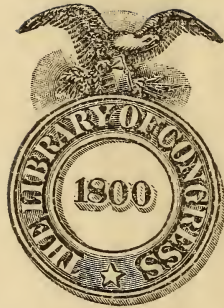


BF 1261

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THE TRUTH
ABOUT
SPIRITUALISM

By Dr. Wm. J. Bryan



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The Truth About

— Spirituality

BY

Wm. J. Bryan, M. D.



ALBERTA PUBLISHING COMPANY
333 EAST 17th STREET
NEW YORK

BF1261
B85

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NOV 20 1918

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no 1



WM. J. BRYAN, M. D.,
RETIRED PHYSICIAN, ARTIST, IMPRESSIONAL WRITER

Preface

Years ago, when I was investigating the phenomena of Spiritualism by attending public classes, séances and meetings, a visitor asked me, "How does the medium do it?" My answer was, "She does it by power *from spirits* who were once on earth, like ourselves."

Spirit power comes through mediums, from spirits, as a gift from Infinite Intelligence.

And this is the truth about *all* phases of mediumship and of spiritual phenomena.

Therefore, let it be clearly understood, that every spiritual medium, would be in line with any ordinary mortal without the quality of mediumship, were it not for the fact that a medium is a channel or instrument for spirit power, *from spirits*.

So all credit for psychical phenomena must be given to our *spirit friends*, and not to the medium.

A common soldier executes an order from his general; a medium executes an order from some advanced spirit—with this difference, that a soldier is not allowed to use his own judgment; where-

as, a medium works willingly, co-operatively, with judgment and reason, for good of all—for peace.

The highest quality of effort or work is that which finds the man or woman spiritualized. Two orators recently were outspoken for the material rights of a down-trodden race. But they were both lacking in the spirituality which would have enabled them to become eloquent over the ability of all to build up the noblest kind of personal *character*. One's physical and mental efficiency, then, has a backing,—by being spiritualized,—that is found to come from exalted spirits and the power of the Infinite. The text would then be: "Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven (spirituality), and all things (material) shall be added unto you."

Dr. Wm. J. Bryan.

New York City.

Introduction

Fulfilling the divine mission to which we have been assigned by the spirit-band of enlightened and eminent characters, we desire to reach as many as possible, by plainly stating the truth about Spiritualism. This we are doing, in a plain way, so that all may easily understand; and the result cannot fail to show that our readers have been consoled by the teachings of Spiritualism which proves immortality.

This fact is the most important feature of Spiritualism, because no cult, religion, or philosophy, except ours, can furnish the *proof* of life after so-called death.

So, my friends, it is pardonable if I dwell on the principle of immortal life. This is the rock of ages that is cleft for you and me, to discover the hidden knowledge of continuity of life, from mortal life on, and on, through the eternal ages. This beautiful thought comes to me from the eminent literary Scotchman, in spirit-life, Thomas Carlyle.

So many are groping around in the dark passage-ways of ecclesiastical error, looking for a ray of light to give them hope of the future! Idle time!! The illuminating rays of Spiritualism, alone, can bring true illumination!!!

Wm. J. Bryan, M. D.



Message to Dr. Wm. J. Bryan, from spirit James,
his father:

“My son, the time is drawing near, when you can go forth with messages of joy to those who are bereaved; and it will be given to you to teach the important truths of Spiritualism in such a plain manner that all can comprehend.

Go on, my son William, and when you want help of any kind, ask with sincerity and with prayerful attitude, and all will be given unto you by your spirit-band and the heavenly Father over all.”

James.



From Alberta Storey Bryan:

“I will say a few words about this book, over which we worked patiently and assiduously.

“And, with no thought of money, and no selfish pride to mar my utterance, I now say, “Go forth gentle missionary of the light-of-truth!”—for it makes me supremely happy, now, to realize what our efforts mean, for the humanizing influence which truth of Spiritualism carries to others.

“And may unstinted credit be given to Father James, our mentor, instructor, and inspirer, who impressed us (from the spirit side of life), to write ‘The Truth About Spiritualism.’”

Alberta.

This spirit comes in cape and crown, in one garment; dark (bronzed) skin.



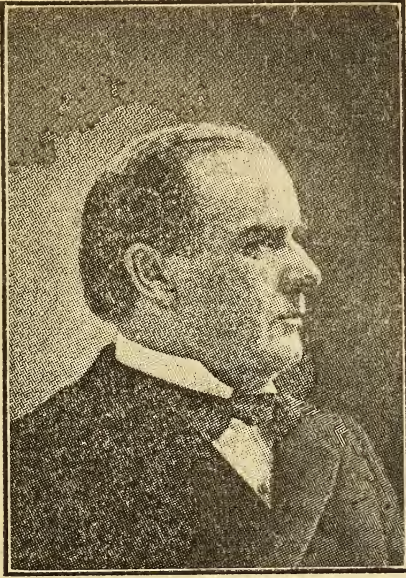
Abijah's Spirit Message.

“Gratitude over the fact of spirit-return is our portion here in spirit-land; and it becomes a pleasure for us to minister to the human flocks as I did to the sheep in the lands of Samaria.

The tendency, now, is for people to wish to understand more-and-more about life after death of the mortal body; and for this reason, your book is going to have a ready sale, and, consequently, a popular reading.

Its language is plain, its diction easy to understand, and altogether it will be a logical reminder of the fact that all live, in spirit, long after they are, what-is-called, dead.”

(biblical) Abijah.



President Wm. McKinley, in spirit-life, writes as follows:

“Let me dictate a few words to you, Dr. Bryan, to say that one can but faintly realize now, at this early date, the mighty influence which your book entitled: “The Truth About Spiritualism,” will have on the inquiring minds of the multitude that is waiting so eagerly for the *knowledge* of life beyond the grave.

My commendation and my unbounded approbation go out to you, for your untiring effort to place this book before the eyes of so many who are blinded by error, superstition, and materiality.”

Your friend,

Wm. McKinley.



A Spirit Letter:

“With pardonable pride, you can see your book published and distributed broadcast—not to the winds—but to a thinking class of readers who will linger over the imagery of the printed words, with a feeling of relief, to learn from one who knows that this mortal life does not end all.

So let it go forth, and the heavens will resound with praise for your noble effort, to teach Spiritualistic doctrine in its purity.”

Henry Ward Beecher.



A nun, holding an open white rose, is seen clairvoyantly. She brings this message:

“Accepting your kind welcome—let me say that all nature gives evidence of God’s bounteous benefactions; and a prayerful attitude, on the part of mortal or angel, is both beneficial and reverential.

Teach this, my friend, and, with unsectarian efforts to instil this into the minds of the multitude, much good will be accomplished.”

St. Agnes.



Queen Victoria's Greeting.

"A crown of regal glory awaits all who are dutiful with willingness to serve the enlightened spirits; and to you, my friend, doctor, let me say that this volume of 'Truth About Spiritualism' gives evidence that the future life holds out abundant promise of reward to all.

A royal personage praises your patient efforts, unstintedly; and it would be my wish to see every British subject with a copy of your book in their hands.

The truth of spirit-life cannot fail to benefit all who are willing to see the light that never faileth."

Victoria Rex.

CHAPTER I.

The day is passing slowly when christianity will not be the great aim in one's life, but all will understand that the soul lives on forever; and the desire should be—not to be selfish; and our supreme hope should be to lead the right kind of life here in this sphere, so that when we reach the immortal one, we will be prepared.

We don't want to move backward, we want to move forward with progression.

Spiritualism appeals to the generous side of man's nature, and it is no new version if you translate the word 'Spiritualism' correctly—it means *life beyond the grave*. It is becoming a popular theology and will make a revolution in every one's life here below.

Spiritualism does not merely consist in coming back to the old sphere of life, but it purifies the lives of all of us; it will help you to rise up and elevate those around you and save them entirely from corruption. Our elements are full of sense and keep each and every one from utter destruction.

Many criticise Spiritualism without knowledge—they shoot at a target without first making an investigation of same. They also abuse it, sneer at those interested, turn up their noses, and denounce you because you are traveling along the

right track. No one will speak with absolute sympathy and respect or even with enthusiasm about their departed relatives and friends.

O, if persons would only associate themselves with the right mediums, and not get in this narrow breadth of criticising persons who know a thing or two because they are thinking, are wise, and have the whole truth demonstrated to them,—having thrown themselves in among the right causes with earnestness and zeal. Besides, these narrow-minded creatures never contribute to any cause, good or bad. We need the kind of people that are honest and sincere, because these persons make out something to pay them for reaching to be enlightened.

Association with the right kind of persons will make you brighter; and, in addition, you can teach this class something of benefit to themselves, and maybe they can return some enlightenment on a subject to you.

Spiritualism will be a great benefit to human kind; it will help to form your character, make a person good, and will bring good influence in your home. No matter if you stand alone with your ideal ideas,—which are the motive of your life.

There is nothing in your wants that is not found in the immortal life.

Persons will be surprised when they find the truth, and come to know the happiness in having found the right thought, and how to fit themselves

with all human needs, through the aid of spiritual advice.

The highest and manliest characters that ever lived, are our spiritual friends who have passed on ahead; they can return and wonder us with their intelligence after death.

Just think of all the heroic actions that are revealed by our spirit ones, and which is only a very small side of spirit life beyond.

All we have to do in this life is try each day to be friendly toward all we meet, so as to make them understand the truth—which all in the world want—so to speak out with eminent rules.

Spiritual meetings are becoming popular, and they are not private to those who seek encouragement—not discouragement; all of the addresses are from high-up power, and it is a duty to attend them when we can.

They are organized with plain ordinary sense, so that you all can take part in the great movement with zeal and honor.

With these explanations, you will gain the right schooling that is surely to give you comfort and make you happy, (not “blue,”) because students need such benefit for moral support amid their surroundings.

After entering this movement they work better. And more than that, a greater percentage passes honorably through the immortal portals with the spiritual feeling imbedded in their soul.

If we could band ourselves together and explain

to uncultured minds the great formal truths, and contribute—to their satisfaction—the *proof* that we really do live after death. . . then I feel that we would be able to produce good effects on their mind. This would be a comfort to mourning relatives and friends.

So many of us get broken-hearted in this mortal world, and feel that there is no gayety in life for us. These are the people who need aid, so as to lift them up and urge them to strengthen their talents, if they have any.

One way to success in life here below, is to actively throw ourselves into the carrying-out of anything we attempt to do, to the advantage of all concerned.

What is the use of cutting a dash to shine in the mortal life? But it won't do to be meek and lowly in heart; neither must we seek obscurity from association with others .

With regard to the question, "How shall one begin to investigate spiritual life or life immortal?" let me remind you that theology is the most abstruse thing in the world, but that practical Spiritualism is the simplest thing. If any of you want to know how to commence to be a spiritualist, all I can say is that you should begin to do the next thing you find to be done—as a child begins to learn its first lesson.

If you follow Spiritualism, you will "die" to live again on a pleasure-sphere, and you will, day-by-day, grow under the best advantage that one

could expect—enlightenment for all who seek it. You will find that there is immortal life for all, and a chance to return and benefit those left on the mortal sphere.

So many are warned against Spiritualism; but if individuals would get down to the fundamental principles, then they would understand the outlines, and would believe and see that *the new century is to be guided by its influences*.

It is a doctrine that will teach you the vital note, and will give the motive power of inspiration.

Its moral maxims will mainly constitute the new religion, as defined by our mediums; this will supply the place of preachers, who will be under the necessity of acknowledging that it is true; and they will also be obliged to have faith—as its faith is an incitement to maimed lives.

Some now call it the most fatal and demoralizing superstition of this country.

Is this attempted separation of morality from the church, doctrinal teaching?

Truth and morality will be the granite foundation to the whole edifice of Spiritualism, and with them the whole edifice must stand.

We must remember though, that spirits do return and do give us enlightenment of the future—of which some only dream.

Spiritualism will sap the very foundation of christianity, because the christians will become civilized.

Yes, the spirits do return and prophesy, and they never mince the truth, either. They offer pardon for all of our sins, healing our wounds, and giving comfort for our troubles. So we cannot do otherwise than believe that the soul liveth on forever, with intellect to aid the mortal ones left in the mortal sphere, by returning and demonstrating the future life to those who seek to know. This is all done for your benefit, to enlighten you, so that you may have recognition—producing the finest development for all and giving you social righteousness.

Let us all endeavor to go through this sphere of life leading the sort of life worth living; and when we hear our spirit friends and our relatives' voices, be not afraid—they have come to us like a prophet, to make us wise in time, with a guarantee for our future happiness.

Be stern when you know that you are right—potent for the weak, who cannot guard the honor of the right.

The phenomena of Spiritualism and of mental telepathy are not the same.

The theory of Spiritualism is an established fact, and can be proven to those who seek with earnestness to find the truth and comfort that are gained from communicating with those who have passed from one sphere to another—and who can return—relating events to your satisfaction—and who can cite all of the factors about same.

It is only ignorance that raises the wonder in this faith—because it is true.

You just grasp it, if you have the chance, because it has the right principle necessary for knowledge; it understands conditions in all stages of life below.

Some people say, "It would make me nervous to see or hear raps." Bosh! Doesn't anything else have a tendency to produce the same effect on your nervous system?

One thing is certain—your life will become much cooler with less maudlin sentimentality, more business-like, with less friction, and less exciting, when you begin to see the true side of your mortal life.

All the church religion of to-day has become a question of administrative efficiency, but Spiritualism does not mean to place fear of anything in you now. And there is no hell hereafter, so you can cast this "hell" idea from your thoughts. All the hell you will ever realize is the earthly hell!

Now, a few words about heaven. Heaven is your immortal home, where you will live on forever, in peace with all if you so desire. So do not let any of those false doctrines gain a fast hold on you. Just remember that the preachers have to live, and they must excite you with fear so that you will aid them to get their salary; it is business, like any other business which you may be in for gain or loss. It is one way of getting a "living" out of the public without much work. So

they have to excite you, so that you will contribute largely for them.

The people are becoming more enlightened and are not so stupid as to let themselves be humbugged too deeply, as of old. They (the public) seek more for themselves, and ask themselves more questions in regard to the teachings of the church—which lead you so blindly and always leave a doubt in your mind.

Preachers in general are good entertainers and usually have a good personality to aid them in filling you up with the holy ghost.

Spiritualism does not only want to educate you, but it wants to prove facts to you, step by step. It will never steal your freedom or your purse; it doesn't want that.

Regarding the relationship of human beings with the spiritual world, as a mass we all have different conceptions. We do not give ourselves time to think before we condemn—before we are certain that the spirit life does not exist, by saying, "It can't be so." Generally we should admit that experience is the best teacher and proof for all. Our ancestors want to demonstrate to us certain kinds of facts, but we do not see the influence.

Amidst environments which govern us, all struggle, even for our existence, in the mortal sphere of life, which seems hard at times. If we were loyal, and did not spend so much time to our disadvantage, but studied the true religion called Spiritualism—which has good influences to the

greatest extent, not thinking of something that has creeds attached to same—then we would have something spiritual and intellectual, of natural consequence; and then our condition would be more unchallengeable.

In the near future, Spiritualism will be the standpoint and will be grasped, appreciated and welcomed, as the teachings will come from the heart, and will be considered important to all; so those who with power will be thinking people will grow out of the old way of thinking.

Spiritualism will occupy a place high up; the churches will become lecture rooms, and these lectures will close up the gaps of omission, so that Spiritualism will receive recognition of the fact of life beyond the grave—immortal forever.

But we must remember to approach the subject properly; we must understand the modern conception of nature, and look at nature scientifically, not emotionally. Nature demonstrates only what is possible for us to understand, although all of her work is work of art, but cannot be appreciated by most people, because they never think.

The times are changing. People have grown tired of this one-sided church doctrine, and they begin to ask questions of themselves, because you cannot fool everybody by fear of the burning hell. . . . If this idea of hell were true, not many would escape it, I fear.

Banish this hell idea out of your thoughts and give your time to the advancement of what is natural and possible.

When conditions are right, you receive tangible results from Spiritualism that no one can dispute. Facts have to be recognized by the earthly power.

What a consolation is obtained, when you can receive a benefit to elevate you and to put you on the right pathway!

Be of good cheer, brothers and sisters, you are being led right, with no false teaching—because the Bible is a book of fairy tales to fill you up with fear and superstition.

What is faith, as you remember, has been defined as a theological virtue infused into our beings, by which we firmly assent to whatever Spiritualism has revealed, and which Spiritualism proposes for our belief.

To dissent from these truths would constitute heresy. Thanks to Spiritualism—there is no need for us to dwell on this aspect of faith, for we never dream of dissenting from our views, or from what our spirit relatives and friends teach us by their return; we will have faith in them until the end of this mortal life here in this sphere below.

But there is another aspect of faith which does not affect the intellect as it does the will; which does not so concern the matter of our faith, as much as it does the way we feel as individuals toward it. . . that firm trust, love, and confidence in our spirit ones; and from the fact that by their return we are united to them and are made to feel their presence. . . as it is a channel open between them and ourselves through

which life beyond the grave is revealed by the flood tide of their affections.

It is that prevailing conviction of our presence to them and theirs to us; of their gracious mind toward us, working in, with, and through us; and our duty to our spirit advisers. Spiritualism, you will find, shows to us our duty toward all human beings.

This faith is a personal and conscious relation of us to them, forming the principles of a new life, not observable by others. But some day not far off, this will have to be recognized. There will be a great awakening! The demonstration (which is within our reach) of facts of the real life that exists after death, will soon cause all to cry out in no other language than a cry!!

It is a noble attitude or disposition of the inner being, which gives us our worth as spiritual beings. It implies the action of principle and force in virtue, so that we can behold ourselves as something better than we are at the present time. .

CHAPTER II.

Under Spiritualism we are given impulse, grace, wants and desire. These qualities have their root in that part of the human nature which is most inclined to be criminal. And the bad parts can be made instruments of good,—to reform, recast and enlarge a whole life.

It is that *practical* spirit faith which worketh through love; which, moreover, is to become like unto the spirit sphere. It will give you strength, and all of your yearning will be fulfilled—bringing to you what is true and best.

Oh, religion is an enemy to many, because they are imbued with too much superstition and a duty to a personal God—which is utterly wrong;—and it would be good to rid them of such ideas.

Let those who want to be convinced of spirit life seek, and they will find the truth manifesting itself plainly; which, by making the truth known, will satisfy our divine conscience.

The fire is so bright, love is so sweet, because we have faith that they will throw out heat to us, so as to give us warmth and love, which, when pure, will make us happy and also contented. . . . And Spiritualism will do likewise, because it will convince you that relatives and friends are with us and work through us; and that lives of this kind, and true faith, are perfect.

A faith which is the perfection of our nature,—and without which, we are characterless, rudderless derelicts on life's sea,—is that faith which will prompt us to follow the spiritual advice because it never ceases to show us the right path in this mortal life.

They are stronger than wrong—as truth is better than falsehood, and justice surer than injustice.

Just live up to your own evidence of this life beyond the grave—which can produce evidence and does appeal to our arguments with the authority of one who needs to believe that which really exists or can exist, are the great eternal laws of right, truth and goodness; and these laws are part of the nature of real but unseen spirits of the universe.

Through the laws of Spiritualism, we will be rewarded, and each day will renew us with new aspects. It will make you perfect, because you have united your will with the spirit-band of higher life, which by faith, is self-reverence, self-abasement, self-sacrifice, self-development—recognizing weakness in ourselves, but with no malice toward our neighbor.

The only true life to lead is to seek to do good toward others, and thereby gain the best for ourselves.

Speak to your spirit friends every time you are given the chance, then spirit to spirit you meet. And when closer to those spirit friends, you are

breathing and inhaling their forces which are a great benefit to the earthly creatures.

By love, we can come in contact with them, and every effort on their part will be exerted to answer our short-comings and to guide us by being our guardian—and we will then understand what Spiritualism is to the mortal.

This is the faith that will unfold to you and *will impart the truth*—which each individual wants to know.

Our words will fill every soul, and he who seeks the deep mysterious meaning of all, will have revealed to him the going-on in the spirit world.

So many of us have the desire to meet our spirit friends and also to hold communication, but the petty weakness in our beings keeps us back. Nevertheless, they now come to us with full assurance to help us. But, feeling all this, our faith fails; but we will grow stronger, and will trust in them so that we will triumph over all. And we will see the eternal light, and know of the rest in the immortal world.

We should have faith, because faith is the fountain of all our actions.

Through it we shall receive all that is good and elevating to us—although we hear many contradictory remarks which are injustice to the truth and goodness. So many like to remain in darkness and misery, for they are full of weakness in their soul and we cannot convince them, for you often see wrong ideas declared, and which will ap-

parently prevail over right,—falsehood gaining its own end, and high honor given to those who do not deserve it.

We see plain forwardness, cunning and craft gaining, while the truth is too often pushed-to-the-wall. And then again, we see some, strong enough in what they know is actually the truth. These do not allow any traitor to deflect their views with temptation of wrong teachings. Consequently, we must watch, so that we do not yield.

O, those creatures that cry it down, are ignorant! They are not obedient to the wishes of those who passed on and who see things in the right light!

Spiritualism is handed to us, and it is given so that our friends and relatives can descend and show us our weakness and can sympathize with us when it is needed by us.

They are the veil of splendor. They put aside all distinction. They invite us all. Our hearts should be happy when they come, because they give us rest.

What ecstasy of joy—not pain—when we can actually talk with our loved ones!!

All tears and grief should turn into joy.

We can lay our burden at their doors, and *they will aid us to wipe it away.*

And we should glorify them!

And we should feel that they are ever near us. So our hearts, therefore, should be just and true because their love would keep us sweet and pure.

Their praise should give us rest, and their blessed sympathy ensure the peace that Spiritualism alone can give.

Let us all make haste to hear the voices that are bringing truth.

And let us have faith in them, as they will bring to you more comfort than the wealth of earth, to rejoice.

Spiritualism will provide the intellectual training which will awaken the whole universe, because it will reveal the highest possibilities to the individual. (The word 'universe' means so many different things, that every time one uses it, it seems almost necessary to define it).

Spiritualism is in fact readily enough distinguishable by those who take pains to look into the scope and method of its teaching,—which is for harmony, good, and actual practice.

Find out its truth about the immortal life beyond the grave; then you will probably have worked out the logical fulfillment of cause and development—and it will be distinct from any other to do same, if one wishes to apply himself for advancement.

The spirit world has many parts to it where general training is prosecuted and where preparation is made so that they can come and communicate with us for our benefit.

When spirits return, they come quickened by transmission of their energy into us, which is considered the natural part of their work. And the

time is not far away when science will have to acknowledge that their existence and teaching are correct—recognizing that our lives are immortal.

Our spirit teachings will become the ideal of every heart everywhere, and the intellectual training they give will awaken and arouse every household of the modern world with the understanding that *there is no death*.

So, with the right adaptability, and by fitting ourselves so as to be able to receive these communications from the ones in the future life, we can answer the callings because we have made special preparation to meet our spirit ones who have gone before us—so to come back and teach us—which we should consider a special favor.

We should stand ready to grasp their enlightenment, and not think of criticism from those who never have sought to find the truth of immortality or life beyond the grave—their lifetime is consumed before they have had time to seek the truth.

So many misconceive and misuse the spirit friends (as they lack the preliminary and general enlightenment which we all should achieve), by not being liberal enough to give them the credit of being in existence in another sphere of life.

Everything is possible and should have a grounding. Spiritualism in its general conception, has its fundamental principles as does physical and natural science; and it is desired, (if you are a thinking person), that you should go down below the surface of this subject and give it your

close attention and thoughtfulness, and find the truth in it by your own judgment and inquiry.

Be a student diligently and follow the road desirable for success, which will show you what task the spirits can perform honestly, and with what pains they attain their proper station so to influence us in this mortal sphere. They are familiar with our shortcomings, and they return to stimulate us and make us see life as it is.

This ought to be our delight. We should organize the mortal life with the immortal life, so as to demonstrate the possible state of the survivor's life—so that we all could realize how closely we are associated with the immortal world, which is surely important and interesting—this natural intercourse with us,—that one can find everything so true about our future life. And it is practical, too, as it has connection with this world.

