

her extremely active temperament seemed to hold in check the lurking foe within, she had to contend with the remainder of her life.

But all too soon did the sad truth come home to the hearts of the parents, that their fondly loved child must be maimed for life—from hip disease.

Although skilled physicians and loved ones did their utmost to stay the incoming tide, but, alas! all proved fruitless in the end! Still her life was a helpful, and not an unhappy one. The quickness of thought in little things was very remarkable, and the avenues were many wherein she found pleasure and enjoyment. It can well be said her life had the usual amount of cheer, but in a different way from other children of her age. With noble fortitude and patience this child of tender years battled with her afflictions, and her buoyant happy nature made sunshine where deepest shadows might have been. Her pleasant home surroundings, together with the many loving, sympathising friends she drew to her side, by her genial pleasant ways (with scarce a word of her physical sufferings, and so wisely guarded were her ways that one felt only the bright joyous side of her life) all combined to make life pleasant to her.

But like a lovely fair flower, ere the petals opened to the full sunshine, she drooped and faded from our sight. The frail life within could not hold out more; and she did not cling closely to life, as her own words evinced a few months previous to her death in a talk with one who was very near and dear to me said, "It is beautiful to live and—it is beautiful to die."

And thus it seemed; for gently the spark of life went out—a glad release for the weary one.

"The Gate was ajar," and the sweet spirit passed beyond. Her presence in the home circle was like a gleam of sunshine! The place she filled is very empty; but the memory of the precious life made doubly dear by years of tender care and solicitude

will *never* fade out, but will be kept sacred, and the bereavement will be hallowed and chastened with the thought that for her there is no more weariness or pain—and the parting is not for long. S. W. HART.

### SPIRITUALISM.

The prophet Isaiah says: "And when they shall say unto you, seek unto them that have familiar spirits and unto wizards that peep and that mutter; should not a people seek unto their God? For the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in this." How does this prophecy apply to spiritualism, which, under different names, may be traced back to the earliest times. We have not the time or space to take up its history in the different ages of the world, but take a glance at it as it appears to us to-day. Many are only familiar with it in its bold, blasphemous form, but it appears also in a more subtle guise dressed in so-called scientific facts (many of which have proved to be fictions), and even under the cloak of Christianity does it seek to insinuate its false doctrines into the minds of those who are not well grounded in the truth; to whom the word is not "a lamp unto their feet and a guide unto their path." We are told to regard not them which have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards to be defiled; *I am the Lord, your God.*

Christ has given us a rule by which we may try all people; "By their fruits ye shall know them." Now, what are the fruits of spiritualism? Leading its votaries away from everything good and plunging them into everything bad; breaking up homes, the Christian homes upon which our country must depend, and without which it must surely fall, for it is a well known truth that the strongest bulwark of a nation is its Christian homes; and all the near and dear ties which make the home