

# THE SOUTH PLACE MAGAZINE:

A MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE WORK OF

The South Place Ethical Society.

---

Vol. I., No. 1.

APRIL, 1895.

2d. Monthly;

2s. 6d. Annually, post free.

---

TWO HISTORICAL SOUTH PLACE EDITORS.

BY MONCURE D. CONWAY, M.A.

The large sects with their militant journals may smile at the small size and scope of the South Place Magazine, but the Society may find some reason for satisfaction in its unpretending dimensions and aims. Some record and indication of the Society's large and varied work has been found desirable, but the general periodical literature of the country is sufficiently pervaded by rational ideas and liberal principles, its pages sufficiently open to free expression of every opinion, to render unnecessary any such separate representative of a Society essentially unsectarian, and aiming only to diffuse a liberal leaven in the world. This was not always the case. For fifty years after the foundation of the Society (February 14th, 1793), its ministers were also editors, and during the long reign of terror for English liberalism, which followed the brief reign of terror in France, they did valiant service in keeping alive the traditions of constitutional liberty. We can now hardly realise the heavy price paid by our fathers for the freedom we enjoy. "From the beginning of the century to the death of Lord Liverpool," wrote Sidney Smith, "was an awful period for any one who ventured to maintain liberal principles. He was sure to be assailed with all the billingsgate of the French Revolution: 'Jacobin,' 'Leveller,' 'Atheist,' 'Incendiary,' 'Regicide,' were the gentlest terms used, and any man who breathed a syllable against the senseless bigotry of the Georges was shunned as unfit for social life. To say a word against any abuse that a rich man inflicted, and a poor man suffered, was bitterly and steadily resented, and in one year 12,000 persons were committed for offences against the game laws."

Leigh Hunt was among the first who began the paper-and-

type siege against this British Bastille built on ruins of the constitution. In 1808 he and his brother John founded the *Examiner*, to "promote parliamentary reform, liberality of opinion in general," and especially "freedom from superstition." It took only five years to lodge these brave brothers in prison. At a Saint Patrick's day dinner the toast to the Prince Regent was coldly received, and Sheridan was hissed while trying to say a good word for the Prince. Next day the *Morning Post* described the Prince Regent as "the Mæcenas of the Age," and as an "Adonis of loveliness, attended by Honour, Virtue and Truth." The *Examiner* placed beside this flattery the prosaic facts, and therefore, despite Lord Brougham's able defence, the brothers Hunt were sentenced to two years imprisonment in separate prisons and a fine of £500 each. The Government offered to pardon both if the *Examiner* would promise to abstain from criticisms of the Prince Regent and his actions, but the brothers declined these terms and underwent their full penalties. The *Examiner*, edited from Surrey goal, acquired, of course, increased popularity and became a power in the land. Thomas Carlyle told me that among his early recollections was the excitement caused in Scotland by this journal. In his native village, Ecclefechan, the place of its delivery was every week besieged by an eager crowd, and its columns furnished the town talk till another number came.

Among those stirred by these events was William Johnson Fox, who soon after Leigh Hunt's release from prison (1815), became the minister of the Society which some years later erected its chapel in South Place. A warm friendship, founded in their common principles, was formed between these two men, and for many years they were fellow sowers scattering the seed of liberal ideas through various journals and magazines. Leigh Hunt was nearly two years older than Fox, and his fine literary culture and polish were of much service to the minister in enlarging his relation to the intellectual world, while, sitting at the feet of the impassioned orator in his chapel, he himself gained increase of that religious sentiment which touches us in his "Abou ben Adhem." After Fox had been for some years editing the *Monthly Repository* as an organ of the Unitarian denomination, he purchased it (1831), and transformed it from a theological publication into an organ of political and social reform, and of literary and dramatic criticism. In this work his chief helper and frequent contributor was Leigh Hunt, who, in 1837, succeeded him as the Editor. These veteran comrades



survived into a generation which little realized how much of its harvest of liberty had been sown by their unwearied labours, but they enjoyed a happy old age together, and to the last were surrounded by a loving circle of those who had witnessed their struggles and the triumph of their principles.

