

THE GREATER REVELATION

*Messages from the UNSEEN WORLD received through
automatic writing in various languages, including
Chinese and Japanese, in the chirography
and with verified signatures of those
sending the messages.*

by

BARONESS KATHARINE EVANS VON KLENNER

*President and Founder of the National Opera Club of America
Past President of the New York Woman's Press Club
Grand Prix, Exposition Universal, Paris, 1900
Chairman of Music of the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs
Chairman of Music of the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs*

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This book is dedicated to the memory of my beloved MOTHER, whose influence through precept and practice has made it possible for me to become the trained instrument by which is given to the world this Greater Revelation.

J. Mandell

*"There is no death! What seems so is transition.
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life elysian,
Whose portal we call Death."*

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW.

PREFACE

The thought that the frail bark of life will be shattered upon the rocks of the fearful shores of so-called Death has been the reason for each and every religion since the beginning of time. The fear first, and then the hope that there may be some port or haven where the thing called Life may find refuge, has been what has inspired all creeds. Many of these have seemed to us Pagan, and to them our beliefs would seem to be Agnostic; and so on in all nations or races which spread over not only this sphere, but even unto other worlds.

My mission is not to be in controversy with any creed or religion in the universe, but to carry to the World the knowledge, which has been given in many ways, and also to submit proofs of the authenticity of the messages which have come from many diversified sources, and to throw some light upon a much misunderstood and much discussed subject—the Continuity of Life after the passing away from the vision of the living; and not only that, but the possibility of the power to feel materially, as well as spiritually, and also the ability to carry on unfinished work, and create new big things for the benefit of humanity at large; also the intercommunion of the unseen with mortals upon this terrestrial plane. Are not all of these things greater than any miracles or phenomena which have been written and preached about for centuries?

Some claim that in the present cycle of the sphere whereon we dwell a state of turmoil and chaos exists. And this is not an idle statement, because through this very upheaval many ideas which were most erroneous have been destroyed and many new and wonderful truths have become known; also this cataclysm has been the means of showing to many agnostics the truth of immortality, and the bringing of proofs that there is no end to consciousness; also that those who were forced so suddenly to leave this earth sphere are still remaining in contact with this world exactly for such reasons as these, and are not earthbound—so called—but are in reality our “Invisible Helpers” in many great purposes.

There are many books which have been inspired by really important personages on the other side of life, but unfortunately they have lost much in the transmission, owing to the lack of spiritual adaptability in those transmitting the knowledge.

The reading and enquiring public needs the eternal verities to be presented in such simple and unmistakable form that verily the eyes of the blind will be opened, the deaf ears unstopped and the heart of man will reach forth for the truths presented so clearly that even those who run may read.

The mysteries of the spirit world and the riddles of the universe are as nothing to the possibilities resultant from the working together of beings on the physical plane in conjunction with those on the spiritual. When these are in perfect accord and working together in harmony, compositions of marvelous worth, and writings of wonderful inspiration become in reality only the communion of these two factors, even though the results are explained

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to the world as Genius or Talent. Such creations are neither—they are only intelligence converged from the spiritual plane to our side of life in wonderful vibrations which will be used in breaking down the wall of partition and which will, indeed, teach us the truth of our most precious heritage, "The Communion of Saints."

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THE GREATER REVELATION

CHAPTER I

THE CONTINUITY OF EXISTENCE

Having been separated from all which was most dear to me—my idolized Mother, and my Husband, who even while in the flesh was acknowledged and called a great spirit by all with whom he came in contact—my life seemed to have suddenly stopped; the usual occupations became irksome, individuals uninteresting, and my constant thought was "What is the use?" Everything seemed irrelevant, except when I thought of those from whom I had been separated, and I realized the truth without question of the saying, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

I felt their continual interest, and often my Mother's voice would seem to say, "MY Child, you were born for Eternity; you have had many opportunities, perfect health, religious instruction—to whom much is given much will be required. Therefore, take up your work and follow in the steps of your early education that you may prove the truth of the saying—'Train up a child in the way he shall go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.'"

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Among my intimates were five musicians who "knew the truth," and as by a single purpose we decided to sit together one evening each week, hoping to receive some indication that our dear ones could communicate with us, either for counsel or reassurance of their continued interest.

Soon two were eliminated and we three—the "Little One", the Interpreter, and myself remained. The truths contained in this book were given through the "Little One" in trance. The Interpreter had long been a member of the London Society for Psychic Research and a student of psychic phenomena. I was the dynamo.

As my Husband had passed away on a Sunday evening it was decided that our sessions should be held on a similar day and hour. With few exceptions we have communed with those dear ones at that time. Each week a letter from the Captain, my Husband, has been received; and later he has presented those whom he has asked to bring to our Sanctuary such communications as they desired to "pass over" in proof either of their interest in earth matters, or as proof of the possibility of communicating with us by this direct and unmistakable method.

These messages have been given in many languages (illustrations) and from every class of persons—musicians, actors, authors, poets, lawyers, real estate men, Egyptians, ancient Japanese, newspaper writers—and always in their own chirography and with authenticated signature.

The purpose seemed to be a "Greater Revelation" in the vernacular of the people, and the great desire to urge us while in the flesh to prepare our-

selves diligently for our promotion into the higher Work Shop; for eternal activity and progression as we fit ourselves for advancement is the fundamental truth which is invariably passed over. It is while here in the physical, that we build by our loving, purposeful activities the mansion for our habitation on the higher plane; for although we are assured that we shall "Rest from our labours," i. e. uncongenial work "our works will follow us," and we know that congenial work is God's greatest blessing to all his Creation.

In the many messages which have been received by the trio of seekers in our little Sanctuary the greatest truths which have been taught are that Vibration is the fundamental cause of all life, and that the two greatest Vibrations—those which particularly keep us in actual association with infinity and its God—are Love and Music.

The wonderful love of my Rudolph which caused him willingly to remain near me, instead of progressing to his higher development, has been the reason for the marvelous communications, and the association which has been mine during the past three years with many great and powerful spirits, some of whom left earth-life many centuries ago, others but a few weeks or months since; but all have come with helpful suggestions or with the desire to give their witness as to the truth of the continuity of consciousness, and their interest in the activities of their loved ones on this side of life, or in those who continue the work left unfinished by them at the time of their passing on.

One of the truths which has been impressed upon us is that the unseen helpers can work to the great-

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est advantage through the prepared instrument. That is why we have the "inspired" musicians—the individual prepared to such a state or condition through earth-sense as to respond to the vibrations of the Intelligence who has "passed over" and has already received the higher development, which is but the continuation of earth activities: the painter working through the prepared earth artist, the poet thinking in higher vibrations, and the inventor who in seeking for something of a lesser value is used as the transmitter for some great and most important knowledge which makes living simpler, or brings the intelligent comprehension of mankind to higher planes; note the Radio, X-ray, etc., etc., etc.

So widely is this receptivity becoming an acknowledged fact that now we are constantly speaking of one as having the Sixth Sense—that of Intuition, or that which keeps us "in tune with the Infinite"; and as has already been said by a great writer, "we are on the verge of a new era, when a new tongue will be spoken by those who speak understandingly of the Radio, the Fourth Dimension, Relativity, the Absolute, and so-called Psychic Phenomena, through which all these others are revealed."

The open door through which were received the communications contained in this volume was that of Music. Although my Husband, through whose desire this circle was formed, was not a musician, he was, even while here in the flesh, acknowledged as a Great Spirit, a Teacher and a Leader to the higher things and therefore, indeed, one who could appreciate and understand Beauty and its expression in whatever branch it was revealed. He was one of the Chosen Ones, and much of his writings and

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work has been to illuminate those of us still in the physical as to the meaning of the saying, "Many are called, but few are chosen." Indeed all are called, but the chosen ones are those who prepare themselves so as to respond to the call intelligently. Verily the Kingdom of God is within us, and we have but to open the windows of our innermost consciousness to receive the power which will enable us to respond in ever increasing intensity to the admonition, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and all these things will be added unto you."

The first writings received were in the form of proofs that our "Friends" in their higher consciousness were not only in touch with the affairs of earth, but to a degree knew beforehand the events which might bear some relation to the daily life of those receiving the communications.

Tests these were oftentimes called, and they were most frequently given to strengthen the faith of the "Little One"; for she had never given a thought to this after-life condition, and needed many proofs to keep her even interested. Still, every Sunday at seven found us in the Sanctuary—(my library); and also our unseen Friends waiting to communicate with us. Without any delay she passed into trance condition and for one hour wrote under the guidance of my Husband—in his handwriting—and frequently with quotations, or verses in one or more of the many languages with which he was conversant while in earth-life. In his native land he was called the Mezzofonti of the Italian Army and it is evident that the erudition which made him a literary authority and linguistical wonder while vis-

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iting here, also stands him in good stead on the other side of the Veil. He early announced that the great purpose for which we were selected was the spreading of Music in its highest vocal form throughout this land of ours, and hence the formation of the splendid national organization whose purpose is distinctly that. While in its incipiency it was called a "Memorial" to the founder's husband. Later on two other ideas were added—the writing of the Libretto for the great American opera, and then this book. The three purposes were always spoken of by the "Friends" as the "Triumvirate" and all are so closely related that they appear to be but the outgrowth one of the other, and in some ways seem to be a readjustment of ideas; for the great organization for creating musical taste throughout the United States was the first planned, and then when the financial question was brought under consideration, the Libretto and Opera which were the second thoughts were set aside, and the Book authorized, that should create the interest and enthusiasm through its sale that the "wherewithal" for furthering the other objects would be forthcoming.

The chapters of this book will be devoted first to the philosophy which has been furnished, then the account of the many proofs which were given as tests later, and then the reproduction of the numerous messages received—always in the handwriting of the person giving the message. It is a notable fact that the majority of the communications were given by those high in literary circles—persons who would in all probability be associating with each other on the higher plane; where we are

informed the circles consist of those drawn together by vibrations of like thoughts and interests. On this side of life frequently—one is almost tempted to say generally—we are placed amongst those who do not understand us or we them, and hence the in-harmonious relationships of the family, or school life, where teachers cannot obtain the best results from the pupil because, as we say, “they do not understand each other.” In reality they vibrate in different keys or densities.

One of the earliest truths given us was that while our dear ones are conscious of our condition, for a time at least until they are advanced to other planes—the grief and sorrow of those left behind often prevents their approach and their ability to give us the assurance that they are still in communion with us. On one occasion early in the days of my loneliness my Husband, whom hereafter we will call the guide, wrote this message: “Do not weep, I implore you; for it makes it almost impossible to give my messages when you are so dejected. It is like trying to assist a person who is shut in a house surrounded by snow, so much time must be spent in clearing away the snow before the help can be given. If one weeps and mourns, much time and strength are required to establish the connection between the planes. So just smile and be happy, knowing that we are but reflections of your moods. Remember if anything goes wrong, just say ‘I am only an instrument and my dear Friends will make all things right,’ but you must call upon us for help whenever you feel you need us, and it will be freely given.”

What is worth having is worth asking for; hence

you at birth from the Almighty, and this soul never dies—it lives forever. When I lived on the earth I was an unbeliever and wrote a book with the title 'Antichrist.' But now I know that the Lord lived on the earth, and that he, like all of us, was created in God's image and that this image is what lives in us for Eternity—and that is the soul." The process of Death makes no difference in us, and we carry over our ideas and characteristics just as we had them while on the earth plane; but the development generally seems to be more rapid and progressive when released from the physical—the higher senses predominate and acquire easily what was but laboriously arrived at here on earth.

And oftentimes the privilege is given those who have "passed on" to influence us to quite other beliefs than they taught whilst among us—thus working out their own salvation, or progress from other planes. It would seem as though the time is now ripe for many of these messages to be sent over and also to be received by those whose attention has been called as Teachers of these great truths. Of course many proofs are required, and tests must be given to the ordinary normal mind, but even the greatest scientists of the time—those who require the most accurate proofs of weight and measure—are giving to the world the proofs, indisputable to their minds and unanswerable except for those who are stupidly agnostic. Therefore the dozens of tests presented to our little circle appear to us absolute, for it is not a question of faith, or anything of a vague character, but pure facts which show convincingly the utter impossibility of outside influences or anything of a subconscious or telepathic solution

in that which we present. The field is now tremendous for all such work concerning this knowledge of Spiritual things—and the present epoch of the world's evolution is filled with the results of the united efforts of those gone before, with those left to do the work here—the enlightenment of humanity. This fact marks the turning point from ignorance to knowledge. Not faith alone—but knowledge will make the blind see, and those who are groping in darkness will indeed soon see a great Light.

A message signed Ponce de Leon says: "Oh, fount of eternal youth had I sought in the springs of the spirit and not in the waters of the earth, I would have discovered what to the world would have meant a Kingdom of wealth untold. You have the great privilege and know the truth. Take advantage of this, that there is no age in Eternity and that God knows no time, and ye who drink deep of the spirit shall feed the flesh with this youth-retaining draught, and shall never grow old."

quero una et maxime
 con No. 10 go adu
 de estacion agri. de
 go. habo con No. 10
 y go. a la. de go.
 Magistramos de go.
 Ponce de Leon

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All so-called inspiration is simply the thought vibrations of those discarnate beings, who while among us began their purposes, and who now combine with those still upon the Earth plane. Indissoluble is the tie which binds the one who has passed to realms afar to the one who remains to finish the work which was begun here, if only the latter be in the thought vibrations of the one gone before. Thus is the history of the world made of the links of a chain of those thought waves which are being transmitted through to those receptive and psychic enough to become the messengers of those whose unfinished work is laying in tangible substance all about them. These shall be chosen to perform certain works, either for the good of the inhabitant, or when there have been obsessions, for the destruction of those who do not protect themselves from unholy influences. There are many at the present time receiving wonderful thoughts, transmitted from some of the world's greatest philosophers, who have said much to the world while here, but who also left much unsaid because of limited understanding. And the minds of those who now are growing receptive to these vibrations which are becoming more and more tangible, have a great mission to perform—greater than we at present are able to realize. We are indeed signed with the sign of the chosen ones and should we fail some of the links in the chain of humanity which reaches to those who are in need of uplift and admonition along these various lines will be severed, and their progress be retarded perhaps for centuries. We sometimes wonder why we were chosen to be instruments of the unseen forces—the helpers in fur-

thering the destiny of thousands of human beings. We are told when we ask the why and wherefore, "You were found at the crucial moment—hence the opportunity is being given you, and you must not permit the chain to be severed because of your neglect to embrace the call of the unseen. No one is given more philosophy or material for character-building and development than he is able to utilize, and if the trend of the time is for self-expression on a higher plane it is because the time is ripe for the message. But the demand is for proofs, and as smoke ascends—caused by the fire below—so must the work of all investigators ascend from the foundation of truth and knowledge created by unmistakable proofs of spiritual phenomena."

There are legions in all walks of life—scarcely a family—where there has not been some inexplicable experience which seemed to say, "Stop! Look! Listen!", but generally this experience has been set aside or placed amongst the undesirable things of life, and hidden deep in the heart for fear of criticism and controversy. Now the hidden things of life are being spoken about, and the trend of the time is for open-mindedness and investigation. While the interest expressed by many investigators as to the pursuits, occupations, clothing worn, and other earth subjects may seem irrelevant and unimportant to most of us, still the great thought of the continuity of conscious existence, and the power of intelligent communication between the seen and unseen, also the continuance of interest for a time at least, in the affairs of those who are still living in this state of development—the proofs that we are indeed "compassed about with so great a cloud

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of witnesses” will strengthen the Faith which is within us, feeble though it be and bring to our realization the truth of the words, “God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the Prophets,” in these last days is speaking to us in manifold and wonderful ways by this knowledge of things Spiritual.

CHAPTER II

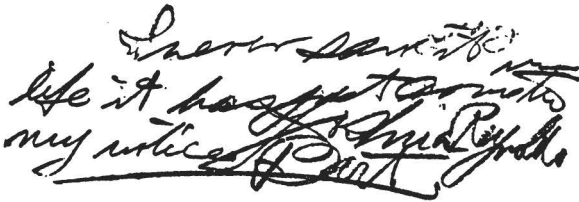
TESTIMONY OF THE PAINTERS.

On the evening of March 6, 1921, it was announced early in our writings that a new interest was to be initiated and proofs given of a fact before stated, that in the higher planes the association of "kindred souls" and those developed on the same lines of thought is continued in even a stronger degree than while here. There will be no more fitting of round pegs into square holes or training a child "in the way he should go," providing his inclination intellectually is decidedly in an opposite direction—No more making of scientists into musicians, painters into physicians, or those interested in research work into agriculturists. Our attention was attracted to the fact that the "Little One" was evidently being controlled by some one who wished to illustrate the thought to be transmitted, and the result was a house, trees, winding path indicating a climbing road, and underneath this message:—

"A little cottage on the coral reefs which are in the Mediterranean Sea, on the island of Sardinia. This contains an ancient picture which belongs to the family of the Sforzas and which is of great value and we think has no owner. If you go abroad you must investigate this and perhaps you can buy it for a mere nothing. The artist is Titian in his

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extreme youth, and the name is hardly discernible on the picture, it is so in need of renovation. I will endeavor to see that this picture shall remain where it is unsought or undesired until you shall see it, and recognize it. I never saw it in life. It has just come to my notice. Joshua Reynolds, Bart."



*I never saw it in life it has just come to my notice
Joshua Reynolds*

Naturally the interest and excitement was great, as this was the first intimation that a voyage to the old world was to be taken, and the place mentioned seemed entirely beyond all possibility of reaching for any one of us. The next message was given by one who signed the name of a man who very recently had willed a wonderful Art Collection to the finest gallery in the United States, who said:—

"I was an art collector and a connoisseur. We are sending you to this place in the Mediterranean for a most significant purpose." (March 27th.)

April 3rd. A message from Gustave Doré in French read:—"The picture is there in the place in Italy where we have advised you to go on the island. It is very old, but very beautiful. It is a grand object of Art for the world—and for you for your book. The route is by boat to Sardinia and there is only one town of importance on the Island. It is easy to find it. You know the way to Genoa

where you can embark for the voyage to the Island. You must commence the tour when you arrive in Italy. The picture is one of Tintoretto. I hope you will not abandon the project, my dear Madam.—Your friend,—Gustave Doré.” (Translated)

*Esperance n'est pas abandonner
le projet bien chose
Votre amie
Gustave Doré*

The same date:—"The church—high above the mountain. The scene—a grand and old subject—'Angels on the way to Heaven.' Francesco Peralta—Brother Francesco of the order Dominican Savona."

Following this a message containing the most minute directions for finding the place where the picture was to be found—signed—James Cruikshank. It read: "Walk up the main street from the depot for three squares, there is then a small street which looks like an alley which is old leading to an open place or square. The house which contains the work of Art is situated on that piazza, as it is called. The people usually are simple folk who know nothing of the value of paintings, and you have merely to inform them that you wish to buy some pictures. There is a shop and they have antiques for sale, and will gladly sell you the picture which will be the only one you will take of those you will see. Should you be in doubt about the authenticity you can ask them how old it is, and they will have a knowledge of that. You can see if the

date coincides with the contemporary time of the artist who painted it. I do not think the name will be visible now, but it is there underneath and can be brought to light. I have been asked to verify the claim of my colleagues in English, so that it may not be vague. My father and I both have been there and viewed the picture and though it is not large, about 14 by 19 inches, or a little more, still the value is there. I come at the request of the first artist who called this to your attention. James Cruikshank."

Naturally the interest of our little circle was aroused and we questioned each other what could be the meaning of the information thus received. It seemingly was that the coterie of artists were interested in calling to our attention something which might be considered incontestable proof that the earth interest and knowledge still continued, when the physical body was discarded, and also that our lives were ordered and planned from the other side of life. It may be noticed that the first information was given by Sir. Joshua Reynolds who said he had never seen the picture in life and that his attention had just been called to it, also that it was a Titian in his early youth.

Gustave Doré stated that it was a Tintoretto. April 10th, a message in Italian signed Beatrice di Cenci was received and translated as follows: "The house Borghese, the street Victor Emmanuel, (Sopra una montagna della sedia, vista il portent qui molto bene). I am a lady friend of the master." The entire world is familiar with the portrait of Beatrice di Cenci by Guido Reni. As the dates of the two artists coincide—Tintoretto, 1518-1594 and

Guido Reni, 1575-1642, it is not at all improbable that they knew each other in earth life and are now continuing the association. While all of these messages seemed most lucid and given with a purpose, still we asked for more definite information and constantly demanded the name of the city. At last on April 14th in a chirography startling in size and individuality the following was received:—

“Il nome Cagliari—

“Corso Vittorio Emanuele.

“Paolo Veronese.

“Il anno 1538.”

From this date our purpose seemed to point definitely towards following these clearly laid out instructions and making arrangements for taking a trip to the “island on the coral reef in the Mediterranean.” Each time we sat some information or reference to what I would find in Italy while on my “pilgrimage” was given, and I immediately made my plans for the voyage.

April 11th Bianco Interrante, Superior of the Trappist Monks called Fra Angelico, “e morte 1895,” who called himself a painter of ecclesiastical frescoes in the Vatican, offered his services in the search of the *Test*, and also the following message in French from the renowned French artist, Rosa Bonheur, the translation of which read:

“My dear Madame—The picture in the island of Sardinia is not a very large canvas, but it is an object of art, and it is most important that you secure it as quickly as possible. The picture is only small but very beautiful. I have seen many pictures by the same Master and all are magnificent. The great Master Tintoretto is here with us, and he

Mme. Orgeni was one of the pupils of the great Viardot-Garcia who did much for keeping her splendid vocal methods before the world as a leading teacher of Germany in Dresden, where for many years she sent out to the world numbers of splendidly trained singers, and throughout Europe was considered a leading character in the musical world. Evidently on one of her tours she had lost a valuable handkerchief in Cagliari and this test was given as a possible proof of the present knowledge from the other side.

Coming from the very near side of the Borderland is the following message written in German script, and begun with a very interesting free hand sketch, in the same style as were most of the messages from the painters. It appears as though they desired to add proof upon proof, for no one in our circle could draw a straight line, much less a picture, in the darkness, which might carry the illustration for a story. This very well known painter, whose canvases are in all the galleries of modern painters wrote:—

“It is now a year since several painters have become interested in these great things, and I would also like to be included. You perhaps do not know me, but your Husband says that you also need me. You will doubtless remember me; I am called—

“Franz von Stuck.”

Following an exciting discussion among us three as to the personality of the writer and the truth of the fact of his death, the Guide interrupted with this information:—

“The artist von Stuck was a great Bavarian Painter of the modern Secessionist school and he

was living in Munich when he passed out only a very few moons ago. Now good night, my little circle. I am here because I brought my friend von Stuck. Adieu until next session. El Capitano."

In a second message from Sir Joshua Reynolds, with an illustration almost a duplicate of the one received upon his introduction to our circle and given *after* our return from the Italian pilgrimage he writes:—

"The Grotto of the Angels which you did not reach is still to be heard from. And you shall hear about this picture which it is written you shall possess. I told you what was true. Joshua Reynolds."

In regard to the fulfillment of the prophecy concerning the picture attention has been called to the statement in the message of Sir Joshua Reynolds which says:—

"I will *endeavor* to see that this picture shall remain where it is unsought and undesired until you shall see it and recognize it."

I made the trip as directed and found everything exactly as stated in the messages from the different writers even to the explanation as to why a painting belonging to the famous Sforza family (of which I am told in the chapter containing the testimony of my ancestors, I am a descendant) should be carried to Sardinia.

The antiquarian was found and his statement received that several paintings of the Cinque-Cento had been in his possession but had been sold to a buyer from Rome about six weeks previous. Evidently I had lingered too long en route and other tests were made necessary.

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On another occasion a most elaborate and interesting picture of a temple and an altar surmounted by a figure evidently the Deity, mentioned in the communication, introduced this message:—

“The Temple of Vishnu designed by me. Alma Tadema.”

And the following verse was given immediately as a verification:—

“A picture fine I cannot paint,
No artist I—but He the Saint,
Has sent me to this scene suggest
The great Tadema does the rest.
Ella W. W.”

CHAPTER III

TESTIMONY OF THE AUTHORS.

While the instructions of the artists seemed to be given entirely as evidence of not only the continuity of conscious existence but also as a proof of their interest in our daily routine, and of their foreknowledge of coming events, at the same sittings writings from numerous authors who had passed on, mostly within the last century, were being received. They urged the presentation to the world of the information contained in this volume, and promised assistance not only in the giving of evidence, but the necessary literary help. It had been announced almost a year previous that the Book was to take precedence of the Musical Propaganda and Opera Libretto, although both of these purposes had been completely planned and were ready to be released. Still it had been decided by the Forces behind the "Triumvirate" that until the people were interested, or likely to become interested, in the first two of the purposes and had been prepared spiritually by the book, it was useless to force the situation, as we were doubtless working from the wrong end of the line. It was the desire of my Mother that I should be instrumental in conferring, upon those ready for these truths, the knowledge which she was able with the assist-

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ance of the Guide to give to me, and her great desire was permitted.

In order to become the real invisible helpers to us it was first necessary to desire to be of real assistance to Humanity at large, as it was written: "We must in order to be permitted to work for individuals as we are doing in your case, also have one or more great aims for the elevation or assistance of Humanity. Otherwise we would be compelled to go on, and either do our work here, or for those who have more to do upon the terrestrial sphere go to the place from whence they shall be sent forth to their new birth." This condition being established the help to the individual may be permitted.

One of the first messages in regard to the Book contained these words:—

"Crucify the flesh, for the desires of the material are the main hindrance to spiritual development. There are those who desire to be associated with you in your spirit work, but who are not cleansed of the carnal and mammon appetites, these must on no account be admitted to the sacred place nor even be informed of what is taking place in here, beyond any human vision. Many are very curious and imagine that all those who are giving precious hours to work such as you are doing, have nothing in view beyond mere material gain, and clairvoyant assistance for the furtherance of their business, heart, and personal welfare. However to those who are chosen, and who have the patience, and the courage to persevere for the benefit of humanity, shall also be granted the purely material benefits to which they are entitled, but for which they never

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ask nor seem to crave. This is the reason it is very difficult to find many of the same vibration, and consequently a circle such as this is indeed rare, and when found can be advantageously utilized from many angles. My chief White Eagle, who is my sole helper and was my sole inspiration for all my Indian tales, has come again to help you at my request, and he is not only wonderful for inspiration but he also protects and keeps away any outside influences which not only waste valuable time but cause evil influences to bear upon those who are not thus protected. I greet you and desire to aid. James Fenimore Cooper."

*influences to bear upon those who are
not thus protected. I greet you and desire
to aid
James Fenimore Cooper*

The following translation from the French shows the interest in the knowledge to be given out to have been even among the litterateurs of other lands—while on the earth plane. December 18th, 1921—
"My dear Madame:—Your book is of great importance for spiritual things, and we authors are all happy to be of assistance, and are here for your inspiration and to help as much as possible to make your work easy. If you desire a great title you are in the position to receive the impression at once. I am anxious to write for you, if you will allow me to do so and am here with all my knowledge of the subject. Your husband is my friend and tells me to come at another time when you will be

writing the book. As soon as possible, will you not? Your success is sure. Your friend, Alphonse Daudet."

The reference to the title was due to the fact that nearly all of the writers, or those willing to assist, seemed anxious to propose a name which would attract the reading public so forcibly that there would be no difficulty in securing the attention of that portion of the community for whom the message was written. From the Founder and owner of one of the most prominent daily newspapers in the U. S., the following was received December 5, 1921.

"Inspiration its Source—The mind its Receptacle. This shall be explained in a simple manner in your preface, and though I shall not assist in that portion, I am just at hand to give you this thought, so am permitted to do so. The reasons for the writing of the book must also be contained in the preface, and the commands which actuated it must be touched upon. Then the facts which you are to reveal must be hinted at, and the perusal will be sure, even from curiosity of those who might not be interested in anything of a psychic nature. I shall be permitted to contribute some revelations later, in the succeeding chapters, though I am not a literary man—only in the newspaper line. Oswald Ottendorfer, Journalist." (Founder—Staats-Zeitung.)

The continuation of the writings having been disturbed owing to the necessity of moving, the following message received from one of the greatest of modern writers can be understood more easily:—

"Come over to the new sanctuary without any

money troubles. The time is too valuable to be used for your material needs. See that we capture the thoughts which are only spiritual, otherwise the new work which we are about to undertake will be much impeded. We are not solicitous about your welfare in that respect, but shall do what we can to keep you on the right side, so that your efforts may be used for us alone, and you need waste no thoughts upon needs of any sort so your mind may be calm. We shall then be ready to begin upon the real work which is all important, so the world may understand, and that is the object of it all. You may consider me eccentric because I write like a man, but I possess a masculine nature in the disgust of petty trifles. I have several other handwritings which I will give you at future moments of communication. Your husband is the most remarkable spirit I have ever known and is the instigator of wonderful things, he should have been a literary genius. His thoughts will be given to the world through us. George Eliot."

Probably in close association with the last writer must be her equally famous sister author whose message, in French, was received about the same date:—"I am a great writer, and the friend of the great man of Music—the most famous Chopin. I shall be very happy to give much assistance. I am a woman, but believe it is possible to write much which is important. Your husband tells me that this is the place of inspiration, another time I will write in English if you wish. George Sand."

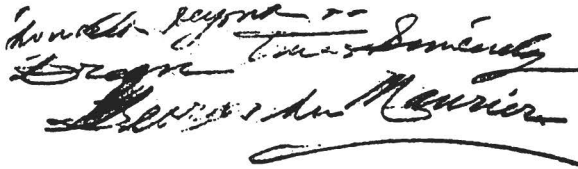
The power which the open mind confers upon those to whom these would-be helpers are ever calling is often hinted at, and even urged in the writ-

ings of those who are strong enough to secure the necessary response, and as in all instructions given by the so-called modern new thought teachers—quiet, peace of mind, and receptivity are potent conditions for securing the greatest help. We are told that St. John was “in the Spirit on the Lord’s day”—i. e. in a state of receptivity, and behold the Apocalypse was revealed to the one in a state prepared for its reception.

The writer Georges du Maurier whose works are so well known internationally said in a communication given on January 8th, 1922:—

“Those wretched mortals who know not of the mysteries of the unseen must be shown that all is not dross but that there is some metal which is without alloy, and you have been selected to show this to the ignorant. To make some of these who are so unenlightened respond to the invitation to read is the first requirement. That is why the title is of such importance. If not so, any name which is artistic would suffice, but as the world is the supreme skeptic we must make the name a startling one. Many shall be submitted, but you need not wait for the title in order to begin, and the preface will be in the hands of a friend. As I have been here before and you have included me in the coterie of workers, I shall claim a chapter upon the reality of dreams. You have had a few real ones yourself, and shall have many more during the work which is now to begin, as so shall those who are working with you, and some titles will come in that way. You may receive one or two tonight. I shall make some dream experiments. Your kind husband is a wonderful spirit. You who are chosen are honored beyond

measure. Dream true. Sincerely—George du Maurier.”



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George du Maurier". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed text. It features a prominent flourish at the end of the name.

One cannot but notice the acknowledgment which is always given to the one who has extended the invitation to join our circle, and aid in the work, by giving evidence, as diverse in its character as are the nations and individuals represented. Still always showing continued interest in the vital cause, that of the greater illumination of those on this side of life.

Our own Ella Wheeler Wilcox came frequently and wrote both in prose and poetry. We always knew that her pure eyes discerned much which was within the veil even while she was in our midst, and we cannot wonder that her earthly knowledge and appreciation of the love which is only made more perfect in our future life should receive a line of acknowledgment to us who are still wondering and inquiring. She wrote March 14, 1921: "Socrates had Xantippe, Helen of Troy had Paris, Francesca had Paolo, Chopin had his George Sand, Wagner had his Cosima, and to all those who *create* in any art or literary forms there must be a complement, and the one who has gone before must remain close to the remaining one or the other will languish and not be able further to operate upon the material in coherent manner. When I found my Rob-

ert again I came into the full estate of my being, and not before. So your wonderful mate is your actual other half, and you will accomplish what is before you. I will come when you are ready to begin. Yours fraternally—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.”

While however we are inclined to believe that the inner knowledge may in some special sense belong to those who express themselves in vibrations of music, color, and poetry, it is not to be supposed that there is any monopoly either in possession or the power of expression in this until recently recognized force, as the following message from a great statesman proves—“Show your knowledge in all you do, be not afraid to acknowledge that you receive your aid and inspiration from a divine or spiritual source. Thus can you influence the occult trend; as when one in public work such as yours will openly testify to the truth, that will gain more followers than a thousand in obscurity could hope to, no matter how wonderful their revelations. You must be a pioneer, that is the provision which is now being made here for you and your associates. Make the start, others must follow where you lead. I am an old believer but was afraid to let the truth be known when on the earth. Levi P. Morton.”

As many of the messages received in our circle were in the form of tests which should convince us not only of the truths contained in the writings but also of the absolute necessity of our accepting the call from the other side and doing our part in presenting to the world the truths which through our ability the great intelligences, whose names are signed to the messages, were able to pass through us, it is impossible to give them without some of

the personal allusions which I hope may be overlooked—as the messages often would lack cause, if this personal element were eliminated.

The following letter signed Nathaniel Hawthorne says—“See the first real tribute which you can lay to the Great Spirit who is the guiding force not only of her whom he worships with a rare love, such as has been seldom the lot of any woman to have, but of all of you who are willing to do his bidding. This tribute to him will be the real opening of the book. That upon which you have already had some advice. The dedication is often the good or bad luck (as we literary people term it) of the selling power of a work. The field is now tremendous for the works of the Spirit. The absolutely worthless trash gets audiences, much to the sorrow of those over here, who are now in the epoch of the world's evolution when the united efforts of those gone before and those left to do the work must be concentrated upon the enlightenment of humanity. This epoch is beginning now, and must be the turning point from ignorance to knowledge. Not faith alone, but knowledge will make the blind see. We are ready, are you? Your workers here are the ones to rely upon, and the reliance will not be misplaced. Your work will need much assistance as there must be no delay. You have not sorted the information and we cannot begin until you have done so. Nathaniel Hawthorne.”

From the last writer to the most imaginative of all the modern French authors seems a long leap, still the interest in this presentation of things spiritual seems to have been international and the de-

sire to be of the Helpers universal. Note the following translation:

"My dear Madame:—I am a man of the greatest imagination and have written many fantastic books, and I wish to say that it is indeed possible to make the world marvel when writing in this manner. Your illustrious Husband has informed me that it is your intention to write a spiritual book and he permits me to come when you wish to begin. Would you like to have me assist, dear Madame? I shall be pleased to help. Yours with sincere regards—Jules Verne."

