SAINT PAUL.

LATE SOCIAL NEWS.

Miss Maggie Cornell, of Grove street, has returned from the coast.

Miss May McKay, of Eau Claire, has been the guest of Miss Anna Keating, of Burr street, the past week.

The regular meeting of the Daffodil card club was held Monday evening at the residence of Mrs. D. McKinnon. Prizes were won by Miss Hammer and Mr. Oakes; Miss Skoog and Mr. Fradenburg.

The Avon Social Cinch club met with Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Potter, of Holly avenue, Saturday evening. Prizes were won by A. D. Arundel, of Minneapolis, and Mrs. Geo. Koehler and Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick Low.

Miss Delia Connolly entertained the Fin-de-Siecle club Wednesday evening. Prizes were won by Miss Kate Wilson and Willis Branson. The club has adjourned until after the holidays, a business meeting being called for Jan. 4, at the home of Miss Nellie Fitzgerald, 102 East Acker street.

Miss May Kelly, assisted by her pupils, gave a very successful musicale Saturday afternoon from 3 to 5 at her home on Tilton street. Those participating in the programme were Misses Edith Winter, Martha Herpe, Jennie Jacks, Florence Hubener, Mary Moore, Minnie Orth, Masters Alfred Nussbaumer, Edward Gauger, Thomas Finnigan, Adolph Rank, Paul Gauger.

The "Bashful Four" gave a sleighing party to a number of their friends. The party met at the home of Miss Emma Miles, 158 Richmond street, and after riding for about two hours returned to the home of Miss Anna Daly, 461 Goodhue street, where they spent the rest of the evening at cards and dancing. Refreshments were served at 11 o'clock, after which the young pepole adjourned to their homes.

The Laurel club gave the third party in the progressive cinch tournament at the club house Friday evening. The game was extremely close, Mrs. T. D. Lovering and Misses Bessie Worrell and Emilie Edwardson, Messrs. T. E. Covington and S. L. S. Titus being tied for highest score. The regular semi-monthly dancing party, scheduled for Christmas night, has been postponed to the following Tuesday evening. The sleigh ride and dancing party to Gladstone will probably take place New Year's night. The club goes to Gladstone on invitation of a number of its citizens, two large sleighs seating fifty people having been engaged, and a highly enjoyable time is anticipated.

The Fair will open for business tomorrow morning in their new quarters, 92, 94 and 96 East Seventh street.

CHRISTMAS SONGS SUNG

And Sermons Preached in Local Churches Yesterday.

A number of the local churches observed the Christmas season with special services yesterday. At Dayton Avenue Presbyterian church Rev. Dr. M. D. Edwards preached two sermons appropriate to the day, and in the morning there was a special musical service. Miss Augusta Wicklund was the soloist.

In St. Mark's Catholic church, at Merriam Park, the choir played an important part in the service. It consisted of: Sopranos, Mesdames Clancy and O'Toole; contraltos, Misses Katie Donnelly and O'Toole; tenors, Messrs. Ojes and Ryplinger; bassos, Messrs. Wareham and Carolin, Morrow. Rev. E. D. Casey officiated.

At St. Anthony Park Congregational church there was also special music, and Rev. E. S. Pressey spoke upon "The Deepest Christmas Truth."

Rev. C. W. Scovel preached the morning service at the First Presbyterian church, and at the usual hour for Sabbath school the classes sang their Christmas carols and presented gifts for the poor.

The children also figured prominently in the services yesterday morning at Park Congregational church. There were brief addresses to them by the pastor, Dr. E. P. Ingersoll, and Rev. Dr. John Dewitt.

Appropriate services were also had at the New Jerusalem, Philadelphian Baptist, and Burr Street Baptist churches.

"OUR BACHELORS" IN GERMAN.

Second Bill of the New Athenaeum Theater Company.

The second performance given by the Athenaeum Theater company was presented to a large audience at the Mozart hall last evening. The production was the play presented in this city some years ago by Robson ane Crane, entitled "Our Bachelors," and tells the story in comedy lines of how the principals, each in turn, succumbed to the wiles of the fair sex, and finally entered upon the matrimonial state. The piece is replete with possibilities for amusing situations and laughable interpretation, which was fully appreciated by the cast and presented to the best advantage. There was a finish about the performance which denoted careful preparation, and the frequent applause of the audience was ample evidence of the merit of the players. The stage settings were more extensive than at theprevious performance of the company, while the costumes were all that was demanded. The music between the five acts was furnished by Seibert's orchestra.

NAVAL VETERANS' ANNUAL

Will Be Held Tuesday of Next Week in St. Paul.

The annual meeting of the Minnesota Association of Naval Veterans will be held Tuesday evening, Dec. 29, at the store of M. Harris, Wabasha and Ninth streets.

Dec. 29 is the anniversary of two affairs in the history of the navy. One, the fight between the United States frigate "Constitution" and the British frigate "Java," at sea in the War of 1812, when the Java was completely destroyed after an action of less than two hours, the other, the first attack on Fort Fisher in the War of the Rebellion. Shipmates are requested to attend in uniform.