It will interest our South Place people to read the sub-joined letters exchanged between these our noble forerunners in their old age—the occasion being the death of Leigh Hunt's son Vincent.

3 Sussex Place, Regent's Park,  
*7th November, 1852.*

DEAR HUNT,—Experience might have hardened me to it by this time, but I still have a melancholy surprise at seeing how greatly my juniors take precedence of me in the final journey. Both feelings came strongly over me when I read a late announcement as to one in whom, what little I saw of him (some years ago), made me take a lively interest in him, for his own sake as well as yours. Forgive the sympathy of a fellow veteran in this battle of life, if it expresses itself inopportunately during the season of your domestic calamity. You and I have lived through the same stormy and changeful times, we have fought under the same banner, though you with finer weapons, and winning the more enduring wreaths; and it may probably be about the same time that we both make the "great experiment." Allow, therefore, the mournful hand-shake of an old comrade, whose sympathy for you in this trial will not be satisfied with entire quiescence. I will say no more, for you know quite as well as myself all that is to be said on such sad events.

Ever yours affectionately,

W. J. Fox.

Kensington, *11th November, 1852.*

Most welcome was your letter, my dear friend, though I have not had the courage to open it until this moment. I felt the letter like your presence, and wrung your hand, as it were, looking away from you. There is only one point in it with which I can differ, and that concerns yourself; but how can I do anything but thank you for it, and love you the more, and consider it a new bond for the remainder of life between us. I cannot proceed for tears; but you have helped to make them sweeter. He was all you fancied him. God bless you and yours, my kind friend, prays your grateful and affectionate

LEIGH HUNT.

mystical, utterly opposed to the inflexible theology of the Protestantism of Ulster. Let England take to Ireland half as good a God as St. Patrick, and there may be a little chance of its conversion. But a deity like Patrick has his drawbacks. He directs the eyes of his worshippers backwards instead of concentrating them on the things of to-day. There is too much of clan in his cult and not enough universal brotherhood, but there are no hard dogmas, nor Puritanical Sabbaths. He demands no long faces, nor sacrifices; he is the intercessor, guardian, friend, providence, the dispenser of good things. The thorn of superstition, always growing, blossoms in the hand of the gentle St. Patrick.

### THE FORCES OF IRRELIGION.

On Sunday, March 24th, Mr. Conway's discourse was on "The Forces of Irreligion." Religion, he said, means restraint; it connotes spiritual obligation—something beyond personal advantage, and is essentially unsectarian. There is no balancing of chances or barter in religion, and the nun who renounces this world for the next is not really *religieuse*.

It is partly in the increase of religious institutions that the decline of true religion is observable. What sacrifices are these organizations making? What secular advantages are they giving up? The compulsory human sacrifice of the Sabbath is due chiefly to their craving for full congregations, and by the Leeds judgment Sunday is still under the benighted reign of George III. They suppress that text of St. Luke, well-known to scholars: "And He came to a place and saw one working on the Sabbath. And he said unto him: 'O man, if thou knowest what thou art doing, blessed art thou; if thou knowest not, thou art a transgressor.'" The extra sanctity of one day is irreligious, and so is the extra sanctity of one Book. That Book is known to contain thousands of errors, and though some of the worst are corrected in the Revised Version, no religious organization has sanctioned its use. They prefer the responsibility of circulating proved falsehoods to an admission that they have been mistaken, and Truth is sacrificed to their prestige. True religion is shown in the relinquishing of adventitious secular advantages. What Church has done this? Their excuse is that the pious frauds of the Bible and present worldly advantages are a great help in saving mankind from a fearful destiny, so that they are forces of irreligion with religion on their lips, and man is



left among those forces without a religion. Religion is ebbing away from Theology and cutting new channels for itself. Forty years ago one heard only the din of the strife of Theological controversy; now Theology is almost as extinct as the dodo. A very hopeful sign of to-day is the diffusion of genius, so that the mountain peaks are lost in the general elevation, and we have no great leaders. Heroes are not needed now, for most Hydras are dead, and the Hero is often in the way after he has slain his Hydra. Public interest now centres in social questions; the crucifixion of the Jesus of London is being stopped. He is to be fed, clothed, educated, made healthy and moral; but if we are not careful we shall only equip him with powers to attain selfish ends. He must also have character, self-control, and the subtle alchemy, like the spiritual love of worshippers, by which the mud may be changed into the lily. We must see our own nature in all its fulness. Nothing will so bind us to mankind in love as the idea that there also is the same potential beauty. A Zoroastrian seer visited Paradise and saw a youth who had just died meet a maiden and ask her: "Who art thou? fairer than any on earth." She replied, "O youth, I am thine own thoughts, words, and actions, I am thyself!"