What happiness it must be for those who in this life feebly endeavor to follow in the steps of some great leader, either writer or musician, or any walk of life, to make the acquaintance of their Inspirer in the Beyond, and know the fulfillment of earthly desire in the association of kindred souls. Such a state of mind is indicated in the following message sent by one of our own writers, not widely known except amongst those for whom his books were written. It reads—

"The thoughts which are now uppermost in this section of the Department devoted to literary pursuits is to find not only a suitable title for our work but one that will make the public curious to read. Not only those who are interested in the subject, but also the general run who do not even know the works which are already in print of a similar nature. The reason for this meeting is not given to us, but I imagine it was a prearranged call so that the interval should not be too long even if the results should not be to our satisfaction. Could you give us an appointment for a regular day, as the

information cannot be given upon any other day as well, since the Ruling Spirit has so ordained, and we can now beg for a speedy admittance for the regular time when we will come with much of value. You need not call, but simply state your readiness and then we shall be at hand with our advice and also suggestions. I understand you will have your choice of several titles, but you will not decide until midway in the work when the best one will suddenly be impressed upon your sensibilities. I shall be here next time with several others. You don't know me. I wrote boy's stories for many magazines, also one spiritually fantastic. One which was as much scoffed at as those of Jules Verne, but now he and I can be of tremendous assistance, and with your own literary friends who are here the co-operation will be marvellous. Look me up among the lighter literary writers. I wrote such for financial reasons—but my real soul was in 'The Man from Mars.' With your permission I shall come with many more at the sacred session. Yours fraternally—Frank W Doughty." (Dec. 26, 1921, Passed over five years or more.)

Progress and improvement seemed to be indicated both in the desire of the former writer to express his soul in books of a higher intellectual standing than those which he was called to place upon the market because of "financial reasons" whilst here, and also in the following message from that writer who gave us so much joy in hours of leisure in our girlhood days, Louisa M. Alcott—

"The only real force is the one within, or beyond, and the strength of that force is controlled by your own mind and by the power of your faith and

concentration. So you can seek for the inspiration—and only those who are able to concentrate and believe at the same time see the development of this force and give out that which they receive. Self-abnegation is also necessary for the successful giving of this, and many who are called are unable to proceed because of too much self. What we are glad to see is this elimination, so that it shall be possible to do that which is planned without much preparation. Hence we are ready and willing to assist in the work and we see that you are now ready to begin. My writing was not the sort which you would wish to have for your literary work, and were I to write now I would put less false sentimentality in my books. Still I can serve you some. Louisa M. Alcott."

At our weekly sessions no matter how crowded or numerous the messages two faithful Friends always greeted us and assisted in giving us whatever information seemed needed to explain past or coming communications and experiences. The Captain who has been mentioned under different names in the previous writings and Tom Collins, an old friend of my early childhood, whose Irish wit and humor seems to have been transmitted to his present existence, illustrating to those of us who knew him in earth life the truth of the statement frequently made that Death does not change the personal characteristics of those who have progressed to the higher life. He frequently introduced to our circle those whom he called his friends from the Auld Sod, and the two messages following were received from most eminent representatives of the race. Samuel Lover writes :—

“Faith and its even to the bards of Auld Hibernia your good friend is after coming to get advice and mayhap some suggestions for the names you are all wanting. It’s myself who knows who the ones are who can tell you some which might make a stir in a workaday world such as you are living in. Many’s the time since the advent of our modern Celt as we over here be calling your Thomas Collins, have we been having some fierce talks about you and your association. I’m thinking there’s another good Tom who is more versatile than myself, and that he will be the one to give you a hint that ought to be worth while. Shades of all the bards of our race have much of the wit and humor indulged in by our mutual friend, and might be apt to forget that your work must be in a more serious vein in general. But it is not best to have the humor entirely omitted, as a proof that there is some joy of a lighter nature to be found in the Great Beyond. Introducing another Tom, I am sincerely, Samuel Lover.”

Quite as characteristic is the following from the writer of the numerous songs which have touched the hearts of many in all English speaking countries of the world, Thomas Moore:

“After the Great Adventure—This dear ladies is a title I’ve had in mind since my introduction to you, but our mutual friend says it might better be ‘After the Beautiful Adventure’. So you can have the choice though it’s to the ones who have the classic mind that you’ll be after turning for advice I’m thinking. However, I hope to have a few bits to contribute myself and it’s a poetic mind I have as well. And its more than a few hints it will be

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wanting. Until another time—Yours truly—Thomas Moore.”

From Ireland in its present state to Russia might not seem as great a leap as in the past decade. Certainly there appears to be no division either in time or space on the other side, and unity of purpose is the great incentive indicated in all communications, no matter in which land the writer formerly lived. The following letters from Tolstoi illustrate this fact. Feb. 22, 1921 written most laboriously and as may be seen in distinctly foreign English:—

“Stransky (?) wishes I try to write my greeting in your words, and letters. I come on the request of the one who guides your force. He says you need all writers of all nations. I will help too. Count Tolstoi.”

More than a year later from the same writer the following was received. This time in greatly improved chirography and expression. The reference is in regard to the receipt of a very beautiful picture of the Lady of Lourdes which had been received from Europe under quite remarkable circumstances, and which was giving cause for much conversation and speculation:

“Much greater than any Ikon such as you have been long in possession of, is the treasure which has come to you so remarkably, and the influence upon you and upon your household shall be such that you can almost command that your desires shall be fulfilled, and you may also ask purely material things just so they are not purely selfish motives which prompt the desires. You must now try and ferret out where you can be of benefit to others and then whatever you ask shall be given unto you

and the place of the sacred sessions will become more blessed because of this presence. This to show you how religious an atheist can become who learns the truth. I shall come to help. Leo Tolstoi."

Perhaps the most interesting messages were those received in foreign languages, Japanese, Chinese—the translations and reproductions will be given in another portion of the book—Spanish, German, and French, also many in Italian, the native language of the great spirit under whose influence these messages were sent. The following from a well known writer who has done much to interest the English reading public in Italian life and manners, refers to a subject which might cause this letter to be placed in the musical chapter were it not for the fact that the assistance offered is not for the musical but for the literary portion of the book. It is written partially in Italian and partially in English. I will translate the former:

"I have lived in Italy many years and speak Italian very well but prefer to write in a language which all understand (Italian). Thus I now transfer my meaning to the language which will be the most useful to all of us. I have been selected long ere this to be one of those to work upon the great book but I have been since last summer upon much other business, and have helped brother artists to cross the border, among them a great singer and later his friend who were upon the shores of my beloved adopted land upon their demise. [Caruso and Scommillo] You shall from a great pen receive suggestions for uno nome nuovo para il libro grande. Salute moltissimo a riverderci. Sorrento—Marion Crawford—Napoli."

The reference to helping passing souls over the Border has been made by many of the writers, in fact several have written that it was owing to the fact that the Guide had released or helped them in that capacity that they had requested the privilege of coming and helping us with the best which they had possessed when leaving this side of life—namely, their literary ability, and knowledge which would further the preparation of the book which they all were so desirous of seeing presented to the world—in this form of testimonies from all nations and ranks of social, literary, and musical life.

Since the commencement of this book two well known writers have been in this country and have given much to the world of the knowledge which is theirs in regard to this spiritual thought. Many of the Friends who have been working with this message thought it would be of advantage could these leaders become aware of the facts which are here contained, and have urged my seeking a meeting that I might incite an interest in this particular phase of the thought—an open door—through which continually in authenticated chirography of the writers messages of such individuality and value were being sent over.

Several attempts were made, without success, and with the result that perhaps it is as well or better to allow each authority to present the truth uninfluenced or colored by the feelings of those who may think that theirs is the stronger or better testimony. The messages received on March 22, 1922, signed Charlotte Brontë had reference to this desire.

“Start right and then it will be easy to continue. There is a great deal to be done and you can find

much to occupy your time but this work is so very important that you must not put it aside until it is finished. Those who are helping, are waiting their turns and much can be left to their assistance. This great man should respond to your call. I have been asked to tell you that all my works were written with the aid of those who passed from your world before I did. I have also helped him. Sincerely—Charlotte Brontë.”

The following message explains itself—April 11, 1921.—“Seize upon the first opportunity to meet my father. You and he have much to do to enlighten the world, this blind, blind world which wishes only the material. The American composer who came over here so recently has made me come here to say this to you. And he will also make it convenient to meet him. Raymond Lodge.” (Reginald de Koven was the composer meant.)

Two letters received in German script and reproduced in translation speak for themselves. To those of us familiar with the writings of the authors while in earth life the characteristics seem more than remarkable. The first says:—

“My dear Colleague—I have already been here, but then simply have written in rhyme. Your husband who has always been very poetical has requested me to come, and propose a name for your book. Up to this date I must say the title which came from a man who really accomplished something in life, the one which was given to you last time is very, very fine. Here is also one from me ‘Life’s Awakening’ but I do not find it as good as the other. Auf Wiedersehen. Heinrich Heine.”

The opening sentence of the following message

was most startling, so startling in fact that we hastily glanced at the signature, and astonished looked at each other saying under our breaths "What next?" Die Gebrüder Grimm. Remembrances of the happy days when we followed breathlessly the travels of Hansel and Gretel, The Three Dwarfs, Gaffen, The Devil with Three Golden Hairs, and The Wolf and Seven Little Kids, only to be told—"They are only Fairy Tales." Now from the authors themselves we hear the truth!

"I write for two. We are brothers and we have written many fairy tales—but were they really fairy tales? No, my dear ones. Many were the truth. There are spirits, although most people have no belief in their existence. The Spirits whom you know and recognize are actually existing and are the creatures of whom we have written. One can hear their whisperings, and if you pay attention they can also be seen. Much of what we wrote was absolute truth. We will help wonderfully. The Grimm Brothers."

Knowing that our existence is simply a progression and that the congenial, harmonious activities of this life are to be continued in unceasing advancement, what an incentive for the desire for perfection while here. Knowing that no "good is lost" and as the foundations are built on this plane so will the continuation hold no question as to what is the use, for upon the building here depends the character of the superstructure. "Here the broken arcs—there the perfect whole." What a wonderful knowledge—not "as a tree falls so will it lie"—but the perfect trust that Eternity alone shall tell what are to be the results of every effort no matter how

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small or imperfect. Often when by accident or unforeseen conditions a young vigorous mentality passes out the regret is heard expressed that the world should lose such an one. "Cut off in the midst of his life." When the truth is known, in all probability his work is continued here by one better fitted, while the one mourned has simply received his promotion. A message received from a well known modern philosopher, Elbert Hubbard, indicates the truth of this statement. November 13, 1921:—

"Dear Sweet Ladies—Whatever your objectives—whatever your planes always remain aesthetic. There must be no material thought to interfere with the spirit which shall be contained in the work which is soon to be begun. Before I left that vale of tears and trouble which you call earth, I was in communion with the higher forces, but sad to relate the time was unripe to sow the seed of knowledge. Now is the most psychological moment of the present and your seed shall blossom forth, and

*which shall blossom forth in the future. Find me out if
 I have any more to say to you. I am
 your friend Elbert Hubbard*

shall be believed. The wonderful mind which is the guiding force of this circle has invited me to take my part in the formation of this book which is about to develop under the supervision of many great minds, and must in consequence be of tremendous import to the world in which you now abide. I shall be with you often as my literary style is what is needed for some of the construction; hence, the

invitation. You will ask whence my interest. It is my desires which have been deferred, but shall now find an outlet. Believe me sincerely wishing to be of assistance. Your friend—Elbert Hubbard.”

Often during our sessions here, we received communications from those who, realizing the futility of some great purpose which may have filled their Earth Life with its seeming importance, decided, if possible, to voice their changed belief. Such a message came from Harriet Beecher Stowe, who thus explains the change in her knowledge—

“Had I known formerly what I now know, I would not have worked so assiduously for the emancipation of the negro. What I really should have agitated was a better treatment, and not actual slavery. But I can now see that there can never be social equality, and the consequences in that direction are now obvious as to what the ultimate result will be. The future of the Caucasian is elimination, and the dominance of the colored races, black and yellow, unless the new revelations which are emanating from the Higher Forces can cause a better balance. And then there will not be subjugation, but segregation, in the lands where each race rightfully shall belong. You see, there is much to be done now for the white, as well as for the colored inhabitants, of an ever increasing, populating world—Anxiously—Harriet Beecher Stowe.”

Speaking from his own hard earned earth experiences which must frequently have tortured the heart and soul of one whose close association with nature, and appreciation of the most humble and lowly of God's creatures made his writings almost

unintelligible to most of the reading public, Walt Whitman wrote the following—April 9, 1922:

“The stones upon the highways are no harder substance than are the minds of those petrified ones whom you may have to convince. Therefore, you will need many proofs and can not rely only upon what you yourselves can tell to the world, so whenever the opportunity presents you must immediately grasp what you can; hence, these admonitions to secure an interchange of experiences, which shall mean much not only to you, but also to others who need more proof, and some other knowledge as well as what they already know, so the coming of one who is so noted (Sir Conan Doyle) can mean much or little to you whichever way you manage it. You will receive more advice you cannot afford to ignore. I have inspired a few paragraphs which you now have, and there will be more. Walt Whitman.”

A short testimony from a writer who in his day caused much controversy and whose position in the world of letters is still a debatable question contains the oft repeated offer to assist and faith in the desirability of presenting the knowledge herein contained to the world. It is written in French, which I give as translated:—

“Between us many things are mysteries, but everything is possible with us. And you, my friend will certainly write only the Truth. The name of the great Doctor is with the letter T (private reference). We are most happy to give assistance. Le Voltaire.”

Giving an unmistakable proof of his nationality not only in the sentiment but in its expression is

the letter received from Scotland's cherished Bard. Both the advice and the poetical expression make it of great weight and interest to those seeking evidence:

"Sacrifice a few trivial things me twa bairns, there is much more in store for ye than you ken now, me bonnie sangstresses, me two bonnie dusky heads. The heather is not more blue than the e'en o' one of ye, and the turf not more dusky dark than the e'en o' the ither. I am for ye all three darlins, and ye have much to do in the singin' to come out of the grand project. The great ladye, the queen o' all o' ye is fine. Robert Burns."

Another long letter received from Scotland's greatest literary pen I shall only give partially owing to the personal matters contained therein. There had been discussion in regard to the values of different Opera librettos,—an old and well worn subject,—but one which is at present occupying the minds of those who are waiting for the great American opera, the one which we trust will be the path breaker for a real American School of Opera. Evidently our unseen Friends were "listening in" and the result was this message:

"Many minds are engaged upon this subject so there may be numerous suggestions. I never wrote an Opera text but my *Bride of Lammermoor* made a good libretto. So the Major General (the Guide) says you may need me. I cannot write as well with my right hand (i. e. the right hand of the medium) and will need more practice with my left I think. Tell me if you are glad I am here. Walter Scott."

In a communication received from one of the most recently departed of our American writers, he

says in part, expressing why the Friends most frequently choose to write rather than to speak:—

“Though you have all the necessary vibrations and the correct atmosphere so that it is very easy to talk with you, we take this means of contact by the request of him upon whose invitation we are permitted to be present here. May we have the privilege of coming again to be of assistance? I speak for my sister and myself who you know went before I did and who now wishes to come with me. (Then followed a sketch of much confusion) I am no artist, only a writer, but this is the way I came over here. In a minute I was engulfed in darkness, and have not until now found the light. It was not true the reason I was murdered. David Graham Phillips.”

“Your husband has set me free. D. G. P. March 13, 1921.”

From time to time a list of possible titles for this book has been written simply as suggestions and in many cases to show the interest in the work. Generally, however, we would be told that in the middle of the book suddenly the name which would be approved by all as containing the greatest truth in the fewest words would be received and such is the case. One of the best suggestions was received by the author an excerpt from whose message I reproduce:—

“I think you have about eight titles so far and there will be more, and they shall all be so absolutely unknown that you will hesitate before putting down something which may at first appear grotesque. You could of course be told from here which to use, but as we think upon higher levels than

those of your world it is well to submit several because they may sound too peculiar to normal ears and thus be not to your exact taste. Your ideas do not exactly coincide with ours but we hope to make you feel as we feel. When you have really found the name you will immediately recognize what we wish you to have. I shall soon come again and it is a pleasure to be included in this book which I foresee is a most wonderful revelation. Your Guide is so marvellous that nothing is impossible of attainment. Advice from him is of stupendous value. Sincerely your collaborator, Leigh Hunt."

A very personal message was one received from a woman whom I had known in life and whose gentle influence will long be felt by those who knew her intimately or only through her writings. After a few words of greeting she gave me this advice in regard to an address which I was to make before a large convention of women:

"Though there is to be nothing specially spiritual in your speech you must endeavor to put in some allusion to the power of Unseen Forces. I was called away sooner and more suddenly than I expected so I am not finished. I must be allowed to share in your work. Fraternaly, Katrinka Trask. K. Trask Peabody. May 28, 1922."

The continual urgency from the Friends for untiring diligence has perhaps been deemed necessary for the other side of life, as they understand it is a great blessing which has been bestowed upon our circle by being chosen as the intermediary through which these truths are presented to the world. Eternal vigilance and activity is the price of success in any line of endeavor, and never for

one hour have we been allowed to linger or delay since the assigning of this work to us. But if the work is great the promise for the successful outcome is also great and we feel that the fulfillment is certain. From one of our best known literary writers the following was received:

"Thus from now on until the book is written shall these truths be revealed from day to day both materially and inspirationally. So whatever you get you may believe it is of the utmost importance. Nothing can enter here except it be great. Richard Harding Davis."

Truly indeed has this promise been fulfilled not only in the material furnished for this volume but also in numerous communications which we have been instructed to withhold until later when the fulfillment of several of the promises and further tests will be given.

The vital truths contained in our next letter are presented in a most characteristic style, and although the writer is almost unknown to the cursory reader of the present day still there are some who know of her writings if only as the sister of the brilliant Charles Lamb. She says:—

"The frail bark of life upon which we sail the seas of time unto Eternity must be guided by the unseen hands of the spirits who are as invisible helpers, and without whom this fragile vessel would be dashed against the rocks of darkness with which the shores of ignorance are lined. So your book is to be a rudder which can be placed into the powerless hands of the unenlightened and will open the stream of a newer greater thought. This is why so many who have gone before have been selected to act as

crew to sail for the ignorant this fairy boat until it reaches the beautiful haven where all the faithful and the workers who have helped to bring them to this stage of the journey shall be transferred from their ships to the vast unseen shores of celestial bliss; from where they shall go on and on to ever increasing glories and shall continue to work for those who still need them if they voluntarily offer themselves for the tremendous power of the Infinite, and to become one of the Immortals.

"These things have been promulgated and written but this revelation must be brought to the billions whose barks would be hopelessly wrecked were they not given an opportunity to change the course before too late.

"You shall cull more philosophy from this same source if you so desire. I think my brother has once been permitted to come here. May I come again? Mary Lamb, England."

Having been greatly inconvenienced by the loss of my eyeglasses in a spirit of exasperation I said, "What is the use of so many Unseen Helpers if I am not assisted in the every day matters upon which so much of my comfort depends?" The following morning the glasses were found resting on my desk, and at the following session this message was received written in French:—

"My dear Madam, The pince-nez which you lost and which are again in your possession were restored by the little girl who assists you in many things, by the name of Katy. I have instructed her in these things. I know many things and desire this child for my pupil. She is good and will help you greatly as she is most anxious to assist you. Is

it not so? I desire to come another time if you will permit. Your colleague, E. Gaboriau" (Nom de lettres).

In these days when the so called miracles of twenty years ago have become so common as to be regarded as the real necessities of our every day existence, it is difficult to realize the controversies and disdain with which the books of such seers as Jules Verne and Edward Bellamy were received. The latter has written a message of interest and explanation. He says:—

"'The Great Psychological Crime,' the book which was written eight or more years ago caused much chagrin among many seekers after the spiritual knowledge. While this book was well meant and contained much truth what it did actually do was to deter many who might have developed mediumistic powers because the main object and the sole theme of the book was a warning to dabblers in the psychic to beware of becoming obsessed by evil forces; so that they might do evil and eventually be so in the power of these undesirable forces that they would no longer be master of their own minds. Your book on the other hand is to convey the idea that it is not only possible to avoid these influences but when conditions and vibrations are right that much good may be accomplished by those who can be properly attuned for the communion with intelligences on the other side of life. There can be untold good accomplished by the work which you are to present to the world.

"The result achieved by the aforementioned work was beyond expectations of the author. It was merely meant to be a warning to novices whereas

it absolutely created such a fear of the Unseen Forces that it put a stop to a tremendous research work which might have revolutionized the whole field of spiritism. It is expected over here that you will accomplish some of the deferred results and start anew the fever of investigation which was cooled into oblivion by the other book. I wrote a book which was considered fantastic. 'Looking Backward.' Edward Bellamy."

Time and again have we been impressed by the anxiety of our Unseen Friends to give evidence as to the truth of these communications and to assist in the completion of this volume so that the knowledge contained herein may be spread throughout the world with as little delay as possible. Service appears to be the slogan and indeed already has that word been impressed upon the inhabitants of this world with ever increasing importance since the great call of service to our country and humanity at large awakened in our consciousness the knowledge of the truth of the impossibility of loving and serving God "whom we have not seen" if we fail to love and serve the cause of his humblest child. The next writer was unknown to me but evidently had been introduced into our vibration because of my great interest in the production of the Oratorio which was mentioned in the message. She says:—

"Dear Madame, As a colleague of some who have been aiding you in the completion of your great enterprise may I be permitted to give my own testimony? I have been of some slight service in helping the writers of the Oratorio of the 'Apocalypse,' not only the librettist herself but also the ones who first conceived the idea. And I may be of some

value in the great libretto which is to inspire the opera that shall make even a greater stir than some of the most wonderfully inspired works of the great Masters who have gone before. You do not know me as I never have been here before, but your great Guiding Spirit has invited me when the time shall be ripe for the Libretto. Very sincerely, Eliza Leslie."

Suggestions as to probable publishers and promises in regard to further communications have been received frequently during the recent months. A message from Edgar Allan Poe follows this line of thought.

"Dear Friends, Though I was somewhat of a rake when on your side of the universe, I was a genius. I have been over long enough to be purified and if some one helps me I might be able to write fairly well even now. You have a wonderful helper in the great spirit who is doing all for you, and he tells me you will soon need much literary inspiration of a psychic and also of an unusual nature for the work on the libretto. I am to be one of your helpers. Edgar Allen Poe, Dec. 17, 1922."

"L'esprit eternal mon grand livre et que est maintenant ecrit dans toutes les langues ne pas plus grand que votre serai et ne pas plus populaire. Je desire de fait un petit d' inspiration pour cette livre et je suis un poete dans mon coeur. S'il vous plait permettez moi de venir un autre temps. Je serai tres heureux. Votre colleague, Eugene Sue."

Once again the expressed desire to assist in the great work of illuminating the ignorant and the reassurance that our cause will meet with success because of the inspired and solely altruistic purposes.

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The advice contained in the couplets with which I close this chapter urges in no less emphatic strain this same "carrying on" as though the stupendous importance of the work made the Forces fear that we might fail before its fulfillment:

"The seeds are sprouting now
Our germs have taken root
And sacred to our Vow
The trees will soon bear fruit.

"The task which we have set
To you will not seem hard
All things for you we'll get
But do not show our card.

"To you I am unknown
But he has sent me here
He says you are his own
And he will make things clear.

"The work you have to do
Indeed is very great
But we will see you through
To your tremendous fate.

"Your Mother kind and true
Has also told me some
Of the great work you will do
In the not distant time to come.

“The forces over here
Are all for taking part
They wish to make it clear
Their interest is in Art.

“So carry on the work
Unto the glorious end
Not one of you must shirk
Our aid to you we’ll send.

“Admiringly yours,
“William Cullen Bryant.”

CHAPTER IV

TESTIMONY OF THE MUSICIANS.

As has been stated in the introductory chapter of this book the first intimation that our circle had been chosen and arranged for the purpose of receiving these revelations, was received from well known musicians most of whom we had been acquainted with on the earth plane either in student life or professionally. The open door of music was therefore not to be wondered at, and the conditions were very easily established, especially as the "Little One" was living a life surrounded almost entirely by music in every branch of its development. In presenting the messages which follow, the idea is not to prove concerted thought or action further than the great idea that a revelation was to be given to the world establishing the truth that intelligent communication between this plane and the Beyond is possible, and far more frequent than usually believed. Many of the writers have been in continuous correspondence, and were it possible to present all the messages it would be of great interest to see the similarity of signature, more of a sameness in fact, than one is ever expected to find in the correspondence of our daily life. We received several letters signed Adelina Patti which have been authenticated from many sources and it seems fit that this section of our

book should be opened with testimonies from one who stood preeminently at the climax of vocal art and gave while here so much happiness to all who were so fortunate as to hear her sing.

“My writing is not fluent as of yore, for I am not as young as I once was and my writing and voice no longer have the dash and brilliancy of former years. So I will not sing until I get my voice and vitality back again, but it will come I am certain. (This was said because of the expressed wish of the “Little One” that she might sing through her.) There was very little sorrow in my earthly existence, as my career went on smoothly and triumphantly, and I was surrounded by much love and much attention, so of course my real life work was finished. But I belong here because of my interest in your cause, which is also ours. And as I will go ahead sooner than the others, I must come often and quickly if my influence is to be felt. As I feel that it ought to be. Singing is such a great art that one is never finished studying, and you will see the reason I am coming each time now, as your kind guide tells me I am of the utmost importance to all of you, even the absent prima donna whom I am now going to help. She is much in need of spiritual support. You did not ask me and yet I come. I hope it will not happen that I am forgotten again. Adelina Patti.”

A few evenings after this session we received a further writing from the great Diva which read thus :—

“My head is still so light I cannot yet think coherently but the time is approaching for action, and I of all the necessary ones must not falter. I am sad for the earth, as another great one of our race

has left you for the higher sphere. (The reference is to Cleofonte Campinini the famous conductor.) His loss is a tremendous one to you. And unless we over here can interest him in this work which we are so enthusiastic over, his loss will indeed be irreparable. But it seems as though the forces which we here need are ever increasing. And the array of the great musicians is always being added to. At last I have actually communicated with the other big factor in our enterprise. O. H. And he is like a boy with enthusiasm. ***** He says, 'Do not go to sleep in the matter of finances.' I agree with your wonderful husband that the other Mad Scene (Lucia) is better than the one you first selected (Hamlet). I shall be there to assist in any case, but I think our advice should be taken whenever possible. The others are here so I will say Au Revoir. Adelina Patti."

On a later occasion the "Little One" referring to this message said, "I do not believe it." The following reply was immediately given:—

"I never could lie to anyone. Who even in jest would consider me equal to such a thing? I would not be permitted to come. Take the papers home again and study them once more carefully, and you will see that you have not understood it all correctly. I will sing the first time she needs me, and you will then understand my message of Dec. 14th, more clearly. You will soon have opportunities to judge whether I am sincere or just imagining that I am capable of things which to you may not seem possible. You see I even know things of which you no longer thought, and this ought to be proof enough of my sincerity, and also my penetration into many

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matters concerning operatic life which you never dreamed of. I will be able to assist you all artistically in many ways and the kind El Capitano says he wants me to be included in the great company of celebrities, and that is why he wishes me to be especially interested in your intermediary. I am, even without his injunction. I shall be for many more reasons, which you will grow to understand more and more later. Adelina Patti."

On Jan. 25, 1920 she wrote:—

"I am coming closer every time, and the day is not far distant when you may at last hear me. Though it will be in the other room and you, great Lady, shall be at the piano as my accompanist. It shall be a song that she does not know and I shall not tell you until the day comes. See if I do not keep my promise. I wish you every success and shall be there to applaud. Sorry you will not give an act of my favorite rôle 'La Traviata.' I could assist beautifully in that, as it was one of the last complete rôles I ever sang on your plane. The colorature prima donna should call on me for assistance also, as I can and will help all the singers who are in this wonderful little Church of your kind husband. I cannot assist the other ones who are not in this circle, as I have not their interest at heart, and have much to accomplish in just this environment. He says I have not much of importance to communicate this evening so tells me to say a riverderci. I shall see and hear you at every public occasion, and soon be able to disseminate strength. Adelina Patti."

The special reference made by many of the musicians to the "great occasion" was in regard to the performance which the National Opera Club

had promised to donate as its quota to make the first music week in New York City a success. The performance given at the Manhattan Opera on Feb. 6, 1920, when hundreds were unable to obtain admittance, despite the fact that the blizzard of the preceding day had completely tied up all traffic, gives proof that not only was the help greatly needed but was evidently given by all who had promised to make the performance a success, which it was beyond all question. This last message I will reproduce from this famous Diva, for in it she calls attention to the fact which is constantly reiterated by the Friends that "what is worth having is worth asking for." Time and again assistance is offered, in fact there is no one who has not within call many Helpers, for in helping us they help themselves. But the Faith of the conscious need is lacking, and we stumble blindly along, and fail because of our lack of knowledge. Feb. 8, 1920:—"I have not been privileged to come of late as the questions which have occupied you have been of such vital importance that there has not been any opportunity, but you will find it advisable to call on me for future efforts. I have promised to aid and you will not doubt my ability nor sincerity. I congratulate you, but you must not rest on your laurels. There is much more to be done and the thread must not be broken. I can see much in store for you. Some large enterprises ahead, and you must take the bull by the horns. The time is now ripe for just what you are doing. With my sincere appreciation and assurance of any assistance you may need artistically, as ever your friend—Adelina Patti."

The question naturally arises, have all these prom-

ises been fulfilled? It is a question which we frequently ask, and the reply has been given:—

“Remember we speak in quite another time than you. Those in earth life speak in days and weeks, while our time is that of Eternity. Progress is always slow if it is of a lasting character, but our promises never fail.”

Having spent many years under the tutelage of Mme. Pauline Viardot-Garcia, Desirée Artot de Padilla and her husband Mariano Padilla, the famous Escamillo in Carmen, the opera in which Artot was known as the incomparable heroine, also Manuel Garcia, it is natural that I should have been en rapport with each of these celebrities but the messages lose none of their importance from this fact. The first in French which I am giving in translation show much of the spirit of truth as learned by one to whom it must have been somewhat of a surprise:—

“Only the pure in heart and soul are en rapport with the spiritual things of heaven and earth, and we have much to say for your (elements?) You have the divine fire, my dear ladies, and will do much in the world of music and letters with our assistance. We are with you in spirit and hope to see you in the great house of music with the great teachers of singing. You, dear lady, are a woman who lives only for the great things, I am your friend with the black beard (true). I am the husband of your well-beloved teacher, and she is writing for me. I do not know the world at present but hope always to advance in the spiritual world. De Padilla.”

As my early studies made under the tutelage of the famous artist Desirée Artot de Padilla were those which preeminently remained with me during

my entire life, giving me the incentive to allow nothing to interfere with my purpose of availing myself of every opportunity possible for perfecting myself in my musical studies, especially the vocal art, it is not to be wondered at that early in our sessions many messages were received from her, my great musical inspiration. Also that her interest for my successes were but the continuation of the desires expressed so frequently to me in my student days in her studios in Berlin and Paris. Among the first was the following (translated) :—

*est possible avant les autres pays ou est
pas. Quand vous écrit la nouvelle opéra
spirituel de monde vivant. J'espère que c'est
est ne pas en la distance. Je vous renvoie
pour permettre moi de venir encore, et je faire
vous très. Je pense avant longtemps
au revoir ma chère sœur
D'après l'art de Madame*

“My dear :—I think of you and remember many things and trust that you are very happy now. I hope to come to you and assist you in accomplishing many things in the field of music. Your friend sings very well and I hope to see her in Grand Opera singing rôles of the great master Wagner. I continue to help in great affairs. Your husband tells me that you and your friends are doing many things in a spiritual way and that you have an important place in the world of music. America is the country, where German Opera is again possible before all other countries, is it not? When you write the new

spiritual opera, the world will sit up. I hope the time is not far distant. I thank you for permitting me to come again, and I will make you very happy before long. Au revoir, my dear pupil. Desirée Artot de Padilla."

The last message which I shall here reproduce is simply of interest because it mentions an aria from an opera which I studied with much enthusiasm, and sang with success. It was perhaps my most successful opera. The quotation proves that even what might be considered small or unimportant while in the midst of earth detail still leaves unforgettable impressions and is held in remembrance on the other side:—

"My dear little one, I am very happy for you." Then follow some personal observations in regard to my achievements, when finishing she wrote—"You are my pupil and you will always sing with my method. I am old but you are in the prime of life, and you will have time to do a great many things. What is greater than Opera? 'Il va venir,' the aria from 'La Juive,' which you sing very well is a fine aria for your pupil at present, is it not my dear? Au revoir, another time more. Your old friend, Desirée Artot de Padilla."

A characteristic message is one received from the world-renowned teacher and inventor of the laryngoscope, the instrument which has proven of untold benefit to all physicians through the knowledge divulged by its use of the vocal organs and their condition. On his one hundredth birthday hundreds of physicians, musicians and even royalty united in paying homage to one who had been such a great benefactor to humanity through this invention, and

its application for the alleviation of all vocal ailments. His message dated Feb. 29, 1921 reads:—

“I have lived so many years in London that I prefer to speak to you in English though I have many other tongues. Spread my methods throughout the world, you my pupil have been chosen by me. Sing as long as you can speak, is my motto. I want to come for many reasons. Do you know that I could sing when I had reached the age of a centenarian? My method must never die. I will come again. Manuel Garcia.”

To those who have had the privilege of studying under the guidance of this great vocal master the three positive statements contained in this message must carry incontestable proof as to its authenticity. First—that he was more than a centenarian when he passed over. Secondly—that until his death at one hundred and one years he actually could sing, for his vigor until his death was remarkable. Thirdly—that his oft repeated slogan was, “As long as you can speak you can sing.” Also the fact that the renowned “Garcia Method” which was established by him and carried by hundreds of his pupils throughout the world during his life time is still a standard in the singing world. From the last writer to Charles Gounod is but a step, for they were close friends in life and are interested in the same subjects now as the message received from the famous composer indicates. The first line of the letter written in French—“Chantez, Riez, Dormez,” at once informed us as to the writer and we read with great interest the following message which I translate—

“Sing—Smile—Slumber is a piece you sing very

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well when you desire. I am old, a boulevardier but now I desire to enter this sacred room to tell you my singing ladies something of importance for your career. Your Husband has told me many things but I do not know if you desire to admit me here. You are the pupil of my friend Mme. Viardot, and she is much interested in your project. You are the woman of destiny. Pay attention to me and I will commence to help you in this great thing if you will tell me you wish me. Your friend—Charles Gounod.”

A very pathetic strain is that which is struck in the message received on Feb. 15, 1920, from a singer whose fresh sweet voice and charming personality made him many friends amongst those who frequented the Metropolitan Opera House and had learned to expect more than ordinary pleasure when his name appeared upon the program. It reads:—

“I have been here two years but this is my first opportunity to find a place to enter where the shrine is that of Music. I was only thirty-four and I must not be obliterated. Soon the great spirit who takes charge here will give me more strength, then I will bequeath my voice to the cause. Luca Botta.”

On another occasion a message was received from the same, but the contents are so personal that it is omitted although the subject was such that it showed unmistakably that he was at the time cognizant without a doubt of the affairs of those whom he had known in this life. It was constantly a subject of surprise to us during our sessions to have messages almost simultaneously from all parts of the world. A French followed by an ancient Egyptian, then a Spanish poet followed by one of our own but re-

cently passed on composers or even business men. Those who on the earth plane could not possibly by any chance have known each other, seemed to vie in their efforts to communicate and offer assistance in every possible way for furthering the cause. They frequently seemed astonished, and well they might be, from the limited knowledge on the subject which they had carried over with them, at the fact that they were still able to help us, and we are often told, in so doing re-adjust conditions.

Our work must and will not fail because of our neglect while here and happy are those who are permitted to help even while amongst the unseen. It always seems to us a tragedy when those on the very verge of young manhood or womanhood are called out, but when the one taken has by faithful study, preparation, and unceasing diligence not only prepared himself for a great career but also has called attention to this preparation by making good, then the tragedy seems to overcome us to such an extent as to make us question as to the justice. Such was the attitude when Putnam Griswold was so suddenly snatched from our midst at the very beginning of what promised to be a magnificent career.

