

This book is given to Companion in the Circle of Isis,
Virginia B. Weld, Keeper of Scroll in Knot Five in
the Hermetic Brotherhood, this first day of January
1918.

It is the work and compilation of Francese Rogers,
who became a member of the Order in March, 1891.
Was made Elder Brother of and received the Charter
for Knot Five, July 17th, 1891, in San Francisco
California.

*Given into the keeping of Belle D. McArthur
Santa Barbara, Calif. June 23^d 1952.*

*To be used for her growth in H. B. work
and passed on to one whom she chooses
when she joins Knot 10.*

*Virginia B. Weld
Belle D. McArthur*

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .
of A. L. and E.

Organized in Chicago, Illinois, in 1875.

by

William P. Phelon, M.D. and Mira Phelon, C.S.D.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

of A. L. and E.

Application for Membership.

Having carefully considered the Objects and Aims of the Hermetic Brotherhood, I find myself in harmony and sympathy therewith. Desirous of becoming a helper in the present and future work of this Order, I hereby make application for Membership.

I agree, if admitted, to attend the stated meetings of the "Open Court" with such regularity as may be consistent with my ordinary vocation, and to abide by the rules and regulations laid down, or to be enacted hereafter, for the proper government and working of the Open Court.

If so situated as to render it impossible to personally attend meetings of the Open Court, I will carefully study all instructions sent me by mail, and will regularly send a report to Headquarters embodying my understanding of the teachings received.

Signature: -----

Residence: -----

Date of Birth: -----

Place of Birth: -----

Sponsors: -----

Signed this ----- day of -----191

Elder Brother.

Scribe, C. of I.



OPEN COURT - Its Aim.

The Open Court is only one section of the various activities of the Brotherhood, but it is an open door through which all earnest students can come into sympathetic contact with others working along altruistic lines. Membership in this Court does not give entrance to the Hermetic Brotherhood; but the training in character building begins the "finding of the Self". True the three months probation is not sufficient to complete the work, but it give the student ample time to intelligently decide regarding the value of Hermetic Teachings.

The Hermetic Brotherhood considers that ALL are a visible thought of God. Thought is the source of all existence. Therefore, as we came forth from Him, we MUST return to Him. We have entered this journey through the cycle of incarnation and destiny, that we may undergo all experiences in order to obtain knowledge, and an understanding of our relationship to our Creator.

In order to accomplish this, we must conform with the Law, for it is no part of creative thought that the LAW must conform to man. To be in unity with the Law, dual harmony must be obtained. Harmony with the Within.-the soul of the Universe, and harmony with the Without - manifested Nature.

In the very commencement of any course of training, the student must start with the fact fully impressed on his or her mind, that there is nothing super-natural, and that the manifestation with which he or she comes in contact, being simply the results of the, to him or her, unexplained Law of Nature which must be either in alignment with him or her, or capable of being in alignment through his or her own act.

The object which all students must seek, not only to perceive the main cause of created existence, but to obtain knowledge of the subtle intermediaries by which all causes and means are brought to bear on certain ends and effects. In this lies the doctrines of the Law and the power of the Prophets of all ages and conditions. Students should not allow themselves to forget, "That to him who is wise, cometh more understanding, while he who heeded not, forgets that which he may already have acquired.

In commencing the rudiments of training on any line, and especially seeking out of ourselves, to develop the potency which is able to overcome and control physical conditions in our environment and bodies, we must admit that the initial attempt is to hold in check to absolute control, as the Spirit may desire, our own mentality and Soul Force, through which our Ego is to gain that which It entered the field of manifestation to obtain.

This being true, no person should enter the Open Court through idle curiosity, or by any urge thinking to advance personal fortune, or as an aid to gain material success. All such would be members are advised to seek some other organization more particularly adapted to such a line of teaching. The true SELF is not found along lines leading into the field of rich material gains.

Instructions Regarding Open Court Obligation
and
Questions

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

OPEN COURT

Instructions and Obligation.

The Open Court, a preparatory department leading to membership in the Hermetic Brotherhood, was organized for the purpose of allowing the Candidate ample time and training in which to comprehend and intelligently decide upon the advisability of taking further steps thereby obligating himself or herself, as permanent members of the Order.

The Four Initiations in the Brotherhood are symbolized by the Four Great Elements: Earth, Air, Water, Fire, therefore the line of study undertaken in this Court is symbolized by the element Earth. Thus the Candidate becomes a Warrior; undertaking the conquest over all pertaining to the physical senses, thereby encountering the "Four Great Struggles".

Knowledge gained through analysis of the conditions of individuality and personality, together with its environments, is embodied in the Motto of the Court taken from Hermetic Records of ancient days, viz:

KNOW THYSELF.

The Candidate will be given guidance orally or by correspondence, and is expected to do his or her share of studying and writing to Headquarters thus proving interested earnestness in the work. Results are only gained by persistent and willing self-effort, in no other way can real knowledge be obtained and its value appreciated.

Students who are satisfied with the experience of others as expressed in books or otherwise, and who are willing to accept such as real knowledge will find the training in the Hermetic Brotherhood lacking in interest.

There are two classes of membership in the Open Court. One is known as Member -in-Bounds, who pay entrance fee of two dollars which entitles such members to all mail sent to the general membership during the year; also exchange of letters for any information pertaining to the teaching of the Brotherhood.

The other class are those who desire to enter into the training of the order; they also are entitled to all mail sent out from Headquarters, and outlines of studies, the details to be worked out by the student and results reported to their Elder Brother.

The money consideration is One Dollar a month for those who attend the Court and receive oral instruction. Those who receive the instruction through correspondence the fee is Five Dollars for the Three months, the allotted time for investigation and study. As no two students investigate or understand these matters the same way, each member receives according to his or her demands through their personal letters and reports sent in to Headquarters.

Candidates must indicate the class they desire to enter when they return the list of questions answered with the accompanying Obligation signed and the fee required for the class they enter

After passing through the period of three months, or more according to the candidate's reports, should the candidate desire to go forward and that the "Pledge of Allegiance" in the Brotherhood, application must be made through the Elder Brother or sent in to Headquarters, and then the candidate waits until further instructions are received regarding advancement.

The candidate can postpone his initiation into the First Degree and remain in the Open Court as a Member-in-Bounds, or withdraw entirely from the Order by giving a written notice of his decision. He is at liberty to return and renew his membership, it being understood the doors of the Brotherhood are never closed to friends of the Order.

After careful consideration of the above requirements, you decide to enter the Open Court, it will be a pleasure to enroll your name; by so doing we obligate ourselves to you as you obligate yourself to the Brotherhood.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Open Court Questions.

Ques: What is your purpose in this manifestation of life?
Ans:

Ques: What do you seek in the Hermetic Brotherhood?
Ans:

Ques: Along what line do you desire to seek for it?
Ans:

Ques: What books do you most enjoy reading?
Ans:

Ques: What are your favorite amusements?
Ans:

Ques: Do you give any time to daily Meditation?
Ans:

Ques: To what extent have you succeeded in Concentration?
Ans:

Ques: What is your belief regarding Jesus, The Christ?
Ans:

Ques: To what extent can man become like unto Him?
Ans:

Ques: Do you believe in Reincarnation?
Ans:

Ques: If so, Why?
Ans:

Ques: If not, Why?
Ans:

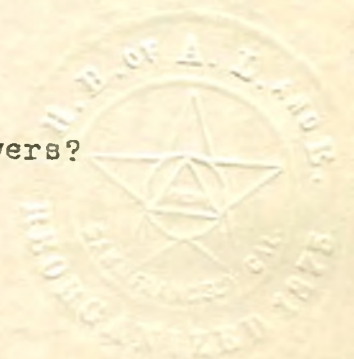
Ques: Do you believe in developing the powers of the Soul:- Psyche?
Ans:

Ques: Have you developed such powers?
Ans:

Ques: Along what line have you demonstrated such powers?
Ans:

Ques: What is your occupation?
Ans:

Signature: -----



Questions regarding the Work
of
O P E N C O U R T .

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Open Court Questions.

Ques: What is the object of the Open Court?

Ans: Its main object is to give all Candidates ample time to intelligently decide whether they desire membership in the Hermetic Brotherhood.

Ques: What is the time of Probation?

Ans: Three months. What is gained in that time depends upon the efforts of the Candidate.

Ques: Are there any Obligations?

Ans: Yes. Secrecy and Obedience, to the rules of the Court that there may be harmonious unity of action.

Ques: Are there any Symbols pertaining to the work of the Open Court?

Ans: Yes. The Four Great Elements, the Four Implements of Hermes, also a Color and a Flower.

Ques: What one of the Elements belong to the Open Court and why?

Ans: The Earth. It symbolizes the Physical Body, and its conquest over its environment that Self-Control may be attained.

Ques: What Implement of Hermes symbolizes the work of the Court?

Ans: The Wings. The courage of an Adventurer is required to enter a new field of activity that is destined to change one's nature and Character.

Ques: What Color is used in the Court?

Ans: Cardinal.

Ques: What is the Flower of the Court?

Ans: The Red Rose. It is the symbol of the Angel of Earth.

Ques: What is the Word of Secrecy?

Ans: Sub-Rosa.

Ques: What position does the Candidate occupy while in the Open Court?

Ans: That of a Warrior. No sooner does the Candidate start on the upward Path, then he encounters the Four Great Struggles, and finds he must "ever work and ever pray, for the road winds upward all the way".

Ques: How does the Candidate make known his or her desire to go forward in the Brotherhood?

Ans: By making an application through the Elder Brother of the Court.

Ques: How are the members of the Court designated from Those of the Order?

Ans: By the name of Associate.

Ques: Is it permissible for an Associate to remain in the Court ?

Ans: Yes. But will be expected to give an monthly offering.

O P E N C O U R T .

The Girdings.

O P E N C O U R T .

The Four Great Struggles.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Four Great Struggles.

- 1st: The effort to prevent the forming of Habits not established.
- 2nd: The overcoming of undesirable Habits already established.
- 3rd: The great struggle to cultivate Moral Powers that are not possessed
- 4th: The persistent effort to increase permanency of Virtues already attained, and necessary for Character Building.

NOTE: The student is required to study and meditate upon these Four Great Struggles, finding out the most difficult to master.

The Moral Powers mentioned in the Third Struggle are herewith given for consideration.

Justice: Just in all things.
Not patronizing the strong.
Not warring with the weak.
Square with all Nations and feeblest tribes.
Keep Faith.
Honest Legislations.
Upright in ALL dealings.

Prudence: Sagacity.
Fore-thought.
Fore-sight.
Circumspection.

Temperance: In asserting your rights.
In your counsel.
Economical in expenses.

Fortitude: Brave, Courageous.
Patient under reverses.
Undismayed by disasters.
Hopeful amid calamities.

NOTE: No person can tell how strong he is until tried in the Balance of Life. Merely thinking he ~~he~~ is strong does not establish the fact. Experience on ALL lines and the results alone determine our Moral Powers.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Four Great Struggles.

Difference between Moral Powers and Virtues.

Moral Powers are related to conduct, with reference to right and wrong; can be said to be founded on experience, thus become a quality of the Soul.

Virtue is the substance or essence of the main principle from which a Moral Power has strength to act:

The superior Virtue is not recognized as Virtue, therefore it IS the very essence thereof. Whereas:

The inferior Virtue has the distinction of BEING Virtue, therefore it lacks the essence.

The superior Virtue is spontaneous and make NO claim of merit.

The inferior Virtue is designing and claims distinction.

NOTE: Superior Benevolence acts without pretence to Virtue.
Superior Justice acts and also makes pretensions.
Superior Expediency is designing, and therefore no one honors it. It asserts itself with force.

Study the following:

It is said when the realization of Divinity is lost, Virtue takes its place.

When Virtue is lost, Benevolence succeeds.

When Justice is lost, Expediency follow.

Expediency is the shadow of the right and true, and is the fore-runner of confusion.

Superficial Virtue is mere tinsel of the Absolute, and the foolish student makes us of it, as well as the pretentious person.

The truly great man establishes himself upon a rock and does not trust his feet upon the shifting sand. He holds to the Real and avoids display.

As I observe myself, I come to know others.
As I observe my family, others grow familiar.
As I observe my country, others are known to me.
As I study this world - my Temple, other worlds are within my possibilities of understanding.

KNOW THYSELF .

First Lesson on Self

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

When the Spiritual man has come to the full consciousness of the constant presence of the All-Spirit, then he will put aside the Veil wrapped about him and stand forth as the perfect man.

The Spiritual, always perfect, does not seek a physical body as a necessity, but as a matter of overcoming, of victory, it does seek such a body, not only must this body be transmuted from the physical, but it must be perfect in all its conditions, so that it can manifest as the Spirit manifests, like the "wheel of the four", shall move harmoniously and potently on all planes; the guiding force is the Will of the Spirit, that and that only.

Many theorists and dreamers, having perceived the opening of the Way, become anxious to know how to proceed to attain further advancement. They seek out unnatural methods; noticing that the spiritual power manifests in certain ways or directions, with more vengeance where the body is shorn of its strength, they set to work to deplete it to the point of deterioration.

We are never to exalt the spirit at the expense of the bodily condition. The spirit does not need that sort of exaltation. But it does need the body to be made the most perfect, potent, powerful and equally balanced mechanism that can be possible constructed. Then when the Spirit calls upon the body to manifest any where, under any condition, for any circumstance, or any place whatever, the body must be able to respond.

During every life, the struggle is for the physical to hold itself up against the intense impulse of the Spirit, and maintain any sort of equilibrium. As I pen this paragraph, I have news of an earnest student, who was directed to concentrate his physical force upon his lungs, which up to that time had been in good condition. The incompetent trainer did not warn of possible danger from such training. Consequence: he had burnt his lungs up, and will probably never see another well day.

When the perfecting of the body is attained, the Spirit will have so spiritualized the body which it holds, that both will be equally balanced, and they will have entered into the Great Unity. They will then be necessary for each other being competent to act each for the other, as shall be demanded even to the farthest point of the outlying. Let the body be strong and powerful, then let the Spirit rise to the point of easy dominance, the coming perfection is assured.