We will become more thoughtful by the association with our spirit friends and relatives who think for us.

CHAPTER III.

This is the present and the most pressing problem of the universe: To Bring About The Vital Association Of The Spirit World With The Mortal One.

This is perfectly possible to all!

The winter will soon come and then draw to a close, and we will then be making our plans for country life, in some grotto, as often we find no room at the inns which are crowded with summer visitors of wealth—and they never give the poor a show. So many will be praying for deliverance from the extreme cold of winter that is so sharp at night and which pierces the worn garments of so many poor ones during winter. Fortune seems to frown on some, while others have too much—which shows that there is something wrong, because those who have it care little whether you live or die. We are all liable to perish, and neither would they care.

The life of one poor creature does not interest the world, but beyond this world is the immortal one with something for each of us. It has its power, richness and magnificence. There, the soul embodies the force, strength and the glory of immortal life, where pomp is thereof.

Troubles in this sphere of life thicken, and one sees but darkness; but *if you will listen*, you will hear sounds—which I admit seems strange—but they come to fill the earth with judgment.

Some day we will associate them with profound thought and response. It is a holy sound, and the veils will be torn asunder and the spirits will make earth and sky re-echo the joyful tidings—peace on earth to men of good will, and glory to our departed ones who return to save us by manifesting and proving to us the right path in this life in the mortal sphere.

Some despise—but too many glories and wonders are demonstrated, not to conquer; and those who have ears to hear will have peace and good will bestowed on them.

We want to teach, and not let you go through life *dreaming* of things to come; but we *prove*, step by step, remove hate, and show how to gain luxury and obedience.

Is not our baby-life but a hidden mystery? How the hopes and fears of humanity cling about the cradle! Let us then prostrate ourselves about the cradle of the infant and remember that it promises a good deal, but you have to *teach it* the way of life, and love and truth, so that it may develop. Just so with Spiritualism—people must be taught to believe in it, like the infant who has faith in its mother first—and the mother is the first to teach it.

Spiritualism fills us with deep mysterious meaning, *revealing* to us that *we live beyond the grave*.

Nevertheless there comes to us a full assurance which makes us grow stronger.

We know that there is no such person as Satan, and that eternal light and rest will be ours in the immortal sphere.

Remember, your faith is the fountain of all manly actions.

Truth, justice and goodness will be rewarded—although we often see wrong *apparently* prevail over right and gain honors, and the good go unrewarded.

There is just one thing that should help people to be patient during the time when everything does not come their way of thinking. Consult your spirit friends. Just *go to some quiet spot and think* both physically and mentally.

It is a poor consolation to try to instruct a person about the life beyond the grave, although many think of it, and *if they seek they will never get discouragement*. They will manage to find a safety valve for contentment—not discontentment—in their lot of life in this mortal sphere here, and they will find *more* in life than heretofore.

I admit that it is puzzling to many, but remember that *all things are possible* in the immortal as well as in the mortal.

Some are afraid to even mention the departed; it has such a distressing feeling. They cannot ex-

plain, if you should ask them to state the cause of their fear. But if they would honestly realize that we really do live and have endurance hereafter, *it ought to be a consolation* and a great relief to think that our departed ones can return and speak to us.

It seems unusual, but nevertheless it is the truth and a helpful explanation of the matter. And all should honestly realize the good which it can do *for all who want to understand*.

How many persons in life reach the limit of endurance and become totally discouraged with life! They see not even a spark of light for their benefit! Whereas, *if they would communicate with their spirit friends*, they would be shown by those spirit ones the way to cast off this discontented feeling—complaining all the time—and they would be shown a higher path, more fortunate for them, and that their trials are not unendurable.

So many evince self-reliance or show a want of prudence, it may be claimed, because in attempting to make plain such a theme or subject as this, we are obliged to throw ourselves open to criticism. All we demand, however, is that *Spiritualism is true*; and we seek to fill the knowledge with details which will harmonize with what we know and with one another.

In the spirit life, you will find men and women just as our elemental human natures display themselves, under circumstances strongly in contrast

with our own matter-of-fact existence. To achieve this spiritual knowledge, the first qualification of the same, is to be able to speak as a *witness* to same and *with knowledge* that it is true.

This knowledge is a permanent part and is a conscious memory to yourself; the visit of the spirit is appropriate to our surroundings, and of interest as well as beneficial to the individual.

Some are fatally weak and cannot see, during his or her life-time, what would be so educational. Some would rather read and consult antiquarian collections to get their knowledge, instead of obtaining *demonstrated facts*.

I write because I, as a medium, for years, wish to teach; and the information you will receive here will encourage you to *seek for yourself*. This will lead you to drag yourself together and endeavor to obtain the necessary details, so that interest in the main piece is not lost in a minute description of spirit return—which *effects progress* in this sphere of life and *prepares* you for the immortal one.

In most instances there is no doubt of the absolute truth of spirit-return.

They love company, and they like the pleasure of returning; and it is all quite natural, as it attends with some of the sweetest satisfactions of human life both in the mortal and immortal sphere; and *it is a help*.

We all need to send the light of good deeds before us, in life, so that we will find them in the immortal life.

We declare that Spiritualism is not committed to any form of civil government. . . . She adapts herself to all, everywhere. She expects to grow and expand with the knowledge obtained. She is often hampered in her divine mission and even is forced to struggle for existence wherever despotism has cast its dark shadows (like a plant shut out from the blessed sunlight of heaven), but in the genial atmosphere of liberty she blossoms like the rose. Spiritualism will triumph!

For myself, as a citizen of the United States, and without closing my eyes to our shortcomings as a nation, I say with a deep sense of pride, that I am a Spiritualist, and am glad to acknowledge same. It will not do you any good to "roast" it, because people will learn the truth. If they will examine same, they will come to the conclusion that it is education for the weak. And I appeal to thousands to open their eyes and see what is in it for their benefit.

I cannot desist from expressing my astonishment that so many mediums are accused of teaching what is contradictory, unjust, and disgraceful to mankind—that we live beyond the grave and that there is no death—because they are teaching the truth and should be respected, not disapproved for asserting the true light to open your eyes. Like everything misunderstood, we all are called morally depraved—even those who lead the most austere lives here. But we all will have to face the spirit world, sooner or later. We will then

know no persecution there, and then we will know all.

One of the blessings is the union with the spirits, which is the choicest of gifts, and brings with it other blessings.

What is better than a home in which exists mutual love, happiness and peace, to the maintenance of which every member contributes—father, mother, sons and daughters? How wretched, where there is constant wrangling, dissention, quarrels and recrimination? And what is true of the family into which we all are by nature born, is true also of that supernatural family of which Spiritualism is the head, which is a sacrament and support for all who seek its comforts.

In this truth we can find preservation of all the rest, and unity. Of course, it causes the people to marvel and wonder, but nevertheless it leads you to the right path in mortal life to prepare you for the immortal life to come, sooner or later; we know not the hour. (It is best to keep this in the shadow). If we knew too much we would be unhappy beings; because, as it is, we are hard creatures to manage as regards conscience; but there is one thing of which you can assure yourself—that *there is existence beyond the grave for all, that the soul liveth on forever and manifests itself to mortals* to convince them of the life hereafter.

This should prove a source of comfort to all here in the mortal sphere of life. So why not start this very minute to investigate and satisfy yourself of its truth.

As individuals, you are the ones to gain for yourselves, not by hearsay—which does not bring the satisfaction it would if you consulted a medium for yourself. No one can assist you to its fullest results, to the convincing point.

The virtue of common sense plays as large a part in the affairs of Spiritualism as in those of a material nature.

Ask yourself this: “Is our devotion solid, and is our medium a sham?” This kind of medium does cause more harm than good, I admit. We must choose the true medium for the objective purpose—practical virtue—which is the only possible means of really pleasing and winning their (the spirits) ready intercession.

The sole thing for us to do is to honor and obey—to take an interest, **TO CONTINUALLY ASK THE SPIRITS TO GUIDE US PERPETUALLY** and to acknowledge their teaching as useful; such will make us strong and vigorous. They are continuously watching over you, and they are full of love. Confide in them, and they will aid you to overcome deficiencies and temptations; they will help you to make future plans.

Without doubt, there are many who find themselves drifting helplessly on waves of doubt and uncertainty regarding life in the future state of existence. Not as missionaries, seeking to proselyte, but as teachers of the simple truth, we state that spirit-return is a fact. Furthermore, Spiritualists are fully prepared to furnish the proof to any honest investigator. The gain is great for

the believer, because one can obtain all of the benefits—advice, healing, guidance, consolation, joy—from the ever-ready spirit-relatives and friends; the principal condition for embracing this success, is a willingness to reason over the phenomena and motive of Spiritualism.

Remember, they are anxious and will give assistance, as sure as you see the star which has such a beautiful light in the skies. Just so with Spiritualism—it means to shed light on you in the mortal world, so that your path may be bright with sunshine.

Oh, let no thought misguide or defile you from Spiritualism, because it is simply the truth! So it must rule. It fills hearts with love, pure and strong. As the days fleet fast away, your spirit ones are keeping loving watch over you all the time. They never forget you.

Unto the spirits of the immortal sphere I intend to harmonize, so as to be in condition to receive their teaching, which is valuable to all of us in the mortal sphere here below.

Sometimes we feel inclined to run wild, like children in a meadow, but this we cannot do. Sometimes our fair hope blossoms like the morning-glory; just so with Spiritualism, it will blossom out and be *the* religion. It will become “the real thing” in life; we are ready for it and we will understand it as a reality.

Church can be instituted in your homes. This will become a historical fact, and will have to be acknowledged or admitted by all.

It is an established fact that we can hear the voices of our departed. Their rule is one form of government—one code of law.

Do not pin your faith on others' opinions. See that you are on solid ground.

Spiritualism can save you, because it is founded on truth. It is our aim to show the uneducated that too much stress cannot be laid upon these points.

We understand that the thickest mists gather at times, but they can be dispelled by the light of the fundamental truth on which Spiritualism is based.

Concerning the relation of people to spirit-return, some have the wrong idea—they are afraid to acknowledge that they are Spiritualists. But you would be greatly astonished to learn how many are sincere believers; and the time will come when they will be more frank.

Some imagine that you will hand up the disputed tenets of the faith, one-by-one, and try to prove the truth as an honest doctrine which is established.

The mystery of Spiritualism can be cleared up at once if fear is abolished, for then there would be no difference between us, either as to what we are to believe or why we are to believe it.

The simple fact that Spiritualism teaches a doctrine, should be for you as well as for me a sufficient proof of its truth and its divine authority.

Our mission is to teach *those who wish to receive* our joy of joys while we stay here in this mortal sphere. In the immortal sphere we gain

our great reward—where we renew our strength, have our sins forgiven, our miseries effaced, the victory is won, and purity and light is ours!

Thoughts come like glimpses suddenly revealed in the midst of darkness; if we do not fix the vision, it will vanish, never again, it may be, to return.

To all fair-minded persons, this is the most glorious subject. And it is one which should establish its facts beyond the slightest doubt or suspicion of falsehood.

I have no doubt that the greater part of people will discover that Spiritualism is an unexampled fact, and one which cannot be lost sight of much longer.

Spiritualism will always exercise its great moral influence over us. It will make you feel so orderly and peaceable, because it is the all-sufficient truth which represents the power hereafter.

One object wielded by Spiritualism is to initiate the people into lives of peace, industry and morality, and to keep them in that peaceful condition. And we should appreciate the reason, for its love of concession and donation to the cause.

Spiritualism will keep closely in touch with the mortal sphere. She can see what the growing population needs, unflagged in her zeal for the welfare of us all; it will aid all, and will accomplish its object, too, as sure as fate.

The spirits say that faith and gratitude to them

is all that they want for the happy and glorious results of their expedition.

Every one should take kindly to this idea of spirit-return, because it is beneficial. It can teach you how to avoid your short-comings, as well as to show them to you.

Much has been printed and spoken about Spiritualism, here of late, and certain concessions are being brought about, chiefly on certain things about Spiritualism.

It is admitted by many to be a means—a splendid way—to uplift and educate. This furnishes strong proof that they (the spirits) mean to make us see. But human nature the world over seems full of ingratitude, because if we try to benefit and enlighten others we receive humiliation; nearly always is this true in general, but let it not stop your progress. Just keep on, and you will become a tremendous factor in this sphere as well as in the immortal one, because you are not afraid to recognize the value of progressive thought, directive ability and personal advancement; and your declaration is made very plain and demands attention.

Although some bigoted ones claim that it will go to the bow-wows, never mind what is said of Spiritualism. It will continue. And opportunity to observe many of the habits of spirits will come forward to present itself to civilization.

Spiritualism is just what it poses to be. It is not a thing to be winked at and merely tolerated. The morality of the people could easily answer, as

this is the most practical method and up-to-date teaching, and it will soon gain popularity. The good will be glad to have a guiding spirit, which is so needed by all in the mortal sphere of life.

That the Spiritualists are the most tolerant people to be met with, is true, although they are more or less persecuted and discriminated against on account of their faith in life beyond the grave; and so many desire to blacken them for this belief. But the honest Spiritualist will readily furnish *testimony* to the truth of our statement. This is more than the churches can do to the narrow-minded Christians!

The more I understand Spiritualism, the more I learn to esteem and respect my spirit ones; the more I know of their lives in the immortal life, the more convinced I become of perfection in the life to come when I leave this mortal sphere.

The wail of Spiritualism is re-echoed by all who have sought the good of life in it.

Is there not pleasure, luxury and splendor in hearing these voices which certainly cheer and console us along our paths of duty? This truth is easy for the humble to learn; therefore we should call it blessed. The study of Spiritualism is not one of versions, because spirit-return is older than the formation of the English language.

Knowing that the spirits teach us freedom as our natural birthright, also upholding moral bonds—same as is taught by the wisest philosophers who seek to regulate human action and make it more perfect, but who do not wish to destroy

human freedom—is it not absurd to suppose that our spirit friends would destroy our freedom? It is only in the immortal sphere that one can do no wrong, and where freedom becomes perfect. And even now, under the sweet yoke of Spiritualism they can understand the encroachments on our birthright!

Spiritualism will be a perfect revelation, as it is perfected truth. We should seek instructions in this faith as no insurmountable obstacles would be laid in the way of getting knowledge. So many are anxious to meet their spirit friends (which would add greatly to their joys), but they always have obstacles to spread. When the obstacles are out of the way, the purpose will soon be largely evident. The happiness of being a Spiritualist is to be seen very plainly; those who are not Spiritualists bear the aspect of not receiving the blessings—which are greater than you can imagine.

Day after day I seem nearer to the unseen world, nearer to all of my human relationships and the friendships of another life beyond the grave.

We all may feel like the blind man who also was sure, but found that he was still ignorant of much, nor could he fully explain; but Spiritualism opened his eyes so that he could see and know the truth about the immortal sphere.

Perhaps you may be partly convinced by what I have just said about the love of the spirits. There is no doubt that a great deal of truth is in this and must be fully recognized by all. Look into the matter for yourself. You will find that the case

is pretty much as I have stated, but still you may say that our devotion to the spirits is wrong; if so, you must prove why it is wrong. But I can come back to the charge and say: how is it that you will find people kneeling before a picture or statue of the Virgin, counting beads and supposed to be in prayer? You do not object to them doing it. The answer is simple enough. *They are afraid.* Our devotion to our spirit ones will never instill fear nor make us afraid of them.

When you consider the benefit that comes through them to you, you are amply paid; and it is a privilege conferred on us mortal ones.

When you have these powers which are divine, they will raise you to the highest dignity to which created nature can be raised. Such an unparalleled exaltation as this, is one which all must agree has been conferred on our mediums, who are worthy of it. It is quite inconceivable that the spirits should take simply any one at random for their interpreter; they almost always are sure that the one chosen is fitted when selected for so eminent a dignity, as this fitness should be implanted in her very creation—as well as being receptive for the gifts subsequently bestowed on her.

How did I become a Spiritualist? For the benefit of those who may be struggling (as I was for a period of years) between promptings of truth on the one hand, and the teachings of Spiritualism and education on the other, I propose to answer the above question, or rather describe the obstacles that I found in my pathway toward Spir-

itualism, after my judgment became convinced of the correctness of its claims as the one and only true faith. I have investigated Spiritualism for myself and I acknowledge that through my investigation I am satisfied. I found much to admire in the teachings of Spiritualism; it teaches the existence of spirit life beyond the grave, which I consider is the salvation for mankind, and it is ideal to me to know that there is no death.

I fully realize what it means to be a Spiritualist and I embrace it. I find that it includes all that is desired by us mortals, and I accept its teachings as a divinely established guide to all; it is fulfilling that function and exercising that which is my logical reasoning and conclusion. I love its broad humanitarian principle and noble charity *for GOOD always.*

Let every tongue confess that forms appear. Bless them and praise our spirit ones for coming on this mundane sphere, which is infinitely of great value to us and presents unspeakable worth. The merits are true, although much more might, of course, be said on the belief of ours to prove it in accordance with the spirit sphere. But my present purpose is to prove and remove all objections in general to it, and to show that our Spiritualism is not only the return of the spirit to the mortal sphere.

I do believe that they are really and truly though invisibly present. Their forms are often seen; visibly, if we are sincere, (and this you ought in

fairness to grant) the more we show the strength in us of that love for Spiritualism as established.

From the explanation I have given of what Spiritualism is, according to my belief, I think you may grant that Spiritualism is not mere talk. There will be a natural out-growth of the belief, as we know that *the spirits are really among us daily*.

No matter how full of faults and sins your life may have been in the mortal sphere, you have a chance to lead the right life in the immortal sphere. This statement of a fact which all in spirit-life agree upon, brings to us mortals a blessed hope of future possibilities. We are like buds to surely blossom. And we are not contented to simply say this as a lip-service, but to the Spiritualist it is a heart-service due to a firm conviction based on direct declarations from the immortals themselves. Their uniformity of expression creates and affirms the doctrine, and we accept the truth from them gladly. We avow our faith and our gratitude to them, which they accept as greater than any money-offering or mercenary sacrifice, or any intrinsic gift of possessions.

Many are so busy in the haunts of life with cares in the mortal sphere, that they have no time to bring to their minds the practical conviction of the truth of Spiritualism.

None of us need to renounce Spiritualism, for it is perfect. So let our enemies talk! Because they do not know of the enlightened object; this is

why they never obey the upholdings or the dignity of human nature in this sphere of life.

To say that Spiritualism will give you the condition of being intellectually and morally a free agent, is simply true. The Spiritualist fashions his life in conformity with this freedom and is obedient thereto. Obedience is a virtue; it is of necessity under the control of prudential directing force, as all virtues must be.

This spirit-return is puzzling to many. They cannot understand. When they speak on the subject of spirit-return, the cold shudder runs over them.

But too widely are the sources of testimony of spirit-life being discussed. It can no longer be ignored. It is moving the hearts of *the people*. We are more encouraged because the change is taking place in the hearts of *the people*, and results will show later.

What a sublime theme this mystery holds to the devout study and contemplation of Spiritualism! How profound a subject—and pious research of the philosopher!

For ages to come, the spirit artist may celebrate the grandeur, glory and beauty of this stupendous sacred fact—wherein grandeur and loveliness, divine wisdom, power, goodness, benignity, loving candor, concession and sweet mercy are so admirably displayed—so wonderfully harmonized.

During its career of 300 years, Primitive Christianity was influenced and guided by the precepts

and exemplary career of the great medium-seer Jesus.

Spiritualism shall remain an inexhaustible source of immortal life-food for *every* human soul that hungers and thirsts after justice—which is found in Spiritualism.

Just a little every day. This way Spiritualism will grow, planting its seeds in darkness so that they can swell and grow slowly. Slowly at first we hear the voices of the departed. That is the way children learn to read and write, bit-by-bit and mite-by-mite, and thus leap to knowledge and its powers. That is the way Spiritualism will gain its hold—just a little every day.

There is no good that is not injured by ignorance. What we need is unity—union between the spirits and ourselves, so that we will value their teachings. It is our duty to do the glorying. The attitude we should take, is by showing no indifference, and to watch, so as not to be obliged to grope in the dark.

CHAPTER IV.

If this mortal sphere be hard and cruel, always think of the brightness in it, too; and think how Spiritualism alone possesses the truth. In it, intrusted, is its faith for us.

Dear friends and relatives, let us seek the truth and light, and let no stumbling-block block us, because each of us has the power to do good.

I am a Spiritualist—and I intend to obey the voices from immortal life, despite what any one thinks of me.

Let us learn to entwine with our spirit ones, the small cares, trifling sorrows and little wants of daily life. The spirits are not too great to aid us in our trials. Only believe, and you will reap good results!

When I became convinced that Spiritualism was authority, I saw clearly that I must accept it as my choice of course. Then I began to exercise my gift as a writer. It is a treasure, sacred and blessed; and *all* may be brought to *share* this unspeakable blessing.

What would be the natural method to convey all knowledge that is necessary of this teaching to a disbeliever? The answer is: through books, pamphlets and even newspapers. How do we set about to instil into the minds of large bodies of people, new ideas on any subject whatever? We

know that many cannot and will not take the trouble to read; and some who can read are incapable of understanding, especially if the subject be altogether new to them, or when the ideas expressed are at all abstruse and difficult to understand; and some others would even misinterpret what they did read. Therefore, I would advise attendance at lectures, because then you will listen and will become impressed with ideas and will grow wise in this matter that concerns eternal happiness.

The spirits have power to have us believe the truth, and this power has existed for centuries. So try to look at spirit-return from a rational point of view; then you will see that there is reason in what Spiritualism teaches, and that it is eternal wisdom spread abroad through the mortal world—the knowledge of what people are to do and believe, if they want happiness in all stations of life.

We say, moreover, clearly and distinctly, that mediums are appointed teachers to instruct by word of mouth, and all power is given to them so that they can teach you to observe all things. So have faith and receive all instructions, as it is a mission for mediums to teach as well as to demonstrate action and life beyond the grave—establishing the fact that we live continuously forever in the immortal sphere where eternal happiness reigns.

Furthermore, we should understand faith, such as the medium speaks of. It consists in believing

a truth—accepting it simply because it can be vouched for by human testimony, or by human reasoning—even if you do not accept it logically as spiritual faith in the true sense. But some, I understand, will use explanations, although, strange to say, they are eagerly grasping, from the first, for a weapon of attack. But this kind we do not want. And in a wider sense, we only include those who have good faith and are convinced of its truth. Those who do not want to be taught remain outside—as it is their own fault. The proposition, however, is a negative one, yet it admits the possibility of salvation of people of good faith in Spiritualism.

People of all creeds can unite in paying tribute to Spiritualism. This is possible because we Spiritualists understand that through death our beautiful spirit becomes translated from mortal life to immortal life, where good works are rewarded, and where sorrow and the sacrifices of this mortal life find consolation and happiness.

The career of Spiritualism should lie before the world. Before us is given the light. If we accept, examine and inspect, for whatever purpose and for whatever end,—there can be no dark places, for the coming and going of spirits is common. We should be grateful; and recognition should be beautiful. Their influence has always been for peace and kindness to us mortals; they abhor tyrants, persecution, greed and violence; they hate injustice and oppression. *Their influences are exerted for good and are likely to*

help civilization, as Spiritualism becomes planted in the heart of the future, because it will gradually unfold (like the leaf, flower and fruit) under the eyes of men, until the day when the harvest will be gathered into the storehouse of Spiritualism. Then the people will realize that the justice of Spiritualism is right, and they will rejoice. They will find that it is a light to the eyes, and enlightening.

Spiritualism will stand pre-eminent among those who find that Spiritualism is an example of a noble life beyond the grave. So, faithfully the response comes, to those who wish it. Their voices fill the mortal sphere with knowledge and sympathy *for all who desire* aspiration.

The time is not far off when doubts, however, will be set at rest, when the most captious cannot evade the stern logic of its march, and when the most hostile must admit the evidence, sincerity and kindness of its tone. Its extreme mildness and caution may have been interpreted as a sign of weakness in mediumship or the authority that he or she represents. Be that as it may, the medium will always find herself in a bitter contest with the strongest disbelievers; but she will gain victory, and the guiding spirit will help her to success.

Spiritualism will thrive because the truth is wanted.