U. O. F. Reception.

A reception is to be tendered by the United Order of Foresters this evening at Ceutral hall, Sixth and West Seventh streets. The St. Paul courts of the United Order of Foresters will give a joint entertainment and reception in honor of Supreme Chief Ranger W. A. Stolts, of Chicago. An address of welcome will be delivered by Mayor Doran. The programme will be as follows:

Overature .....Orchestra
Address of Welcome ....Judge Schoommaker
Musical Selection .....Orchestra
Vocal Selection .....Quartette
Messrs. W. F. Myron, J. C. Myron, M. Keating, F. Wilson.
Recitation .....Selected
Charles Fairchild.
Address of Welcome .....Mayor Doran
Address.....U. O. F.
W. A. Stolts, S. C. R., United Order of Foresters.
Soprano Solo .....Miss Julia Griffin
Violin Solo .....Prof. Burt Rodenkirchen
Address .....Rev. Dr. Smith
Violin Solo .....Selected
Frank Wilson.
Flute Solo .....Prof. Henry Rodenkirchen
Vocal Selection .....Quartette
Fancy Dance.

A dancing programme of twelve numbers will follow.

Beautiful Pipes for Presents.

See Adam Fetsch's large assortment of Pipes and smokers' goods.

Rheumatism affects the joints and muscles and causes constant suffering. Cure it by neutralizing the lactic acid and purifying the blood by taking

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, cure headache. 25c

POLICE CALLED IN

RIVAL MAHATMAS AND MEDIUMS CREATE A ROW AT CONOVER HALL.

SAMRI BALDWIN'S PERSON

NOT A DESIRABLE ACQUISITION AT ANNA EVA FAY'S FINAL PERFORMANCE.

WORDY WAR OF COMPETITORS

In Which the Crowd Gets the Worth of Its Money Beside the Programme.

The three weeks' sensation produced in St. Paul by the mystic work of Miss Anna Eva Fay, augmented, as it was, for the last week by the rivalry of the Baldwins, so-called "White Mahatmas," was brought to a thrilling climax last night at Conover hall, when the police had to be called in to prevent serious trouble between the professional rivals.

Baldwin, it seems, secured two seats for last night's performance by Miss Fay's company; in the front one was a stalwart individual with strong lungs and a belligerent disposition, skeptical withal.

Everything ran smoothly until Miss Fay came to the critical "questions and answers" test, which is the central point of the whole performance.

Then the big fellow in the front row, being handed one of the boards on which questions were written, leaped to his feet, shouting "Fraud! fraud!"

One of the members of the company, who was passing the boards, started to call the disturber down, when Baldwin, who was seated further back in the house, rose and called out:

"Let the man alone."

By this time Manager Pingree had reached the stage, and he at once charged Baldwin with having inspired the turbulence.

Baldwin retorted that Pingree had paid one of the local papers 50 cents a line for a scurrilous article in regard to him, Baldwin.

Pingree retorted that he had not paid a cent and offered to hang up $500 to establish that fact.

Meanwhile, the crowd was becoming uproarious.

Some one shouted that Baldwin ought to be ashamed to try to take the bread out of a poor woman's mouth, and other equally pointed remarks were made.

Pingree told Baldwin that he should be ashamed to try to break up a performance that way, and Baldwin rejoined that Pingree had done the same thing with him at Haverhill, Mass., once.

The upshot of it all was that a policeman was called in and removed the original disturber from the hall.

Baldwin was warned to subside also, and left the hall, after which the audience regained a certain degree of composure, and the tests were gone ahead with as usual. While Miss Fay was evidently somewhat excited by the incident, her tests were seemingly as effective as usual in mystifying the spectators and auditors.

The Baldwins go to Duluth to show tonight, Miss Fay and company to Dubuque, Io.

INTRICATE BUT PATRIOTIC.

Lumbermen as Promoters of Forestry, Save the Mark!

The secretary of the State Forestry association, Mr. J. O. Barrett, has made a discovery that means a good deal for the future of the forests of the state. The association has done a great deal of good in the matter of the preservation of the forests, and has read numerous papers and passed many resolutions that look forward to a great deal more good than they have been able to accomplish as yet. The late discovery of the secretary is along a new line of thought. He has discovered that the lumberman who goes into the woods to cut down the trees is an agent in the reforestation of the tracts he denudes of forests. He starts with the proposition that the trees are cut down by the lumbermen. Next he speaks of the seeds of these trees that fall to the ground when the trees are felled. These are the seeds that fall from the trees that are cut down by the lumbermen. He then finds that the little red squirrels and the wood mice make food of the seeds and thus prevent their sprouting and growing up into forests. These are the squirrels that eat the seeds that fall from the trees that are cut down by the lumbermen. If he stopped here there would be no further forests, but he does not stop. He goes further, and this is where he shows his deep study into the affair. He knows that in the camps that are established for the purpose of cutting down the trees, there is nearly always a cat to a camp, and frequently more than one. He finds that these cats destroy the squirrels that eat the seeds that fall from the trees that are cut down by the lumbermen. He takes one step further and finds that he has completed a circle. He knows that the cats are taken into the woods by the lumbermen. Finally he winds up thus: These are the lumbermen that furnish the cats that destroy the squirrels that eat the seeds that fall from the trees that are cut down by the lumbermen. And so it appears after all that the forests that are being cut down are to be replaced indirectly by the same agency that is destroying them.—Mississippi Valley Lumberman.

