 20th, 1879.

#### COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE.

Dr. Brown, 40, Standish-street, Burnley.
James Burns, 15, Southampton-row.
Alex. Calder, 1, Hereford-square, S.W.
A. J. Cranstoun, Meggen, Lucerne.
J. H. Gledstanes, Merignac.
Baron Dirckinck-Holmfeld, Holstein.
Sir Charles Isham, Bart., Northampton.
Rev. W. Stainton-Moses, M.A., Kilburn.
E. Dawson Rogers, Finchley.

W. P. Adshead, Derby House, Belper.

Morell Theobald, Blackheath.

J. Pemberton Turner, Leamington and Birmingham.

Mrs. Tyndall, George-road, Edgbaston. Hensleigh Wedgwood, 31, Queen Anne-street.

A BANQUET has recently been given to William S. Godbe, Esq., by a number of friends and merchants at the Parker House, Boston, U.S. Mr. Godbe is a Spiritualist and philanthropist, and is known as the leader of the Reform movement in Utah. He has many friends in England who are rejoiced to hear of his prosperity.

# SPIRITUAL NOTES.

VOL. I.—No. XVIII.

#### TO CONTRIBUTORS.

Reports of proceedings of Societies or Committees, and announce-Reports of proceedings of Societies or Committees, and announcements of their prospective arrangements, in as succinct a form as possible, and authenticated by the signature of a responsible officer, are solicited for insertion in Spiritual Nortes. Mediums and Lecturers are also invited to forward particulars of their prospective engagements for announcement. Members of home or select circles will oblige by contributing brief records of séances for publication; and Inquirers forming new circles are especially invited to report their proceedings, and to state any difficulties which may arise in the course of their investigations, with the view of permanently recording results and obtaining advice from other investigators.

To ensure early insertion reports should reach the Editor not

recording results and obtaining advice from other investigators.

To ensure early insertion reports should reach the Editor not
later than 23rd of the month; and correspondents are requested to
write legibly, and on one side of the paper only.

The Editor cannot undertake the return of manuscripts unless
the writers expressly request it at the time of forwarding, and
enclose stamps for the return postage.

All communications should be addressed to Mr. Thomas Blyton,

Sieden Pard Patters E.

53, Sigdon Road, Dalston, E.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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Sveieties can obtain a monthly parcel, for sale or distribution amongst their members or others, on special terms. Particulars on application. ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES.

Five Lines in column (about ten words to line), 3s. 6d. Each additional line, 6d. Whole column, £1 15s. Whele page, £3. A reduction made for a series of insertions.

Orders must reach the Office by the 25th of the month to be in time for the following month's issue.

#### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The prompt renewal of subscriptions when due is respectfully solicited from all our readers, who will also greatly aid our efforts by obtaining subscriptions from their friends and acquaintances.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several interesting communications are omitted, not having reached us in time for insertion in this month's issue.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

As we shall go to press early this month, in consequence of the Christmas Holidays, all communications for our next issue should be forwarded to Mr. Thomas Blyton, 53, Sigdon Road, Hackney Downs, London, on or before Thursday, 18th inst., to ensure insertion.

## THE VENERABLE ARCHDEACON COLLEY.

ALTHOUGH, fortunately, Spiritualism does not need to be chaperoned or patronised by any man or any body of men, however exalted or distinguished. still it is impossible not to feel satisfaction when we find that conviction of its truth and usefulness is brought home to the minds of the bishops and primate of the Established Church. It is even more satisfactory that their approval is manifested by emphatic acts than by words, however eloquent; and in no other light than this is it possible to view the marked and exceptional favour shown by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of to have been frightened out of coming among you?"

Exeter and Worcester to our brother Spiritualist, the Rev. Thomas Colley, now Archdeacon of Natal and Dean of Maritzburg under Bishop Colenso. We are glad, too, to notice that the exclusiveness shown by the collective church and bench towards that large-hearted colonial bishop is not shared by those prelates themselves. Perhaps there is some connection not difficult to trace between their endorsement of Spiritualism in the case of Mr. Colley and their change of front towards Bishop Colenso, for our faith is pre-eminently calculated to lift men above the petty quibbles of the odium theologicum. But what mostly concerns us is the evidently favourable view of Spiritualism which such a course of conduct as that adopted by the three prelates, one of them the very fons et origo of ecclesiastical authority, displays. Of all men connected with our movement, Mr. Colley has been least of a secret disciple. He was no Nicodemus or Joseph of Arimathea, but a very Boanerges, in his bold avowal of belief in Dr. Monck to wit. The bishops could not fail to know this, and yet the warm words of commendation in which they spoke to him before his departure for South Africa form quite an exception to the wonted frigidity and hauteur of the episcopal palace. Mr. Colley says, with commendable pride :-