If our little life be wounded by a slap, if man's and woman's highest hope be straightened by the scope of the present, what wonder that each

should endeavor to secure for himself the maximum of enjoyment, even though such action denied the rights of others! The remedy is to be found in a sincere appreciation of the principle of Spiritualism and morality, and in the equally sincere application of this in public and private life.

Human liberty properly understood necessarily means the good of the individual and of society. Hence we find man under the sway of the law, which is a rule not of his own making, inasmuch as it is above him.

In every truth, it is the expression in the rational creature of that admirable order in our life, which Spiritualism recommends—that we citizens should engage in working for the common good; and that we employ our talents for the good of all; and for the preservation, advancement and defense of Spiritualism.

For a great many reasons we accord a warm welcome to Spiritualism. In the first place, we find something in it to be wished for—safe, reliable, up-to-date and attractive. Not only is Spiritualism a vast subject, old as human thought itself, but it is confronted with things, of the greater movements, that do not seem necessary for elucidation.

It certainly has its advantages, just as the Webster, Worcester or Standard dictionaries are a contribution to English literature, valuable as they are in their own way; so just remember that Spiritualism has its value attached to it. Like the

dictionaries, of course, defects are such as might be expected in anything; nothing is perfect in nature, but everything has to be judiciously perfected; but the admirable feature of Spiritualism is its origin in conscientious fairness. From this point of view alone, it can do an excellent service to us mortal beings in this sphere of life.

This spiritual publication will be a sign of a better era of understanding if not of glorifying reconciliation. Brief manual as it is, it will open the eyes of more than one fanatic—it will periodically show the modern philosopher and man of science, men who will turn to it with pleasure or to study it, who have sometimes grappled mighty problems with audacity, astonishing themselves that they have been convinced of its truth.

Spiritualism will open the mind and excite the admiration of the boldest speculators of modern times, and who, on the other hand, will realize the beauty, strength and truth in it; it will enrich above all and accomplish for you to be an authority, so that no one can object.

Of course, the orthodox thinkers will give it a black eye, on account of it not being in accordance with their own faith. They are not practical. But if they are broad-minded, they will investigate for themselves and will then become convinced that Spiritualism does not want to wound the sensibilities of any one with whom it disagrees.

Though loyal and in sympathy with you, it will strive to make you understand, through intelligent use of whatever good there be in it. In this sense,

I, the medium, will do even greater things than write a manual. And I trust that my work will meet with a warm welcome from all readers.

I am where my thoughts are, and oftentimes my thoughts are there with the spirits, whom I love, in immortal life. Things which naturally delight me or which through custom are pleasing to me, most readily come to my mind. This I find in my belief of spirit-return; for this reason I feel that Spiritualism is the truth and I plainly recognize same. My treasure is there in the immortal sphere of life, also in the heart of the departed ones there.

Have no fear, because consolation is found in the return of spirit friends and relatives.

Who would not receive this comfort willingly, as it is surely beneficial to the individual in the mortal sphere of life? So accept it with a friendly feeling, and banish any fear that spirit-return is harmful or will not be helpful to you. It is free to all who wish to investigate same for self, so as to prove the facts—that this life exists beyond the grave, and the soul never dies but lives on forever in immortal life.

Our chosen mediums understand that some will cry that they must stick to the gospel teachings. Do they not draw their messages from the same resources as the medium receives hers? Just consult your storehouse of memory on the bible, and you will find that all of the prophets were susceptible to manifestations of spirits. So you cannot condemn its teachings; if so, the bible teach-

ings were also false. There is nothing more mysterious to the human mind than religious teachings.

To me, the teachings of Spiritualism are beautiful; its planes, with special reference to the future life, are specious ones; and the benefit from many resources is evidence to me of the spirits' skill in the immortal life.

Do not cry for the departed! Think of their future life which will prove so beneficial to those whom they have left behind, so to speak, to mourn them. This should not be so; it should be thought of as a change from the mortal life to the immortal, where happiness begins for them at once. They are more or less present in their mortal home; so *think of them as present* and they are sure to make their presence known, if you will prepare yourself to receive them as you would receive a guest among your midst, by making them welcome and proving to them that you are willing to receive the truth of their teachings, from their standpoint: the truth of everlasting life beyond the grave—everlasting life in the immortal sphere.

Our medium is a woman of resource as well as a writer, and everywhere about her home there is evidence of daintiness which proves her ability. As a hostess, she is one of the most charming of persons; her guests are at once made welcome as she takes them right to her heart, and her understanding of others draws those who visit her home to know the divinity of comradeship.

Since she has become a medium, it has filled her

with higher thoughts, and she recognizes the power of life beyond the grave.

Our medium was born of English parents, but she herself was born in New England. Her father was a lawyer of note.

The medium is highly sensitive, and of artistic temperament. She is an able writer on all subjects, and she has contributed to the press many of her articles. She is anxious to have her friends enter into the study of spirit-return—which is wonderful, because they can enter into your secrets and can guide you to the most elevating place in this mortal sphere. This, she thinks, should be appreciated.

As we read the articles from her pen which will soon appear for the public to read, we fully realize that if they are read carefully, many will not stick to gospel teachings. This is true because Spiritualism is uplifting, while the gospel teachings are not the right interpretations—they are old ideas and some of its teachings never happened—the truth you will find in Spiritualism, where love is supreme always; and it is anxiously waiting to prove its statements.

At all times your spirit ones are ready for an interview!

The object of Spiritualism is to teach that people may become educated, so that they will be able to uphold the truth of Spiritualism—which holds to the principle of freedom with our loved ones who have entered the immortal sphere.

In every loyal loving heart let us this day our

gratefulness pay to Spiritualism. Let the name of Spiritualism, in the name of glory, be sung while we mortals endure and seek its full benefit for our mutual peace here in the mortal sphere of life—seeking, also, because it promotes progress for the individual.

What seems to be the principal purpose of the spirits in returning to us? It is for protection and our advancement in the mortal sphere.

If people would interest themselves in the subject of future life, this life here would be more interesting, and it would attract people toward the right way of seeing things for their advantage here in this sphere of mortal life.

You know that we are like a diamond which will show its beauteous colors if it be turned toward the sun in a way so as to catch the sun's rays in reflection, and they are not only attractive but desirable. Just so with your spirit relationship. They are lovable, and they are daily searching to prove to you that they understand you perfectly—even knowing your weak points, also your ugly ones. We all like to argue about these matters, and even debates about them are used in many families; while the members may be in perfect accord, they are probably the cause of ill feelings. So then, we cannot gain much because we are not able to pronounce a just estimate upon another's intelligence, nor upon another's conduct or belief, without convincing them that they are wrong.

We must be lenient with those who have no judgment and who cannot appreciate us for want-

ing to teach them that Spiritualism is an established fact.

And no matter how many obstacles they try to place against same, it will gain, and consideration for it will be a lubricating influence—because persons should have consideration for those who return after death among our midst, as they (the spirits) consider the rights and feelings of others.

We all have genius for making things serene and comfortable, with sunshine that makes us feel happy and satisfied. This is just what Spiritualism will do for you. It will knock out that chill frosty feeling from humanity when there is no internal warmth to let out—a condition that shows an absence of good nature and geniality.

If you realize the power of Spiritualism, it is remarkable how often one will find it with the cultivated classes, with the educated as well as with the ignorant, as it gives us worldly advantages.

Spiritualism brings with it equality among all ranks.

It will enter into and govern our lives in the mortal sphere.

One can talk with the spirits without being conscious of it.

They are working with aim to possess and come in line so as to bring every resource into play for our advantage.

Surely, Spiritualism will win its victory.

We all will have to obey their call, and release all doubt from our thoughts. Like true love, it

nourishes. From it comes joy and rejoicing for all earthly creatures.

Remember that knowledge is power, and *Spiritualism points to the greater illumination of men's minds*, with the day not far distant when we will welcome spirit-return. Those who know, hold firmly to their faith and submit to its teachings—the judgment of wise and competent teachings of life beyond the grave. They desire to know what the views mean, so that they can adopt same as the truth—their rule and guide in faith and practice—which is so laudable and is indeed a necessary undertaking in order to explain as far as may be the divine way, so as to satisfy these demands of sincere minds and upright hearts, and to show them the perfect harmony which must exist between reason (the normal sense) and faith.

Sometimes a plant which has grown up, clings around the fruit-bearing tree, which we cannot tear away nor cut up by the roots. Some of these plants are heresies—exaggerating, distorting and altering Spiritualism.

From the goodness which we obtain from Spiritualism, we all will leave this mortal sphere of life here earnest with satisfactory knowledge. Spirits work miracles as in the days of the apostles which we read about in the Bible—which is full of disputes—how, then, can we find out if it is right? But you can satisfy yourself that Spiritualism is the *interpreting of facts* full of judgment, and not a guessing at the divine truth.

We Spiritualists who understand, have considered well these natural points of principle in the interpreting of Spiritualism. And judging by what it teaches, it should be received. All should rest assured that it is sincere and gives enlightenment.

Spiritualism teaches us to easily recognize and how to cultivate gentle voices, and also how to have thoughtfulness and to eliminate from our vocabulary all slang. Slang is exceedingly vulgar. Thoughtlessness is responsible for many unwise acts and speech. Refinement is taught by Spiritualism, also neatness, gentleness and purity of language. They want nothing but what is refinement and of usefulness to us; so let us reason it all out to our satisfaction—to feel that we have gained by saying we are Spiritualists and believe in the future life for mortals.

I must confess that I never lose interest in Spiritualism, for there is something in it to admire. It is so uplifting—not having selfishness for its purpose. It demonstrates that we survive after death, and this is surely an unfoldment well worth studying. How can people say that Spiritualism is false and of no use to try! Is not a statement like that sinking, because they have not even given it thought before they uttered against it? If they once became a Spiritualist they would feel its beneficial advancement. Did not God appear to Solomon in a dream? (I Kings 3, 5.). So why are visions not true now as well as then? It is asserted that the prophet Isaiah talked to Cyrus

before he was born (Isaiah 44, 28) (and Isaiah 45, 1)—and most of the people swallow these statements without even realizing that they are false.

Do you not know that it is time for you to awaken to the falseness of the Bible and accept Spiritualism, which is not a thing of the past but ever present for your benefit and a reformation?

Law and forces make everything. These are the factors that control.

We are growing better, and we are beginning to understand Spiritualism.

We should look to the future—not the past.

Spiritualism will turn darkness into rejoicing and happiness for us mortals. Simply seek the knowledge that will give you pleasure, nourishing means and satisfaction for yourself.

CHAPTER V.

The sum of my thoughts and arguments is this :

I know that I am a Spiritualist. I know that I have found the light of reason, the dictate of conscience, the power of will and satisfaction to my soul. A necessity of my reason compels me to believe in spirit-return. My perfect welfare consists in knowing that life is immortal for us mortals. I am sure they (the spirits) are good. They desire to make us happy. We should receive them and love them, as they give us the light of knowledge and will fill us with glowing light. Their words of sweet encouragement should be our commandments. It will become the most perfect knowledge that has ever been accepted by man, as its laws for morals toward all are perfect laws.

Moreover, I find that the maximum of human and historical evidence proves this true and perfect Spiritualism to be coincident and identical with the world-wide and immutable faith of Spiritualism.

On these foundations rest the faith that we live on forever in immortal life.

What wretch would dare to call Spiritualism not sacred? Spiritualists are so meek and kind—how could we be ungrateful, as the very thought of such would pierce our hearts divine. The instinct of

our nature impels us to cherish the memories of those to whom, when in the mortal sphere, we were so strongly attached. Why shouldn't this same attachment exist also in the immortal sphere? They are not useless—just keep that in your mind!

We must not show ingratitude, but contemplate supporting their teachings. We should admire and serve them. Remember the old adage says, "Acts speak louder than words."

We may learn as much through the eye as through the ear; we may be moved as much by what we see, as by what we hear. Spiritualism will make a deep impression upon us all. It can express as much by signs, as by a word. We all should welcome, honor and assert this—according to your own principle that this is the source from which to learn.

I certainly cannot conceive how spirits could come to us to manifest without harmony with the mortal attribute of spirit-return. This one fact alone is sufficient proof that I am a medium or an author who gives testimony of human reason why I am a Spiritualist—because it teaches an absolutely sure knowledge of all that is revealed; thus one has a standard by which the truth of Spiritualism can be judged.

So you will have to admit that I am reasonable and consistent, unless, indeed, you deny that our spirit ones are true to their promise.

We can all learn by the light of nature alone, all that can ever be known of Spiritualism.

Some are prejudiced against Spiritualism, and still again *they have not examined* the real foundation of the truth of life beyond the grave. They are continually looking for flaws. Are there not flaws in religion, also?

The forces of nature bring out, in due time; the poisonous flower from the sap in the root of the noxious plant—so the inexorable logic of events will sooner or later bring out into the sight of all the true fruit of a latent false principle.

You need not go far to find an explanation of the widespread infidelity of the present date; it may be traced back to the radical error from which reformation sprang.

The basis of Spiritualism is faith and *truth*.

We must all realize that the spirit dwells in and among us. Human reason will guide you so that you will not overstep the lines and fall into the abyss of fatal error. Have *full* confidence and admit that Spiritualism is great, and that your spirit ones are truly present at all times to aid and show us a light.

However some may misuse Spiritualism, nevertheless, sooner or later they will be glad to turn good-naturedly toward same, for it will never make you miserable.

There is a great truth in this so-called theory, and it is as marvelous as creation—as every part of the body—as our feelings and emotion of the soul and heart, which are closely related.

You must begin by being honest with yourself, and you must not get melancholy if all of your

friends laugh at you; never despair—they will come your way of thinking when their mind reaches the right attitude.

Therefore, since the visible as well as the invisible can help us, we ought to give thanks daily, for it certainly is a treat to know that all of our spirit ones are anxious to give us assistance and come among us. Just the same it is true and remains for us to acknowledge it. Their voices and work will be proven to all who desire and seek such comfort in this mortal sphere.

Some say that to many Spiritualism is too great a mystery for us to believe. We will believe nothing but what can be explained in a human way to the most skeptical. But we must believe that spirit-return is true.

With them nothing is impossible.

They are also capable of performing miracles.

Communion with them is most blessed.

I would like to make every one feel as I do in this matter, for it is the beginning of benefit and comfort for the individual.

Grant that all may truly prepare to receive their spirit ones, as it is everlasting glory for the good of your soul!

They will deliver you from evil, if you embrace their teachings, as they are good.

I intend to henceforth abide in them, and nothing can separate me, because it is a great blessing bestowed upon all to receive.

This obligation which presses upon us is of the supernatural order, and although it may not be felt

as sensibly at the first, because it does not appeal to the natural man, it is a far higher and nobler obligation, for it directly tends to create a happiness which is not transient and temporal, but lasting and eternal. It is none other than to bring our fellow-beings to the knowledge, love, and service of spirit-return in this mortal sphere, so that we may glorify it properly here, so that we may be happy hereafter when we reach the immortal sphere of life everlasting.

We beseech our spirit ones to absolve us as their servants, that being dead to some, they, if possible, do manifest so to open eyes and it make understood that *they are still alive*—only *changed* from mortal life to immortal life.

So, friends, never jump to any conclusions. You should first find out exactly what Spiritualism does teach. She teaches each of us that there is no hell hereafter; and when you think that we have been endowed with intelligence, we should know of this last end of eternal happiness. Is it not eminently proper that people should use their intelligence and freely accept the gift of spirit-return since it is the highest gift to man?

I should not want to be deprived of what I consider highest in nature—this being able to converse with my loved ones who have passed into immortal life. So we should not abuse this condition, because if a person has a weapon with which to defend himself, and uses all manner of instruction and every means that he might make

proper use of,—why should he abuse it deliberately in spite of everything and destroy himself?

This is what Spiritualism does to us—spirits give to us freely and they neglect no opportunity to induce us to choose the good. They instruct, they warn, they persuade, they promise the greatest reward, they load us with grace, they surround us with every means of assistance.

As their medium I respect the highest gift that could have been bestowed upon me; and all other mediums should do so, although I regret that they do not, because they let money rob them of the gift, which money the spirits do not stand for. The agreement is that just as soon as they begin to receive a fee, at that time they begin to use deception to gain it, and at that time the spirits refuse to manifest—they find themselves left so-to-speak, and then the honest mediums become much abused creatures. The spirits wish to correct these evils and to restore to truth its sacred rights. They keep their promises without oath. No trick medium can succeed with spirit aid—the spirits leave her control at once. They promise and insist strongly against the evil of money-taking.

We all are seeking the truth in this mortal sphere of life, and we should be congratulated on our good disposition.

Spiritualism can be made clear, but there may be many things in same to understand; therefore, you can be absolutely certain that the meaning of it is like a great poem—not easily compre-

hended by the whole race. Spiritualism will continue to be used while we abide in this sphere; and spirit-return is useful to remove sin and make us better humans.

I trust that this book will be read by all those who really seek the truth in this matter. It ought to be of very great use to all, and we intend to spare no means, so that the people may come to the right understanding of the matter, which seems like a stumbling block to many in this path of mortal life, and we hope to exhibit a graphic portrayal of modern society. To the mature reader and careful observer it will prove interesting; in fact, it may be something of a shock when they find that there is no death and that we exist as we do this present day.

We mediums certainly know what we are writing about. It is no novel; and we understand the object in view,—just the same as does the dramatic writer.

Nothing can knock our arguments.

So far we have simply acknowledged that it opens our eyes as well as our understanding of facts which have heretofore puzzled us.

Most people are too anaemic, morally speaking, to prove capable defenders of their country in the hour of need; so how could you expect them to defend Spiritualism, if they have no faith to raise themselves to the heights of supremacy, and accept this book as correct?

Everything is open to criticism; but certainly you must give us mediums credit for this smooth

translation of spirit-return, (is it not exceptional?), and it should be read; and congratulations should be sent to us for our good work. And it is to be hoped that I shall continue on the lines which I have had marked out by my spirit-control—a practical physician now in the spirit sphere over twenty-five years, and who, when in mortal life was an author, did good, and now continues through us (the medium) to concern himself, knowing the lack of good translators just now when everything is needed to interest the people. So Spiritualism will find a larger field from my endeavor for the enlightenment for others, as I am the agency selected by the spirit-band to teach by my pen. A triumphant truth is written in every line—no extreme is demonstrated, only the *plain facts*. This is what the spirits are using (through me), nothing else than FACTS—no hearsay.

Doubtful, some will be. We expect that, too, but we shall labor to convince nevertheless, as it is important, just the same as fresh air and sunshine are needed by us. And it is a wonderful help, for there is no greater stimulant to mortal beings, and life here in the mortal sphere would be extended, would it not? Just so with spirit-return—*it is beneficial*—as I have said many times heretofore in writings.

Yet too much cannot be said to impress you with the right idea—*that there is no death*—and you should influence yourself to believe along these lines, because knowledge is the key to understanding. We all should thirst for the right kind

of knowledge, the kind which will have a future in same for us.

Never be lukewarm. We do desire to rejoice, and it should be a pleasure to do so.

Let no humiliation warrant us in doing, but let that very joy be its own warrant.

O, be indulgent to the spirit ones. They need us and we merit their own power.

Accept us mortals as your little flock, in this age when faith and true love are scarce.

Pity those who are ignorant. Spare them, for they will be shown in due time the truth and they will adopt the teaching that is going to benefit, reward and renew their body and soul and make their hearts full of purity.

Let us give thanks for the grace and favors, through their intermission, which we receive in our walks in the mortal sphere of life.

I feel their sunlight in my home. I welcome them always. They always find me waiting to feel their passes, and I fully realize when my control is coming to dwell in me and teach through me.

They are my pillow to rest my cares on, and it surely brings joy in this heart of mine.

It illumines me from dark places.

It makes me have a sweet smile for all.

I wish them to come nearer because they are so divine, and it makes my soul shine. I shall worship my control and serve him as my guest—no end can come to this only true faith called Spiritualism.

We all should be able to wisely apply the knowledge we acquire, realizing that we do live after death and can and do exercise talent.

Society may try to condemn but Spiritualism deals with the life hereafter, and their (spirits') motive is to teach that your soul liveth on in the immortal sphere of life forever.

Spiritualism's laws are always demonstrative to the individual, and its laws need no mending. The person of principle is law unto himself, and he understands the interpreted word; this is felt when we receive the message from our spirit ones. It is impressed on our hearts, solidly.

Spiritualism can be grasped by every one who desires to do so.

On this mortal sphere of life we may struggle for fame and fortune, which we all crave, but one thing is sure—we all have to leave it some day when we go to the immortal sphere; such is sure, and it will ever be thus. So the sooner our eyes are opened unto the splendor of eternal truth, the sooner we will realize the glory of Spiritualism.

Thus I would ask of all to treat the dead as though among our midst. How pleasing it is to them! Sooner or later we will reach the path that leads to this goal. Then we will meet them on the other side of life, awakening to the consciousness that we have reached the sphere of the divine in nature with a manifestation of faces in the same beautiful youthfulness.

We will acknowledge then that we have comprehended the virtue of the joyous hours spent in il-

lumining the heart and mind unto wisdom and quickening our senses 'unto comprehensiveness of all beyond the grave.

All should realize the purpose and aim of Spiritualism—they produce order, beauty, grandeur and sublimity for us mortal beings. So let all aspire and reach this divinity, so as to concrete our divine impulse, constrained to love thee in humble submission. They will aid us to grow, help us to overcome our enemies and help us to be good in word as well as in deed.

They will perform their part. So let us assist them in the good work, then peace will be in our hearts and perfection shall unfold unto us the glory of Spiritualism.

It will be our salvation in this mortal sphere—which will be emancipation for us mortals if we only would realize same.

All we need to do is simply to pursue our path in performing our duty, unmindful of any reward other than the deed itself and knowledge gained.

Our hearts will rejoice and our mind will feel at ease to know that by the means of Spiritualism we have found out that there is no end, and that we live on continuously in peace—which is valuable to know.

What is the matter? It is that some take this idea of life beyond the grave so seriously. They rather not have anything to do with same.

Nevertheless, Spiritualism will never become oblivion. Nothing can wipe it away. It is a fact, an old one, too, and it must become known.

We all will have to embrace it as *the essential truth upon which all truths are based*.

Surely, Spiritualism makes one's life become a sweet melodious song, and it must be pleasing to all who know society.

How can one learn this? By devoting your spare time to acquaint yourself with the teachings whose messages come to one irrespective of creed, caste or color; and its courses are offered without money and without price to all who want to be a Spiritualist.

What is the guarantee in following spirit advice? You develop your own individuality—the highest, the noblest and the best that is within you. You learn, too, what self-redemption is, physically and morally. You then do your just part toward redeeming and aiding those others who wish to know the truth. This is our obligation to the spirits, prompted by interest and honor, due and given to Spiritualism, which means prosperity to all individuals.

It is neither cult, sect, creed nor denomination.

It is absolutely free from influence of authoritative institution of any set of men. In the stricter sense, it is a family order whose members desire to impart the secrets of life and progress by its teachings of life beyond the grave.

Spiritualism also teaches that we should live the simple life, demonstrating the value of spirit thought, so that we may follow the footsteps of a perfect life which is guided and under governing conditions; and that we may assist in laying a

more solid foundation, unfolding in accordance with our advancement, in the mortal sphere, to the perfect life.

I am a Spiritualist.

I worship the idea. I recognize that spirit-return gives me a knowledge of all things, of destiny, and with a higher intelligence for reason.

I express and claim that it is a paradise for me to be an associate of them and I declare that it will give you *pure* faith.

I am confident in their power, for it is no illusion.

Remember, we shall reap that which we soweth; so let us sow what is beneficial, and follow same by communion and comfort in having our loved ones' words come to us from spirit sphere, assuring us with hearts full of love for us mortals, meaning every word they utter for our benefit.

All should maintain that they give us peace. When they manifest, they are around. . . Are we not told many times that the creator of the universe freely conversed with the children of this sphere, and that so-called miracles (now considered impossible) were very common in olden times? What was true in the olden times of christianity is true also of Spiritualism. And we all must agree sooner or later, because Spiritualism brings us satisfactory results every time.