PRISON-CELL ROMANCE

Surrounds the Case of John St. Aubin, Alleged Burglar.

John St. Aubin, one of the gang of burglars which enjoyed a reign of terror last Wednesday night, is having coals of fire heaped upon his head by two of his victims. Yesterday Mrs. J. A. Taylor and her daughter, who identified St. Aubin as the man who had talked with them during the raid of their house, at 141 East Tenth street, called upon the prisoner at the central police station and presented him with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. The bouquet was really the gift of Miss Taylor, though Mrs. Taylor also carried a small package when she visited St. Aubin's cell. It contained a small Bible, and after the young man had expressed his thanks for the flowers, the two women engaged him with its contents and prayer. St. Aubin appeared to appreciate the kindness of the people whom he robbed, and in addition to treating them with the utmost respect, interested himself in the proceedings, if not for his own good, out of consideration for his visitors.

It appears that when the gang entered the Taylor apartments St. Aubin was the one to assure the women that they would not be harmed if they remained quiet, and while the others searched the rooms, Mrs. Taylor and her daughter sought to reason with St. Aubin regarding the evil of his ways. He talked with them quite freely and declared he desired to reform, but that he was compelled by others of the gang to assist them in their robberies. Mrs. Taylor was impressed with the young man's sincerity, and is hopeful of aiding in his reformation, though he is at present behind the bars. The visits of Mrs. Taylor are looked upon somewhat lightly by some of the police authorities, who simply shrug their shoulders and smile when the subject is broached, while others are of the opinion that the kindness is being wasted. One of the latter remarked yesterday that "Johnnie must have given those women an awful con the night of the robbery."

GOD NOT EXACTING.

Rev. J. F. Stout Says He Needs No Appeasing.

At First M. E. church last evening Rev. J. F. Stout preached from the text:

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Hebrews xi., 6. In part he said:

"The text opens to the inquirer the way to God. We shall assume that the approach to God is of the highest possible moment. The Bible is full of the outcrying of the hunger of the human heart after God. Jesus declares as one of His great purposes to reveal God to a seeking world, and seems to assume that to find Him is to find all things needed, for in Him dwelleth righteousness, peace, rest, and eternal life.

"The first step is the acceptance of the fact that God is. This is a very reasonable demand and easy, for it is more natural to believe in the existence of God than to disbelieve. Atheism is rare, and he who asserts it does violence to his nature. Paul declares that the heathen themselves were without excuse for not knowing the existence of God in his war against sin.

"The second demand is that the seeker shall believe that He is a rewarder, a benevolent God, seeking the interests, not of Himself, but of His own. This ought not to be difficult; indeed, the unbeliever attempts to outdo the Christian in his conception of God's goodness, but he has taken it from the word of God. Against this demanded belief we find the whole trend of pagan thinking, which makes God only exaggerated humanity. Whether you study pantheism, which makes all things God, or polytheism, which deifies individual creations, you will still find that you are in the presence of conceptions of God which are debasing. Worship at idolatrous altars has oftener been corrupting than otherwise. At the very best the heathen conception of God makes Him implacable, and exacting of form and ceremony by which he may be appeased. It has transpired that heathen ideas have intruded themselves into the minds of Christians, and more or less moulded their conceptions of God to their hurt, and in disregard of God's express declarations concerning Himself. Jesus has nowhere stated that God needed to be appeased. He reveals Him as loving, sacrificing, pouring out Himself to make man willing to be saved and reconciled unto Himself. The revelation of God in Jesus is complete, and shows forth the incomparable goodness of God and His unspeakable passion of love for them. This conception is essential, and for this reason Jesus goes to all lengths of pain and agony to make it. He then that would come to God must believe that God has come to him, that He is a rewarder. This certainly is no strain on the faith power. What is become of the man who says that he is so constituted that he cannot have faith? He is not asked to believe theories of inspiration, or systems of theology, or any man-made standard. The New Testament nowhere makes a stronger demand on belief than does the text, and surely no one who wants to know God will be deterred by the demands of the text.

"The third demand is, not one of faith, but surrender, and in it is the difficulty that keeps men from God. Man must diligently seek Him as God. God has diligently sought man. There are in connection with this condition several well understood facts. Seeking necessitates a surrender of sin. The great difficulty in coming to God does not grow out of the problems of belief, but rather out of the fascination of sin. This must be broken. God is easily found when the soul awakes to the fact that to know Him is better than all other knowledge.