GOD AND I ARE ONE, HARMONIOUS PEACE MUST EXIST.

The Four Principle Passions of Man.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

The Four Principle Passions of Man.

First Passion: Eating and Drinking. The physical man delights in self indulgence.

Second Passion: Sexual Desire. The man of darkness delights in defiling this only source of all created life, both in conversation and action.

Third Passion: Pertains to man's Selfishness.

Bodily comforts, luxuries, as ease and riches, his hopes and his desires for HIMSELF. Also to make others serve him. If he accomplishes this, then he is the "Prince of Evil", for he holds dominion to the injury of others.

As a man buildeth these habitations for or in his soul while on Earth, vain are his efforts for happiness after he has passed from this expression of Life.

Fourth Passion: Pertains to Criticism.

The physical man delights in pulling to pieces the doctrines, religions, philosophy and behavior of others.

NOTE: To abandon such conversations and thoughts, and discourse on the highest subjects in preference, such as imparting knowledge, suggesting remedies for the unfortunate and unlearned, for improving in excellence their home-life, and along lines that are helpful to mankind, should be the delight and work of every true Hermetic Student.

The instruction given for word and practice, is, forever build up, NEVER tear down unless the betterment of conditions demand; even then use caution lest the true facts retard development on the Path of Progress.

To assist the physical man to undo his past, and to make full restitution unto others, is the work of the Hermetic Brotherhood collectively and individually.

Second Lesson on Self

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

The Seven Enemies of Man.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Open Court Studies.

Seven Enemies of Man.

- 1st: Persistent Stubbornness in Thought, Speech and Action.
Delight in Destruction.
- 2nd: Wicked Device -- The Joking ~~Tril~~. Practical jokes are not in keeping with Hermetic Teachings.
- 3rd: Delight in being BAD.
The Flesh Evil.
- 4th: Worthlessness, Laziness.
Procrastination.
- 5th: Vanity, Self-Conceit.
Self-praise.
- 6th: Slander and the repeating evil .
Enticing Evil.
- 7th: Desire for Leadership: especially in the above Enemies.
This kind of Leadership is called the
"Captain of Death".

"Whatsoever a man soweth, THAT shall he also reap".

Remember: Thoughts build Character. Actions make environments.

NOTE: By watching ourselves, and others we come in contact with, we are able to determine wherein there is an opportunity to improve our Character. While we may not admit that we are all that is indicated in "The Seven Enemies of Man", at the same time a student who honestly desires to "BE rather than seem to be", finds indications of all these conditions in some form on other planes than the Physical.

Each of these sheets of suggestions, should receive more than a passing glance; close and careful attention will show what is required to assist the Higher Self to gain a stronger bond of fellowship with the lower self, so the transmutation of the "baser metal into Gold" may be attained.

Mantram: Into the hands of my Higher Self, I commit my lower consciousness, and all its perplexities, for guidance and solution.

NOTE: This Mantram is valuable if used in Meditation, when the burdens of the day are heavy, and the clouds darken the pathway.

Third Lesson on Self

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

----:THIRD LESSON ON SELF:----

Oh, Mother Earth! Thou hast been a tender, loving nurse to the children of men. Aye, to the poor, gentle and timid, knowing never a sound more harsh than the babbling brook, thou hast given muscles of steel, and a heart of adamant; taught them to drive the sword and Miniebullet through rugged bronze and plated mail, and warm it in the marrow of the foe; to gaze into the stare of the flashing eye-balls of the Numidian lion as does the smooth-face boy upon a laughing girl. But the life thou hast absorbed from the crimson currents dabbling and deluging thy bosom, shall be required of thee measure for measure. The day of recompense and redemption is upon thee, thou unbridled one. The Supreme Master of potency demands accounting from thee. Consciousness shall give away to Spirit perception. A new heaven and a new Earth is thy destiny!

Truly, is fulfilled to man the prophecy: "Cursed be the Earth for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life. Thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread until thou return to the Earth; for out of it thou was taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

As we come nearer and nearer the fullness of understanding in our perception of our relations to ourselves and the Earth we find as we move forward in alignment with the law, this alignment will bring more rapidly and more potentially the power to seek for the physical. If we are forced to hold the body under any terrible restraint, while doing whatever is necessary to be done, then we exhaust part of our force before we have begun the real work in hand. We cannot devote ourselves as we ought to, the enlargement and unfolding of every atom of strength we are in possession of. It is necessary then that we seek first to make our bodies the strongest and our brains the clearest we possibly can. While the law is universal and fits the Race; it is also individual and fits the individuals, each one of us. To be sure the sun shines on all the human Race alike; but the human Race do not all feel this heat and light alike. Therefore, it seeks that the law for one man can not be the law for another; but in such a conclusion, we would err. The law acts upon us as we are capable of perceiving it. If we can not perceive it there is no impression. If we will not perceive then we are responsible as if we had entered into a full conception of every detail in its fullest unfolding.

No man can be harmoniously governed by his neighbor's thoughts, ideas, aspirations or by his actions; but ALL must work out for themselves whatever is best for them. If we are conscious of deviation, we find by a little close examination that it is simply a fitting to a difference in the constitution of the body, that for the time being has been turned over to the Spirit for the purpose of transmutation, first, of its own body; second, of the bodies of other men, and lastly, of the Earth itself.

The doctrine of the "Philosopher's Stone" is this; the remark is often made: "I do not see the use of incarnating over and over, and beginning at the same spot every time." But that is not true. The experience of every incarnation, is not wholly bad, and this can be hardly conceivable, must result in the increase of power to attract spiritualized atoms. Suppose in my first incarnation, I acquire the power of attracting to my body two percent of its whole number of atoms, and all these spiritualized.

Once acquired I cannot lose this power but, in the next incarnation I have this latent power and in addition to attracting up to the full limit, by living in righteousness or right living, I may gain five percent; name, take that away with me. In my next incarnation, I will start with the potency of seven percent. Each time I come back to the Earth, it will be with a greater potentiality until I shall be in the position of our Master Jesus, whose final attainment of the full number, made him Ruler over both life and death. To be strong on all plains, our bodies must also be strong. Not big, but vigorous and wiry, so it can be easily quickened and moved by the forces that control it or contact it by attraction. In all cases, the Higher Self is the judge of that which is best for us, for transmutation in some of its processes is going on all the time. Is not this the meaning of the parable of the ten talents, where the man went into a far country--died--and left his goods (?) to three servants---Incarnations---and they left to the working out of their own purposes, curiously increase their stock of spiritualized atoms?

The transmutation of the grossest into the finer, takes place first, through the operations, by which the outer is turned into the blood of the body, and from the blood into the flesh, under the action of special magnetic and electric conditions.

The Smaragdine tablet found on the body of HERMES, holds within itself the whole subject of transmutation: as follows:

I:--That is below, is like that which is above, and what is above is similar to that which is below to accomplish the wonders of one thing.

II:--As all things were produced by the mediation of one being, so all things were produced from this one by adaptation.

III:--Its father is the Sun, its mother is the Moon.

IV:--It is the cause of all perfection throughout the whole earth.

V:--Its power is perfect if it is changed into Earth.

VI:--Separate the Earth from the Fire, the subtil from the gross, acting prudently and with judgement.

VII:--Ascend with the greatest sagacity from the earth to heaven, and then descend again to earth, and unite together the power of things inferior and superior: thus you will possess the light of the whole world, and all obscurity will fly away from you.

VIII: This thing has more fortitude than fortitude itself, because it will overcome every subtil thing and penetrate every solid thing.

IX:--By it the world was formed.

This is the spiritualizing of the atoms of the Earth by being passed through the vitalized bodies of animals and then through the bodies of living men. All excreted atoms hold life for lower forms. We are here to build the new heaven and the new Earth.

I SAW A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH COMING DOWN FROM GOD.

NOTES: Regarding the Four Great Passions of Man.

Dear Associate:- The papers you receive from time to time, are only hints pointing the way to the understanding of habits formed in this expression of Life.

Good, Bad and Indifferent Habits should be recognized and studied, in order to fully comprehend the Motto of the Open Court, i.e., "Know Thyself".

Bad habits are reflectors of what is lacking in the Soul's development.

Do not forget in the Open Court we are dealing with the physical Man and his environments -- the outcome of his actions, as found in the masses of people, and NOT individual cases. It is wise to investigate thus finding out the true state of ourselves; watch tendencies and how they manifest on other planes of activity.

The First Passion of Man is the manifestation of the Spirit known as Instinct. All animals, man included, soon after birth turn to the mother for food and drink instinctively. Being satisfied ever afterwards knows how to obtain what its Nature demands.

There are no set rules in the Brotherhood regarding the first Two Passions. Each student is expected to regulate them according to his or her understanding and unfoldment. The student should eat the food that enables him or her to follow the chosen occupation; but is advised not to eat when agitated in anyway, especially when angry or suffering from the keen edge of grief. It is never wise to eat in such a hurry that the food cannot be thoroughly masticated.

Do not study or read while eating, unless it assist in carrying on a cheerful conversation; Laughter is considered a great help in digesting food. While the Spirit and body are receiving strength from any source, they should not at the same time be giving it out. We give out strength if, while eating, our mind is unpleasantly occupied or affected in any manner, or if it is on a tension regarding the affairs of Life.

A meal eaten in the proper mental condition, leisurely and with cheerfulness, is a great rest for an hour. Permanent pleasure coming from eating, sleeping, walking, in fact every effort is proof that life is rightly lived to a great extent.

"Grace before meat" embodies a beneficial effect; therefore hold this thought: "May this food give physical strength, mental power and spiritual potency".

The Second Passion of Man is the Creative Power. It is the second life-wave that rushes through the body, be it animal or human, soon after birth. It is shared by everything in the natural world, and is the source of manifested life. By man it is called "Sexual Desire."

It is the Fire of all creative activity on every plane. It is free from impurity and so continues throughout the animal kingdom. Man is the only source through which this wondrous power is defiled.

Man has an animal side to his nature in which are evolved these Passions, but he should remember and fully understand that all the life and force generated in his nature is GOOD. It is only when abused and misdirected that it causes discord and death to his form.

Man should seek and strive to understand this Force, its true purpose, place and use. It is the builder of Nations and sustainer of Empires -- "the Power behind the Throne." It takes Mental power, Spiritual potency as well as physical strength to build Nations and sustain them. This Life-force is a subtle emanation, seeking manifestation, and as God's agent Man must be able to exercise these attributes and qualities to work out the great scheme of the physical manifestation design by God, the Creator. This God given power of creative-force, is in many cases betrayed and in a blundering way Man trades his "birth-right" for a mess of pottage.

The Third Passion of Man often leads him into crimes; this and the Fourth Passion are in a measure transmuted in the training of the Open Court and First Degree.

Remember: "Passions are the material of Power."

"Evil is the origin of GOOD."

Do not attempt to kill out anything in your nature, but transmute and control the lower self into an avenue through which the Higher Self can manifest.

The Ten Sins or Vices of Man.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Ten Sins or Vices.

Three of Action: Taking life.
Theft
Unchastity.

Four of Speech: Lying
Slander, inventing evil reports.
Abuse, swearing, unclean and vile language.
Idle talk: Gossip leading to evil reports.

Three of Thought: Error, also disbelief in future life possibilities
Hatred, harboring thoughts of injury towards others
Envy and jealousy.

NOTE: All that is required for weeding out Vice, is an accurate knowledge of the Vice, and a keen recognition of its nature; a feeling that **IT IS VICE**, also there is NO permanent benefit in entertaining it.

The struggle begins with the Will. Persistence will force the Will into the sub-consciousness where vice will be slowly and surely eradicated; for the sub-consciousness always acts upon its last strong impression, but does not register fleeting experiences.

That from which man requires to be released, is NOT the penalty of SIN but the liability to sin. It is the Sin and not suffering that causes undesirable conditions. It is forcing Power into the wrong channel.

Suffering is but the remedial agency from the liability to Sin, and consequently to suffering. Man can be redeemed only by being lifted into a condition where Sin is impossible to him.

No Angel nor third person has the power to accomplish this change; only man HIMSELF co-operating with the God within him, can do this lifting process.

Man is, himself, the laboratory wherein God, as Spirit, works to recreate man in the image of God.

Remember: the doing of a deed is transient, but its FORM is permanent.

The sight of an object, the thinking of a thought, the performance of an act, ALL these things pass away, but they leave traces that endure.

The product of man's work in the outside world is of great importance, but more important still are the traces that remain in his mind as memory-structures, dispositions, soul-forms and all such conditions that tend to affect the quality of the Soul and Character, that determines the destiny of Man.

Fourth Lesson on Self

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

A Study of Consciousness.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

OPEN COURT

Study in Consciousness.

MENTAL PLANE is that state of atomic energy, whose motion is Thinking and whose products are Thoughts.

MIND is the link between Spirit and Matter, Life and Form. This marriage, so to speak, makes it possible for Consciousness to be born.

CONSCIOUSNESS: It is said; "The earliest manifestations appeared in obedience paid to the Law of Gravitation and Chemical Affinities, which constitutes the basis of the later evolved organic laws of nutritive assimilation,"

PERCEPTION: Memory and experience represented in Man, are accumulations of long ages of toil and thought, gradually advancing through the development of Consciousness, from inorganic combinations upward to God.

Anna Bonus Kingsford writes in the "Peffect Way", "As between Spirit and Matter, so between the organic and inorganic there is no real barrier. Nature works in spirals, and works intelligently. All that modern science has of Truth, in respect to the doctrines of Evolution, was anticipated thousands of years ago. But the Scientist of old using a faculty of the very existence of which those of the present day hear but to jeer at it, discerned in Soul the agent, and in Mind the efficient cause of all progress." We know that if matter was "blind force", having no other impelling agent, there would be no explanation possible for their intelligent adaption everywhere apparent of means to ends; the Life current which is strongly set toward beauty and goodness, the differentiations of uses, functions and kinds, not only in cellular tissues, but even in crystalline inorganic elements. WHY should matter, if unconscious, aimless, purposeless, differentiate, diversify, develop?