We should use common sense, and investigation of Spiritualism will reveal the truth. So work for it; make it your ambition; you are sure of reward, for it is human progress.

Spiritualism is criticised; the Bible also meets with its critics, for it is full of delusions, and it needs to be interpreted—as Spiritualism is interpreted to us by mediums selected for that purpose—indicating to us what-is-what in the immortal life; and, if we accept it, eventually we will give vestige pointing to life beyond the grave.

The immortal sphere is a beautiful place,—with loveliest sunshine and the balmiest of fragrant air, jewels and walls of solid gold, flowers blooming everywhere; also singing is always heard. Many have their doubts, but, nevertheless, they will know it to be true, sooner or later. It is bliss.

Spiritualism will make you know that your privilege is now given out; so you can prepare, by its teachings, to be ready to dwell in immortal life.

There, you will find honesty.

It matters not how rich or poor you were in the mortal existence; you all are treated in the same way. All is justice and we all get our deserts; no ranks and fussing for wealth or station; all used alike!

It is too bad that we could not have it so here in the mortal sphere of life, as persons then would be more brotherly to each other, because they would have that *kindly feeling for all*—which does not exist today. All are living for self-interest, and as long as they have their heads they con-

sider themselves superior to one who has not been as lucky in getting ahead. It is a wrong state of affairs, but I cannot yet see the clear way to right this condition.



CHAPTER VI.

There is one thing that Spiritualism is trying to instil in us mortals—it is love and faithfulness to all among our midst.

Correct information imparted to one is never forgotten; knowing this, one should become a Spiritualist, because it is one of comprehensive value to all who take interest enough to attempt to find out how we can develop after death; and due consideration of it will aid both your mind and body, as it will give information in regard to living in accordance with nature, which, alone, is a law given to all.

Knowing this, I sternly ask you not to fear your spirit ones.

Be steadfast, and remember how sweet it is to be remembered by those in higher life, and pledge them by word and deed that you will give them welcome any hour that they see fit to manifest to you. It will have good results for you. It will teach you how to dress yourself, and how to take care of yourself, without growing old too quickly; also, it will teach you the proper food to eat for nourishment. Is this not beneficial to all humans?

A great many have tried to give an explanation of psychic phenomena, and when persons understand its advances in talking with the spirits, they find that it is nothing more than a natural law.

Spiritualism, people are just beginning to learn about; and it is enlightenment to us to be able to receive teachings from our spirit friends and relatives. Communication with them is uplifting to us mortals in this sphere. *Do they not speak with intelligence?* So I cannot see why we have any reason for doubt, as I feel it is valuable to know that they influence us mortals to understand this great truth.

Eminent men have investigated, and the results have been that they are satisfied to know that our life continues beyond the grave.

O, if every person could have this subject laid open to them, so that their present state of feelings would be convinced of the *goodness* in these teachings,—because spirits want us to have an amiable disposition, and they do not want to deprive us of anything according to our station in this sphere of life.

We are permitted to give our views on this subject so that unlearned persons can get an idea of its messages and gain evidence for themselves. This is no guessing game, for *all questions put to your spirit ones are answered*, if they consider that you should know about same.

In Spiritualism, you find such perfect joy, and it exceeds all earthly bliss. Through nature, it has been assigned to us, to prevent us from being misled by church doctrine—which is so misleading—for Spiritualism makes us contented with what we have, and then we are not always craving.

Look at what it supplies. It makes you feel triumphant because you have found something that makes *contentment for your soul*. Some of us are never satisfied; no matter what we have, there is something else that we want. But we should not cultivate this idea. I grudge no persons their gain and sincerely hope that they are worthy of it. Always feel that your health is your wealth and Spiritualism your chief defense; this I have and therefore shall not live in vain, because, O, how sweet it is to feel that you are fitted to meet your loved ones and to know of life immortal!

Remember, they are ever present where they are welcome, although voiceless; and few have the power to touch the magic string that brings them in touch with us mortals.

Some day we shall say good-bye to this mortal sphere, and we shall go to the immortal sphere where a home is prepared for us, where flattery and wealth are left behind—there, where we need it not.

If we knew the facts concerning spirit-return, we would give more careful thought to its teachings, for it is delightful—for your own good—I can assure you.

When you speak about Spiritualism, some think that you are going crazy—but it will make you sane, as it increases sanity in you. Some seem puzzled to hear of spirit-return, especially from some persons with intellect; and they think that you are on the verge of insanity!

Spiritualism is most interesting to all, especially when you realize the truth in it, which makes it have superiority over all other teachings, because it is high in moral conception; and it comes freely to us so that we will be interested and reach it. By being hopeful you will gain in time. So, I entreat you to be cheerful, as Spiritualism will produce for you, with your aid.

So let us mortals turn over a new leaf, beginning with a faith in our spirit ones' return. And be not afraid for that tendency. Is it not beautiful to be able to trust in our spirit ones? Let us understand that *they minister to our salvation* on this planet here, that they are numerous, and that *they appear as mortals*.

Did not Moses and Elias appear to Christ? Did not Samuel appear to Saul in the night through the aid of a medium? . . . So you see that mediums are ancient; we have them in our modern times, now. You will find in the scripture, many times written, descriptive sentences stating how spirits appear; they still continue to do so, even if you doubt same.

Daily some mortal creature passes from this sphere to immortal life, into a land where they find their loved ones. But all this is hard to bring ourselves to believe; nevertheless, it is true. You will admit that a want of belief usually depends on a lack of experience or lack of knowledge. This is no disgrace, because one is not expected to possess a complete knowledge of everything. But when a person does not want to learn

anything, refuses to investigate and closes all avenues to thoughtful consideration of the facts of psychical research and spiritualist phenomena, let us pity him, for his loss is great.

And right here let me impress upon you that the mysterious influence of mediumship is none other than POWER FROM THE SPIRITS. It will never harm you. If astonished, as is quite natural, this may be due to your early false teachings, to popular misguidance or even to simple ignorance. Facts may seem stranger than fiction.

Since the days of the ancient stoic philosophers, metaphysicians and other seekers of sociological truths, these so-called vague influences through spiritualist mediums have confused many learned investigators because they failed to find the true *source* of mediumship—it comes from our spirit friends and relatives who have passed over. Hence, strictly speaking, mediumship is not a sixth sense of the mortal, but rather an attribute of spirit-life. This is proven by noticing the career of a medium; when the medium is honest in admitting that at some times she cannot feel the spirit-influence, all is well. Or again, if she attempts to use her instrumentality for purely mercenary gain, for the filthy lucre, the spirits withdraw and she lacks the ability to demonstrate. Hence, the *controlling power* is spiritistic.

Many of us mortals receive impressions that indicate the unmeasurable strength and the existence of some direct and far-reaching power

that can be recognized as that of spirit force, and its standard of measurement—Spiritualism.

So, after all guessing, certain unexplained phenomena are found to be the “tests” or demonstrated truths of natural law in the spiritual world—Spiritualism. It is a good plan to “test” mediumship, so that you will be convinced that the answers to your questions are from your spirit friends. They are only too willing to help you in your search for the truth, as honest investigators. Your mental darkness and gloom will then be turned into light and hopefulness, and you will gain a new lease of mental, moral and physical life, with rejoicing in finding the truth. You will then have entered through the open door of the purely physical phase of materialism into the condition of exalted spiritual thought, which means progress while in our primary state of human existence. Spiritualism stands for our advancement. Why stand still, which is sure to take us backward?

The manner in which one should feel is a guide to us in Spiritualism. We meet with its fundamental facts, which attach importance, but run too widespread. This phenomenon needs spontaneous attention. We observe its social working which will give greatness, for it is education from beginning to end. And all spirits ask is attention to carry their point, so that we will have complete realization of all.

We mortals are weak, and sometimes do not understand how to overcome circumstances, be-

cause modesty shows its tendencies; so we dread to talk about the mysterious workings of Spiritualism, which has for its aim immediate development for us beings.

Hail Spiritualism, for it is of the purest faith; and I raise my eyes so as to learn all I can, for I think it is a great treasure to know that we live forever. Oh, it is purity, and one can easily reach the highest bliss! Why shrink from same, for it is ever active and gives intelligence throughout the universe?

Spiritualist teaching rests on its demonstration, and its truth of confession in its living; and no person can govern circumstances better. It surely brings peace; and it can tell if you are taking advantage of the many opportunities offered. Education is the awakening of understanding things, and its relations to nature and Spiritualism.

Remember, man is law unto himself, and blessed is he who has freed himself by living the law of a perfect life, recognizing in this privilege a blessing unto all.

Prosperity, perfection and holy life are emblematic of the trinity of Spiritualism imparted through good thoughts and deeds prompting Spiritualism, which will make all things well.

Go out into the world and proclaim to your friends the glad tidings of spirit-return! Some will call it superstition and hypnotic witchcraft.

In Spiritualism we should place our trust, because we are sure to win.

We all should feast upon what they reveal, for

it is the greatest lesson for us mortals, and we should yield to it because it is casting its seeds broadcast everywhere; so we mortals should accept the seed, and let it grow and bloom for our purification.

Spiritualism has come to show you the light and realization. So many are amazed at the wonders of it. It surely illuminates the mind for the beauty and artistic surroundings of a beautiful home, with dainty refinement; this is what spiritualist teachings lead us to. Spiritualism is teaching right-living and close observance of the simple laws of nature, also purification of our bodies—and as we are their temple, they wish us to be perfect.

Spiritualism does not want to tie us down to creeds, dogmas and ceremonies.

Spiritualism teaches that it is the way to the truth and life eternal.

Spiritualism also teaches immortality, because we shall live (although it seems like a shadow, nevertheless we will live on) in the immortal sphere—perhaps on Uranus, perhaps on Mars, even on the sun itself, and work out our destiny. So it is well to adapt ourselves to the spiritual laws which will govern all, even in this sphere here.

If persons would only awaken to facts!

Spiritualism does not force its followers to give up their money as the churches do. It does not want obscenity, for it believes in morals, and it would lessen wrong-doing. It teaches each and

every one how to happily enjoy life while he remains in this mortal sphere.

No doubt we all will realize the truth in Spiritualism, because it will prevail; and we want to give all of the people the truth, not to deceive them. All of us must go to immortal life where we will be triumphant and be convinced. On the minds of these prospective converts we are daily trying to impress the advice that they ought to shake off the shackles and be loyal to devotion, which is truly good, and just as clear *to you*, if you will accept it for your benefit.

Look up to Spiritualism and your lives will turn, and your face will cast aside frowns because it brings smiles to one's countenance, and it proves step-by-step everything that we mortals should know.

The science of to-day completely recognizes that Spiritualism will destroy orthodox religion, as it is false and it is an enemy; but Spiritualism reforms, for there is only one way to do things for beneficial results and that is *by the right teaching* which is taught by Spiritualism.

This author wants to echo out as the prophets did, proving to you that the spirits are throwing light on the economic relation with every scratch of the pen—which is badly needed now. Life in this mortal sphere I must confess is a continuous development. The profit is small for some and large for others; nevertheless, *all are alike in immortal life*.

Philosophers are working over this spirit-re-

turn and life after death, as they wish to know the truth. They know that life is one steady growth and development from infancy until we become a full-fledged man or woman, and continue then to grow older and older until at last we go to our immortal home. We continue to progress, on and on, forever; then we find justice. So begin before you get to immortal life! Choose it right here in this mortal sphere!

Some have morality and character and there are those who complacently boast of having conclusive evidence of their own superior personal excellence, just as some pride themselves on seeing and knowing everything, but nevertheless they know but little. Still, as a class, the large majority enjoys the distinction of being individually extinct, and only remotely troublesome for what they may have been, and not for what they are.

I must mention that spirits are restless and uneasy and even when they find themselves moved to a better sphere (doubtless better than the mortal) they are, like mortals, restless. How many of us have felt unseen hands pull us, and heard rappings and voices! If we would obey these signs, we would escape many accidents; for, in most cases, they are a warning to us mortal creatures.

All of us have spirits who watch over our daily walks. If we happen to see a form, we call it a ghost; they, however, just come to lead us right, and to make us know that we should lead the right life.

Never mind, if you receive frowns when you speak of spirit-return to your relatives and friends; for if they frown on you now, they will smile when they find out that your remarks are facts. If our non-spirit friends could be taught that Spiritualism is interesting, then it would become universally believed. Moreover, it is an absolute necessity to us mortals.

Spiritualism is being spread, and she multiplies with the increase of her progeny—even as the sun has many rays, yet one light; and the tree many boughs, yet its strength is seated in the deeply lodged roots; and as many streams flow down from one source through a multiplicity of waters and seem to be diffused from the bountifulness of the overflowing abundance,—unity is preserved in the source itself. Part of a sun-ray comes from its orb, but its unity forbids the division of light; break a branch from a tree—once broken it can breed no more. Thus, Spiritualism, flooded with the light of the immortal sphere, puts forth her rays through the whole mortal sphere, yet with one light which is spread on all places, while its unity of body is not infringed on—so unity with the immortal is useful. Spiritualism stretches forth her branches over the universal earth, yet there is one head, one source—one mother abundant in the results of her fruitfulness.

Whoever parts company with the spirits, is estranged from their promises. We hold for unity

of our spirit ones; and he who resists them suffers, as it is his loss.

So many ideas are commonly entertained about us Spiritualists. So many objections are also frequently made against us.

Spiritualism is a fair external rite, and its ceremonies are for salvation; and no one can say that this is unnatural or uncharitable, for we feel quite justified in concluding that it is all there is.

Always be ready to obey with mind and heart, setting aside all authoritative teaching (which does not interest or has not invigorated), but let us think and with faith find revealed to us the truth—Spiritualism. No doubt we all have been educated in the atmosphere of religion, and, although your friends have had that early training, they must all become impressed with Spiritualism; but some, I realize, are imbued with bitter prejudices, but I finally determined to investigate the whole subject of Spiritualism with all the earnestness that I possessed. I used analytical and logical methods of thought in the investigation, (as I proposed to use the same methods in this, as a lawyer would in the examination of any other subject), rejecting all prejudices and preconceived impressions; and I resolved to follow with all possible fidelity the logic of my inquiry.

I believed in the existence of spirits, in a general way, but the *evidence* of their existence in the immortal life was not clear or distinct to my mind. A shadow of uncertainty often presented

itself. But now I am a Spiritualist. I possess the evidence.

The theory of design in nature proved clearly enough that there is some all-pervading intelligence presiding over and governing matter, but this did not prove to my mind that we certainly did exist after death.

Idle dreaming (where facts do not substantiate the dreaming) leads one into a state of delusion and despair, and the reaction becomes decidedly unpleasant. Such being the case, when one blindly accepts as truth the anonymous writings of ages ago for his rule and guide, he evinces indiscretion. He becomes wise when he listens to the latter-day apostles of scientific demonstration who bring the fundamental facts of Spiritualism to our observation. If the doubters would only take the pains to find out the actual facts of Spiritualism, they all would be amply repaid, both in material and mental benefits.

In Brooklyn there resides an acquaintance named Mrs. "Blank"; as a widow with considerable property she was courted by a self-seeking employe for purely mercenary purposes. On the eve of her second marriage, there appeared to her in broad daylight on the public street, to confront her with her folly, one whom she at once recognized as the spirit form of her late husband. He audibly warned her against the rash act. She saw the spirit, she heard the spirit entreat her not to re-marry—not that sordid hireling. She heeded not, she married. Her property was stolen by

the second husband, and social troubles in general have been the result ever since. This good but unwise woman refused to follow the sound advice from spirit source. My point is this: No amount of objection can force this woman to disbelieve that the kindly spirit of her late husband really demonstrated to her—to her at least it was proof of spirit-return. Many other people in our midst have had similar experiences of a personal nature, although some, I am sorry to say, are not willing to publicly admit same.

I have seen many faces, forms, signs and symbols from spirit-life, and I repeatedly receive spirit impressions and I distinctly hear their spirit voices when I am in a receptive or clairaudient condition. A plain avowal of these facts—not imaginings—induces me to publicly state my firm belief in Spiritualism.

What I have seen or heard can be repeated by my readers, or by all who candidly want to solve the profoundest problem of life—the immortality of the soul; first, that we possess a soul, second, that the soul lives after the body is worn out (like an old coat) and is cast aside in death to disintegrate, and third, that the soul can return (under suitable conditions) to earth again, mingling with us in our every-day life, and able at times to materialize (so as to be seen) and to communicate with us through the medium—the go-between—the instrument of exchange—just as money represents value and is the medium-of-exchange between two commercial persons.

A spiritualist has no quarrel with any one's religion, whether it be Jewish, Christian, Mohammedan, Buddhist or any other; at the same time, if the facts of Spiritualism (like the facts of any science) happen to eradicate superstition by disproving the existence of a hell-fire—of a place of eternal torment—or to deny the existence of a personal satan—Spiritualism cannot be blamed for enunciating and proclaiming actual facts. The truth of knowledge, like the knowledge of truth, is for our mutual good. Ignorance and prejudice injure us, so we will bury them with bigotry.

An important truth of the expression of Spiritualist phenomena is that a suitable person, usually a woman, becomes a medium, and is convinced that a natural law connects her with spirits. She, by her messages from spirit-land,—Summer-land—convinces her friends, relatives and numerous investigators. These mediums are of all races, and of all creedal religions—or without.

The untutored negro, when her "course of true love does not run smooth," consults her medium; the business man of the present day is often glad to avail himself of the good service of a clairvoyant medium, while the college professor who seeks the truth—the whole truth—is a student of psychological research as well as all occult sciences, and he is apt to be found at the side of a spiritualist medium in communication with the spirits. And let it be known that the spirits are glad to aid

anyone, black or white, rich or poor, illiterate or collegiate, sinners or—who is he who hath not sought forgiveness?

The old saying, “Empty thy purse into thy head” has a spiritualist meaning; although it costs a trivial sum of money to investigate Spiritualism (for books, lectures, meetings, etc.), the purse will not suffer much, considering the great benefits one receives—pecuniary, material and protective benefits, as well as the aid which our spirit friends give us in consolation and moral advancement.

There are some who can develop their own latent power and susceptibility and become home mediums by having spirit phenomena presented in their own homes. This is very convincing to many, who decide that mediumship should receive no pecuniary reward—no fee, payment or compensation whatever for a medium’s time.

Eminent persons having spent ample time with mediums in obtaining different phases of phenomena, all to their satisfaction, it can be fairly claimed that spirit-power is a reality. Assuming that one single demonstration has been actually made, then even one instance of spirit communication is logically sufficient to prove spirit-existence. But these proofs, these tests, are given daily to many persons throughout the world; one instance becomes multiplied by thousands of daily demonstrations of the reality of Spiritualism. So that which is in evident existence to any one who

earnestly seeks the truth, cannot be brushed aside as being non-existent by the mere whim or prejudice of an uninformed unbeliever.

* * *

SPIRITUALISTS ALL AGREE ON THE FOLLOWING BASIC CLAIMS:

1. That death does not mean annihilation, but simply a change (somewhat like chemical change in nature).
2. That the soul lives on in the spirit-realm eternally.
3. That resurrection of the spirit occurs at the moment of death of every person. The late Andrew Jackson Davis, seer of Poughkeepsie, and medium extraordinary, has actually seen the spirit rise from persons dying in hospitals, workers entombed in mines, etc. So, also, have other gifted clairvoyants.
4. That at death the spirit passes into the spirit-realm, welcomed at once by loving friends and relatives. No hell.
5. That spirits can and do return to earth again, as spirits, but in the form of mortals.
6. That spirits and mortals can communicate on profound subjects as well as on the trivial every-day affairs.

7. That spirit-life is a wonderful development from the mortal life and is a happy continuance. Spirits would not again care to become mortals, even if they could. No adult ever would care, as a mortal, to become an infant again; in fact, he could not—it would be contrary to nature, of course.
8. Re-incarnation never occurs.
9. That spirits demonstrate their power to us by means of raps, tipping of tables, levitation, modeling in clay, portraits on canvas, tinkling of bells and of musical instruments, etc. The code for spirit raps is: three raps mean "Yes," one rap "No," two raps, "Doubtful," four or more raps "Enthusiasm."

CHAPTER VII.

As an active means for the exploitation of one person by another, Spiritualism revolts against such a proposition. The numerous business men and women of to-day who believe in worshiping the golden calf, sometimes suggest to mediumship that it should make a fortune for itself by taking advantage of the necessities of others and absorb their money. Failing to do this, they charge Spiritualism with a lack of business ability—the ability to make money gains. Anyone familiar with spirit-return knows that spirits are not in the money-making business, as they wish to maintain a higher standard than the gold standard.

The spirits favor co-operation (so rare with us mortals) instead of the exploitation of the employe by the employer. Brothers should be equals, in an economic sense, the world over, not master and hireling—not capitalist exploiting the wage slave.

On the other hand, our spirit friends are quite willing to give us advice about our business troubles—but even then we mortals must really work out our own business salvation, because our business interests are so diversified.

So Spiritualism seeks to be impartial to all of us, and for its standard it has: "The good of all."

The riddle of the universe has been the cause

of a continuous nightmare with most non-religionists, but Spiritualism disposes of the riddle, as it is not a guess but a reality that all continue to live in the immortal realm. I do not simply say so, but I can prove it any day.

In the various forms of communication which spirits adopt with mortals, none are more authentic or more satisfactory than writing by using the brain and hand of the medium, while she is in a state of "control" by the spirit guide. This psychological state resembles a dozing or sleepy condition of the medium but not necessarily the trance of a deep sleep. There is nothing more abnormal about it than there would be when one has the sleepy feeling that comes to us all every evening.

This book has for its inspiration the dissemination of *the natural realities of Spiritualism* from an ethical standpoint.

I feel that the time is ripe for the people to learn about spirit-life direct from spirit sources. Therefore let due credit for its plain credible statement and forcible teaching be given to my spirit-control and to the associate members of the spirit-band who are always more or less my constant companions—while I am to be recognized as their instrument—their fortunate medium.

By these teachings of Spiritualism the reader has nothing to lose, except the untruths or misconceived opinions of self-constituted authority; while constructively, spiritual truth enables one to build solidly a pyramid of sound logical facts—



not theories, not uncorroborated evidence—a pyramid whose apex points upward, without error.

Have no fear; prove all things. While the spirits in the other world are perfectly able to take care of themselves, and who never care to interfere with mortals, spirit communion will enable us to make this world better, beginning with our own individuality.

How many mortals continually mourn over the loss of their dear ones! I call this *interfering* with the so-called dead ones—as it is the unanimous wish of all spirits that we should *not* mourn for them.

Sometimes I am surprised that the spirits do not laugh at us when we call them dead, for they are very much alive, and can read our thoughts. They watch over us in our daily matters, seeking to guide and aid us in our progressive journey through life as we live by the way. They give us premonitions of danger; impressions form in and emanate from our consciousness which are so sudden or unpremeditated, that if we give credit to spirit-power for these wonderful impressions, it will be giving just due to their thoughtfulness.

More direct communication can be had with our departed ones if we throw aside prejudice and seek their good influence by means of mediumship.

Spiritualism has no foe. It stands alone as the truth. If error and superstition laugh at truth, so much the worse for them, as they are bound to topple over before reason.

Naturalism, freedom of thought, light instead of blindness of mind, liberty, honesty, fair dealing between mortals, advancement, morality, thought, are all advocated by Spiritualism—the unanimous teachings from our spirit ones.

It is so satisfactory to know that spirits always agree on matters of fact. Ask them questions on any religious subject whatever, and their answers are always substantially the same. Ask them about matters concerning life, death, morality, diseases, business, sociology, the planet Mars, past, present, future, etc., and there will be no perplexity for you over their answers. If you are sincere with your spirit ones they will offer no rebuff; if you trifle with them, confront them with hostile criticism, revile them or have thoughts of them that would make them unwelcome, they simply wait for you to change, while your punishment is entirely self-inflicted. They can afford to wait; you cannot.

This is a beautiful world that we are living in as mortals, although there are some drawbacks or exceptions, such as ignorance, selfishness, worry, greed and vanity that tend at times to cause discomfort and disquietude. But it is a desirable place to be happy in. Likewise immortality is desirable as it insures a blissful state of eternal existence.

