Ames on Forgery.

FORGERY: Its Detection and Illustration, with Numerous Causes Ce'lebres (Illustrated). By Daniel T. Ames, editor Penman's Art Courts of Justice. D. T. Ames, 24 Post St., San Francisco; Ames & Rollinson, New York. Pp. 293, Law book size. Price \$2.50. Upon the announcement of this book we gave a notice of it in the certainly to the earlier stages of Torch as a work of unusual import- the future real and more satisfactory ance. The book shows that the author has been a public benefactor, for he has rendered crime by writing not only unsafe, but practically sure of detection. This fact, with the sure chemical discovery of poisons, will do more than any severity of law or punishment could do to prevent crime. For crimes will cease when detection is known to be certain.

The more interesting view of the subject to Liberals, however, is that this discovery results from the new Scientific Psychology-to wit, that the Life and Soul is not an entity, or "spirit", as the old belief was, but a PROCESS, or continuous change going on in the brain and nervous system — the vibrations of which are perceptive in the pulse-beats, the handwriting, the voice, - and finally in the general rythm, conduct, habit, and character! Handwriting, therefore, with its minute vibrations, strokes, forms, flourishes and general effects is a counterpart or extension of the Soul's own action; and so a surer index of a man than the photograph, or even a picture of his soul could be, were that possible, for it is a veritable part of his continued self. This is a new and most important view of the subject, and Prof. Ames by this work becomes the leader in its developement and application.

The results are reliable and practically useful in many ways which at first seem unrelated to each other. We have referred to the sure detection of crime, of which his book is replete with instances, of which the Molineux murder case now before the New York courts, is the latest and perhaps the most astonishing example. The solution of great historical and literary questions is also a notable result—the authorship of the celebrated Junius letters being at last decisively settled, as well as the Dreyfus case. But this scientific perception of life and character in handwriting is of general utility in practical life. In marriage, business and politics would it not be well to submit the "photo, letters and hair" to Prof. Ames instead of a "seventh daughter," or the astrologist?

Lastly, the importance of this new method to education and culture cannot be over-estimated. For a mode of healthy expression by voice, pen and gesture, REACTS on the tone, style and character to an extent never before understood or

realized. The habit of correct and \$3 beautiful expression of the soul by and in its writing, becomes the base of a correct and beautiful life and character. Thus Prof. Ames makes Journal, and thirty years Exam- everyday a day of judgment, and the iner of Contested Handwriting in men and women who know become recording angels and judges. He happily intimates the way by which we may "WRITE our titles clear," if not to "mansions in the skies," yet "Earthly Paradise." T. B. W.

Fun in a Bible Class.

EDITOR TORCH OF REASON:

When a prophet begins to see the fulfillment of his own prophecies it certainly is good cause for self-congratulation, and I am just now hugging myself a little over that particular felicity.

Some time ago I prophesied that L. U. O. students would become preachers of righteousness and spread the glad tidings of great joy over the earth. And a little incident in a Sunday school in Turner last Sunday is the instance in point.

A student of the L. U. O. visited the Sunday school and accepted an invitation into the Bible class. During the progress of the lesson a little discussion arose regarding what a Christian should and could be (but isn't and won't), and the young lady from the terrible Infidel school took a hand. The classleader came in and the local preacher was drawn in and stood up for the L. U. O. student (oblivious of that fact), and he and the class-leader had it lively.

Altogether, it was a proceeding out of the regular order and "moved the waters" of that hitherto placid "pool". So the leaven is working. One little girl started these fossils with something new and got them into warm discussion among themselves, and some improvement must result. Besides which, the L. U. O. student enjoyed it immensely.

Here is a field for missionary work and fun at the same time. Turner, Ore. F. S. M.

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