The reference was in regard to the desire of the National Opera Club to open its propaganda for Grand Opera in English by securing the Manhattan Opera House for a series of Spring and Autumn productions. The great Impresario who is mentioned by many of the following writers, of course, could be none other than Oscar Hammerstein, who continues still to be a dynamic force in this great project if we believe the numerous assertions to this

fact that have been received by the circle which received the messages now being presented through this volume. The belief is that the seed sown by that great Musical Philanthropist is even now only beginning to bear fruit.

The first message reads:—"The great Impresario is with me heart and soul, and I am with him and he has now enlisted my aid for the project which must be in English. She (Mrs. H.) would have wanted me were I now in the physical, but as I am I am more potent. Putnam Griswold."

The second reads:—"The musical clans are now gathering and consequently the vibrations are now stronger and more than one objective can be obtained. The ones who have remained here and faithfully tuned themselves to these vibrations shall at one and the same time be capable of accomplishing many things though even in diversified lines, and though you might wish to give the rôles in German we think the opening might be in that, but we see the other part in Italian also, so be prepared. There is one here who will aid you as he promised and there are several French singers and teachers here also, the help is really tremendous should you be launched. We do not see much that is favorable in this first venture for those who are only financially interested, but then all signs are not always infallible. I have been here before and shall come again if you will permit me. Putnam Griswold."

"Je suis ici aussi. Edouard de Reszke"—was the astounding assertion in the following message translated from the French:

"Good New Year, at last I am here and promise

to return in passing, and I will give many grand operas in French, and also English for your great country, because of our association in this country. Another reason also is the great love of your Husband. E. de R. Au Revoir."

The following week he wrote, "I am here again but cannot write a letter as the time is too short. But my interest is natural as I am a Basso Profundo and you need me greatly. Another time. I thank you for permitting me to come. Edouard de Reszke."

With two exceptions the messages are always signed with the entire names of the writers, frequently followed by a name used familiarly by intimate friends and known only by them, as if for verification. However at this time which was shortly after the passing out of one of the great conductors, several messages were received with the following signature, which did not require even the ordinary amount of imagination supposed to be required to decipher to our satisfaction:—

"My initials, 

I will be there also."

A translation of a later date signed C. C. in the same manner says "A little late, but not too much so. I love all music but to write at this time is impossible."

Perhaps there could be no better time for reproducing the following letter than this as the great conductor—chef d'orchestre—is mentioned and it was received only a month later in most beautiful French which can well be understood by those of us who had known the writer personally—

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"I came only on account of your pupil who is known by the name 'The Little One' and it would give me great pleasure to assist her in her career. I know the great conductor Cleofonte Campinini and also the great Impresario Oscar Hammerstein and they tell me many things. That you will make, my dear Madame, a Director of Opera, I give my career to your pupil if she should desire. I am a soprano but I also sing very low. I thank you for your attention ladies, Gerville Reache."

It is most unusual to receive coherent communications in writing from those who have but recently passed on, and therefore a message received from a famous violinist within two weeks of her sudden death was considered most remarkable. But while signed, her statement—"I have not strength yet, but next time,"—tells the reason of its non-production. The fact of her conscious existence and interest was to us indisputable but not available as evidence here. Quite different is the following received from the well-known and greatly beloved English tenor who was in a most tragic manner called away early in January 1921. The musical papers of the third week in that month will tell the story at length, but on February 6th from his own hand the following was received with explanation as to why he had entered our sanctuary.

"The reason I am permitted to take precedence this time and come before any one else even your kind husband, Madame, was because he has been aiding me for some weeks past, in fact was here to receive me when I arrived. He says I can be of assistance to your friend and pupil, my countryman. I came so suddenly that I am really not entirely in

my environment as yet, and the great and wonderful guiding spirit of this wonderful sanctuary of his will bring each and every new force of any note or capability to this gathering of his chosen few. I shall voluntarily remain where I can be of use to you and yours if you will desire it, please ask me to come again. Gervaise Elwas."

The next message which is being reproduced was from one of whom I had never heard, but the verification of her statement was afterwards found in a musical paper and is therefore of value to those who require many such facts to confirm their belief. Frequently the statement is made that messages received automatically are always or generally from persons of great importance or from those who had passed out many years ago, and that therefore verification is an impossibility. These last two messages prove the unreliability of these statements. Jan. 30, 1921:—

"Cancel the engagement for tomorrow it will result in much disturbance to all concerned. I am only a messagebearer from one who is a guiding spirit but who is out on a mission of mercy of his own. You know me not. I shall bequeath my voice to you. Beatrice de Palme."

"He who sent me is Oscar Hammerstein. * * * I was only forty and want to continue my career if one of you will allow me. He says you three must help this cause and in return he will help you. You must go there tomorrow. It is very hard for me to leave the plane of earth. B. de P."

A message from a well known musician who went out under a cloud gives occasion for much thought and sorrow. Naturally the name is not reproduced

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under the circumstances. Suffice it to say that the message was written in one handwriting and the signature only was in the handwriting of the musician. But a signature which has been compared with numerous others in our possession and upon photographs and always the same. It reads quoting the words of the celebrated song:—

“Nur wer die Sehnsucht kennt 'das ist ein ware Wort. Und jetzt weiss ich was das heisst. Ich bin allein und abgetrennt von aller Freude. Wollt ihr mich helfen? Ich bin einsam. * * *”

A local musician from the same city wrote less than three months after his death, “If you will just burn a candle for me and let me hope to do some future work for you, it will help me to get away from here. Something is holding me back. I would not trouble you but I am in your vibration. I am a violinist. C. F.” Feb. 5, 1922.

While many of the writers came but once or twice offering help in our great work should it be required, or as in the last instance requesting assistance in the manner indicated, by prayers or holding of helpful thoughts, others came frequently, full of encouragement, hopeful, and inciting us to continue work and energy toward the fulfilling of the great “Triumvirate.” Such a friend is Ethelbert Nevin. There can be no possible question as to his knowledge and interest in the furthering of things musical in this his native land. His own achievements were far in excess of those of his age in general, and there can be but little doubt but that his influence is doing much for elevating and developing musical taste here in America. His introduction to our circle was given in this short message:—

"When stars are in the quiet skies, then must I think of thee. More and more I see the great development of this circle. I too will give my services to the Opera and Music. Ethelbert Nevin."

Another message with the same signature reads:—

"Wealth untold is to be the reward of the workers for humanity, and that shall not merely consist of this world's goods, but in an abundance of the things of the Spirit as well. Your first reward for the trust shall be the rejuvenation of the eyes to such an extent that you may become an example. The further requisities are courage and patience. Faith you already possess. I have never been here during any regular session, but once visited you unbidden. Your kind husband has now given me *raison d'être*, and I shall soon be needed. Other musical minds which are interested shall be returning as the newer work shall go on with the other, much shall be simultaneous. My mind is now clear and purged of uncertainty and I can be of much assistance. Sincerely your friend—Ethelbert Nevin."

One of the first important achievements of the National Opera Club—the organization founded as a memorial to the Spirit who seems to be the guiding force of all these writers, was the production of portions of the opera "Fairyland" which was given through the courtesy of the composer, Horatio Parker, an honorary member of the Club. It is not to be wondered at that his interest in the furthering of our propaganda should have continued in his new environment, and this message received from him proves this to be true.

"You may not consider me of very great impor-

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tance but when I tell you why I am here you will not want to repudiate my assistance. The book which is to be written will not be the only spiritual work that will emanate from this circle, which is controlled by all the great musical geniuses who have passed on from your plane to higher ones. The great work which is still to be written must be an opera libretto. * * * I cannot write the words but I will assist with the music. Your friend M. T. will inspire the book. Perhaps you do not remember me but I am very well known on your plane. Horatio Parker."

*Perhaps you do not remember me
but I am very well known on your
plane*

Horatio Parker

One of those most interested in the grand opera project and the writing of a great libretto was the late American opera composer, Reginald de Koven, and many messages were received from him in his characteristic hand-writing and well authenticated signature—one says in part—

"My grateful acknowledgment of your extreme kindness. Please tell those who have been trying to reach me by artificial means, that the Ouija Board is not of any real assistance for communication with those on this side. We are coming a little closer

now I think and I have hope of soon being of real benefit to you here, and to mankind at large. Do this for me, will you kindly? R. de Koven."

A portion of another message reads: "Seek the librettist among the spirits of the authors rather than librettists of other days, they were not so good, except he who wrote his own, the immortal Richard W. Sincerely, Reggie de Koven."

Another message from the same shows the continued interest in all topics of importance which would have been uppermost in his mind while here visibly. It reads:—

"The people who are making the life of the great Sir Oliver Lodge so miserable ought to be permitted to take a look at the things which transpire here, we could soon convince them that the things which are making them so skeptical are indeed the very ones which count. Just have the courage and go right ahead. The way is open at last. Reggie."

In a portion of a later letter he says—"Your wonderful husband is helping. * * * Take Raymond's message to my wife and see what happens. Gratefully yours, Reggie de Koven."

*we in the last few
 months he does not
 think he does not
 what happens. Sincerely yours,
 Reggie de Koven*

Although most of our communications were on the subject of the preparing of this volume, or the other two parts of what the Friends called the

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"Great Triumvirate," and we have made it a rule never to ask questions in regard to our personal affairs or for the furthering of any curiosity as to conditions, customs, or occupations on the upper plane, still sometimes quite unexpectedly we have received advice which seemed most earthly and always timely. The following from a renowned pianist is illustrative.

"Your piano needs tuning. I am the guiding force which makes it possible for you to play your accompaniments, though you cannot as yet use your arm normally. I come to you in my favorite town, in the land where I had many triumphs. I shall also attend you in the future. Theresa Carreno."

Among the younger and less widely known of the composers was a musician with enthusiastic ideas and hopes for the establishment of a real American School of Opera, where ambitious young singers might receive the opportunity and encouragement in their native land which is necessary for creating this greatly needed institution here in America. A composer of one or more operas which he had produced at great personal outlay he knew whereof he spoke, and the great need for exciting public interest in the cause. He writes:—

"Dear Madame von Klenner, I have been trying for several months to get in touch with this wonderful vibratory force and only now, that you are about to become interested again in the production of Grand Opera for the people am I able to make the connection. Ere this your interests have been taken completely by those personalities who are to be of assistance in a literary way. Now however the time is approaching when you shall have re-

newed interest in the other branch as well. I have been very successful in producing opera and will give you some advice as to securing bookings and making small admissions pay. Legrand Howland."

Feb. 5, 1922.

The Bible says repeatedly, "He that would be the greatest amongst you, let him be a servant," and it is most remarkable to read the almost universally expressed desire to serve and assist in every way possible. It seems as though the earth characteristics of "every man for himself" has entirely disappeared, when once the real truth is realized in the new environment. The following letter presents this phase of life in all its forcefulness.

"When we are able to assist in any way the door is opened to us and then we try to be of service. There are some who are of no use but have axes of their own to grind, and those are the ones who must be eliminated. Such a one has endeavored to enter this place, but the guiding spirit has prevented. Warn the chosen ones to give no opportunity for entrance. The name cannot be divulged as the thought must not be imbued with it. I wish to become a spoke in the wheel of many spokes, and shall do my part when the time comes. I am weak as yet but you were my colleague and I wish to be with you. . . . I have here found my boy. So the only great interest which I have is to remain where the harmony is radiated by my own kind. I am not clear as to what I must do to help, but I shall be of service where you wish me to be. Your desire of opera for the masses has been mine for years and in the language of the country. So that would be my field of endeavor it would seem to me, and there

might also be a singer whom I could assist with my knowledge of that art, and my years of experience. I have not been able to write this unassisted, and have had three helpers thus far, the next time I hope to do better. That is of course if you desire my humble aid. Sincerely yours for the cause, David Bispham."

While the interest in our work in many cases seemed to be the primary cause for many of the great musicians desiring to get into communication with us, still, often the desire is expressed of continuing work in the guidance of young singers, thus enabling them to gain greater success than perhaps might be possible without the aid of some higher power. A message from the truly great Madame Materna was of this character. It was written partly in English and partly in German and reads:—

"She must study the jugendlich dramatische rollen. She will have much success. As she can sing so well in English she will certainly find a fine position. There are but few good Wagnerian singers. I am able to help you, so apply yourself to this thing in earnest. Yours for the Art, Materna."

The signature was written so peculiarly as to make it almost impossible of being deciphered. Whereupon another great Wagnerian authority wrote in large printing, "Mme. Materna is her name."

About this time there had been much controversy in regard to the lack of suitable librettos as incentives to our many splendid composers in the line of grand opera composition. The Opera club had always hoped to be able to present the great American opera under its auspices, and so the subject was

one of never ceasing interest to us. One evening this message, also in German script, was given:—

“I have written all the words for ‘The Magic Flute’ therefore the great spirit believes I am worthy to be represented in this great work. When you wish me you only have to call. A. Schikaneder.”

While rarely were the messages received given with the seeming purpose of imparting knowledge, which might be only of importance to one of us individually, still from time to time a letter more than usually out of all possible relation to our knowledge or thoughts would be given amongst the others, almost as though it were thought necessary to continue such proofs as would create in us more and more of the faith which is so absolutely necessary if one is to reach any point in life’s development beyond that which the most physical can give. The following explains itself:—

“The viola which is in your house is very valuable, of the year 1664—manufactured by Guanerius. You should look it up. Il Diabolo Paganini.”

It was found that a viola had remained many years in a garret in the house of the Little One and was of that date and make.

Of course all violinists will readily recognize the signature and the implication which it recalls to remembrance. On two other occasions we have had messages from the best known violincellist David Popper. The first in reference to interesting some persons in regard to furthering our musical plans, and the second, which I reproduce, as an appreciation for some work which I had been active in accomplishing in a philanthropic line for a lately deceased musician of our city. The first letter was

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written in English but the one I give was written in most characteristic German, even to the signature. He says:—

“My honored lady—The magnanimity which you have so wonderfully demonstrated for my colleague has here, in our midst, made such a sensation that we have called you a saint. And you will on that account be spared to the earth for many years in order to do much more good for other worthy causes. What you have done for the family and memory of my friend will never be forgotten by the Highest. Without you personally it would have been impossible to give such a concert. Next week you will find out more about it. In gratitude, Yours, David Popper.” April 23, 1922.

In selecting the messages for reproduction in this book I frequently have been at a loss which to choose, as they all have much of importance and interest for those to whom they are sent. Some of the Friends have given frequent communications, others only one or two. One of our well known musical enthusiasts sent almost a volume, in his interest and anxiety to help in establishing the great American Opera. The unfulfilled desire which he has carried with him into the Beyond. Another who has expressed himself upon many subjects is our greatly mourned Ethelbert Nevin. The message I here reproduce I had decided to place in another Chapter of the book, but as he was known as a musician and not for his literary achievements I have decided to place it here as an evidence of the growth and change of opinions which may take place in the new environment of the Higher Life. This was written at the time when I had been selected to

give the lecture upon the Literature of the Sixth Sense, and was received with a number of other messages upon that subject.

“The Sixth Sense, harmony, is the transcendental inspirational which only the chosen souls are permitted to experience who are in tune and in accord with the Infinite. You are one and it shall be given you to tell the world this little by little, first by word of mouth and then by your literary work. Those composers who gave to the world that which can never be imitated, and which shall live on the earth and the other planes eternally, have been inspired by the Sixth Sense; as the five which mortals possess are inadequate to visualize the transcendental. You will hear more of this in a short period of time. I shall show you much. Ethelbert Nevin.”

It is very seldom that messages have been received immediately after the departure from earth scenes but on two or three occasions such has been the case. One was received from the well known singer, Julia Heinrichs, who had been killed in an accident while on a concert tour in the South. She wished to communicate with her dearest friend with whom she had lived while in the Metropolis, and it was in the form of a warning. I sent for the friend, one of our best known operatic contraltos, and gave the communication to her with the result that the warning which was timely was heeded and greatly appreciated. Another message from a violinist of international renown—Maud Powell—simply said:—

“I am yet too weak, but I have caught your musical vibration, pray for me.” She had only passed out within four days. The following mes-

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sage was received when the great composer had passed to the other side but three or four months:—

“I cannot yet write well, but I have something important for you soon. Your husband will help me. Auf Wiedersehen. Devotedly —”

He signed his name in German script, and when I questioned the signature because it was somewhat illegible, the paper was turned and the name given in the well known signature: “Engelbert Humperdinck.”

One of our most prized messages is from the greatest of all those who through the inspiration received by them raised the world of music to nobler and higher pinnacles of power. It is a suggestion for the operatic libretto and cannot yet be given, but in part, following a most remarkable and beautiful drawing of one of the scenes for the opera, he says:—

“My own scenes have I always worked out myself. The idea * * * is wonderful. Richard Wagner.”



The well known signature could leave no doubt in the minds of any one as to the intelligence behind the communication.

From the commencement of this book the difficulty has been to select from the numerous communications such messages as might seem to be of the greatest interest to the reading public either on account of the truth contained therein or because of special interest in the writer. Whenever I have set aside a communication with the thought of not reproducing it in the book, I have seemed to feel as though I were denying some one who had so gladly "witnessed to the truth" of the benefit to be derived from so doing. And thus I have continued to add page after page. One written in French from a well known American Soprano, whose unusual voice inspired the great Massenet to compose several operas especially for her interpretation, reads:

"I have sung much in French although I am an American, but I was much in Paris and now my heart is always there. Your beautiful instructor (Pauline Viardot) is here with me, and we speak about you, dear Madame, and wish to assist in your career. Will you not permit us to do this? Your friend, Sybil Sanderson."

Several messages have been received from—the evidently in the other life inseparable—Gilbert and Sullivan, but they cannot be reproduced because the references are entirely in regard to the production of the second portion of this Trilogy. One which I can give, for the value of the signature has reference to a message received long ago, by a well known

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musician and set aside by him as of no value. It reads:—

“The time that our Friend will believe in us is when he will be inspired to write the music for your wonderful libretto. I promised to help him years ago, twelve I think (true) but he did not believe me then. And I was the only genuine one who sent a message. Do not tell him yet. Arthur Sullivan.”

This verse signed “G” recalls by its rhythm the collaborator of the famous Sir Arthur and may add weight to the tests so far given. I reproduce only the finishing stanza:—

“Do you recognize the style which I so faithful-ee,
Retain through all the years of wealth and pov-
ert-ee,
The partner of the one who also will help thee,
Sullivan the great who the inspiration sure will be.
G——.”

A Spanish tenor, who had endeared himself to many while living by his gentle manner, gracious courtesies, and unassuming enthusiasm in his art, surprised us greatly by giving his witness in the following letter written in Spanish:—

“I am your good friend. I desire to go to your New York house but find it difficult. Your good Captain who is now my friend desires that I communicate with you. I am near him and happy. The White Dove is here also (personal reference to a mutual friend) and desires to send a thousand kisses to you. With my affection until we meet again in this house with important news. Your good friend, Pedro Guetary e Ganne.”

Having decided to reduce the amount of evidence by eliminating messages which were received in great numbers from the same persons, those who having established connection with our circle seemed desirous of becoming especially valuable to our work by constant communication, we were much interested in noting the fact that other intelligences were being introduced, with the evident desire of confirming each test by both numbers and importance. Two messages from Adelina Patti having been omitted the following from one almost as well known was received written in beautiful characteristic German script.

“My dear Colleague—It is many years since I have in any way been interested in this earth, but through your esteemed sister-in-law it has been made possible for me to make myself known to you. I will work with you in these interests and soon show you the why and the wherefore. Your sister-in-law begs me to inform you that it would be better if you would place the holy picture of the Lady of Lourdes when you meet in the little church where it may be near you. It will make the return easier after so long an absence and then you will know why I have come. Yours cordially, Henrietta Sontag.”

It was seldom that the Little One took on “conditions” but after writing the following and before the light had been turned on that it might be read, she said laughingly, “I feel as though some one enormous has been here.” The message explains the reason, and I wish to state that it has been verified in every respect.

“My dear Madame—Perhaps you do not know me. I have sung in your city when you were a very

young child, but surely you have often heard my name. I was at that time much beloved in your great city and your public were most kind to me. When I sang my farewell they released doves in the auditorium. I have come that I may confirm what the great diva Adelina Patti has written and which shall come true before you are ready for the second volume. I was a Wagnerian singer, but unfortunately became too fat and could not appear very long. Yours, Luisa Lichtway."

The desire to assist, not only in the preparation of this book but also to continue their life work through others still here in the physical is so frequently expressed that one wonders why we so rarely call upon these invisible helpers and avail ourselves of the assistance which cannot possibly be but for the best. I have already mentioned the offer of David Bispham, and his expressed desire to assist "some young singer with his art." Now from another equally well-known tenor is the same offer presented. It reads:—

"Dear Madame—I have just a little time to tell you that the countryman of mine whom I see follow in my footsteps and become another fine Welsh tenor is soon to sail for other shores and visit his own country. Indeed I think he will be with the great Irish tenor. You should not let him go without a word. Sincerely, Evan Williams."

When the tenor mentioned in this communication came to me the following week, saying, "Madame, I sang in the church last Sunday, 'Comfort ye my people' with great success." And I asked, "Why, how did you learn it in time to sing it properly?"

I was not oversurprised at the reply, "I bought a record of Evan Williams and learned it from him."

The actors have given the testimony that professional jealousies are eliminated in the higher plane. I hope that the change of heart will be equally great amongst the musicians. A letter from one of our greatest teachers of fifteen or twenty years past indicates that she is still cognizant of conditions in her own field of activity. It reads:—

"There is much discord in many clubs just at the present time. It is well that you have not been persuaded to undertake to carry any more upon your shoulders than that which you now have. There are to be some upheavals which you must be kept out of if possible. Your guiding spirit has asked me to come and tell you this."

Then followed a warning in regard to my association with one of her former colleagues, and the advice to cultivate more wisdom in distinguishing between friends and seeming friends.

"Those who wish you well and otherwise." The name was omitted but several facts well known to many in the profession were mentioned to prove the present knowledge of the writer, and the signature which has been verified has left no question as to her identity—A riverderci, Luisa Cappiani."

It has been said "to live in the hearts of those we love is not to die." And of whom can it be said more truthfully than of him who is preëminently enshrined in the hearts of all music loving Americans by his soul satisfying songs of other days, Stephan Foster. He gives a message which is not only most apropos just at the present time when we are about to give a nation's thought to the anniver-

sary of the centenary of his death but also as it indicates the possibility of the development of the greatly desired American School of Music.

"The only one I can come through now is the colored composer (Harry Burleigh) and he is consequently the only one who has the real ring in the music which comes from the very souls of his ancestors, those poor downtrodden slaves whose blood is upon many of our ancestors. I however can also put some of my soul's inspiration into other sources that those which emanate from the negro. If you would not scorn my aid I may be of use even to you. Stephan Foster."

Among the plays that have been presented recently several have seemed to bring a message which, while not understandable always to the public at large, has to the deeper thinker conveyed more than might appear upon the surface. Such has been Johannes Kreisler. This is but one of many presentations of the stories taken from the writings of Hoffman and has to do with his experiences with the director Kreisler. So impressed was Robert Schumann by this work that he named one of his compositions "Kreisleriani," illustrating musically some of the episodes contained therein.

The following message translated from the German script indicates the continued interest in a subject which may have been of more than usual interest to the writer during earth life. We know of the frequent collaboration of Clara and Robert Schumann in their compositions, also the never failing incentive which she was to her dearly beloved husband. Perhaps it was her influence which caused

him to select the subject of Kreisler for his famous composition. She writes:—

“If possible go and see the new play. It has inspired the immortal master my Robert, and has much of the same thought as your book, and therefore you must certainly see it as soon as possible. It is called ‘Kreisler.’ Yours faithfully, Clara Schumann.”

Several times our attention has been called to the fact that the writers were permitted to communicate with us because they had been sent to help over some passing soul known to us. Such was the case, when shortly after the demise of one of our best-known tenors, three writings were received in succession from singers who had been closely associated with him in musical circles, and who had been appointed to welcome the one who—to his many admirers, seemed to have had his life career finished all too soon. The first message read:—

“May I be permitted just to come for a moment to tell you that there have been some influences projected over here with much work unfinished and they want to bear testimony to, not only the continuity of life after passing from the Earth Plane, but also the continuity of desire, and the wish to remain and help humanity to the truth. Once the truth has been established beyond a doubt, then shall most of the now existing creeds and religions be completely metamorphosed, and then shall the light of the ever-wished-for millennium begin to shine. There is another singer, here, who wishes to add his testimony to mine. Very sincerely, Willis Bacheller”—Jan. 27th, 1924.

The next writer said, “I consider myself privi-

leged to come and add my little word to that of the last singer—the tenor who just left here. We are now associated—and as we both left your plane in the so-called prime of Earthly Life, we were here ready to greet the tenor whose untimely passing from the Earth has made him want to join several who are already congregated to carry on, so that the testimony of those you have had may be added to and enriched by a few more of the same desires, who came before they were ready or inclined, to give up their Earthly careers. I hope you will keep together these testimonies from singers who came over in the prime of life, or earlier, as there will be several added. This is not my writing. Your kind Irish friend is helping me—he is a good Pal—Your spirit friend— Clifford Wiley.”

The third communication was from George Belder—calling to remembrance our early association in musical life, and voicing the prophecy that this newer field of activity would prove greater and of more value than any other could possibly be.

In a recent play, which created much interest because of its treatment of immediate After-Life conditions, the one thought that was emphasized more than any other was that, while no one knew the ultimate goal of their voyage, they were all confident that some one would meet them at the port of debarkation. What a welcome this trio of young souls must have given to their comrade so unexpectedly called to leave this Earth Plane!

CHAPTER V

TESTIMONY OF THE ACTORS

Someone has said most truly, "What mankind needs as much as anything else is to stop and indulge in the real and noble art of thinking." Having arrived almost at the finish of this book of Revelation we were suddenly startled by a message which drew our attention to the fact that one of the greatest forces in the everyday education of the masses had been omitted in our testimony, and this, not through our own desire, for we have presented in this chapter only such messages as have been given to us unsolicited and unexpected, but evidently because the fact that a book of this character was shortly to be given to the reading public was unknown to the representatives of the stage on the other side of life. That greatest of all educational institutions was entirely unrepresented with the exception of three messages which I had inserted amongst the testimony of individuals. These I have transferred to their proper environment and they will, I am certain, give our readers now, as the authors did during earth life, the greatest incentive for indulging in the "noble art of thinking" when their unquestionable evidence has been presented to those for whom it has been released. The first message received from the beyond followed a conversation regarding the statement of a certain

Eastern Teacher that he could at will project himself spiritually; leaving the body for a space of time, while he visited other planes of existence. In fact, we had but returned from a demonstration of this seemingly impossible feat, when a letter from the well known and greatly beloved actor, Joe Jefferson, was received. He says in his courtly style:—

“Dear Ladies, You may not consider any interference in your great work from one in my profession, but I think what I can tell you is at least worthy of a little thought. You may remember my great rôle which I portrayed more than six hundred times. I know that the legend of the mythical Rip Van Winkle really did happen to a Dutchman who lived in the mountains of northern New York, and when he slept, he went out of the body for many years, and returned to that same body with the youthful spirit, but the body was too old to last long. The time will approach when the world will consciously accomplish what this man unconsciously did centuries ago. I may have something more to elucidate upon this subject if you wish me to return. Joseph Jefferson.” Jan. 22, 1922.

*is spirit but she believes the whole
last long. The time will approach when
the world will consciously accomplish
what this man unconsciously did centuries
ago. I may have something more to
elucidate upon this subject if you
wish me to return.
Joseph Jefferson*

About the same time a message from a woman whom I never remember hearing of or seeing was received. But as the fact and signature have been verified by many, I reproduce it. It was written in German text.

"My dear Madame von Klenner, I have been here a long time and have become acquainted with your husband the Captain. You and he have often seen me play while I was on the earth, and I died quite suddenly. Your husband has requested me to come here because I was very friendly with his sister. You will perhaps remember that I played in the Irving Place Theatre. I have many different friends and have much of importance to reveal later. Also Auf Wiedersehen. Please search if you can remember me. Käthe Brand." (verified.)

The following letter has reference to the healing of the eyes, and because of its absolute truth is one of the most prized testimonies which we have received.

"The secret of success is perseverance. So must you continue to take the prescribed rest and occasionally endeavor to use your eyes for your work without glasses. I am not a medical man, but one who has the realization of that very thing for which you are striving. As a professional man it was necessary for me to go upon the stage without my glasses, though I was so very near-sighted I would fall over my own feet. One night I dreamed that a great doctor told me he would endeavor to make a spiritual cure. As I was like all actors superstitious, I began the very next rehearsal to read my part unaided by my glasses. At first it was difficult, but I persisted and went on in the part, only using

my glasses for very fine print. I was then fifty-two. I was playing with my beautiful wife and was supposed to be twenty-one. You may not be pleased to receive me in your chosen circle, but your sponsors have permitted me to come and tell you this. I am still burdened with my desires and you can help me if I may help you. Sincerely your friend, Nathaniel Goodwin." (Nat.)

As has already been mentioned this chapter has been inserted because of the requests from theatrical friends on the other side. Our attention was drawn to this omission of the stage by no less an authority than Sir Henry Irving. He wrote:—

"To the Baroness von Klenner. Among your most brilliant galaxy of men and women of letters there have been but few of that branch of the art to which I belonged. Upon one other occasion I made a partially successful attempt to become one of this coterie. The reason of my non-appearance upon other occasions must be laid to the fact that there was not much requirement at those times for members of my profession. Now however as the time is fast approaching, when other branches shall go hand in hand with the book, you shall need many who have had the exact experience such as I have had in my many years before the public. I am again having assistance for this communication, hence the greater success this time. You may not have devoted a chapter to the stage in this but you certainly will in the next volume and I can foresee that because of the extraordinary interest which shall be manifested by the public, your second volume shall be a sinecure. Most sincerely and truly yours, I beg to remain. Henry Irving, Bart."

Astonished as we were at receiving a message of such length and lucidity from the very pinnacle of the stage, the Little One with her usual incredulity, said, "I don't believe he's dead. I never remember hearing of his death." At the very next session the following message was received:—

"I must come to tell you that he whom you have some doubts about as where to locate him has been here for many moons. He will come again to you. Perhaps you may have much help for your libretto from a greater man than you think. David Garrick."

On this same date, Oct. 8, 1922, one of the most remarkable of all our tests was received, for as the writer states, she had only been over two days, and the notice of her death was not published in our newspapers until the day following the receipt of this message. It was not written in her own handwriting but the signature has been verified by several. She says:—

"As the message must of necessity be somewhat longer, there will not be so many, but they will always be of importance. I have just come over here, and your friend the genial Irishman, (Tom Collins whom I have mentioned as always being near our circle) is guiding. I am of the same profession as the great English actor who came before me this evening. But of course, as I am only a music hall artiste, I cannot be classed with him. However, the reason I am asked to participate is because the humor of the kind man who is assisting me is not such that it can be placed before the public. He has asked me to contribute some humor and occasional jokes to put a lighter vein in the chapter of stage

celebrities. I am an imitator and sing ballads and also popular songs. I could not write just yet, but will come later if you wish. I have been here only two days. Marie Lloyd—England.”

During the present season a number of plays have been produced in our theatres both from foreign pens and those of our own writers which have been so individual and different from the productions of the past few years as to cause deep thought not only to the critics but also to the audiences, which strange to say have filled the theatres night after night and week after week in spite of the fact that the subjects presented and the lessons taught are far from the frivolous specimens which for some years past we have been assured were the class of plays “the public demanded” and the only kind it would pay to see. We who *know* the truth realize that the forces were at this time using the “prepared instruments” to send over some mighty teachings, which at the present time the masses are ready to receive. Therefore we were not surprised when our impressions were verified in many messages. In introducing one of these playwrights to an audience, I spoke of him as an inspired or prepared instrument and the following evening this verification of my statement was received:—

“Dear Madam, what you said at the occasion yesterday in regard to the inspiration by the coming man in playwriting is truer than you may realize, and will you believe me when I tell you that all of his work is through this source. He has a message for the world, the same as you have, only that his shall be conveyed by the spoken drama, while yours is by the means of the written. There is much

retrogression in the use of drama writing in the present day, because of the silent drama portrayed upon the silver screen and his cause is to again uplift the drama to the standards of Shakespeare, Ibsen, and the other great dramatists of the past who are all wishing to be of assistance in again elevating the stage and the taste of the public. You will soon see another inspired masterpiece emanating from the same pen. I am very sincerely, Beerbohm Tree, Bart."

*of masterpiece in your destiny
the stage and the history of the
you will see another of the
inspired masterpieces emanate from
the same pen.*
Very sincerely
Beerbohm Tree
Bart

One of our most recent messages may refer to this same play. It is signed Frank Bacon and reads:—

"The great work of the latest inspired author must be read when it appears. You must see the play if you have not all seen it. Its message was sent to him from here. I am being helped by D. Garrick." The recent revival of the Shakespearian plays which seems to indicate an undoubted backward swing of the pendulum has evidently created an interest amongst our unseen friends, or perhaps their desire has caused this condition, for several well-known actors have written in regard to this

matter and always with approbation. The following is from one of unquestioned authority. He writes, after a few sentences explaining his coming:—

“I know so many of your good people over here, I am anxious to tell you that we of the ‘profession’ have very good times among ourselves, and we forgive all each other’s professional jealousies which we did not do on your plane, and we make up for many things we missed while there. I want to say that there are not many tragedians now in your world like those when we were there, all the big ones. I played with the Booths and Barrett also. But there are a few coming ones and they should not lose their fine voices for the deliverance of Shakespearian lines by appearing in the silent drama. This can be hinted at by you when next you speak in the presence of some of the stage folk. E. L. Davenport.”

A short message given because of the request that her name be vindicated is from one known to the theatre-going public from her association with the silent drama. She writes:—

“Dear friends, Will you please vindicate my memory by telling those who knew me a fact of my passing out? Since you have been so kind as to permit those of the stage to enter these sacred portals you would not bar one of the film contingent either, I am certain. Your kind assistant has given me the privilege and is also helping me to write as I have never been here or anywhere since I passed out. I met with my death through an accidental poison and not by my own hand, as some thought and said. Very gratefully yours, Olive Thomas.”

Some one has said, "To be able to laugh away trouble is greater fortune than to possess the mines of King Solomon." How greatly enhanced is that wealth when one is able to lift the worries and burdens from the hearts of others by causing them to laugh, and by so doing re-create a condition of ambition and contentment. Such was the talent possessed by the writer of my next message. He wrote:—

"I want to be in on the greatest chapter which is to be about the stage, and which is going to make the book sell like wild fire in our 'Profesh'. Now even if I am not quite such a big bug as Dave Garrick I am sure you will let me say a word, that I approve and want to make you a success. Your friend the Irishman is helping me to write this. S. Rogers, of the team of Rogers Bros."