"His Grace appeared fully conversant with the state of the case, and the most recent aspect and condition of things out here, and entered somewhat at large into colonial Church matters; hoped I should be blessed in my work; gave me his best wishes and God speed. Similar encouragement was given me by the Bishop of Exeter, who wrote to the effect that, as to clergymen coming out from his diocese, labour rendered by them here with Bishop Colenso, he (Bishop Temple) should estimate for reward on their return to England as work done in his own diocese of Exeter. While my own Spiritual father and Bishop, the Bishop of Worcester-than whom in Convocation and the House of Bishops there is none that for cool judgment, legal acumen, sound opinion, and mental precision at all equals—the thoughtful, cautious, and most conscientious Bishop of Worcester thus writes:—

> 'Hartlebury, Kidderminster, ' August 2nd, 1879.

'My dear Mr. Colley,-You have my best wishes for a blessing upon your work in the diocese of Natal.

'Though I am far from agreeing with the Bishop of Natal in all the opinions he has published, I can heartily wish God-speed to him, and to all who labour with him in his diocese.—Yours truly, 'H. WORCESTER.'

"Now, my brethren," he continues, "with all this, and the added support of the Hon. and Very Rev. Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, Dean of West-minster; Prof. Jowett, Master of Balliol College Oxford; Canon Farrar, D.D., and other names of note in the Church at home too numerous to cite, should I not have been wanting in moral courage

Certainly Archdeacon Colley has a formidable | array of names; and, although we in our independent position can afford to think lightly of any patronage, we can well understand that a clergyman of the Church of England would feel his hands strengthened by the circumstance of his allegiance to Spiritualism being tacitly recognised as rather an aid to usefulness than the reverse. Even the orthodox Guardian, though very angry at so heretical a bishop as Dr. Colenso indulging in the luxury of a Dean and an Archdeacon rolled into one, says little about the new dignitary's Spiritualistic or Swedenborgian proclivities, contenting itself with railing against the Archdeacon for having very creditably risen from a humble section of society, and complaining that he did not take a double first at Oxford. We do not know whether the Bishop of Natal himself has formally given in his adhesion to Spiritualism, though we remember he sat at the house of Mr. S. C. Hall when that gentleman was living in Essex Villas, and the bishop was in Sussex Place, Kensington; but of course Bishop Colenso's selection of Mr. Colley shows, just as the exceptionally warm God-speed given him by the members of the Home Episcopate does, that the most advanced Spiritualistic views are no longer considered a bar to ecclesiastical preferment.

# Notes.

The next soirée of the B.N.A.S. will be held on Thursday evening, the 18th inst. We hope our friends will kindly bear the date in mind, and will give the Association the encouragement of their presence. The last soirée was exceedingly well attended. We trust that there will be as good a gathering at the next. A very excellent programme has been provided.

THE first Discussion Meeting of the Session was held at Great Russell-street under the presidency of Mr. Fitz-Gerald on Monday, Nov. 3rd. The president of the Association read an elaborate paper on "The New Epoch," which was listened to with marked attention. The essay developed the views which Mr. Calder put forth in his recent work on "The New Era." Dr. Wyld, in commenting on the arguments advanced, criticised them from a point of view somewhat more orthodox, or certainly somewhat different, from Mr. Calder's. He paid a very high and deserved compliment to the ability, urbanity, and zeal which have always characterised Mr. Calder in the chair of president of the association, and then proceeded to criticise the opinions from which he dissented in a tone of courtesy and candid fairness that was all the more refreshing from its marked contrast with a style of criticism of which we have lately had far too much in newspaper discussions. Dr. Wyld's admiration for the Christianity of Christ as opposed to the Christianity of the modern churches loses nothing of its force, and his well-known views, mellowed as years pass over us, present the Christ of St. John's Gospel, the Loving Master, in the most attractive aspect. The atmosphere of harmony developed by the speakers was felt by all present, and a thoroughly pleasant evening was spent.

In the course of his speech on Mr. Calder's paper, Mr. Stainton-Moses dwelt upon the admirable tone that had characterised both the paper and the discussion, and said that he always felt a little anxious when religious topics were being discussed, especially when any views that any section of the religious world held dear were likely to be attacked. The strength with which opinions on such matters are held was often in inverse proportion to the stability of the arguments by which they can logically be defended. And there was much of the purest and truest sentiment associated with early religious opinions which no argument could reach, or reached only to wound. It was, however, one of the necessities laid on those who lived in a transition epoch that they should refer moot questions to their Reason, the Judge for them of the Final Court of Appeal, and settle for themselves a Faith which, however, they had no right whatever to force on any other person. And when Reason had done its work it was well to remember that when Love comes in to warm the cold outlines of logical conviction, we are all of us better than our Creed.

