## THE OPEN COURT.

claim or property in goods, but only in money, and as money's only ultimate value consists in its command of goods, any change in this command will affect the dealer in money very seriously and may work temporary hardship and injustice to individuals, but is of no significance to the society as a whole.

The high prices which occur normally and distinct from the flurries of panic or war are simply marks of high living standards, of increasing prosperity, of an increasing abundance and variety of exchangeable goods, and need inspire neither present apprehension nor dismal forebodings of the economic future.

## SOUL.

## BY CHARLES SLOAN REID.

Does man alone possess that subtle thing

Thro' which he yearns for immortality? The formless essence that is prayed to bring Man's right to live throughout eternity?

Its attributes are marked in love and joy, In friendliness, in offspring's gentle care,

In grief's distress, fidelity's employ, In all that filial duty doth declare.

Is so-called instinct in the speechless brute Less true in kind than man's intelligence?

Why one elect? the other thus refute? Since all is but life's stored experience?

Distress and woe and love and joy depend,

In brute creation, on that 'prisoned wraith In man called "soul," how then shall man defend

His single right to life-eternal's faith? In what climactic age, as man evolved,

Did instinct cease, and soul become divine, Immortal essence, from death's claim absolved,

As bursts the moth from fibrous fold's confine? Nay; rather own thy kinship with the brute,

Thro' common claim for immortality Than to that spark of life called "soul" impute

In form a want of continuity !

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