The continual reference to my friend the "Irishman" and his desire to help so many to convey their messages calls attention to the fact that the power of communicating with those still in the physical through automatic writing is generally possessed only by those spirits who have been over some time and have developed the condition which makes them able to write. Oftentimes two or three different handwritings will appear in the same message, only the signature being that of the writer. The special value of much contained in this volume is the large number of lengthy messages written entirely in the verified chirography of those conveying the communication. Tom Collins having been in the other life many years is evidently not only able but more than willing to assist in this writing. It is curious that my Guide has never been mentioned as assist-

ing in this respect. He has always been the one to invite guests to visit our circle, and give such evidence as may seem to them helpful, or of interest to the waiting public, never the intermediary.

As the time for publishing this book approached the activity amongst our stage friends seemed to increase for at each session several messages were received until I believe every branch of the profession is represented by at least one or more testimonies. The following explains itself:—

“No doubt you will not recognize me because I was a specialist in clowning not quite in the class of actors which you would consider as exclusive. Nevertheless you will permit me to add my testimony to those others of greater and more lustrous prominence than I am, but perhaps not of any greater popularity before the public than I in my day could boast of. So, Madam, I have the honor to remain, Yours truly, G. L. Fox.”

In giving their testimony each of our stage representatives has stated some fact which would be unknown to the laity, but which to the theatre-going public of the last generation, would establish the truth not only of the communication but also verify the personality of the writer, as for example the following:—

“Dear Ladies, It’s all for your cause I am, and it’s my good friend of the old sod who told me to come to tell you that there are many who would be much better off for a knowledge of some of the truth you are going to tell those who ought to know. Your old friend is now my friend, and many is the time he saw me in my own work, the *Shaugran*, and *True Irish Hearts*. I want to say that I am also

qualified to be considered with the authors. I wrote some of my own plays. Your recollection of actors' signatures should be enough to give you the entrance into the actors' heaven which is a club similar to the Lambs in your own city. Tell the boys not to worry, there are plenty of good old times over here, and so no one ever feels lonesome for his own sort. Yours truly, Dion Boucicault."

Another witness to the continuation of association of those of kindred interests such as has already been given by the authors, musicians, and painters.

In receiving the next message the Little One seemed to be under some difficulty. She endeavored for several minutes to grasp the pencil and only succeeded in holding it after much effort. The explanation is given in the message which is really one of the most remarkable contained in this chapter or even the entire book. It reads:—

"This is to tell you that it is very true what some of the men of science are now trying to solve. The truth is that dogs have souls. There are many over here. Your two pets and my own little Tiny, they are all living and now they also have the power of speech. I was so fond of all the animals when in the circus. I was an actress although only twenty-two inches tall. This pencil is much too big for me. Please have a little one next time. Lavinia Warren, with Barnum and Bailey."

Later messages were received from two others of this famous family, each with the distinguishing characteristic which they had possessed during Earth-Life, as will be seen upon reading. The first, signed Minnie Warren, is as follows:—"For those who do not understand, this will seem to be ridicu-

lous, but we have souls as well as all those who are big, and we can come to see you too. But we must be very careful, because they can put us aside and we can be pushed out of sight. My little sister was here before, and likes it very much, and says she wants me to come to tell you that I am the other one, and much better known than she was. But, anyway, I can now go anywhere I please. It is very beautiful here and one does not feel out of place whether small or large: we can have all joy and happiness and can be together with others, and there will be no difference noticed in sizes. To the wonderful beings over here, we are all beautiful whether large or small. I was not as beautiful as my sister when I was there where you are, but now I am just as beautiful. . . . Your husband is here and helping me, but the next time my sister will come again—she has something to tell you. Minnie Warren.”

Note the fulfillment of desire. The happiness in the equality of the large and small.

A month later, a message, signed General Tom Thumb Stratton, after some personal statements, says: “I just came to be in the party with Minnie and Lavinia, and to tell you that we have a beautiful place for the little people here, so that we are all together and are not freaks at all. We like you very much, and our place here is even nicer than Atlantic Garden in the Bowery. Will you please let me come again, that we all three can visit you sometimes together. Even if we do not amount to much, we might surprise you by helping in unexpected ways—Good-bye.”

The request to be allowed “to come again” has

frequently been received, but as the Guide had made an absolute rule that the sessions should be closed one hour before midnight, it has been impossible to receive all the testimonies which have been offered. The chapter on the Stage has been especially filled by those wishing to testify, but many messages have been omitted simply because the advice given or the proofs offered have been of too personal a nature to be presented in this volume. About this time, a message was received from an actress unknown to us even by name, however when the doubt was voiced as to her authenticity, a veritable flood of messages in verification of her identity were received, some containing expressions of great astonishment at our ignorance. The first letter reads—

“My dear Sweet Madam—Will you permit me to add my name to the coterie of wonderful names in your Stage Chapter? I was so much before the time of any of you three wonderful ones, that perhaps the very mention of me will mean nothing to you, but you may secure something of my history by asking some of your theatrical friends whether they remember me. I was quite renowned, playing tragic characters, also comedy rôles, and played in an old playhouse down on the Bowery. May I say that for our profession there will be so much of interest in your book, that among them alone you will have a public that will clamor for that very kind of a revelation. You may not know it, but we of that profession are interested in spiritual and psychic subjects more than in anything else. What has been called superstition in the past has in reality been only that they were of occult tendencies. Very sincerely, Fanny Herring. Feb. 17, 1924.”

Having had some difficulty in verifying this signature, we received, two weeks later, the following—"I just wanted to tell you that I knew the actress you heard from a couple of weeks ago, and I do not think you have verified her name yet. She was a character actress, and also she acted tragic rôles. Her name was Herring. You will of course remember my name, even though I was not of such very great renown. There are so many names which could be added to your book, that the Stage Chapter could be a book by itself. But if I were you, I would take as many names as possible and make use of them, because your best field will be from those of the Stage. You may know me better if I sign my name just the way I always billed with my husband—Mrs. Conway."

About the same date, a most interesting letter was received from an actress of renown, and, as in every case, some fact was stated which should prove the truth of the testimony, so in this was it not lacking. It reads—"Dear Madame—I am sure you remember me. I have not been over here very long, and I am not writing myself. Your kind friend who is very witty is helping me. I think I have met you personally, one time when you spoke on a Drama Day at some club (true) which met at a hotel, and of which I was a guest of honor. I was quite a well-known Shakespearean actress about twenty-five years ago, and one of my favorite rôles was Viola in Twelfth Night. Did you ever see me act? I have of course nothing of value to bring to you, but I wish to be among the Stage Folk who have testified that 'all the world is but a Stage and

we are all actors in the Great Drama of Life,' and, that when the final curtain is drawn another is lifted upon scenes much more wonderful and beautiful than any conceived by Urban or Belasco. May I come again? Your friend—Marie Wainwright."

One of the most frequently reiterated statements is the one expressing the doubt of our remembering the visitor, unless through some personal achievement which might be more lasting than the name of the writer. Many messages begin, "Of course you will not remember me," as does the following—"but your Theatrical Chapter is so very attractive and the company so alluring I would like to be in it, too. I was once—oh! so popular—now, forgotten—such is fame—and the public is so fickle, though I am sure some will recall M'Liss and also Fanchon the Cricket. Maybe you do not, but some of the past generation will. Maggie Mitchell."

At the very next session, America's most famous actress gave the following—"The world to which I belong is so well represented that you do not need my testimony, but I was there today and admired your speech, and would be glad to see your book make a sensation in just this field of my colleagues, because that is what so many of them are searching for, and now at last it will be within their reach. There are many of us over here who will be heard from—if not in time for your first edition, they can go in the appendix which will be necessary for the second, because you do not cease the communion, and consequently gather more material. Charlotte Cushman."

About this time numerous communications from

all classes representing the Stage were received, each with its verification of identity, which cannot be given at this time for lack of space. As if to encourage us for the criticism of the skeptics, one said—"I am, indeed, an actor, though they derided and derided me. I wished to tell you this, for I think your book will make a success in spite of jealousy. James Owen O'Connor."

How true is the saying the heart knoweth its own sorrows and sad indeed is the knowledge that even our peace and progress in the Higher life can be hindered by the actions of those with whom we were associated whilst on our earthly journey. In a recent message this truth is once again brought to our realization. It reads—"My dear Madam—Should you permit me to enter this circle of so sacred a character I would deem it, indeed, a privilege. It is my desire to add my testimony to that of my later and, to you, better known colleagues. I was on the American Stage before 1855 and so of course you would not know me as well as the names of my two sons, and also those of my family and descendents who are not so far back before your time.

"I have grieved over here for the misdeeds of others, and I wish to state that those who sin while upon earth, not only injure their own future spiritual progress, but they also cause much and continued unhappiness to those loved ones who have gone before, and very often they hinder the further progress of the departed. Especially, is this the case where those who have gone before loved very deeply the surviving ones. Consequently, that one

This was chosen for a picture of the
 of vision, but the story is so essential and
 continued until the end of the world as
 who have gone before. The world has
 the further appearance of the departed, appearing
 in the same way. This is the same
 before long, and deeply the same, as
 I am sure, that the world is so
 and a fearful deed that I do not
 to find a name here, it left me back
 many many years, and I am not yet
 where I should be. Now, I am
 Junius Brutus Booth

of my sons committed such a fearful deed, that I do
 not desire to name here, that kept me back many,
 many years—and I am not yet where I should be.
 Junius Brutus Booth."

CHAPTER VI

TESTIMONY OF PREACHERS AND POETS

We have always realized that the leaders in the better and greater things of this world were those who from a somewhat higher vantage ground are in closer vibration with the unseen forces. So in putting the Preachers and Poets in the same chapter I am not breaking any tradition. If there is diversity of opinion, it must be remembered that we begin on the other side exactly where we leave off here, and commence to develop from that new position or outlook from the place where we stood when we bid farewell to the physical body. It seems, however, that we grow more rapidly and that often we change our ideas in a remarkably short space of time. This is one of the truths taught most frequently.

That our first message should be given by one whose word and teaching carried the message of higher and nobler ideals to tens of thousands while here in the body is most fitting:—

“Soon to keep the Sabbath holy will simply mean to let no material thought, word, or deed come between you and the spirit, so shall that day become really something Divine. Then and then only shall the world understand. I was sensational in my sermons and consequently made much money, but de-

spite adverse criticism and much diverse public opinion, I retained my exalted position in the theological field because I was sincere, and not only believed, but knew the truth even then as you know it now. I am sent to advise you to be persevering in overcoming all obstacles. Do not heed the scoffers, and you will gradually convince the most skeptical. I have served in several of the largest cities and talked from the pulpit even to the man who sat in the chair of the highest executive in this country, and I converted many souls and leaders to the knowledge of the only true faith. T. de Witt Talmadge, D. D.”

Another message from the same authority says:—
 “Search in your collection for what has been written by me before, as there is something which I have said that I wish to recall to your mind. There is one who has come over here recently who when he was on your side said some things filled with hate, which have caused him much regret since he came here, and he wishes to refute them now. Search also for the message of a prominent preacher of your city, and you will find some of that acknowledged by him in his message. He wants to come to you again, but your kind protector tells him he must wait as there are many before him of importance. So I have come to ask you to find his other message. You will know whom I mean. C. T. B. Sincerely,
 T. de Witt Talmadge.”

The letter referred to had indeed been given to us shortly after the passing out of the writer. A man unknown to me but regarded as one of the most brilliant and powerful preachers of the creed in

which I have found my religious teachings and incentives for life purposes. He wrote:—

“Do not credit the word of a lying mouth, and you will not be defiled by the contact of those upon whom the curse of former evil deeds has left its stigma. Such ones are at the present time somewhat clouding the clarity of your horizon, but it is in the power of the invisible helpers to assist in clearing your immediate atmosphere of the objectionable cloudy vapors. Your new friends, and there shall be many influential ones soon appearing in your immediate vicinity, shall all be of a different caliber and not of questionable repute. We dwell upon these matters somewhat lengthily as we must endeavor to retain all inviolate that which has been selected for the great purposes to which you have been called. Your Husband did not call me here, but I came because I see that you have made this a religion, and to tell you that I as a Minister of the Gospel did not know this great truth until I was precipitated here. And that sometimes I even preached against it, but now I see that you are about to give to the world some proofs of its absolute truth, so I am adding one more to your collection. I did not always adhere to what I knew to be true, and on the platform (not in the pulpit) I even pleaded for hatred against our enemies while we were at war. That I now deeply regret and would plead only for love. I remain, Cyrus Townsend Brady.”

On several occasions we heard from the immortal poet Heinrich Heine and the following poem seems to be so thoroughly in accordance with the preceding writer I reproduce it:—

"The secret spring of spirit life,
 How few this wisdom know,
 It would prevent much earthly strife
 Could we but come and go.

By we I mean the ones who passed
 And to the heavenly homes
 Have taken out and safely massed
 Cathedral souls and domes.

The magic wells give water sweet
 The verdant fields are green,
 All blessed ones each other meet
 And naught but beauty seen.

You chosen ones the means will be
 To let the world rejoice
 And we who called you, then will see
 That we've made a happy choice.

Au Revoir—my first English verse. Heinrich
 Heine."

42 The magic wells give water sweet,
 The verdant fields are green.
 All blessed ones each other meet,
 And naught but beauty seen.
 You chosen ones the means will be
 To let the world rejoice
 And we who called you then will see
 That we made a fine choice
 English verse Au Revoir my first
 Heinrich Heine

In many of the following messages throughout the book references are made to the eyesight, and the reward of faith when coupled with patience. The explanation to this is the fact that recently I have been obliged to resort to the use of eyeglasses. They have been a most unusual hindrance to my writing, and frequently have I asked that some of the Helpers might aid me so that this obstacle would be removed. I have said, "If I really have been given spiritual sight beyond the ordinary, how is it that my physical sight is not perfect?" Many promises have been given that "protracted" sight would be vouchsafed me, and that only must I add to my faith, the other virtue of patience to make the thing possible. The next writing refers to the fact:—

"Thy faith is sublime, so falter not. The artificial aids to sight shall be cast where the others have been before. Thus thou shalt walk in light protracted, sight shall be yours, sin shall not attend you. Philip Melanchthon—Eisenach. Ich schreibe besser Deutsch."

Naturally a message from one so far removed both in time and interests from any member of our circle was the cause of much astonishment and conversation, which was more than augmented when the following explanation was received later during the session.

"His name is Philip. Look for yourself. He was a Roman, and turned from that faith to one set by the great Reformer. He also has marvellous power in healing, but it was not generally known at the time. He was very taciturn. He will guide you in many ways. John Calvin. Oct. 18, 1921."

From John Calvin to Omar Khayyam is a long

step in our appreciation of time and place, but the thoughts appear to be the same, the aim identical. The following, one of many received from the pen of the great Persian, illustrates this fact, and shows that the selection of a fitting Title for this volume was considered even in his present surroundings as a matter of importance:—

“A book whose pages shall reveal
 Much of mystery of the things unseen,
 Should have for title a name unique.
 This shall convey to the world at large
 The truths which bring knowledge supreme.

“Super knowledge must be the thought expressed
 The Title must tell the story at a glance
 Thus will it be necessary to spend time and thought.
 Upon the next occasion shall we come again
 To submit some titles for you to take or suppress.”

“I must learn again to write for you. Omar.”

Another versified thought from the same source reveals a condition where we may be helpful. A fact known and acknowledged by thousands of adherents to some of the greatest orthodox faiths of the world at the present time.

“Saints or sinners what'er we be
 Your prayers alone can make us free.
 Give freely of your help we pray
 Then you can take our guilt away.

“Though many to their reward have gone,
 Many remain behind forlorn.
 Those you may help in great array,
 By cheerfully willingly kneeling to pray.

“This boon we ask, and we ask it of you,
You who through life have great things to do,
Sow the seeds for divine revelation
Giving to us the blessed salvation. Omar.”

The requests for prayers from the other side of life is one of the most frequent forms of communication. Therefore, when received from those whom we had known in life the request meets with but little astonishment. But the following from one well-known in history creates more than ordinary interest. It was written in French which I translate:—

“If you permit me to come to this sacred church it will be possible to obtain my liberty. I have committed murder and I am very unhappy, and desire a little assistance for my liberation. Will you say a prayer to the Virgin for me? Your unhappy dependent, Charlotte Corday.”

The wished for prayers were offered in all faith and willingness, and after three months a second epistle was received from the same source.

“You have prayed for me and I thank you. I am a little happier, and I desire to be of assistance for your spiritual book. I am a spirit always, only living for the forgiveness of my bad life, and you know that it is possible to pray for a soul with much benefit to yourself, and for the same soul in the other world. If you will permit me I will return another time. Charlotte Corday.”

While it has been impossible to verify the authenticity of the following poem, still the encouragement given to us, and the truths uttered are sufficient to obtain for it a place on our pages. The signature

is identically the same as the one reproduced in Chapter II, when the writer introduced himself as a fresco painter of the Vatican, a Trappist monk who had passed out almost thirty years ago. In his early life he had evidently given expression to his highest emotions not only with his brush but also by his pen, as these verses illustrate:—

“The sacred precincts of my cell,
A hallowed place wherein I dwell,
From here the thoughts to you will flow,
Which soon shall cause the world to know.

“The mystic spell we then shall bind
Around the chosen few we find
Who heed the call from us sent out,
And our message to the world will shout.

“Speak our language you who know,
Tell the world the proofs we’ll show.
Universal is our tongue,
A million years, yet still so young.

“A poet to the world did come,
Revealed the truth to those at home,
Then sent the message far and wide;
Still thoughts would differ and divide.

“But when the world your book you give
Your name will then forever live.
Your revelation they’ll believe,
The truths with credence they’ll receive.
Fra Angelico.”

We are often impressed by the seeming difference in importance of events as presented from several viewpoints. The enormous value which the presentation of the truths which have been divulged through these intelligences on the other side, has for mankind, and the great responsibility devolving upon our circle to make the communications known at once with as little delay as possible, at times has overcome us. But statements have been reiterated time and again and always with increasing emphasis as to our obligation to "carry on."

As though this open door having been found by no lack of interest or appreciation of the importance of the message on our part must activity be lessened. On December 4, 1921, from a most learned Divine, the following was received:—

"Staunch and true as a rock is the faith which you possess, and through that shall you receive a demonstration which shall be above all others the most remarkable, and as such the most valuable, for the example which shall be given to others who have not such implicit faith as you; and of course though these demonstrations may seem of benefit only to you, they are for the enlightenment of humanity. If such were not the case we should not be permitted to participate. We shall aid to the utmost that your desire may be realized, though only in this one instance, we shall be permitted no other. All creeds are as one to the Most High. As a giant (illustration) higher than any shall you stand when this task has been completely accomplished, which will make you known to all the world as one who was inspired as the prophets. Do not falter but persist in the right direction. Please carry on,

on, on. Your friend to be—I hope. Lindsey Parker, D.D.”

All poets are prophets in a greater or lesser degree and especially gifted in this sense of “clear-seeing” was Ella Wheeler Wilcox. Her pen seemed ever to have been used in depicting what her eyes had seen of those things hidden from the ordinary being. She appears particularly happy in giving of her new experiences, and many were the poems written for us, always hopeful, helpful, and urging untiring activity toward the fulfillment of our mission. On March 12, 1922, this was received:—

“Water of life from a far distant shore
Comes to the few who believe,
Searchers for truth find the beautiful store,
Which Radiance, consoles those who grieve.

“The night of black darkness turns into day
For those who follow the creed
Brightness shall come, fear fly away
Granted to them every need.

“These are the things which to them shall be given,
When they have become what they should
The gates of this world shall be Portals of Heaven
To the faithful, the true and the good.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.”

Another from the same pen is in like vein

“As the river overflows its banks
So shall the world bestow its thanks
Upon the one, the chosen tool
Who makes a wise one of a fool.

"The secrets which you will reveal
To you, who have naught to conceal,
Shall be a fountain full of youth,
Because you bring to us the truth.

"Thus again we come to keep
All those who walk beyond the deep
Out of danger, and walking straight
Knowing the path, and opening the gate.

"The revelation, the greater one
Will tell the world what you have done
You will make known astonishing facts
When you reveal these thoughts and acts.

"To you we bring the fruits of years
Which have been attained with sighs and tears.
You must not weep, oh blessed one,
Thy work shall sooner then be done.
Yours for eternity—Ella Wheeler Wilcox."

But all the truth has not been given in poetry; the bald setting aside of positive assertions of certain orthodox beliefs have been given frequently, to be believed or rejected as the individual desires. The following is of great interest:—

"There is no salvation necessary, for the soul has never been lost. The moment a soul is imbued with life, from that instant it becomes eternal, and the theory that it is lost is only the earthly shell. So in consequence all should strive to make that thing known, that none may fear the life which only begins when the shell is cast off. They are all wrong who talk to their flocks as though it were possible to lose that which is forever. And those who have gone

before are testifying each day to the authority of these things. I was sometimes called a heretic for telling them to my people. Lyman Abbott, D.D."

A lengthy message from the sweet singer Ira D. Sankey, has some suggestions to make in regard to the title, which it would not be appropriate to reproduce at this time. But part of the message is of value and reads:—

"Truth crushed to earth shall rise again. This is what shall be revealed when the light shines upon your coming revelation. * * * You will have several names to choose from, and can tell which conveys the most in the fewest words. Your husband bids me come again. I am no writer of books, only verse. Ira D. Sankey."

A poem giving not only philosophy, but also indicating a name which we could well have used if it had not been too involved to attract the attention of the general public was given almost at the beginning of this series of letters. It reads:—

" 'The Unseen Realm' wherein abide
All spirit forms, which gently glide
Through spaces wide, they float along
So shall you call your opening song.

"The chapter which begins our book
Such name will cause the world to look
Soon those will soon investigate
But their search then will be too late.

"Those truths which through you we reveal
Will cause the doubters faith to feel
For chapter two to you we'll send
The name, beginning, and the end.

"We then will all your thoughts divine
To show the faith which has been thine
And those who read must soon believe
Nor doubt the knowledge they receive.

"Each day your pen will move along
On lightning wings to write the song,
That message from the unseen world
Whose flag has yet to be unfurled.
Ralph Waldo Emerson. June 13, 1921."

From one held most high in pious remembrance this message was received and refers to the pilgrimage which I made to the healing grotto in a near by city:—

"Come to the mountain. The peak whereon rests the Cross is the point where the divine blessing descends. Those who went to the mountain of Lourdes will not regret, as the effect of that pilgrimage shall be felt for many days to come, and the benefits derived from that higher communion shall be manifold, even to those who merely went to assist. And to those who were spectators alone must some of the influence of the flow from a sea of cries for help have a healing effect. Whether it be desired or not, whether they request or otherwise, still the effect must be felt and will be of long duration. Sanctified are those who have been permitted to partake of this divine food for the soul. May your journey be a blessed pilgrimage is the wish of San Sebastiano—Spain."

From one of equally high authority in ecclesiastical history was received the following:—

"Speak not of the knowledge which is thine. The

only revelation which the world shall receive of that which is given here to you must come through the medium of your inspired pen, and the secret must be withheld until such time as it is given to the people, who are crying for light and truth. I am one whom the powers of light have sent to warn you of the fallacy of too previous disclosure. Bonifacius."

In answer to the question, "Who are you?" the reply was—"Bonifacius—Canonized in Rome—Fifteenth century—ruler of the Diocese—Trappist—Wrote Eucalyptus and its benefit to Mankind."

On several occasions messages have been received from a Friend who signed herself Sister Beatrice, or the corresponding name in Italian. Her letter was always filled with suggestions indicating a special interest in my present affairs, and assurances of the help which would always be mine for the asking. She says:—

"The pledge which you have given to carry out the work of those who have left much undone is as sacred as though you had taken a vow as an inmate of a cloister, and should it be broken, you will feel the results always, and can never be content. Whatever you do of a material nature must not interfere with this work. From the time that you accepted this work and made the pledge, you have been in a covenant. The ones with whom you made the covenant must also hold themselves to their side, and whatever has been promised must be kept, or they would be breaking their pledge, which would be a disaster to their cause, as would be the breaking of your part of the covenant. The eyes will be the greatest boon, and the promises which have been made to the other chosen ones must be considered

as binding. They are keeping faith and must be held to their trust by the same faith being kept upon the other side. These words may seem obscure to those who know not the truth, but to you who walk in the light are they clear as crystal. * * * You shall behold many truths which so far have been suppositions, but now shall be verified in many ways. The church whereto you made your pilgrimage has benefited you in more ways than one, and you will feel the desire to go again. Also you shall again go to the little Chiesa in Italia for another purpose than the healing. Your Sister Beatrice."

Our attention having been called to the numerous messages received from those of ancient Greece, the inquiry was made as to the reason. The reply was that the "Captain" in a previous earth existence had been an old Greek philosopher. Those who had known him while here in association with us could easily recognize that this might be the truth, in fact on consideration it seems to be the only explanation for many characteristics of a personality which impressed everybody as being of quite another class than that of those with whom we are used to come into contact in our daily life. This might also explain his fund of knowledge which seemed inexhaustable. The verse signed in Greek, Socrates, is of interest and weight, as read with this explanation as to the reason why such a marvellous intelligence should have been brought into our midst to testify.

"Spread the tidings near and far
Scatter the seed abroad in the land.
The Spirits secrets revealed to you are,
Wisdom shall emanate from your hand.

"This book to the world you will give
 Sources unknown for you shall write
 Everlasting shall your name live
 Conversions be made through its might.

"All these things you must do
 If you would fulfill your destiny.
 Fail neither in one nor in two
 But finish successfully all three.

"Much that is dark will soon become light
 We will anew many truths reveal
 Day will come, vanish the night
 What is obscure will become real.

Socrates."

A recent writer upon the subject of spirit communication states that in the Beyond the association of kindred interests exists in even stronger ties than those upon the earth plane. I have mentioned this when Rosa Bonheur signed herself a "member of the Society of Departed Artists." The two following communications verify this continued interest while the writers were separated by centuries in earth life, now they are united by a common spiritual thought.

"The sanction of the authors who walk upon the planes of progress is placed upon the work which you are doing to enlighten the ignorant. My book was one of the first to cause the thoughts of its readers to be lifted from the Slough of Despond into which most of the worldly minds were plunged at that time. Your kind guiding spirit is aiding me. Some of your inspiration came from me also. Sincerely yours, John Bunyan."

From "Pilgrim's Progress" to the next writer is indeed a long step and the messages are put together because received upon successive session of our circle. The sentiment contained in this communication is of illuminating value to those who select one thought and use it as a weapon against any institution regardless of the many saving qualities. The following message is self explanatory:—

"The Church of the Latter Day Saints is coming into its own not however on the basis of the old polygamy but on the newer and more enlightened idea of the single standard of monogamy of both sexes. The teachings of this creed contain much more that is far superior to much of the dogma which is so thoughtlessly followed in your modern world. Most church goers never think any further than the vestibule door. Not so with the Latter Day Saints. They walk with the God of the Fathers of Old. Will you give this space in one of your volumes? Sincerely, Brigham Young."

*How the millions of people
with the Latter Day Saints
They walk with the God
of the Fathers of Old. Will
you give this space in one
of your volumes. Sincerely
Brigham Young*

Showing that the so-called "Higher Criticism" may in some way be but a continuation of the thoughts and opinions held in earth life, a message from no less a personage than John Wesley contains this statement:—

"The great mistake the Calvinists made was the very dreadful phrase about the infants who would be damned because of non-baptism. There will never be any pure unadulterated faith in the church because of that phrase in their creed. There will be so much to enlighten those who have their doubts of the beneficence of the Creator in your Revelation that it will serve a twofold purpose in bringing other ideas to those bigoted ones who still credit such a version of Divine Doctrine. John Wesley."

That the earth controversies in regard to what may become to the further enlightened mere unessentials in the light of later revelations are still the cause of regret, to say the least, of those whose opened eyes in the higher life see the futility of setting boundaries for the establishment of fixed beliefs in communities or individuals, a letter from no less an authority and thinker than Canon Charles Kingsley, the author of *Hypatia*, and other well known books, has quite recently been received. He says:—

"There were many controversies regarding this most vital subject which you are propounding to the world in your great work. These have been going on for years, and shall go on unless you can with this revelation show the whole thinking world the way to greater understanding. There have been many writers in the past, my contemporaries, who have endeavored in fiction and essay to portray some of the visions which they have received, but the world

was not prepared, and the visions were only just visions and nothing else. But yours contains Truths which none of the others contained consequently must carry its message. Then another vital fact is the preparedness of humanity at this time for just such a book. There shall be others who will come but who will have nothing more worthy of your notice than this. That I want to assist is because I endeavored to convey visions in some of my books but the world was too dense at that time. Your colleague, Charles Kingsley."

It has always been an acknowledged belief that the poets receive their inspiration from the higher vibration, and think in another atmosphere than do those of the more practical side of life, and thus in their flights of imagination they often experience what seems to us to be almost prophetic vision. This is illustrated in the following message—

"The scoffers all shall fade away,
When truth shall find the light of day.
The book you write so great and true
Will bring the world's acclaim to you.

"The secrets of the great unknown
You will reveal when wiser grown.
You make the unbelievers feel
That things are possible and real.

"Sorrow will then soon disappear,
The truth of life will be made clear.
To do this thing, we do you choose
So that we here no time shall lose.

"The chosen few who here now sit,
 To heights arise which they do fit.
 Their fame shall spread both far and wide
 From city streets to country side.

Henry Longfellow."

*The chosen few who here now sit
 To heights arise which they do fit
 Their fame shall spread both far and wide
 From city streets to country side
 Henry Longfellow*

Many times throughout this volume has reference been made to the Willing Helpers, and therefore when a series of messages, introduced to our circle was by one unknown even by name, but who upon investigation has been proven as a Helper of unquestioned power acknowledged by thousands who have individually recognized the efficacy of her help, we realized more deeply than ever that "God is no respecter of persons," but in these last days is using every instrument to wipe out skepticism and confound the doubter. The first message read—"Dear Lady—The years I spent upon the Earth were but few and many miracles were shown to me but they were not believed. After I became a nun I promised to send my sister nuns some visions, or something by which they would know that I wanted to communicate with them. They did not comprehend. I have sent them a beautiful perfume of many flowers, which I also do now. Do you notice a fragrance in the Sanctuary? Now I shall be canonized, and I

shall be called 'The Little Flower of Jesus.' Watch for this in the papers. Your sweet sister-in-law sends her greetings to you through me. Sister Marie Therese."

The fragrance had been noticed and spoken about before the reading of the message, and in fact on each occasion when we have received a message from this Sweet Friend her presence has been announced in this manner. Several verifications as to the authority of the writer were received almost immediately. One signed Wolsey Cardinal said—"The Little Flower of Jesus, who has been canonized, has been appointed a special suppliant for you in any physical ailments—also is she marvellous for the eyesight. So I commend you to her especial care. Her messages will all be positively verified. Peace be with you all."

At the next session a writing in Spanish was received, again in verification of the identity of our Little Flower. In part it read—"I was here in your beautiful country on the coast in the far-away West, and it was many annos ago, when I was working for God among the people of my own Spain, and the red men in your western country. I was also one of the Fras over here who helped to start in many cities the desire in the Church to make blessed the name of the Soeur Therese. So I come to tell you not more to doubt whatever comes to you in the Blessed Sanctuary of Many Creeds and yet but one, that of Communion of Saints. You shall have my blessing. Fra Junipera Serra—San Diego."

As it has been our custom to verify if possible each communication, we at once sought out the facts in regard to the statement given by The Little

Flower. In a few days I received from San Francisco—entirely unsought by us—a beautiful little pamphlet, "A Litany in Honor of The Little Flower." Within a week the following message was given—"I was with you today in The Sanctuary of Our Lord, and I am coming again, and am sending you some perfumed thoughts to hasten the healing which has been promised to you, and in this way shall I make my presence known. But, dear Sweet Lady, do as will be advised by these little Novenas which I am sending. It is not the repetition of the prayers which mean so much. The reason we desire our followers to pray so often and so much is hereby to crowd out any other thoughts, because concentration on Faith, or any other desire, is what really brings the results, not the prayers alone—Faithfully yours, Therese, Little Flower of Jesus."

To those who have read the account of her beautiful, self-sacrificing life—all too short as it might seem from world sense—how convincing the belief that our higher life indeed is but the continuation of the best of this life's activities, and to the attentive ear how often can the voices of warning, encouragement, incentives to better and nobler acts be heard. More love such as this sweet Saint possessed whom we are told promised on her death-bed that she would pass her new life in Heaven doing good on Earth.

CHAPTER VII

TESTIMONY FROM THE ORIENT

Those who have eyes shall see—the Light,
Those who have ears shall hear—the Truth,
Those who have souls shall know—the Riddle,
Those who are chosen shall unearth—the Secret,
And solve the Mystery of the Universe.

“To the many very obscure, but to the few as clear as the dawn which breaks the curtain of night. This message you bring must convey naught but the infinite and the absolute. Of such is the wisdom of the seers of which tribe I come, and I must be nameless until you have proven yourselves capable of imbibing and transmitting my thoughts and teachings. Until then call me the ‘Unknown.’”

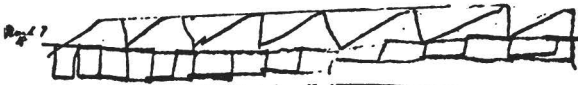
A mighty message indeed and its very mystery worthy to be the opening to this chapter which has to treat with the testimonies received from those of past centuries down to the present time. They come to us full of the unknown, but finding a responsive vibration in our hearts, which tells they are indeed true, and perhaps, from those distant lands, far removed from the rush and activity of our Western civilization, the countries where meditation, contemplation, and the placing of oneself in a state of receptivity are the vital portions of both their religion and knowledge, we may receive an illumina-

tion which will prove even more powerful and convincing than those from our own race. The messages have been given by five Orientals; Kashi, a Japanese of highest class, a Samurai who lived centuries ago; Shino, one of his descendants; Omar Khayyam, the Persian Poet; Akhnaton, an Egyptian, who introduced himself as coming from "The Valley of the Tombs," B.C. 200; and one to us the most astounding in our entire experience who suddenly in the midst of a discussion which was being held in regard to certain assertions which had recently been made during a lecture by a noted teacher of Eastern lore, that he could project himself from the physical body, seized the pencil and introduced himself thus—"I live on the earth. I am not a spirit. I am in Assuan; a great disembodied spirit communicates with me, and I shall teach you with him. The crystals are too material for him to manipulate without the material assistance which I, who am a famous psychic of the far East can give. I am a spirit in the flesh. There is a man in your city by the name of X who can get legitimate ones. My name is Ali Ben Achmed."

The reference was in regard to using crystals for further investigation. Since that time Ali has been in constant communication with our circle, in which he seems to be greatly interested. So much so indeed, that he has conferred upon us Oriental names by which we are addressed and instructed at great length, also giving us timely warnings and suggestions in regard to matters, which he from his greater knowledge can perceive by senses to us as yet unknown. I could write a volume if I would only reproduce the messages from these representatives

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of countries of much time and flowery eloquence, but I shall only give such excerpts as might be of interest and value to those of the general public. The first visitor from the Eastern World, commencing with a well drawn illustration of Egyptian tombs, wrote—



aknaton greets you
 from the valley of the
 tombs His mothers
 resting place —
 I am aknaton

“Akhnaton greets you from the Valley of the Tombs, his Mother’s resting place. I am Akhnaton.” A simple greeting written in Archaic characters which he invariably used, and which made his messages recognized as different from anything else received. He did not write frequently, I believe only six times in the three years in which these communications have been given, but the import of each has been great. The first writing of length says:—

“I behold four different hearts, each with its own desires. Thus I cannot deliver my most important advice which is only for one. The purpose which I am primarily sent to you for is the verification and proof of my identity, and to show those who do not

know of the great power contained in them, the way to be sure and the manner to make use of it. I will come again and you must see me. * * * Adieu—Mispah—Akhnaton.”