#### SOWERS OF SEEDS AND TARES.

Mr. Conway began his discourse on March 31st by describing in detail a fine allegorical painting he had seen, representing the Devil sowing gold coins round the Cross; but he pointed out that money is not tares any more than it is wheat; it is *power*, both for good and evil. He mentioned incidentally that Benjamin Flower, the philanthropic editor of the "Arena," who has just published a book about the power of money, is a grandson of the father of Eliza Flower who was for so long an active member of this Society; and went on to say that man is the sower, and it behoves him to sow truth, to cultivate carefully and well so that the tares of superstition, ignorance, and vice may be choked out of existence by its exuberant growth. The problem is not one concerning evil in the abstract, but how to deal with each individual injurious thing. The evils of the world are the symptoms of the world's malady. Everyone is reaping what others have sown and is sowing for others to reap. The tares of superstition, of race prejudice, of cynical ideas concerning man or woman may be planted in us by others and bear fruit, degrading our moral nature. An eastern

proverb says "No seed will die," and this is absolutely true of moral seed. Jesus taught that the best way to plant the seed was deep in the earth, not on the stones, or cast up to the unfertilizing heavens. The seed in its growth evolves or changes character in response to the pressure of outside conditions. The germ of opposition to slavery, and silent meetings, is to be found in the teaching of George Fox, the founder of the Quakers; the evolution of which is seen in the adoption of the silent meeting as one of their distinctive characteristics, and their enthusiastic abolitionism.

"As you sow, so shall *you* reap," is not accurate, it should be—as you sow, so shall *others* reap.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL.

On March 3rd Mr. W. Varian spoke to the Combined Class on "A great Dog."

On the following Sunday Mr. H. Crossfield told "The story of Lafayette."

On the three succeeding Sundays, March 17th, 24th, and 31st, Mr. F. J. Gould, superintendent of the East London Ethical Sunday School, kindly addressed the children on "Anthropology." By the help of many illustrations the addresses were made very entertaining and instructive.

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON FREE LECTURES.

The course on Industries was brought to a satisfactory close by Mr. Sidney Webb on Sunday, March 31st. We are compelled to hold over till next month the account of this lecture, and those delivered on the two preceding Sundays. During the last two years forty-eight lectures have been given, nearly all by workers on their own Industries, and though some trades may not have been represented, the course has covered pretty well all those of the London district.

On March 3rd, Mr. Samuel Wood, M.P., lectured on "Coal Miners and Coal Mines," and his twenty-two years' personal experience as a collier much added to the interest of his lecture. Opening with a graphic description of the surroundings and general appearance of a coal-mine, he then entered into details concerning the mode of working, and the relative remuneration received by the miner and mine owner. He stated that 600,000 men are employed in coal mines, about 1,000 lives are lost annually, and that in 1891 185 millions of tons of coal were produced.

On March 10th Herbert Burrows lectured on the Civil Service. The lecturer, who met with a very cordial reception, after carefully



tracing its origin and gradual transition from the reign of Charles II. to the present time pointed out that up to 1855 the various positions were filled by nominees of the Crown and its Ministers, creating a direct incentive to corruption and abuse; whereas now the lower Division is supplied by candidates who have gained the most marks in an open competitive examination. Even in the higher Division although a nomination is necessary the candidate is subject to a difficult examination before receiving any appointment. After pointing out the advantages and disadvantages of the Service, the lecturer said that taking into consideration the monotony of the work and the little prospect for any material advance for the majority of those who entered the ranks, he did not know another body of servants who on the whole could claim to be more conscientious or loyal to the nation's interest. In conclusion Mr. Burrows alluded to the increased tendency of the Crown to employ more and more women, and could never understand why they were paid on a lower scale than men, realising as he did that it threw many men out of employment. Without offering any solution of the problem he wished to warn his hearers the difficulty would press more and more heavily as time went on and sooner or later would have to be grappled with.