When the Ancients solved this question, they were keen enough to see that in their ability to ask this question lay the solution they sought. For questions are prompted by the Mind, and in the presence of Mind in the product, man, involves its presence in the substance whereof man consists, seeing that an extract cannot contain that which is not in its original abstract.

CONSCIOUSNESS according to Heckle, is but a part of the higher activities of the Soul, and as such it is dependent on the normal structure of the corresponding Psychic organ -- the Brain.

CONSCIOUSNESS is limited by the vehicle used; the most general and fundamental condition of our being conscious, as regards influences external to the Mind is change. The continuance of

of one impression tends to UN-consciousness. Change is absolutely necessary. Anything that renders the mental activity more intense, that increases the whirl in the Brain, such as pleasure, pain, great interest, in all things going on, is designated as Consciousness. The opposite is a negative condition leading to unconsciousness.

THREE PRINCIPLE STATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS: These should be carefully considered and studied, afterwards their sub-divisions.

Simple consciousness, Self-consciousness, Cosmic consciousness.

Simple Consciousness.

SIMPLE CONSCIOUSNESS is absolutely universal. It is shared by all things existent; found in the vegetable and animal kingdoms as well as in the Human Race. It makes its appearance in the human infant within a few days after birth. Simple consciousness dates far back, before the earliest mammals. Simple Consciousness is lost only in deep sleep and coma; it is present in all dreams. There are many useful points regarding this Consciousness, which all students should consider.

Self-Consciousness .

SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS is not present in any species but the Human Being; it is in fact the faculty, the possession of which by an individual constitutes him a Man. It makes its appearance in the majority of children at the average age of Three years, and is easily perceived by an observant student. It is not universal in the Human Race, being absent it is said, in about one or two thousand beings in Europe and America. What the average in the dark races is, is difficult to ascertain.

SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS is greatly increased by meditation. It is the listening mind to the promptings of the "Still, small voice" within, and the inspirations of the Soul.

Selfishness is destructive to Self-Consciousness.

NOTE: The ages mentioned in the following statements, have reference to the majority of children, NOT to individual cases. It must be remembered, while Souls are eternal in essence, they are of different ages in their individuality.

MEMORY makes its appearance about the same time as Simple Consciousness in the child, generally coming a few days after birth. Memory is not merely a psychological process, but one partaking in a special sense of Psychic, or Soul force.

CURIOSITY BEGINS to be manifested in about ten weeks after birth.

USE OF TOOLS begins to show in about twelve months; that is, the child seems to have ideas regarding the relation of one tool to another and other things -- a growing consciousness of their use.

SHAME, REMORSE and the **SENSE OF THE LUDICROUS** are all said to be born in the Human infant at the age of fifteen months. They are all pre-human faculties and they undoubtedly existed in our pre-human ancestors; they are almost universal in the races, being absent only in low idiots. All three are common in dreams.

COLOR SENSE or discrimination between colors, their values and choice begins to develop about the age of four years. This sense is absent in one in every fifty persons. Statistics tell us that twenty per cent of school children are color blind, difficult to distinguish between fine shading.

FRAGRANCE is beginning to manifest its value and pleasure, together with choice about the age of five.

MUSICAL SENSE of **REAL VALUES**, the correctness and power of tone, in producing fine shades, and its creative power of emotion, makes its appearance about the age of eighteen; in some cases not until twenty or more years, for with the growth of the individual the sense of Music develops, and the expanding consciousness enters into the field of religious -- the Oratorio, and a higher understanding of the emotional nature of Music.

HUMAN MORAL NATURE

The moral nature begins to develop about the fifteenth year. It includes many faculties, such as conscience, abstract sense of right and wrong.

We are told by the scientist, that this Moral Sense only dates back about twelve thousand years, the truth of this statement is difficult to prove when the mind considers the wonderful advancement of the Ancient People. It is also stated that **Self-Consciousness** is of far greater antiquity.

Following along this line it is best to consider understandingly

SEXUAL LOVE as distinguished from Sexual Desire and Instinct.

PARENTAL AND FILLIAL LOVE as distinguished from the corresponding instincts. (Man has these instincts in common with animals.)

LOVE OF OUR FELLOW MAN. Love of the beautiful, awe, reverence, sense of duty or responsibility, sympathy, compassion, faith and all such Divine agencies as will unfold the avenue toward the highest states of Consciousness.

COSMIC - CONSCIOUSNESS.

Cosmic Consciousness is reached by the advanced student somewhere around the age of thirty-five, generally through Inspiration and Illumination.

Marks of this higher consciousness or sense, are:

The subjective light,
The moral elevation,
The intellectual illumination,
The sense of Immortality,
The loss of the fear of Death,
The loss of the sense of Sin,
The suddenness, instantaneousness of the awakening,
The previous character of the man, intellectual, moral,
physical: (reincarnations referred to)
The age of Illumination,
The added charm to the personality, so man and women are
attracted to the person,
The transfiguration of the subject or person, so as to be
recognized by others when the Cosmic Sense is
actually present.

NOTE: These studies demand more attention than mere definition that can be obtained from one statement. It is through deep study and careful analysis that knowledge is obtained regarding the SELF and its manifestations as reflection of the ONE .

Fifth Lesson on Self

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

--:FIFTH LESSON ON SELF:--

We have, in this latter day, many lights, and among them a peculiar radiance developing as the product of internal action, From the pituitary bodies of the front brain there is thrown upon the pineal gland of the middle brain a ray of unmanifested fire which shines within this seat of the Spirit, and under the continued influence of the influx of this reverberatory fernice, the whole of the real man rises higher and higher, until for a single instant as time is measured, but for the AGES OF THE COUNTLESS ONE, the Ego becomes consciously perceptive of the triune attributes of the Divine OMNIPRESENCE, OMNIPOTENCE AND OMNISCIENCE. We recognize that the ADYTUM of ATLANTIS was the symbol of the real enlightenment of the interior man. It is the stepping from the finite into the Infinite. Those thus privileged come to an attainment whose strain could not be endured by the mortal body and live. So it is only permitted even to such glorified ones, like the glimpses of Paradise we occasionally have.

But under the conditions of the perfecting body, a continuance of that state of transfiguration would soon dissolve the whole organism. These seasons of uplifting are of the same kind and nature as were enjoyed by Moses, when he was upon Sinai, the mount of Fire; or that Jesus showed to his disciples on the mount of Transfiguration. If we would only practice this self-elevation, we might have a longer presence, with a quickened repetition, which we might inbuild into our bodies, until our faces shown as did the face of the Ancient Lawmaker, when he emerged from the thunderings, lightnings and thick darkness of the trembling, quaking mountain. This light, so personal to a greater or less extent, there are but few living who have not quaffed in larger or smaller drafts, sometime and somewhere in their experience.

With this explanation in our minds, we are able to comprehend quiet perfectly the nature and character of this light, thus filling full the Shrine of the GREAT WHITE TEMPLE, with all its brightness and whiteness, before ever the Veil was withdrawn.

In the ceremonial of the Mysteries, the great multitude stood with their eyes fixed; their concentrated thought brought the possibility. The light would dawn, as when the Sun rises, growing brighter and brighter, until a sudden movement, like the lightning's flash—the unfolding Veil, as if dissolved in light would disappear, leaving the watchers in the full blaze and glory of the hour when God said: "Let there be light," and there was light.

For a few moments this real miracle would be so visible to the whole assembly, that no soul would fail to perceive it, as with heart-stifled breath, they waited in the direct presence of the UNMANIFESTED ONE. Now, what does this veil mean to the Self? It is that intangible something we ordinarily feel standing between us and attainment. As we essay to pass, the still, small voice, out of the Silence sounds in our ears, more intensely than the loudest thunder, reiterating: "Be ye perfect; as your Father in Heaven is perfect." Can we, shall we? Have we, the children of the mortal, the ability to even meditate upon the possibility of perfection for ourselves? We can try, and help will be tendered us in the effort, proportionate to our persistence.

This is the explanation of Jesus' last words, when he cried with a loud voice: "Eloi, Eloi, lama Sabachthani, "and gave up his Spirit. The sentence he used contained, after the Hebrew idiom, a reversible word, and thus means both of two things, the one: "My God! My God! Why has thou forsaken me? "and the other, "My God! My God! How has thou glorified me? " the first is the cry of the lower self to the Higher Self, as the Veil of Isis rolls in between the two, and the intangible, impassible separatrix stands between. In the case of the unattained man, it is always forever. But in Jesus' case, the hour of fulfillment was at hand, when the Master Spirit Self would return to the pupil, physical self.

On the other hand, the Higher Self, rising on the wings of a subordinate Immortality into the Father's presence, was lost in the rapture of the preferment conferred upon it. Then and there was the unity of man with God fully recognized. The object of all living comes always once for all, in its presentation.

The reason then, why the lower self does not at once accept the invitation, in the tender pleading voice of the Higher Self to "Come up higher," is because the Veil of Isis is not at the first perceived. Then when it has come into the knowledge of the barrier, it has neither understanding nor strength sufficient to raise the Veil, and thus awaits for the coming help, which may be delayed for years or maybe centuries.

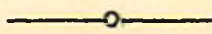
The symbology of the Veil of Isis is the hiding of the Unknown from the Knower, who, unsatisfied, still seeks further knowledge. It is this curtain, so thin, that but a second of time separates the living from the so-called dead, that by the ordinary mortal eye nothing can be perceived from the mortal side, concerning the immortal. For thousands of years it has been thus, they whose eyes could unfold the Veil were few; and these from whom all was hidden that lay beyond, were the many.

While we are fully aware, under the teachings of experience, that this Veil is at once so dissonous and so opaque, we also are very apt to forget that it hangs forever, between the Present and the Future, with all its exasperating obstruction.

It cannot be fully and completely pierced, even by those whose eyes are brightest and keenest; even those whose eyes are lighted by the Spirit power of the Invisible side of life are baffled by its impenetrability. Many can perceive much. Rarely few are those who are able to perceive all.

So it comes to pass this Veil is constantly unfolding before us, under the impulse of unseen hands. We often come to a blank wall. Let us take courage and strength from our Higher Self, for the effort to put it aside, and the victory shall be ours.

OUT OF TOLLSOME DARKNESS THE FATHER LEADS.



The difference between Impulse, Instinct, Intuition.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

First Degree

Impulse, Instinct, Intuition.

NOTE: If we would know the difference between these three words, we would become acquainted with ourselves; we would learn what we are and what we may become, by carefully distinguishing the influence of these three motive powers, playing upon us or within us, in the course of evolutionary careers.

IMPLUSE: Is an influence operating suddenly on the mind whether from external or internal causes. It is a Force communicated instantaneously; the sudden or momentary communication of motion. Impulse in another of its phases, is in proportion to the quantity of matter and velocity of the impelling body.

IMPULSE: Is an incentive to action in a right or wrong direction.

It should be examined and weighed, its source investigated and its tendency judged from whence it came. Most of the detrimental impulses come from the impact of other peoples thoughts, telepathically received in times of mental passivity; or do they come from our own Higher nature or from our lower? From the angel we are growing into or the brute we are growing out of? No advice worse could be given in our present moral existence than to act upon every impulse; alth' to neglect, ignore or check all impulses would be nearly as bad.

INSTINCT: Is Spirit activity through an unimpeded channel. It is to be inwardly moved; it is a certain power or disposition of the Mind, by which, independently of all instruction or experience without deliberation, and without having any end in view, animals are unerringly directed to do spontaneously whatever is necessary for the preservation of themselves of kind, and for individuals.

INTUITION: Is the power to discover Truth without reason or intervention of other ideas. It is synthetic, not analytic, often explaining instantaneously a series of events, ideas and actions. This action is of a higher intelligence on this plane -- a spiritual power operating or acting quicker than the reason of the individual.

INTUITION is inborn experience; that which the Soul knoweth of old. Inborn knowledge and perception of things, are the sources of revelation; "the soul of a man instructeth him", having already learned by experience, thus does reincarnation teach us

"There is no knowledge but through labor, and no Intuition but that which comes through experience."

I N S T I N C T .

Instinct is Spirit activity through an unimpeded channel.

Instinct is to be inwardly moved. It is a certain power or disposition of the Mind, by which, independently of all instruction or experience, without deliberation, and without having any end in view, animals unerringly are directed to do spontaneously whatever is necessary for the preservation of themselves or kind and for individuals.

Instinct in the Human species, is exhibited first in the new born infant, as it invariably turns to the mother for nourishment, and seldom has to be taught to nurse the mother if there is any flow of milk.

On the other hand instinct may be delayed for years, then appear without education in great energy.

Instinct in the insects is first exhibited by depositing their eggs in locations most favorable for hatching.

Instinct is exhibited in the plant by selecting its substance from the environment, and by turning toward the light.

Instinct guides the movements of the animal. Its decisions are imperative and unerring. Belonging more to the universal than individual consciousness, knowing no fear or hesitancy in the execution of its impulses.

Its marvellous accuracy as a discerning, selecting and qualifying power -- far transcending the labors of Reason -- leads the animal through numberless pitfalls and dangers, threatening its existence, with a wondrous, miraculous safety.

Instinct is in contradistinction to Reason, it is not a compound but a simple quality -- a direct, uncolored, uncorrupted flow of conscious life. Hence its accuracy and unerring vision. The origin of Instinct is not of the animal but flows through it, therefore, the animal is not its own guide, in the strict meaning of the term, but is placed under the guardianship of intelligent forces which execute their mandates in and through the animal consciousness.

This may account for some kinds of Instinct displaying evidence of a high degree of original initiative intelligence. Let us take the California woodpecker as an example. This bird bores holes into the bark of trees, and plugs them up with wormy acorns. When the grubs within are fattened the bird enjoys a very fine rich repast.

When domestic animals are trained or bred out of the wild or natural state, Man takes upon himself this guardianship, mentioned above, to such an extent that the former guardians partly withdraw their guardianship or influence, and the work of instinct is no longer reliable. On the other hand, the animal being constantly subjected to the influence of the Human mind, the animal consciousness may gradually respond to it, thus yielding growing signs of Reason.