On December 5, 1921, this short writing was received, and as it was a prophecy which was fulfilled on December 12th, when the long message following was given, it is reproduced. The Oriental mode of expression is also of interest. “Peace be with you. I shall be with you in seven revolutions of the sun. I have something to tell you. Akhnaton.”

About this date I was called to the phone by a well known member of a club to which I belong with the request that I would assist her in the preparation of a program for the day devoted to Literature. My reply was, “It is impossible, my musical duties for the club are now more than I feel I should undertake, and I must not add to my work.” At the same moment a voice said, “You *will* speak, and your subject is ‘The Literature of the Sixth Sense.’” The statement was so authoritative, I reconsidered immediately, and promised to address the meeting giving the subject at once. From that date until the end of the month messages were received with suggestions, teachings, and assurances that this was an opportunity which could be used advantageously from the other side, and I was indeed to be a Helper from Earth life. I had been chosen, and must not fail. I reproduce some of the writings. The first given by the great Egyptian is most beautiful. I wish it could be seen as given in its marvellous chirography:—

“The Sixth Sense is ours, and all those who have found the Truth. You fair Ladye of our choice are

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the messenger of our knowledge of the oldest secrets of the Valley of the Tombs, and the Sense of which you would discourse. Your inspiration will come direct from my emissaries, one of whom is with you in the flesh, and the other, who is not a disembodied spirit, but who has also visited you in this Secret Temple of those immortal spirits who have blessed it, and sanctified it by their presence. The Sixth Sense or the intuitive inspirational sense can only be utilized by those whom the Almighty has called, and who have heeded the call. The adage many are called, but few are chosen, does not belong to your age, but is thousands of years old. I who belong to the most ancient royal house in the Orient shall not fail you in any Spiritual knowledge you have to give to the world, and your from-the-flesh-departed spouse, who belonged to the Ancient house of Rome, has made all things possible—even my return through the Eons. I shall come again. Akhnaton.”

From month to month we were receiving suggestions as to the most appropriate title for the book, which was to divulge the knowledge so long held only by the few, and now to be given to the world at large; and that the Eastern helpers should be heard was only natural. The suggestion came in these words:—

“‘The Unquenchable Flame.’ May you not forget that there is a great mystery to be explained to all the world, and not only the English speaking race. The name must also be easy of translation. The Valley of the Tombs has still much to reveal to you, chosen centuries ago. You have the power to bring the world at your feet if you will go on un-

flinchingly. I suggest you consider my title which conveys something also of the East. Through me shall the living entity be able to manifest, and come into our midst. He has been unable because of the many material necessities which beset you. I shall come again. Akhnaton—B.C. 200.”

The living entity of course is Ali Ben Achmed, who so unexpectedly projected himself into our midst with suggestions in regard to our procuring reading crystals, and by this means allowing him to give of nearer assistance in our psychic development. As his home is in Assuan at the head of the Valley of the Tombs it is not surprising that he should have been introduced to our circle by the former writer. Another proof that in the Beyond associations of Earth experiences and locale often continue. It may be also that it is the desire to have as many different psychic conditions experienced in our circle as possible that we may bear witness to them. The first writings of Ali were in regard to the libretto for the opera, but when that purpose was set aside for the present in favor of the greater one, the book, because of the fact that the influence and knowledge therein will be more far reaching in that form; then his interest became centered in our circle almost as the connecting link between the two planes. His messages are so self-explanatory I give them as written.

“Captain of the guards, in the house of Amir of Hindustani, even before He whom you call the Messiah was revealed to men. I am Captain and he is Captain (our guide), and we meet and salaam and he says I am needed by you to give you the local color for the Hindoo.”

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While we had agreed not to ask questions during our sessions, simply allowing the friends to instruct us and give such communications as they wished uninfluenced in any way by our expressed desires, still in the case of the living entity our curiosity overcame us, and from time to time we ventured an inquiry, the replies to which are in the reproduced writings. (In regard to procuring crystals.) May 23, 1920:—

“I can take this writer with me to my own harem, as she is receptive to my influence, but I shall not do so unless you and she are both willing it should be. I can teach you both many things beyond the limited knowledge of the Occident. My instruction shall be through the medium of the crystal wherein we shall come face to face. You will know me. I am tall and lithe, slender, somewhat pale of complexion, not swarthy and handsome of feature. The name I gave you on my first entry into your sphere is important and there is also another Zanzig, whom we know. If it were possible I would send you of my collection. I possess twelve hundred of all sizes and I saw you all before my projection. Ali Ben Achmed.”

Following a most wonderful and intricate hieroglyphic illustration, a week later, the following message was received when the subject was a conversation in regard to our separation for the summer, when our sittings would be interrupted for three or four months, and Ali was anxious to illustrate the efficacy of the crystals which could keep us in communication if we would all sit at the same hour using our own crystals. However, we were unable to

arrange this and therefore the test was not made. I give however his instructions of May 20, 1920:—

“Hold no conversation whatever save with me, I shall always be the intermediary when *separation* is the case, and actually present when several are in communication. You, Lady Queen, shall be called Suleika, and you beautiful lady of the milky crown (white hair) shall carry the name of Mirzah, and you of the dusky temperament shall answer to my call of Fatima. I shall possess only your spirits while in concentration with me, and your bodies shall be free like mine. You can go with me when you will have made sufficient progress. The crystal which you have will suffice until you can secure something which will be sent to one of you from the Orient. In the meantime lose no time and begin the expansion of your wisdom and vision. Semi-darkness, no air currents, no outside atmosphere, talk only with me. Thus ends the first lesson. Ali, Begin.”

Our Eastern friends' object was not only to instruct us in the use of the crystals, but also the more difficult phase of visualization, and with the patience of the Oriental he continued his instructions from time to time, meeting, I am free to say, but with little application from us. We have in this entire experience seemed not to be “seekers after the truth,” but simply receivers, taking what has been given and wondering why we of all the world had been sought out for this work. Now, in the light of continued instruction and illumination we wonder why we did not always follow the directions contained in the messages more explicitly. The third writing was this:—

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“Salaam Aleikum. Allah be with you Suleika, Mirzah, Fatima. I have been with at least two of you twice before. I revealed myself as a being not supernatural first in the hotel chamber when I told you that I was a re-incarnation of Calixtus. Then I came in feline form. Now I can come better this way, and when you three have attained the point of clearer vision you shall see me. The lessons will have to be several ere you can really

*He is a scholar of great mind
He is my descendant and a great
But you need not fear him
I will teach you much
I will also help you all in
him.*

□□□□□

see. Your concentration is not absolute, and your patience is nil. Still my patience is great and I can teach also in fifteen languages, though one will be sufficient. You ought to have better success each time you make new endeavor. I am of Persian Arabic blood, with Egyptian ancestry hence my patrician features. I must impress you with my personality ere I can impress my thoughts successfully and clearly. It is becoming easier to write. You will need me soon, when the separation comes. A. B. A.”

As though for verification and perhaps explanation for the numerous messages received from the

great Persian Poet, the following, written in Archaic script, was received at the same session:—

“Ali is a scholar of great renown. He is my descendent and a great Poet. You need not fear him. He will teach you much. I will also help you through him. Omar.”

Whether from lack of application or indifference, our “visualization” did not develop, except for Mirzah, and she had always been clairvoyant under certain conditions. In a personal communication from the Guide I was given a reason which Ali elaborated upon in his next writing:—

“Well hath he spoken, your lord, Suleika when he did assure you that Mirzah shall be the first to look understandingly upon the mystery of the Orient. Thou, Suleika, hast abiding Faith but Patience is not the greatest attribute possessed by you. Fatima has some of the latter, but not enough of the former. Mirzah is abundantly supplied with both, so she will be the apt pupil. I cannot come again in this manner, as this is the only open door (owing to our separation the force would be broken). So the only way to get me is in the crystal. I am not in a favorable Aura even now, as there are other projections which do not permit my easy access. But I shall never be away from you three entirely. The die is cast, what has been written shall be fulfilled. I shall send the desert flower. Ali.”

In Oct. of the same year, our first meeting after the summer’s separation, our faithful teacher was among the first to give us greeting in this message:—

“Salaam my Suleika and Fatima. Your honored Lord, my Suleika has been with me much of late, as

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he has been here gathering valuable material for his great works. Some of what he has secured is in the nature of local atmosphere and color for the libretto which will so soon follow the finish of this book. He also wishes me to admonish more to the study of things spiritual, and not allow what is purely of an earth nature to be so important as to interfere with the study of the occult. I greet thee also my Mirzah, Salaam Aleikum. You have now two of the crystals and the third must be forthcoming, then shall we get the results which I am striving for. There should be no other chosen circle as advanced as this in the wonderful cult of the spirit. But in order to obtain the state of development there must be some other spiritual communion than merely this coming together. I can and will do the tutoring if you will give the required assistance. The crystal which Mirzah possesses is the most spiritual. Yours is not magnetized with sufficient spiritual energy and must be exercised. . . . Salaam my Mirzah you will, I judge be about to take a journey of some length and one of benefit to you both financially and physically. My Suleika do not cause your mind to dwell upon uncertainty, the solution is at hand. My Fatima, I adjure you to keep up the hope which the powers that be have installed in your heart. Mizpah my three. You will of a surety remember your liege lord. Ali Ben Achmed." Oct. 24, 1920.

"Suleika, Mirzah, and my faithful Fatima. I am still weak from non-usage of this connection, but I shall grow in strength again with the aid of the honorable Sheik, your Master, who is our guide also. Ask the one who knows most of all the occultists

now in the Occident, who has been sent to you, about the crystals. He will tell you much that I fail to convey. My teaching in the Orient is similar to what he is endeavoring to bring you who can understand. The material messages which he brings are for those not attuned to the far reaching influences thrown out by the chosen few. It may seem that I ought to say the chosen many but that would be false. There are not many really chosen—though the seekers are legion. Convey the thought that I have expressed. Those who can see behind the earthly screen are only the ones possessing a sense which is beyond the material. A combination of vision and audience is this which so few possess and can hardly acquire, and which is a gift from the Almighty Spirit whom we call Allah. Praised be his name. Vision of the unseen to the initiated, audible music to the ears so attuned that the harmonies are not of the terrestrial chord but of the celestial. Let these thoughts be fruitful and multiply until they become phrases of wisdom. Allah be with you. Mizpah. Ali Ben Achmed, Assuan."

The next communication received from this source came as a warning, and also contained a bit of knowledge as to the power of those disembodied spirits whose objects are not for good. For there are good and bad spirits as well as good and bad persons and we are taught very distinctly that we must know how to protect ourselves from their influences, hence the Biblical advice:—"Try the spirits if they be good or bad." Ali says:—

"Safety for you and yours, so that no one shall be obsessed, that is now part of my duty to you three, Suleika, Mirzah, and Fatima. There have

been some very bad cases of obsession in your country lately, caused by the unprotected trying to communicate with the to them unknown. You can secure the crystals through the great teacher, he will assist I am sure. Do not forget to inquire about the ancient Egyptian whom we were able to bring to you he knows. (Akhnaton) I am slightly upset because there have been attempts to lure away my priestess, Fatima, but she shall be protected never have any fear. I shall soon reveal much through the teacher. Your faithful Ali."

As though every form of psychic development should be presented to us, at the next meeting of the circle a writing was received from a new entity which is self-explanatory.

"Service is all I can give to those who are interested. I am the servant of your Master Ali Ben Achmed. He is in the flesh, but I am a spirit who in life served him as his body servant. He has sent me to try and assist you in obtaining crystals to secure the necessary practice. For a novice it is helpful to practice with the crystals, and though my Master has many he cannot project them as he is because he comes as an astral entity. He told you whom to ask but you have not done so. I must ask you again to heed his word. He cannot come to you through sight on this occasion. It takes longer to project upon the physical than upon the spiritual hence Ali sent me. I speak only Arabic but Ali helped me to write this. Look over his messages and remember ladies, his commands in your lives in the future as he told you. Service, service, oh my Mistresses. Your humble dog and slave washes your feet in the same spirit as he daily has that of

the great Master. Your obedient servitor, Abdullah."

The triangular method of communication was evidently indicated by the signature, and an explanation from the Master was given at his next communication thus:—

"Salaam, my Suleika and Fatima, I am again able to speak to you though I communicated latterly through my departed servitor Abdullah. One thing which pleased me, was that you were able to engineer or manœuvre so that a skeptic was brought to listen to some of the occult truths, and even though the many subjects were only looked upon as fairy lore by the one I refer to, still a tiny seed has been sown and he will listen further and may perhaps scoff again and yet again will some more seeds be sown, and then little by little your revelations shall dawn upon him, and when you have secured his absolute faith then you will have a most valuable ally and something more for your proof for the world. Although your great teacher disappointed you somewhat still I maintain that he can get you crystals, and he at least can tell if they are what you want, and not insufficient as is the one you have now, which is not solid. Oh, Allah, could I but send you one or two of mine then could you see me as I am able to see all of you so clearly. It is by the concentrated blue light in my own crystal before which I am now sitting I am able so easily to draw Fatima to me and so project my thoughts without necessarily projecting my entity or astral body. Where you are you can of course learn all this projection from the great teacher, but it will require moons, and years of sacrifice and study before you

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will acquire the power but with the assistance of the crystals and my aid you will attain some measure of ability to do what I do and see me, which is what I desire, as this will be one of the most wonderful of demonstrations for your great revelation which you are to put into literary form before the world. I shall come often now but adjure you continue the effort to obtain the crystals. I salute you my Mistress. Ali Ben Achmed, Your Servitor."

With all this anxiety to procure the crystals for the furthering of the study of the occult through their help we still were unable to secure them and thus this assistance was not used. At a later date Ali wrote:

"I have tried to teach you the communion of spirits in the Oriental manner, my dear Suleika, Mirzah, and Fatima. But the rush of events has retarded my efforts at the perfection of these occult mysteries, and Mirzah the intrepid is the only one who has had enough patience to become my true disciple. She must instruct you others, and with my assistance you will achieve. Your esteemed husband, dear Suleika, is most desirous of such communication as they might become as easy as the present, which is efficient, but not of much use when the members of the circle are separated, and hence the desire to make the other means as convenient. And as it will be possible, if you have the stated times; then the experiments can be tried and the effects of some can be by confidences exchanged and readily perceived. I earnestly request that now, in your present state of really advanced occult knowledge, you make these experiments to see if you have progressed spiritually as much as I believe you have. I

shall come again before the separation with some further instructions. Ali Ben Achmed."

In a letter which came in the form of a warning and advice, one of the facts presented throws much light upon a phase of psychic conditions which may prove illuminating to those who seem to consider this great knowledge as something to be used entirely for the purpose of peering into the future, generally with the desires for personal benefits from successes which might be obtained from this knowledge. On one occasion Ali wrote:—

"Suleika, Mirzah, and Fatima, you are in danger of slanderous tongues, and must be very cautious of some of the personages with whom you associate. I see that the reason for the admonition of the unseen forces that know you, Suleika, is because of some opportunity for slander of this sort to be hinted at. I am not omniscient, as are many who guide you from the other side, but I have greatly developed vision and can foresee and sense many dangers and pitfalls which might lie in the paths of those who are dear to me. Perhaps you will receive the exact and accurate information from the most reliable source, from him whose only object is your welfare. I mean all three of you, not Suleika alone. I am the one who can advise but cannot be infallible, as those who are able to have the clairvoyance in a perfect form. Your interpreter can be Mirzah. Your faithful Ali."

Having returned from the journey made to Italy, following the instructions of the great Painters, and those interested in the protracted sight fulfillment, greatly depressed because of the delay in securing our desires, a new interest in another pilgrimage,

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with the same purpose in view to be made to a neighbor's shrine filled the minds not only of the three seekers here, but evidently was a subject of much interest and consideration to those Friends who were helping us with this great work from the Unseen. Even our Eastern friend was deeply interested as the following shows:—

“Salaam Aleikum,—Suleika, Mirzah, and Fatima. Allah is great and Mohammed is his Prophet. The trend of the West is to grow closer to the East, and though it is said the twain shall never meet, we shall draw closer and closer through the Spiritual Communication which we are able to establish in this remarkable way. Your pilgrimage to a Mecca of the West, shall bear fruit, my dear Suleika, if the instructions be carried out, and I can see in my present condition a new impetus arising from this, which shall be accomplished. Mirzah shall be on a tour on which she will accomplish that which shall give her added value to certain persons who at present do not realize her worth. Our Fatima shall receive soon the desire which oppresses by its intensity. Suleika, you shall take me also upon the journey of the quest for more light. Though the Koran knows of no such healing still I would be convinced and shall tarry near. My greeting, and may the peace of Allah descend upon you, my dear ones, I shall soon be with you again. Remember one upon the same plane, and your teacher shall I be. Ali Ben Achmed.”

A writing having been received from a most prominent authority in regard to the possibility of suspended animation, the next message from our

instructor affirmed the truth of this to us almost unbelievable possibility.

"Suleika, Mirzah, and Fatima, I have found it very difficult to come because of the preparations for the great work which have been going forward. Now I salute you. Salaam Aleika. The most recent of the messages which you have received interests me. Because not only are many of the seers of the East able to do the very thing of which the great Actor has written, but there are those, including myself, who are doing this for shorter or longer periods. When I am able to come to you often, and to go on with the instructions in the great sciences of the spirit, also the management of the different nervous systems, which I hope to be able to teach you, when some of your other work is finished, you will then be able to understand how these things are possible. I was permitted to come in order to verify a seemingly impossible statement. The crystals have not been a success as yet, but I do not despair. With the aid of mine I know all your movements, and see all that which comes to you from the terrestrial or spiritual plane, it matters not which, Salaam and Mizpah. Ali Ben Achmed."

As has been stated early in this book, at the beginning of these investigations it was requested that none of the usual physical demonstrations should be allowed in our sanctuary. We realized that in no way were they necessary to establish our belief in the power of the unseen forces. Our only purpose was to keep ourselves in condition to receive the instructions which through us were to be given to the waiting world. But on one occasion this rule

was broken and with great impetuous tipplings of the table in such a manner as to represent the footsteps of horses; Ali introduced himself thus:—

“Salaam Aleikum, most beloved Suleika, Mirzah, and Fatima. This occasion brings me hither upon my noble steed, Nuraldin by name, whose entity I shall at some further time make you recognize. I have been permitted to do what my noble ancestor, of whom the poet has sung and made immortal, did. This, my ancestor was able to do what I am accomplishing, only in greater degree. When asleep he could commune with whomever he desired, even unto the Archangels, Seraphims, and Cherubims, in your language, and thus he was able to learn many of the events which were to transpire. At this time I am able to go out to visit him in one of the very highest spheres. This ancestor of mine was the one who inspired Du Maurier, and consequently from this fact the author’s assistance will be most valuable to you in more ways than one. Not only to write for your work, but also to make you understand the reality of dreams. My place of abode must not be divulged until I can show it to you in the crystals, which shall be when you have seen the light of our real communion, then you shall be shown the exact location. I am in my tribe a ruler. You might call me a Sheik as I am not always in the same location. You must not neglect the crystal practice, and there is one whom you know who can aid you to secure the one, which I have designated as belonging to my tribe for many centuries. The more than one thousand which I possess are in different portions of the world, and have all emanated from my noble ancestor whose name I have. Salaam my sweet lady,

you will become an adept when you are through with some of the work which is about to begin. This work would be accomplished more speedily with the aid of these crystals, when you can see clearly. Your admiring Ali."

As the chirography of our "corresponding friends" is not always of the clearest we sometimes have difficulty in deciphering what might by its very wording mean more or less. The name of the "Pride of the Desert" was a subject of indecision, but in his next letter the owner, evidently knowing our uncertainty, printed the name. He wrote:—

"Have a care my Suleika, my Mirzah and my Fatima. There are many elements in our communications which must not be revealed. You are now on the verge of some great revelations from the physical side of life, and you must be careful to divulge only that which is of a nature that will be irrefutable and also which has no relation to any now upon your plane who take exception to anything which you have already accepted as facts, and which may cause you to have some difficulties to overcome. The name of my noble Arab steed is the beautiful one of Nuraldin which is ancient Arabic, and expresses his beauty and his grace, and also his speed. Tonight I was transported hither upon the voluminous wings of your Indian protector, and I came in a few seconds. He wishes you to be careful and diplomatic, only exhibiting that which you know can cause you no unnecessary trouble. This great man whom without a doubt you can see personally if you manage it correctly will be easy of access. You must conquer all fear and timid anxiety and simply *will* whatever you desire, just as I do. I am able to

attain every wish because I can desire with such strength that it causes every thing to come as I wish for it. Just so you can all control your destiny, and be sovereign of your souls. Mizpah my fair ones, I salute and Salaam Aleikum. Your Ali."

One often hears those who understand little or nothing about these truths, talking of "calling back" those with whom they desire to communicate, or complaining because some loved one, or a certain friend who promised to return and give them a message has failed to do so. Little realizing that this privilege rests entirely upon the permission of the higher teachers, and is only given when there is good reason for so doing. Never have we called anyone. We have simply been in a state of receptivity, and what has been given has been cherished and now presented to all those who are able to understand. One of our most recent lessons received from Ali is the following:—

"Beloved Ones—Suleika—Mirzah—and Fatima. It has been many moons since I have been able to reach you. So that the projection is somewhat more difficult than of yore, but I hope from now on to improve so that the communication may be clear and lucid. Your efforts have been so concentrated upon many divers propositions that it has up to now been of little or no use endeavoring to teach you or to make you understand some of the evolutions of the spirit forces seen and unseen. There have been some on the next plane who have impressed me as being most desirous of being visualized not to be confounded with materialized. These thoughts have been conveyed to me though the tremendous forces of concentration possessed by your lawful

spouse, Suleika, and he knows that you have faith enough and strength enough to become a psychic in the most elevated meaning of the term. The phases of clairvoyance, clairaudience, and all the other phases of spiritism are not closed to you. I endeavored to cause you to begin in the easiest way, my infallible way, the crystal. The difficulty is the length of time required for the experiment, and those who have so little time at their disposal. Mirzah, I know has seen me, and if you ask her, she can describe me. She has much of both of the aforementioned phases, and can become even as I am an adept. She has much of the many necessary attributes, and she has also the patience to experiment along the lines I have already laid out. So I shall pin my first hope upon her, and she shall be my assistant instructor. With salaams. Ali Ben Achmed."

Another verification as to the truth which Ali is so anxious to present to us, when we are sufficiently developed to use the crystal as a medium is given in a poem written for us by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, as follows:

"Much to you will be revealed
Which to the world is still concealed
The crystal too I oft have tried,
And many truths therein I've spied.

"This I tell to keep your faith
Where it will grow to from a wraith,
To an image great and grand
Which knowledge to the world you'll hand.

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"I still belong to the chosen few
Who will work along with you
So I have come to urge again
To carry on and reach the Fame.

"Seek us when e'er you need our aid
To ask of us be not afraid,
Of our best we'll give to you
All inspiration must be new.

"Old thoughts to the world we've given
But yours must be all unshrive
Things never heard before
Which will open wide the door.

"Yours for success, Ella W. Wilcox."

A message from centuries past gives a glimpse of former conditions in distant India, and a cry for help from one who evidently knowingly had committed sins which have bound him for ages, and prevented the progress to which we all should aspire and will make when we read futurity with the opened vision.

"For each child who was thrown into the Ganges there must be a compensation. The reprisals consist of the centuries of Karma imposed upon these people. I was a priest of the Temple of the Crocodile and one who must pay here for the sins which I could not expiate. You can help me by putting my testimony before the world, so that I may publicly repent. I can and will help you by assisting you in the perusal of things occult. We are versed in all the arts of Black Magic and White Magic and

should have prevented the sacrifice of infants to religious fanaticism. Please help me by declaring my repentance that I will no longer pay so high a price for my iniquities. Priest of the Goddess of Zoraides one of the virgins who demanded the sacrifice of infants, but who existed only in the superstitious minds of the ignorant mortals. God forgive me, I pray for my deceptions, I knew better, so did other occult Masters. My name is Iris, the son of Abednah."

Another call from the Orient, one that meets with a special response from our musical minds, indicating as it does the truth of that inspiration which we so glibly talk about when listening entranced to the playing and singing of certain musicians, who aside from the result, which might be obtained from years of study and practice, still express a something inexplicable, and only understandable by this knowledge of a combination of developed musical intelligences expressed in the prepared instrument; is given in the following:—

"The son of Hagar and the only offspring of the Shulamite slave and the King seeks to retrieve the sins of the father and needs aid before he comes again to a new birth. This time to the new land of the spirit, where the generations of the melting and mixing of the Semitic and the Anglo-Saxon has at last brought the spiritual movement to the place of possibilities. We are apprised of the fact that you will soon reveal to the world some proofs of the existence after passing from the earth to the other spheres. I therefore, who am to be a prophet of the doctrine of the life of the soul, give you greeting and you will prepare the minds of humanity for

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my coming. I shall again be Semite of humble parentage but a violinist inspired by Joachim and a man who will bring the world knowledge of my previous existence. You have a great message for the world, and your assistance here is more wonderfully marvellous than you know. Jacob, the Shulamite."

CHAPTER VIII

ANCESTRAL TESTIMONY

In a previous chapter I have mentioned the occasion when I had been chosen to address a large audience upon "The Literature of the Sixth Sense." Chosen I mean by my great Helpers, for it was a subject which up to that date had never attracted my attention, and really did not interest me except in a most general way. However, the fact that I had allowed myself to undertake this important task brought me many and marvelous truths from those to whom this sense had been known in generations past. Also a knowledge of the belief, which has always been taught by the Eastern Savants, of reincarnation. We often hear the admonition, "Be careful how you choose your ancestors," and according to the testimony which I am now permitted to present, I must have been most fortunate, and shown much prenatal judgment when choosing those who were to impress upon my character for eternity that which would cause development either in upward progress or otherwise. I am presenting no theories in this book, only facts as given to me, entirely without investigation or study out of a clear sky, as it were, and I am giving them as presented to our circle without comment. Oct. 28, 1920:—

"The wisdom displayed by the honorable Lord

Solomon, when he decided the case of the two mothers, both claimants for the same infant, now, in the modern days by the judges who are able to decide a case before delivering the charge to the jury, the way you as presiding officer of a great organization are often able to avoid unpleasantness, or cause harmony to reign where sometimes disruption or dissension held sway, these things are often called Diplomacy and Tact but we the initiated know it is the use of the Sixth Sense. And you will with this intuitive assistance deliver the knowledge to the first audience that will be given to you, but which only those who are of the selected will grasp the full significance of. Those who do not manage to imbibe the substance of this will find much nourishment even though they get but the crumbs. You need not prepare any notes—the utterances will flow from the lips so divinely inspired, and any trepidation or hesitancy will not be felt—most honorable esteemed lady. The seers of other ages, of the Orient, the poets of modern times, and those who have in their earth life been of the inspired select, are the inspiration upon whom you may rely, and you cannot even for a second deviate from your subject or fail to make its point reach its destination. I have been here once before but was not as strong. I lived in Japan and was a Samurai of the most ancient and honorable house. We who would rather die than be dishonored. We of that house knew, and acted upon the Sixth Sense. Now in this all too material century the use of the super-normal sense is a lost art, and consequently the literature is of no consequence. The only ones who would have any knowledge and learning of this sub-

lime subject are those who have been inspired, and have written or composed through this very knowledge. The great Master whom you have honored this day (program devoted to Wagner at the Opera club) was an exponent and the ancient Sagas of which his muse made use, were not the legends many believe them to be, but actual facts and only understood by those possessing this divine sense. Most honorable Lady, though you were of an honorable and royal race in your Italian incarnation do you realize that you were also a Samurai, and that is why I am permitted to come and meet you here, because you belonged to us in those ages ago—five thousand years before now, and I have never been near the Earth since. I committed hari-kari. I was for centuries a prisoner to my earthly desires, and now, if I am permitted to help you, and you wish it I shall be able to atone, and you and your honorable little lady shall set me free. My gratitude shall be of such abundance that I shall teach you all you wish to know and shall assist you to attain your earthly desires. So that you both may never suffer as I have suffered because I did not attain mine while in the flesh. You shall both be rewarded in full. You have done much for me. I shall talk to your audience of this great occasion. Shino.”

A most inspiring and helpful influence came with the introduction of this noble ancestor, and although he came but rarely, he was the one whose wisdom was not only of the higher ethics but also intensely practical, and he seemed to not only know what things were absorbing our attention, but also to be able and willing to point out the best solution for

many questions which were disturbing elements in our every day life. Hence the following:—

“The scarlet lives of other women shall have no bearing upon yours, my own descendent of the most honorable, and noble, and ancient tribe of the Samurai, for you shall be guarded and kept from all harm so that nothing shall sully or tarnish your purity. Though there do exist those, and especially one who would break down your stronghold and capture you. But do not fear, the power of the Almighty Spirit is greater than any desires of the flesh, therefore you are in no danger. The one who is your associate, most honorable Lady of high renown, shall also be protected, as she is in like danger. Those whom the Gods have chosen for the great works all have their temptations, and just the ability to overcome and vanquish all these is the proof to those higher up that the instruments selected by them are worthy of the greater things. Shino.”

As in our association with Ali Ben Achmed the special desire seemed to be expressed in our being developed through the phase of crystal gazing to a greater knowledge of psychic powers. So with this new influence the wish was that we should be developed so that we could know the truth of visualization, and each communication referred in some way to that desire. Also at this time my flowery name of past ages had been conferred upon me and is used whenever this ancestor addresses me.

“Most honorable and esteemed Lady of the Wisteria. Thank you for the gracious and kindly reception which you gave to the Oriental friend whom I sent to you the last occasion upon which you sat

together. I may remind you that on one evening, the first when I came to your most honorable notice, a message of comfort was received from one in Italy to the friend who was here in our midst, the most honorable and beautiful Lady whom I meet for the first time. She shall see tonight (true). She is necessary to complete the atmosphere for visualization. The other esteemed member of this sacred and chosen group of worthy scions of our art, which was just this, would also be admitted. She was here when this great phenomenon was promised, but as it has not been given to her to make a regular attendance even probable, we must perhaps eliminate her presence. Though she has some unusual powers in that very line as has also the most honorable dear friend who has joined us, I hope for many times more. I have many in other lands who have seen not only me but others whom I have brought to them, and I shall not feel that enough has been accomplished here without this proof. We must see. I salute you all my most esteemed and beautiful honorable ladies. You shall *see*. Your humble servitor, Shino."

While the majority are obliged to rely upon their intuitive sense when dealing with duplicity of any kind I have on several occasions received written warnings from the writers whose messages I am now giving, and invariably have they been proved true. One in regard to an inexplicable action of a supposed friend was closed with this warning.

"But the reason I come most admired and esteemed one, is to warn you not to accept any explanation, nor even allow her to come back to you again, as she is most inconsistent and will never do

you aught but harm. And what you now require is constancy, and you must use your energies for those who are faithful. Shino."

Several of the succeeding messages were of too personal a character to permit of reproduction, but for that very reason, and the knowledge given to us by these advices of the foreknowledge possessed by this ancient and greatly developed guide was the conviction of this truth strengthened more than ever before. Jan. 30, 1921, a message throwing added light upon the purpose of this volume was given to us. It reads:—

"Most honorable and esteemed Lady of the Wisteria. I come to greet you and to bid you to be of good cheer for the good which men and women do lives after them. And also is sent on here before them, and soon the seed for the greater and nobler deeds will be written in the great book of the world. You must now concentrate your energy upon the book which is not only to be the enlightenment of humanity to a greater extent than many of the hitherto published works of the world behind the scene, but which will also be the first aid for the project which is to follow, and which requires the wherewithal to carry it out, and cannot be begun without the knowledge that enough for the current expenses is there at hand to begin with. From then the whole project will be self-supporting and will need no further assistance from without. I caution you dear ones do not use the proceeds of the sale of this work for any other purpose than the organization of the Operatic venture, as you must consider that filthy lucre from the standpoint of a spiritual side, which will transform it into pure gold which

belongs to us, not to you, and must be given only to our work as it will only be attained through our aid. And that is the first truth of what we are to do for you, and will be the means of obtaining our end. The ultimate good for which you have been selected, and should you not carry out our wishes the means shall be taken away from you and given to others. I am such an ancient spirit that I can see the future further than many who are in this work with us, and I know that the success of the book will be enormous, and consequently the means for the other work will be at hand, and incidentally, all the necessary funds for the sustenance of those who are connected in the work with you, most estimable Lady of the Wisteria. You have much upon your fair shoulders, but we are here to help bear the burden with you. You can safely begin, the inspiring forces are ready and waiting for you to begin. You need not have a care as to the outcome of the support for our necessary sanctuary. With the reverence and docility of your most humble servitor, Shino."

It will be noticed that all the advices and admonitions are to keep our circle entirely separate, and only in a constant state of receptivity. It is not necessary to seek for any knowledge or information, as it will be furnished as the time requires. Of course many have requested to sit with us, "Just to be convinced that these things could be," but we have been instructed never to allow any one to come as a guest unless invited by the Friends, and we have endeavored to follow implicitly all instructions. The following refers to this fact:—

“Oh, most honorable and noble Lady of the Wisteria, be of good cheer. Your most esteemed liege lord has much to commend in the way you have been conducting yourself during this tortuous time of busy working days, and says that there will be such profound wisdom given you henceforth that warnings of the sort which were given to you last time will not in the future be necessary, but it shall always immediately be given unto you to know where to go, what to accept, what to refuse, and whom to admit into the sacred circle of your friendship, also whom to prohibit from becoming associated with you professionally or spiritually. No one has been sent from here to commune with you, and those whom we wish to have are always called only to the sanctuary now. The things which formerly seemed marvelous and of much import to you must now pale into insignificance, compared with the wisdom and truths disclosed through the workings of the spiritual forces, combined by us and which accordingly are not only working for the good of our chosen few, but also through these chosen ones for humanity at large. I shall have some important messages from now on that will not only astound the world, but which will be for you personally most miraculous. Your humble servant, Shino.”

·Having allowed myself to become discouraged because of a number of unfortunate ventures and the financial depression which was being felt by every one with whom I came in contact, this lesson from my worthy ancestor was received:—

“There is much for us to do so that you may not be required to torment your august mind, most esteemed Lady of the Wisteria. We now have

many things to consider, and the main ones are your health and your pecuniary matters. The great guiding spirit who is your mate is attending to the health, so I feel because of our ancestry which is so closely allied, that I must consider myself somewhat responsible for your material welfare, and consequently shall send whatever thought waves I am capable of to the forces where they may bear fruit. The money which has been so tight will begin to flow more freely once the new honorable President of your great Republic shall take his seat in the chair which stands at the head of the Nation. Therefore many causes for good cheer and rejoicing shall soon be yours and all the events which shall tend to lend comfort and peaceful content will also accrue to the benefit of your health in every way mentally and physically. Farewell and good fortune go with you upon the walks of life for the time we spend apart. I salute you most humbly. Your obedient servant, Shino."