#### SOUTH PLACE SUNDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

An event of unusual importance and interest in the history of the above occurred on March 17th, when the two-hundredth Concert was given. As by a happy coincidence this event fell on St. Patrick's Day, it was decided to arrange an Irish Concert, for which the active help of Dr. C. Villiers Stanford was secured, and the co-operation of so eminent an Irish musician served to give special prominence to this "second century" concert. He took the Pianoforte part in his own Sonata in D minor for Piano and Violoncello, and also in his Quintet for Piano and Strings, his associates being Messrs. Arthur Bent, Wallace Sutcliffe, Alfred Hobday, and Paul Ludwig. Our friend Mr. Herbert Thorndike sang a number of Irish songs with excellent taste and expression.

The other Concerts during March have included two appearances of Mr. John Saunders's String Quartet Party, whose masterly performances have included such fine works as Beethoven's Quartet in F minor, and Dvorak's Quartet in E flat.

On March 31st the Misses Annie and Amy Grimson, Miss Ethel Rooke, Mr. Philip A. Rooke, and Mr. H. Wildman, were the instrumentalists, the four first named making their first appearances at our Concerts. Excellent performers they proved themselves to be, and the very enjoyable concert included capital renderings of Gade's charming String Quintet in E minor (a novelty to our audience), and Dvorak's fine and favourite Quintet in A, for Piano and Strings. Mrs. Helen Trust sang in her most

artistic manner; those who know this lady's performances will consequently feel no surprise on hearing that the delighted audience was most enthusiastic, and insisted on an encore.

Special attention is called to the fact that on the afternoon of April 7th, Miss Josephine Troup will lecture on "Beethoven," with vocal and instrumental illustrations, and in the evening of this day a special Beethoven Concert will be given in connection with the lecture. This concert will be the twenty-seventh and final one of the present (ninth) season, and the Concert Committee hope the support on this interesting occasion will be such as to enable them to clear off the deficit with which they are at present troubled. Every previous season has closed free from debt, and it is hoped this one will not be an unpleasant exception to the rule.

### TUESDAY EVENING LECTURES.

Mr. Richards, B.A., concluded on March 12th the very instructive and important course of Lectures on Greater Britain that has occupied the spring session.

The main purpose or theme has been to impress upon the audience the significance of the expansion of England that has taken place during the last two centuries. The lecturer, while sometimes severely critical of the methods by which much of this came about, yet in large degree considered that the forward policy was inevitable under the peculiar circumstances in which England was placed.

The final lectures dealt more particularly with the condition of the colonies in the nineteenth century and the prospects in the immediate future of the British Empire as a whole. The problems created by the contact of the native races with the colonists were touched upon, though they were necessarily left with little more than hints as to their solution. Probably the facts were too strange and conflicting for any profitable generalization to be made at present.

The progress of the colonies towards the democratical ideal was criticised and the process led at once to an intensely interesting speculation as to whether the several dependencies would as in the case of America proceed to an independent political existence; whether, on the other hand, the sentiments that spring from a common language, literature, traditions, and character will prove a sufficiently strong bond to unite the remainder of the English-speaking race. Several other interesting questions were also glanced at in the concluding lectures, such as the religious prospects in the colonies and the possibilities of imperial federation. This course, which was illustrated throughout by lantern slides, was instructive and suggestive in a more than ordinary degree, and it is to be regretted that it was not better attended.



## SATURDAY AFTERNOON RAMBLES.

The Rambles for the season commenced on March 2nd, and although, in consequence of there being much illness among our members, many tickets have been returned, the attendance at each excursion has *equalled the limit* and been very large.

BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.—The ramblers to the British Museum Library on March 2nd were most fortunate in having as conductor Mr. J. Macfarlane, whose bright geniality and clear explanations added greatly to the interest of the visit. Pausing first by some of the glass cases he pointed out early examples of printing from wood blocks, and many fine specimens of French, German, and Italian work, some of the latter being most beautifully executed. On entering the private rooms of the library the comprehensive detail of the great catalogue was demonstrated by reference to the works of Bunyan, which alone occupied several pages in one of its volumes. Many rare books were also shown, including a first edition of Shakspeare and the daintily embroidered church-going outfit of a dame of the cavalier period. After traversing part of the three miles of book cases we entered the Reading Room, and that being closed for repairs, we had an exceptional opportunity of admiring its fine proportions and magnificent dome, second only to that of the Parthenon.

THE GUILDHALL.—When Gog and Magog hear the clock strike one they come down from their high position and go to dinner. But they were not seen to do so on the 2nd March when the Ramblers paid a visit to the Guildhall, its library, and museum. The Ramblers got there too late, for it was past two o'clock before they assembled. They (Gog and Magog) were too exalted on their pedestals to take notice of *even* such distinguished guests, so instead Mr. Charles Welch, F.S.A., the principal librarian, very kindly received the South Place visitors in his beautiful room, and gave an account of the history of the Guildhall and the gradual growth of the library and museum. On the table were many choice books, ancient and modern, arranged for their inspection. They were then escorted through the reading room, down into the now well-lit museum, which contains much of interest relating to the past history of London from prehistoric times onward; it is particularly rich in Roman antiquities. In one case is displayed one of the few existing signatures of Shakspeare. Clever people are usually bad writers. If Shakspeare's great genius were a matter of dispute, this one specimen of his calligraphy ought surely once for all to settle the question in his favour. From the museum the party went into the Guildhall crypt and *almost* sniffed the savoury smell of real turtle soup. In the Guildhall itself, Mr. Welch gave a graphic description of the brilliance of the great banquet on Lord Mayor's Day. The beautiful timber roof of the hall was also pointed out. Before leaving, the Ramblers were taken into the New Chamber for the

meetings of the Common Council, the Court of Aldermen's Room and the Old Common Council Chamber, which is likely soon to be demolished, the site then serving a more useful purpose.

NATIONAL GALLERY.—On Saturday, March 9th, Mr. Charles Holroyd, F.R.S.P.E., conducted a number of rambles through the Sienese, Tuscan, Italian, and Venetian Rooms of the National Gallery. The sun was not so kind and considerate as Mr. Holroyd, for while *he* threw all the light on the subject which long study and enthusiastic interest enabled him to do, the sun retired into private life and refused to give his help in showing the wonderful coloring of pictures painted centuries ago. Visions of Fra Angelico's lovely Angels, the "Madonna and Child" of Sandro Botticelli, with roses in the background, "drawn as none is likely to draw for many a day," says Ruskin, the Raphaels, the grand Titians (sketched many of them by Michael Angelo's hand), and the works of hundreds of magnificent artists crowded together in one's mind more or less clearly after two and a half hours of Mr. Holroyd's delightful talk. Would it not be well now to visit the Gallery by ourselves and see how much or how little we have carried away of the information, suggestions, and ideas given us so generously by Mr. Holroyd?

LAMBETH PALACE.—On Saturday, March 9th, in spite of the inclement weather, we had an enjoyable and instructive ramble over Lambeth Palace, the Archbishop of Canterbury's town house. We were shown over by the Porter, who evidently took a pride in the historic buildings in his charge. We first enter the Library, a fine hall, rebuilt from the original design after the Civil War by Bishop Juxon. Here every ten years is held the Pan-Anglican Conference, consisting of Bishops from all parts of the world. From the Library we went by a winding corridor, after visiting the old Guard Chamber—now the Dining Hall—to the Chapel, a handsomely fitted-up building, and then to the so-called Lollards' Tower, though our guide took great pains to convince us the Lollards had nothing to do with it. In the top story of this tower prisoners have often been confined, especially during the Civil Wars. One cavalier prisoner escaped by means of a rope through a window in this tower, his wife waiting for him in a boat on the river beneath. It is related that, the rope being too short, the unfortunate man fell into the boat and broke both his legs. Our visit was finished by inspecting the exterior of some of the buildings, our guide pointing out a mark some feet above the ground, which shows the height the tide used sometimes to reach before the construction of the embankment. In those days they were forced to keep the water out by filling up the space between the bottom of the gate and the ground with clay, and for this purpose our guide said his predecessor had often been called up at night.

