

Everything which comes to us is either a retribution for wrongs committed,  
or discipline to fit us for higher planes.

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# THE ORACLE,

EXPONENT OF THE WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

A JOURNAL OF PROGRESS, DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF  
HIGH IDEALS.

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True refinement is a question of the heart, not an attainment of the schools; under the roughest exterior the most tender sensibilities may throb, and under the finest there may be dross and dust.—ECCE DEUS,

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**Motto of the West Gate Brotherhood:** { There is but one victory worth the struggle, there is but one world to conquer—the victory over self, the world within.

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EXPONENT OF THE WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

CHARLES H. MACKAY. - - EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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## An Important Point.

Our philosophy can never become popular with that large class of so called advanced thinkers, who desire to break off the associations and obligations which they have taken upon themselves in the past and which they think to sever in a day or week. These people *need* the discipline of the experience which they are trying to avoid and if they will accept it all in the right spirit, they will soon grow into a higher conception of life and will see its true purpose. In these days of "affinities" and "soul mates" there appears but a very short step from marriage to divorce, and it also appears that it needs but a mere animal sort of attraction between two advanced (?) minds in order for there to be full and sufficient excuse to throw up all thought of previous ties or obligations. It is difficult for us to conceive of a more thoroughly sensual state of affairs, and yet it is maintained under the guise of spirituality. We are always emphatic in our advice against this tendency. The following letter will show the line of suggestion which we invariably employ. The writer is a very broad minded lady and thus she is able to accept our advice instead of allowing the sense nature to rule her: "I am glad you think I am doing right in trying to live in harmony with my husband. I have always felt that was the only true way, for we gain nothing by trying to *force* a result. We only succeed in creating further inharmonies for all

evening observation. It is in the sign Leo, and at nine or ten o'clock in the evening will be seen as the brightest object in the northeastern heavens.

—Five dollars seems a good deal to pay for a course of lessons in occult science, and so it is to a great many, and we wish we could supply such worthy students with our lessons at a nominal price. Yet our experience has been that if a thing is lightly bought it is apt to be lightly prized. And we feel more and more the great value of these lessons, and know them to be able to give light and inspiration, not only during the first reading, but they may be found a constant source of help for months and years. The drills, exercises and concentrations tend to get the student into a condition of *order* and balance, and they are useful in many ways, beyond any money estimate which can be put upon them. We realize that there are many students who might possess these lessons if the terms of payment were easy, and with this idea in mind we have decided to accommodate such by sending the lessons in monthly installments and we will accept one dollar per month until the full sum shall have been paid. Thus a student will be sent four or five lessons upon receipt of one dollar, and thereafter the lessons will be sent him as per his order from time to time.

—The "new name" which we give to those who wish to be put on record as people of high ideals is determined from the date of birth. We will suppose that a person's date of birth is April 5th, 1850, and that the applicant is a female, then the new name would be as follows:

50 ♀ No. 1 M.

These characters will show that the person is a female, that she was born in the year 1850, in the mental section of the sign Aries and that her number (in the Aries department of our people) is *one*. When the applicant is a male, then the year of birth *follows* the sign, thus:

♀ 50 No. 1 M.

If the person is born in the first section, or decan, of the sign the letter P (physical) is affixed; if in the middle section, M (as used above) and if in the last section, the letter S (spiritual) is used. The sections, or decans, of a sign are determined as follows: the physical decan commences with the first day of the sign and is in force about ten days, then the mental and spiritual follow in order and for the same duration of time.

—The most distressing phase of life with which I am familiar is the air of distance with which humanity burdens itself while looking for the solution of the vital questions of the age.

—If we have an ache or a pain of any kind how prone we are to fly to some far-a-way remedy instead of looking to the only true Source of healing! It is all very well to look to others for advice and suggestion until we have grown to a stature where we are able to look out for ourselves. When this stage is reached we should essay to draw upon our own powers and resources and withdraw that dependent feeling which heretofore we have attached to others.

—Be active. Do *something* even if that which you do is not exactly according to your ideas of what you are capable of doing. Your very effort will open the way to some think more in harmony with your ideals. And all that you do has its influence in the economy of the universe. If an act seems trivial and unimportant to you to-day do not despair. Mayhap a seed has been sown which will yield many fold in the years to come. Of this you know nothing, and should know nothing for it is *your* work to do, and it is not your present province to chose, always, that which you do.

—In your present stage of growth you are merely a babe in the palm of your Creator. All the effort which you put forth is not for the purpose of providing your food, clothing and daily needs. In reality you have little to do with this.

of the Zodiacal man, we see that the twelve signs are apportioned to the different parts of the body, and as St. Paul declared, "The body is not one member but many."

The number twelve is a symbolical figure throughout the entire scriptures; as, the twelve sons of Jacob; the twelve tribes of Israel; the twelve apostles; also the twelve gates of the apocalyptic vision; and, finally, the twelve times or the hundred and forty and four thousand of the redeemed. *Leo No. 2.*

"Have you not seen how, pent in narrow room,  
From leaf to leaf the worm-like insect creeps?  
Have you not seen how undistinguished sleeps  
That insect girded by its death-like tomb,  
'Till, bursting forth in vernal beauty's bloom,  
Quick into life the winged wonder leaps,  
Sports in the sun, the flower, the brooklet sips,  
Brodered with brightest tints from Nature's loom?"

"So man, within his being's narrow ring,  
Crawls on his kindred earth: so down he lies  
In wintry slumber wrapt; in life's new spring  
Again, no more a grovelling worm to rise,  
But seraph-like to soar on radiant wing,  
And quaff delight 'mid heaven's unclouded skies."

—Weakness ever delights in seeing itself reflected in others, *i. e.*, it is happy only as it observes someone's cup full to overflowing with adversity. H. C. H.

—Let us strive for proof that we are invincible to all that implies weakness, that our material dictators may find themselves in strange company, and thus in haste desert our shores. H. C. H.

—Fear opens the door to disease, bad luck in business and a general reversing of the benefits which may be ours if we hold a firm and unswerving will and fear nothing; simply doing our present duties and taking as little thought as possible regarding results. Fear, born of physical weakness and inharmony, is one of the most common types. Raise the tone of the bodily health and the will-power regains its normal condition at the same time.