It was about this date that the first intimation from our artists had been given to us that I was to take a journey to Italy and the next message given from Japan shows that the knowledge and one of the chief reasons for this journey was known amongst our advisors of all nationalities on the other side. March 27, 1921:—

"Most illustrious and esteemed Lady of the Wisteria, though we have been seemingly absent for several rounds of the sun, moon, and movable planets, yet we have not been idle by any means, and have been working strenuously in the arrangements necessary for the most auspicious complete details for the utmost good which can be derived from the

contemplated moons of rest which we have planned entirely for your bodily welfare. Had the advice not been followed you had gone despite all that, as these things which are written must be carried out, as they are not mere idle trifling nor any wasting of the valuable time which you must henceforth consume in the carrying on of these most subtle plans, that cannot go awry when we create the conditions whereby they shall be made feasible. Your journey will be most honored, noble relative, and you will soon be permitted to realize the fulfillment of many wishes and the prospect of the ultimate goal being soon within easy reach will be apparent to you and to us, who see much of benefit in store for you, not only the rest which is vitally necessary but some events which will transpire exactly as you are now hoping for, and the communications which you have sent before will bear the richest fruits. Your honorable spouse tells me your *Lingua Italiana* is not 'molto bene' and that he will refresh your tongue again before you shall be required to show your linguistic talent to your traveling companions. My best advice to you, most beautiful and revered Lady of the Wisteria, is to be the one to be waited upon, and to command not request whatever you desire, and it shall be granted unto you regardless of the nature or triviality of each request. This is completely for your benefit and the ways and means to cause you the most freedom from any mental strain whatever are right at our hand ready to assist in every way. Our ways are not thine, and we know and can see much in the very near future for your devotion. You shall meet some most illustrious dignitaries while in the sunny land which is so like

our own in the beauty of its volcanoes, and its azure waters, and its cloudless skies, where you shall also regain that boon which you have so faithfully and patiently been awaiting. The restoration of your youthful orbs in all their vigor of former years. I greet you both, my gentle ladies and shall watch over your 'Little One' in your absence. I salute. Your humble servitor, Shino."

Some months previous a communication had been received from a most noted Chinese diplomat which will be reproduced with a second letter in another place, but Shino's epistle is self-explanatory and reads:—

"Most illustrious Lady of the Wisteria, I have enlisted the services of the most noble, most high, most distinguished, most exalted Li Hung Chang for the wonderful occult knowledge which he possesses, and for the benefit for you for the work which is to be the culmination of your career, my Lady of the Wisteria, your knowledge will be much increased by the intervention of this great man who is now doing nothing for humanity. I have before this time permitted him to come and write to you in your own language, but of course he can write and speak in many languages as he was and is a noted linguist. Those characters which he has put down are mere salutations to you and signed by his many titles. He calls you many flattering Oriental names, such as Lotus Bud, and Wild Cherry Bloom, and these are the terms which convey their esteem. You shall tonight be much mystified by the many unusual communications, but they are mostly to prove to you that nothing is sub-conscious, as what does come will be from the most unexpected sources

but of the utmost value. Take much heed of the messages of your illustrious husband. Your financial needs shall be amply provided for immediately. Your humble servant, Shino."

As the preparations were being made for the voyage and pilgrimage to the sunny land of our guide's birth with no other idea than carrying out the directions from our unseen Friends we anxiously awaited each session to learn if further information would be given, or if by any mishap we might be following suggestions not fully understood. We evidently did not grasp the full meaning of our messages, in fact what ever of so called failure we met with was owing to the neglect to follow to the letter our instructions. Since our return this failure has been pointed out to us time and again, but always with the assurance that delay in fulfillment is not finality, and to Faith must be added Patience. On our reunion after the summer vacation the special attention of the unseen advisors was called to a most unfortunate financial condition for the writer owing to mistaken judgment in a property investment. The situation seemed to be, and was, desperate as far as human understanding was concerned, and the question was often asked, "Why was I not prevented from making such a blunder," forgetting the fundamental truth that we are placed in this world freewill agents and no force can compel us to do otherwise than we choose. Advice we can have, but in this case it was not solicited and the result was disastrous. In fact it would have meant financial ruin if the forces had not heeded a last call for help and answered with the needed assistance. Supplied because there could be little or no time

given altruistically for the help of humanity when the immediate personal needs were absorbing full attention. Having changed my abode it was necessary to again assign a room for our meetings, and on the first evening Shino gave the following message:

"Thus do we continue the vibrations in unbroken threads, honorable Ladies, and I shall take them across the border into the new abode of the spirits, which has been prepared for months, and which now is ready for our occupancy; there we will bring the blessing of the ancient and honorable Samurai that you may begin the great work. We dedicate these spaces to the service of the Great Spirit who conducts all sacred transactions. I am to be the guide for the great Triumvirate, and shall glorify all the work which you shall undertake in His Name. Shino."

The financial troubles are considered in the following messages, and were indeed of such a helpful nature that much of my distress was scattered. He said:—

"Dear Lady of the Wisteria, I salute you and also those other beautiful Ladies who are our chosen ones. You, my fair Lady, are in sore need of assistance, and though one of the noble ancestors ought to be above all such ignoble subjects as mere money, still in this instance, it is because of your distress that I must be near and ready to assist. Not because of the filthy lucre, which is the root of all evil which is evolved, but because this very common need of mankind is necessary for the proper maintenance of your noble person, should we be at hand to be of aid to our noble relative. I am careful to

bring to you only the sublime and the beautiful. Because of its very spiritual trend your most noble character is prone to error even more than of such an one who is so mature that such errors would be of infrequent, if not impossible occurrence. You must ask at least two of your friends who are of legal mind to come to your immediate aid. They will not refuse and your esteemed spouse has already given you the earthly names of these very individuals who will be of the utmost assistance. Don't forget to transfer this sanctuary. Your humble and honored friend, Shino."

The second given the following week reads:—

"Most noble Lady of the Wisteria and most esteemed associates, I salute you. Your ancestors are indeed proud of your powers, my lady. And we shall have more reason for pride when the old and new achievements shall have transpired. We no longer have fears as to the outcome of the mistaken business enterprises, as the outlook is more encouraging than at our last view of the situation, therefore we are well content, and look into the immediate future without apprehension. The translation of the valuable and distinguished message from the honorable scion of our racial brothers, the most esteemed and honorable Li Hung Chang, is indeed the absolute and correct interpretation of a wonderful message from a most remarkable personage, and should be one of your most treasured proofs of the wonders of this occult knowledge, as you are probably the only possessor of such a demonstration. I shall have more Oriental communications for you in the future as the knowledge of those people is the most ancient in your world,

extending as far back as 6,000 years. Thus there will be more to reveal of wonderful facts. I again salute you most humbly and kiss the ground before you. Shino."

On every occasion when the writer presenting himself to the circle was an Oriental the form of salutation was invariably such as one was accustomed to formerly receive when the Eastern manners still possessed their individuality. Thus we recognized Ali Ben Achmed, Shino, and those who came but occasionally by their form of introduction. On the evening of our last meeting in October, with much added formality, but lacking the obsequiousness of my present known ancestor, another personage of even greater antiquity and importance was admitted, and presented one of the greatest and most important proofs which we have so far received, a communication in Japanese characters signed Kashi Satsuma.

The same Friend has given a number of writings which I have presented at the close of this chapter. The reference in Shino's letter is in regard to this episode:—

"Most noble Lady of the Wisteria, my esteemed Friend, and our honorable and glorious ancestor, the great and all powerful Kashi Satsuma has given you a most wonderful and flowery message in the ancient and mellifluous Japanese of our period which shall be difficult for the most modern countryman of ours to translate into a semblance of its beauty, so I have come to inform you that your honorable and most esteemed spouse has bidden me to undertake the translation, and I shall endeavor to do so at some future time when the hour is not too ad-

vanced. Or, if I am able before then, I shall, most beautiful and honored Lady of the Wisteria guide you to one of our Japanese scholars who has the knowledge of our exquisite ancient tongue so that he may tell you the meaning of the beautiful characters. Your real estate shall be taken away from you without the loss of much money, (only what was given for experience) so that your mind may rest to be in readiness for the work which is all-important. Success in the new venture will be assured if you will be diplomatic with all your co-workers. Some of the new ones seem to think it is the first seed. You must all be most active for its promotion. Your humble obedient servant who will serve you honorably, Shino."

The reference is in regard to a production of Grand Opera given by the National Opera Club at the Town Hall in association with the Community Society for Better Films, and the interest of all the writers is invariably in the activities of the Club in its work for Opera for the masses in the vernacular, as this higher truth came to us primarily through the Open Door of Music and is in reality a backing for the furtherance of our work in that direction. The next communication reads:—

"Most noble Lady of the Wisteria. My noble ancestor having been permitted to visit you does not preclude me from the list of your intimates as my admission is always of the utmost importance, there must often be eliminated from the hordes of the waiting ones in my favor. Pardon me for entering without the customary salute. I must needs force my entrance through the entourage which accompanied you this day as they have done their work for

this occasion, and consequently must be omitted this evening, as their mission has been accomplished for the present. The present material state of your welfare concerns me more than the physical, as that is being abundantly supplied from many sources, and of course the mission such as today I do not comprehend, and will leave that to more scientific and expert minds. Your difficulties are not yet conquered regarding your purchase, though a light seems breaking through the clouds. However I would advise consulting with your legal advisor immediately, in order to know where you stand. Action may come soon. Your obedient servant greets you, most esteemed ones, and salutes you. Shino."

As it was this business which at this time was occupying much of my attention and creating great disturbance not only for myself but all of my friends, it is not to be wondered at that the unseen Helpers felt the inharmonious vibrations, and either remained distant from our coterie, or confined their messages in a large degree to helpful suggestions. I have only reproduced a few to show that although not omniscient—all seeing—still they possessed in, the case of the higher spirits much further sight than we upon the earth plane. Shino writes:—

"Most esteemed Lady of the Wisteria, I salute you most graciously and most humbly, as also my honored and esteemed assistant to the chosen. We have now here before us much of importance to accomplish, and I wish to make you all ready for many great things. Your honored and honorable spouse my Lady, tells me of several things which are portending, and I gather from these communi-

cations that the great work is to begin before many more moons shall have risen and sunk. Consequently I wish to be on hand to be one of the coterie of the favored ones who are to participate; and in order that the correct atmosphere may prevail, you, my sweet Lady of the Wisteria, must have your mind at rest for the start. (Then follows some advice about the property.) With the countries of the Orient, I greet the honored Occident, and beg to be most kindly admitted with my wretchedly humble services. Your obedient Shino."

The references were to those who had been in the company who had attended me when on that Sunday we had gone to the healing grotto in a neighboring city where we had been sent by a spiritual messenger. In order that there could be no doubt in the mind of any one who knows the Oriental manner of expression as to the authority of these writers I have produced many more messages from this Friend than I might otherwise have done, knowing that much of the material contained therein is of too personal a nature to interest the ordinary reader. But the following seems to be even of more than the usual interest from this viewpoint and is therefore presented.

"Most noble and honorable Lady of the Wisteria. I greet you and the fair companions with all my humble and obsequious obeisance. Your esteemed and glorious spouse begs me to greet you all in his name though he is close to your side, my most wonderful Lady; he may not spread upon these sheets anything but what he has recorded for his own private session, and thus he bids me close the gates which have only been ajar this night and not open

to the multitude. Your financial difficulties shall be most favorably adjusted before the next time for the change of the calendar has approached the entrance. I am of the utmost confidence that all shall be made smooth and easy for you from now until the finish of whatever you have to accomplish. Your humble servant salutes. Shino."

In a former chapter the messages from a living entity have been given at length because of the fact that he has been assigned the duty of instructing our circle in one special phase of psychic knowledge. But Ali Ben Achmed has not been the only one living in the physical who has projected himself into our circle, or who has asked for this privilege, as the last letter from Shino reveals. Feb. 26, 1922:—

"Most noble Lady of the Wisteria. Be not afraid of those who would enter unbidden and unheralded. There are those who can and will protect you, my fair Lady. The one who was about to enter was the living entity who wants to communicate with the former participant in this circle, who has since been eliminated by your most noble and esteemed spouse, who wishes not to be concerned with the affairs of others having no further bearing upon the great project for which these sessions were originally brought into existence. There are to be several matters of moment to all of you beautiful ladies, and my duty is to figure on some of the pros and cons of certain offers which shall come from various sources, and for various different subjects. So when there shall be any doubt upon a question of moment I can be there to settle it for you. I see also something for the honored Lady of the silvery locks. She is in some doubt. The answer will come

soon and she will know what to do. The Karma of the stolen is for the purpose of causing you, sweet Little One, to be more cautious. You are not to trust even some whom you know who have access to many things, and each time we cannot seem to make the warning vehement enough. We must cause something unpleasant, though not too serious, to make a deeper impression. The Lady of the Wisteria has some of these unpleasant happenings also, a silent but effective warning from a Spiritual source. I shall greet you soon again. Your most humble, devoted, and obedient Shino."

The former writer was not the only one of my Japanese ancestors to enter our circle for the purpose of instructing us in the so-called secrets of the Occult. On four different occasions one who seemed to be of even greater authority and deeper knowledge than Shino was presented, and some of his messages were given in his native tongue, a weighty and unanswerable proof for those of the "Thomas family" or unbelievers. His introduction will be given at the end of the chapter. The next was written in beautiful English as follows:—

"Each one shall see me when the time comes and that time shall be when you have learned to see the way you should. I have written to you in my own language, but I am also able to write many others. I wrote the first message to have you prove by giving it to some one who may interpret the characters, as they are of a poetic nature and must not only be read to be understood. I shall be able to give much power. You shall all feel this power. I salute humbly. Your most miserable ancestor, Kashi."

The last message presented was given at the very end of our season, and was printed:—

“Most noble relative. The radiance of the morn shall be upon your head. You shall have a new work to lead you in the new direction. I have a new thought to present to you most honorable Lady for your consideration. This man of my race Kimura can read my other message. He is most wonderful, a spiritual mind, strong and can find meaning if writing is not perfect. It is hard to write this way but you must find one who can read Japanese. Is it not so, honored Lady? I come from far, but it will bring much for you and also proof when you shall know what I have written in my first message. I salute, Kashi.”

I have reserved as a fitting finish for these chapters from the Orient two messages received from one who is well-known by many in this country especially of the diplomatic department. As when here in official capacity representing the interests of the mighty Chinese nation, his erudition and power gained for him universal recognition. The signature has been verified by many holding personal communications with the same handwriting and signature:—

“Though not of my country, the honorable Samurai who is your most Ancient, honorable and beautiful Lady of the Wisteria, as you were known in that other life. He the most esteemed, the noble Shino, the most high former Viceroy of the most ancient, most learned race, whom Confucius, the Mighty, has blessed beyond all others. This country shall be supreme in the world before another century shall dawn. I am sent to you because I was

versed in the art of visualization. Will you accept my aid, even though I am of the yellow and to you Pagan peoples? Li Hung Chang."

Li Hung Chang

On the verge of my departure for Italy on the pilgrimage before mentioned, this last message was received in Chinese. It was such a marvelous test to us and the following translation was made of it by one of the most prominent Chinese officials attached to the embassy of the Eternal City. I give it as translated:—

"For your good fortune or good luck many new things shall still be predicted to you. It is too bad that a country in which you could find the greatest

The image shows several columns of handwritten Chinese characters in a cursive style. The characters are arranged vertically, with some columns starting with a small mark that looks like a cross or a star. The text is dense and difficult to read without a specialist in Chinese calligraphy.

resources for your collection is not to be attained or reached by you. Be careful with the custody of

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your collection which will undoubtedly awaken much envy. Everything I tell you you must observe as nearly as possible in order to be successfully guided by me.

(The last phrase after the first you were told verbally and the significance is as I wrote it.)

CHAPTER IX

TESTIMONY OF INDIVIDUALS.

All legal authorities will tell us that the giving of "Testimony" is a most difficult process, and of varying importance according to the position or standing in the community of the one whose evidence is being presented.

In selecting from the more than eight hundred writings, which I have received within the past years, the testimonies valuable to those seekers after truth who are prepared for their acceptance I have endeavored to omit everything personal as far as possible, and also, many writings which from the present state of mind of the public might cause over-much discussion.

But the question now presents itself in my mind by what right shall I prevent even the smallest or seemingly least important of God's creatures from giving a testimony that might prove of value in helping others who could receive much comfort and incentive from the knowledge so given by one with whom they might have been closely associated while in life, either by interest in their line of work or the publicity which comes from being constantly in the public eye through the daily papers.

Early in our communications one of our musical friends made the statement that it was absolutely

futile to attempt to communicate with him through the medium of the Ouija board and evidently the following message has been given with that statement in mind. It reads:—

“Can the living speak to the ones who have left their world? There is much against this which has been said and even proven seemingly, but we know that it can be done. Those mechanical devices the Ouija board and the Planchette are often but the beginning and should not be absolutely condemned. Sometimes the forces which desire to communicate one way cannot succeed because the conditions are so rarely of a character to permit of it. Most sittings are full of materialists who no matter how ardent they may be in the desire to be convinced or to learn or develop spiritually, the predominant motive is always self. This condition precludes any possibility of actual spiritual contact, hence the distorted messages and fragmentary evidence received. Your circle is indeed unique. That is the reason of the unusual attainment. Your great Guide is so potent that all the forces are ready and eager to commune, not merely because they are invisible helpers but primarily because they can so rarely find a place where the vibrations are so of one accord that they become coherent. There is much that will come easily and we are all ready and willing to give our evidence. You have been told by another authority that the mechanical devices are of no use, and I do not wish to deny his statement; only I claim that they are of some slight assistance in bringing about a passivity of mind and the receptivity which can seldom be obtained by a miscellaneous group of investigators or so-called spiritualists. I am in

favor of my old colleague * * * as the one who would surely recognize the merit of the book you are about to launch. He is here and will instruct his successors and advise both you and them. P. Collier."

The following communications generally have reference to the three disturbing affairs which have more or less prevented me from paying the attention which should have been given to the writing of this book, and therefore has necessitated what may have seemed unnecessary delay. Now the demand is for their reproduction and I shall insert the same. The three subjects which are referred to is the eye-healing, the unfortunate real-estate investment, and the pilgrimage to Italy as advised by the painters in the search for unmistakable proof of their foreknowledge.

This group of messages came from some of the leading medical authorities while on the earth plane; and as we are inclined to believe that all knowledge obtained during the earth existence is but preparatory for the greater development, their testimony demands attention. The first written in German is from one of the famous physicians of the past century, the renowned Dr. Virchow. He says:—

"Highly honored Madame—We are sent here by your Husband to examine your eyes, and we do not find much the matter only what is natural. I was a physician who in Berlin treated many optical cases, although I was not an eye specialist only. I believe it is possible to do what your Husband wishes to do for you. At any rate, I shall try. You did not know me, but in past many years ago when you were in Berlin, I was physician to His

Majesty, Kaiser William I, and later for His Majesty, Kaiser Friedrich. Thus if you desire I shall try my art upon you. Your self-commended Virchow, Royal Physician to His Majesty."

The message to follow that of the great medical authority was in the form of a verification from one even greater than himself and reads:—

"The great Dr. Virchow, our friend, will, my dear Lady, actually help your eyes. I am also a very good friend of the high and well born Captain, and he bade me to inform you that it is possible to do this for you. That is why I come to make this statement. Yours with sincere respect, Ernst Haeckel."

One, who although of another land was closely associated with this great German doctor as consulting physician during the last illness of Kaiser Friedrich, has also given his testimony, and evidently is in spirit life continuing association with those whom he knew upon our plane. After an introduction irrelevant at this point he writes:—

"The searchers after proofs of spiritual phenomena are legion, more than those who are merely scientific researchers and who need no proofs. That is why we are endeavoring to demonstrate this way, and have given many indisputable tests to you, but they might not be considered as proofs by those whom we term the laity. So, because of this, a seeming miracle ought to take place, and if we can do what your guiding spirit desires there will be very few who will not be entirely convinced of the continuity of powers which were developed upon the physical plane. Should we take temporary possession of your physical eyes upon occasions which

might arise, have no fear, as we shall perhaps do so for a moment to prevent your using them. When you find it not easy to read either with or without glasses, then you will realize that we wish to take possession. So submit easily by closing them until you will feel the desire to open them again. This may occur frequently, but only for the shortest of intervals. We are at your service, Sir Morell McKenzie."

Having heard from the German and English physicians it was not remarkable that one of our own land should have been consulted, and this advice was given by one of our greatest, known not only in the medical profession, but as a litterateur. Giving relief to those physically in need, and pleasure to those seeking relaxation and the mental food which comes from reading a good novel, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell wrote:—

"No application, no medicine, no glasses can be of any avail, so the assistance of a physician is of no use. The healing shall be entirely spiritual. October 23, 1921. S. Weir Mitchell."

Perhaps the communication received from the next mentioned writers were to us even more extraordinary than any of the others, for though in much anxiety as regards the proper adjustment of my household affairs never for an instant had I thought of asking help from any one, even the advice which one so frequently seeks, and so rarely follows from immediate associates. The fact that my beloved guide felt anxious lest my equanimity should be so disturbed as to render it impossible for me to carry on the great work easily is the reason I suppose for soliciting the advice which I had neg-

lected to call for. The first two messages were in regard to subletting my apartment before sailing for Europe and were signed Jere Johnson, Jr. Real Estate Expert, and Horatio Stewart. Neither of these names carried any information to my mind, but on the second day after receiving the messages I felt impressed to look in the telephone directory and to my astonishment both were listed in the book. I called up their number and was informed in each instance that the names were simply "trade-marks" as the original members possessing these names had died long ago. One passed over July 18, 1908. In the autumn when passing through the unhappy experiences of purchasing the house, and falling into the hands of those who could have caused me great disaster, this advice was received:—

"Unless the bargain is very great it is not wise to buy real-estate at the present. The prices are inflated at the present moment, and it is wiser to rent and sub-let. Jere Johnson, Jr."

The next message opened with a very clever and interesting illustration in four sections, a bedroom, studio with concert grand piano, dining room, and kitchen, and these remarks:—

"This seems to be the most you would need for your own use. The rest you could rent out most easily and you will be more comfortable than with so many rooms and no stairs to climb, so we think you had better take this. You will not need new furniture as what you have will look well enough in these five rooms. You do not know me, but I am also in the real-estate. Horatio Stewart."

When the complications in regard to the purchase

of the house were at their worst, a message was received which said:—

“He cannot hold you. You must get all back. Ross and Ross.”

And I did. The firm I afterwards discovered was a well known legal firm of Brooklyn, both members of which had “passed on” within a few years.

A message signed Wilcox was to the same purport, advising getting rid of my interest in the place at once, and assuring me that if I did so the loss would be slight in comparison to what I would lose if I did not accept the advice given by my unseen friends. I followed the suggestions and have wished ever since that I had asked the advice before following my own inclinations, and what proved to be very bad judgment. On another occasion I was on the verge of purchasing a fur garment when I received this advice:—

“The pelts are not so good. Do not trust those who sell mink as sable and there are many small skins which are sold as mink which are marmot. So be careful. Mr. Collins told me to warn you.”

The Mr. Collins mentioned is one of our most frequent writers and advisors from the other side, and he is always extremely interested in the practical side of life. The firm mentioned is a well known furrier establishment and I at once called them by phone asking for information in regard to the firm name before the present one came into use. After reiterating time and again that there never had been another member in the firm some one said, “Mr. A. is the only person ever affiliated with us and he has been dead many years.” Another one of the incon-

testable proofs which have been given to us from month to month since our first sessions.

On the verge of my departure for Europe, I received most unusual communications from almost the last person whom I should have expected to be in vibration or sympathy with anyone known to me either here or beyond. It reads:—

“Do not allow him to play cards. He has the gambling spirit in spite of his quiet demeanor. He is not very strong minded and can be easily led. You will be a fine influence for him and can make a man of him. Wm. F. Cody.”

Upon expressing doubt as to the identity of the person whom he had reference to, the name was given and the message continued:—

“I know his type and can see what will happen if he gets the card habit. Buffalo Bill.”

Many times during the history of the Opera Club the ways and means for furthering the interests of the organization have caused much anxiety, as we desired to produce operas by the young and unknown composers, also some performances at popular prices, to show our ability to carry out the propaganda of the club, but invariably the demand for money caused us to be held back in our desires. When objections had been made to the names of several prominent members of the theatrical profession whom we thought might be willing to become interested in our work, from one who is pre-eminently capable of advising, this message was received:—

“When you need money and backing, they are ready to take chances, and they will not go in except

where they are pretty certain of success. My first backer was a Jew. P. T. Barnum."

The fact that amongst my hundreds of communications received from the departed but few have been from those of my relatives or intimate friends in this earth life has been the cause of much speculation and desire upon my part for an explanation. However, as yet no elucidation has been given me. On the four or five occasions when such writings have been given it has usually been with the request for helpful prayers. One evening a writing was received telling us that the writer had passed out very suddenly, and with an attempt at an illustration of a railroad crossing and a collision of an automobile with a railroad train. Four weeks later in a letter from a distant part of the country I received the sympathy of friends for the loss to the writer of a dear friend, and mentioning that the entire family had been killed in an automobile accident while crossing a railroad track. This happened in October. The following January my friend wrote:—

"My head is still light and my voice has never returned but I am anxious to be included as a Friend of the Captain's little circle, as he terms it, but he will only permit me to come and say good evening and ask you to pray for me. I am not progressing, because I was under a cloud when I was so suddenly called hence. Just call me a friend and include me in your prayers for the deliverance from bondage which is heavy. Always your true Clara."

If one whom in earth life had ever been of the most beautiful and loving character, and an apparent example to all of us for imitation, should find

her progression retarded when on the other side what a lesson it is to us to heed the teaching of Holy Writ:—"Be ye therefore ready, for ye know not the day nor the hour when your time for preparation shall be closed."

A later message reads:—"I went out so suddenly therefore I have no other place to go. Your kind husband is assisting me, and I am grateful though I cannot help you except by trying to keep you informed of some events which are happening here that might be useful for the information of others. He guides my hand so you see he permits me to come. I thank you. Clara P."

The reference to helping and guiding the hand is due to the fact that many on the other side have not yet learned how to write through the medium. It seems to require some special development or practice from this side. Therefore, the unusual interest in these series of writings where the large majority of the messages have been given in the acknowledged chirography of the writer, and always with the verified signature. Of course, upon this fact depends the special value and interest in this revelation. On one occasion the medium straightened herself up, and having assumed an unmistakable military attitude, saluted. Upon reading the message we realized why the introduction. It reads:—

"No one knows more than I do the East Indian folk lore, and your Husband, who is also a military man, and who also knew the Turkish Sagas, but not so much the Indian, asks me for suggestions as to some of the placing of the scenes (for a contemplated play). I am near him here and we meet

often. If I find I can be of use I will come. Cecil Rhodes."

*The release of the prison & the revolution
here and we meet often. If I find
I can be of use I will come*
Cecil Rhodes

From this writer to the next is not such a long leap, except as to the tragedy which separated them in the passing out of the latter. I expect they knew each other in earth life, and wonder what are the conditions now. December 18, 1921:—

"My dear friend, The settlement of the Irish question is not what we need and will only lead to greater difficulties in the very near future. Of course, you cannot help them, but I have tried to get in touch with my friend, Sir Oliver Lodge, and cannot. Your friend Tom Collins has permitted me to approach you, and if you could find a way to get this to Sir Oliver, I might then be able to reach him, as he would be of vital import could I interest him in the real needs of our harassed country. Thank you, and I will gladly be of any assistance, as you can be of great value to me. Sincerely yours, Roger Casement, Bart."

While the majority of those sending messages through are from other countries from time to time our "Open Door" has been used as a means for giving both advice and testimonies. During the last presidential campaign, when we were all possessed with the enthusiasm common at such a time, we received a writing from one whom we realized must

still have had some continued earth interest, and whose message gave much weight from statements contained therein, which were afterwards reproduced in several of the daily papers during the campaign in almost the same words.

“The two candidates were impossible and would have spelt defeat for our Grand Old Party. I have sent my reincarnation, so work for his election, you women who wish your country well. William McKinley.”

That politics may not seem to be taboo in the further life and that the witness of all those who serve God by serving humanity may also be given, the following letter from our former Mayor was received January 8, 1922.

“Dear Madame:— The present executive of your great city would be of value to the municipality if he were not constantly being maligned. The women of the city must stand by the Mayor. You are destined to come into the public eye before long, and when you will make some artistic speeches you will also be called upon to mention a few facts in which politics are involved. This will be in connection with an opera which you will want to come under municipal support, and some of the public spirited men and women will become interested. So do not lose sight of politics in your other achievements. I have been permitted to come in order to prepare you for some important developments. Your second work which shall go hand in hand with the first. Yours for progress, William J. Gaynor.”

The next evidence is from one who speaks with authority and his advice should be of great value

wherever it is sent from, and whenever given, if experience counts in futurity.

"I am just allowed to say that the crime is due to the war and constantly increasing fear which is growing from day to day. Citizens should not carry firearms. The underworld takes advantage of this and so can also secure them. This must be put an end to. You who have opportunity to speak before audiences can do much to agitate this side of the issue and you will be of great value to the community. Thomas Byrnes, Commissioner of Police."

The few messages received from my immediate family were mostly in the vein of admonition to save my strength for the great works which it had been fortold I would be obliged to carry through. One was from a dearly beloved aunt of about my own age who had passed out when twenty years of age. It is the only time that she has communicated with me, but her interest in my affairs appears to be continued to the present time. She writes:—

"Save your energy for what is coming. Do not concentrate upon trivialities as that which is before you is of too great moment to permit of any lesser things interfering. Should you desire any other proof of the assistance it is possible for those who are willing to give, you can merely demand what you know you ought to have, and we will see that it shall be obtained. Of course you are here for a greater purpose than many others, so that more must be granted that you may have all possible help in every way; so that obstacles be not there to overcome which would retard the progress of their great work. This is my first attempt to reach you, and I

do not know whether you remember me. Your own Aunt Ella."

In preparing these writings for this volume I am more and more astounded when I realize how every class of society seems to be interested in having some word of testimony to present, and advice to give, which if followed would place the writers among the helpers, if only for a slight service. On November 13, 1921, after several unpleasant episodes at the Opera Club dances had been brought to my notice, a message from no less an authority than Vernon Castle was received in these words:—

"Dear Madame: If you would have the best possible prestige and retain the finest members in your club, see that you purge your dancing floor of the unseemly dancers whenever any may appear. The era for cleaner and more graceful dancing has arrived. The suggestive posture and steps must go. This is to your great advantage so pardon my intrusion. It has been permitted for the good of your organization. Vernon Castle."

As my association ever since my return from my studies in Europe has been closely in that of women's clubs, I know many of my friends will question why no messages have been received from the many magnificent leaders and members of organizations which have and are doing such vital work for the advancement of all the great things in our American life materially, intellectually, and spiritually. The inquiry is indeed apropos and to be expected. The testimony from many of these brilliant women has been received, but for reasons which can readily be understood, one of which is that the subjects mentioned, given as they have been to prove to me with-

out doubt their present knowledge pertaining to club life, would be far too personal for many now in prominence, I have omitted all but two, and from these I have eliminated the part which is entirely for my own encouragement, and expressed in terms somewhat more glowing than we have a right to expect from absolute present conditions. The first says :—

“My dear Child:— You will permit me, as the Mother of Club Presidents to tell you that it is difficult to deal with women as a class, and our dear friends who have come here recently, Florence and Eva, are so interested in your welfare. They say if you will be diplomatic your club will have the greatest possible success, as it is the nucleus for something tremendous. It must be most delicately and carefully handled. I am coming at the behest of my dear friend Kate, your own dear mother. We see each other often. Your old friend, Charlotte Wilbour.”

Having been instrumental with the assistance of many prominent musicians in arranging a benefit memorial concert for the family of one of our profession, it was to be expected, perhaps, that the vibrations should have reached beyond the earth plane, and the message from one who would have been the very first, if still in earth life to have given munificently in order to encourage me in undertaking such a great affair, has done more than any earthly expression to assure me that indeed “No good is lost” and that the promise of rewards in the after life for every action or deed done here is absolutely true. To those who had the happiness of knowing the great philanthropist of all club life,

whom we all placed in our heart's history as the one "who loved his fellow men" as sung into poetical version by Leigh Hunt, this message is of more than ordinary importance and carries absolute conviction. It reads:—

"My dear Child, What you have done so recently, and for one of my faith is recorded here in the Divine Hall of Fame. And whether you appear in the Hall upon your plane or not matters but little in the great scheme of things. Do you remember, my dear, when I was in the flesh what a miserable speaker I was? Well, you will be astonished to know that now I am able to make splendid speeches and I can associate with your dear brilliant mother and Charlotte Wilbour. Your wonderful achievement and the assistance you have given to such a worthy cause shall make you not only more beloved of mankind, but help to bring you the fame which should be yours. I now no longer indulge in the bonnets of brilliancy and I find black more suited to my type, upon the advice of your dear sainted mother. Will you permit me to express the sincere thanks of those who here are deeply interested. Very fondly yours, Esther Herrmann."

As has been mentioned in a previous chapter we have been informed that in a former earth life my husband was a Greek philosopher and therefore, it requires but little imagination to account for the reason of several of that nationality in our circle. One Greek maiden who signed her communications Charybda came every session. In fact, she had been assigned the duty of "closing the portals at one hour before the midnight." So careful were our guides that we should not deprive ourselves of the

needed rest in the desire to receive as many guests as possible at each meeting. Her letters were almost entirely personal, full of local color, and of her occupation in her former earth existence, of which I shall simply give a few excerpts. In her introductory letter she writes:—

“I come to you from out the past at the request of one to whom nothing is impossible. I have been here on this plane since how many times! I have many nationalities, but it is from my first incarnation that I bring you the arts which are known but to very few now. * * * I was a lady of the boudoir in the time of a queen of wondrous youthful appearance. After her sojourn with the Prince Paris for ten years, she at the age of fifty-two was of the face and form of twenty. I cannot write my own language which is Trojan so I am being helped by another whom I aided in beauty culture. She was also a King’s favorite, Lola Montes.”

From time to time instructions were received in her messages and they may prove of interest and value to those who knowing but little of this subject question as to the reason of many things. Note an admonition given our circle.

“You must not command the appearance of any one, but simply invite all the Friends who wish to enter. The placidity of the atmosphere becomes very much disturbed by constantly making requests, and asking for the visits of those who wish to come of their own volition. In the future, my dear lady, do you invite all those in the opening prayer, and allow the good to enter. The evil will always be eliminated in this sanctuary.”

In another writing she refers to the visit to the healing grotto in a neighboring city. Saying:—

“Enter upon your test of faith with an open mind and a trusting heart. I am not permitted to be of the ‘entourage’ as your spouse terms the retinue who will all accompany you, because my only knowledge has been Pagan and so my mind is not an appropriate accompaniment for such a journey.”

Her next message, received the following week says:—I have heard very many wonderful things about the pilgrimage which has imbued my Pagan soul with the desire for further knowledge along the lines of such Divine assistance as it is possible to obtain through the grace of supreme intervention, when the recipient is filled with unbounded faith and is willing to make sacrifices of the body to uplift the soul.”

Later we were informed that “My kind spouse” had given permission for the little handmaiden to accompany us on the next occasion when we would cross the river to visit the grotto. The impression received has not yet been divulged.