The second Discussion Meeting was very fully attended, the rooms being comfortably filled with an audience that paid marked attention to a very able paper on "Philosophical Spiritualism" by Mr. G. R. Tapp. Adverting first to methods of investigation, which he rightly described as unpractical and unphilosophical, Mr. Tapp drew a picture in broad and well-defined outline of the typical Spiritualist as the ideal presented itself to his mind: a man with a sound mind, equally balanced, liberal, and free from prejudice, enshrined in a healthy body, the powers of which were in due working order, and into rapport with which his fellows may come without risk. He dealt with the subject of mediumship, and gave some very wise and necessary warnings, which were taken up and enforced in the discussion which followed as to the treatment of mediums. The paper was brought to a close by an attempt to define the relations between Spiritualism and Religion.

In the course of some remarks on this portion o the paper, Dr. Wyld suggested that there was nothing new in the view so presented. Mr. Tapp, however, forcibly replied that it was not the mission of Spiritualism to introduce a new religion, but to rescue the truth which was so old from the superstructure of human error with which it had been overlaid. This statement that there is nothing new in modern conceptions of religious truth is specious, but very fallacious. Our conceptions of God are higher than those current a century ago; our minds are emancipated from many a dogma that cramped their action; and, if it be true that Jesus Christ taught all we know respecting God and our duty, we, at any rate, are better able to grasp and appreciate the sublimity of his teaching than our forefathers were. In this respect, Mr. Tapp well pointed out, we are the heirs of ages past, and the debt of gratitude that those who come after us will owe to modern Spiritualism will be a very heavy one.

The subject of testing mediums and of the value of tests generally gave rise to some useful discussion. Mr. Dawson Rogers, diverging somewhat from the views set forth in Mr. Tapp's paper, contended that though better phenomena could no doubt be got without tests by Spiritualists privately and in their own family circles, it was absolutely necessary to have

stringent tests in public circles so as to satisfy an investigator. If a medium is put behind a curtain or in a cabinet it is necessary to tie him securely so as to obtain some reasonable certainty that the materialised form is distinct from himself. Mr. Stainton-Moses, in continuing the discussion on this point, expressed a strong desire for the abolition of the cabinet on many grounds. He had always desired to remove that stronghold of deceit. Given a man who desired to impose on the credulity of sitters - and there were unfortunately such, and would continue to be, so long as money was to be made out of mediumship-and a cabinet was his happy hunting ground. Put him in view, or let him sit in the circle, and his opportunities of imposture were very much reduced. Moreover, it was very desirable to watch carefully the processes which resulted in materialisation, and especially the changes which are supposed to take place in the person of the medium. This a calinet rendered impossible. Experience, too, had shown that tying a medium, in however complicated a method, was a very illusory test. Spirits laughed at bonds.

The nature of matter was another point that Mr. Dawson Rogers, Dr. Wyld, Mr. Stainton-Moses, and Mr. Fitz-Gerald all dwelt upon in connection with the philosophy of Spiritual manifestations. It was freely suggested that the ordinary conceptions of matter were incompatible with the facts of Spiritualism, and Mr. Rogers threw out the hint that the Association might take up such questions and investigate the relation between the ascertained phenomena of Spiritualism and the old views of matter. It is curious to note, however, that these antiquated notions are fast fading out of the minds of modern physicists. Carpenter holds them, no doubt; his mind is not flexible enough to take in any new views. But there is a strong strain of Berkleyism in Tyndall, Huxley, and Crookes.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Tapp's instructive paper, to which our space does not permit us to do any sort of justice, will appear in the December number of the Psychological Review. The great length of Mr. Calder's paper prevents its publication in the same Review, but we learn with pleasure that arrangements have been made by which the fortnightly discussion papers will appear regularly in that magazine. As it will be henceforth procurable at the rooms of the B.N.A.S., members will be able without trouble to procure copies of the papers that interest them. The tone of the Psychological Review is pure and good, and the papers contributed to it are of standard value. Among those forthcoming is a long and elaborate essay by "M.A. (Oxon)" on the parallel which he considers to exist between the days of Christ and our own.

A CORRESPONDENT of Notes and Queries has been seeking information about Spiritual journals and books. Two useful notices recommending standard works by name, and especially the great repertory of fact, the Spiritual Magazine, have appeared. Spiritual Notes is mentioned as "the organ of the National Association of Spiritualists, who have at 38, Great Russell-street a reading-room, where all the British and foreign papers connected with the subject may be seen, where every information may be gained, and where there is the best library of works on psychology and kindred subjects that exists in this or probably in any country." Some grim jester recommended Froude's article in the Nineteenth Century, and Dr. W. B. Carpenter's lucubrations! Attention was also drawn to the fact that Mr. W. H. Smith refuses to allow the literature of the subject to lie on his bookstalls. It was well to place that fact on record.