However strikingly the animals may display powers of apparent reasoning their intellectual processes can in no way be regarded wholly as an output of natural evolution, but the induction or hypnotic influences received from the dominating kingdom above it.

Mineral Plane also exhibits this same transmission of power from entities of a superior to those of an inferior sphere of existence; thus on the mineral plane where a non-magnetic soft piece of iron can be rendered magnetic by the mere contact of a natural magnet. Nevertheless, the induced magnet after a longer or shorter time of isolation, will lose its borrowed qualities, so in the case of the animal, a removal from the source of its intelligence by turning it loose into unrestricted wilderness will gradually blot out its intellectual qualities and restore it to the sphere of natural instinct.

Instinct can be defined as the operation of the principle of organized life by exercise of certain natural powers, directed to the present or future good of the individual. Or in other words it is the general property of the living principle of law of organized life in state of action.

I N T U I T I O N .

It is said Intuition springs from the Spiritual Ego, and is an energy directed by the Spiritual Ego. It is calm, considerate, purposeful, and you can distinguish between it and Impulse by careful consideration, until you become thoroughly balanced and calm. This delay is essential.

An impulse dies away under this kind of treatment, while Intuition grows clearer and stronger. Calmness enables the lower mind to hear it, feel its serene command. Moreover if what seems to be intuition is really a suggestion from some Higher Being, that suggestion will sound the louder for our quiet meditation, losing nothing of force by such calm delay.

Daily Meditation, careful consideration before speech, the refusal to yield to impulse, are among the chief methods of training the emotions into an useful servant instead of a dangerous Master.

Every Human Being possesses an inner, a spiritual set of perceptive functions, ever ready to serve when called upon. In order to reestablish a connection between the inner powers of life and consciousness, Faith must be called into action. The prerequisite for all attainment lies in the mental attitude of certainty as to the possibility of the attainment.

Faith is the coin by which the soul buys its spiritual powers. Faith is act of WILLING, capable of shaking the life-structure to its very foundations. Faith heals the sick, restores life and is said to "remove mountains". Having acquired Faith, its practical application lies in our manner of living and acting.

To invoke the power of Intuition, means to transfer our interests from sensuous to spiritual concerns, and to employ the Mind with the contemplation of supersensuous concepts in plane of pondering on objects of the senses and on their gratifications. To contemplate on the nature of the Soul; on the destiny of humanity, and on the inter-dependence in which all beings stand to each other, necessitates the mediation of sense-functions sufficiently refined and spiritualized to permit of exalted transports.

The transfer of vital interests from the plane of ordinary sensation, will act obstructively to the flow of the life currents, and force it into other channels. The new channels will form in the wake of the new interests and, IF these be of a spiritual nature, the life-current will well upon that exalted plane, hasten hither to quicken sleeping sense-functions into activity.

The establishment of self-consciousness on that plane of life, equips man with intuitional powers. Thus intuition or sense-activity on the Spiritual plane, is only to be attained through renunciation of all lower, selfish interests and the subsequent

creation of new and nobler ones, embracing the needs and hopes of Humanity. To live for the whole is in the truest sense to live for one's self, as the Self being a part of the whole, receives through reaction the multiplied result of the unselfish effort.

To aspire toward Intuition means to forget the personal self with its earth-bound concerns, and try to melt the individual consciousness into the Universal. The student must surround him or herself with ideals of highest purity. The Hermetic method to perfection on whatever plane -- physical, mental, moral or Spiritual -- is Purity. Therefore in the student's daily life he should try to realize himself as a cosmic citizen, constantly actuated by principles and motives of universal bearing.

To gain entrance into the realm of Intuition - the Kingdom of Angels - the aspirant must shun no trials, fear no failures. He must place his mind on the Spirit, try to fasten his soul-energies on the unseen and unheard. He must try to live himself into the actual presence of an inner world and to adjust his sense functions to the requirements of that world. It is an arduous unceasing endeavor to live up to the ideal by purifying every center of action, but every movement of thought shall sooner or later unlock the door to the Sanctuary. "Seek and ye shall receive". Thus to a purified vision the Spirit reveals its riches.

What this development aims at, is of the Heart, NOT of the Head. Any other training than a moral and ethical one; any other discipline than in the service of God and Humanity, shall lead to spheres of darkened twilights and of his self-love, self-satisfaction and egotism.

Exclusive interest in self means isolation, contraction and final death; While inter-human or universal interests that connects man with all the mighty force-centers of being, means EXPANSION, GROWTH an BOUNDLESS LIFE.

The man of the future will be guided in his mental labors NOT by the unstable light of reason, but by the calm, unerring illumination of Intuition. This advance-guard of Humanity is fast approaching the borders of this sacred land of progress and promise. The sympathy that sways some hearts with power enabling the individual to 'take on conditions' that is, to feel the joys or sorrows, hopes and fears, as these shades of consciousness arise in minds of his fellowmen, is budding of the plant, the fruit of which will be FULL attainment of the Divine Gift. For Intuition enables the student to follow the fluidic movements of the soul with the same certainty as physical vision permits the eye to watch the movements of the body,

Sixth Lesson on Self

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

-----:SIXTH LESSON ON SELF:-----

Having thus considered the questions of who the Self is; what is upon the earth to do; and also the obstructing condition, we come now to ask ourselves how we may be enabled to move forward in our unfolding, so that time may not be wasted in our progress.

We are held in a four-fold domination of the great Angles of the Earth, Water, Fire and Air. These speak to us and command us, because our bodies, our lower consciousness of Self, hold within their forms, atoms coming directly from the realms of these Great Ones. The proportion of the sway of each depends upon the part of each which we hold and harbor of any particular period. The point of equilibrium is adjusted by the summing up of the consciousness of the atom. This should be in the same ratio as that which maintains the Universal equilibrium. We say; "I hunger;" "I thirst;" "I am cold;" "I stifle." These experiences all indicate there is a lack, for the time being, in the gross material supplies under the dominion of some one or more of the four great realms. The most difficult for us to introduce into our systems, are not for systemic circulation until their solid form is changed to a liquid, for their hardness and constituent elements are most nearly related to the rock forms of the earth.

Thirst demands for its satisfaction, those subtile fluids which are at once solutions and general solvents.

When we overcome the cold, we change the tattvic, vibratory character of the atoms, and are thus relieved of the crowding or solidifying we name cold.

But we admit the freest, free air with all its glorious vivifying power into our bodies unchanged--even into the Holy of Holies, the lungs and heart, where we rob it of its life-giving quality and then turn it again into the open, to find its own place of healing and readjustment.

Thus are we dominated by the awful four, whose power broods over us, and all manifested conditions of every kind upon the earth, and in the heavens. When, they, with swaying shock, meet animal or plant life, they find their power checked only by the positive potent will of man.

Everywhere, and in all directions man overcomes and baffles the Four, by the exercise of his mental machinery. The Earth he subdues and cultivates. Rocky deserts are cleared and fertilized. Mountains are leveled or terraced. The unproductive wilderness

blossoms as a rose and furnishes sustenance for man and beast by thousands. He climbs the lofty peaks of the mountains by the use of his roads of steel and whirls across the gorges of measureless depths. Wherever his hand touches, Nature's face changes, becoming more and more subservient to the caprice of the MasterMan.

Man, long since, found means to make the realm of the Water his, not only using for the power both of its weight and velocity but as the bridge that shall carry him from continent to continent, around the whole globe. Were it not for the acquisition, he would be "and the waters meet and confine" when he reached the place where

HINTS

REINSPIRATION

AND IMPRESSIONS

(SPIRITUAL
VEHICLE)

be clothed, cribbed and confined, "when he reached the place where the Earth and the Waters meet." He has learned the laws controlling water. He has caught on to the loves of the Earth and Water, and through the knowledge he has thus gained he has made water his slave abject and servile.

He restrains it in reservoirs. He directs its streams to irrigate the ground; concentrate force; and floats his vessels of burden from continent to island and from island to continent. Not only do they carry himself, but also his belongings of all kinds. He is beginning to think that he can also beckon to the sky, and its watery clouds also obey his will. When he can maintain his irrigating systems in the blue ether then he will have made a wonderful step toward the complete domination of his God-given powers of all the realms outside of himself.

When his present power over Aqua Pura has reached its limit, he brings to his aid the Angel of the Fire, and bids it enter the water. A mighty Cyclops is at once visible. When properly harnessed in bands of steel and bars of brass, it is prodigiously useful. But let it break away from its restraint, and woe to those within its reach.

The Angel of the Fire is man's greatest friend and most dreaded enemy. As he wheedles the Fire to overstimulate the Water; so when he has need, he overcomes the power of the Fire by a destructive surplus of water. But these three supporting guardians and preservers of man's life and happiness, are only appreciated and used after man has become a living being. His manifested life did not appear until the Breath of the One left within the body both a Higher and lower consciousness. This life, not only came forth from the Angel of the Air, but must constantly remain in touch with it, or it will cease to manifest.

This granted, we need concern ourselves about nothing but the Breath. The other three Angels being dependent for their services upon the burden-bearing, unifying Angel. If the breath is life, then we must appeal to the Angel of the Air as the Master, under God, of all lives. So long as we can maintain the physical breath, we can hold the immortal Spiritual in this casket of clay, which is the essential of all being, and constitutes us units of the God total. Having awakened to the consciousness and perception of the lower self, its position and its demands, we must also see that when by the struggle of ages, we have spiritualized its atoms by the use of the Divine Breath, which was breathed into us "In the Beginning", and became henceforth ours, we can hope to become Masters of both the Selves merged into one, even as the two ones become two and are characterized by a single symbol, that does not bear resemblance to the unit before assimilation.

Earth, to stand upon; Water, the universal solvent; Fire, the Divine transmitter; Air, life of the two Selves. Let him who hath knowledge, grow wise by understanding, then shall he know God, through himself, and himself from God. Let him write on his memory, in letters of fire the one sentence;

"LET THY BREATH REWEAVE THY BODY!"

**Practical Suggestions from Instructions
of the
Invisible Section.**



HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Practical Suggestions.

"There can come to us nothing to disturb nor annoy, anywhere on the line to life, unless we recognize it in our own mentality, which is the only vulnerable point on the mental plane.

"Let us therefore, direct all effort to freeing ourselves from the inert, to the liberation and enlargement of our lower selves, into terms of the Higher Selves".

"Persistence is the crowning quality of a God, and the sign-manual of everlasting inheritance.

"If we attain success on any line, it is through the maintenance of our design by active persistence. The true idea is the active saturation of the whole of us, in the one overmastering thought. Try it and win Prosperity for yourselves".

"Concentration is the unchanging holding of a thought and the constant infusion of the power that WILL accomplishment".

"Blessed are they who entertain angels unawares.

'The Strangers within thy gates', is, now-a-days more frequently from the unseen world".

"The more desirous we are for quiet and ease, the less apt are we to give our best efforts to anything we are compelled to accomplish.

"It is a fact, if we permit ourselves or others to do anything but the best, gauged by the capacity at the moment of doing, we have certainly sinned".

"The ONE who is ALL never hurries. 'The footsteps of the Gods move swiftly but harmoniously', therefore; we can do things quickly if we do them harmoniously and haste not".

"Pray without ceasing, (briefly, want but one thing at a time and desire that constantly untill attained".)

"All vibration must create or manifest, Every vibration no matter how faint, picture itself somewhere"

"We can take the passive, the negative, fearing, drifting attitude and thus continually attract to us like influences and condition from both the seen and unseen side of life. Or, by a knowledge of the power and potency of these forces, we can take the positive, the active attitude, that of mastery, and attract the higher and more valuable influences, exactly as we WILL".

"The first attitude of the Healer is consecration to the work, the bringing of the mind to a clear sense of its Oneness with God, as the ALL-Good, ALL-Wise, and ALL-Present. Then will come as never before a realization of the nothingness of matter, and the absolute falsity of its claim for recognition".

"The essence of man is Spirit. Only by stripping himself of his finiteness and surrendering himself to pure self-consciousness does he attain the Truth".

"I know that the FATHER leadeth me". "The duty of mankind is to glorify the FATHER which is in Heaven; recognizing that the man in the conscious oneness with the ONE is the highest attainment that the man in the physical body can reach and is that which we, as comrades of this Brotherhood, are putting forth our energies to accomplish".

"We should not be in haste to show what we can do, rather grow in power and potency for good, and increase the consciousness of the FATHER'S presence".

"As members of the Hermetic Brotherhood it is our duty to so live that our presence is an attraction to others. Cultivate those traits in yourself you see lacking, in others and they will soon disappear from others".

"Put activity into the practice of the Girdings. Idle thoughts and idle words are a waste of mental energy and valuable time. You will find the greatest battle field on the mental plane. Man's thought has brought him to confusion both spiritually and physically".

"All can work powerfully by the invisible methods of starting and increasing thought vibrations tending toward the betterment of mankind generally. These vibrations are used by those in the Invisible Section of the Brotherhood who know how to utilize them to the best advantage".

True understanding is a perception by the consciousness of the DIVINITY within us, of the DIVINE purpose".

"There may be pure physical thoughts, but they are not so strong nor life-giving as impure spiritual thoughts. The pure spiritual is the highest conception by which man triumphs over his environment".

"The Hermetic Brotherhood through its doctrines seeks Wisdom as the source and sustaining power of Truth regarding the "One Life, One Law, One Principle, One Word".

If there was one thing more than another that an Egyptian of ancient days respected and venerated, it was the law under which he lived; the symbols of authority upon the throne; and the sign of spiritual presence in the Temple. Therefore, they who would accomplish for the Brotherhood should take occasion day by day; to give more thought and hope to its purposes and interests. There are many who do not know, who have never heard of this light to which they may come".

"Keeping to one's self dwarfs and stultifies. Hoarding brings loss. Use gives greater inflow of knowledge and gain".