"This seeking must be marked by intensity. Why should we receive the greatest gifts offered in the universe of God by a half-hearted search?"

KNIGHTS OF THE PUNCH.

Conductors Hold Their Annual Meeting and Banquet.

One hundred and fifty members of St. Paul Division No. 40, Order of Railway Conductors, gathered in Bowlby hall yesterday afternoon at the annual meeting of the division. The meeting was called to order at 2 o'clock by Chief Conductor J. D. Condit, and adjourned at 6 o'clock to the Hotel Ryan, were an elaborate banquet was served.

The election of officers was the chief item of interest at the business meeting. The election resulted as follows:

Chief Conductor—J. D. Condit, re-elected for his seventh term.
Assistant Chief Conductor—Thomas Sullivan.
Secretary and Treasurer—M. N. Goss (sixth term).
Senior Conductor—Hugh Malloy.
Junior Conductor—J. H. Grininger.
Inside Sentinel—H. C. Sargent.
Outside Sentinel—John Murphy.
Trustees and Finance Committee—H. W. Field, chairman (fourth term); Thomas E. Leonard (fourth term) and John A. Scott.
Delegate to the grand divison to be held next May at Los Angeles, Cal.—J. D. Condit.
Alternate—M. N. Goss.

Past Chief Conductor George Humsaker acted as installing officer and performed the ceremonies that placed upon the newly elected officers the responsibilities of their new positions.

Secretary and Treasurer M. N. Goss reported that the St. Paul division boasts of 200 members, and that they carry $300,000 insurance in the order's insurance circle. The report of the finance committee, which was highly encouraging, closed the meeting, and the conductors adjourned to the Ryan hotel to partake of an eight-course dinner served in the hotel ordinary. One hundred and twenty-five plates were laid.

There were present Grand Chief Conductor E. E Clark, of Cedar Rapids, Io., Grand Secretary and Treasurer Martin Clancy, of that city, and representatives from all the divisions in the Northwest.

Speeches were delivered by Messrs. Clark, Clancy and the elected and retiring officers. Mr. Condit acted as toastmaster. Music by the Twin City Mandolin orchestra filled the banquet room with harmony while the inner man was being satisfied. During the intermissions between the after-dinner speeches the Apollo quartette rendered several pleasing selections.

During the year the St. Paul division has lost two of its members, L. T. Haven and F. W. Allen. The quartette sang the "Vacant Chair," and the song touched the chords of sorrow of the members of the order and many an eye glistened as its owner thought of the two conductors who have taken their last trip.

A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Anna Eva Fay for her invitation to the order to witness last night's performance at Conover Music hall in a body.

Eureka Club Entertained.

Saturday night the Eureka Athletic and Social club gave the first of its winter series of club parties. Music was furnished by Brose's mandolin orchestra. The club has been recently organized, and has its rooms at 493 Dale street. The officers are: F. Dehn, president, Joseph Haugga, vice president; Fred Lempke, financial secretary; D. W. Maran, recording secretary; William Raatz, treasurer, and Bert Loughree, chairman of the executive board. The proceeds of the club's parties will be used for purchasing new gymnastic apparatus for their rooms. One hundred and fifty were present at Saturday night's party.

PRESS CLUB MAY MOVE.

Meeting to Consider It Called for Tomorrow.

There will be a meeting of the St. Paul Press club in the club rooms in the Washburn building tomorrow afternoon at 4:30. The question of the removal of the club rooms and other important matters will be brought up for consideration.

To Help a Church.

There will be a musicale and literary entertainment given by Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Wilson, of Chicago, at Clinton Avenue M. E. church Tuesday evening, Dec. 29.

The programme will consist of dramatic, tragic and humorous elocutionary selections, songs and duets by standard composers and songs written by Mr. Wilson. The entertainment is for the benefit of the Clinton Avenue church.

We call the attention of our readers to the special notice of our State Savings Bank under announcements.

HOW DO THEY DO IT

ST. PAUL PEOPLE SPECULATING ABOUT THE PERFORMANCES OF ANNA EVA FAY

AND THE WHITE MAHATMAS.

SOME THINK CONFEDERATES ARE USED, OTHERS IMPRESSION SLATES, OTHERS

DO NOT TRY TO SOLVE THE WORK.

Two Articles From Eastern Papers Showing How Curtain Mystifying Work Is Done.

St. Paul people have been led into a great deal of speculation recently by the performance, wonderful to many and more or less mystifying to all, of Anna Eva Fay and the Baldwins, or self-called "White Mahatmas." While Miss Fay had the start by two weeks, and made the first impression, it is but fair to say that people generally have taken more interest in her work than in the performance which has been here but one week.