In our last issue we stated that in consequence of our defence of the British National Association the ire of the "enemies" of the B.N.A.S. was now being turned upon ourselves. Mr. Harrison has, in the pages of the Spiritualist, assumed that when we spoke of the "enemies" of the B.N.A.S. we necessarily referred to him. But we did not. He has wasted a good deal of energy, therefore, and a good deal of very strong language too, in denying what we never asserted nor suggested.

THE rooms of the B.N.A.S., 38, Great Russell-street, W.C., will be closed from Tuesday evening, the 23rd inst., to Monday morning, the 29th inst., for the Christmas holidays.

THE committee appointed to promote the establishment of a weekly high-class Spiritualist journal are desirous that intending shareholders should send in their names without delay to Mr. M. Theobald, 30, Mark-lane, E.C.

Mr. W. Oxley, of Manchester, recorded in the Medium of November 14 some very interesting and successful attempts to obtain wax moulds of spirit faces, through the mediumship of Mr. Firman. Our friends should read what Mr. Oxley has to say on the subject. No better attested cases have come under our notice.

We have recently had the pleasure of meeting those old and highly respected friends of our cause, Mr. and Mrs. Everitt, at a private "circle," and are glad to record the fact that we found Mrs. Everitt's mediumship as good as ever. This lady's seances are always attended by sweet and elevating influences, which give them a special charm to those who desire to see Spiritualism lifted out of the range of mere phenomenalism. On the occasion referred to a distinguished journalist was amongst the company.

In a letter which we give on another page, Mr. Morell Theobald pleads the cause of Dr. Monck, and asks for the aid of sympathising friends. Dr. Monck is ill and needs help; and there is hope that, if the help is at once forthcoming, he may yet be restored to health and be in a position once again to render service to the cause of Spiritualism. That Dr. Monck is, or has been, one of the most wonderful mediums this country has ever produced, no Spiritualist, we take it, has ever doubted, and it would be a pity that his marvellous powers should be lost to the world through the apathy or indifference of his friends. They should respond generously and immediately to Mr. Theobald's appeal.

MRS. ELGIE CORNER'S sittings at 38, Great Russellstreet are still continued weekly with marked success. On a recent occasion, before being placed behind the curtain, the medium was thoroughly searched by a committee of ladies, who satisfied themselves that she had no appliances for the imitation of a materialised "form;" but the "form" came as usual, covered with an abundance of beautiful white drapery. On another occasion the height of the spirit was carefully marked with pencil on the wall, against which the "form' stood with naked feet. Mrs. Corner's height was taken a few minutes afterwards, and she was found to be nearly three inches shorter with her boots on. A lady who had a good opportunity of examining the spirit's drapery pronounced it to be white crape. terms for admission to these séances may be obtained from the Secretary of the British National AssociaMr. Serjeant Cox passed from earth-life very suddenly on Monday night, November 24th, at his residence at Mill Hill, Hendon, in his 71st year, having been busily at work and apparently in excellent health to the very last. As our readers know, the learned Serjeant was the author of several works on mental and psychological subjects, and was the founder and president of the Psychological Society. Now that he is gone, the question is being asked, with more emphasis than ever—Was he a Spiritualist? If we judged from his public utterances, we should say No. In place of spirit he put psychic force. He would not "give in" to spirit, as Sir David Brewster said. But in his private experiences we have strong reasons for believing he was a Spiritualist of Spiritualists. not for one moment accuse the late Serjeant of insincerity; but we do think that, for reasons which might be wise, and which no doubt satisfied his own conscience, he understated his belief in public. His theory would not cover all the facts with which he himself was familiar; and now that he is gone—not to the realm of psychic force-but to the spiritual world, the psychic theory will not long survive.

Mr. Thos. Walker, of Melbourne, has been lecturing before large and appreciative audiences in Glasgow, Newcastle, and other provincial centres during the past month. Mr. Walker contemplates visiting London at the beginning of February next, when he hopes to have opportunities of delivering public addresses in the Metropolis. The committee of management in connection with Goswell Hall Sunday evening meetings would do will to secure his services. The Dalston Association will probably arrange for a lecture by Mr. Walker in Hackney or Dalston. We may mention that this will be the first and last visit of Mr. Walker to London prior to his return to Melbourne in April.

Mr. J. J. Morse informs us that he will be in London from 27th inst. to 4th January next. A few friends will have an opportunity of attending a select meeting at 53, Sigdon-road, Dalston-lane, on Monday evening, the 29th inst., when an inspirational discourse will be delivered through Mr. Morse. An admission fee of 6d. will be charged, and a cordial invitation is offered to Mr. Morse's friends and admirers.

MRS. CAROLINE M. SPEAR, whose receptions to Spiritualists in London fourteen years ago are remembered with pleasure by her friends here, has taken a medical degree in Philadelphia, and is now practising medicine in Boston, U.S.