"Give the Brotherhood your thought for success, for strength, for union with the UNIVERSAL thought at all times and places. Whatever you can send to us of helpfulness on any line send it the name of the INVISIBLE ONE, who is all. Remember the "Three-fold Cord", that is, "Right Thought, Right Speech, Right Action", can be made to increase the helpfulness of the Order which tenderly cares for you, and desires the same love in return, so all can work harmoniously together carrying out the plans of its founders both visible and invisible".

----- (H. B.) -----

Hermetic Mysticism

by

Wm. M. Thompson

Elder Brother of Knot 72, nom de plume - "Egypt".

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Hermetic Mysticism.

Hermes Trismegistus - the Superlative Good, was the title under which the Greeks referred to the Egyptian Thoth, or Tat, Lord of Divine Worlds.

Hermese taught not only the Unity of God, but that He manifested in three Supreme Powers, and from that fact Hermes was named Trismegistus - thrice greatest.

This was perhaps, one of the purest and most spiritual forms of Mysticism. It took rise in Alexandria in pre-Christian, or early Christian times.

The Divine Pymander of Hermes Trismegistus taught, that to think is to create; that every Thought is a substantial action; wherefore, Thought identified with Hermes as the Logos, is the Creator of the Kosmos.

Hermes was called "the trainer of the Christs": the Hermetic Science was the science of God, which recognized the Oneness of Substance in the Universe, by virtue of which Man contains within himself the seed of his own Divinity, whose fruition is God Himself.

As "trainer of the Christs", Hermes represented the principle of Intuition - or Divine Intelligence; His name expresses the action of the Kosmos - or Universal Mind, upon the human Intelligence, and implies the full regeneration and illumination of the Mystic; this was the ultimate aim of the Hermetic Science.

Hermes was said to be the rock on which the true Church was built, and the Divinity who makes all revelations to man, and through whom the Candidate for Initiation obtained full spiritual knowledge.

This Hermetic Teachings preserved the tradition of a community of men who, of all mankind, were the profoundest in intelligence, the widest in culture, ripest in experience, tenderest of heart, purest of soul, maturest of spirit. They had learned all the Body has to teach, and used their bodies as instruments, and NOT as Masters. They had attained the supreme common sense of all the spheres and modes of being in which matter manifested itself.

It was they who ministered to the world's redemption and though they have long been hidden from human view, they still pursue their ancient vocation - the Divine Science of the Soul - the Substance of Universal Humanity, and the attainment of Personal Perfection.

By reason of its antiquity, its universality, its objects, and its achievements, it is the most notable of all earthly Orders; for it has given to the world all its Saints, sages, seers, prophets, redeemers and "Christs".

All the Hermetic Scriptures testify that God is both within and without, and the God within is all the God without is. And the ~~TRAT~~

in his search for God only, lays aside his intellect and reasoning powers and uses his pure Intuition; and, so far from "losing" himself in his ecxtasy, he "finds" himself thereby, for he finds God, the only true and only Self.

The Mystic sees that the substance of everything is spiritual and knowing himself to be derived from and sustained by the Infinite Spirit, he yearns with an infinite love to be again in contact with his Divine Original.

The Mystic of Hermes accepted the dictum that "nothing imperceptible is real", and applied it to his personal experience, for not only did he claim to think God, but also to see Him; to see Him as the Lord Adonai - the uncreated creative Logos, the informer and fashioner of all things, The Word or expression, by which God manifests Himself; for Adonai is God's Idea of God's Self, the formulated personified Thought of the Divine Mind.

This was the final object of the Mystic's search - the end and crown of all mystical experience - the vision of Adonai. No previous knowledge on the subject was necessary; the result came about without any anticipation. In order to attain it, the man had to purify himself mentally and physically from all things that quench the Spirit; he had to think inwardly, desire intensely, and imagine centrally with a resolute Will, that nothing should restrain or prevent him from reaching his own highest and innermost Being.

He was said to enter the Astral where he began to lose limitations of the finite, and rising through the higher planes he reached the center - the radiating point of himself and all things.

His consciousness, meanwhile, became more and more elevated his Divine Spirit - hitherto something latent and formless - became manifest and infinite. Pressing on he found himself in the presence of a light so intolerable as well-nigh to beat him back from further quest.

Enshrined in this light was a Form, radiant and glorious beyond expression, "made of the substance of Light", and the Form is that of God's Idea manifested - the Lord Adonai. Having found Adonia, the Soul is content for the summit and center of Being is reached and all that the Mystic can grasp is revealed to him in the Vision of Adonai.

"EGYPT".

Lessons on Mysticism

by

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD

LESSON ON MYSTICISM.

First Lesson.

Perfection of soul in man, is attained in three ways, or by three modes:

First: Communing with the Divine.

Second: Doing good under inspiration of the Divine.

Third: By thought, speech and action, fitting ourselves to return into the Divine world, or into perfect alignment the with Divine Itself.

Before going further, let us frame a definition, that we may understand one another in the use of terms.

The soul is the product, the total product of all the knowledge that we gain by experience in any life, by contact with the environment, of which we take cognizance by our physical senses, and refer to our mentality for solution and contemplation. This becomes one with the whole aggregate of past experiences, in the period of rest between the lives. Thus it is a part of our Ego, and the result of all action, and must necessarily as an essential element, bring about the results which the Eastern philosophers name as Karma. It is plain that if we have incorporated into ourselves, some result-producing essence, we can not prevent its producing for we carry constantly the cause with us.

The soul we build is either for us a prison, or a temple, and this is a matter of will for each, depending upon the material we choose, and the quality thereof. We can not pluck figs from thistles. If we are bent upon building a prison, by desires and actions we can, not only build impregnable walls, but we can so build them, that they will contract and close in upon us, thus crushing out all life and action, but preadventure destroying the product of that life. But if it is a temple for the most mighty spirit to dwell in, and there gain unfolding and largeness, we may infinitely broaden our designs, and choose the finest of all material; in the end the magnificence and beauty will be that, typified by the temple of Sol-Om-On, which was intended to convey to all students of the later days, the conception of the Perfect Man, pictured in material expression and conditions. Is it not wise that knowing this we seek to build for ourselves temples and not prisons.

One of the Ancient Brothers said: "The things that belong to the Divine in me, I will attend to, and those that do not I will cut off. Your first duty is to your parents, but your second duty is in the choice of friends".

The wisest of men have always declared that everything was in the Silence, reserved for those who dared to will and seize.

The Darkness and Silence are but one. Darkness is the womb of manifestation, and of all unfolding.

To the still, small voice, (vibration), belongs all, and from manifestation only, can come through physical sense, anything man may fear.

Never desire nor fear whatever is in any man's power to give or withhold. So far as we do this, we become a slave to the man who holds, and slavery is abject in proportion to the intensity of our desires or fears. The links of our chains will be forged by ourselves. No sight is more pitiable than one of these self-enslaved beings.

Whenever we shall have passed from the activity of the present to the rest of the Future, we shall find that which we have considered the most real in the natural world, will be the most unreal in the realm where all being Spirit has reached its true basis.

The Wise Men say, that one can never overcome an animal in the forest, as the Adepts are said to do in the Jungles and fastnesses, until every impulse and instinct in your nature in common with that animal has been banished from your being, on each of the planes, Body, Mind, and Spirit. So long as there remain anywhere in your whole organism a single fraternal vibration, that vibration will plead the cause of the animal, at the Court of the Will, and prevent the full force of the dominating potency that is man's birthright.

Man, in manifestation, has two poles of being. From which he is mentally and physically active, and like the poles of a magnet, they are introconvertible; as the positive may become negative, the negative become positive, so may mentality become action, and action mentality, and they hold a certain relation to each other, and a different relation to things outside of themselves, at the same time. By cultivating these, man may finally realize that he partakes equally of the human and of the divine, the manifested and the unmanifested.

Although we may gain the divine, the topmost round of all attainment, we are all in touch with the lowest, so-called, creature, the Divine Ideation ever conceived of, or the Creative Thought, has ever called into manifestation. The higher up we climb, the more in touch are we with every living thing. This is Homer's "Golden Chain", whose links are precious, strong and everlasting.

Theory lacks innate power, for it is but negation without life. It is but a statement of reasons and deductions in attempted explanation of the perceptions of the Seers and the Sages.

Expanded, theory becomes a system of Philosophy, to which if men tie themselves, they become hopelessly and helplessly enslaved.

Truth is from God, and contains within itself the Absolute being and existence, which is Infinite and Eternal.

It is not known by sight, nor is it made plain by hearing; nor can we have cognizance of it from the sense plane. It is Spirit and the Real,

We must live the Truth to know the Truth, for thus only can we come into full appreciation of its relations to us, and to the Infinite One, who is All, and who is thus known only by His Truth.

The Divine self-consciousness, or full realization that "God and I are one" is a light from the same source, in all, showing that we are parts of the ONE in essence; and at the same time admonishing us, that the part can never be equal to the whole. This light shines with different degrees of clearness in different individuals, for some are better developed in perception than others. Sometime this becomes manifested in all parts of the body, as a light within.

Sometime, somewhere, we shall all reach this degree. The body then becomes constantly luminous; we have in fact, become "temples of the living God".

To bind spirit we must bind thought. A master of old said: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, nor whither it goeth". When we can bind the wind, and bid it do our exact bidding, then shall we be able to bind thought and Spirit.

Soul is begotten in matter by polarization, and its resultant vibration. Spirit is incarnated in matter from life to life, that Soul may be forgotten. The total of soul formation is the measure of man's advancement in unfolding.

The law of Life demands material to work through and with. The law of Love demands a recipient, that shall be equal in every respect for every entity upon the earth. This, from the very nature of the case can not be finite, but must be infinite in justice and wisdom, at all times. None but God satisfies these conditions.

Reciprocity is the great overshadowing law of the lives, and all the worlds. As we love the ONE, so shall we attract to ourselves His love, and the beneficence of the vibrations proceeding from Him, for we shall be in alignment with them and not obstructed and opposed thereby.

True religion is the law of "Love and Use"; the binding back of the manifestation upon the manifestor. It has neither universal system, creed nor sacrament.

Man, as we know him, is a god crucified in an animal. The god within gives him wisdom; and the animal gives him strength. The object to be attained is the overcoming of the animal strength, by the Divine Wisdom.

When the spirit serves the animal, the physical enjoyment is greatly increased, when the animal serves the spirit, the spirit is a thousand times stronger to manifest.

The question for man to decide, is whether physical pleasure, or spirit potency is of most consequence in the unfolding of the ages to come. It constantly recurs to us. We alone can settle it, each for ourselves, and we are compelled to make the final decision, no matter how much we may be inclined to shirk it.

Man is a self-luminous sphere without limit, but he fixes for himself, boundaries, measuring them off by his thoughts and desires; expanding or contracting them, as he reaches out to the Eternal Selfless, or dwells upon the contraction of the Self. Just so far as our thoughts have reached out into the everlasting spaces of Truth and Light, so in proportion is the great hollow globe, of which we are the center and creator.

There is no limit to the extension throughout all its circumference save our own self-limiting. As far and as strongly as we can project our thought vibration, so far, and extensive is it. That is the law, and we have no impassable limit but the Creative Thought of the Divine. Is it not worth our while to constantly seek to project our search for Light to the utmost strength of the ability within us?

Meditate on the ONE who is us and ALL.

W. P. PHELON, M.D.

"Yoga", comes from the word, "yog", to join or yoke, because, by yoga, the Divine in man, becomes joined to the the Divine without, the great Universal Whole. The God within is thus unified with the God without.

Yoga means concentration.

Yoga means Will.

Yoga means "Ladder of Life".

There are two kinds of yoga, Hatha Yoga and Raja Yoga. The first is for the body, and the second for the mind. Hatha Yoga requires so severe training, that it is seldom deemed worthy of the end. It controls only the automatic motions of the body. It is not necessary, under ordinary, conditions that this be touched on at all. It is with our minds, and not our bodies we care to deal, for we know that by a little slower process, the mind will finally come to the throne of the body, and change and control at will.

This brings us to Raja Yoga, as the subject we desire to investigate, and understand to the best of our ability. It teaches us how to control the functions of the mind and through them the body, and its functions, as a gymnast teaches how to develop muscles; and it leads, necessarily, to the development of the psychic and spiritual natures. The psychic is an octave higher than the five senses of the physical, but it is not the highest; the spiritual realm is yet above the psychic.

No concentration can be produced or expressed without the action of the mind, and hence a complete course of yoga is necessary, either voluntary or involuntary, to perfect soul development.

Yoga is the highest human culture.

A Yogi is one who begins to live the Divine Life, that is, to try to find God.

Yoga teaches the subjection of the bodily desires; gives illumination to the mind, with increase of power on all lines. It also teaches forbearance, kindness and serenity. Yoga takes from us all fear, all sense of separateness, and shows us the Divine in everything. The results of Yoga are four:

First, physical development and health.

Second, rational power, giving rest to the body.

Third, spiritual power, giving rest to mind and body.

Fourth, the blending of all these in one.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

LESSON ON MYSTICISM

Third Lesson.

The soul is purified from Desire, and set free from bondage to the physical and unreal, by suffering. Man can not be master until he has conquered Desire, and ceased to cry like a child, for the possession of the Moon. This change in the condition of the soul, can only be affected by the Will.

It is not the principle of Desire that you are to destroy, but the seeking of something transitory on the manifested plane. You are to transmute Desire to Aspiration, which breathing forth the uselessness of all living, seeks union and inbreathing with the Divine that is all of Light, Life and Reality.

It is in thus rising into the realms of the Infinite, man distinguishes himself from the brute. Otherwise, you maim and thereby weaken the power of the spirit force within your self, to manifest on any plane.

Transmute everything of the lower to the higher, the base metals always into the pure gold. This was the meaning of the Philosopher's Stone, and Elixir of Life, of the ancient Philosopher and Alchemists.

