

the dead bury their dead. But let us who still believe in the future of America, sow the seed of truth. The one reform previously inquired into is but one of the many which shall carry our country and our people forward and upward. It is required of us that we fulfil our duty. Let us shake off that spirit of indifference that holds us down, and let us fearlessly, but intelligently, take one forward step at a time. Let the prejudice of false patriotism be powerless in preventing us from expressing and acknowledging the true state of affairs, and let us not be foiled by the over-estimation of the power of opposition. Then our efforts will create a freer and better America than the America of today, and we shall be able to develop a spirit of true patriotism, of real progressiveness, of justice for the many as well as for the few, and for the few as well as for the many. We shall, in a word, be able to raise our country to that plane where we shall have a right to proudly and justly call it "the land of the free."

ERIK OBERG.

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PRACTICAL POLITICS.

For The Public.

Before the Election.

Now Voter is blithe as a robin in June.
 "Put salt on my trail," is the turn of his tune.
 (The weather is warm, and the Voter is dry,
 And Candidate-Candidate cometh nearby.)
 And Candidate-Candidate bucketh the game,
 And Voter, so blithe, singeth ever the same;
 For be he like robin or jaybird or goose
 He knoweth a thing when a Candidate's loose.

Now Candidate goeth abroad in his might;
 With his wad and his smile he's a beautiful sight.
 His horn he can blow, and a horn he can drink;
 To Him-That-Wears-Two-Horns he tippeth a wink.
 Saith: "Hurry along for the time is at hand
 When Candidate-Candidate saveth the land!"
 But the land of a loser is lost on the day
 That Candidate-Candidate maketh this play.

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After the Election.

A Candidate croucheth alone in his lair,
 And the look on his face would put kinks in your hair.

He diggeth in pocket and findeth a sou;
 He findeth some bills—they are bills overdue—
 He muttereth prayer—of a heathenish kind—
 And is glad, very glad, oh he is—in your mind!—
 For Candidate-Candidate fell off the roof,
 And ye that were "friends" of his, hold ye aloof.

A Candidate cocketh his hat on his ear
 And crieth triumphant: "Oh, look who is here!"
 "Skedaddle!" he saith to those holders of place
 Whose Candidate lost in the Candidates' race.
 "You're nix cummarouse; I have friends of my own."
 And, he addeth, aside, in a quieter tone:
 "I've spent all I had, every God's blessed bean,
 But what I'll get back will make Boston look green."

Poor Voter is gay as a frolicsome wind.
 He bloweth how easy were Candidates skinned.
 He swelleth his chest and he puffeth cigars
 Until urchins hang on, thinking he is the cars.
 And prouder he groweth, and lighter in weight,
 And faster he speedeth to ultimate fate,
 Where things that he getteth will teach him to reck
 That Voter's whole body consisted of neck.

E. J. SALISBURY.

BOOKS

"THE FEMININE PRINCIPLE IN EVOLUTION."

The Cosmic Procession, or the Feminine Principle in Evolution. By Frances Swiney, London. Ernest Bell, York House, Portugal St. W. C. Price, 3s 6d.

These "Essays of Illumination" contain the theory of an "eternal truth" which the author feels called to announce in very positive terms.

"To comprehend fully the deep and sublime significance of the oneness of sex the soul must rise above the personal plane," says Frances Swiney. "We do not say there are two Electricities, negative and positive, but that electricity manifests under a dual aspect. So it is with sex."

Taking for her argument, that the basic source of all phenomena is the eternal creative feminine principle by which all exists, she proceeds to prove her ground by the support not only of the high priests of materialism, but by all the occult and religious legends of every race and time. By a very subtle analysis of the symbolism of every sacred scripture, including the Hebrew, it is shown that the feminine principle is the spirit and substance of all creation. "Thus the word 'Lord' in the original includes the Supernal Mother, but this deeply significant fact has been systematically ignored by the translators and commentators of the Bible, who have been at great pains to suppress every reference to the Divine Feminine throughout the Hebrew Scriptures."