The first volume of the Psychological Review has been presented to the libraries of the London Institute, Finsbury Circus, E.C., and to the Psychological Society, Cambridge, by Mr. Tebb, and accepted.

SIR ALEXANDER WILDER, Lecturer to the United States Medical College, an able writer and profound student of psychological subjects, has been unani-mously elected President of the First American Anti-Vaccination League, New York City.

We regret to hear that the scholarly author of "Planchette," Mr. Epes Sargent, of Roxbury, Massachusetts, is seriously ill. He has been engaged by Harper Bros. of New York to write a Cyclopædia on English Poetry.

which evenings musical entertainments will be given under the direction of Herr Ludwig Samson, assisted by several eminent artistes; and a short lecture on Spiritualism will be delivered by Mr. Chapman. Tickets of admission will be obtainable at the doors, at 10s. 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d. each, and the programmes will be supplied by Mr. Rimmel. At the close of the entertainment those present will be told that such of them as wish to do so can remain free to witness some psychological experiments, when Mr. Firman, the medium of the Count de Bullet, of Paris, will hope to obtain spirit materialisations on the platform in full sight of the company. It is hoped that the friends of Spiritualism will be present in large numbers, so that the experiments may have a fair chance of success. If they are a success—and Mr. Firman seems to have the fullest confidence that they will be-the medium will have the gratification of having achieved what has never before been even attempted in this country.

THE indefatigable pilgrim, Dr. J. M. Peebles, forwards us a pamphlet containing four lectures on Salvation, Prayer, Methods of Spirit Influence, and the Nature of Death—delivered originally at Parker Memorial Hall, and reprinted from the Banner of Light. The author claims for them that they were inspirationally prepared, and delivered under the same spiritual influence. He believes that the iconoclastic phase of Spiritualism is subsiding, and giving place to a better religious culture and a broader charity. There is a call for constructors now that the work of destruction is past. We have always considered that one of the most melancholy aspects of the great movement called Spiritualism is that many who found in it an engine to uproot abuses, who looked on it as a mighty spiritual effort to clear off from God's truth man's overlaying errors, have regarded it in no other light, and, in fact, have ceased to care for it when its iconoclastic work was over. We have always frankly accepted the necessity for demolition, but only as a preparatory step to reconstruction. Facts alone, good in their place, can help us little unless, fitting into their niche in the harmonious whole, they enable us to see more of the great scheme by which spirit agency is now striving to regenerate humanity. *That* will never be done merely by removing from mankind erroneous ideas. It is necessary to take away the evil, and to supply its place with something good and nourishing. We feel sure that our good friend is desirous to do this, and we hail this little volume as another evidence of his unwearied zeal.

# Correspondence.

#### A FORM SEANCE WITH MISS WOOD.

#### To the Editor.

Sir,-As the recording of successful phenomena is always useful, since it is a contribution to the accumulating aggregate of facts upon which our philosophy rests, permit me to crave insertion for the accompanying brief record of a "form" séance held in Newcastle on Wednesday morning, October 29, through the mediumship of Miss C. Wood.

The following were present :- Messrs. Haydock, Walton, Burton, and Mrs. Norris, all of Newcastle, Mr. J. Bowman, of Glasgow, and myself. The cabinet is a right-angled structure, forming, with the A BOLD experiment is about to be made by Messrs W. Chapman and A. H. Firman. These gentlemen have taken Langham Hall for the 1st and 4th inst., on same material as the sides, is so hung as to allow its free side to fall flat upon the central pole, and is, when in use, screwed thereto with thin screws from the outside. The cabinet then becomes a perfect cage, without a single aperture in any part of it. Miss Wood was placed therein, and the screws were firmly adjusted by Mr. Bowman, and individually examined by the rest of the circle afterwards. As the screws cannot be touched from the inside of the cabinet, and as the door, the only place of egress, could not be opened unless the screws were withdrawn, it would be impossible for the medium herself to perform what happened without instant detection. After the usual attempts at vocal harmony, three separate forms came out into the circle; two passed outside the circle, made its circuit, and returned to the cabinet from the end opposite to which they started. The light was then turned up full, and an examination of the screws and cabinet showed everything in statu quo, not a single thing disturbed or strained. This séance equals the celebrated ones narrated by Mr. W. P. Adshead, and is a startling evidence of the genuineness of Miss Wood's excellent mediumship.

I am, yours truly, J. J. Morse.

#### MRS. BILLING'S MEDIUMSHIP.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Such of your readers as have not yet had the pleasure of a sitting with Mrs. Hollis Billing, and an interview with "Ski," can have little idea of the gratification which awaits them. Mrs. Billing is a lady of such innate refinement that one is quite prepared for the absence of all coarseness in her manifestations; and, in truth, expectations are fully justified by results when one is admitted to conversation with "James Nolan" and "Ski." Both voices are full, resonant, and melodious, with a somewhat feminine softness; but by every word, and more especially by the wonderful tests they give, these spirits prove unmistakably their independent individuality.