About this date an event occurred which caused us all, accustomed as we are to unusual events, to be even more than ordinarily astonished. A package was received from Europe containing a most beautiful representation of Our Lady of Lourdes, a facsimile of the grotto in miniature, which was carefully packed in evergreens. The fact that this should have been sent to me as a loving gift from one whom I never had met, and who knew absolutely nothing about my pilgrimages to the grotto in Italy and also in this country, was cause for much wonderment but not so much as the events which

followed. I made the remark, "I shall send these evergreens to be placed on Rudolph's grave, as they have evidently been sent by some of his Roman Catholic friends from a spot formerly held dear by him." The following message shows other intentions:—

"Your youth will be like the greens which you have been sent as the symbol. So do not send them away from your presence. You must retain them always. Your handmaiden, Charybda, who was also of my country told me to tell you of the most similar incident which occurred to me. I would always have retained my youthful figure, and not have become so irritable had I had the faith which you, happily for you, now possess. The cypress, which in my country was the symbol of everlasting strength and vigor, was given to me by my spouse when first we met, but as I was a scoffer, I cared for the token only until we were wedded. Then I cast it aside. From that time I deteriorated mentally and physically, and became what the world shall always call me, a 'termagant.' Your wonderful spouse sent you these in the only way possible. And could not himself explain, so instructed Charybda to cause me to make it known. It is one of the most remarkable demonstrations you have ever experienced. Xantippe."

The portals were closed after this marvellous communication by the little Greek handmaiden in this message:—

"I shall permit of no more messages this evening, so that you may imbibe what has come to you and that you may immediately try to follow out the in-

structions of the various communications which you have received. You must also cherish highly the everlasting flowers though they bear no fragrant nor beautiful blossoms. Flowers wither and fade away like most of the beauty of mortals, but as you hold these sacred and take them ever with you, it shall be with you even as my former scribe has told you. And you can be what you desire through the retention of the evergreens, and what you desire you shall obtain through the earnest request and the implicit faith. Your sweet faced sister will not return until the next occasion. She is now in her native land guiding the future movements of some of her dear ones there. Charybda."

One of the most interesting of our friends whom we were wont to expect, if not at every session at least frequently, was the one who was always designated in the communications of the others as "your sweet-faced sister-in-law." She was indeed one of the gentlest and sweetest of women and had passed the last years of her life in the restful protection of a convent in Vienna. As our communication with each other had ceased entirely after my husband's death, which occurred but two months before the beginning of the late war, I had no means of ascertaining what were the conditions in her life during those years. However, one evening she introduced herself to us with the information that she had "passed out" as the result of an operation and minutely described all the circumstances. These statements were six months later verified when the legal advisor of the convent communicated with me in regard to the settlement of her estate. Upon

several occasions she communicated in writing, but later my husband decided that it would be better for her to converse with us in German and Italian as "Being a young spirit" her information might not always be given with the wisdom and authority which has always characterized the messages given to us by those authorities selected for the communications contained in this Revelation. Much of her time, so she tells us has been occupied in carrying comfort and solace to those who were her former associates, and striving to ease the necessities of her greatly distressed land. She has pre-eminently a home influence and hence "my little Mother" has commissioned her to do many things for me which would otherwise if left undone have caused me much discomfort and anxiety. Her writings and sayings are those of the highest and most spiritual character and one can well feel that of such are indeed "The Kingdom of Heaven." Our "Emmachen" must be a message bearer of great power to those to whom as yet this wonderful truth is almost unknown and unrecognized.

Sometimes during my life I have heard of "the ruling spirit strong in death" and from the diversity of the messages received, this thought seems to gain added strength from proof of the statement that we begin our new life exactly at the point where we left the physical body and "carry on" our unfinished work under better conditions. This fact is indicated in the next message.

"By the express wish of your guiding spirit I am come to give you my aid. You will require a naturalist among all the other representatives of the

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world wherein we dwell. Next time I shall write alone and better. Oct. 15, 1922. John Burroughs."

*All the other representatives
of the world & hereinafter
do it. They will do it
alone and better John Burroughs*

Perhaps that no representative of the world's work should be missing in our testimonies, a message from the one who carried our Nation's Flag to the highest earth pinnacle was given at a following meeting. He wrote—"Space has been annihilated by the discoveries of modern science, but as yet the mysteries of the Universe remain unsolved. Were I to come again, I should not only be able to tell of explorers' discoveries, but I could bring messages which would be much more spiritual.

"It is really most necessary for the world to learn something of the great planets of which there is only conjecture, even among the great astronomers. Now we cannot give the truths any other way but through Chosen Instruments. So you must be the emissaries of the scientists who came over here en-

*"21/10/22"
in your secret nothing that
will be all revealing by giving
absolute silence*

*—G
Perry*

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lightened upon many subjects, but of the great riddle sadly in need of knowledge. We shall secure the proper knowledge which can be transmitted, and it will be so proven that it can be shown as so in your second volume, which is to be all-revealing, by giving absolute evidence. Robt. G. Peary."

I have before mentioned the frequent changes in opinions of those who in their present existence have gained a wider viewpoint. The following message indicates the truth of this belief: "If there shall not soon be some change in the legislative measures regarding that so-called prohibition there will be dire results, as there has been such a great failure registered by this act that even we who were of the opposite side must admit that it is making criminals of thousands who were harmless before. Your friend Mr. Collins is helping me write this. Yours for freedom, Carrie Nation."

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A suggestion from one whom I knew well in life, having on several occasions had the pleasure of pre-

senting him to the Woman's Press Club during the years when I was its president, gave me more than ordinary pleasure, that one so well-known in the world of letters should have even been interested sufficiently to give me the advice contained therein. He writes:—

“A foreword by someone who is of some renown in the world of letters would be of great assistance to you in making the public take it seriously. It is essential to secure the approbation of someone whose name has some weight. I would suggest one whose name is connected in the past with psychic research. There are some who do not count but there are those who really have done something of importance in this field. Your book is unlike others, hence will create some stir adverse and commendatory. Your friend here, the one you call Sunny, is working strenuously in your behalf though there are others who are publishing some of his memories who shall need much help also. I knew him well and he was and is very dear to me. You are to be congratulated upon his co-operation. Yours, St. Clair McKelway.” Jan. 21, 1923.

On the same date a message brought to us probably because of the international complications of the present time which are creating so much interest on both sides of life, was received in French. Much of it I omit because of the controversy which might be caused by the statements contained therein but in the finish he says:—

“When you are in your little chapel it is possible to do many splendid things. Tell people these things for me. My name is not French but I am the General MacMahon.”

One of the most difficult portions of this book has been to group together in such a manner as to establish their relativity, dozens of individuals, each feeling that their experiences must possess more of value for furthering the great cause than that of others; this has made continuity of expression almost impossible and from week to week and from month to month even the opening chapters have been delayed because of this fact. One of our good advisors, realizing this state of mind, wrote this:—

“If you do not begin this writing you cannot take the trip. You must do what you have promised. There is plenty more after this for you to do. In the Fall the other lady is to go also, and you must not break the circle if you wish to retain the power to do this work. Others who were associated with you once, but are no longer, cannot commune now, even when they try. And the inclination for the work must also continue or you will find the communion less and less satisfactory. I have not been able to do much for some time, as there have been many obstacles which are now more removed. There are some difficulties to overcome first and then everything will be smooth. Student of psychology as I am I want to help you. You must become Master of Mind to make it obey you. My wife will guide you again. Robert Wilcox.”

To one who was closely associated for most of his life with royalty to whom the court life and everything related to it was the main issue and influence of every interest as was the case of the Guide it is not to be wondered at that some recognition of this fact should be received from the other side of life, and such recognition has been given in the

closing messages of this chapter. Commencing with a crude attempt at drawing three crowns this communication began:—

“As I am really not entitled to a crown it is no wonder that I cannot draw one. I am not of royal blood and became a queen wholly upon my physical attractions. I was eventually the ruination of my husband and even after death was my evil influence exerted upon the country which adopted me. This last however was not of my own volition. But much as I regret it that evil influence of mine is still felt by my husband’s people and that same influence was at work causing the assassination of their Majesties the Archduke and his wife of Austria thus at that time precipitating of the Great War. You may help by Prayer to have this curse taken from me, thus liberating my earth bound spirit and helping me to take my evil influence from your world, as I still can cause wars and strife though I desire it not. Even as Kundry whose earth-bound spirit was at last released through the pure thoughts and desire to help of a man without sin, I ask this not only for myself but for humanity. Draga of Servia, Rex.”

“I was always a helper for all who were interested in Art, and I would also like to be helpful now. The great artist, the only Richard, the greatest of all composers, says, ‘Always help those in most need.’ The people always said that I was crazy. That was because I helped all needy artists, and therefore I committed suicide. I come because the great spirit invited me. May I help? Perhaps you will know me. Ludwig der von Bayern.”

From time to time our little “Emmachen” would

not report at our sessions, and upon inquiry we were told that she had gone to help her sadly in need people. That the cries of the distressed and needy are ever reaching heavenward and especially during these recent years when not only individuals but nations have felt the heaviness and anguish which have caused them to call upon the greatest of all helpers and his emissaries, is a constantly reiterated fact, also the promise that the cries are heard and answered. The translated message which I now reproduce is an example:—

“The President from your land is much to blame for all the suffering and misery that is now making the world so unhappy. Your splendid Husband was always in our army as a Captain and we still see him, and here he is a Major General, not only a Captain. He has invited us both here, but the great Kaiser, Franz Joseph, my sainted Husband, is still too sad. Therefore I am coming in his place. I will soon have to come to bring help to my unfortunate country, and only through your wonderful Husband. Also Auf Wiedersehen. Elizabeth Rex, Empress of Austria.”

The message from King Humbert is short, dignified, and kingly. Translated it reads:—

“Life is most unhappy but he who reaches the sacred place of the Captain greets your researches. I am your king. King Humberto.”

In almost an apologetic preface to her communication, one, who has had much publicity in the United States, presented the following plea for consideration—“Were it not that in the whole of your world there is no other opportunity such as this for genuine communications, I should not bother

you. You will become so well-known all over the world before very long, I wish to bring many messages to the earth through you, when your book has been read and believed by many, many persons—because then it may be possible to make them believe. I have cause. I shall at this time only identify myself so that you will know me well. I have much to tell, there has been great injustice to my people, and they were much more happy when they were ruled in the old way. You cannot use this for much, I fear, but I want so much to tell this people what my people endure—a governor instead of Royal Blood to rule them. My name in our language, which is some like Portuguese and some like Spanish, is by my people called Estrella a Oro. Liliuokilani—Queen.”

CHAPTER X

TESTIMONY OF THE GUIDE.

One of the most important truths which has been given to our circle has been that although every human being has a Guardian Angel whose influence and helpful suggestions are ever with them, and are of the greatest assistance, if the inner ear is but attentive to the voice of the unseen helper, yet these guardians are changed from time to time and are not always the same. From the other side they are called Guides and Advisors, and as in earth life we seek different people of authority to help us under conditions of divers necessities, so are these advisors from the other life, assigned by the Great Helper to walk by our side, and gently lead us during our earth experience, when we are obliged to walk in paths of much danger and unknown surroundings. The child at birth has its appointed Guardian Angel, and of such importance are these specially appointed ones that in "Holy Writ" we find—"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones, for I say unto you that in Heaven their Angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in Heaven."

Then others are assigned from time to time, as special necessities present themselves, each with his set purpose. The truths as presented from the

unseen, on this subject, teach that one of the highest privileges permitted by the Great Guide is to allow those who have left this plane to act as these Willing Helpers, if they so desire, instead of going forward in their progression, and being eliminated from our earth association entirely. Thus is answered the frequent question—"Where are my dear ones, my mother, sister, children? I know they loved me greatly, and if there be such a thing as communication after life I am certain they would come to see me." We know no more about the rules and regulations on the further side of life than has been permitted by the authority there, and the conclusion is, of those who have been given a little wider vision than ordinarily met with, that in the larger number of cases only those are permitted to return as Helpers who have had a great earth purpose and feel that this can only be fulfilled by permission to continue it through a prepared earth instrument. This explains inspired musicians, writers, inventors, and also the well known protection of motherless children, and the quick answer to the prayers for help of the weak, the poor, and those who seem to have no "Helper." Man's necessity is indeed God's opportunity, and his emissaries are ever ready to enter the open door of the willing suppliant for help. While I have purposely omitted as far as possible all reference to the personal proofs which have been given me from the further side of life, still some of the information which I have received may prove of help, and in this Chapter I will endeavor to give what may be of value in a general sense. In the last three years I have received more than one hundred letters from my hus-

band, written in his own handwriting, many portions of them in the different languages of the many countries where he had lived while here, and generally such letters as one might expect a man to write to his wife. But occasionally some philosophy and grains of general wisdom would drop from his versatile pen, and these will be given in this chapter. For the information of those anxious ones who feel as if only one message from a dear one would make life another place entirely, I will say never was a being more beloved, almost to adoration, than was my Mother. When she passed out, earth was to me absolutely nothing, life was finished and all its interests, and yet never have I received a written message which seemed as authoritative or could be reproduced in this volume. Why is this, I ask, and the reply is given, "Your Mother was an old spirit and her life work was absolutely finished. You have been prepared by her untiring and ever vigilant teaching and education to fill your place in the earth, and therefore you must walk on the road where you were started, and work out your own future." But from the distant abode of her present activity I am told that it was her desire first that this book should be revealed through my pen, and that she is the cause of the task being assigned to me,—one unversed in literary writing, but available through the all powerful vibrations of Love and Music. This having been decided upon, the work of bringing the different witnesses to our circle was given to the Captain, who had by willingly remaining behind to aid as a great Helper during the war necessities, prepared as he was with the necessary knowledge through his experiences in other European wars,

been permitted the privilege of remaining by my side and communicating with me from time to time. His erudition, lovable qualities, all impressing personality had evidently become even more developed when released from the physical body, and having been assigned this task it is of the greatest interest to read in the many messages received the words of respect and the titles of authority given him by our visitors whom he has invited to assist in this Revelation. I could easily make a special chapter of these, but will only call attention to a few, "The Leading Spirit, Major-General, the President, The Great Spirit, the Great Guide, Your Wonderful Helper."

Another interesting fact is that invariably the writer makes mention that he has "been permitted" or "invited" to attend our session. Never has one been admitted who has not come under such conditions; proving that there is some well defined plan behind this "cloud of witnesses," called to give evidence to these truths. What they wear, eat, and how they live were matters of no special interest to our circle. The only thing which appeals to us is that the "glass through which this poor world has been striving to peer darkly" is at last becoming more and more transparent, and the sight which we behold through it with our stronger vision is so inspiring and satisfying that we feel no amount of earth discipline can be too severe if in reality we are prepared to be advanced pupils in the higher classes of our spiritual life. The Helpers are most insistent upon making us understand that they are neither omnipotent, omniscient, nor omnipresent. They know and do only as they are permitted or

are able, from the fact that they are no longer limited by the physical body. In one letter my Guide wrote:—

“In carrying out this work, which is different from any done as yet, we have a very definite purpose, and you are our chosen instruments; chosen because of the reasons which I have previously exhaustively expounded to you many times. And although we are not always able immediately to cause the sequence of events to follow minutely the direct plans which we have laid out, still the main and vital points are gained, even though perhaps in an entirely different manner from that which we first had planned, and that is the way we work. I think you will not consider me sacrilegious when I say we work upon Divine Principles, in which we are guided and taught by that Almighty Master who forms all things so wonderfully that we can indeed call them ‘fearfully and wonderfully created.’ And others have we, who have gone on a certain distance in their evolution and these receive the benefits of His teaching and example. To those who have proved faithful to every test and trial and tribulation shall it even be granted to receive personal and undivided advice.” The question of Faith is pre-eminently the one which is impressed upon us constantly and whenever a proof which has seemed to us more than usually convincing has been given us, we have invariably been assured that it has been made possible by our Faith, and that the value of Faith is all important, as is stated in the following message:—

“The hour of your triumph approaches when you can show to the world the result of faith, and the communion of spirits and the sanction of the

Almighty upon our earthly matters, which many scoffers would deem too trivial for even the spirits to notice; and so most certainly beneath the dignity and scope of the Great Being whom we do not even aspire to call by any name; there being nothing extant which could express such glory. Even a matter which some might consider trivial, may be an important cog in the great wheel of the universe and in the world to come and in the world to go. So the seemingly small and insignificant things have often much significance in the great scheme of the universe, and shall be turned into tremendous and vital forms, which shall definitely alter the course of events as you or even we see them. Thus does the great cause for which we are all created not forget even one little germ or seed; and many who consider themselves but a speck upon the horizon of the universe, are indeed giants of importance in the eyes of the knowing spirits who have already been given their place and duties to perform. Many of the millions who are looking for the place wherein they would fit are groping in the dark until they shall be selected to expound the truth in more ways than they can now realize. That is why the chosen ones come to a realization of their importance suddenly and often accidentally as it seems to them, and the light which has been hidden is immediately revealed. Many of the chosen are often so difficult of conviction, however, that it takes a process of much development and preparation to make them realize that they have been chosen, and that is why no two inspirational or spiritual communications begin similarly."

Not having eliminated myself entirely from the class supposed to be represented by the feminine gender, I on one occasion asked a number of questions, perhaps to prove the value of the prophetic ability of our Guide as much as for any other reason, and received this reply:—

“All the questions which you have propounded would take much more thought than the winking of an eyelid, as you seem to think I can immediately give you the necessary advice; but, sweetheart, do not imagine that the mere casting off of the physical shell makes our minds machines which can direct things haphazardly. Indeed, we over here do more real thinking than was ever dreamed of in any tentative philosophy. And we are so much more careful now about distributing advice than when in the flesh that we seldom make the errors mortals are capable of, and that is the main reason our advice is really good counsel and not any guessing as to the outcome. We are expected to be almost infallible; that attribute belongs only to the Supreme Spirit, and not one of the highest and most exalted Masters of all the spheres has attained that perfection.”

On several occasions requests having been made by members of our circle to help in carrying out some of our daily work, which seemed unusually heavy, and also for the release from illness, by the help of our Friends, we were told that as far as possible this assistance would be given, and the promise frequently made that our requests might be granted and the results favorable. Sometimes the promises were given positively, but in the case of the Captain, who is the highest and most powerful of our guides, he invariably said:—

“So far as I can see I believe you will secure your desire.” On one occasion he writes:—

“Do not think that these are vain or idle boasts, for were it not possible for me to foretell these things I am too careful to put on these sacred sheets that which cannot be verified in its truth.”

Later on in the same message, when the request was for the removal of a certain eye condition, which resulted in the wearing of glasses, he writes:—

“I shall endeavor to take away any seeming dimness of physical vision, as through the enhanced spiritual vision you will be able to use your earthly eyes to better effect. But have faith in us, and I will see what you so desire an accomplished fact. Should we, with the combined efforts of those experienced on the earth plane with *Materia Medica*, succeed in this, we shall have a demonstration such as has never been given to any on the earth from this side of the veil. I shall not prophesy, but shall with the aid of those great minds and the potentialities here, who are willing to assist me, make an experiment such as has never been attempted in history ere this. So be of your usual unbounded faith and good cheer, and do not abuse your physical sight. This experiment we trust will be more than that. Indeed, it is a demonstration of the powers of the higher planes to function ever upon the lower one. Where there is a congress of souls and minds such as are assembled here, we believe nothing can be denied to us if it is of a nature to benefit even a small portion of humanity, and in this it is such an all important fraction of that portion, the demonstration will be a great blessing.”

Then comes the vital truth:—

“Of course you realize that we are not infallible nor absolutely powerful, but you know that we are actually capable of treating with much greater potency than even those who practice the healing Science known as Christian, but which is in reality only mental, as they do not treat humanity in the same manner as the dear Master, who was omnipotent. As they are only mortals working with mental not spiritual control. Those who are treated by the great spiritual forces, who were very great before coming over here, are usually doubly protected.”

On one occasion our Guide wrote:—

“The world is at last beginning to investigate the communion of our sphere with yours, and the result of the spreading of the great truth will be of untold wonders, and in all probability it will mean the end, absolutely, of war. Then we will have done the work we ought to do.”

One of my friends having met with a severe loss in the form of some greatly prized war medals, I asked the Guide if possible to aid in recovering them. He wrote:—

“The loss of the big boy touches my heart, but you know we do not find lost articles, as that is what the charlatans of mediumistic or so called mediumistic powers profess to do, and it verges on what you over there are pleased to call supernatural. We do not identify ourselves with any but sublime truths and spiritual philosophy.” Upon another occasion this reply was given to what was evidently considered an unnecessary or unimportant question:—

"We are really so busy here that we must never waste a moment which is granted to us for communion with the ones who are chosen, and who have answered the call. Do you know that some other great ones might have been chosen for many important works upon your and other planets had they been sensitized sufficiently to understand? In speaking of the rewards to be granted to those who answered the call to carry on the work of the unseen, the writer said:—"We shall be near you to make your work somewhat easier of accomplishment, also to advise and protect you from all danger, and to give our sanction to the aid and assistance of great forces; also to keep you and your helpers from any evil influences, so that nothing but love, harmony, and divine inspiration and the sublimest ideas may be permitted to enter into your mind. 'Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.' The definition of that beatitude is not that they shall inherit the Kingdom of Heaven after passing away from the earth, but the real meaning of that wonderful promise is that they shall be the chosen ones before passing away from the earth plane, and shall do His work and be imbued with His spirit while in the performance of such work. And then in spirit shall they see Him and even as Enoch shall they 'walk with God.'" The frequent quotations from Holy Writ and their applications to the subjects under consideration show convincingly that the precept and teachings therein are indeed a light for our feet, and in no way are the truths given to us in these communications anything but illuminations. In explanation of this fact some dis-

cussion had been held in regard to the so-called New Thought Cult, and this criticism was received:—

“Though what you will have to offer to the world shall be as old as Time, still what and how you convey it shall be so new to this and other generations it will help to make the real religion. There are many who are here who have been in your world thousands of years ago who knew these truths and could make use of them even upon the physical plane, and all the most material needs could be supplied through this spiritual aid. When these seers gradually vanished from the earth, and a world of commerce and greed crowded out everything spiritual, the science was lost and we are now about to enter upon a new and more scientific era; and science shall find many ways of learning what now seems hidden mysteries. So we who can be pioneers are endeavoring to prepare the mind of the world for the tremendous things to come. We are often told of those who ask spiritual aid in regard to matters decidedly mundane, expecting the advice given to partake of a futuristic value because given by a discarnate intelligence.” A case of this kind having been mentioned, the Guide said:—

“Have faith in regard to certain qualities, but doubt his business acumen. However, I do not blame you for having doubt about the practicability of my views in anything of a material nature. You know the old adage, ‘A leopard cannot change his spots.’ So is it with all mortals who become immortals, they change their consciousness with their transition from material to spiritual, but they do not change their nature or desires immediately.

That is why we have a combination of all the great minds to work with us."

At another time he wrote:—

"I say 'we' and do not allude to myself as the one who is the invisible Helper standing alone, but I always say 'we,' as in order to bring about results by the aids, it is absolutely necessary to enlist the assistance of all, or many of the other invisible and willing helpers; as each and every one has a specific need which he can fulfill. Love, the great force which unites us, makes it possible for me to bring to your aid the tremendous spirits who did not even know you in the material way. For the great spirits are only drawn to earth for the purpose of carrying out with your help great objectives. I am therefore certain when the culmination of our tremendous work is really at hand, you will not be ashamed to admit what were the vital forces which have made all these wonderful realizations possible. In my tours of discovery I have come across some almost forgotten personages of the literary, musical, and even theatrical world, who though they had never believed that they would be permitted to take part in anything terrestrial again, are more than anxious to be included."

We must acknowledge that the desire has been granted when we read the names of the many who have been allowed to give of their testimony for the encouragement and enlightenment of the hungry, groping souls in our midst. During the recent years many have been the requests to be admitted to our circle in the hopes of receiving messages from some one who has "passed out" while in the service of his country or otherwise. The re-

quest, however, has been refused, because the reason of our sittings was entirely for a definite purpose, the reception of these truths. In explanation this was written:—

“When the culmination of our prescribed plans has been consummated, then can we all of us give ourselves to the more material side of things mundane, you shall be reaping your reward, and we will feel that our great work has been accomplished; then shall we devote our spare moments with you to such trivial matters as the comforting of the unenlightened, and those who are seeking knowledge, as well as those who are real seekers of Divine help and those who are starving for a little spiritual food as well as many who are desirous for spiritual aid.”

Among our most cherished experiences were the greetings and friendly talks which we had with the one whom we called Emmachen. She spoke through our medium always in Italian or German, and her quaint way of expressing herself when not thoroughly understood by us, also the joy and happiness which she found in her new surroundings, in a state evidently entirely unexpected by her, always left us in an exaltation unknown at any other time. When she did not come we were told that she had been sent on some errand of mercy, and therefore her visit must be postponed to some other occasion. At this time, amongst the organizations in which I was working, we were greatly interested in collecting funds for the Hoover relief, and I had spoken before several clubs with a most generous response. At the next session in explanation of our little friend's non-appearance this letter was received:—

“Let us be happy that through the efforts of you and your helpers many hungry mouths shall be fed, and all the dollars which we sent will be a blessing upon the heads of those who were instrumental in helping the work. Emmachen has been personally putting the inspiration for this most worthy cause into the hearts of such notable personages as are at the head of this movement. Even the Commissioner of that feeding organization. She has helped the great and beautiful Kaiserin Elizabeth and the old Emperor Wilhelm the First to soften the hearts of all those concerned, so that not only the other nations, but also those of central Europe, shall be included as beneficiaries in this noble work of saving these nations from destruction and utter annihilation. So you can see what a great factor upon the physical plane a beautiful and pure spirit can manifest itself to be. These wonderful things are not being brought about from the material world, but only entirely by those who came here recently, and who know the cases in question, and so are still in touch of their own free will with the suffering of innocent humanity and who can and do help.”

One fact which has interested us greatly has been the ever emphatic insistence in regard to our health and in the having of proper food and exercise. We had been told that much of our information and strength was received during sleep. They say the spirit does not tire, it is only the physical body which demands rests and sleep. While that is taking place the spirit becomes liberated and proceeds to its place of revivification. We thus associate with our teachers and helpers, often our dear ones from whom we have been separated for years,

and we return to continue our earth duties, refreshed and encouraged. Sometimes we bring back dimly the remembrance of what we have experienced, and then we call it dreams. At other times when the remembrance is more vivid we say we have had a vision. And when the experience is particularly startling we realize that a warning has been received, as it was given to Joseph and many others mentioned in the Bible; and if we are wise we heed the warning and escape what otherwise might have meant great disaster. Those who live habitually on the higher plane and are therefore much nearer these unseen visitants experience this form of teaching frequently, for they function on the spiritual plane and are receptive to its methods. But in present life these "dreamers" are generally scoffed at and denounced, as was Joseph by his material and earth bound brethren. If these conditions exist, as so many believe, we can realize how necessary it is that we retire to sleep prepared by prayer and thoughts of God and the eternal verities, for the reception of this help. In one letter this admonition for the care of our health was given. It is so entirely different from the practice of many religious cults throughout the entire world, where the abuse and neglect of the body has been taught as particularly pleasing to the Almighty Spirit; it cannot help but be of interest as showing the thought from the more enlightened side of life.

"Beloved, the care which you bestow upon each and every part of the Casket of your soul must never be considered Vanity. For be it known every custodian of such a precious case should consider its care a bounden duty, and thus shall the physical per-

fection be but the reflection of the greater perfection within, which shall thus radiate health, beauty, spirituality, and shine forth from the countenance of all who conscientiously take absolute care of this Divine house of the Spirit. A radiance only equalled by those who have appeared in visions. Visions which have been actualities, not myths, and are often the fore-runners which can be sensed by the ones who have this divine inner radiance and actually feel the Spirit. It may be that this power of intercommunion during our sleep, or as in a more definite development that which is called "going out" during sleep, is really what makes this present life at times at all bearable. We know that much which seemed actually beyond our powers to undertake or bear up under when we sank to sleep, at sunrise frequently appears as altogether a different matter and quite easy of achievement. This fact makes us realize that we are never very far from the source of our Being or our Helpers. The Guide thus explains this fact.

"You will soon almost feel the line we are holding you by, so that you do not stray into paths of danger or places that have no influence for good upon your life. You will soon notice that every thing you do, no matter how trivial it may seem at the time, will prove of new importance in your life, and all those who are associated in this great work will find that their lives will assume much more vital and important aspects. And then you will realize what great truths abound in the interstellar spaces which we fortunate ones inhabit."

In writing about the probability of the questions and adverse criticisms of those who would read

these pages with a spirit of antagonism the Guide said:—

“I must of necessity commit to these sheets many words of wisdom, in order that they may be here perpetuated and impressed upon our readers. So that the importance of this life here may be proven to all those who are so skeptical as to require a verification of every communication in order to be convinced. When you find those who continually scoff at these truths you may know that they belong to those hopeless ones who will never achieve any amount of the truthful knowledge which must be possessed before the great things of this world may be accomplished. Many have claimed that Nature does everything. What and who is Nature? Do they know?”

At no time perhaps do we miss the complete home circle more than at the seasons of the year when the cheer of Thanksgiving and Christmas causes the gathering together of the entire family. Then indeed is the time when the longing for

“The touch of the vanished hand,
Or the sound of the voice that is still”

almost overpowers our assurance in the continued associations and nearness of our dear ones. Even the strongest faith at these times needs encouragement. At my last Christmas this greeting was given me, and greater than any message from those of my visible friends was the joy which the loving words imparted:—

“I greet you in this Holy Season, and shall have the happiness of being with you in the Yuletide

festivities. I rejoice with you in the abundance of glad cheer which you will have about you. Rejoice with us, that the dear Lord was given to us to make the life upon that dangerous and difficult plane a bearable one. So that the ills could be better borne and the trials and tribulations made to appear trivial by the comparison of the much greater which make up the human existence, and also to help the whole world to a spirit of love which is so much needed."

Time and again has our attention been called to the reward which shall be given to those who without thought of self have given freely of their time and interests to the betterment of those within their reach. In one message the Guide wrote:—

"You will soon see how miraculously do the threads of Divinity unwind before your wondering eyes. I have told you before, these are but the tests of the influence of good which we can exert when the atmosphere has been created for us and also has thus been prepared for the great workings of the Infallible Divine Mind which is the Cosmos of Infinity, and which cannot be turned aside from the path of thought that emanates therefrom. There is much to be told and you must tell it or the world will remain still longer in ignorance. The willfully blind are those who will not open the eyes of the soul and so cannot see what is being eternally revealed in the marvelous unfolding of nature's truths from day to day. Thus has the Great Arbitrator of all Destinies selected a few who if they will but respond to the call can become sources of the noblest work of the Divine Spirit by giving to the world at large much which is only revealed to the

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chosen few who are so delicately attuned by the Divine Harmony of Love, Faith, and Music that they can be made the prepared instruments of the works of the Master of our beings, and also of those who have gone before to prepare the way for the Faithful and the Pure in Heart."

CHAPTER XI

GLIMPSES OF LIGHT—OPENED EYES

Since the creation of the world, when God said, "Let there be Light," and there was Light, poor humanity, blinded by things physical and oftentimes deliberately turning itself aside from the source of all illumination, has been satisfied to grope about in the dim candlelight of some thought or belief which dwarfed and retarded by its limitations, and oftentimes did more harm than good by its teaching of half truths. At the hour of his death, Goethe, the great philosopher, cried, "More light," and the great teachers of all peoples have been occupied not in the giving, but in creating in the ignorant heart of man the desire for the light which God in His unlimited goodness has furnished from the beginning. At the present time, the broken hearts of those who have passed through the tragedies of the last ten years are through the crevices, receiving glimpses of light and the people who sat in darkness are indeed seeing a great light. When one of the blind men whom Christ cured said to Him, "I see men as trees walking," he expressed in a most characteristic way the truth of our condition at the present day. Blind as we have been, content to listen to the voice of the seers upon the mountain tops, now our blindness is being overcome, and al-

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though as yet we are only seeing men as trees walking, there is no doubt in the minds of our real spiritual leaders, those who in real verity have received the sign, that the time of the open vision is close at hand. I have culled from the numerous writings which have been given to our circle twelve (12) truths which the Friends have reiterated time and again, as though realizing that if the belief of the multitudes could be increased as to the absolute verity of these truths, then the eyes of the blind would indeed be, not almost, but altogether opened.

WILLING HELPERS

The teaching of the Willing Helpers has always been, not the working out your own salvation with fear and trembling, but the willing self-sacrifice of remaining in the service of those on the earth who need their help and encouragement to make it possible for them to lift themselves out of the degradation and surroundings which so often prevent even the lifting of an eyelid to the hills from whence cometh their help.

PURIFICATION

Purification is another truth which has been given to us on several occasions. The unseen writer has said:—"I am not fit to enter this sanctuary but your Guide tells me that when I am more purified and released from this present condition I may be allowed to help."

One well known composer wrote:—"I am feeling somewhat better and I will be able to get into touch

oftener. I have much to do here and if I had the opportunity I would change some of my later works. I shall soon be ready to be a source of inspiration to the composer of your libretto."

At his first writing this same Friend wrote:—
 "The President of this circle says I must be purified before I can enter here as I passed out not in the proper state to be admitted in a select gathering of this sort, but when I have accomplished that purification then I am to make a genuine effort to be of assistance artistically and perhaps materially."

REINCARNATION

While three-quarters of the world believe in reincarnation it has always been to our Western faith a subject which not only is antagonistic but almost unbelievable, still as I am giving the information as it has been transmitted from our Friends to us, I cannot allow this important spoke in the wheel of our revelation to pass unmentioned. In the chapter on my Ancestors I have related the assertions of my Japanese Friends as to my former existence as one of that race, and on other occasions I have been told of an Italian existence as a member of the Sforza family, and of being reincarnated now because of a certain arrogance which I am being permitted to work out in this present life. My Guide states that having had many life experiences, his last previous incarnation was as a Greek philosopher. To those who knew him, this can easily be believed, for his erudition was such as could never have been acquired in the period of the few short years which he lived in our midst. On one occasion I asked him

if he still was called by the name which I knew him by. He replied:—

“No, I have a new name. The name which has been given me is the Greek, for those who have much to do upon this plane and yours. But as it is not the ultimate which I shall have when our reunion takes place, I do not wish you to think of me by any other name than the one by which you have called me so many hundreds and thousands of times. And which falls like a string of pearls from your sweet lips, Beloved. To you I am always forever and ever—Your Rudolph.” (Evidently a verification of Revelations 4-17, “To him that overcometh will I give a white stone and in the stone a new name written which no one knoweth save him that receiveth it.”)

At another time in giving some information as to crystal reading it was written:—“I have asked you to help by learning to gaze intelligently into the crystals. There is one who is able to read them perfectly. His name is Ali, and he is a re-incarnation of a great Hindoo. He will come to you sometime in the future and help me to teach you.”

In writing about a Friend who was shortly to “pass on,” he said:—“It will not be long before we have her here working with us. She will be of much greater benefit to you when she is here than where she is now. Just as I always told you I should be, when I had reached this side. Another reason is, That her earth work is nearly finished, as she has had many reincarnations, and it is possible that this present one shall be the last. Especially if she expresses the desire to work, aid, and serve as we are now doing. I think this last time I

was on the earth was also my last, as my only desire now is to work for you and your great work, and those who are associated with you in it. And then await our glorious reunion, when we shall go on together to even greater things than any which you have ever dreamed of, for the glories which await us in the time to come shall be made the greater by the culmination of the "Three Great Things," which you have been chosen to bring to fruition. So do not fail me, as that would mean you would not finish the work for which you were born, and in consequence we could not immediately go to our Destiny. You were born not to be a mother, much as you might have desired, and the reason of it is that you have been saved just for this great work."