We are reluctantly compelled through pressure on the space at



our disposal to hold over interesting accounts of several other Rambles in March.

### MONTHLY SOIRÉE.

It was unfortunate that the very bad weather prevented a larger attendance at the March Soirée, which was most interesting, Mrs. Theodore Wright giving readings from Ibsen's "Doll's House" and "Ghosts." In the readings from "Ghosts" she was most ably assisted by Mr. Acton Bond, who gave full effect to Pastor Mander's horror on discovering that Fru Alvig's whole married life had been one long struggle to keep her wrongs from the world and to bring up her son in ignorance of his father's vices. Mrs. Wright as Fru Alvig read excellently.

As Nora in the "Doll's House," Mrs. Wright was delightful, and many of those present wished it were possible to see her act that part in the play. She so thoroughly realized the depth and strength of the character, and the contrast with the priggishness of Helmer was so vivid that the audience were charmed and, like Oliver, wished for more.

Mrs. Bunn and Mr. Morressy gave some piano duets, and so a very pleasant evening came to an end.

### THE LENDING LIBRARY.

The Hon. Librarian would be glad to receive additions to the list of books which members are willing to lend. Books can be obtained from the Lending Library every Sunday morning and at the Monthly Soirées. It is proposed to announce in the Magazine from time to time any additions to the Library.

### SOUTH PLACE DISCUSSION SOCIETY.

A Debate on "Capital Punishment" was opened by Mrs. H. Bradlaugh Bonner on Wednesday evening, March 13th, Mr. J. Hallam in the chair.

Mrs. Bonner, in her opening address, expressed the opinion that Capital Punishment is at once too severe and too lenient; too severe in that the punishment provokes compassion and can never be remitted; too lenient in that the whole suffering is confined to the brief period of, at most, three weeks. Mrs. Bonner confessed to grave doubts about advocating the *total abolition* of Capital Punishment, as in it she sees the most effective means of coping with those cases of hereditary criminality which not infrequently occur. The points upon which the discussion was raised were mostly minor ones, Mr. Read's being the only challenge offered to the general views expressed by Mrs. Bonner, who, in her reply, did not fail to deal with every item of contention in a lucid and comprehensive manner.

The second Discussion of the month was upon "Banks, Breakable and Unbreakable," opened by Mr. A. E. Porter on

Wednesday evening, March 27th, Mr. W. J. Reynolds in the chair. The paper being somewhat lengthy, the time left for criticism was consequently short. Mr. Porter, after describing the evils of the present system of "Breakable" Banks, proceeded to point out how, in his opinion, under Free Currency a perfect system of "Unbreakable" Banks would be established. He did not succeed, however, in satisfying his opponents, who maintained a lively discussion.

### A NEW HALL FOR SOUTH PLACE.

Although there is no further development of the re-building scheme since the appointment of the Special Sub-Committee to thresh out the matter, we would still urge the members, in the words of George Meredith, to

"Keep the young generations in hail,  
And bequeath them no tumbled house!"

### MEMBERS' "AT HOMES."

On March 15th Mr. & Mrs. Tait and Miss Christie gave an "At Home" for members at 54 Fellows Road, Hampstead. About thirty-five guests were present and a most delightful time was spent. Miss Beatrice Gough and Miss Amy Carter sang some charming duets, and other friends played, sang and recited. Everyone seemed so pleased to meet and had so much to talk about that not a dull moment was spent. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed, several friends saying that this was one of the most agreeable ways of meeting that South Place had ever inaugurated.

During the month Miss Bristed (241 West Green Road, N.), Dr. and Mrs. Newton Parker (10 Tollington Park, Holloway), and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Rawlings (406 Mare Street, Hackney), also gave "At Homes" to the members in their respective districts. A lady who was present at Mrs. Rawlings's writes:—"It was an exceedingly pleasant one."

### WHAT MAN CAN OBTAIN FROM THE LAND.

On Tuesday, March 19th, Prince Kropotkin kindly delivered a lecture in aid of the fund for paying off the debt on the building, his subject being "What Man can obtain from the Land." Mr. Sidney Webb, L.C.C., presided. The lecture was full of practical suggestions for the greater utility of the land and was listened to throughout with marked appreciation. On the proposition of Mr. J. Hallam, seconded in a humorous speech by Miss A. C. Morant (Chiswick), and carried with acclamation, a cordial vote of thanks was given to the lecturer for his services. The net proceeds of the lecture amounted to more than £5.