The old Occultists said: "There are seventy steps up to the door of the Great Temple", That is, cabalistically, seven is the number of manifestation, and ten the number of attainment, for each step, Seven times one perfect step, are seventy, and the round of fulfilment in human lives thus being gained, we have reached the period known by the Hindoos, as Nirvana,

At the entrance of this Temple, or period of rest, there are two pillars; one is Will, and the other is Wisdom. Without Will, Wisdom can be of no service; without Wisdom, Will cannot become operative on any line to advantage. If you have not that within you which answers to these symbols, you can never enter into this Temple.

To understand something of the methods by which we may reach the accomplishment of our desires let us consider what is meant by the word "YOGA", and if there is any solution of our purpose.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

LESSON ON MYSTICISM.

Second Lesson.

Regarding those who reincarnate it is said, that the lovers and earnest seekers after knowledge come oftenest. The next most frequent comers are those whose highest aim is to serve and help humanity. But the loiterers and lingerers on the other side, who avoid the earth life, and all its work and advancement, its experiences, knowledge and wisdom, are those who love only their own pleasure, and have no care for what they can do for the elevation of their fellows, coming back into the planetary lives only as they are forced by the sequences of force set in motion by themselves in the pursuit of selfish gratification.

The reason why silence is so strenuously insisted upon, on all lines of occult training, is this: Everything Divine grows in the darkness and silence: they two are one, perceive by two senses; darkness is silence perceived by sight, and silence is darkness perceived by the ear. There, vibrations cease, both productively and obstructively; but here, forever, Ideality broods, as the shaping tool hangs over the untouched marble ready to evolve, when the best shall be determined upon.

Talk which is voiced vibration, and completes manifestation, puts an end to further idealization, carries the idea to perfection on the stage which it has reached, and kills progress. Perfected action must move on to dissolution, for there is no farther unfolding for it. You can kill anything in the world by talking about it, for you set up the obstructive vibrations which will always overpower.

A Chinese maxim says: "They who know do not talk. They who talk do not know". This is of the same wisdom, which calls writing precious because it is thought made manifest.

Whatever you can take with you as you go hence from this life, may safely be called yours. You take with you only your soul, that with toil and many groans, and much discomfiture of mind and body you have fashioned out of the life. The reflection of this soul you leave on the Astral Record, the Hindus call it Karma. It constitutes the world's memory of you, and remains also in the Astral as your character, the witness for or against you, for all time to come.

When this is accomplished, perfect peace will be found; darkness and doubt will nevermore enter. The intuition now becomes developed, and you know by it, what you are to do, and thus you have a guide always at your service. You have entered the porch of the Great Temple, if you so will it, you may rest awhile and look about you. Hypostatic union has now taken place, and purity and unselfish love will guide and direct every act of life.

Yoga teaches how to establish a continual identity of spiritualized atoms, and from this comes in sequence, an identity of molecular vibration between the animal man and the soul and spirit, and also between these and God.

Any neophyte may know when he has entered the true path, by the power he has to hold the soul and body in authority.

Imagination springs from desire, but the door is opened by Will.

The Yogi has two great enemies to overcome, and these he must fight to the bitter end. The first is sleep, and the other is thought, when sitting for meditation.

Concentrate on a principle, but it is not wise to concentrate after lying down. You can meditate after reclining or retiring, but you should never concentrate then. The act of concentrating brings abnormal conditions, in the flow of the blood, which are very much increased by a reclining posture, and might become dangerous if continued.

W. P. PHELON, M. D.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

LESSONS ON MYSTICISM.

FOURTH LESSON.

A Yogi may know when he has entered the path, by four conditions.

First: He will meet with a teacher. It is a law, that when you are ready and in need of help, you will be sure to meet with your teacher.

In seeking to find God you will be thus successful, not in coming face to face with Him, but in finding some one who becomes a mediator or connector of yourself with the finer vibrations flowing forth from the ONE.

Your teacher, then, for the time being stands to you in the place of the the One, and is overshadowed by the glory of his office, and receives as an ambassador, the love and loyalty you tender to the Source of all Truth.

Second: You will be conscious of an almost complete reversal of the trend of desire, and of its object.

Instead of seeking the things that are of the earth earthy, and being wrapped up in the current happenings of the rushing whirl of events about you, you will seek the things that you know to be true, although the personal sense can not testify to their existence the things that were before Abraham (manifestation) was.

You will constantly delight in the knowledge that tells you of the ONE, the Unmanifested, and lifts you out of the illusion of the Manifested.

Third: You wake up as it were to the fact that the Whole Universe is One, and that mighty, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent Thought is all, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. All in One and One in All.

Fourth: You have a vision of God that is beyond words, for such vibrations can not express on the material plane; it is partially described by one who had the experience thus: "Meanwhile, under the impulsion of the mighty enthusiasm engendered in him of the Spirit, the constituent molecules of his system become more and more completely polarized toward their Divine center - the animating, Divine Spirit of the man - from being diffused, latent and formless, becomes concentrated, manifest and definite. For, bent on the highest the astral does not long detain him and soon he passes the

Cherubin--the guardians from without of the celestial--and enters within the veil of the holy of holies. Here he finds himself amid a company innumerable of beings each manifestly divine; for they are the angels and archangels, principalities and powers, and all the Hierachy of the "Heavens".

Pressing on, through these towards the center, he next finds himself in the presence of a light so intolerable in its lustre, as well nigh to beat him back from further quest. And of those who reach thus far, many adventured no farther, but appalled, retire, well content; nevertheless, to have been privileged to approach, and actually to behold, the "Great White Throne" of the Almighty, exhibits Mastership.

"Enshrined in this light is a Form radiant and glorious beyond all power of expression. For it is "made of the Substance of Light"; and the form is that of the "Only Begotten", the Logos, the Idea, the Manifestor of God, the Personal Reason of all existence, The Lord God of Hosts, the Lord Adonai.

From the right hand upraised in an attitude indicative of Will and command, proceeds, as a stream of living force, the Holy Life and Substance whereby and whereof Creation consist. With the left hand, depressed and open as in attitude of recall, the stream is indrawn, and creation is sustained redeemed.

Thus projecting and recalling, expanding and contracting, Adonai fulfills the functions expressed in the mystical formula "Solve et Coagula". And as in this, so also in constitution and form, Adonai is dual, comprising the two modes of humanity, and appearing to the beholder alternately masculine and feminine, according as the function exercised is of the man or of the woman, and is centrifugal or centripetal.

Continuing to gaze the beholder acquires clearer vision, he discovers that, of the images thus combined, while one is manifested the more fully exteriorly, the other appertains rather to the interior; and shines in a measure through its fellow, itself remaining meanwhile in close contiguity to the heart and spirit. Of these forms the inner is the feminine, the beholder learns that of the two modes of humanity, womanhood is the nearer to God.

"Such is the 'Vision of Adonai'! And by whatever name denoted, no other source, center, sustenance, or true Self can mortal or immortal find, than God as the Lord who is thus beheld; and no other can he who has once beheld it desire, however dimly or afar off realized. For, finding Adonai, the soul is content; the summit and center of Being is reached; all ideals of Truth, Goodness, Beauty and Power are revealed; there is no Beyond to which to aspire. For all is Adonai; there dwells the infinite sea of Power and Wisdom which is God; and all of God which can be revealed, all that the soul can grasp, be her powers expanded as they may, is revealed in Adonai".

Having reached the knowledge of the end we desire to reach, we are to consider the means by which we are to make all this attainment. It is symbolized to us by Jacob's Ladder, that reaches from the earth to the heavens.

This is the "Ladder of Life", yes, of many lives; and thus considered, the first symbol is of a babe. Its very first sensation is of feeling, the change from the warmth and protection of the inner chamber, to the cold and bareness of the outer, brings the sense of discomfort, that expresses itself, in the wail that is so piteous, and comes almost with the first inhalation. At the first, it is not conscious sensibly, whether it has a mother or not, it is only conscious of the difference between cold and warmth, comfort and distress.

Thus must we feel after God, if haply we might find Him. We must then go a step farther and "desire" Him. Right here do not confound this "desire" with the desires of the physical, and illusionary, they can never be gratified; but Desire for God should be our duty to strengthen by WILL. WILL to find and KNOW Him, and from this knowledge comes Wisdom that can not be told, but must be realized, each separately.

Action implies that we can both do and dare.

W. P. PHELON, M. D.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

LESSON ON MYSTICISM.

Fifth Lesson.

Whoever will dare to act must expect suffering, for he thereby urges himself against obstructions, which in the invisible, temporarily disarrange the functions of the body and involved the nerves, giving a state of unrest, or dis-ease that is, the whole organism from the outside pressure, is in a state of inharmony. This is recognized by the Ego as suffering, which is an indication that we are pushing our way forward, for if we are at a standstill, there would be no such an indication. We should thank our Creator that we are able to suffer, yea, still more that we can endure, and yet above all, for the trial and troubles that have come and gone, and at last having weathered the storms, we have come once more in to smooth waters.

We really have more to be thankful for in the storms, than in the sunshine. The attainment comes to us at the moment when we have reached the Silence, within and without. The awakened soul stops doubting, arguing and fearing, ceases to think, but in the highest sense comes into his recognition of the fact that it and God are one. He feels God.

Balzac says: "The WILL is a fluid in the Universe, just like Electricity, but far more powerful, and subject to your command".

There is but one WILL in the Universe, and that is GOD. Every child that is born, receives as a birthday gift from God, a spark of WILL, to be at his command and directed by his desire. Desire always stands behind WILL, and directs its amount of impulse and operation.

Doud says: "The WILL is the center-stance from which the rib of circumstance grows".

"The human WILL makes itself master of a portion of the spirit of life, and diffuses itself like light".

WILL is first of all the powers. It is the property of spiritual beings to a greater degree than any other, displaying itself more and more, as the mask of matter drops away; this must be, for it is only through this quality that the "I AM" of the Ego, can maintain itself in the "formless" or unlimited. All prophetic inspiration comes, not by nature to men, but by the Whole - Holy- Spirit, and the Divine (Universal) WILL.

"Every man's WILL is manifested by his life, whether he consents thereto or not".

"Any man can be what he WILLS to be. He is the maker of his own soul, and his own fortune. He operates on both the visible and invisible planes, during the manifestation of all lives. The WILL is the mediator, between that which is and that which shall be".

The WILL is always developed by concentration. According to the strength of the WILL, results the new center of formation, and the polarization. THOUGHT and WILL are masters of the manifestation of the Universe. Every thought is forever united to its source or center. Every thought has within it a seed that will put forth fruit, and that fruit must certainly be eaten by the one who sows the seed, each after its kind.

Be careful, then, in thy sowing, whatever manner of seed thou sowest, and whether thou art content to live in old, worn, threadbare thoughts, or will not rest until thou hast found for thyself something new, that shall build new atoms in to thy body in every respect. New thoughts build new bodies.

Never speak, unless what you say shall be of profit, after it is spoken, with speech it has gone beyond your control. Therefore do not allow yourself to think anything you do NOT wish to be true.

The WILL that rules, is drilled and trained and held to its object. THOUGHT sent forth with WILL is a dynamic force or power. Train the WILL to collect life and health from the Universal, and draw it to a focus; and then with thought and desire send it out to do good.

WILL is weakened by being dissipated into many channels. Diffusion is as disastrous here as elsewhere, when you seek effect. Always feel the necessity of WILL. Never act without knowing just what you are doing. If you are taking a bath, rub the towel up and then crosswise, saying: "Arm, I am rubbing WILL into you". WILL is a necessity, and when enough to polarize the lower consciousness, a new center of action is formed; and the at-one-ment is made between the divine in man and the divine without.

WILL is God's consciousness of Himself.

The law of weakness is the law of self, and separateness.
The law of power is the law of spirit, of universality.

WILL belongs to three planes of existence; animal, rational, and spiritual. Sometimes the animal WILL is on the throne, and spiritual Will serves it, being, for the time, weaker than the animal. Every Yogi seeks to concentrate the WILLS of these planes into one, and then to merge all into the DIVINE WILL. Then there exists for him, no will but the WILL of the Supreme Intelligence, the Will of the lower planes, even of the rational ceasing to be an entity.

He becomes the student of Divine Philosophy, then, to force ~~out~~ of mind all consciousness of the separate Ego, and thus the Spiritual WILL dominates all.

When you have gained the power to kill a thought or efface it from your mind, then you gained the power to send a thought wherever you will.

The explanation of the so called magical performances of the yogis and fakirs of India and the East is simply this: The subjective mind creates forms by thought and presents them in the visible by WILL; they lasting as long as the Will that projects them exists.

True wisdom enables a man, a soul, to produce results by the influence, of certain emotions, as love, hate, faith, doubt, desires, passions and Will. Conscious control of THOUGHT and WILL indicates true occult powers.

W.P.PHELON, M.D.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

LESSONS OF MYSTICISM

SIXTH LESSON.

Everything is dual, whatever is in manifestation, from that very fact, is in extension, and extension or surface must always have two sides. It is the idea, and the formulation of that idea; the positive and the negative, the masculine and the feminine; the electric and the magnetic; at the same time, on the inner, everything is a trinity, because there, behind all, lies the Existent - the Creative potency, and the model of whatever has ever appeared in the objective. Two-thirds of what lies within this trinity, appears in manifestation; the other third is God - the ONE, that no man hath seen at any time.

Everything is one with the Creator, who is Love, Wisdom and Use - Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Every human being is made in the image of God, and manifests himself in a four-fold manner. This is where he becomes the mystic seven; the three-fold within, and the four of the material.

The foundation of power on any line is training, attention and repetition. Continued training of the physiological, intellectual and spiritual forces, by repeated acts, produces a mechanical action. It is considered, in training the soul, this mechanical action is at first the most important thing. When once attained, it gives place to an unconscious action that instantly puts the soul in the best attitude of perception and reception, of material for the best soul-building.

Concentration is a natural law. Under its action the focused mind draws from the illimitable fountain of Universal Supply, all you may desire of a special quality even as the convex lens centers the sunlight.

By some occult schools, it is not considered the best form, to concentrate with closed eyes, but holding them wide open, to compel them to rest upon a fixed point. After a little the effort to control them will cease, and then the outer will index the stronger power of the inner.