There is no need at these séances to think of test conditions. Although the visitor may be an utter stranger to the medium he will find that no veils hang between him and the piercing eye of the Spirit. "Ski" will tell him of his past, present, and future, displaying a rare delicacy and wonderful discrimination in speaking upon private matters or touching upon sore points. When necessary—that is, if it be desired that the medium should not hear what is being said—her ears are pervaded by a buzzing noise which renders her deaf for the time being to all other sounds. It would be impossible for any being in the flesh to know the biographical facts revealed to strangers by "Ski," impossible to tell them ofttimes what they have been doing in the course of the day, and even what they have been thinking about, which has frequently happened in my experience, and in that of many of my friends. It is "Ski's" place also to induct the spirit friends of visitors into the modus operandi of speaking for themselves; and extraordinary tests, or proofs of identity, are thus frequently given in uncommon names, sentences in foreign languages, and incidents of a private and domestic nature.

I have dwelt thus at length upon the characteristics of "Ski" because he is Mrs. Billing's principal "working spirit." It is but seldom that the refined, melodious, and rather plaintive voice of "James Nolan" is heard, who appears to confine himself to teachings in esoteric spiritism.

It would not be easy to give an idea of the high spiritual tone of "James Nolan." He certainly stands at the head of all the spirits I have ever heard speak in the materialised voice for eloquence, spirituality, and information upon all subjects; knowledge of a high character, such things as a spirit might be supposed to know, but ranging far

above and beyond what the ordinary sitter seeks.

The members of a private circle, sitting once a week with Mrs. Billing, would fully bear me out in all I say relative to the high qualifications, mental and spiritual, of "James Nolan." We have the privilege of his unequalled teachings in the direct voice uninterruptedly for a period of nearly an hour at a stretch, and go away with our minds filled with subject for thought, refreshed and strengthened.

The possession of such controls as "James Nolan" and "Ski" would imply upon the part of the medium a nature of great purity and harmony, and a well-balanced and able intellect, even if it does not display its powers in this life in any other

I have extreme pleasure, and take a certain pride in stating all these facts concerning a sister-medium, one who is an honour and grace to our profession, not only from her own superior and highly estimable characteristics as a lady, but also from her almost unsurpassed powers of a high, pure, and perfect mediumship.

CATHERINE WOODFORDE.

90, Great Russell-street, Nov. 20th, 1870.

# Arrangements for December.

\*\* Secretaries of Societies, Mediums, Lecturers, and others, are requested to furnish their notices to the Editor of Spiritual Notes by the 23rd of each month to ensure their publication in the following issue.

#### BRITISH NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUALISTS.

(Secretary: Miss Burke.)

(For the Calendar of Work for December see Advertising columns).

The following Members of Council will attend on the days mentioned, between 4 and 5 p.m., to receive visitors and answer enquiries: -

Dec. 1. Mr. Stainton-Moses Dec. 12. Mr. E. D. Rogers.

2. Mr. Pearson.

13. Mr. Calder.

15. Mr. Stainton-Moses 3. Mrs. Maltby.

4. Mr. Bennett. 16. Mr. Pearson.

17. Mr. Walhouse. 5. Mr. E. D. Rogers.

18. Mrs.D. Fitz-Gerald 6. Mr. Calder. 8. Mr. Pickersgill. 19. Mr. E. D. Rogers.

9. Mr. Theobald. 20. Mr. Calder.

22. Mrs. Maltby. 23. Mr. Pearson. 10. Mrs. Maltby.

11. Mrs. Fitz-Gerald. The Rooms of the Association will be closed on Tuesday evening, the 23rd inst., and re-open on Monday,

the 29th.

# BRIXTON PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

6, Akerman-road, Brixton.

(Hon. Secretary, H. E. Francis)
The object of the Society is to promote the study of Psychology and Spiritualism, and kindred subjects. Members have the privilege of attending séances with well-known mediums, and are entitled to the use of books on Spiritualism from the Library.

DALSTON ASSOCIATION OF ENQUIRERS INTO SPIRITUALISM.

(President: Mrs. Amelia Corner. Vice-President: Thos. Everitt, Esq. Hon. Secretary: Thos. Blyton.) Vice-President: Tuesday, 2nd. - Subscription Séance, at 8. Mr. W. G. Haxby, Medium.

Thursday, 4th.—Ordinary Weekly Experimental Séance, at 8.

Monday, 8th.—Fortnightly Discussion, at 8. Paper, "Spiritualism as an Education," by Mr. Thos. Shorter, Hon. Member.