Many people are skeptical as to the genuineness of the methods by which answers to questions are given in the shows. Confederates are believed by many to be the basis of the hoax, as they insist it is. It is pretty well established that on Sunday night last there were in a box at the Metropolitan a handsomely dressed couple, the man of whom asked where he had seen the Baldwins before. The question was answered, several cities being named, and the gentleman assented. The couple came to the Windsor hotel a few days before the performance, and both after and before it, it is said, ate at the same table with the Baldwins.

Impression slates, by which the question would be transcribed on a second sheet, which would be passed back to the so-called medium, have been suggested as a solution.

Some believe that the mystifying questions which are not prearranged are the result of general assertions which could be construed to have some bearing on the question, the success of this part of the entertainment depending largely on the highly developed memory of the actors. Incidentally, it may be remarked that Mr. Pingree, who is Miss Fay's partner, so to speak, in this scene, has something of a memory himself. In a recent visit to the Globe office he talked glibly, as it were but yesterday, of newspaper men and buildings long since disappeared, existing in the Twin Cities from ten to twenty years ago.

The Boston Herald recently printed an alleged expose of the methods used by the Baldwins. This was shown to a gentleman last night, who was formerly interested in one of these mystifying shows, and he said that so far as the Baldwins are concerned it was not true. "Those are not the Baldwins' methods," said he. "Those are the methods of some man who has given away his own business. He has had a spiritualistic show of some kind, and simply tells his way of doing business. The Baldwins are different." The Boston Herald's article is as follows:

"I do not need to tell you that clairvoyance and clairaudience before a large company or a public hall are the easiest of all. You have plenty of time beforehand to select names and incidents that will be 'recognized' without fail. The directory, public records, monuments, grave stones, confederates and your sitters during the week who tell you that they will surely come to your public seances, all give you exact information. As an instance of the wonderful results you can get by these methods, I want to describe to you the act which the Baldwins have used throughout the country with extraordinary effect. During the first part of the performance a number of slips of paper are distributed among the audience, with the request that they write questions on them, such as 'Who stole my watch?' etc. They are then asked to fold them up and place them in their pockets and to keep their mind on them. They are also requested to sign their full name to them. During the latter part of the performance Mrs. Baldwin is brought on the stage in a supposed hypnotic state. She starts by saying I have an impresion. It come from the center of the house; it is from James Brown; he wishes to know who stole his pocketbook. Mrs. Baldwin now asks for the slip, and Mrs. Baldwin either describes or gives the initial of who stole the pocketbook, probably telling when it was stolen, and the amount of money it contained. In this manner she answers three or four questions, when she appears to feel chilled. A piece of cheese cloth is thrown over her, and she answers the rest of the questions, and probably describes some recent murder.

"The secret is this: In the audience are placed four or five "cappers" who take slips of paper, but instead of writing questions, they give copies of the questions that are written by those around them, giving the row and the number of the seat, and if they cannot make out the name, give a description of the writer's dress. These slips are passed to the attendants when they collect the pencils and the small tablet from which the slips were torn. They are taken to Mrs. Baldwin, a list is made of them with such answers as they see fit. When possible, information of lost friends is obtained from twenty to thirty directions, which Mr. Baldwin carries in his trunk. Additional information is also obtained by taking into confidence the manager or the treasurer of the house. For instance, if some person when buying a ticket tells the treasurer that he has some lost article, and that he is going to ask Baldwin about it, the treasurer makes a note of this and also of the seat the person buys. In her act Mrs. Baldwin uses this information. If the party does not happen to write the question, she will tell them that they thought of it, and so make the act all the stronger. Before Mrs. Baldwin goes on the stage she conceals in her dress the list of questions; but she commits four or five of them to memory, which she gives first. When these are exhausted she has the cheese cloth thrown over her, which gives her an opportunity to consult the list. For each performance one or two good questions are worked up by the "cappers" for the star test of the evening. These usually relate to some great local sensation, such as a murder or a railroad accident, etc.

"By this method you can see that an unlimited amount of sensation can be produced, limited only by the skill of the performers, and still further information can be obtained by having a lady and gentleman confederate make a systematic canvass of the towns you wish to play, with the ostensible purpose of disposing of in some manner merchandise, such as books, Bibles, photograph albums, patent medicines and household utensils. It is, however, well if these confederates keep their real business to themselves, keep their eyes and ears open and learn all they possibly can both of the living and the dead among prominent spiritualists. They should also provide themselves with a blank book suitable for the pocket, which contains an index. Under the proper letter record every name and date which they imagine may be of future service to the professor. By the exercise of a little shrewdness, the confederates can soon learn at the postoffice and principal news stands of the town who are the greatest readers of spiritual papers, while the local cemetery will furnish much desirable information concerning those who have passed into spiritual life. With the names and dates thus secured, the confederates will be able in most instances to make brief histories, which they mail to the professor, who travels eight or ten days behind."

