

force of attraction toward the United States is by no means unlikely. But, whether they shall one day propose merging their existence in ours, or whether they shall prefer growing up into a rival conterminous power, this confederation is a most important epoch in the history of the continent, and we cannot doubt that from it will date a new era of its material and political prosperity."

A SPIRITUALIST SABBATH SCHOOL.—A correspondent of the Cohoes (N. Y.) *Cataract* gives the following description of one of the fantastic novelties of "progressive" religion. It indicates the sensuous character of spiritualism, which appeals to credulity and to sentiment for its support, and virtually ignores God and the Bible:

"We visited the Sabbath School connected with the Progressive Lyceum of Troy, which meets in Harmony Hall at 2 o'clock each Sunday afternoon. The institution is evidently well established and sustained, the best evidence that spiritualism in Troy, as here, has wealth and influence in its favour. The school was divided into twelve classes or groups, designated by small oval signs with flags attached, standing at the head of each class. Among the names of classes we noticed those of Shore Group, River Group, Ocean Group, Lake Group, Sea Group, &c., from which our readers will not infer that spiritualism in Troy has gone into liquidation, as these watery titles are evidently used only as substitutes for baptism, which rite is ignored by this school of Progressionists.

"Like all other schools, the exercises were commenced with singing, which was accompanied by a violin and base viol. We heard no prayer, but instead a poetical rhapsody commencing, "Touch the sunshine," was "silver chained" by the superintendent and scholars. Then followed the gymnastic exercises, which were designated by the leading gymnast as the "fifth series," and consisted only of a variety of motions with the arms. These were accompanied by music, and performed in excellent time and order.

"The recitations of the children consisted only of declamations of little scraps of verse, such as they or their parents might have selected. We heard repeated three or four times that highly spiritual and inspiring couplet,

"Come one, come all, this rock shall fly
From its firm base as soon as I."

GETTING AND GIVING.—We must get daily strength and daily give it away, giving as we get, and getting as we give. Every new supply from God must be put out to use so as to become a new power from God. Thus will our might grow; thus will our work be done. Let us be content to work silently. No single word for Christ is lost; not a breath of prayer but leaves its mark. In Christ the whole universe is one vast telegraphic network. A tear dropped here is registered in heaven. A heart-throb here is noted there. A note struck here is reproduced there. A thought started here is again found there. Work done here tells there. Every word spoken and every deed done for the Master shall there be found again, and lost no more.—*Rev. C. Clemance.*

MINISTERIAL "OIL SMELLER."—The First United Presbyterian Synod of the West, recently in session in New Brighton, Pa., had before it the case of one or two of its ministers who had practised the profession of "oil smelling," as it is termed, or the determination (by what means is not stated) of places where oil can be found, locating wells, etc. The Synod, after due consideration, took the following action:—"Resolved, That Synod wholly disapproves of ministers of the gospel engaging in the business of an 'oil medium,' as being calculated to bring reproach on the church of Christ, and to injure the cause of religion. The *Presbyterian Banner*, giving the above, somewhat facetiously adds;—"We have known brethren of various denominations whose piety we should be sorry to doubt, who have succeeded in discovering where oil was *not*."