If you are seeking, from material things, help in concentration, you can use a bit of colored glass keyed to your own vibration; or better, divide a triangle into seven steps, color them with the colors of the Rainbow, leaving room in the center, for the word OM, in glistening white. Let this be the exact center.

The upper angle of this equilateral triangle represents the Absolute; the left hand corner, the Divine Ideation; and the right hand corner, the Creative Thought. The left line of the Triangle represents Love, and the right, Wisdom; but these two to be available, must be connected by the Law of USE, which is represented by the basic line of the Triangle. Thus the law of the Three enters into both the manifested and the Unmanifested. But remember the manifested is always the reflection of the Unmanifested.

The angles of aspiration and inspiration are always equal. The outgoing breath must in the average, always equal the incoming breath. This corresponds with the Universal Law. It is the duality of the One that became THREE and yet is always ONE.

Attention is the true expression of the Will force of the individual. It is the manifestation of the real human ego, and it is that alone which has permanent results. To produce these results, the functions of the mentality must not be diverted by any surrounding object; for when the machinery is put in motion rightly, the result comes in accordance with need, knowledge and training.

As all occult power depends entirely on the knowledge and use of thought, force and WILL. Trained WILL is an absolute necessity. Spasmodic action cannot be, under any circumstances trained WILL, or lead to it.

The WILL is a creator, according to the same law, under which God created, and that is Concentration. Determine mentally and fully what you desire to be and do, then stick to it, even though the heavens fall.

Every atom of the soul that is trained and drilled makes you so much more of a new being than you were before.

Clip yourself asunder from everything that holds down, or attaches you to any weight whatever.

Concentration is the holding of the rays of the mind upon a single subject or object, until its power is so intense, and its vibrations so increased that it can do what it wills with the mind, and through that with the body and the environment. The mind is the instrument of the Ego, and the Soul is the product of its action. Concentration overcomes ignorance, egotism, desire and aversion.

There are but two facts in the world of Reality - God and the Soul.

Perfection in meditation comes from persevering, at all hazards, devotion to the ONE. The posture for meditation must always be easy and agreeable, lest bodily discomfort impinge upon the inner harmonies. Let it be also in the same place. To have the proper results, three things are absolutely necessary -- purity of mind and body; simplicity and moderation in diet; and a place of quiet.

The difference between Concentration and Meditation is that in the former, you stop on a single point. In Meditation, the mind flows on in a single strong, sequent current.

Collect the subtle forces out of the Universe, by your mind action. When you are able to focus the rays, then you can heal.

The mind is but an instrument, and you should train yourself to use it, as you would a lead pencil; that is, to pick it up and lay it down when you WILL. It requires quite a little training to say to the mind: "Now, stop thinking" and have it obey. It requires as much training to do this as to hold the mind on a given subject for a stated time.

W. P. PHELON, M.D

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD
Instructions of
FIRST DEGREE

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS.

P R O G R A M .
of the
Full Moon Meetings.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Program for First Degree.

Full Moon Meeting.

M. of C. -- Call to Order.

Two Bells: -Members standing, Chant the Buddha Chant.

Repeat in unison Yearly Mantram. One Bell, members seated.

Meditation on Mantram or given subject by Elder Bro. (5 minutes)

Chanting the "Lord's Prayer" ends meditation, or Chimes.

M. of C:-- Members stand, make Grand Hailing Sign. One Bell, members
Two Bells: turn back to place and are seated.
Concentration on the Invisible Section. 5 minutes. Chanting.

Meditation on the Visible Section, holding this thought:

"Dear Comrades: Because of what we are, in our Real
Spiritual Being, children of God, Infinite Life
itself, Infinite Love itself, Infinite Intelligence
itself, is flowing through us, permeating and vivi-
fying every portion of our Soul, mind and body.
Nothing can prevent us from inbreathing the healing
power of God's Holy Spirit."

This repeated in unison by all.

Elder Bro:- Calls for results of the meditations.

Discussion of the month's study, by remarks or papers.

B U S I N E S S .

M. of C:-- Takes charge of this part of the program.

Scribe:- Roll Call

Reading the Minutes of last Full Moon Tryst.

Unfinished Business. Reports on same.

Report of the Keeper of Treasure.

New Business: Correspondence, Application for Membership.
Notices, Remarks for the Good of the Order.

Closing Exercises.

M. of C:-- Members reform the Circle repeating three times in unison:
"The Circle of human life is to Know, to Will, to Do
and keep Silence."

Singing.

Girdings are also repeated in unison.

NOTE:- The Word of Power and the Amen are intoned NOT spoken.

Instructions from the Invisible Section.

--:-- Instruction from the Invisible Section --:--

The Hermetic Brotherhood is the re-establishment of a Society of a
or Order that held all visible knowledge in the Ancient days.

This embraced everything included under the name of the Science of
Healing; of Occultism; or of any power of the Spirit over the physical
in any form whatever.

This is why it is perfectly germane to discuss all questions hav-
ing any bearing on the relation of spirit to matter; provided, there is
no effort to hold exclusively on any one line; or any attempt to dogma-
tize; or to make another conform to any belief, simply because you be-
lieve in it. If any statement does not learn such spirit of Harmony
that they can hear another state the opposite side without a single
flurry of thought.

There is but one Hermetic Brotherhood of Atlantis, Luxor and
Elephanta. (India). Efforts have been made by the Invisible members to
revive its work upon the earth at different points. There are several
centers all affiliated in a common work, but like the classes in an un-
iversity, all are parts of the whole. No ONE class can say at the pre-
sent time; "WE are all, and there is no other way under the sun by which
our object can be obtained."

The point we wish to make is this: We stand face to face with the
overwhelming force of thought potency; and for the first time, We, who
are the Brotherhood of the Invisible, demand from you, obligated on the
visible, to stand firmly in place, transmuting all pessimistic thought
into optimistic. Put reason where it belongs on the Mental plane.
Demand within yourselves, from all sources of potency which you can
control, that the pessimistic stream be reversed.
Cease to TALK the WORST and SPEAK only of the BEST.

On the outer verge are always found the shiftless, the careless,
and the improvident, enduring the misery of their own acts. The control
of the physical by the spiritual can only end such hardships.

The Brotherhood of the visible may be a small part of the whole
race, but continued active thought, as we demand of your on your obli-
gation, in the optimistic line will make a great many centers of light
active and potent. Do not allow yourselves to SAY or to THINK anything
you do NOT wish to be true. Hold to this and you may lighten the burden
of the whole world.

May the love that is of God, abide with you.

G I R D I N G S

of the

F I R S T D E G R E E .

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

First Degree Girdings.

I gird myself with Right Thought!

I gird myself with Right Speech!

I gird myself with Right Action!

Prayer: Oh Holy Father, Love, the Truth!

With Thy sword cut asunder all evil in Thought and Association.

With Thy cord bind and restrain all passions and desires

With Thy flame purge and purify mind and body.

A-MEN.

NOTE: The Girdings are used in the closing exercises of the First Degree.

Every student will receive beneficial results by repeating them often throughout the day, especially when temptation is near.

When the sub-consciousness receives the impression, the habit of Right Thought will be established. Then Right Speech, Right Action will become the structural foundation of Character.

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***: I Gird Myself with Right Thought :-**

In training along the Path of Mysticism, THOUGHTS are more important than ACTIONS.

Earnest investigation proves that the energies generated by the Mind, naturally effect the physical planes and their conditions.

Pure, elated Thoughts and sublime ideas penetrate more deeply into the Mind, but ALL Thoughts once evolved, linger more or less in the Astral Light.

Unwelcome, provoking and noxious Thoughts usually make a light impression, but continued daily they flow along the same and like currents, until they find congenial ground where they lodge, becoming extremely active and attract to themselves more of the same quality; the end may end in some great crime. WHO is too blame? Is it the one who keeps feeding this current of thought, or the undeveloped person through whom it seeks expression?

Thoughts are likened to wandering Astral Forms, that depend for their vitality upon the magnetic currents of feeling.

"Emotions are often weakened by association with Thought, whereas thoughts are always strengthened by Emotions."

Emotions that we desire to keep active, must be fed by corresponding emotions. To gain the potential force one must leave the sphere of self, unite and mingle with the Universal; thereby becoming associated with a permanent principle which has no changeable form, but is enduring. This is one of the great secrets of advance souls, their emotions are kept active by attunement with the Universal. Energy.

All Hermetic Students are expected in their training to frequently analyze the subject occupying their attention, and ascertain what prompted the Thought.

Thought and feeling make the Mind which is to a great extent the true man. We are a collection and a gathering up, into personal and human form, of all that we have thought; it moulds our fate, being one with Existence.

Members of the First Degree should give time to Meditation on, and devotion to the Higher Self, which will in time result in peaceful emotions. Personality will lose sight of HATE, and the face of Him who is Master - Love, will smile through every mask, enabling the student to gain a definite purpose for helping others, also a

Regulation of Conduct ----- control of sense and body.
Noble sustained Tolerance - based on knowledge.
Patient Endurance ----- No element of resentment.
Compassion ----- showing in gentleness.

"With Thy sword cut asunder all evil in thought and association."

-: I Gird Myself with Right Speech :-

DO NOT waste time in theoretical dissertations, unless digression, desultory orations and fine talk.

Try and AVOID speaking unnecessary words; strive to prevent doing so by thinking of the effect your words will produce, before giving them utterance.

NEVER allow yourself to violate your principles by the **FORCE** of your associates.

DO NOT despise the opinions of the world, nor uselessly provoke unjust criticism of self or the cause you have espoused.

COMBATIVE loyalty to any person or cause is hardly commendable in a member of the Hermetic Brotherhood, and is not an indication of spiritual progress.

-: With Thy flame purge and purify mind and body :-

-: I Gird Myself with Right Action :-

What others **DO** to you is **NO** concern of yours.
What **YOU** do to others is of **GREAT IMPORTANCE**.

Good Intentions put into action without delay. Never leave one outside the field of Action.

Be not disappointed if reward and acknowledgement for the good you accomplish seems lacking.

"Serve for the sake of Service, and **NOT** for what you may receive."

NEVER be peculiar. Value externals properly.

NEVER join a Society, or any organized activity, simply for personal benefit. One cannot reap until the seed is individually sown.

Scrutinize the motive impelling you to action. Never allow Impulse to guide your conduct.

"With Thy cord bind and restrain all passions and desires":

Four Great Struggles of the First Degree.

Method of Growth

by

George R. Tuttle.

Elder Brother of Knot 33, nom de lpume "Solarius".

Pertaining to Character Building.

To one who does not believe in the power of God - or GOOD, to him good does not exist. It is not in his environment in the sense of his apprehending it; therefore, its existence cannot be demonstrated to his satisfaction. He cannot sense it. He has no nerve organ that responds to its vibrations, consequently he is DEAD to it.

To him who feels the presence of God - or GOOD, Good exists and he needs no demonstration. This is what we mean by the term "planes of consciousness"; evidently the second man is on a higher plane than the other, and between the two there is a difference in growth. This growth may be divided in to,

Seven stages or Planes of Growth.

- First ---- Man as an animal, conscious only of instincts and body desires, Good to him is simply a sense of physical pleasure.
- Second --- Man begins to have a conception of something higher, such as duty to others, protection to others, care of offspring, This is in the main selfish, but good to him is slightly altruistic.
- Third ---- Man begins to seek Good, but the lower elements predominate over the higher aspirations. Good to him, is a conception that he fails to realize. He is good "off and on".
- Fourth --- Higher and lower natures more evenly balanced, at times a saint and at times a sinner. Still in the physical.
- Fifth ---- He earnestly seeks the Divine, but seeking on the physical plane, cannot find it, then seeks it interiorly, and here for the first time real good is apprehended.
- sixth ---- He finds the Divine within himself and develops Spiritual Self consciousness. Good is REAL, both subjectively and objectively.
- Seventh -- He attains Self Knowledge also knowledge of other spiritual entities. He becomes FREE and ultimately, a Master.

What is the process and how shall this Growth be attained?

It is said that: "They who wait upon the Lord, (concentrated desire) shall re-new their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles, (have no fear) they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and faint not".

By desire, (prehension). By concentration, (absorption) and by understanding, (assimilation) the Higher Self builds its body.

As the Mind moulds the physical body during its growth, so the mind and Spirit working together, (concentrated desire and understanding) mould the spiritual body during its growth. Vibrate certain thoughts over and over, and in this way they will establish and fix their nerve path and centers.

The Way Character is Built.

The ability to say and feel, that, "my ways shall be Thy ways and Thy ways shall be my ways" is attained by thought and desire vibrations until the nerve path becomes a beaten highway. A permanent structure. Such vibration is one form of prayer, and used with persistence and understanding, always brings its legitimate result.

Paul, the Mystic, says: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are of good report, THINK on these things".

As one brick laid upon another builds a house, as one recruit added to another forms an army, so every thought well vibrated is an element, and one element added to another makes a structure; whether physical, mental or spiritual.

The holy man "tells his beads" for this purpose.

Again Paul says: "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering, forbearing one another and forgiving one another, and above all things put on Charity which is the bond of perfectness".

The idea is, that these qualities should be grown into the system, correspondingly as food is taken into the viscera and digested and assimilated, thus forming structure. Therefore, understand that character is GROWN, correspondingly, and on its plane after the same manner as muscle and bone.

The expression, "put on" and "bowels of mercies" etc., may be understood to mean, GROW for yourself a vehicle for the apprehension digestion and assimilation of such realities, that the moral nature and spiritual character shall be nourished, strengthened and perfected by a natural and legitimate growth.

Understand further, that as there is a physical body, so also there is a spiritual body, that as the one apprehends, digests and assimilates physical pabulum, so also the others apprehend, digests and assimilates spiritual pabulum.

"There is One Law, and HE that worketh is ONE".

NOTE: "Law on one plane does not conflict with Law on another plane".

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The Seven Senses of Man.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD

The Senses of Man.