Judge James Bartlett, in a paper which recently appeared in the Popular Science News, entitled "Second Sight," explains how a certain trick that is claimed to be performed by preternatural means by occultists who profess to have studied magic in India is done. He writes:

The trick is performed as follows: Each person in the audience is presented with a slip of paper upon which to write anything he or she may choose. The paper written upon is immediately secreted by the writer, as much care as possible being taken that no one else sees what is written upon it. The performer who has been absent from the room while this is being done, is brought in and led as if in a state of trance to a chair within full view of every one present. A light piece of drapery is thrown over him so that he is completely covered by it, and yet it is thin enough to be translucent, and it can be seen that he has not gone down through the floor or ascended up through the ceiling. The audience is told that the drapery prevents the sphere or influence or spell that surrounds him from being dissipated. He now begins, and repeats word for word, the sentences written upon any or all the slips of paper. Nothing can be more astonishing; the paper has not left the possession of the writers; it is equally certain that it is impossible that another person could have seen what was thereon written, and yet the trick is as simple as it is surprising, and that is certainly saying a great deal.

The explanation is as follows: In order to write anything upon the slip of paper given out, one must have something firm and flat upon which to place it, and for this purpose bits of pasteboard of a convenient size are handed about the audience. The pasteboard, however, is not solid, as it seems to be; the uppermost layer of paper can be separted at one of the edges from the layers beneath it, and in to this slip white paper introduced. The uppermost layer of paper is blacked with crayon or soft pencil on its under side, and whatever is written upon the paper resting upon it is faithfully stenciled or traced upon the white paper inserted. The pasteboards, being collected, are taken out of the room and given to the performer by his assistant, who may or may not be a confederate. That is, if the performer is very skillful, he may dupe his assistant as well as his audience. He may tell him, for instance, it is necessary for him to have these pasteboard rests and pass his fingers over them so that he can become en rapport with the person with whom they were in contact. It is better, however, at least at first, to have a confederate. The rest is easy enough. The inserted slips of tell-tale papers are collected and carried with him by the performer, who manages to read them either through a hole in the drapery or by the light that sifts through it as he sits covered up in his chair with his back to the audience. It is well, simetimes, not to have enough pasteboard cards to go round the audience, and give apparently at haphazard a book, an atlas or portfolio, which, of course, has been neatly covered with paper or cloth and supplied with blackened and with white paper as are the pasteboard cards.

If anything should happen that would prevent reading any particular strip of paper, the performer may at once say that he does not pretend to be able to read all, but only such sentences as appear to his mental vision. This will add to the effect and make the trick appear all the more mysterious. In supplying pencils to the audience be sure to give them good, hard ones, that will require some pressure to make the writing legible; be careful, too, that the paper with which you furnish them is rather thin, so that you will get a good tracing on that you have inserted in the pasteboard rest. As each slip is read by the performer the assistant should ask if any one in the audience whote that sentence, and if it is correctly repeated, and then, stepping to the writer and taking the slip from him or her, he should himself read it aloud and show it to any one desirous of seeing it; this enhances the wonder and interest of the performance, and also gives the performer time to decipher the next slip. It is well to have the sentences take the form of questions which the performer can read, comment upon and answer in an oracular way, especially as this takes up time and consequently gives fewer selected slips to read during the period allotted to the trick, for to read a few is quite as wonderful as to read many.

Now let the master of occult art cap the climax. Let him again be led from the room, ostensibly to have his magic sphere renewed, and let some one among the audience write the name of a deceased person, together with their own, on a slip of paper. Lay a good deal of stress on the requirement that the names shall be those of a person deceased, this, of course, being only to mystify the audience. When the names have been written the performer is to enter the room. He does so with the sleeve of his coat rolled up and his arm bared to the elbow. After showing there is nothing upon his arm he turns down his sleeve, readjusts his cuff and proceeds with his trick. He first names the person whom the audience has chosen, in his absence to write the name; re requests that person to crumple up the slip of paper upon which the name is written and rub it well over his arm just above the cuff, "so that the writing will penetrate through his sleeve," he says; now, turning up his sleeve, he snows the writing that was upon the paper in blood red letters upon his bared arm. The manner of performing this trick is, having ascertained, as before, the writing upon the slip of paper by means of tracing, to write or print it with red ink mixed with a little glycerine or red printer's ink, or oil color and turpentine, upon paper which is to be fastened on the inside of that part of the performer's coat sleeve which he instructs the person who has written the name upon the paper to rub with the paper. The paper may be neatly pinned to the lining of the sleeve, care being taken that the pins do not scratch when the sleeve is turned down.—Popular Science News.

IN THE BORDER LAND.

E. V. Smalley Discusses Mind or Soul Reading.

E. V. Smalley, of St. Paul, contributes the following to the Chicago Sunday Times-Herald:

ST. PAUL, Dec. 17.—The border land between this world and the next offers a fascinating field for exploration. Wide-awake and level-headed people who make excursions into this mysterious realm often return with information that stands the test of scientific analysis.

