Watkins's Sermon.
A great man who lived three hundred years ago said: "Our life... finds tongues in trees, books in the running books, sermons in stones and good in everything."

Now I want a watch to preach a sermon to you today. By this I mean that I shall take a watch as something to help me in talking to you; and telling you a few great truths about yourselves.

A watch tells us about our Maker. Did you ever look into a watch? See all these little wheels all made to move together—they all fit into each other. Here is a big spring which you wind up to set the wheels moving; here is a little spring which will make them move faster or slower as you wish. Here is a little fine bar—about as large as a pin, on which the hand moves that tells
the seconds, another tells the minutes and another tells
the hours. All these little wheels and springs and pins
are so nicely made and put together that they don't
take up any more room than the palm of my hand.
Now I say this watch tells us about our maker. You
cannot look inside of yourself, but you know some-
thing of what is there. There is something that thinks
and loves; something that remembers, something that
tells us what is right or wrong—was there ever a watch
like that! Now what if some one should tell you
that nobody made this watch, what would you say
Somebody must have made it. Yet would you believe
that there are some who say that nobody made you
that there is no God, that our body and soul were made
by chance. The Bible tells us God made man, and if
this watch had a maker don't you think that this
little boy and girl had a maker too.
But this watch tells us our maker must be very wise.
I told you how all these parts fit into each other—if
one were a little longer or larger than it is, it would
not do—or if it were a little shorter or smaller, it must
be just as it is. The little holes in which these pins move
must be very hard or they would wear out soon, and
so they are made of jewels precious stones. So you not
see that all this shows the wisdom of the maker.
It was no fool that made it—the man who made it
knew just how to do it. So David says I am fearfully
and wonderfully made; curiously wrought.
And is it not so? Look at this body! A man in England wrote three or four books about the hand and what it can do and how it was made. The eye, the ear, was there ever anything so strange. Look inside see this silver cord going down the back, it is a telegraph. Something here says let the arm move and the message goes over this cord and the arm moves. I prick my finger and two sets of telegraphs in body, two systems of nerves say: Ennuye, the fingers send word to the brain: I am hurt. Here is the golden bowl, that holds the brain—If broken you die. Here is the pitcher as the fountain of life, the lungs who drink in the air more delicate than a pitcher of china and here is the wheel at the eistern, the heart pump. Harvey on circulation of blood through the whole body. More wonderful still is the soul as we call it, that makes all this.
body live breathe, hear and see. Well do you not think our maker must be very wise else how could he have known how to frame this curious body and soul.

Yes I think a watch can tell us much about ourselves. You see that here is a case and inside are works. You do not see the works yet you know there must be something inside to make these hands move and then you hear it tick. You see this body and you know there must be a soul inside. What is it makes these hands move and these eyes to see, these ears to hear.

Did you ever see anyone who was dead. You look into those eyes but they did not see you. You might speak in those ears but they did not hear it, you may put your ear to the breast. There is no tick there.
That is a case without the works, a body without a soul. How do you not see that like this match, you do not see all or the most of yourself when you see the body. The soul which is so precious, you do not see. It is within. Yet it is this soul that is the mainspring—it sets the works inside in motion, and this makes all the difference between a living and a dead child. Only God holds the key that winds up this spring and when he no longer winds it up, it runs down and the works stop and that is death. The great thing, then, dear children is not the body but the soul. We are very foolish when in the body we forget the soul as foolish as though a man should take great pains to have a beautiful case for worthless works.
Now suppose this watch does not keep good time, stops now and then or will not go at all. Will it make it all right if I take a key and turn the hands to the right hour? So far in a little while it will again be wrong or stop. The trouble is not outside but inside. Let us look. Here is a little hair caught in the little wheels, or a little dust how small a thing will stop a watch or make it useless.

Now suppose a boy is idle like a watch that will not go even when wound up, or cannot be trusted like a boy that is good today and bad tomorrow, as a watch that sometimes runs and sometimes does not or is not truthful like a watch that always tells you wrong. He says more than is true like a watch.
that is too fast or says less than the truth like a broken
that is too slow—where is the trouble? in his hands
or in his Tongue? no—inside! something is wrong in
his heart. How little a thing can set a child wrong
a little bad temper— a little selfishness— a little too
much mildness. How easily may you injure a match
which is so delicate and fine! lay your finger too
roughly on the works and you bend or break them.
But who shall tell us how easy it is to ruin a boy
or girl forever.

But if a match goes wrong it is worse than none
It puts you out— you do not meet the train for you
are too late your watch has deceived you. And
do you you think that a boy can be a bad boy?
do no harm to any body else. Indeed not. He is leading other little boy out the way and no one can trust him. One sinner destroyeth much good. And if a watch is wrong who can mend it. Can a carpenter or a blacksmith or a mason. No! only a watch maker. So only He who made us knows how is able to make us better. You cannot make yourself good, you may change the outside of your life like these hands on a watch but to be really better God your maker must make you over. This is a change of heart He cleans out the dust mends what is broken and touches the little regulator, and then we are like a good watch that goes well inside and outside for the heart is right and the life begins to be also.
Yes that is a good true match when the beautiful outside is only a fitting case to the precious works inside: when within all works well and the outside only tells what is going on below.

Yes and if the works are good, when one case is normous or broken, you can put on another more beautiful and costly still. So of the body and soul.

When the body dies, another more beautiful and precious will be placed about the soul. That is what we mean by the resurrection. He shall change this vile body that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body.
Martha Busch. Extemporaneous Jan. 29, 1865. Sabb. P.M.

Pr. J. Pres. ch. Extemporaneous June 18, 1865. P.M.

Darling Albany. Jan. 13, 1867. P.M.