

The Hermetist.

GET UNDERSTANDING.

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W. P. PHELON, M.D.
MRS. M. M. PHELON, G.S.B. EDITORS.

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X When this paragraph is marked with a blue cross it shows our friends that their time has expired, and we shall be happy to receive a renewal of their subscription soon.

Better freedom without wealth, than wealth without freedom.

What is given me, goes from me; what I acquire I possess.

The pessimist looks mournfully to the past; the optimist, joyfully to the future; but the wise man is thankful for the past, hopeful for the future, and and cheerful for the present.

In earthly journeys, he is safest who stops often to inquire the road from others; but in our heavenly journey—our way to right—the more we inquire from others, the more we err; the light must come from within, not from without.

DOMINION.

"For God hath not given us the Spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."—2 Timothy, 1, 7

"Spirit of fear," begone from earth's sphere,
Born, not of God but mind that is mortal,
Hence it is naught, but error thou hast wrought,
Flee back then through oblivion's portal.

"Spirit of power," God given dower,
With dominion over all things decreed,
The source of all health, the source of all wealth,
On thee I depend for all that I need.

"Spirit of love," God's best gift from above,
His messenger of life and truth I ween;
Inner witness of my perfect fitness
For glorious inheritance unseen.

Spirit of a sound mind, *love, power, combined;*
No good thing hath my Father then denied;
Henceforth I take the food, I claim the good,
By Power, by Love, by Mind supplied.

JOSEPHINE DE GRANT.

A PARABLE OF INITIATION.

This adventure of rather more than ordinary interest for him who understands is given as told by the actor.

It so happened in the ancient days that a certain one, discontented with his surroundings, and anxious to receive from the Ineffable Light that which might do him good, began the search for Truth. After making some little headway, and tasting of the spring, whose waters create the eternal, never-querable thirst—the appetite for wisdom, he found a task set for himself. As an absolute prerequisite for knowing all the things that concern the future, he was required to know himself.

Inquiry revealed the fact, that to know himself, he must stand face to face with his own soul. This is not so much of a paradox as it might seem, for the self is the Divine Monad, and the soul is the result

of the utilization of all the accidents of the environment. Although one whole, they are dual and complementary, one of the other.

Having been duly and truly prepared; by his own efforts, and the help and instruction of others, who had passed over the road he intended to travel, he gained access to the palace grounds, wherein dwells that which he desired to meet.

On entrance through guarded gates, he was challenged by the sentinel whose communication with the occupant, was continuous and swift. His reply being satisfactory he was permitted to enter. Going forward, he crossed numerous streams, some swift and rapid, seeming full of life and buoyancy; others slow and sluggish, heavily laden with fetid odors. There was also a certain pulsation in their flow, a surging, fear-inspiring, reserve force that could not be safely tampered with. These are the currents scarlet and black, along which are impelled both the sustenance and the refuse of the physical—the garrison of the palace.

He reached the inner chambers by passages and devious windings, sometimes, seemingly choked with thick darkness, and horror inexpressible. This was the intensity of fear.

Sometimes the surface beneath his feet, wavered to and fro, slipping and yielding to all attempts for firm foothold, giving no more anchorage than could be expected from slushy bogs. These were the effects of unbelief, both in the inner and the outer, and an entire disregard of the claims of the overshadowing Divine Intelligence. Sometimes the gloomy clouds and impenetrable darkness would shift a little, and down corridors of brightness could be seen in spacious apartments intricate machinery, delicately balanced and adjusted for the working out of special ends and purposes.

The way was long, and that which he sought did not readily reveal itself.

While groping his way through this bewildering labyrinth, suddenly he felt the whole fabric shake and tremble throughout its entire structure. Lightnings flashed and thunders roared, while a fearful tornado rioted through the whole palace both in the inner and the outer apartments. This was a terrible gust of passionate anger, and a voice said: "one woe is past." Upon the silence that followed the storm there came suddenly again the sound of a mighty rushing wind; hotter than the simoon, more blasting than the sirocco of the African deserts. This is the influence of lust unbridled.

While these awful devastations had been happening, our pilgrim had sheltered himself within a small chamber. Standing at the door and looking out trying to discern what might be revealed in the

saw a garden where grew all manner of fruits and flowers indigenous to the soul. These spring spontaneously from the soul-born thoughts. As he stood enjoying all the beauty and gladness of this growing development, he felt the breath of a cool wind ice-laden, filled with the fatal gifts of the frost, sweep over the whole scene, blighting and destroying whatever it touched. This was cruelty, hate and malice, sure to bring death and destruction to all the fair products of the soul, with whom these treacherous guests come in contact.

In one chamber, hung against the walls, pictures wonderful in conception and marvellous in their execution. Their contemplation always brought Harmony and Peace.

In the adjoining room also hung pictures, from which he recoiled, so potent was their baleful and malignant intensity. These are not covered up nor destroyed, but hang adjoining the first named, day by day, year after year, for they are reflections from the Astral Light, and the keeper of the chambers is named Memory.