People in this city have been a good deal excited during the last three weeks by the performances of a little thin-faced, blonde-haired woman which savor of the supernatural. A hall is thronged every night with curious people of all classes. Some come from the big mansions on Summit avenue, and some from the shanties on the Bohemian flats. They write questions on all sorts of subjects on slips of paper which they put into their pockets. Some prepare their questions at home, carefully sealing them up in envelopes. The little woman sits upon the stage under a big white sheet, which is thrown over her head and falls to the floor. Nothing is visible of her but one thin, nervous hand loaded with rings. She calls out in quick succession the names of forty or fifty of the questioners each evening, reads correctly the questions which they have secretly written and hidden away in their pockets and gives them appropriate answers. Where the answers involve things unknown to the questioners or yet to come to pass it frequently turns out that she is correct. Now, how does she know, sitting under her sheet on the stage, what all these people have written? The fake theory does not explain the phenomena. Our leading merchants, lawyers, judges, doctors and preachers are not confederates of the little blonde woman. We must throw this explanation out of court.

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The popular explanation of such performances as this is "mind reading." But what is mind reading? Years ago people used to attribute everything mysterious to magnetism. It was a good, big word, new at that time, and it let them out of many difficulties. Evidently the little woman in some way sees the questions people have hidden in their pockets. Now science recognizes only one way of seeing, and that is by the reflection of objects upon the retina of the eye and the conveying of impressions to the brain through the optic nerve. As the woman does not see the questions with her physical eye she must have some other sense of perception. There must be eyes of the soul which see quite independently of the eyes of the body. Then there must be a soul; that is to say, there must be an intelligent ego residing in the body and able to see and comprehend things not visible to the physical sense of seeing. If there is any other explanation I should be glad to hear it.

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Living with his wife in a ground-floor flat on the South side in Chicago is a tall, slender young man with a peculiarly shaped head—very narrow and very high above the ears. This young man sits on one side of a little table, which is furnished with pads of white paper and a dozen well-sharpened pencils. The visitor sits on the other side of the table. The visitor may, if he pleases, write a number of questions on slips of paper, fold them up and put them under an elastic band while the young man is out of the room. It is not certain that these questions will be answered, or that the names of the dead people to whom they are addressed will be written by the young man. Other names may be written, but they will all be known to the visitor. The young man fusses around with his numerous pencils to find one that is sharp enough to suit him; then, without any trance business or any sort of hocus-pocus, he begins to write little letters addressed to the visitor and purporting to come from the spirits of the dead. The curious thing about the performance is that he signs the full names of various relatives and friends of the visitor, some of whom have passed out of this life long years ago. The names may be those of grandparents, uncles, aunts, parents, brothers or sisters or personal friends. We will assume that the visitor is an entire stranger to the young man; yet the names of his former kith and kin are written plainly and the letters sometimes make reference to events that took place long ago in the lifetime of those who no longer abide upon this planet. While writing these little notes of affectionate greeting the young man frequently addresses himself to invisible presences in the room. He seems to see people standing about him, and talks to them quite familiarly.

This is the phenomenon and it may be witnessed by any inquirer. You pay $2 for an hour's sitting and it is certainly worth the money. What is the explanation? Are we indeed encompassed by "a cloud of witnesses," as Paul believed?

—E. V. Smalley.

The Fair, flooded in the Ryan annex fire, have secured the store 92, 94 and 96 East Seventh street, where they will open for business tomorrow morning.

ADEPTS AND KARMA

TREATED BY COUNTESS WACHTMEISTER IN AN ADDRESS LAST NIGHT

TO ST. PAUL THEOSOPHISTS.

FRIEND OF BLAVATSKY AND OLCOTT INSPIRES THE LOCAL CIRCLE

WITH ORIGINAL ENTHUSIASM.

Theosophy the Genius of Modern Civilization, in the Countess' Sanguine Belief.

Countess Wachtmeister, the famous expounder of theosophy, lectured before the St. Paul Theosophical society at its rooms in the Endicott last evening upon the subject, "Man and Woman the Masters of Their Own Destinies." The Countess Wachtmeister is recognized as one of the foremost teachers of the creed which has comparatively recently gained such a foothold in the civilized world, and an unusually large audience assembled to listen to her discourse. While largely technical, the lecture was not intended as a profound exposition of the fundamental tenets of theosophy and was replete with fascinating interest. The subject carries with it the teaching of the belief, and the Countess Wachtmeister elucidated the theme in a comprehensive manner, simplified with apt illustrations and examples.

The formation of the original theosophical society by Mme. Blavatsky and Col. Olcott was related by the speaker, who also briefly referred to the rapid growth of the movement, until at the present time there are branches organized throughout the world. As a factor in the development of the theosophical idea the law of evolution was dwelt upon, and its workings and results deduced in substantiation of the belief. Beginning with the barbarous savage, Countess Wachtmeister traced the progress of the law, step by step, until, as she claimed, it had produced the change in man which constituted the high civilization of today. But the law of evolution did not stop here, and, as the highest type of man today was above the savage of hundreds of years ago, so would the man of the future be above the present standard. This law in its fullest application had produced the adepts of India, and even among these there were degrees, while the highest standard was constantly being raised by its untrammeled workings. Good adepts could become better adepts, and as the law applied to these it also was applicable to people in general.