Thursday, 11th.—Session of Council, at 6.45. Ordinary Weekly Experimental Séance, 8. Tuesday, 16th.—\*Subscription Séance, at 8.

Thursday, 18th.—Ordinary Weekly Experimental Sé-

ance, at 8.

Monday, 22nd.—Fortnightly Discussion, at 8. "Some of the Spiritual Teachings of the Great Pyramid," Mr. C. W. Pearce, F.S.S.

Thursday, 25th—(Being Christmas Day, the Rooms will be closed).

-\*Subscription Séance, at 8. Tuesday, 30th .-

\* A series of Fortnightly Subscription Seances, on Tuesday evenings, under favourable test conditions, with various well-known mediums, are being arranged. Admission will be by ticket, price 2s. 6d. each, applications for which must be made prior to the date of each seance. Tickets will be issued to members only, who can secure tickets for any friends they may wish to introduce on payment of 5s. each. The number of tickets issued for each seance will be strictly limited.

GLASGOW ASSOCIATION OF SPIRITUALISTS. (President: J. Walker, Esq. Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Coates,

65, Jamaica-street).\* Lectures every Sunday morning, at 11.30, in Hall, 164, Trongate; and evening, at 6.30, Trades Hall, Glassford-street.

Sunday, 7th.—Sunday morning lecture, J. Coates, 11.30. Lecture, J. Coates, "Has Man a Soul?" 6.30.

- 14th.—Sunday morning lecture, J. J. Morse, 11.30. Lecture by Mr. Morse, 'The Kingdom of God,' 6.30.

Monday, 15th.—"Human Angels," Mr. Morse, at 8, in

Hall, Trongate.

21st.—Sunday morning Lecture, J. Coates, 11.30. "The Ethics of Spiritualism," J. Coates, 6.30.

Sunday, 28th.—Sunday morning Lecture, Mr. Wallis, 11.30. Inspirational Address, 6.30. Answers to Questions, 8.

Mr. J. Coates will lecture on Spiritualism, in Newcastle, Dec. 14th, and on Mesmerism, with experiments, on Monday, 15th, at 8 p.m., in the Hall, Weir's Court. He will also give a course of Twelve Lectures, with experiments, in Trades Hall, Glasgow, commencing Monday, 22nd. As a knowledge of Mesmerism is essential to the study of Spiritualism, this course of lectures will be highly interesting.

HACKNEY SPIRITUAL EVIDENCE SOCIETY. (6, Field View Terrace, London Fields, E. Mr. J. Peck President. C. R. Williams, Hon. Sec.)

Every Tuesday-Dark Séance, at 8. Miss A. Barnes, Medium.

Every Friday-Séance for the Development of Physical Manifestations in the light, at 8.

MARYLEBONE ASSOCIATION.

(Quebec Hall, 25, Great Quebec-street.) Sunday mornings, at 11.15, Class for Spiritual Development and Social Improvement.

Admission free. Sunday evenings, at 6.45, Lectures and Addresses.

Admission free. A Seance is also

held. Admission 6d. Tuesday evenings, at 8.30, Lectures and Discussions.

Admission free. Wednesday evenings, Members' Séance.

Saturday evenings a Séance is held. Admission 6d. Terms of membership, is. per quarter.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE SPIRITUAL EVIDENCE SOCIETY.

(Weir's-court, Newgate-street. President: J. Mould. Hon. Secretary: H. A. Kersey.)

Sunday, 7th.-Mr. J. J. Morse, Trance Address, at 2.30 and 6.30.

Monday, 8th.-Mr. J. J. Morse, Trance Address, at 7.30. Sunday, 14th.-Mr. J. Coates, Inspirational Addresses,

2.30 and 6.30. Sunday, 21st.—Mr. Wright, Trance Addresses, 2.30 and 6.30.

Monday, 22nd.—Ditto, at 7.30. Sunday, 28th.—Rev. W. Stoddart (expected), 6.30. Admission free. Collection to defray expenses. Monday, 15th. -Mr. J. Coates, Phrenological and Mesmeric Entertainment.

WEEKLY SEANCES AND MEETINGS.

Sunday.—Séance, at 10.30. "Form Manifestations," Miss C. E. Wood.

Children's Lyceum, 2.30.
 Tuesday.—Séance, at 8. "Physical Manifestations,"
 Miss C. E. Wood.

Wednesday.—At 7.45, Spiritual Evidence Improvement

Society. Discussion.
Thursday.—Séance, at 8. "Form Manifestations," Miss Wood.

Friday and Saturday.—Developing Circles, at 8. For Members and Friends. Admission free. Saturday, Séance, at 8. Trance and Clairvoyance, Mr. S. Compton. Admission free.

No strangers are admitted without an introduction by a Member. Spiritualists from a distance are requested to write to the Secretary before coming and arrange for so doing.