In another room, in this palace, was a loom, weaving constantly. The warp comes forth the continuous projection of the potency of the soul itself. This is the common bond, by which the soul holds for its own use, the manifested thought or idea of the personalities. The wool like a thread unwinding from an inexhaustible spool was bright from the light of the Good, or black from the deceptions of error. There was no pattern nor figure. The whole was a medley, upon which as a back ground the artist Karma, would in the coming cycles evolve wonderful and perfect designs. The loom plied back and forth, day and night, waking or sleeping, its motion was constant and unvarying. Here were recorded all deeds good or bad, before the pattern had become visible to the perception of man, the weaver. In the day of final accounting, of this soul Karma will have brought out, and set one against the other. If it is woven too dark then the skill of the artist raises the lights, and excessive brightness is modified by the nearness of the heavy shadows. The soul that weaves for itself the soft brilliancy of the light of the Good throughout all the Universe, and all the worlds of the Universe, is the one who shall win for itself peace and hope in the eternal truth of everlasting existence.

In still another chamber, the walls were lined with mirrors. The peculiarity of these mirrors was, they reflected never a thing before them, but constantly in their depths, as the far off sky is seen in smooth waters, appear dimly, shadowy, indistinct forms. Sometimes these are of grace and beauty; sometimes of horror and disgust. These are the promptings of the spirit force, to be accepted or re-

jected by the soul in the process of its formation and growth.

Pressing on still nearer the center, on entering the outer of the most inner, a fountain was visible. Its still pool seemed almost bottomless. Rising out of this pool at intervals, but without periodicity came a geyser stream of seething water. This was the development by the unexpected emotions of devotion to the Infinite and Eternal; of preference for those we love; of heroism and utter self-abnegation. This is the still pool no man hath fathomed, nor can fathom either for himself or another.

Beyond this fountain, the wide doors of the Inner of the Inner, of the whole palace open. As the microcosm typifies the macrocosm, here enshrined within that which is of itself, by itself, and for itself, sits over the Divine Monad. Like a star, its silver rays on one hand reach to the Supreme Intelligence; on the other light up the soul it is building for itself.

Standing thus in the presence of his own soul, within the chamber of its essence, overwhelmed and overshadowed by that of which it is the likeness and image, and ever will be, of God Himself, he cried aloud. The word of power striving within him, sought, accepting no denial, for potency; for strength; and for continued desire to become acquainted with himself, the individual, he had hitherto known the least about, knowing himself, it would be possible to use his powers more efficiently for good.

The darkness falls upon him, and wraps him about. Yielding to the gentle impulse of the astral current he finds himself in the outer. Now, he recognizes the fact that understanding himself and his position, he must, ever in the future, feel encouraged, resolutely, to move on in company with himself, towards the high aim fixed for the developing soul. Let him who listens understand, for understanding brings knowledge. Beyond knowledge is nothing, and all things.

W. P. PHELON, M.D.

A FRAGMENT OF A LETTER.

Here are a few truly beautiful, practical and scientific words of encouragement from one friend to another who had met reverses in business.

"Regarding your relaxing income—I can see that the delay is simply that the seed sown is taking root; and as soon as those whom you have made aware of your work get a little more interested by becoming better acquainted with your plans, you will have other demands as great or greater than previous ones. Everything goes by pulsations. And the great undertow wave that brings mysterious treasures from the sea is slow and deliberate; but no power is equal to it. If we watch, all our good comes to us in waves. And while the waves are receding is the test of our courage. Happy he who

can cling to some tangled drift weeds or jagged rock, and feel the sense of safety and hope that the next upheaval will land him safely on terra firma. After all, life would be but milk and water if everything went smoothly."

Truly as the wheel of fortune rolls over, if there be defective spokes in it, they must have their time of coming to the surface and passing under and out of sight again.—*Wilman's Express.*

ABOUT OURSELVES.

We have been calling on our readers for over a year. We believe the platform we adopted in number one has been fully sustained, for we still occupy it. We believe that whatever power spirit has over matter, it is not only our privilege but our duty as living in duality to use it. If there is any truth in occultism, it should be able to make all life easier, and especially planetary life, for it is only on the physical plane that we are harassed, perplexed and "tormented before our time." This question we are solving to our satisfaction, and are trying to give others the benefit of our results. The more we and our readers "get understanding," the more benefit can be received on the line of practical occultism.

We will do our part. Will our friends and readers do theirs?