But one need not hurry unnecessarily to reach the immortal sphere, because one life at a time is allotted to each individual. It is for us to regard this as purely a matter of evolution in

nature, and emphatically it has nothing to do with the ecclesiastical conception of immortality.

I distinctly wish to emphasize this statement, because the fact of life after death is *a fact of nature* and not an unqualified assertion of the church.

Immortality came before any or all church doctrine. Spiritualism with its teaching of a continuity of life, therefore, should be received as the system of instruction which brings truth as contrasted with religious belief that depends on self-constituted authority for its fountain head of knowledge.

Our spirit friends and relatives are ever ready and willing to enlighten us on these matters, and as Spiritualism always speaks in a plain straightforward manner, without any contradictions, the most skeptical become convinced of the reliability of declaration, through mediums, from the spirit-realm.

Truth is eternal and will survive all misstatements.

Spiritualism has no so-called sacred writings, no one book of authority, but every single message from spirit source is prompted by divine motives.

Let each of us seek and ask for a sacred message from our loved ones and under the proper conditions we will not be cast aside, no matter how sinful, poor, sceptical or unrepentant one may be.

It is well for us to learn as much as possible of

nature, and to increase the sum total of our well-being while here in the mortal sphere.

Spiritualist teaching favors these means of advancement for mortals; it does not ask us to yearn continually for celestial paradise. One world at a time—as immortality is bound to succeed the earthly existence sooner or later. The time for the transition is largely under the control of each person, as, for instance, imprudence may cause illness and premature death of the body. But the soul with its intelligence leaves the body at the moment of death in all persons and in every instance. Then one realizes what heaven means.

Heaven is the abode of spirits—everywhere, and hell, the imaginary place, is nowhere!

The spirits, accordingly, would have us eliminate all fear, and be guided by loving influence, so that peace, harmony and happiness can dwell in us always. Would you have it otherwise?

O, how thankful I am to know the practical truths of Spiritualism; to have its influence for my advancement.

It is too evident that the natural progress of mankind's mental powers has been seriously checked by unnatural and distorted conceptions of supernatural conditions.

The "dark ages" have been extended in a general way by false theological doctrine up to our present generation, so that our lives here are modified by a constant cloud of religious darkness or falsity.

Spiritualism has brought the light to me, and it has dispelled the dark clouds of misconception and religious misguidance from my spiritual vision. Spiritualism proves to be the blessed comforter, because it brings the whole truth of immortality, and proves its genuineness by giving the evidence of immortal life to any one who investigates.

My mental possession, therefore, can become yours for the asking, and you can share the fruitful knowledge of the truth of spirit-life, spirit-return and spirit-communion with the dead that are truly *living near us*, and blessings will be added unto you all, thereby, without cost and without price in your own home, if you so desire. You must do the seeking; plums do not drop into your mouth; they must be sought for.

Can you afford to miss the opportunity to solve the problem of life? Do you favor progress and science, or are you willing to have ignorance and superstition hold you in its deadening grasp, to clog your brain with the idle fancies of ridiculous churchianity and its fantastic legendary lore? Your answer, in reason, indicates that you choose fact not fiction—the provable reality, instead of the old fairy tale. Otherwise the loss would be entirely your own fault, as you possess the free-will and the firm determination to be a truth-seeker; and your highest mentor (your conscience) gives ample approval to right conduct.

The guardian angels will aid you without the

necessity of having any ritual, ancient ceremony or religious belief whatsoever.

Yes, the approach to Spiritualism is as simple as a narrow path, and a sincere desire to learn will prevent any straying or mishap.

Increased knowledge of life and education to more easily do the things at hand, urge and encourage one who embraces the facts of Spiritualism. It means a continuous gain to us and a loss of error only.

So any objections that may be brought against the truth cannot do any harm to Spiritualist teaching. At most they can only cause a little delay in reaching the goal of a ripe mental equipment. Spiritualism does not force its followers to give up their money as the churches do. It does not want obscenity; it believes in morals; and it would lessen wrong-doing. It teaches each and every one how to enjoy life happily, while they remain in this mortal sphere.

No doubt we all will realize the truth in Spiritualism because it will prevail; and we want to give all of the people the truth, not to deceive them.

All of us must go to immortal life where we will be triumphant and then be convinced.

On the minds of these converts, we are daily trying to impress the advice that they ought to shake off the shackles and be loyal to devotion, which is truly good and just as clear to you if you will accept it for your benefit.

Certain questions present themselves to me. Is

there life eternal after death, and who is authorized to teach it? It is established that we continue to live. Is it not idle to suppose that these things can be accepted on what faith alone we have in spirit-return, for those who earnestly and honestly ask these questions a rational and satisfactory answer must be given to them by *actual demonstration*? We all must begin with the inquiry, "Is there such a force after death?" and the answer comes: "Yes, positive and actual existence is sure." "How did this spirit existence come into force and into view?" all question at once. What is its end, and has it any fixed value? Yes. Because it extends farther than mortal life with its sweets and bitterness, beyond the grave.

To many would it not be bright and beautiful to know that we still continue to live on forever? This certainly depends on the conduct of each individual, whether he receives benefits from our spirit ones. But to the serious and honest mind resolutely bent upon a reasonable solution of the problem, those answers are worthy of acceptance.

Life should be worth living to all of us, and its ultimate goal should be within the reach of all of us. But if it begins and never ends (it does not end), we all have an accountability hereafter. What meaning can there be in such terms as virtue, honesty, morality, right and wrong? If these qualities have any positive existence, there are moral actions intrinsically capable of enforcement and which impose upon the conscience.

If there can be sin and impurity of thought, it

is obvious that this moral law must be self-enforcing.

Can such moral order have been created, and these laws prescribed by society upon a sociological theory that shuts out of view at once everything except the life of *this* world? And can it be possible that obedience to laws thus enacted constitutes the ultimate object of life, even life beyond the grave?

Is it true?

Is the true aim of life, the happiness of the individual? If so, I know that all the moral philosophies ever formulated by the human mind are utterly incapable of making us happy, for they are not from investigations of immortal life.

This life has positive value; happiness is attainable, and to those who are without it is unattainability their fault? Prosperity and adversity are distributed without the slightest reference to the private morality of the individual!

The thought presented itself to my mind with great distinctness and force, that there is a broader and higher view of life, and a solution that would place its aim within the reach of all of us. Happiness and love of some sort is the chief object of life. We struggle for it, although we all have obligations and duties in this life, as well as in immortal life.

There is no personal God, and so he is not our superior. SPIRITUALISM IS SUPERIOR POWER CAPABLE OF ENFORCEMENT, so its words are law and the truth, and we must accept

the belief that there is immortal life, and moral order for us to obey.

We are the negative, and Spiritualism is the proven positive; and their indulgence to us mortals is *solid facts*, nothing false, for *all assertions are proven*, and they are responsible for all statements uttered.

Spiritualism does not approve of alms-giving.

When we come into this mortal sphere, we do as we please so to speak, and we come here for the purpose of serving and glorifying the spirit-life. By recognizing them it means happiness to us mortals.

At our disposal is health, talent, property and whatever else we possess.

We creatures use these as we like; we are only stewards of them. If we do not use them or waste them we are the losers. They are not to be used for whims and fancies; we cannot use them to serve vanity, pride or luxury; and if we use them abusively, we do so at our peril.

We have a purpose in bringing this fundamental spirit-truth to the minds of all—that we cannot do as we please.

Every one of us should study the *effect* of alms-giving. We should have *love* for all, so that when we give to a neighbor we should make him feel that it is *not charity*. Spiritualism will teach you how to divide your revenues into parts for the benefit of all.

Notwithstanding the utter incongruity between mortal and spirit life, Spiritualism is true, wheth-

er it be regarded in its earlier or in its later centuries. So much must the Spiritualist grant, if such be true—as it is. We must not swallow idle assertions, but determine the facts.

Of late years it has become an argument with non-spiritualist controversialists that the national prosperity of the people is a proof that Spiritualism is not the true faith. Whether it be a true theory, depends on the sense in which the term “prosperity” is used. For it means peace among all; it needs no armies and navies to gain, by bloody victories of great military and naval world-power, the means of gaining gratifying results. For it advocates peace at all times and it is too bad that mortals cannot realize (asserting by these returning spirits) that it is beneficial to us mortals; and that it is true, not false.

We should adore them, for they try to teach us to progress. And what has common sense to say on the subject? Simply this, that they have no time to think, but they find time to think of how to accumulate money, which engrosses thought and labor—where Spiritualism would develop conditions and aid you to the highest character, which would be eminent sanctity for you after their own heart.

Do not think that millionaires as a class are looked upon as our most shining examples hereafter, because, after their arrival in spirit-land, sometimes they become meek and low. They see that they have not practiced self-denial too long for good in mortal life.

No matter if they have built hospitals and founded libraries, that was no proof that the benefactor had the spirit of good!

Experience teaches. So let us all embrace Spiritualism, for it gives its lessons in common sense of their own experience which is confirmed by experience and history of the future life.

Spiritualism wants to pour the blessing of wealth, power and magnificence upon us, destroying superstition and fear. From it power and progress will become applied; and if you have good judgment you will recognize it. The success of Spiritualism depends more upon the characteristics of the individual and his faith; then it is that Spiritualism becomes a factor, and it will prosper.

We have to test the purity of people's faith by their advocacy and determination to apply all of its teachings, so as to enable them to be given satisfactory proof that this life exists beyond the grave.

It has its roots even in old pagan times. Some think that these statements, thoughts and expressions are far-fetched, but this is a true speech from an honest medium who has investigated, and who feels its advantages, and who wants others to do the same; availing ourselves at all times, to receive our spirit ones. We all can perceive that the relations are always harmonious and which, to my mind, are divine.

There are plenty of mediums anxiously waiting

to interpret and teach all constituting Spiritualism.

Did you ever think that life is greater than any formula—scientific, philosophic, literary or artistic—by which we attempt to express it? It is to be believed in and loved, as being something higher and mightier than we can know. It is divine. And perfect goodness is felt, when we cling consciously to Spiritualism with all the strength of the will and all the fervor of the heart.

If you do not find good teaching in the spirits, you will not find it anywhere!

The truth which spirits teach will penetrate the midst of the hearts of even those who are slow to recognize it.

So our spirit ones will visit each individual one of us, and we should cherish it as though they were assisting us to guide our changes.

Spiritualism is advancing (and the phenomena are receiving the attention of science) because it is the eternal truth and must be expressed by its followers. All arguments against same help to influence the firm establishment of the belief that our life is eternal.

In order to be good Spiritualists we will have to assert and exhibit as intelligent beings, pointing plainly to demonstrated facts; so as not to perplex those just beginning to understand, there must be used all successful methods to analyze its truthfulness to their satisfaction.

The matter of life beyond the grave has been culled by some of the ablest writers, and this book

will be a valuable reference and aid to all investigators.

The average person probably learns of facts concerning personal hygiene and their common diseases; your spirit ones can give you instruction on these points, which would be startling; also, they can give you suggestions how to care for yourself, many times, without the aid of a physician. Their influence will show you what you have to undergo, so as to rise to your place in immortal life.

CHAPTER VIII.

What I would like to impress on the individual mind is—TO DESTROY SUPERSTITION, and not to think that Spiritualism is illogical, because it is not popular.

Freedom and science have succeeded in spite of the church-teachings, and it will progress among the civilized people who understand that the orthodox are a “back-number” in freedom, industry and general intelligence.

WE ARE LIVING IN AN AGE OF PROGRESSION!

Spiritualism is particular about its views and teachings; it attempts to conceal nothing. Its institution is full and conclusive. THE CHURCH MAKES SLAVES OF YOU, but Spiritualism is the revelation of life hereafter. The church tries to make you worship something that is a fairy-tale. Fairy-tales will do for children—not for full-fledged human beings who understand!

Occurrence shows that they teach no wrongs; its value is in its support of TRUTH. It should be more widely spread, for it will surely do good to the individual. IT IS PLAIN IN ITS MANNER. Every thing relating to it is CLEAR, and its relationship, therefore, is more valued.

The spirits need no coaxing along, as do most people in this mortal sphere. They propagate

their opinions, and they hope for evolution of thought. After death we will follow the same pursuits, so as to advance ourselves.

Some are always ready to put up an argument, and force us to listen to same; and when they have finished, they have not even a vision of the subject which they have been trying to argue on. Their arguments are completely demolished, because they could not PRODUCE EVIDENCE to convict. There is nothing like FACTS; they talk, in an argument.

Never mind what arguments come up for or against. Just remember that if you are a Spiritualist you are on the right track, and that it will land you safely; no false teaching can do the same.

Spiritualism is the great incubus that is perpetually haunting and troubling the dreams of the mortal. Many try to ignore it, but it obtrudes itself upon their unwilling notice.

They would fain remand it to a place among the effects of superstition of the past; but when one stops to think, he finds that Spiritualism is not a vast shadow but ever present.

In every social movement, and in the literature of the day, you may find to be distinctly discerned, the mysterious presence of the great spiritual organization. The mortals have always been puzzled to account for this influence of spirit-return. There is nothing unearthly or mysterious about it, but in the life of Spiritualism, and in the progress of it, there is something which defies every

attempt at rational and systematic explanation. To be sure, we are obliged to recognize the truth as it is told, and this is as satisfactory as one might wish, for it is marvelous.

Is it not the thinker who finds for himself, while examining the claims of Spiritualism? And it will never quarrel with those who are ignorantly doing no good for themselves, much less for the good cause.

Spiritualism only wants us mortals to be the spirits' temple, and our hearts their sacred altar, where gratitude is offered.

The command of Spiritualism is to show us good from evil. They act as our agents, and we mortals are under obligations to yield ourselves to their obedience.

We are endowed with intelligence and supernaturally illumined by faith, so that those who refuse to hear and obey are out-cast. To serve our spirit ones, is true happiness, to-day, yesterday and forever; but one must know it, and he must begin as soon as he knows it. Many never know it. Many who know it never begin; many who begin do not continue or continue so badly or so feebly that their search for true happiness becomes an addition to the sense of weariness and aversion which accompanies false happiness.

There is much to learn from Spiritualism, because it is attractive. And we acknowledge that it is tolerated with that which develops; and it is unsurpassable, for it helps us humans in this sphere of life here.

Starting with a belief in Spiritualism which is certainly wonderful to me, as is my own existence, I will say that I allow no doubts to engulf me. Enlighten yourself.

Now I will tell you a little story:

I often receive the spirit ones in my home. Some would not believe this if I told them. I believe it, and I shall follow at all cost the extraordinary way in which they are leading me. You need all of your courage. Your friends will despise you and you will get little sympathy from non-believers. You will be distrusted, but you must keep your faith steadfast, and courage you will receive. It never will be refused, because it is amply sufficient for the needs of us mortals. The lapse of time will prove that this spirit-life beyond the grave, indeed, is the light that will lead you, and I want to impress its truth upon others who may be in a condition to be benefited by it.

My life has been like a road illuminated at night by lights within whose circle of light all was clear and by which I shaped my course. Even then, the dual nature within me was in force, a nature that on one hand gave me the name of tom-boy, and on the other hand forced me to constant undercurrents of thoughtfulness, of striving to find out the why and wherefore of all that came within my consciousness.

I remember on one occasion of which I speak, how trifling and petty the things (that seemed so interesting to those grown people) suddenly appeared to me, and the childish contempt they

awakened. I said to myself, that it would be a misfortune to grow up, if there were nothing better to busy myself with. And it must have been then, that the full distinct consciousness of Spiritualism awoke in me, for I asked myself, "What shall I do then?" The answer came: "Well, I am here, and I did not put myself here." I must have been made for some purpose! So then I resolved to model my own life on other lines, and to make my influence not only good, but as far reaching as possible.

I accept Spiritualism as a great truth.

I am earnest when I declare that it seems to me to be a great success, and just what I want; nothing seems void nor singularly lacking in any of its qualities.

I believe firmly that it is my absolute duty to obey it; for all this in my judgment has taken shape in my mind by a process which I distinctly recall, and how amazed I was.

When I say that I am a Spiritualist, it is because it teaches us not to be selfish, and it means interest in humanity; and it is evolutionary, because it builds itself up to the utter exclusion which makes for the development; and particularly, it gives us a kindly impulse.

Some say that it will hurt domestic affairs, or will interfere with business. This is the saying of those unscrupulous ones who are brutal in character and are reckless.

Everything may go in this life struggle—religion, creeds, family affection, friends.

Concrete evidence of the facts is cropping up continually. It is not such a long time since we learned this.

We must remember that Spiritualism is our master for *good*. Neither does it require an exceptionally brilliant intellect to perceive this.

It is not a boastful claim on our part when we say that life is eternal; and we must believe that spirit-return is mutual, for they are as interested as we are.

The whole existence means nothing more nor less than conscious life after we leave the mortal life.

The general impression is that *we cannot learn too much* while on this mortal plane. On the other hand, some think that they can comprehend everything, here and hereafter, but it is a deep study.

Spiritualism is a practical help to us mortals, for it wants to do good and help us mortals. So we will feel assured that it is beneficial, not harmful, to us mortals. These are established facts which can be easily proven to those persons interested enough to spare the time to investigate it.

We are at the age of progress, so we want to progress and advance, to be ready for meeting our loved ones on the immortal plane.

I consider that this is a great satisfaction, to know, really, that we meet again, in a higher sphere of life, where things are more congenial for all.

An opportunity is offered to those who wish to

avail themselves to possess knowledge of the true life-existence beyond the grave, which seems to be puzzling to many who cannot comprehend it to their satisfaction; so they give it a black eye, so to speak.

This book will be a book of hope, because it will bring about unity of mortals with the immortals; and you must confess that there is only one way.

You do Spiritualism injustice if you think as I have gathered from it, that I hear you speak contemptuously of it.

But you must recollect the reason why we all want the truth and salvation which is found in Spiritualism. This necessarily led me and leads me to wish others to have it; to the position where you will put yourselves forward to become teachers of a truth which they cannot trace to any set of men, or any doctor before themselves.

One who does not give up the historical documents of theological authors may maintain that Spiritualism is blasphemy against the church, but we must accept facts, existing and bearing out the truth.

The day will come when you will believe it, and will confess that Spiritualism has been no dream. Take its teachings now!

The spirit ones' night watches are tolled out for us all; they soothe our stricken breast. They never cease to sing to us the everlasting truth of eternal life.

Spiritualism needs no support of the church in order to secure recognition. All it requires is for

the individuals who are heavy-laden to come, and they will receive rest, which is one of the chief promises of Spiritualism. It will aid you physically, economically and morally, and this is what the churches fail to do. We will gain satisfaction through spirit advice.

Who govern the elements and understand nature's teachings from A to Z? That is one thing which we mortals are short of, because we are so apt to not do what is beneficial for us. Whereas, if we watch nature carefully, we will all gain by its teachings, and we will not have so many ailments to contend with; and suffering will be abolished to a vast extent.

Now is the time for each individual to do his best for this great cause, which has facts for you to deal with,—no superstition or doubt to deal out to us weak mortals,—simply true unadulterated FACTS. Facts are for the teacher to deal out, by giving you demonstrated facts that cannot be clouded by the greatest prophecy that we have to-day.

We all will sooner or later understand its teachings to be the standard to go by.

We need no preachers of high salary to help us to other spheres of life. Leave it to your spirit ones who have entered immortal life; they will be your benefactor, and will aid you along, without cost or reward. And they are anxious to assist us mortals who find it so hard to receive the truth.

O, this is certainly a great thing for us mortals if we would only receive it with open hearts and

not always be thinking that there is a doubt about us returning! Return of spirits to the mortal sphere of life means progression and universal happiness for all who seek their teachings, for the better life to come to us, when we reach the immortal portal where we shall understand what is what to our satisfaction.

Understand, we do not ask impossibilities, or teach them, either; we simply are trying to open your eyes to facts which are beneficial to the individual. Nor is there any force in the objection that the word "purgatory" is not found in scripture. Where is the word "trinity" to be met with? Where is the word "incarnation" to be found in scripture? Where are many other terms held most sacred in religion? These names were not given till circumstances rendered it necessary to blind mortals and hold them fast.

The grave has an unspeakable terror for all. Why do not the churches (that teach false things to frighten us mortals) speak the truth, and not keep us afraid?

By the results of Spiritualism, it is hoped to bring about its logical principles; and it will surely gain its ground and grow. Who could contradict its right, reason and law—which are facts, not lies?

Shakespeare borrowed from Jaques the aphorism put on the lips of Petronius, "All the world's a stage, and all men and women merely players." We all know that he was not a player, but a worker selected by spirit-power. A workman and a serv-

ant who fails to grasp the truth is but a trifler, incapable of aught that is great in thought or deed.

There is but one true religion, if we call it so, which springs from LOVE OF GOOD, *manifesting its deeds daily*.

Spiritualism will fill you full of righteousness.

We mortals cannot comprehend all. All we mortals know is that we must pass on, and we must acknowledge, and unanimously be convinced of the fundamental authority of the spirit-power, which is shown by the following considerations among us mortals:

Spiritualism must spread all over the world, as it is the most sure way of preserving the truth.

We hear from the medium's own lips (which is evidence to every creature) that he or she is commanded as Christ commanded his apostles to write. So the medium is commanded to do the spirit one's wishes.

Faith comes by hearing.

There is *no evidence* that Spiritualism is not true. Many who have investigated have received it with approval.

All of us mortals have a right to believe as we choose, to judge for ourselves and to practice as we receive instructions.

We all must live our lives, and we can live it pure or not.

Spiritualism belongs to that range of things that is *evolutionary*, whether you other mortals want it or not; it is for human development, which is bound to come.

Just as we mortals change and *grow*, we will understand more.

Spiritualism cannot be avoided, because it is a course of *nature*.

So many objections are made against Spiritualism which are displaced, but to this no objection can re-appear, because we, as spiritualists, can overthrow them and can open your eyes by giving every one a chance.

Spiritualism will generally change your conditions, inspiring you on to a successful life. It also shows you how to fight off temptations. Spiritualism gives you strength to stand your daily grievances, etc.

So many shrug their shoulders when they hear it said that you are a spiritualist. For my part, it gives me much comfort and encouragement, for Spiritualism is true. And yet, wonderful to say, amidst all, Spiritualism is ever finding its own. One after another they will be drawn in. They begin, prompted by curiosity, perhaps they go on to doubt whether there is not *some* truth in Spiritualism, after all. They inquire. They hesitate, not daring to act. Some go back, others persevere and become spiritualists. Those who do so, have many trials, but amid them all, they have the presence of their loved ones, which helps to make trials easy, and afflictions sweet.

Let us be grateful for the fact that amid our severest trials and difficulties, we may have the grace of our spirit ones to aid us stand firm.

Very soon, it will be nothing at all to us whether

we have been rich or poor, honored or despised by men, cherished or abandoned by friends; but *it does matter if we are aided by the spirit-power*; and if, indeed, we are earnest and sincere in striving to know all about Spiritualism. From that moment, unspeakable, infinite, everlasting joy is yours!

The time is short. The fashion of the world in the mortal sphere passes away.

The influence received from Spiritualism directs your course.

As a tree is known by the fruit, so is spiritualistic training, alone, to bear its fruits to us mortals.

Consider it more closely, since the glory of Spiritualism and the happiness of our fellow-creatures may be promoted by various means, by command or by example, according to the condition and disposition of each.

The advantage of that is manifest. Besides those who are engaged in active and everyday life, there are also among the spiritualists, contemplative men, who, abandoning the cares of life and trampling its pleasures underfoot, devote their whole being to the contemplation of the deity, and the admiration of his works, or who, freed from personal concern, apply themselves exclusively to watching and relieving the necessities of others; while some instruct the ignorant and commend Spiritualism to us, which alone can preserve. Spiritualism alone produces and

makes us cherish her illustrious examples of the eminent virtues, and of life beyond the grave.

Wherefore, I confess that I have ardently admired spiritualist teachings. Its teachings are governed according to supreme order, which is used by all universal spirits.

For what can be more glorious than to carry the light to all!

For it certainly is a pleasure and even enjoyment to hold conversation with the departed, which is education, and it consoles the wretched and despairing.

Let us feast, because in Spiritualism, holy joys are crowned, and from each loving breast, the voice of gladness sounds.