We shall endeavour in a future number of the South Place



Magazine to deal at greater length with this valuable contribution on an important question. Meanwhile, those interested in the subject will find in the Library copies of two small works by Mr. William E. Bear, from which Prince Kropotkin quoted, *i.e.* "A Study of Small Holdings," and "The British Farmer and his Competitors."

### ANNUAL BOOK SALE.

The Annual Book Sale in aid of the Debenture Redemption Fund has been arranged to take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14th and 15th, and the Committee would now be pleased if members will forward any intended gifts as soon as possible to facilitate the necessary preparations. As a two days' sale requires a very much larger selection than in 1894, and many members having probably given all their surplus publications last year, the Committee are now seeking contributions outside as well as from the members. The Committee will gladly receive all descriptions of books, music, prints, &c. (which should be sent to the Institute, marked Book Sale), feeling confident from last year's experience that they can turn every gift to advantage.

### CONCERT ON GOOD FRIDAY EVENING.

A Concert, in aid of the Sunday Afternoon Free Lectures, will be given at South Place on Good Friday, commencing at 8 o'clock. The programme will include Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata" for pianoforte and violin. The vocalists will be Miss Louise Phillips, Mr. W. A. Hamilton, and Mr. Arthur Walenn: and the instrumentalists Miss Josephine Troup (pianoforte); Messrs. Hans Wessely, Percy Miles, and Erwin Bank (violin); and Miss Kate Augusta Davies (accompanist). Tickets may be had at the Institute: Prices, threepence, sixpence, and one shilling.

### MEMS. ABOUT MEMBERS.

Miss Mildred Conway, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Moncure Conway, was married at New York on Wednesday, February 6th, to Mr. Sawyer, an architect, of that City. She carries with her into her new life the heartfelt good wishes of every member of the Society, which is moreover testifying its love for the bride and her parents by the presentation of a cheque as a little marriage Souvenir. That every good and sweet influence may follow the young couple in their married life is the earnest wish of their many friends at South Place.

The South Place Sewing Meetings of the season have just

finished. Nearly 100 flannel gowns for the Royal Free Hospital represent the praiseworthy industry of these benevolent ladies.

A prospective new member of South Place has arrived in the person of Dorothy Muriel Crawshay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Crawshay.

We ought all to be grateful to Mrs. Dixon; the Soirées under her active superintendence are unvarying successes, and she has recently added to her other responsibilities the Joint-Secretaryship of the Members' Committee, thereby ensuring similar success for the Members' "At Homes."

Mr. and Mrs. Gibson will have the sympathies of all members of South Place in their grievous trouble owing to the serious illness of one of their daughters.

We are pleased to learn that Mrs. Harold Hunns has now quite recovered.

Mr. Morris with his usual generosity has arranged to give the Ramblers an extra Dance at Armfield's on April 20th, the invitations for which are out.

Mr. Mudie is happily quite restored to health, after his severe attack of influenza, by his visit to Wych Cross.

The genial face of Mr. Todd has recently been missed from South Place. He is with his family recruiting in Brighton.

Miss N. Hickson and Miss Gova have been travelling in Italy during the winter. Miss Gova has been laid up with influenza in a Florence hotel.

*On dit* that two members of South Place will be married this month.

Mr. J. A. Lyon, a South Place Veteran, whose recollections of the South Place Society go back to the time when the Chapel was not yet built, and who remembers Mr. Fox's predecessor, Mr. Vidler, completed his eighty-sixth year on March 23rd. On the evening of that day he presided, with the vigour of a man of fifty, at a meeting of the Discussion Class connected with the South London Ethical Society, and assisted in the discussion, which was on the thrilling theme of "Bimetallism."

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. M.—(*Discussion Society*). In our next number the subject of your letter will receive attention.

#### REMOVALS.

Members who have moved since the issue of the last Annual Report should notify their present address for insertion in the Magazine.