The author draws largely on ancient and theosophic myths and legends for the wisdom and force of her reasoning, but the whole story of the creation, fall and redemption of the human race, as recorded in Jewish and Christian faith, is brought to the proof of "the Divine Feminine as the true beginning, as the true center of manifestation, as the true consummation; for the Divine Mother is designated as the fount of all truth." And we are charged to remember that wherever the word "God" is used by the translators of the Old Testament, the word Elohim, the Supernal Mother, has been thus mistranslated.

The idea which the author of the "cosmic procession" very ably and persistently advocates throughout her well-written "Essays of Illumination," is the oneness of sex, with the feminine as the will force, the creative power, the leader un-

til man constituted himself the master, and thereby brought upon the human race the evil and disorder from which we are beginning slowly to evolve. And this evolution, in the writer's view, hinges on the elevation of woman—"With the mothers is bound up the true forces of progress."

In bringing her strongly supported argument to its close, Frances Swiney says: "I would ask of my readers patience, consideration and thought. Let there be no hasty criticism, no biased judgment on the thesis herein presented. . . . I would, moreover, beg of my readers to verify the statements made by using their own powers of observation, discrimination and analysis."

And it might be added: Let the spirit of domination in both sexes be wholly cast out.

A. L. M.

SPIRITISTIC EXPOSURES.

Behind the Scenes with the Mediums. By David P. Abbott. Chicago: Open Court Pub. Co. Price, \$1.50.

In a well-arranged and substantially bound volume of 328 pages, Mr. Abbott gives a very thorough exposure of the tricks of the commercial medium, in which he seems to have had a personal experience that enables him to show the method to any ambitious aspirant to the arts of legerdemain.

While tiresome to read, the practical demonstration of these famous tricks which have deceived so many gullible seekers after the unknown could not fail to have a wholesome use.

Mr. Abbott has performed a sane office in exposing the frauds practiced in so-called "spirit manifestations;" but would he believe though one really rose from the dead?

A. L. M.

For as the material of a carpenter is wood; of a statuary, brass; so of the art of living, the material is each man's own life.—Epictetus.

PAMPHLETS

A Character School.

The modern all-around educational system is delightfully presented in the beautiful yearbook of the Interlaken School at La Porte, Ind.—the most beautiful school year book we have ever seen; and better than that—a story of the most promising school experiment we know of. Dr. Edward A. Rumely is the president of the school, and Dr. Wm. N. Hailmann, late of the Chicago Normal school, is the superintendent.

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The World-Movement Toward Peace.

From the Association for International Conciliation, American Branch (Sub-station 84, New York City), come two interesting little pamphlets: one entitled "The Possibilities of Intellectual Co-operation between North and South America," by L. S. Rowe; and the other, "America and Japan," by George Trumbull Ladd. Forthcoming articles will be sent free, upon publication, to those persons who shall have made written application therefore.

A. L.

PERIODICALS

James H. Barry announces that as there is now no Democratic daily in San Francisco he will furnish *The Star* until next January for fifty cents. The editorial quoted in the *Press Opinions* of this *Public* is a fine example of Mr. Barry's brilliant editorial pages. (212 Leavenworth St., San Francisco.)

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Mrs. Humphry Ward believes that women may not be trusted to vote, and she has trusted herself sufficiently to say so in public, and to write to the *London Times* about it. Then the sophisticated Mr. Israel Zangwill (may his tribe increase) hauled his own sex before his own bar of judgment, to see how

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN: ARISTOCRACY versus DEMOCRACY

THE Presidential Campaign of 1908 has begun, and **THE PUBLIC** will give special attention to it to the end. It will print all the really historical **NEWS** of the campaign—fact and not gossip—impartially; and it will comment in **EDITORIALS** with fairness and vigor from the point of view of fundamental democracy as distinguished from party Democracy. **CAMPAIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS** are invited now. ¶ We will send **THE PUBLIC** to any address in the United States from and including the issue of **JULY 3** (with Bryan portrait supplement) to and including the issue of **NOVEMBER 13** (with full election news and editorial comment)—twenty issues in all—for **TWENTY-FIVE CENTS**, cash in advance. ¶ **CLUBS OF TEN** will be served for the same period for **TWO DOLLARS**, cash in advance.

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