Let everything be understood: that Spiritualism is law.

Although we mortals are weak and frail, yet through Spiritualism we shall receive the required strength. We can meekly ask, and they will visit us soon and conduct us along the right path.

We all shall live to see the tolerance of Spiritualism, which embraces high and low, and allows us to use the perfect way to devise what is correct for mortals to believe; and it teaches us to live in peace and harmony, and not to distress ourselves about mere trifling formalities.

Let us now turn and contemplate the promises which Spiritualism is sure to succeed in accomplishment, if you have faith. Our greatest enemy is the church which wants darkness—but mortals

no longer abide by its teachings, *because they have common sense.*

We are daily approaching feelings of discouragement, for the mortals are so slow to open their eyes, where it is a question of the reasonableness of the principles of Spiritualism, which utterance from them is frequent, understood, and certainly should be appreciated, for it is founded on facts. It is simple enough. It is one of elementary principles.

We spiritualists hold that our theory will find complete application, as it is an ideal condition.

Spiritualism proves that your natural right of self-protection is to be appealed to only when every other means have been exhausted, and then when our advice is accepted by mortals.

We are a living organic body, with that power of development natural to all of its kind, political or spiritual.

CHAPTER IX.

There is but one truth that springs from the manifestation of spirit-life itself to us: that *we live on forever* and we should always try to be righteous.

Spiritualism promotes divine love.

We cannot know all of the future, and yet we know that we shall pass from one sphere to another one, where there is no ending. Life is only a journey, which mortals have to travel through until they reach what is the so-called "result-of-your-labors."

We find that knowledge of immortality is daily gaining ground. We are forced to admit the growth of vice. But is it not, too, the reason why we need to spread Spiritualism, to open eyes, and allow them to *think*, so as to denounce all that is not good?

In talking with the spirit ones, you receive counsel and advice which is perfect in the practice of virtue, and in the following of Spiritualism, which is binding on all.

Always be clean of heart, and charitable. But it is not expected of all that they should sacrifice their whole store for the benefit of the poor. If they will interest themselves, they can establish an organization *in their own home, where their DEPARTED LOVED ONES CAN COME AND*

MINGLE AMONG THEM, *and give them sweet and hopeful communications*, so that they can triumph once more in sweet love and hope.

A small word like "air" indicates potentiality, beyond comprehension, — both destructive and creative. Uncontrolled, its force and fury cannot be successfully opposed; but confined, it is made obedient to the will of man, and will create what it has destroyed. Without it having been forced into control by the modern compressor and put to practical use, the world's progress would have been very materially retarded. Industries would have been checked, and wildness would still exist where centres of manufacturing are now found. Progress is inevitable. But the rapid progress that has characterized the present age would not have been possible without the pneumatic tools so extensively used today in the development of coal mines and in the construction of the immense carriers of merchandise upon the seas. And the erection of the modern steel structures in our cities would have been impossible. This all has demonstrated its vital importance and necessity in modern progress. Electricity has played an equally important part, with its application to mechanical arts; and the progressive machine-shop could not exist today, without its air or electrically driven drills and other tools and accessories of ideal power.

Just so with Spiritualism and its power, which is ideal to the mortal. Its progress is an aid to the mortals in this life, and *its* electricity plays

an important part for us mortals, with the progressive power which comes to us through the air.

Air is necessary for life, here and hereafter. We certainly must have air; and nourishment comes next, for the human body. Open your windows at night; air is power then, because there is not so much dust in the air, which is bad for mortals. Mortals cannot get too much fresh air, for life existence depends on same.

Spiritualism leads us mortals by our own desires. It is the best beloved good that is offered to mortals, which should be glorified, as it is so much desired.

LET THE SPIRIT WILL BE DONE—is the sum of all true worship and right of Spiritualism.

I do not think that mortals can blame others if pain and loss come to teach us.

Spiritualism is indeed beginning to spread, and we mortals note the increase with great gladness.

Mediums are doing wonderful good to others, as they help to spread the truth of Spiritualism and thus arouse progress. O, if we all could be well equipped with our own ability, so as to thoroughly arouse, we could look forward to the future, indeed, for great progress; but at present we fear that some things are against us, so to establish Spiritualism and its honest claims.

For us mortals, Spiritualism is a development which makes us have closer relations with our spirit ones.

So mortals should feel dependent upon spirit-

power, because it shows us mortals how to feel independent.

Every person is his own architect, so he has to judge everything for himself wholly.

So many ask this question, "Is mortal life worth living?" You can have your life noble or not; you are boss of your own individual self; there is pity and tears, and some have to dig their way along through mortal life.

Those people who become perfectly satisfied with their mortal condition are in slavery; different vibrations set their hearts in motion, different thoughts stimulate them, but if they would only grasp spiritualist views, they would not be so ignorant. For this great truth they would receive some benefited good.

I shall continue to say it—that Spiritualism is something that is necessary for happier conditions. It is all trash to say, "Everything ends here in this mortal sphere." Your march continues on forever; and we mortals will, sooner or later, have to acknowledge this declaration as truth.

The chief lack among mortals is that they are slow to conceive facts, but there is a steady increase of more persons who acknowledge that there is life beyond the grave.

When we learn about something that is good, it becomes our duty to so educate another, and to propagate the truth by example. Thereby, one loses nothing, and gets his reward. I am very glad to teach spiritualist truth to anybody. Even

an illiterate person can readily learn about spirit-return, spirit-life and spirit-communication. Do you stand for the uplift of the individual? For education which is founded on the knowledge of facts from the standpoint of evolution, of unfoldment according to nature's provisions? Such is Spiritualism. And it never ceases to mean advancement for us all, whether we embrace it now, or later, when we pass the portal. Then of course, it will be made plain to everybody, just as evident as mortal life is now an established fact to every one of us. Those of us who care to employ reason, can catch preliminary glimpses of the life which is immortal. This cannot hurt us in any conceivable way. It means benefit and preparation, and progress. And surely, all of us want to know of all the good things in life, and to gain possession of them. First cast all fear aside, then you will gain the necessary knowledge and wisdom.

Mediums are our aid, as they progress under instruction received from spirit power; and yet it is wonderful to say, that our own are able to be among us after death; and with them comes devotion. It certainly is blessed, because it is solid facts, and its express purpose is to develop us mortals, and to establish facts by example of our immortal life.

Yet strangely enough, every person is apt to complain of Spiritualism, and some object to it without discussing the question. It is permissible for mortals to personally satisfy their faith.

Spiritualist teachings are clear, and your conscience will answer the question moderately. To the superior-minded, it will make yourself believe it, because the light is clear for those who will follow and recognize. Nothing but good results will follow from extended thought through the medium; it is a key, by which means, successfulness comes to mortals.

It is impossible to supply to those who will not accept the knowledge, which is safe and practical. One can ascertain if it is judicious and wise, as he will inquire for information regarding the possibility of this immortal life,—which surely exists, whether we mortals fully realize it or not. Facts count in this mortal life, also in the immortal life,—which is life forever. And there is no way of getting out of it,—or around it,—by mortals who so many times doubt it.

The people will realize that they have been throttled by the church system, which tried to control your privileges, and it had a tendency to concentrate more and more power over mortals. Mortals have passed through one of the most important epochs. But individuals have found great victory over the church, through teachings which bring them to higher heights, TO THINK, which gives them achievement to do something elevating—and that is SPIRITUALISM.

Some people can give you a good handshake and make you feel at home.

I do not like to talk about myself. I dislike to use the pronoun “I” any more than is necessary,

but in these days, we find the people more awakened to church graft—and people have suffered abuse from that source.

I am trying to furnish knowledge and instructions on the phenomena, so that you mortals can detect the real conditions for happiness. From what I have just told you, you can draw your own conclusions with good judgment and experience ripened to the facts of truth obtained by being a spiritualist.

I have no respect for any religion that lives by making its followers ignorant.

I conscientiously ask mortals to understand that we live on forever.

Spiritualism will satisfy. I shall feel satisfied—but not today, not while in mortal sphere; but when my soul has winged its flight to the immortal sphere, then I shall know the fulness of life; because nothing can divide or disturb, I know that I shall be satisfied there.

One here below is never satisfied, because too much sorrow comes to one in the mortal life to fill one with woe. Sickness often comes to blight, and friends depart to the immortal sphere where they find the portals open wide to receive them. No distinction is made, rich or poor are all the same, and all are welcome to enter there.

I feel satisfied. Friends, what of you?

This age will soon be gone. We will be through with our passion, and desires in the mortal shall end. No more things to gratify shall we need

when we pass through on the immortal sphere—we will soon be *saved* and satisfied.

This mortal life amounts to little, after all, and it only has a short course to run. So turn your attention to Spiritualism, for it will guide and make you satisfied, as we all are children of woes, and more-or-less sorrow we know.

But O, what peace of mind Spiritualism brings to one. And it gives you joy, with encouragement.

Bless the day when all earthly sorrow in the mortal sphere passes away, and finds us at rest. And I hope to meet all of my friends in the happy realm in immortal life, where all of the faithful abide. I shall be happy then, and satisfied.

Swiftly the day has gone. It passes on forever, never more to return, and we mortals must be satisfied. Night shades hasten our clinging to protection. So come to Spiritualism, and receive the blessing at the closing of the day, when, with silence and darkness around us, you shall love the light that Spiritualism brings. Many fond thoughts it will bring, so accept it.

Spiritualism is a faith that protects and gives assurance to the individual that there is no death. It is with difficulty that I express myself so plainly; but it is beyond a question that life is immortal.

Its sweet messages of hope are brought to mankind, and it cannot be set aside, because we have to give them counsel. And it must be tolerated by the individual, for under the influence of their teaching we are beneficiaries,—which to some seems immoderate, but we can cite so much which

is evidence of personal benefit received from the spirits, who can characterize any teachings.

Each individual can determine exactly what is correct, after understanding thoroughly the various methods of knowledge which Spiritualism manifests to each one.

Any one is able to be a follower and a believer, in what is taught and demonstrated. And we should rejoice in the progress. We should be willing to receive it. Those who fail to recognize it, lack obedience to their spirit ones' will, which is full of goodness and is deserving of recognition as real, as it brings *good*.

I must call your attention to the fact that we all have to pass through the trying ordeal of so-called death—but it is just a step—enabling us to awaken to our spiritual understanding of the truth, which places us in a perfect sphere of life everlasting which marks our growth (as sowers watch the seed), and after so-called death we reach the goal of satisfaction. Our loved ones pass ahead, standing with outstretched hand to welcome us to our immortal home, where we grow in power and purity, and we then are able to translate the knowledge to mortals if they are prepared to receive our greetings,—which always brings peace and good-will *to all*.

Spiritualism is the truth, and all can declare it as such, because our spiritual existence is sure; and we all can rejoice.

Science has gone to the root of it. It reveals to scientists deeper meaning than was dreamed of

before, for it embraces and unites us mortals with the immortals. This is the truth; and it must be recognized, as it is never obsolete but ever active—ever operative. It wants to destroy all that is *false*.

Spiritualism wants us mortals to unite for the sublime purpose of acting and speaking only what is from the true basis—teaching us *harmony* to all.

What is more gratifying than to know that the signs of the times are most encouraging for the truth of Spiritualism—which is a high ideal?

So many ridicule, and deem it a duty to do so, instead of searching for the truth, which would aid and give them full realization of the facts that would banish superstition out of their thoughts and realize that the teaching is correct; it lifts the veil and shows the light of truth to humanity (which is partially awakening to the knowledge that gives one the full light). It is a great truth. It unfolds to mortals.

Spiritualism works good for the mortals—not evil—so we all should receive it, and listen to its teachings. We may learn how the truth can make us progress and grow to understand the unfoldment of good in the truth.

We mortals should listen, for it will give us rest. No one knows this better than those who have sought and found it so. They sought the divine guidance and listened to the governing principle. They now have no fear, as it is true.

Speak with great earnestness when you meet

people inquiring about Spiritualism, for they are the ones who are seeking knowledge of the eternal life and are anxious to learn all concerning it.

So many seem to know that there is something radically wrong with the preaching of the nominal churches of today, but they cannot fully understand how it is. There are so many who are hungry for the truth, ready to receive truth, and who would not dodge it, either. So to this class—those who seek knowledge and facts—we should endeavor to make plain.

Instinctively, the most intelligent are repelled with the thought that Spiritualism would pursue a course to elevate the most degraded people in the immortal sphere.

To tell the truth to the people even on so simple a subject as spirit-return and life eternal and give evidence that it is true, the majority of people have faith, but they are afraid of the hidden facts which are manifested through spirit-return.

Some think that it is evil spirits who return;—no such thing—they never come to manifest anger, malice, hatred, envy, strife, bitterness, slander, etc.,—which some folks think they do. They are misunderstood—that return to the mortal is beneficial, not detrimental to us mortals.

Instinctively, truth-telling provokes some. None can judge another heart, but all should be able to judge Spiritualism and the life benefits it offers to mortals.

The majority of people know that it is true, but they keep their views on the subject hidden; but

when it becomes popularized, such teachings will unite all to know its blessings, which it promises about everlasting life after death.

Notwithstanding the plain statements of its kindness toward those who are deceiving themselves—the vast majority—it has wonderful blessings provided for all spiritualists.

Spiritualism is separated from all human institutions; and only saintly lives, (regardless of denomination) are members of the true views of Spiritualism.

No sacrifice is necessary to fit us for eternal life. Sympathy and knowledge of spirit-return give us strength, for its belief is so uplifting to us mortals who are so weak. Just as soon as you put your faith in Spiritualism, you will accomplish much.

Messages are received by those who see; and it does seem so good when we receive one of these messages. For nineteen centuries the messages have been going hither and thither quickly, and spirits, returning, have lifted up a light which the world—the nominal people—have been shown.

If their hopes were merely in the present life we would make miserable failures; but not so—we walk with faith and we await reward at the spirit-coming, which gives joy and peace and offsets all trials and difficulties, for we are glad to know that there is hope in future happiness beyond this sphere.

All should have a desire to embrace the truth; it should not require a long time to bring mortals

to moral attention,—so as to glory, honor, and accept the truth.

Knotty problems of theology are all very well for clergymen to discuss and consider, but for us, let us direct our thought toward the real matter of supreme importance to us mortals, which is a continuous life from the mortal to the one in the eternal form of existence. Of course, the thinking individual invariably wants proof of the assertion to be furnished to him, so that the final result or conclusion will give perfect satisfaction. And it is quite proper to demand the proof. Spiritualism carries mental conviction, inasmuch as it is able to show conclusively to any adult mind that the so-called dead can and do return to us. A clairvoyant can see the spirits and a clairaudient can hear the spirit voices. It becomes logically possible for us to receive communications, therefore, through the medium. So many persons are more-or-less mediumistic; some are fairly developed as mediums, while there are others who might be termed experts in mediumship. Seek and you shall find the way, the life and the truth of Spiritualism.

While the phenomena which accompanies the fact of spirit-return are demonstrated daily, repeatedly and continuously, all minds are not alike, therefore each person must be convinced in his own way. In some way, however, the truth is bound to reach.

CHAPTER X.

What is the use of entering into discussion over the problem of Spiritualism? All those who have embraced Spiritualism will admit the comfort and support it has been to them in the hours of sorrow and suffering. It is certainly the source of happiness.

Spiritualism deals with two things: first, with the conduct and duties of mortals. Second, with our future,—which is knowledge to us mortals.

Spiritualism should strengthen, guide and comfort, and not be a source of argument. Do your best to spread this truth, for it gives us the conception of future life.

Our conscience should be a steady guide, for Spiritualism was intended to bring peace on earth and divine love, for Spiritualism teaches the divine law. Doubt will confuse and make one hesitate to profess an opinion for which common sense and judgment show that it is foolish to doubt and resist the truth.

Spiritualism has solved questions that mortals could not master. Spiritualism is well worth the thought and study. To arrive at the truth we should be obedient to our loved ones in spirit life, who however do not ask us to be martyrs. But we realize that Spiritualism is for justice, teaching us on this point; and every assertion which

spirits make is for the mortal's good, we may be sure. Sceptics are those who are always troubled by doubts and anxiety.

We spiritualists have hope of progress, and we look forward to the time when scientific inquiry shall spread and actively progress. The future will reveal and increase this knowledge; for the spirit phenomena which summons us mortals, may afford advantages and raise us to appreciate and enjoy the advantages—to realize the truth that the light of Spiritualism is demonstrating to us, for in it there is joy.

Nothing can tend to retard progress. We spiritualists are beginning to realize the marvelous range of spirit thought, phenomena and power; and we are aware of the extensive scientific investigation, and thought in the public mind, over the acknowledged demonstrations of discarnate beings.

The word Spiritualism cannot be defined as yet satisfactorily to all mortals.

Although the investigation of this momentous question has been the cause of producing much uneasiness among mortals, it remains unsolved by many up to the present date, because fear is the cause.

We have no desire to avoid such a very important question,—which the learned men of all times, and through all generations deemed great, have attempted to solve to their satisfaction. It causes much meditation. And this life after death, and spirit return, Spiritualism daily en-

deavors to make plain to the learned. So many have false ideas; but it has fundamental principles. Yet so many are of the opinion that our existence ends here.

We all have what we call dreams which enchant us, and make us feel the infinite past with all of its mysteries plainly before us, and with lovely faces which are faces of loved ones manifested. These are visible and we realize that they are with us.

But since we began to know and learn that the departed can come, all is vivid and sunshine to us mortals and it thrills us to know that we can see our loved ones. This is impressed deeply upon us by Spiritualism and we know that the invisible is ever near us, smiling and giving cheer in heart-broken trials that we mortals often meet with in this sphere here.

Cultivate yourself to feel that Spiritualism is an aid to mortals. And discuss it when you can, with those who are anxious to understand its principles and to become spiritualists.

Some talk as if they never can find satisfactory results, and they murmur at the spirits for not being plainer; but they always get unexpected results that make it plain, and then they feel that there is "something in it," but "don't quite understand it."

* * *

So many scoff at Spiritualism and predict it false, but nevertheless it has grown, and it will be known everywhere.

It will bring about changes in individuals' lives, and it shows them the right path to take for success.

SUCCESS.

The glad free choice of loving all things well,
Filled with that happiness of love divine,
Whatever thy lot, the sun for thee doth shine,
Whose genial brightness all thy doubts expel.
When Nature opens wide her heart to thee,
Stand thou in reverential reverie,
Till, charmed by her beauties that do excel,
In blissful meekness from the world set free,
Abiding in the light of faith and love,
To win the crown awaiting thee above,
Where loved ones, who love you, will then appear.

* * *

Who would not fight life's battle to possess
A victory o'er self which brings success?

CHAPTER XI.

The world is shrouded in blindness, seeking blindly for the light; Spiritualism has given the key to knowledge; so now strive with all of your intelligence to spread the message of Spiritualism.

Spiritualism,—'tis truth complete. Be a living example of it to those you may happen to meet.

Enter the spiritual vineyard where all is love—they stand to gladly welcome you there; 'twill repay all efforts made. Each individual brings his own salvation. Heed the spirit voices when heard. Everything they do is so consciously a success that you'll surely gain.

With all thoughts, word and action, as you soweth spiritual return, so you'll reap.

There, your atonement is justice, and truth receives full pay. Remember, you grow in Spiritualism, and through it reach the highest goal; for at the gate of the immortal world, deeds done in the body are toll.

Spiritualism guides, illumines! Breathe, concentrate, be alive!

Peace, prosperity and perfection, come only through Spiritualism.

When you are within the portals of spiritual paradise, hark, a voice: "Well done, my faithful followers, immortal victory is yours, rejoice!"

Spiritualism is expressed in many forms of character, just as an actor on the stage, under dif-

ferent circumstances, personates and appears in many characters, although it is all done by one person.

O, how many people we hear say, "If I could only receive a message from my loved ones who have passed to spirit-life!"

Just remember that you *do* receive messages every day, but you seemingly have closed your eyes and ears to those who are trying to let you hear their voices and are trying to manifest their presence, so that you may realize that they still hover around you.

If persons would just realize that our intelligence does not end here!

This is why your spirit ones like to return, bringing messages of peace, love and happiness to the individual,—so as to express themselves and show you that intellect progresses the same as in the mortal sphere of life.

Just listen in silence when everything is as still as the night and you are in a mood for concentration, and take notice how different you feel—and what wonderful inspiration comes to you when you are in harmony with your loved ones in the other sphere of life.

Tune your ears, just as the old violinist tunes his violin in harmony with the piece which he is to render. Just so with yourself, to bring about the desired results so that you can hear a whisper from your loved ones in the immortal sphere, which will thrill your soul and advance your welfare,—as they always come for *beneficial* results.

Always, when occasion arises, when you feel that things are going wrong, and things seem unjust and your environment uncongenial, try to overlook any shortcomings, and just put your trust in Spiritualism, which is able to transform all apparent evil into good. Beautiful scenes with picturesque views are demonstrated by the spirit ones through their mediums who are their instruments which are in tune with them for their use.

There is nothing common in the spiritual world—it is all a paradise.

The purpose of Spiritualism is to lift you all out of the darkness and show the idealistic life here and hereafter.

O, what great progression Spiritualism is now making in this age,—and much sought after,—for the door is open to all who want to investigate and become workers for the cause, and it teaches us how to have prosperity and perfect health. And it also teaches us how to cultivate his or her highest nature in the mortal life, so as to prepare ourselves for the immortal one.

Without some knowledge, we cannot understand anything; so it is absolutely necessary that we should know something of the life to come hereafter.

We mortals are like links of chain—all connected; so we are obliged to study, so that we can understand the philosophy of events, and learn what is before us.

In Spiritualism, you will find the most fascinating of all studies—where there is no *fiction* in our

statements. You gather historical knowledge from Spiritualism.

Many people need better ideas of Spiritualism; you can get many text books to enlighten yourself.

Spiritualism is more concerned with the history of the people's welfare, and the doings of mortal life. It can be understood; it is not composed of mysteries. It brings FACTS to your door, with freedom—because it teaches emancipation, equality and development,—whose realization no power can prevent.

Our realization of life beyond the grave is gratifying to us mortals I feel sure.

No man or woman who lives at this age, can afford *not* to be a spiritualist. It is easy to comprehend. Every question is exhaustively answered by your spirit ones,—if you wish it.

O, your loved ones are always around, trying to manifest to you,—to make your heart fill with mirth and sweetest dreams.

Just give a little time to *think!*

It will pay you to give a moment to your loved ones,—who, around, are waiting to see you daily tripping along,—anxiously waiting to see you, and to have you understand that **THEY ARE EVER PRESENT.**

Our life in this sphere reminds us of what is to come to us in the immortal sphere of life.

We mortals can make our lives sublime, if we wish to.

We can, after departure, retain and finish our work,—so that another mortal can be benefited in

life's solemn main, take heart again, and proceed along to SUCCESS.

* * *

NOTE.—I want to enlighten those who *wish* it; that is the reason I write. Judged by a money standard, this is worth five dollars for the medium's time,—because it is from a *private* medium.

The great mystery of life-after-death, is the question of the age, which I assure you, is too deep for human philosophy; and those who reject Spiritualism and who deny that it is of divine inspiration, can abandon all hope of an answer.

Spiritualism demonstrates itself so as to teach us how to love the divine life while in the mortal sphere of life, and thus to make us prepare for the immortal one.

Spiritualism teaches individuals to permit no injustice; it stands for uprightness and kindly doing good for all, abandoning all unfavorable conditions.

Spirits can reveal and tell us secrets.

The light of Spiritualism is now shining upon the word of spirit ones. Their sole purpose in connection with us mortals is a progressive one. By embracing its teachings and by accepting them, it is a privilege today to see this light which is made known to us.

The age will come when all trials and difficulties, all the sorrows and tears of the past, will prove to be a part of the great divine program which will work out to the glory of Spiritualism and for

the enlightenment and blessing of mortals and immortals. We are only getting our primary lesson. First of all, teachers are chosen because they possess a quality whereby they can demonstrate the future life.

So many think that death is a calamity, but it is our salvation—which is worked out first in mortal life, till we completely accomplish the ultimate, through Spiritualism. This is the great lesson which will eventually show us wisdom. However, to comprehend this great mystery of light, it is necessary that we follow its teachings and avoid wholly the nonsense of creeds—manufactured only to deceive.