The Library of the Society is open every Wednesday evening from eight to nine o'clock, for the issue of

books to Members.

IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY. (Secretary: Mr. R. H. Mould, 12, St. Thomas's Crescent).

Every Wednesday evening during the session at 8 prompt. All persons are invited to attend. Wednesday, 3rd.—Lecture, "Marcus Aurelius," Mr.

John Mould. 10th.—Essay, "Woman's Rights," Mr. I.

Harrison. 17th.-" The Psychology of Sheliey," Mr.

Thomas Dawson. 24th and 31st.—Readings and Recitations.

#### MR. MORSE.

Dec. 1st and 2nd .- Cardiff.

- 6th to 9th.—Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- 10th to 20th.—Glasgow.
- 21st.—Liverpool.
- 22nd and 23rd.—Lancashire District.
- 27th to Jan. 4.-London.

LANCASHIRE DISTRICT COMMITTEE. (Received too late for insertion).

#### YORKSHIRE DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

PLAN OF SPEAKERS FOR DECEMBER.

BRADFORD.

(Wade's Meeting-room, Bowling, at 2.30 and 6 p.m.)

Monday, 8th.-Mrs. Dobson, Batley Carr.

Sunday, 14th.—Mr. J. Blackburn, Halifax. — 21st.—Mr. W. Farrar, Pudsey.

28th .- Mrs. Butler, Bingley.

(Spiritualist Church, Charlotte-street, Manchester-road, at 2.30 and 6.30 p.m. Secretary: R. Jarvis, 20, Paisley-street).

Monday, Sth .- Mr. J. Armitage, Batley Carr. Sunday, 14th .- Mrs. Illingworth, Bradford.

21st.-Miss Harrison, Shipley. 28th.—Mrs. Jarvais, Bradford.

(Spiritual Lyceum, top of Heap-lane, Tennyson-place, at 2.30 and 6. Secretary: F. Leach, 244, Exeter-

Monday, 8th .- Local speaker.

Sunday, 14th .- Mr. J. Wright, Keighley.

21st .- Local.

28th .- Mr. J. Armitage, Batley Carr.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.

(Spiritualist Progressive Lyceum, Hollins-lane, at 6.30 p.m. Secretary: Mr. H. Robinson, Gatrix-lane.)

Monday, 8th .- Mr. Fitton, Littleborough.

Sunday, 14th .- Mr. Lamont.

21st .- Mr. A. D. Wilson, Halifax.

28th .- Mr. E. Wood, Oldham.

(Spiritual Institute, Ossett Green, at 2.30 and 6 p.m. Secretary: Mr. Whimpenny, Bank-street).

Monday, 8th .- Mr. J. Oliffe, Ossett.

Sunday, 14th.—Mrs. Dobson, Batley Carr.

— 21st.—Mr. Whimpenny, Ossett. 28th .- Mr. Richardson, Batley Carr.

At Mr. Illingworth's, Lindum-terrace, at 2.30 and 6.30 p.m.)

Monday, 8th .- Mrs. Jarvais, Bradford. Sunday, 14th.—Miss Harrison, Shipley.

21st .- Mrs. Butler, Bingley

28th .- Mr. A. Morrell, Keighley.

(Spiritual Institution, Union Street-yard, at 2.30 and 6.30 p.m. Secretary : Mr. Barker Downsborough, 160, Hanson-lane.)

Monday, 8th .- Mr. J. Blackburn, Halifax. Sunday, 14th.-Mr. J. Armitage, Batley Carr.

21st .- Mrs. Jarvais, Bradford.

28th .- Mrs. Dobson, Batley Carr.

#### BATLEY CARR.

(Batley Carr Association, Town-street, at 6.30 p.m. Secretary : Mr. J. Armitage).

Monday, Sth .- Mrs. Illingworth, Bradford, Sunday, 14th .- Mrs. Hollings, Churwell.

21st.—Mr. J. Armitage, Batley Carr. 28th.-Mr. J. Blackburn, Halifax.

The Monthly Meeting will be held at Ossett on Sunday, December 14th, at 10.30 a.m. The second Quarterly Conference will be held at Batley Carr, Jan. 11th. Session—Morning at 10.30., Afternoon 2 o'clock, Evening 6 o'clock. Mr. W. H. Lambelle will occupy the platform afternoon and evening.

Communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 2, Cordingley-st., Bradford.

# Publishers' Announcements.

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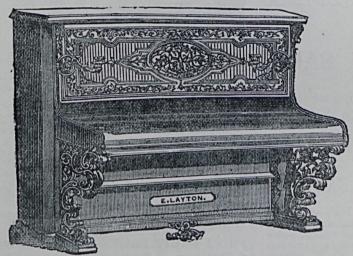
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