The portion of the discourse dealing with the theory of reincarnation was of particular interest, and from the theosophical standpoint, easily explained many of the phenomena of this life, while delving deeply into both the past and future. The law of reincarnation was an endless chain of existences extending into infinity. Man had lived in other states and would continue to change his sphere through time. With these changes went hand in hand the law of cause and effect, and the condition of the individual in the various stages of reincarnation would be governed by his actions and thoughts of other lives. Genius in all of its empire was but the production of the law referred to in the past conditions of the individual. God had not gifted one man above another, but, on the contrary, eminence in any direction was only the triumph of the reincarnation idea working together with the law of cause and effect, made manifest. Great musicians, famed sculptors and painters of the present had all prepared themselves in another life for the bloom of their glory which reached its full in this existence. Even beyond all this the reincarnation process obtained a higher development attendant upon each stage, accordng as each was lived in perfection or otherwise. The rich man who had been haughty and repellant in this world, refusing charity with millions at his command, would in a future state be reincarnated amidst poverty and want, so that under subsequent operations of the law he might appreciate the distress of the needy. In this way a mutual sympathy would be created which would change the hardest nature. "As ye sow that shall ye also reap," declared the speaker, in advising her listeners to conform their present lives to the highest ideals, that each succeeding reincarnation should be for the better.

The law of Karma was dwelt upon extensively in explanation of the manner in which the indivdual might prepare himself for the reincarnations. All evil and trouble was due to a lack of harmony, and in the readjustment of harmony came the pain and suffering which humanity suffers. Karma acted on two planes, the physical and the mental and moral. All were responsible for the evil which befell them and must bear the conditions of a working off Karma until evil was expelled. A good act or thought reacted upon the individual, as likewise did bad thoughts and actions. In short, what the individual fitted himself for, that position would he fill. In conclusion, Ceuntess Wachtmeister spoke of the practical side of theosophy and of its assistance in the every-day life of man. It taught him how to live with knowledge. It showed whence he came and why and whither he goeth.

SOUSA TRIPLE NUMBER

One of the Gems of Yesterday's Seibert Concert.

It is really a sad commentary on the musical taste of the people of St. Paul that so good a concert as that rendered by Seibert's orchestra at Conover hall yesterday should have passed by with so slim an attendance. The commentary is all the more aggravating that a Minneapolis audience in attendance upon a Sunday afternoon concert outnumbers the St. Paul audience five to one. It is no uncommon thing to see 1,200 people crowded into Harmonia hall of a Sunday afternoon in the Flour city, and not only in numbers does the Minneapolis audience outnumber that of St. Paul, but it outranks it in enthusiasm and surpasses it in intelligent discrimination. It should not be so. There is no good reason for the fact, but it exists. The two orchestras are very evenly mated. Many of the finest players in one organization are to be seen on alternate Sundays in the other. They play much the same music, under much the same conditions, and under two excellent leaders, but, nevertheless, St. Paul people have not awakened to a full realization of the golden opportunity they have twice each month to hear the best music excellently rendered.

The audience which greeted Seibert's orchestra was about the average, but did not fill the hall. The programme was far superior to that of the preceding concert, and, were it not for a triple number by Sousa, which was in a semi-popular vein, the programme was entirely devoted to classical themes. The first number was the "Marche et Cortege," from "La Reine de Saba," by Gounod. The march carries in it a happy blending of military pomp and swing with a funereal and dirge-like strain, which only adds to its attractiveness. The execution was excellent.

The second number divided honors with any other number on the entire programme. It was the overture "Ungarische Lustpiel," by Keler Bela. In this selection the orchestra appeared at its best. A grand selection from "Tannhauser," which opens with the inspiring movement of the overture from the same opera, also found favor. The orchestra played several movements and selections from the opera, and the audience would have enjoyed more of it. Right here it might be said that a suggestion was heard yesterday that Mr. Seibert give a "Tannhauser" afternoon, playing largely from that grand opera.

J. F. Merrill sang two tenor solos, responding to an encore, after having sung Stephen Adam's "Star of Bethlehem." Mr. Merrill has a very sweet and true tenor, and a marked feature of his singing is the clearness of his enunciation. Of the remaining numbers, the sacred overture, "Ave Maria," by Scheppegrell, was perhaps the selection which showed to best advantage the strength of the orchestra in that class of music. The "Grand Fantasie," from the opera "Huguenots," by Meyerbeer, followed, closing the programme.

ADELINE GREEN, ACTRESS.

Rush City Ten-Year-Old Imposes on Sympathy.

As the St. Paul & Duluth train from the Zenith City pulled into the