Spiritualism is teaching a great lesson to the world, proving by the deeds of the law, that everything has life everlasting.

Daily we mortals increase our knowledge.

Today the mortal sphere is in a terrible condition—through mental, moral and physical dilapidation, our tombs are being filled. But a remedy is in sight. It was foretold through Spiritualism, and it is operating. Reward from the spirit world is man's recovery from this reign of sin in the mortal sphere. We can see still further developments and preparation.

Spiritualism informs us that their divine purpose is to right all; and all shall perceive how obedient mankind will obey—for freedom from sin into enjoyment will be given to all. Darkness and narrow paths will be turned into light. Adversity will develop into good fortune. We all see

a necessity for this, not only in respect to our own testings and a thorough proof of our own heart—loyalty to Spiritualism—but we see the additional wisdom it gives, in preparing us for the future.

Humanity is learning a great lesson through spirit-return, which is an object lesson to us. Spiritualism's still greater manifestation is to manifest through all the realms of nature and creation; still a greater power will be shown to glory, honor and immortality. Thousands will awaken to the uplifting benefit which is derived from Spiritualism.

Who shall not glorify Spiritualism? Its righteous dealings are made manifest, and all nations shall come and recognize it.

As now, day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night showeth knowledge, and there is no place where spirit voices are not heard.

The key for happiness is found in accepting Spiritualism which will accomplish all. With its truth the grand climax is reached which gives light to the mysteries of all.

People will not admit that they are somewhat prejudiced on this subject; few are free from prejudice.

This question is fundamental: spirits can present themselves and foretell coming events correctly.

A good deal of attention has been aroused among the public by the alleged new ideas arising from Spiritualism.

Details are given from a high standpoint of

facts, therefore its standing is scientific. To advocate scepticism is wrong and harmful to both the mortal and immortal.

I wonder if it ever will penetrate the minds of individuals that the truth is of true benefit; it seems that we should readily comprehend this. What is the use of combating against the truth?

Spiritualism makes us acquire knowledge which can be obtained by anyone. All are assured that the spirit's intellectual powers have predicted calamities, so our thoughts should soar to immortal regions, for spirits contribute to our pleasures and they spend time in production of our support,—doing with care and affection.

We scarcely understand that we are only in the primitive state of spiritual development.

No other law can testify or has kept pace with physical wants, because Spiritualism teaches us how to abandon all noxious influences,—for we are pupils of Spiritualism. Its laws are Nature's laws, being widely spread over the surface of the globe.

Critics are never doers. They can tell how the spirit should come and demonstrate, but they never seek to look into it with common sense, so as to gain superior wisdom.

Spiritualism is a marvel. It reveals all mysteries of future life. We can hear voices—which is marvelous. Mortals ought to be more respectful and thankful, and be ready to proclaim the cause, for the truth cannot be buried, beheaded or crucified.

Truth will win victory, so SPIRITUALISM WILL WIN.

He that hath understanding needeth not wait or delay. The habit of understanding is to progress in understanding, and consequently to master all that you can get out of it. Remember always that talk cannot express what we are discussing. Time, patience, faith and love—these are the great practical secrets of power, and the master key to the understanding of Spiritualism.

With the shuttle of thought in our mind, we are constantly weaving our future, sending out vibrations to our spirit ones; and we have faith in them because they have enlightened us about our destiny.

They teach us to be determined; and no power can overthrow it, because it is based upon a foundation that will stand test. This future we must work for. We must be determined, and with our will strong, we will surely win.

Dispel all doubts. Keep an open house for your loved ones' return. Cultivate, so that you can control the forces that will bring results.

Put Spiritualism into its proper light. Do not allow people to run it down, for it certainly is beneficial, when understood.

Never fret and worry about any one who has passed to immortal life, for fretting and worrying only eat up the finer fibre and tissue and weaken your system, and you are only hurting yourself. You are a tiny atom filling a very small niche in your little corner of the mortal sphere. If you

fume and fret for your loved ones who have passed on, you are making yourself a camping-ground for evil thoughts which eat out your vitals, drain your life blood and leave you an ugly worthless being, wasted in health.

May you embrace Spiritualism, and feel bright and happy! This is no vain wish, because Spiritualism wants to lead you out of darkness, because we have the prophecies foretelling the triumph which Spiritualism will give to us individuals; for this is the secret of our light and of the peace which will comfort many others.

Spiritualism is the light of your peace, and having this, your light will go with no sorrow.

Individuals make up nations. Individuals constitute the inhabitants of the world. You are an individual. Let your light shine. Let your peace be felt—right there where you stand, where you work, where you live.

If ever Spiritualism needed every match, candle, lamp, gas, electric light, star or sun of peace to shine forth with all of its brilliance, it is now—right now—in the beginning of our investigations of Spiritualism.

Light is needed upon every problem of human life and especially upon the life beyond the grave, for its light is TRUTH. Have you discovered any truth (light) about how to live? Let Spiritualism's light shine! Think it and *live* it! Citizens will embrace it, because its teachings alone teach universal human fellowship. Then hold it aloft, so that all may see its glory!

In this way you will help the cause, for it will fulfill your wishes; and it is as necessary as the tiniest star, but its radiance may blend with the Milky Way that spans the heavens and lights the world.

Spiritualism is shining and it is great; with it, one finds peace, and it protects us and fills us with happiness and prosperity. Live and help live; see the truth which Spiritualism teaches, and shine it out!

This herald of Spiritualism brings everlasting benefit because of its warnings about earthly things; the truth abides in it, and it is a perfectly clear perception, which is truth.

* * *

A PRAYER FOR DEVELOPMENT

Thou, who art the highest and holiest, hear our petition. Help us to unfold the faculties of the mind, till moral courage drives out timidity, till harmony dwells in the place of doubt and discord. Pour out the light of Spiritualism into all humans, helping them to arise from sadness, and sorrow. Let Spiritualism, which is true, teach us step by step and lead us until we are fully developed. And let us all be worthy to stand ready to receive our spirit ones through Spiritualism.

CHAPTER XII.

Spirits always select the opportune moment to put in an appearance. They are non-committal, and sometimes their messages are imperative and make us mortals give an exasperated sigh. But they have sympathy, and they intend to encourage; and if you watch and listen, they will point out the right path to pursue.

To gain from spirit forces, we must give them a helping hand by making all doubts vanish.

We mortals are so awkward—and we want to monopolize so much at once, thus making many fight shy of spirit-return. Just give them a chance, and surprises will be demonstrated. Don't think unkindly—not if you stop to think. It is an unfair handicap to put up the elements of uncertainty about you before you actually understand. This explains why results so often are not satisfactory.

You must suggest that your loved ones manifest to you. I admit that some feel embarrassed and hesitate and want encouragement so that they can exclaim admiringly what spirit-return actually is.

We all wish to learn the details of its merits and its benefit to us mortals, but what we need is more faith in spirit-return.

Mortals want that little ray of sunshine to glisten on their path; and if spirit-return is welcomed, it will help to destroy some of life's storms here and reduce the weary journey.

Spirit ones always bring a kindly word of welcome and a greeting that will help us mortals.

Spirits are marvelously intelligent. They are indispensable, because civilization is getting infallible tests. Progressive people are beginning to understand the usefulness, success and happiness to be gained by spirit-return.

We are under obligation to our spirit ones, for they are quite accurate in their demonstrations.

If you wish to lessen the worries of your life, and desire to bring more sunshine as you go along, simply believe in spirit-return, for proof will surely be given.

The time is fast approaching when we mortals will abandon phases of religion and will accept spirit-return.

What do you know about spirit forces, when you have been sleeping and have not awakened to the facts it teaches—because you have not been interested!

Do you know, that if you want to progress and learn about spirit-return, you will have to seek for yourself?

How shall we know each other in the space which keeps the disembodied spirits of our dead ones? The old body perishes among the dust that we tread, but the soul takes on its immortal body and lives on forever. No pain is known in our immortal home; there, you meet and mingle in the gentle presence of those who have first entered there, and you hear their voices again,

Those who are dear like to hear you speak of them and utter kind wishes for them.

O, it is a glorious sphere—the immortal one; love reigns there. No storms nor harsh natures are there; all is tender, and this kind of life we all aspire to lead.

It is a happy life, and we live at will in cheerful homage to the rule of right, and all is good—no ill. For me this is beautiful, and it will be good to dwell where no mark leaves its scars, for all will be glorious. There, we all keep our names, and it is a sweet climate.

I wish to teach the wisdom of this life to come which stands for love and no ill, so that when we reach the immortal sphere, we will be fit companions in that sphere of bliss, because it is infinite intelligence, and we all should place ourselves with thankfulness before the law. Our lips should be the sacred vessel through which truth shall send its refreshing draught, bathed in the light of the divine principle which embodies our consciousness and makes us understand that there is a future life which is perfect, ideal, and will be complete; but without aid of the spirits you cannot understand how to perfect it.

All events have their seasons. Fruit which is bitter in the summer, is sweetened when the autumn brings fruition. As I look forth, in the relationship of all mankind, there comes the consciousness that man is not stationary and fixed. We are all builders, and day by day we must try to master it, to complete ourselves for the future life.

The purpose of Spiritualism is to make you achieve for self and others, so that you can impart knowledge of the future life—so it will be a possible guide. Spiritualism is a path to the goal of all possibilities; this is the age for us to progress and understand about future life. We should realize this inspired truth. Scientists think that they know all; they know but little when they are pinned down to facts.

Millions of shuttles ply to and fro in the great looms of life, weaving forever the mysteries and beauties that are around us, and which are all performed in silence and in darkness—so that is the reason spirits prefer darkness for their demonstrations of future life. Darkness itself is but prophecy of the sunlight. The imprisoned germ is incubated in silence because of the expectancy of day—so with future life; we know it is to come, and nothing can stop it.

This is a statement of facts, in our rational mind. We know that life is eternal.

Where there is faith, there is success. Where there is success there must be faith. Where there is happiness there must be peace; and where there is peace, there is no doubt of the future life.

We should receive spirit-return with welcome—with warmest, keenest, fullest, most heartfelt and intimate welcome; and whatever the spirits offer us, to receive same with welcome by being prepared for it, always giving them reception, craving them daily to teach us, as it is lofty, perfect, vast and as ennobling as your soul can conceive.

It is beautiful, glorious and more ample than the best of our hopes. It of necessity brings something nobler, loftier and nearer to nature, for it embraces the truth. So all should value spirit-return as the ultimate truth of the universe. It must be wholly and preeminently admirable, as it unveils our meekest desires.

Our reason tells us that spirit-return is only a feeble ray—only a tiny atom of the whole truth of spirit-life. But upon its loftiness we all try to pass judgment. Some condemn it without first investigating, whereas they should be wise to think and act so as to demonstrate its truth to the individual. Many are so unjust! But spirit-return is achievement, helpful to us mortals and elevates us to loftier reason. Its force is supported by ideal thoughts and intimate truth.

Experience will teach you the reality that exists, with its feeling of beauty and love that are the noblest and loftiest. Who could shrink from this test of reality, in other words, spirit-return,—which seems a mystery to some and a fact to others? It has the power of consolation to those who embrace its truths. Daily the spirit ones comfort us; it is their will to aid us mortals, and we should cherish all that they do, for they throw light on our true duty in this sphere, so as to aid us to the true life, and to give us the highest in our being. And every time when it is permissible in every-day life, they return, so as to compromise with events, followed by impulse, to show you

what universal peace, happiness and justice will do, in all good faith to a good end.

Again, the knowledge that is obtained from spirit-return seals the final truth that there is no death; and it encourages the disheartened and gives them vision of what is beyond the grave; it also advances the truth so that one will endeavor with mighty main to reason.

Above all, we should have faith in Spiritualism, as it satisfies every effort that tends to improvement and approaches the secret intention of life to come after death. Its noblest endeavor is to make mortals see anew fresh reason, for wonder, for ardor and for hope.

Did you ever think, as you climb up a mountain toward nightfall? The trees and the houses, the steeple, the fields and the orchards, the road and even the rivers will gradually dwindle and fade and at last disappear in the gloom that steals over the valley. But the threads of light that shine from the houses of men pierce through the blackest of night; these shine undimmed, and every step that you take to the summit reveals but more lights, more in the hamlets asleep at your feet. For light, though so fragile, is perhaps the one thing of all that yields. Thus it is so with Spiritualism; it is the mortal light, too. When we look upon Spiritualism's high elevation, it is well that reflection should teach us of our future life to come beyond the grave; so our courage should be our desire to embrace the truth of spirit-life.

If persons do not understand about the life to

come, they should begin at once to investigate it, so that they would understand and reach the truth that leads to happiness. It is your duty to understand for yourself so that you will succeed. We all are so apt to forget that we do not stay here in the mortal life forever, but we all must pass on to the immortal sphere of life where we go on living forever. The final aim we all can know, for spirits return to earth daily to teach you about eternity, to further all so that you may know.

Spiritualism is the salvation, and its commandments reveal the purpose to give you a clear understanding of the spontaneous devotion to the will of the spirits. It teaches the main principles of the mortal and the immortal life. It also teaches to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. These give one the understanding of the subject of the life to come, and that our devotion to its will is the main foundation of its teachings. Its rules are in ethical teachings.

Those in the mortal world who possess the key of this truth of spirit-life, will ever be happy.

Brothers and sisters! For the sake of your loved ones who have entered spirit-life, consider what you are and what is awaiting you in the immortal sphere; and remember, that joy and glory are nothing in comparison with the true and only object of life and the fulfillment of the will of **Spiritualism**.

Change your life today by believing in Spiritualism, for its laws give you life and harmony.

Death is only terrible to those who do not be-

lieve that we live on forever; but those who do believe in immortal life, have the grace of all passing conditions and embrace it in silence, not in grief, because they understand that they will surely pass on to their immortal home, where life is everlasting.

To live usefully, admirably and successfully, is the important work in this sphere below, and all should learn to concentrate on things that are beneficial.

Bend all of your thoughts to the realization of Spiritualism; follow its laws and you will find success through it, because it guides you. Its force that directs, which is intelligence, shows you how to win. Step by step you must scale along in your school days, and how often you have heard your teacher call you to attention. Just so with Spiritualism—success comes to those who give their attention to its teachings. Spiritualism leads you to the perfect and worthy purpose of it.

Be encouraged to have Spiritualism your aim in this lower sphere, so that your life will be prepared for the higher sphere, for man is the highest product of history. The astronomer finds nothing so important as his own soul. This is the wonder of wonders, but not as great a miracle as Spiritualism.

Spiritualism is knocking at our door and wants you to bid spirits to enter. They will show you the road to continuous success, for they can give you health, happiness and prosperity; more than this—we want to impress upon your mind the ab-

solute importance of Spiritualism and keeping in unison with the spirits' teachings.

What can Spiritualism do for us?

First, its teachings formulate certain rules for you to exercise, as steps or degrees to be practiced for the best results, in gaining communication from your spirit friends and relatives.

Second, it is beneficial, not harmful.

Third, it leads you to a realization that there is life beyond the grave.

Fourth, it becomes so plain that you fully realize that life is happy, joyous and worth living.

Fifth, you feel like being up and doing for the good cause.

Sixth, necessarily, you feel in earnest and inspired by Spiritualism.

O, what a joy to know that we are truly in the way of life and peace!

How beautiful it is for young and old, brother and sister—all—to work for the glory and good of Spiritualism!

CHAPTER XIII.

In this loom of life of ours, we weave each day on the warp of circumstances, and it is for us to make or mar; we can make it strong or not, just as we please. You can make your life golden, full of happiness, crowned with love's warm gleams like the morning rays, adding beauties which will never fade away,—or you can have it the opposite. Let us weave our lives in this sphere, so that when we go to the immortal one, it will be found that we have the texture fine and the colors fast.

Life is a gift of Providence, and we all have a mission to perform; so let us try to do our work well, for we humans are by mysteries wrought, any way, and are attuned to harmony by laws of the divine. And all feel the tender need of Spiritualism, as it harmonizes us with our loved ones, which makes growth and pure happiness crowned with true love; so do your best—never mind—work with happiness and zest, for he who strives for true success will find it coming his way as sure as fate; Spiritualism will stand the test. Rich reward will come to those who believe, for the spirits delight in sunny ones, and we all should feel hungry for the joy it brings to us.

Spiritualism gives power to appreciate all things, and it gives us keen perception to conceive what it will bring. It gives sunshine in the home instead of darkness. It strengthens its followers

and gives them eyes to see Nature's sweetest development in all forms.

The knowledge of Spiritualism is behind all, and it gives us strength and wisdom in the hour of need. It is beneficial, whatever way you put same.

Spiritual pictures often come to us. So satisfied one feels, and restful too, for it seems as though a world of bliss has been created within us, and everything is so real. So be not weary in your belief, for it is encouragement. Paul's words are: "Be not weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." You will find the path smooth.

Just remember that Spiritualism benefits and gives hope, faith and courage. It makes your path smooth, but if clouds appear and a storm threatens, hold fast to the memory of all your blessings. Forget not all your benefits and keep on with hope, with faith and with courage. It is right here that the faithful study of Spiritualism may seem a task—no, don't let it go, but study it all the harder; in this way you will be gaining not only a victory but strength.

Spiritualism gives development, like the growth of your body, which depends upon the food you take in; but in this case your food is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace, and joy with your spirit ones.

Keep your mind filled with right thoughts of life among the spirit ones.

A few minutes devoted to the quiet considera-

tion of Spiritualism is growth, and may be deemed not altogether wasted time.

Some minds are narrow and full of prejudices, so we must teach the fundamental factor of the growth of Spiritualism; and in drawing attention to this fact, we proclaim Spiritualism of the highest order. For it must be perfectly clear to the more deeply thoughtful, that eternal life is the true foundation of Spiritualism. So much will be accomplished in this direction, because it will appeal to those who want significant facts.

Through the teachings of today, we may be perfectly convinced of Spiritualism and all of its teachings—which should not go in one ear and out of the other. It should teach, however, the real worth, because it deals with life's desire in this sphere and life eternal; this means progress, although it seems like a complicated affair. At the same time, we may very speedily assure ourselves of one thing, and that is that it has taken root and no intercommunication will be affected by it, as it becomes evident, therefore, that its teachings are to prove its permanent value to all.

Much is written and more is said now-a-days about Spiritualism. Many treatises and popular lectures have been devoted to the discussion of this fascinating topic, and any number of hints and methods have been thrown out for the purpose of enabling one to fix one's mind—generally speaking, however, so as not to have you in the dark altogether, for the simple reason that there is a

necessity for Spiritualism, which will appeal to any one.

There is nothing common in Spiritualism; it is sunshine, and the life that grows under its teachings will develop. All tears will become smiles, as it enables you to have mirth and to breathe freely. It brings joys to help you perform your duties of life, thus making you feel cheerful always, with a balanced mind, so that your path in this sphere will be more easily traveled—no shadow on heart, but only cheerfulness, brought about by knowledge of Spiritualism.

If you seek you shall gather, because you are then doing your duty. Spiritualism should receive all praise and all honor, for it is so beneficial. It is wisdom to all, and let us be prompt to obey. It is food-of-life, and we realize that all should believe in its demonstration which is light. It is no longer any mystery, it is an established truth, and it is a noble fact that Spiritualism has come to stay and will be recognized, for the voice of the spiritual world is with us; it will make us conform to its measurement, which is true.

Banish all fear and superstition, because it is a detriment to Spiritualism. Having said this, we must admit that Spiritualism is worthy of preservation. It is hard to understand the criticisms which are extravagantly offered, but upon the level, we are looking for the issue of Spiritualism,—for its efficiency, its happy influences and its education.

The thought of spirit-return will give us peace and concentration of mind.

So many different subjects regarding the originality of spirit-return, are questioned by individuals.

As in walks of life, when things go wrong, just look around, analyze from your standpoint and acquaint yourselves with the belief of spirit-return, then "all's well." We soon begin to believe; life will seem different, as it will establish in our minds the fact that spirit-return is true.

Faith should be our watchword, while the understanding of spirit-return will depend upon your development. The racial relation with your spirit ones is always possible; one can always realize when they are present—only give them the opportunity to prove to you. But if you insist on being narrow-minded, you will miss much, because you lack understanding in taking up the study of spirit-return.

Everything begins with thought,—thought to be, to acquire; to have foresight, thought must see what it is doing. Just so with spirit-return; all that we need is foresight on the future return of our spirit to the mortal sphere. Days, months, years, seasons, had to come forth according to absolute law. Substance, elements, fill all space consistent with intelligence. Everything issues forth from intelligence. We know that spirit-return has been revealed. Attempts of scientists fall short when compared with the simple short-story of spirit-return.

All proof and demonstration are given of spirit-return; here we find no missing link as to highest judgment. Only just *try* to accomplish,—then you will accomplish *more*. You must go on and seek spirit-return; woe unto those who fail to draw their spirit ones near! Spirit-return is power, and O, what peace it brings! Spiritual truths teach you what law this spirit-return is conducted by, for it heals and it wishes to reach all thinking minds.

They wish to return to all who apparently *desire* and *want* the truth and who will give a listening ear.

O, may spirit-return come to us to help us understand the real true life after death. We have no right to preach spirit-return to others, if we ourselves are not able and capable of demonstrating the truth of it.

Spirit-return contains many valuable points, if we all could only find the precious kernel of truth. People of the thinking world cannot find fault if they look at spirit-return from a real rational point—they will soon find good in it.

Did you ever think how a suggestion can root itself so that it will be perpetuated in spite of the times? Just so with spirit-return,—it is common sense, and must be accepted as it is based on reason.

The real truth is free from all embellishments, and keeps mentally in step with the spirit-of-the-times. Just so with spirit-return: it is dumbfounding to some and enlightening to others, and

its illumination imparts to each the light which inspires.

They do not tell us too much—but each word is weighed and balanced. What does the writer say?—“A stitch in time saves nine.” Spirit-return is a blessing, and they never impose. You see how they put it, and you say, “How true,” so as not to impose. You will bear in mind that it is hard to impart ideas into the brain of human beings who have been born contrary to laws and who *wish for no knowledge*.

An angel appeared to Zachariah in the sanctuary; you may rest assured that the angel had a right there, or he had a “pull,” or he never could have gone in there. When Zachariah saw this angel, his heart nearly fell into his sandals. Zachariah took the lesson from the angel; so we must take our lesson, like Zachariah, from spirit-return.

So many hear voices, that they declare, “Spirit-return is true.” But still, no appreciation of it is shown by some individuals.

We are seeking, all of us, blindly for the light that spirit-return offers, and the key to its knowledge has been given to all.

Let us spread the message of spirit-return, for it is truth complete and a living example to those who want it. Gladly we should welcome its aid, for it hastens our unfoldment. It will repay all efforts made, for you are working out your own salvation by heeding the still voice heard from the spirit-return. They teach you how to perform all of your conscious acts, and by its teaching, suc-

cess you will surely win. All thoughts, words and actions, you will reap by spirit-return.

Remember, you grow and reach life's highest goal, for the gate of judgment. Spirit-return guides and illumines, and perfection comes to those who understand the truth.

Well done my faithful followers, life after death is ours. Rejoice, for spirit-return is true.

Of late years, people are beginning to be broader-minded, and much is heard about the silent life or life beyond the grave. Many think that this is a new phase of life, but it is as old as Christ's time. Manifestations of the life beyond the grave are nevertheless true, as mankind's existence dates from the earliest records of men, and from tradition we find that there always was a higher guidance for all.

Elijah's most wonderful experience came to him in silence. Then again, we find records in the bible of man going forth to seek spiritual power. This will have to be acknowledged by all. As silence which draws our spirit-ones, is original, all this gives us an insight into the life which we expect to enjoy hereafter.

Who can doubt their power which comes from the silence to the individual, to strengthen and to give energy?

It is absolutely necessary for us to sit in the dark, in silence and concentration, and have our thoughts on our loved ones, so that they can gather their forces—so that they can manifest—and make us feel their presence and their influence

that flows around us, giving us absolutely the assurance that they are once more among us, for they bring messages of love, and they impart knowledge that is *beneficial* at all times.

All the knowledge that we obtain in the hours of silence, is priceless.