SOUL MATES

In accordance with this truth is the statement in regard to the union of souls. And the much discussed and often ridiculed subject of soul-mates received from the other side of life not only affirmation as to its truth, but also mention has been made of those great unions of souls which even while in our midst stood as illustrations of this highest union of two beings. The perfect being is that of a man and a woman who are indeed soul-mates. The Guide writes:—

"Had I wooed you in vain, I would not have remained long upon your plane, but would have come here sooner, if only to be near you in spite of yourself. But, of course, that is only supposition. I always knew that I must win you, as you were born for me, and I for you. It was foreordained, and

we were re-incarnated to complete the perfect soul which shall never be a single one, and while we are separated we are not either of us complete."

On another occasion in speaking of the great desire for our reunion he said:—"What can a few score years mean to us who have so many vital things to finish before we reap the great reward! When you shall see the wonders gradually unrolling before your wondering eyes."

The perfect union of body, soul and spirit makes the marriage no man can "put asunder." If the union is only of the physical, it is finished when one or the other passes on, and those who are so married may not even see or recognize each other in the next existence. When the woman of Samaria said: "I have no husband," the Christ replied, "Thou hast well said, 'I have no husband' for thou hast had five husbands and he whom thou hast is not thy husband." This truth was revealed to all those who could read the statement with an understanding heart.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

To those who are members of that branch of the Christian Church which look upon Death as a finality as far as regards the interest of the departed one for us, it is surprising to notice the many requests for prayer which we have received, especially it seems from those who have died suddenly. I expect the Fathers of the Church knew why the prayers for the deliverance from sudden death were inserted in the prayer book, also why prayers for the release and progression of those departed souls have been omitted. Many do not, but the fact re-

mains that the request for prayers has been frequently received. And needless to say invariably has the request been granted, always making mention by name of the one for whom the prayer was offered. It appears that the individuality of the suppliant must be observed. On one occasion the statement was made:—

“Yours is the condition where the efficacy of prayer is felt. Here we are workers.”

One of the most brilliant writers and critics of the literary world wrote:—“I need help, strong help as you can give. I can grow faster. This person who watches over your interests can't help me so much as you can if you pray, to put in vibration my name often. Pray, pray, pray, so I can be of help to you . . .” On a later occasion he wrote:—“Thank you, my friend, for your prayers.”

ENTITIES

During the visit of a recent great writer and lecturer much criticism and even ridicule was aroused over his statement in regard to the existence of certain entities, fairies, elves, gnomes, etc., which to many of us had always been associated as mere vagaries of the brain. In our lessons at that time several assertions were made as to the truth of the eminent lecturer's statements. One read:—

“I am most anxious for you to meet the great Psychic in order to verify his statements in regard to those entities which are absolutely invisible even to the greatest Psychics who have made this their life work. I notice that in all these public appearances this phase of his supernormal vision is never

touched upon by him, and if your credence in that fact could be made known to him it might help him."

In writing about an escape from instantaneous death which I had experienced while on a trip to a foreign land, in explanation of the reason of the accident which he said was antagonism to my cause, he says:—

"The thoughts which sometimes are so tangible that they become elementals, so that we over here can actually visualize them, cause all the danger there is in your world. They create envy, strife, war, sickness, murder, and every evil of mankind. And when these evils, these concrete thoughts, shall be entirely eliminated, then shall we have reached the only millennium." In speaking about the necessity for dedicating our sanctuary, the room where our sittings were always held, this fact was stated:—

"This little room is dedicated to the service of our great work, the pure atmosphere which is here ought to assist doubly in keeping out the lurid ones who are always ready and hovering around to enter the place of a weaker but noble spirit. Our watchful vigilance can never be relaxed, even for an instant, where our chosen ones are coming together and with us. That is why we are constantly at hand to prevent desecration of this place. Do you know, Beloved Ones, that there are at this very moment others who are endeavoring to sit in seance, but who cannot keep out the devil and his assistants. Of course I do not mean the terrestrial conception of his Satanic Majesty. He of the cloven hoof. But I mean the hordes of evil spirits who are ever upon the qui vive to obtain the possession of powerful

earthly mediums who can aid them in their evil pursuits. That is why I have placed this tremendous body guard about you all, and consequently am endeavoring to keep any of you from these dangerous places."

I have in a previous chapter told the story of Ali, the living entity, who has on numerous occasions projected himself into the midst of our circle and has written many letters of great interest. The fact that this is possible to those acquainted with all phases of psychic phenomena is not unknown, but to us it has always been a subject of special interest and great consideration. After one of his visits we received two letters which I reproduce as perhaps testimonies from these great personages may carry weight not otherwise felt. The first from the pen of one of America's most famous religious teachers reads:—

"You have had several entities visit you who were still and even now are in the flesh, and there is much proof that it is possible for many such to project themselves into the midst of spaces which are made receptive by the influence of very strong minds supported by a most powerful spirit. There is one of whom you have been in doubt. He is sometimes thought to be heretic because of his theories. My sister will come to assist you in your book. Henry Ward Beecher."

The next is from England's greatest woman novelist, and those who know her well can easily recognize the style of her writing.

"The interplanetary space, which is the hidden realm, is where we concentrate our efforts in your behalf, and from where your inspiration will flow

into the channels which you keep open by the proper passivity. We can cause physical projection of embodied spirits just as readily as the communications which we bring about by the force of will and the combined concentration of several who are in absolute accord. Faith is our greatest assistant, so it must be cultivated with all the other things which make you receptive to inspiration and to impressions of an important nature. Sometimes currents are disturbed by antagonistic influences, brought into contact with us in various ways, such as those who investigate merely through curiosity, and not seekers after truth. The great teacher will show you many truths which will be undeniably convincing so that you may use some of them in your work, and you will in turn teach others this way, and that is another great reason for the finishing of these pages, so do not fail to carry out instructions to the letter. I am your friend, George Eliot."

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SKEPTICISM

One of the greatest drawbacks to the presentation of truths of any description from the beginning down to the present day has been the skepticism which has always been met with from those who would not accept anything which could not be ex-

plained by the absolute touch and sight of the material mind. In writing about the desire of our friends to convince one of our great composers as to the truth of the help, the musicians from the other side were able and anxious to give to him, if he would receive the inspiration offered that he might compose the music for the great libretto, our Guide said:—

“I have some tests to give him to prove that I am still in the Land of the Living, as it is not beyond our power to convince the most skeptical scoffer.”

And later:—“The proofs of the authenticity of the knowledge which we convey through this infallible means are not necessary to convince any of my chosen circle, but they are necessary from a worldly standpoint. Otherwise the facts which the book shall disclose would be in danger of being doubted, and even scoffed at by the skeptics who will be among the first readers and critics of every new literary publication, and of course this will cause much controversy.” This antagonism from those who do not desire to progress by changing their viewpoints has caused this warning to be given the circle when the fulfillment of a great desire was under consideration.

“There must, of course, no knowledge be given of this to any who are skeptics or who even disbelieve slightly, as the vibrations will not be harmonious and the infinite harmony of many kindred minds and souls can perform astounding feats.” This rather startling statement was given when the conversation had been in regard to the delay in the fulfillment of the eye healing.

FAITH

"Your faith has been transmitted from you to some of the ones whom I might call spiritual skeptics, as there are indeed some such over here, and they are as much in evidence here as are those upon the earth." In fact, the greatest of the skeptics was a member of my own family, an oculist of renown, who, having passed from this life filled with his own professional fast and tried beliefs, has not yet changed them, and by his loving solicitude actually was preventing the desired results by his doubts that the thing could be accomplished, because he never had known of such a healing. Thus are the doubters ever the clogs in the wheels of progress, and skeptics are the greatest menace to humanity. How radiantly beautiful is the lesson given to us by Faith, the opposite to Doubt.

"All things are possible if ye but have Faith."

We never received a message when this fruit of the spirit was not presented to us as the one thing to be devoutly wished for and cultivated.

"As your Faith so shall it be unto you," was reiterated time and again with the urgent advice to cultivate more diligently this virtue. If we had not faith in our physicians, teachers, and parents, yea in ourselves and our ability to accomplish the seemingly impossible which present themselves in our daily life, we would indeed be without the dynamo which urges us ever onward and upward. Whoever places limitations upon himself speaks failure even before beginning the work. The Christ realized this in all its power and withdrew Himself from such as lacked this vital element for success. In

Matthew, the thirteenth chapter and fifty-eighth verse, we find this statement:—"And He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief."

Since the time when these communications were begun three years ago, the friends seemed to be intent upon confirming our faith by presenting tests which would make us so absolutely certain of the truth of these revelations that our presentation of them to the world, vouched for as they are by many witnesses, would result in the convincing of many who are now willing to believe, but are holding back for stronger proofs.

OBEDIENCE

On several occasions when the test failed of verification, and we inquired the reason, the reply given was almost invariably that we had failed to follow our instructions minutely and absolutely. When I followed the instructions and made the journey, in search of the object which the painters had decided would prove a test as to their foreknowledge of the existence of this object, they gave the minutest directions, even to illustrations and plans. I followed these and found them absolutely correct, but they also wrote:—"Do not divulge the cause of your voyage nor take any skeptic in your company," both of which I did and not failure, but a postponement of the securing of the objects sought was the result.

On the same journey I was directed to a celebrated pilgrimage village where was to be found a grotto with a healing spring. Explicit instructions were received and the promise when I would stand

at the fountain the eye healing would be accomplished. I failed to seek out the fountain, and returned with the desire unfulfilled. A message received from a Friend signed Sister Veronica, Order of Saint Joseph Dominican, reads:—

“Dear Sister:—As you did not carry out the instructions to the letter the eye healing has been delayed. There is a small edifice in the city of Brooklyn, where is a similar grotto to the one to which you were sent.” Then followed instructions for me to follow should I desire to visit this church. Later from a well known clergyman of the city mentioned, this verification was received:—

“The archives of said chapel will reveal the most astounding cures, more wonderful than any which have ever been recorded in any of the other goals of pilgrims of many lands. And there have been pilgrims from other states and even from other countries who have through marvelous cures been brought to the knowledge of the divine healing, and so been brought to God. Mons. Duffy, St. Agnes Church, Brooklyn.”

With such definite instructions and proofs of the actual results to be obtained from following them closely, it is indeed strange that time and again from failure to obey, the much wished for results should have been missed. But such has ever been the result of disobedience to orders. Numbers, chapter XX, tells of the same tragedy in the life of Moses. When God said, “Take the rod and Speak ye unto the rock before their eyes, and It shall bring forth to them water,” instead of following this command “Moses lifted up his hand and with the rod he smote the

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rock twice." The water gushed out from the rock, the people were satisfied, but Moses for this disobedience never entered the Promised Land.

On other occasions when seeking financial assistance for the launching of the third purpose of the Triumvirate, a list of names was given to me as those who might help in making the desire a possibility. For some unaccountable reason, I requested some one else to present the request and the result was failure. Lately in seeking an interview with a personage of much authority, whose interest might have proven of great value for the presentation of these truths to the world, I was told to write to him, but again committed to another the duty which I should have personally attended to and the result was again failure. "Do it yourself," the Friends have written, "the nonfulfillment of your desires is caused by your neglect to fulfill instructions faithfully." I acknowledge this neglect, that others who fail in securing their heartfelt desires may understand that it is not the failure to fulfill, but our own carelessness which makes us often feel that our prayers are unanswered. Also, as they have written:—

"Our time is not yours. What seems sometimes failure of securing the promise, is merely delay as a test of Faith and Patience. The promises given by God and His emissaries are never unfulfilled. But——" and this explanation given to me from one of our highest Guides is of greatest interest—"there are two ways of receiving that which we most ardently wish, if it be a material desire, one by the actual receipt, and the other by the removal of the desire."

PREDESTINATION

The question of predestination has frequently been mentioned in our messages and in explanation to an inquiry made as to the exact meaning the Guide wrote this:—

“Today you have again lent your energies to such a worthy cause, you have indeed cast your bread upon the waters and it shall come back to you a thousand fold. You will reap all the benefits and reward for which you were predestined. When I speak of Predestination it is something which I know you also not only credit, but really know exists. Of course, you realize that a destiny is mapped out for each and every soul upon the earth, above, below, or wherever the sphere of action may be. This destiny is carried along to its culmination through perhaps oftentimes thorny and tortuous paths of trial and tribulation and sometimes they are the cause of disturbing the course of Destiny in delaying the inevitable coming into your own. But even though this be delayed it can never be circumvented, because what the Almighty Hand has pointed as the way to go, must be followed, though perchance it may be a devious path from the proscribed one.”

ETERNAL TRINITY

Time and again in the writings which were given to our circle the importance and significance of the Trinity was referred to. The strength and value to be gained by the united efforts of three people whose thoughts and interests were the same. Attention

was also called to the fact that although we were at first five in our circle, two were eliminated as soon as it was found that the perfect vibrations could be produced with the smaller number. The purpose of our union, the giving to the world of what was always referred to as the Triumvirate, this book, the libretto for the great American Opera which is now ready for the inspired composer when he answers the call of the great musicians who are anxiously waiting to aid in the musical setting, and thirdly, the furthering of the great musical propaganda which has already assumed noteworthy proportions through the National Opera Club, the memorial to our circle's Guide. The combination of physical, mental and spiritual which is always necessary in order to become en rapport with the higher Teachers of the spirit planes, those who by selection have been permitted to deliver this knowledge which we have been allowed to receive. Our Guide in speaking of this Trinity says:—

“The comprehensive faculties of the laity regarding matters spiritual are so dwarfed that it requires knocks on the head to make some of them realize that there is such an entity as spirit. Then it must be made clear that the great triumvirate of physical, mental, and spiritual are the three in one force which create the vibrations which must in turn cause either the harmony or disharmony of life. When these three of the great Trinity are so absolute and the vibrations are so perfectly attuned as to create the sublime harmony which is almost Divine, then there is nothing impossible of accomplishment, and the vibrations cause only good, and that which we know as evil ceases to exist. There is always that great

figure '3' in so many places in the universe that one who is not initiated does not grasp the reason. But in the Trinity which is Eternal that figure will always be in evidence. Because of this I have also had our circle reduced to that enharmonic number that we can work upon that basis, and I also have unfolded our great scheme to you, which is another great Trinity of ideas, and which if always thought of in that way and never singly must eventually blossom forth to the ultimate tremendous fulfillment. Each effort one idea, but the three for the finish, the great culmination of your life work, and the reason of your selection to carry these three ideas to their grand finale."

The Trinity which made this circle possible as described at its incipency was first my sublime Faith, secondly, the vibrations of Music, and thirdly the wonderful Love of each of us for the other. The Guide writes:—

LOVE

"There is at present no other group in such exquisite harmony due to the music in their souls and held together by such love as I am able to distill in each by the marvelous strength of my all absorbing love for you, my own." Thus is the testimony once again given, that the greatest of all things is love, making life in our present development possible, and preparing us for that Eternal life where the very essence of our being is but the reflection of that Great Spirit whose name is Love.

We present the teachings received and in so doing

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follow the directions of one of our great poets who writes

“Out of the depths I call to thee
None but the Spirit this can see
The Sense which is purely divine
Can belong to me and to mine.

“Thus speaks he who is sent to you
The scribe who has all the old and the new
He tells you what is that Sense
Which is given only to those souls immense.

“Not human alone can all this be
The Spirit too through your eyes must see
Tell them fearlessly what we say
Nothing we give you will fade away.

“All that we write you must give out,
All the divine which the world must shout.
You have been called. Oh! do not delay,
To the world give the truth today.”

Perhaps in explanation of this wonderful love-influence, which even so-called death cannot extinguish, a testimony from a very new spirit, given but a few days after his passing out of the physical, may prove of great help to those of us who are still in the class of inquirers. He says:—“Love is the greatest force in the world, and in the universe, and consequently it survives all changes physical and spiritual. It continues on and on through the ages, and the bond cannot be severed even when the thread which held the soul to its outer covering the

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body is cut in twain. Love is so strong, when it is real that it can pull a departed soul back to the earth, even against the will of the departed. But when the love is on the spirit side of life, it is so much stronger than the physical that its compelling force must cause intercommunication if the loved one remains upon this plane.

"The vibrations of this force cause the planets to remain in their proper courses, and the world you live in to remain intact in spite of the terrific power of the opposite force—that of hate—which caused the only disruption in the Divine Place of the Highest, and which causes all the sadness and misery in all worlds. Thus, as love is ever stronger than the opposing forces, it can rebuild all that which has been demolished, and cause new creation out of chaos, consequently it is the greatest vibration.

"This is like the philosophy of the great minds, and I do not know why I have been selected to convey it to you. It is but another of the great mysteries of this most wonderful intercommunion, but of course the reason for my being relegated to

*I truly do believe in the power of love
to bring the soul back to the earth
I may come here, I may go
I am intensely interested in the
development of the human soul
and am sure you will find
it a most interesting study
N. S. S. S.
M. S. S. S.*

this capacity will, I doubt not, be duly forthcoming. In the meantime, permit me to express my gratitude that I may come here, especially as I am intensely interested in the Actor's Chapter. You may not know me, but I am sure you can find some who do. Very sincerely, Milton Nobles."

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can find su
les."

CHAPTER XII

WHATEVER IS—IS BEST

"I know as my life grows older,
And mine eyes have clearer sight,
That under each rank wrong somewhere—
There lies the root of Right.
That each sorrow has its purpose,
By the sorrowing oft unguess'd,
But as sure as the sun brings morning,
Whatever is—is best.

"I know that each sinful action,
As sure as the night brings shade,
Is somewhere, sometime punish'd,
Tho' the hour be long delayed.
I know there are no errors—
In the great Eternal plan,
And all things work together—
For the final good of man;
And I know when my soul speeds onward
In its grand Eternal quest,
I shall say as I look back earthward,
Whatever is—is best."

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

Having reached the end of the eleventh chapter,
the thought continually presented itself, Why all

these messages? What practical application of the truths contained in these chapters can be made? Of what actual value are these testimonies other than the reiteration of truths already possessed by those familiar with the teachings of The Bible, and the remembrance of the statement in the parable:—

“If they hear not Moses and the Prophets neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead.”

At this time a message was received from Robert Wilcox requesting that we would open the last chapter of this volume with a poem received inspirationally by his wife while in earth life, and afterward set to music. Ella Wheeler Wilcox herself mentioned the name of the composer, since verified. And as no more beautiful presentation of the great purpose back of each earth experience and the ultimate triumph of Right could be given the poem is presented as desired.

The question in our minds evidently reached those able and willing to answer, for the series of messages here contained were written almost immediately, and the authorities are those to whom the subject was one of the most important while in earth life. With the present knowledge of the further existence, they cannot but be of great value to those eager and willing to receive the truths and suggestions presented. We are living in a practical and progressive age. Each day we are accepting as facts, and incorporating into our daily lives things which one hundred or even fifty years ago would have been considered as veritable miracles. And now indeed are the doubters becoming fewer and fewer, for if not actual belief, at least the willing-

ness to be convinced is evidenced on every side, and in every walk of life from the greatest scientists and thinkers to those of the simplest faith. For this is not only the age of evolution, it is the age of revelation. Those imbued with the spirit of investigation have already been selected by the higher intelligences, and the seekers will surely find, if not that which they sought, certainly some truth of equal value to themselves and humanity. The ultimate result to be obtained is the Millennium. In a message from the French writer Theophile Gautier this statement is made, "When we work for the good of humanity and eliminate self, then shall the personal aggrandizement come in spite of ourselves. It has ever been thus through the ages, and through the history of all nations. When the desire is only for the enlightenment of ignorant humanity, and not for material gain, the vibrations, which are the ones which count, will be set in motion and the desired goal attained." But how are we to recognize and apply this power of the unseen forces. A letter from no less a philosopher than Walt Whitman offers some vital truths and suggestions:—

*Oh! it is a rare voice, which you
 will find to those. I have heard
 the few sincere, that you can find
 there shall be many more.*
 Walt Whitman

"You spoke before of making the great oaks from little acorns grow, and in order to perceive this growth there must be a stupendous patience; but I can add that there must be not only this attribute,

but in order to perceive the evolution of anything in Nature there must also be a perception, which comes not alone from the knowledge acquired through the study of earthly subjects, and the general elucidation which accrues from reading and travel, but also a higher knowledge which comes from the cultivation of the Sixth Sense which you have so ably defined upon various occasions, but which is as yet in an embryonic state. We all recognize the powers of intuition, but we have not endeavored to cultivate it. It can actually become an accomplishment which can be exercised, and can go hand in hand in the development of the so-called Psychology and knowing how to apply it. In other words it is a developed form of this sixth sense which links the actual application of psychic power to the subconscious. This conjunction of the two, the power to use the intuitive sixth sense, after having attuned the receptive subconscious to receive correctly the impressions, which to the ignorant or uninitiated would be simply called intuition, will convey to you the resources possessed by those who are able to operate upon your plane under those radio active elements, and thus function unconsciously with those powers. This co-operation can become so powerful that virtually nothing you desire to do would be impossible of accomplishment."

Almost immediately upon the receipt of this suggestion as to the value of cultivating this higher sense came a series of messages from those who had given the subject much consideration while on this plane.

"Dear Madam, As the radio activity which is now astounding the world is constantly becoming

more and more simplified so shall the spiritual interchange of thought between the earthly and the other side of the universe become almost a matter of fact once the subconscious can be attuned as are these new machines without any connections by wires with the air outside. When these instruments are so attuned then can all the vibrations which are in the atmosphere be captured and recorded, even when there be walls a foot or more in thickness intervening. To me now, my own invention seems almost infantile. Just so is the science which the great philosopher Herbert Spencer told about last time in its infancy, and your book will be a step in a new direction and will start the seekers upon the correct road most easily. I am writing to show you, that although I was able to capture the vibrations in the air in my telephone wires, and now the more modern science can get the same results without any wires whatever, just so will your startling chapter the true definition upon psychology set the newer thought waves in receptivity how to become attuned to the proper receptivity in the subconscious. Alexander G. Bell."

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In many of our messages reference has been made to the great scientist, and his thoughts are used as a foundation for some of the personal testimonies

here recorded. The elucidation given by no less an authority than Herbert Spencer was the cause of the many references. He wrote:—

“Psychology and psychic phenomena are correlated, but the erroneous ideas of most of the teachers of applied or conscious psychology are not what they seem. Will power, which is our own control of our conscious minds is not subconscious endeavor as they teach. Nothing which is controlled by a conscious effort of the physical brain is at all related to the impressions which are received by the subconscious mind which is the receiver of the telepathic impressions sent by the unseen spiritual transmitter. But in order that this subconscious mind may in reality be an actual receiver it must be properly attuned by the vibrations which make it receptive. These are only acquired by the slow development of the spiritual faculties possessed by many, but only recognized by the chosen few. The times have held so much of the material through the ages of evolution of the human race that there has been little of the opportunities for this development because the minds could not be developed along those lines by all the inventions which were for the material advancement of humanity. Now the times are undergoing a complete metamorphosis and the original craving of material knowledge is returning tenfold, and consequently the different cults of the last century have developed. Among those the so-called psychology applied and otherwise has been given much consideration by those who are merely athirst for further knowledge, also those who desire material gain from its exploitation. You should be able to give some enlightenment by inti-

mating that the subconscious is the seat of psychology and that it must be developed to receive what is transmitted from the forces on the other side. Not to confuse this with spiritualism though must be your endeavor, and so you must explain that it is not *getting communications* from unseen forces but is the ability to receive impressions and to recognize them as such, and also the power to recognize the aura which emanates from those whose sub-

*and entertaining even though it
may seem somewhat deep and
abstruse. Next time I shall have
more to say for the French side,
also in his knowledge
over here but we cannot yet
express it well clearly upon it.
Thanking you for your advice
and submitting this to the chosen
interpreter I am ever
Herbert Spencer*

conscious minds are attuned to yours. Through this knowledge it is possible to create a circle, large or small of similarly attuned minds which can be held together by this very radioactive element, and to create a chosen band of workers for the proper enlightenment of the searchers upon this erudite subject. There will be a simple way of expressing these facts in a literary but explicit manner which shall be interesting and entertaining even though it may seem somewhat deep and abstruse. Next time

I shall have more to say for the French Dr. also, who is learning this knowledge over here, but who can not yet express himself clearly upon it. Thanking you for your patience and submitting this to the chosen interpreter, I am sincerely, Herbert Spencer."

The French Dr. was none other than André Tridon who early in our sessions had communicated with us in a short message endeavoring to call our attention to his change in belief since his progression. A condition to which attention has been called in the chapter speaking of progress after death. He wrote:—

"There is actually something in applied psychology. The only trouble is that all the speakers upon that subject know less than nothing about it. Though what they do know is purely imaginary. I except no one who is putting the supposed knowledge before the public, not even excepting Coué, knowing what I now know. Sincerely André Tridon."

*For one rule to edit the
the first I will instruct on this
with a view to the publication
of calling Coué's name out & show
him. Sincerely
André Tridon*

A former important member of a society for investigation in so-called psychic phenomena wrote at the same time: "I wish to let the Society of Psychical Research know through you that it is unnecessary for them to continue the investigations along the lines which they are now following. They

are entirely on the wrong track. They simply try to prove negatives and that proves nothing. If they would only search for the truth, then would the promise in the Divine Word be literally fulfilled, 'Whosoever seeketh shall find.' They do not seek for truths, they seek for false demonstrations to prove their falsity, consequently they cannot find truth because they do not seek it. Isaac Funk."

A mighty testimony from one who despite criticism and controversy had created through his own interest in the subject the desire of hundreds to receive greater illumination upon the further life conditions. Having realized the futility of obtaining any worth while knowledge or help from following the present line of investigation, like all great souls he desires at once to rectify any misconceptions which he might have caused by his earth testimonies. Thus working out results from the further life. In another chapter attention has been called to the continued association of those interested in like subjects while on the earth plane. And the group of scientific thinkers whose messages are here given seems to have united in adding a final statement which might serve as an incentive to unremitting activity in presenting these truths to those prepared to accept them, and follow the plea for greater spiritual activity; the opening as it were of all the windows heavenward. One of the great religious teachers having expressed regret at the ignorance upon certain subjects which he possessed while here, the following elucidation was received from one who stated that he had been requested to give this explanation of what to many has been a dogma most difficult to believe:—

"The expiation of sin which has seemed so necessary to the human race cannot be applied to all peoples, nor can we give to the one the morals of another. Could we consider those nations of pagan creeds the same punishment for what we call sin as those who have been taught other and entirely different ideas in regard to what constitutes sin? Who invented the word sin anyway? Was it an Omnipotent Being? Was it put into the world by the Father of Good, or was it placed into the minds and sensibilities of the human race by the Supreme Devil whoever or whatever you consider that personage to be? These are a series of questions which you can propound to any readers of your wonderful revelation and allow them to answer for themselves. You may not believe that any such as I was known to be would be sent as an emissary of the high church Dignitary but it is merely to prove that when knowledge comes to those who were of great minds, and knew it not, those very minds must affiliate and cohabit. So that also explains the diverse types which congregate together over here. I can assure you there is no expiation of the so-called sin in a place set aside for that purpose, and whatever purging of the soul takes place is at the sole desire and free will inclination of that very soul itself, and not any compulsory condition imposed by a beneficent and Supreme Being.

"The only Purgatory which is known to those of us who have found out the truth is of our own creating, and it consists of the craving of unfulfilled desires and unfinished work. Those who are voluntary Helpers never know any of these sensations, as they continue to work for the ultimate good of the entire

universe, and thus bring it nearer and nearer to the Millennium which shall be the ultimate triumph of Eternity. My teachings though called agnostic were simply statements to the effect that many creeds took too much for granted and consequently believed whatever they were told by the uninspired. If you will look over some of my writings, now that you know me better, you will find that much of what I wrote was inspired, and told some truths which at the time were called the mutterings of an Infidel.

"What is an infidel, who knows? Are the savages and pagans infidels because they know nothing? Are the numerous sects and catholics *true* believers because they credit dogma? These are serious questions, and cannot be so easily answered.

"I ask you to consider these matters deeply. The explanation is contained in the questions themselves. I shall come again with another questionnaire. Very truly, Robt. J. Ingersoll."

Without doubt the thinker can find satisfactory

*Since my writing another one or two
 small find for such good I don't move
 and believe in the world at the time you
 the making of a world that in an infinite
 knows. As the pagan and gods infidels because
 they know nothing, are the same man and
 capital true believe because of their dogma
 of the true question and answer an
 only, as you told his father all in the
 for you will be that man an infidel. I don't
 find in these matters really. The world
 is an animal in the question term. I shall come
 again with another questionnaire. Very truly
 Robt. J. Ingersoll*

answers in the questions themselves, and much food for thought. Another dogma, that of predestination finds illumination, beyond the mere statement of the fact as set forth by the earlier teachers, in a message from no less a personage than William Makepeace Thackeray. He wrote:—

“Why secure the motive for anything! The idea that there is a reason for every act or every occurrence is not the correct attitude. Actions are sometimes the result of pure inspiration, or impulse, or thoughtlessness, or whatever you call it, and occurrences are not prearranged as many who believe in preordination, or a Destiny believe. That there is something in the idea of the Oriental Kismet cannot be gainsaid, but very often the very accident which brings about an unforeseen meeting between two who it seems must be destined for each other, is not Fate at all. Unless it should be one of those meetings which would happen to bring about the best results. In other words, I would convey the meaning that while all was intended in the beginning to be for the good, and wherever possible to eliminate the bad, in so far, Kismet, Fate, or Destiny whichever you desire to call it was foreordained. But the opposing elements were just as strong, and consequently Fate was not strong enough to work only upon the side of whatever is best. Due to this what must have been the original idea, and was only for good, was put to the need of fighting this opposing force. Sometimes one wins, sometimes the other. In either case the verdict might have been “It was to be.” Sometimes when these two antagonistic elements, one good one bad, shall have a battle to the finish, and the good will come out victorious,

then shall the human race begin to live as was originally intended by the Creator without sin in harmonious vibrations. And thus must we endeavor to carve out our destinies to this end, fighting the opposing forces and admitting the good to gain the upper hand. Then only can the original idea become an established order, and those who have taken unhappiness as their portion, because they have considered it was *so to be* will understand that they can be masters of their own lives in great measure. And they can be of considerable benefit to mankind by making this clear to others."

Another plea to carry on, to place within the reach of every inquirer the teachings so simple that the wonder never ceases that so many are still willing to remain in ignorance of these great truths. But the failure lies within ourselves. As has been reiterated time and again, we fail to receive because of our lack of receptivity. A great religious teacher, the head of the greatest religious organization of the world, wrote the following illuminating message:

"The result of doubt is often more disastrous than you can know. The people who do not put absolute faith in the success of even a material nature cannot succeed. The definition of the word is pessimism. If faith is absolute then can there only be optimism. With these go success. You have been told before that thoughts are not ephemeral, but actual concrete matter which is eternal, and whatever is given out in this form goes on and on into the vast spaces of the universe and creates new matter, good or evil, according to the waves which emanate from the millions and trillions of (to use a paradox) thoughtless thinkers. One can by the knowledge of concen-

tration assume control of one's thoughts so that the mind becomes an apparatus which can be manipulated like machinery, or like an instrument can be played upon when one is master of it. Should enough enlightened minds become so adept in this tremendous power of controlling their thoughts, and should enough of these thoughts be entirely for the good of humanity, then would the whole universe be a veritable paradise, not an imaginary one but an actual one."

Another testimony to the fact that Paradise, the Millennium, in fact all the greatest desires and hoped for rewards lie directly here within our grasp. Not in futurity or some far removed condition of existence but here with those whom we know and love. Simply another assurance of the truth stated so frequently in our Bible, "Behold the Kingdom of Heaven is within you." Why in the light of all the recent discoveries and inventions which to even the most ignorant must prove that we are only in the infancy of the realization of our own possibilities can we not be persuaded to grasp the offered help from our unseen guides and do our part by the co-operation which is so greatly needed to make the oft repeated promise a reality. The simile given to us in the following message suggests the marvelous results to be obtained from this united effort.

"My dear friends, you I suppose do not know me, but of course you must have heard of me as I built your first big bridge across the river between the old city of New York and the smaller one of Brooklyn, and I assure you that I have a message of some importance even although I am not a writer, nor an actor, nor a musician, or any of those arts, but my

science, engineering was also a profession. And I can make a simile between the joining of the forces of a larger and a smaller community resulting in the largest and most populous city in the world you live in and what you are doing. For so can the powers of the mortals be so tremendously enhanced by the joining of the material forces to those psychic ones on this plane to those which can be made to connect in an intelligent manner with the spiritual, and not cause the scoffers to deride because when those on the other side wish to be recognized by those on your side they must express themselves in most unseemly manner by knocking, ringing bells, playing banjos, and instruments not worthy of spiritual notice. All these atrocities would not occur either fraudulently or in reality were the bridge built across the chasm of thought space. This bridge consists of the attuned subconscious mind becoming a recognized fact, not only by those who are in the true thought vibrations, but even by the laity. And then, when that time arrives, it will be the Millennium. The great philosopher H. Spencer is assisting me to express myself clearly. This bridge which must eventually span the aforesaid chasm must be built on truth, and each verification of one of the sublime messages shall be a stone in the structure which will not be, as my finished work was sometimes called one of the seven wonders, but the Big Wonder of the Greater Revelation. May I say Auf Wiedersehen, Wm. Roebing."

Explanations as to statements hitherto but imperfectly or erroneously understood were at this time being received, from such diverse sources and in such numbers we were almost at a loss as to which

should be incorporated in this volume, but remembering the saying that "out of the mouths of many witnesses truth is established" we have continued to add testimonies each of augmented value when the writer's importance from earth sense was considered. In a plea for greater unity and increasing activity in preparing those with whom we came in contact for this volume, no less a teacher than the Rev. T. Dewitt Talmadge wrote the following:—

"Ignorance and prejudice are like unto the walls of Jericho, and nothing less than the constant blowing of the great trumpets of Enlightenment can demolish these walls. The constant drip, drip of water can wear away the largest stone. Just so will the world be shown the truth by the bombardment of books upon subjects which should be known but are not. Because the people will not open their minds to receive the truth is the reason there must be some chosen ones who can be made receptive enough to not only learn from the powers who are able to teach through inspiration and direct communication, but also able to transmit the knowledge received into a phraseology understandable enough for the people in general. One of the largest and most virile of these trumpets will be this book and your responsibility is great. Be it known therefore that in this respect you are like the great leader who caused these trumpets to be blown. It was not a mere miracle in the understood sense of that word which caused the walls to fall, but scientifically the concussion of the continued blasts from those many instruments, which is like the simile mentioned above, the dropping of the water on the stone. Many of the other miracles can be scientifically ex-

plained and will be. The miraculous part was the receptive condition of Joshua's mind, and the inspiration he understood which caused him to give the orders to blow the great blasts. These are merely some of the things which have been done in History to which the writing of this book can be compared. Sincerely, T. Dewitt Talmadge."

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of the things which have been done in
History to which the writing of this book
can be compared. Sincerely, T. Dewitt
Talmadge. I hope you are regarded favorably
when you are speaking for the broadest
field of effort, so that your work may
be rewarded a great deal more than has
been. I wish to come again if
I may. To Dewitt Talmadge