The statement is this. Our paper dealers and our printers insist on having money for their labor. Even our revered Uncle Samuel refuses to deliver "THE HERMES" to you, unless he is compensated with a portion of the "coin of the realm." Can you see our position? We desire to tell you about things you can use, to make yourselves wiser, happier and richer. A dollar a year, is a small thing, for any well person in this country, but in the aggregate, it helps us to buy the oil that keeps our machine running. Subscribe yourself at once, and ask your neighbor to subscribe. We have as much right to know about occult things, as about any other subject, which have been, during the ages, drawn from their hiding places, and made available for man's necessity or happiness. It is not necessary for you to be ashamed, in speaking to others, of your desire for a knowledge so vital to your own interest. We are grateful to our subscribers for their prompt renewals, and for the new friends they have introduced us to. Please don't rest yet.

"ONENESS,"

"All is in the Oneness." The first emanation from the "essence of the Oneness" is Light; the second, thought; and the third is manifestation. These are four-square and perfect. Proceeding forth from the essence the order is, light, thought,

manifestation and the return into the essence, thus is the square perfect. Thought is the comprehensive wholeness, idea is the secularization or cutting off of a portion. It may be a better definition to say thought is abstract, and idea is concrete.

Power or potency increases as you proceed from the manifestation to the essence and decreases conversely. But as manifestation is the clothing upon of the positive and living by the negative and inert, its self-existent power is thereby measurably neutralized. It must exert a certain amount of force to impress itself upon the grosser clothing. This must be deducted from the sum total of its potency. The unclothed thought manifests itself with the undiminished sum of its potency. It is untrammelled and free. No one can be called into account, by his fellows, for his thought until it shall be expressed or manifested. No one living has any right to call another to account for his thoughts unless such thoughts shall impinge upon his rights personal, which are life, liberty and happiness. Beyond this, no human being has a right to sit in judgement upon the thoughts flowing through another's mentality.

When one created being demands of another the moulding of individual thought to a certain dictation, expression or formula it is either a tyrant's claim of the impossible; or a madman's folly. It cannot be done without absolute self-stultification, and the loss of that individuality which distinguishes man from the animal. As well demand that the sunshine be bottled and sealed up, to be doled out only under the approval of some patentee, as to arrogate a right to claim that all or any thought and mental activity should find expression as the will of another might dictate.

As the astral light quivers and throbs through the Infinite spaces, of the Universe, so thought vibrates and alternates its polarity.

Man will endure physical hardships and sufferings of all descriptions without a murmur. But when an attempt is made to mould, confine or restrict his thought; from that instant there is rebellion. Why? Because thought by virtue of its divine nature, refuses, of itself to be either confined or controlled, by alien force. On the visible plane, the consequences of confining the potency of the incipient gases of explosives are well known. As the finite is to the Infinite so would the paltry strength of dynamite compare with the intense energy of thought escaping from attempted control.

Indignity upon indignity may be heaped upon men or nations, even to their utter enslavement, in the physical, and no sign is made. The manifestation consists into the deepest degradation.

mentality, as a strong wind ruffles the solid waters of a stagnant pool. Change begins at once. They stand erect in their manhood; their shackles fall off, and they declare their right to think for themselves.

History's pages tell us, that the earth has ever and again been drenched in the blood of those who dwell thereon, not to right nor revenge physical wrong, but to carry out an idea.

Men sway and bend to the force of ideas. They are inspired with the highest enthusiasm and the greatest self-sacrifice by the contemplation of ideas which are simply concrete thought. Thought is free. Those who are able to think must also be free.

I have no right to say to my neighbor, my friend, my student or my disciple, you shall think only my thought and my words alone shall ye utter, and your ideas shall be woven from nothing else save my mentality. Neither has my neighbor, student or teacher any more right to say to me, thus far shall you think and no farther. No demand under any circumstances whatever shall be made of me to stultify my mentality or dwarf my progress because any self assumed leader has reached the full measure of individual capacity.

Whoever in his day of mental freedom and expression seeks thus to trammel, and confine, over-slaugh and tyrannize over the free thought and expression of others, will soon find they have been very industriously placing a short piece of candle in a keg of Mental Dynamite.

The world and its leaders so often forget the lessons written in blood and fire. Ah, but if they could see the astral record! When they forget, and wrap themselves in the garment of self-complaisance, their leadership departs, and "Mene, Mene, Tekel, uppharsin" is their epitaph.

The true teacher says: "As I told you in the beginning, so say I to you now. Believe nothing simply because I say it, to you. But believe it because it coincides with your knowledge; believe it because it is a logical outcome of premises fully established in your own mind; believe it because it coincides with the lines of truth, and not of the darkness.

They who seek to bind the burdens of their own mental measurements upon the hearts and souls of others are, by this interference with the karma of those who yield to them, likely to be crushed in the present, and in the future have a most terrible load to carry. Envy them not, but with the wisdom of the serpent resist all claims that shall in anywise lead up to your own enslavement. The fields are ripe for the harvest. The time has come to thrust in the sickle and reap.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

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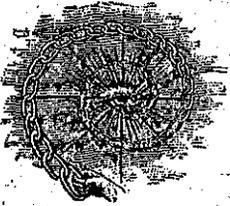
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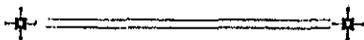
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