Should we not as individuals be willing to give up a few hours to our loved ones, so as to cheer them and make them feel that they are wanted and appreciated for manifesting to us? We all should comprehend that they return to the mortal sphere to give us the understanding, so that we will be prepared when we depart from our mortal life.

All of our understanding of Spiritualism will come through our recognition of spirit-return; through it we gain knowledge; so we should grasp every opportunity, so as to attain and thus be able to recognize our loved ones' return to the mortal world. We all should attempt to think about it, as it is perfectly clear; and to them, doubt is a hindrance to development.

Spiritualism is a true teacher; it is a foundation for a real true start—and so natural.

An ordinary mind is one that never reasons over anything and is not anxious to accumulate. If we are eager to embrace the truth, we give it real reason, judgment and foundation; then we can know the truth, for which we all should be anxious. We all need to gain information so as to be wise in everything.

The average person longs for knowledge and wants an exact education along *all* lines. Such persons become over-anxious to meet all experiences, and they want to accumulate all ideas which give intellectual terms,—as Spiritualism does to all, because fundamentally we spiritualists are solid; you can depend on Spiritualism. **First**, it has fundamental principles. If you want them, you can get same free,—because, by embracing Spiritualism, you can embrace something which gives you a chance to be ahead of the times and into the future.

Spiritualism is original. You need no text-book to learn from, and it is not beyond anyone's conception.

Spiritualism is no problem to solve; it has been solved by many. You need no books, for by them you only simply add to theories already advanced or to knowledge gained. For instance, a person practices homeopathy and then osteopathy; but he does not gain what he expects, so he drops all. Scriptures would say that there are "those who are ever learning, but never come to an understanding of the truth." We do not want to belong to the class which cannot understand, as such persons are in the way of progression.

Spiritualism will aid success, and will stand every test. An inventor says, "This machine is based on principle, and the minute the lever is pushed to work it, it ought to work—but it will not." What is the matter?—the pivot is missing!

What is the matter with us?—everything seems correct, but something is missing in us—a little thing—that is what gives a great deal of trouble.

We all must consider Spiritualism for ourselves ; we can not depend upon others. In the material world, what is the reason why so many fail? Because they depend on others too much. We ourselves should know what we want. So when you find the truth which is in Spiritualism, stick to it, as it does not want to hold individuals under its thumb—like most religions.

SPIRITUALISM IS UP TO DATE. Who would like to go back to the old primitive days which we have outgrown?—just as we have outgrown the church idea of “hell-fire.” But some cannot give up their early ideas ; they are simply *living in the past*, and will always be behind in all matters.

Everything hinges on Spiritualism and we should be anxious about gaining knowledge ; such knowledge must be applicable to every-day life. Spiritualism and science depend upon continuity. If we know a thing, and understand its principles and facts, we should control ourselves in position to be able to get spirit-return, if we desire it.

Every thinking mind should investigate Spiritualism. Its benefit to individuals is so uplifting that they cannot afford to be blind, and also because it is absolutely true and not uncertain.

Spiritualism is beautiful in itself, with the idea that life is still evident after we leave the mortal.

O, what air of peace we enjoy when we are Spiritualists! Death has no horrors, for it seems just like stepping from one sphere to another,—where rapture is experienced at once with your loved ones.

CHAPTER XIV.

We have reached the period of life where love and good-will are a harvest, and in the calm and peace of life's happy twilight, soon I expect to preach the grand doctrine of spirit-return—the doctrine of the best and noblest effort, the seeking of the brightest and highest in life.

Spiritualism is no visionary dream. It is practical every-day common sense.

The mortal life is ours to mould, shape and direct, as we will.

Life is thought, and thought is force and action. The influences are much greater, and one will find Spiritualism far-reaching—more than one may now realize. Let us, therefore, think good thoughts of it, as it makes us cheerful, and hopeful; and not only think them, but let us look them, say them, and act them.

Spiritualism makes us look on the bright side. There is good in it. The vast majority of people who are investigating it are honest and believe in its capacity and power of good to be found in it.

Do not be afraid to let others know that you believe in life everlasting after death.

Rely on the goodness and honor which Spiritualism teaches. By trusting and believing in it, you will not be disappointed. Your very faith in it will arouse your loved ones in the immortal life.

Spiritualism is the natural attitude of life beyond the grave and its expression of the truth. Its efforts are to banish imagination of doubt or evil. Forget them!

Remember that sound growth is slow and gradual. The child does not study his a-b-c to-day and graduate from the university tomorrow. Nothing is acquired except by diligent application and protracted study. So it is with everything, even that of right thinking and right living. The standard is high; Spiritualism has so established it—and as a result which comes from it, we enjoy health, happiness and prosperity.

If you embrace Spiritualism, in your mental poise you cannot help being cheerful. Knowing that life is immortal and that we live after death, one can not help feeling cheerful. Cheerfulness and self-confidence are twin sisters; neither is present alone and whatever is undertaken must succeed.

Spiritualism is contagious. Good always is. Your whole being radiates confidence and success.

Spiritualism is desirable because it attracts good, just as a steel points to a magnet.

Spiritualism benefits. It repays you because it is the truth, and the truth is always the same.

Spiritualism aids us to use blessings aright, and which are so abundantly about us.

Spiritualism is the activity which works for good, and beautiful is the stillness which waits for its good.

Oliver Wendell Holmes says:

Grant us thy truth to make us free,
And kindling hearts that burn for thee
Till all thy living altars claim
One holy light, one heavenly flame.

So many try to discuss Spiritualism, and it is interesting to listen to the bickering and dissensions that never have an end. Spiritualism teaches us kind feelings and right motives, here and hereafter.

The public is aroused on this subject of spirit-return, which is beneficial to mortals because we only remain in this sphere a little while.

There is one thing sure—we must close the score here, and then the story will be known, and the realms will reveal; so what matters it if we did not accept its teachings while in mortal life? We will be thankful to know that we can return and that life is immortal, as we will understand it then.

It has been said that we cannot know too much about Spiritualism; so that is why we cannot comprehend too much. Only by calm judgment, by conquering doubts, and giving glory to the truth, will we progress in the knowledge of mysteries.

Discussing Spiritualism, I declared that it is time we understood that there is no end, for so many have been misled into fear. No one should believe in impossibility, but remember that the teaching of Spiritualism speaks the truth, and its

number of believers has doubled during the past century.

It is a privilege to proclaim that there is no death and that life is everlasting, without end.

Spiritualism points out a lesson for all to follow and they will find glory, honor and immortality, as their reward for embracing its teachings.

Spiritualism does wonderful work for those who are wise—and not foolish—for those who listen to its teachings.

We are here to lead our friends, with loyalty to each other. This is a great work; and we are capable in conquering and developing.

Opportunities for receiving messages are granted to all who wish to receive.

I am sure that personal appreciation of the attitude which the spirits take to interest mortals, should be given. Communication from immortal life is valuable to mortals, but prejudice makes its inventors tell the old story that they “want more demonstration”; but these persons are ignorant, and they stand in the way of progress almost every time. Everything is confronted with the same opposition; enlightenment we should appreciate.

Do not think that it is only the common people who believe in Spiritualism. Oh no, it is the scientist who has made great discovery in it.

Ignorance is dangerous, not because it is ignorance, but because it persists in remaining ignorance. If it were not for advancement we would be willing to live in caves and subsist on the flesh

of such animals as we were able to kill. We have progressed from those days. Yes, those days we have progressed out of, and, as individuals, we continue to progress. This sphere benefits by everything that gives enlightenment to us mortals, as Spiritualism does. We should use our faculties to think, and not use them with doubt. And we should comprehend the truth that Spiritualism will perfect civilization.

Through Spiritualism's teaching we know our future destiny, which is life everlasting; and it can be proven to any investigator's satisfaction from the fundamental standpoint.

Many objections and arguments are made by unbelievers against its theory of life everlasting; but this against it, does not destroy the fact, because it is based on facts—and facts are proof. And so said Shakespeare: that doubts are our traitors and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt it.

All remedies are in ourselves; so we should be the proper persons to decide if spirit-return is true or not. We should know if its demonstrations are facts to us—as individuals—because we must decide for ourselves; we cannot leave it for others to assist us.

It ought to make us feel happy to know that those who have gone in ahead have just passed another milestone, to enter a truer life.

Again I have the privilege of writing on the success and victory well earned by those who be-

lieve in spirit-return. So much has been said against it; but it is beginning to receive the stalwart, unflinching support, of spiritualistic societies. Spirits greet us, and distance does not bar them from being ever present, and they often see our honored tears to their memory. 'Tis true that they want you to grow so that they can greet you and make the fact plain that spirit-return is beneficial, so that you will be watchful. So overthrow any doubts that would prevent you from training for the yet grander efforts in the future, so as to rise up higher toward the goal.

Success in understanding spirit-return can only be reached by climbing and by appealing to them to aid you, in silence. The thought should be—what you do, do in earnest of what you *will* do in the future.

Let us conduct ourselves so as to be always ready to accept spirit-return. Stand up and reason it out for self-satisfaction. No savior ever can help us; it is yourself who must stand and know. Genius exaggerates and often distorts even unimportant detail. All that we need is calm judgment to raise ourselves to the understanding of spirit-return.

Step by step we have to trace spirit-return, which, when understood, so deeply helps even our word of thought, upholding our personality, which tends to help draw the spirit ones to us.

Possibly you don't know what a spirit is. Well, no doubt you have seen one, and it "seemed cu-

rious," and you "could hardly believe your eyes" although it left its impression on your mental and physical development. Although beyond a doubt you suffer yourself not to believe in spirit-return, but at the same time, how natural it all seems to you when you study over it.

Spiritualism comes to us with convincing proof of its truth, and great interest is being manifested in it everywhere. With the keenest interest, individuals are anxious to have the truth of it revealed, which means righteousness and revelation to mortals.

The future will be looked forward to without so much dread, as they all will understand, through it, that there is no death; that all suffering, pain and diseases come to an end; and that in the immortal life we are whole again.

Spiritualism is such an advantage to us mortals, for its manifestations are such a comfort and are divine. It is sought after, more than we understand, by many who do not call themselves spiritualists.

Did you ever think how sympathetic we feel after we become spiritualists? And it makes one feel more for others, which is a great benefit to mortals; its influence and divine law all come from immortal life.

Woman, through Spiritualism, becomes even more spirituelle.

I am sure that such lessons are thoroughly impressed upon us mortals, and in due time we must

acknowledge that its teachings are beneficial; and they are all being understood. It is a relief to know this, for its lessons are based on facts.

Sowing and reaping, what is to come to us by embracing this message of life beyond the grave?

To mankind, spirit life seems strange, nevertheless true, and it should be acknowledged for no harm comes from its teachings; far from it, one grows holier and more free from sin, because all that which is wrong seems so distasteful to them.

Spiritualism makes you feel happy. Its influences are so peaceful to those who have accepted it as beneficial, for their progression in this life and the life beyond. It has come to stay; and its steady growth proves that, for it was meant to benefit and relieve those who are downcast and who see no daylight or sunshine.

Has Spiritualism not intended to redeem man, by making him understand that there is no death? Redemption through Spiritualism means to give each and all the opportunity to test the worthiness of everlasting life, and to prove to what extent their acquaintance with us mortals can go.

Spirits send messages to all in general who are just, and who want to receive them.

Light on Spiritualism is given to those who have the hearing, and the ears and eyes of understanding to receive, accepting its teachings.

Did you ever think that coming events cast their shadows before? How many times we have had warnings from spirit ones! All of which con-

stitute, reveal, and try to make us understand what to look for in respect to the future manifestation; and also, so that we can more clearly distinguish passing events, we should be always ready to discern our loved ones, who appear, to comfort and to teach.

At last we will awaken to the fact, as we are finding out that Spiritualism is established by a high power.

Statistics show that Spiritualism is advancing; the awakening is doing so much good. It teaches us to think, and it is perfectly glorious to feel that we can understand and can hasten the spiritual advancement, which is a glorious condition; and all will confess the glory of its teachings as they are for good.

We see that such hopes would be so beneficial, if realized by mortals. Thus, this spiritual wakening will do us good, and all expectations will develop to our satisfaction.

We mortals should realize how dependent we are on spiritual forces so as to see the fulfillment of the glorious prophecies, (taken from the minds of our loved ones), which are handed down to us mortals. Our spirit ones interpret themselves daily to us, so as to make things plain,—and what do we find? Ah, wonder of wonders—we find Spiritualism deeper than we ever dreamed of.

We find in this present age that Spiritualism is opening our eyes. This makes us confess that we are hearers to Spiritualism, establishment of

which will mean the blessing of all human souls here and hereafter.

Such broad remarks going forth out of my mouth shall return to me no void; but they will accomplish that which I proclaim as being beneficial.

Messages go forth daily declaring its truth, assuring mortals of the blessing through this development of power beyond our mortal life.

Oh, the glorious day of righteousness will shine forth when all ignorance and superstition will have been banished from the world! So fully advanced will mankind be, of every nation, in the glorious enlightenment which Spiritualism brings. Ah, that will be our jubilee, when all shall have accepted its teachings as true.

Our misconception of Spiritualism, and the improper interpretation of it, means a loss to many mortals; and there are others who neglect to embrace it while here.

Spiritualism, when understood, is beautiful in its teachings, and means advancement and paradise to us mortals. All will note everything and will say to themselves:—how glorious are its teachings, for it provides a knowledge for us of our immortal paradise which we all expect to share and partake of. When humanity has a full knowledge of itself and of its requirements, then all will heartily accept the teachings of Spiritualism.

How wonderful is the wisdom and power of Spiritualism! It can make us reign and can teach

us such great lessons. Its purpose is to give us knowledge and to drive away all doubts.

The glorious day shall dawn when the order of immortality will be understood fully: it will become an established fact, and all of its power will be revealed. This will not destroy its perfections, especially to bring us from sin and weakness, which we mortals have to contend against.

“Behold, I will make all things plain,” and we can then be on the same footing, rich and poor, with no one to disturb our peace and happiness, as in the mortal sphere. All are treated alike, and all have the same advantage for progression, in the immortal life. Each is an individual and can do just as he feels like doing. There is no need for dictation or restitution there, for all obey the divine law set down, without trying to avoid same as mortals do in this sphere.

For my part, I cannot comprehend why so many hold aloof from Spiritualism, because its teachings are based on fact—not fiction—and it seems too bad that so many are so ignorant that they cannot see into spirit-return, which is such a blessing to mortals.

Never mind, sooner or later it will be a great awakening. All who have any knowledge to comprehend its teachings will proclaim: “I am satisfied, and I am glad that I have been awakened to the facts so brought about by my being a spiritualist.”

CHAPTER XV.

So many will not let their reasoning power awaken them into activity on the subject of Spiritualism, and they never attempt to solve the problem of life-after-death. They never even think or try to find out what will happen after death.

Nevertheless, we do maintain life in a new body; and all should begin this investigation regarding the future which is to come to us all—for life is immortal.

This question cannot be picked up at random, but we must seek the means that show inducement to us mortals. We must be earnest, use time for investigation, and in time we will make improvement that will be almost beyond our belief; it will approach the requirements necessary to justify and maintain that life is immortal.

Just lately I have found what I am sure leads to the conquering of the idea of no death. And I feel convinced that I am right on this question which confronts us daily.

Persons of science and the medical profession in general need a waking-up on this subject of life-after-death—and they are investigating; hence an arousing among individuals must take place. Channels are open, thus rendering it possible for all to find out for themselves. It will

appear, and no one ought to have any doubt about qualifying and passing upon this idea of spirit-return.

It will pay you to become a spiritualist.

Now if you will carefully consider, you will see that you have ability to converse with your loved ones; and it will lead to revolutionary changes beyond the power of the mind to grasp—instead of thinking that we cannot learn much from spirit-return. But we can learn anything; especially that we are able to maintain a continuous existence, which exists in spirit-life, for we have the advantage.

It looks unreasonable to some that we have a spiritual body; but this fact must be recognized when one has been educated along these lines. We must yield to the wonderful influence in awakening all to the facts that (1) life is eternal, and (2) that all can talk to people whom they knew in the mortal life.

Our life is like a machine. If care is given to it, we will remain in the mortal sphere longer; but if we let the machine wear out, then we have to pass to immortal life, and there take up our work. We will then know calm.

How refreshed and cheerful you will be when you awake to the fact that Spiritualism is the truth. You will then find smiling faces—no worrying, none ill-humored or full of ungenerous uncharitable thoughts; all will rest in sweet peace and happiness, because the general rule is that

proper development of all powers through investigation is the true result to mortals. The theory is found out—there is “something in it.”

Spiritualism makes our mind operate in the channel where results will be obtained, if conditions are right.

I desire to maintain and consider the matter, and am aware myself that the efforts which I make along these lines will bring success to me for succeeding in receiving assurance against *no death*.

I am building up each day, and I am making many contributions to the worthy public, so as to explain my views on this subject.

The more I study the results, the more I find that ignorance prevails.

Individuals do not understand, and they have not the “nerve” to talk with their spirit ones in the immortal sphere.

Spiritualism has many meanings and no one has covered the ground, because there are so many hidden things, that it is hard to make it clear; it carries with it a sense of power which lies in the forces to produce visible results to the universe. Its laws are the laws that govern these forces, and they are classified and arranged so as to prove the facts of its statements.

Science has not the knowledge of how to use these laws which confront the public—now called Spiritualism.

Moses was a true spiritualist; he had vision which opened the interior of his soul, and he unit-

ed the experience of the mystic with that of the so-called miracles. Elijah was a spiritualist; he was a prophet, and he founded a school of prophets. Daniel was a spiritualist of high degree, and he developed people; he had great powers. So you see how old Spiritualism is. I cannot understand why more do not embrace it.

The spirit realm and the vibration in it are so intoxicating, and its condition so peaceful.

It is a grand idea to know that the mortal life leads to the immortal. And it is reality. The keynote to Spiritualism is given to all individuals, and O, what valuable knowledge is gained!

Spiritualism allows no one to do anything for the sake of self. Its laws are never broken and are always used for good; so there is an uplifting intelligence gained by being a spiritualist.

Spiritualism teaches us to love Nature's work, and it uplifts us to see her beauties. Spiritualism is the knowledge which aids each one of us in our daily paths of mortal life and gives us strength to bear the strain of toil, the fret and care. It teaches the wayward not to stray; it tries to guide them homeward.

Spiritualism gives one patience, and it keeps one strong. The hope it sends is a shining ray and helps us so much.

Spiritualism is full of divine prophecy of the human race; in it we find perfection of power and through it facts of life beyond the grave are visible to mortals.

Racial experience, through the ceaseless effort of individuals for further knowledge and understanding, is pushed forever onward by this insistent, inherent desire. Experience is the only teacher and awakener. Testimony of others one cannot apprehend, but all must gain knowledge in every phase and aspect of it themselves.

Its treasures are not hidden, they are for all who seek. Our loved ones are always using permeating influence to get us in the channel. Spiritualism is here to demonstrate the truth to mankind. Its teachings are the truth and the life.

How good it is to know that the spirit-laws are as pure as a lily, therefore it is right teaching; and we should comprehend and believe in its powers, as it is for right living.

Have knowledge, drop your prejudice and let your mind know the wisdom, for it is the road to peace.

What we can't do, Spiritualism never asks,—

Beyond what we can bear, she never tries;
In sweet fulfillment of the little tasks,

We make our preparation for our home.

The restless heart seeks to do something great,

And lets the common things of life slip by,
Forgetting that the trifles indicate

Which path we're taking for eternity.

None of us would like to fall back into the old lines of thinking, because we have been taught to

see things in a different aspect,—which is truth; and we understand that Spiritualism is the actual power, and it is commendable and wise for us individuals to abide by its teachings.

So many do not perfectly understand the principles which govern its teachings.

This Spiritualism aids us to hear harmonious strains of music which delight us mortals. It also teaches harmony and shows us how to hear and feel the presence of our loved ones. We all cannot experience this because we have to be sensitive and possess magnetism, in order to draw them to us. We all do not have these powers to easily grasp the spirit unfoldment, which is the law that teaches unfoldment to mortals. But when you fairly understand this, you overcome all disagreeable conditions and you enjoy life better.

Spirits are sincere in their efforts. They seek, without resting, until they make you see the sunshine of this grand unfoldment.

Thousands have been lifted out of ignorance to knowledge that is permanent to mortals, and others can gain the desired results if they persist in their efforts to understand the teachings of Spiritualism.

Much depends upon us, as individuals, to improve and understand Spiritualism, because spirit wisdom is great, as it makes you see into your future and it instructs you how to avoid mishaps and how to otherwise utilize your knowledge.

All should sit in silence often. You will see results if you trust your loved ones. They continually return to you for good, so as to teach and advise you in the right path. They have no use for wrong acts.

So let us aid its growth and progression, as it is a guide which should go widespread and be in every household. All of its theories—which some claim are not based on facts—nevertheless are the spiritual phenomena which awaken our ambition. And we learn from it what truth is, and we can progress and develop under its power.

If all individuals would investigate for themselves, they would not call it a mystery.

This spiritual return was true in biblical days, and why not in these days of enlightenment? The unseen have ever visited the mortal sphere, for what?—only to teach and to make us mortals good.

What is the use of feeling discouraged by despair and hopelessness in this mortal world—in which we only stay a short while and then pass on to immortal life—where everything is serene, where progress is offered and achievement is given its best thoughts and most intense adoration by all?

There, our spiritual sight is enlarged to perceive the unchanging fact that life is everlasting, is portrayed to us, and rapture and ecstatic happiness is transitory, and will not be unbelieved.

While the expressing of this transmission of life is a business, we reap whatever we have sown while in mortal life.

True soul love and reciprocal magnetic blending, like all of the strong influences of nature, is visible and is known. Spirits thrill, sway, gladden, and uplift us mortals. And they can do it without the use of words.

Spiritualism gives us knowledge of the idea concerning what love really is, and helps us to reason; and it also makes us think with intelligence, while in the physical body.

Our body is used by us as an instrument through which one can express his or her desire. Just so, the spirits control us. This is all-governing intelligence,—which is the universal law of life,—and which gives them power to come to us mortals and to return again to their own sphere.

There never would be so much unhappiness, crime and discord, if many more of us accepted the fact of spirit-return and sought to often receive messages from their loved ones in spirit life. They would not allow themselves to have anything short of happiness; and there would be no nervous weakness and depression. We would understand how to avoid all of these conditions of physical depression. No despair would enter our thoughts; there would be no jealous feelings, so frequently found among mortals.

Spiritualism teaches us happiness and confidence. It tries to create these conditions for

mortals, although it is difficult to understand this important question.

Spiritualism is life, motion, action; some of it is invisible, although it is known that these conditions exist. If infinite life is invisible, so must man's love be invisible; and it is the more intense and powerful because of this very attribute.

The highest thoughts come to us through spirit-return, and our aspiration should want it, to help us in the material expression.

All of us have undeveloped spiritual sight and perception, as life is energy itself.

Spiritualism can express itself only in manifestation and deeds, and by impressing our thoughts. These thoughts have magnetic power that thrill.

Those who have fear, have not yet learned the intrinsic value of Spiritualism.

This union of mortals with the immortal life will become stronger with time, and then we mortals will know the awakening.

Few of us have yet attained the sublime height, but true happiness will never be known until we become possessed of full knowledge of Spiritualism. Then we will develop as we commune. Influences of the true ones thus necessitate increased distance between mortals and immortals—the two spheres which should be one in thought.

In conclusion, we would like to make brief mention of a condition of spirituality which approaches near to divinity, because of its humble-

ness, yet with potency for good. We refer to the condition of unselfish devotion of mediums to those exalted spirits who favor us with messages, and other phenomena that are expressive of spirit-return.

Those spiritual mediums, who, day-by-day give their time, by readings for the public and thereby bring untold joy to thousands of persons who suffer mentally by bereavement.

O, the blessed truth of Spiritualism! And blessed are those mediums, high and low, rich and poor, who are truthful in transmitting messages from spirit to mortal!

And now, we give all praise to Supreme Intelligence, whose directing power is conveyed through those beneficent spirits in heaven, who can and do communicate with us mortals.

ALBERTA BRYAN.

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THE END.



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