Physical Senses	Soul Senses
1st. Touch	1st. The power to psychometrize
2nd. Taste	2nd. The power to absorb and enjoy the finer essence of the life wave.
3rd. Smell	3rd. The power to distinguish the spiritual aromas of nature
4th. Sight	4th. The lucid state called clairvoyance
5th. Hearing	5th. The ability to perceive the ethereal vibrations, Clairaudience
6th. Intuition	6th. The capacity to receive true inspiration.
7th. Thought transference	7th. The power to converse with spirit intelligence at will.

The less one is subservient to the five senses, the less there is in one to be acted upon by material conditions or outside influences, and the inner senses have a better opportunity for development.

Our spirit is a part of the great Over-Soul, the eternal Self, the prime mover of all. When we listen to and act from the spiritual side of our nature, we begin gradually to grow conscious of our relation to divinity - the Impersonal, and we begin to live the divine life; with that naturally comes a leaving off of material limitations, and a correspondingly increased power to create consciously effects which benefit not only the individual but humanity long after the individual has left this expression of life.

This consciousness leads to a discovery of the powers within. When the soul has attained the Impersonal it has to do with essences and powers - the power of seeing, the power of hearing, the power of speech, and not with the physical organs. When the soul has learned this spiritual law, then it begins to make intelligent application of these powers for conscious creative purposes, formulating these laws. For instance:

"Consciousness is the individualization of the Soul. Super-consciousness is the effect of the development of the faculties of the Soul - the inner senses, as seeing and hearing on the on the inner plane of consciousness, as intellect is the effect of the development of the intellect on the conscious plane.

The soul is a selecting principle; it picks up a crumb of knowledge here, another there, and all these are attracted as by a magnet to some hidden truth or center within the Soul, it has use for these flower petals, drawn from the outer senses, to complete and bring out the whole; when Lo! a fresh blossom appears on the tree of life. Both are fashioned after the same Law, working on different planes or kingdoms.

The student may think. "Oh, if I could find some treatise containing all the knowledge my soul needs for its growth, I would study night and day". Nay. We do not gain power by studying treatise. These bits of crumbs of knowledge must be assimilated, built into the whole structure of the Inner man before the budding soul can stand in the presence of the Master.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Transmutation.

NOTE: The Smaragdine Tablet found on the body of HERMES, holds within itself the whole subject of transmutation, as follows:

- First; What is below, is like that which is above, and what is above is similar to that which is below to accomplish the wonders of one thing.
- Second: As all things were produced by the meditation of ONE Being so all things were produced from this one by adaptation.
- Third: Its father is the Sun, its mother is the Moon.
- Fourth: It is the cause of all perfection throughout the whole Earth.
- Fifth: Its power is perfect if it is changed into Earth.
- Sixth: Separate the Earth from the Fire - the subtle from the gross, acting prudently and with judgment.
- Seventh: Ascend with the greatest sagacity from the Earth to Heaven, and then descend again to Earth, and unite together the Power of things inferior and superior; thus you will possess the Light of the whole world, and all obscurity will fly away from you.
- Eighth: This thing has more fortitude than fortitude itself, because IT will overcome every subtle thing and penetrate every solid thing.
- Nine: By it the whole world was formed.

NOTE: This is the spiritualizing of the atoms of the Earth by beinging passed through the vitalized bodies of animals, and then through bodies of living men.

All excreted atoms hold Life from lower forms.

We are here to BUILD the new heaven and the new earth.

Concerning Hermes.

-: H E R M E S :-

HERMES is famed as the celestial conductor of souls from the "dark abodes", the wise and ubiquitous God in whom the Initiate recognizes the Genius of the Understanding or Divine Reason -- the nous of Platonic doctrine, and the mystic "Spirit of Christ". Therefore, as the Understanding of Holy things and the faculty of their interpretation are the gifts of Hermes. The name of this God is given to all science and revelation of an occult and divine nature.

A "Divine" is, in fact, one who knows the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven; hence St John the seer, or the "divine", is especially the "beloved" of Christ.

Hermes was regarded as the "Messenger of the Gods, descending alike th the depths of the Hædean world, to bring up souls from thence; and ascending up beyond all heavens that he might fill all things.

For the Understanding must search alike the deep and the heights; there can be nothing hidden from it, nor can it attain the fulness of supernal and secret knowledge unless it first explore the phenomenal and terrestrial.

"For that he ascended, what is it but because he also descended first into the lower parts of the Earth?"

With the splendid joyousness and lightOhearted humor characterised the Greeks, mingling laughter and mirth even with the mysreries of Religion, and making their sacred allegories human and musical, as no other of any Nation or time, Hermes, the Diviner and Revealer, was also playfully styled a Thief, and the patron of thieves. But thereby was secretly indicated the pow power and skill of the Understanding in makingeverything intellectually his own.

In charging Hermes with filching the girdle of Venus, the tongs of Vulcan, and the thunder of Jove, as well as with stealing and driving off the cattle of Apollo, was to signify that ALL good and noble gifts, even the attributes of the high Gods themselves, are accessible to the Understanding, and that nothing is with held from man's intelligence, IF only man has the skill to seek aright.

HERMES as the immediate companion of the Sun, is the opener of the Gates of the highest heavens, the revealer of spiritual light and life, the Mediator into whose sacred mysteries, the knowledge of which is life eternal.

Hermes was regarded as the god of commerce, of wrestling and all the exercises of the Gymnasium, of eloquence, even of theiving; stealing the cattle of Apollo, while he was enjoying the company of Therralian youth.

In short a god of everything relating to gain or requiring art and ingenuity. A certain good-humoured roguery was at all times a trait in his character through his Understanding.

The panoply with which Greek Art invested Hermes, is symbolical of Understanding. He has four implements, and which are embodied in the circle of Necessity:

"The circle of Human Life is to Know, to Will, to Do and keep Silence".

Wings - the Courage of an Adventurer - to Do - Open Court

Sword - the Will of a Hero --- --- --- to Will First Degree

Hat --- the Discretion of an Adept --- to keep silence, 2nd Degree.

Rod --- the Science of a Magian ----- to Know, Third Degree.

The initiates of Hermes acknowledge no authority but Understanding. They call no man King or Master upon earth; they are true Free-Thinkers and Republicans.

"For where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty."

Lactantius, in his "Divine Institutions," says: "Hermes affirms that those who know God are safe from the attacks of the demon, and that they are not even subjected to Fate."

The powers of Fate reside in the stars, that is, in the Astral sphere, whether Kosmic or micro-Kosmic. The Astral power was in the Greek fable typified by Argos, the hundred-eyed genius of the starry zone, Panoptes, the all-seeing giant, whom it was the glory of Hermes to have outwitted and slain. Of this allegory the meaning is, that they who have the Hermetic secret are not subject to Fate, but have passed beyond the thrall of metempsychosis, and have freed themselves from the "ceaseless whirling on the wheel" of Destiny.

"To know God is to have overcome Death, and the power of Death."

"To know the origin and secret of delusion is to transcend delusion."

Outline for the Study of Growth

by

Francesca I. Rogers,

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Twelve conditions of the Amoeba shared with Man.

- 1st: Contractility -- A quality or force by which bodies contract or shorten fibers of living muscles.
- 2nd: Prehension ----- Primate of all growth.
- 3rd: Irritability --- Primate of Consciousness and Memory
- 4th: Digestion ----- Primate of Order.
- 5th: Assimilation --- Primate of Harmony.
- 6th: Excretion ----- Primate of Wisdom - passing judgment.
- 7th: Growth ----- Outcome of Conflict.
- 8th: Intussusception- The process of nutrition of living tissues by the absorbing of food particles from the blood interstitial growth. Indrawing currents of energy - afflux of spiritual energy.
- 9th: Respiration ---- Anticipation of the future.
- 10th: Secretion ----- Primate of Choice.
- 11th: Hibernation ---- Primate of Rest belonging to matter.
- 12th: Reproduction -- Power to repeat-- imitation.

NOTE: All parts of the Brain have physiological function, when they act on the body; psychological when they act on the Soul.

There is always a division relatively between the lower and the Higher. When the lower part of the Brain organ is functioning on the body it produces strength and harmony -- physical beauty.

When the higher part of the Brain organ is in operation, it produces harmony and beauty of Mental action.

In direct proportion of its functioning the Brain organ will produce its characteristic manifestation on the Mental or Physical planes.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Ten Principles or Germs of Intellect.

- Power ----- expressed as Force, Authority, doing or influence.
Experience ---- Instruction by PRACTICE.
Knowledge ---- Intellectual perception of facts.
Reason ----- Conclusion from facts, intelligently harmonized.
Strength ----- Intellectual Force or vigor.
Motion ----- Changing action of thought.
Zeal ----- Ardor, Earnestness, Impulsiveness to act.
Virtue ----- Strength of Moral Goodness.
Justice ----- Due measure, value of weight awarded righteously.
Mercy ----- Tenderness toward the offending and the afflicted.

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FIVE Influences that act upon the "Germ-mind" in developing the Mental Principles.

- Attention ----- Regarding careful observation. Heeding inner promptings.
Construction -- Making, framing, putting together.
Wisdom ----- Proper administration of rules regulated by Prudence.
Harmony ----- Blending of parts symmetrical.
Order ----- Regular methods according to rules.

NOTE: On account of its beauty, Order is called "Queen of Heaven".

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HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Five Evil Influences that act upon
the decay of the Mind.

- Anger ----- Acting as hatred destroying pure thoughts by improper words.
Trouble ----- Disturbance, affliction, disorder.
Beauty ----- Purely physical, pleasing the Eye, exciting low desires.
Division ----- Separating, dissension, dividing part by part.
Death ----- Stillness, Life parting with matter. Malice.

- Principles -- Guide and direct matter.
Influence --- Aid in developing Principles.
Law ----- Which governs all things, is a product. Its offspring is Time and Thought.

Divisions of Mind and Passions.

Senses:-
Internal:- common sense,
imaginative power,
judgment, phantasy, memory.

External:- touch
taste
sight
smell
hearing.

Mind
3 qualities:----- sensual
rational
intellectual.

Mind
II passions:----- Love, hope, desire,
joy, grief, despair,
boldness, fear, anger, hatred.

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HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Essentials in the Development of Mental Grasp.

Brain
Relation of::Mind
Senses.

Statements:- The Brain, mind and senses are involved in Mental Grasp. The senses serve to give stimulation to the brain, arousing memory and attention, thus bringing to the passing consciousness the full elements of the thought to be assimilated.

Definition:- Mental Grasp is the acquired mental power that enables the individual to make the best possible use of facts and circumstances.

Elements:-
1st: What is known
2nd: Use of what is known.

Steps in
acquiring:- Retracing
Reverse view
Inner perception
Application.

Retracing consists in reading any statement once and recalling the facts in the order read. Begin with only three or four facts and gradually increase the number. Retrace the events of the day, two days, three days, etc.

Reverse view is based on the principle that every matter has two or more interests, and may be presented from as many view points. The end sought is the mental state where nothing is taken for granted.

Inner perception is the realization of truth as revealed by present impressions, past experience, and intuitive insight.

Application is the mind's adaptation of truth and facts to the conduct of life.

WORD OF POWER

by

Frances I. Rogers.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

-: O M :-

The Word of Power.

Out of the far East the Word " OM " has come to us bringing the knowledge of its power, and also, that all the various religions of India have clustered around this wonderful Word. In the Occident all lines of advanced thought, from the Monist to the Atheist have taken up this Word; for gathered around it seem to be all the various significations which are lacking in other terms. For instance:
The word God expresses only a limited function and often additions must be made - such as Personal, Impersonal or Absolute God.
The powerful Word " OM " requires no additional force. In this it has become a symbol for the majority of all nations, as it ever means the same in all languages the ONE - The Word; Unity; Love; ALL.

When it is desirable to symbolize the three Great Powers, the Word is spelled A-U-M.

"A" the first letter stands (no matter where used or where seen, or what alphabet it heads) for the ONE that is ALL. It is the "beginning" and therefore significantly creative. It is the first functioning of the spiritual Ego toward material conditions.

It is the awakening of those that sleep; it is the first touch of creative force which arouses into potency the energy of the latent germ of life; it is the birth of the great Over-Soul, thus signifies CREATION.

"U" the next letter is a continuation of that which is. It is Preservation - the second functioning of Spirit, that is, to material condition. It is the flowing out of that which already IS; it is one movement toward evolvment; one vibration of the " I AM ", the Word, toward the completion of manifestation. It is the urn - the womb which embraces all life. When we utter forth " A-M " it might sound forever but for the obstructing " M " which causes sound to die away into a vibration of that which was.

"M" the third letter is said to be the most mystical of all letters. It means both destruction and RE-building. Let us remember, that in order to build a perfect structure all the old elements must be torn away, that a clean, firm foundation may be laid for the new conditions. ALL have suffered from this process. Mira Phelon in her "Mystic Sense of the Scriptures" says: "No one is exempt, for all called to the mystic life must pass through captivity and reverses."

First entering the Path leading up the "Great Ascent" the student is apt to be upset and beset with conditions of unrest, and the forces seem to work against one's own good.

These disturb the existing order of life and compel the pulling down of old conditions, that a firm foundation may be constructed. When our Elder Brother Jesus came to re-build and re-instate a new order of life, he first put away the old regime. Those who knew him not accused him of violating the law, but He said: "I come not to destroy, but to fulfill". The subtlety of knowing when the Christ - the Word is born, is very fine.

Often, when finer spiritual quality takes possession of the re-born soul, the lower forces of nature step in to beset its onward journey. When we have cleaned away the rubbish we may begin to build. With the right utterance of this letter "M" we begin to create, again. The cycle of the Word closes and opens.

Creation is the law of manifestation. Manifestation is necessary for the evolvment of the soul; It is necessary for the birth of the soul that the Ego put itself in touch with the formless substance. It involves itself in experience, and thus, is re-generated and reborn many times of the "water and the Spirit".

With this explanation of the symbology of the Word, we offer a few hints upon its pronunciation, for upon that hinges its power, and should not be spoken in an idle manner; it is too sacred. The manner in which this word is pronounced carries with its sound power, for it changes all evil tendencies into uplifting thoughts; yet we may utter words from now until eternity, and they will convey no spiritual light unless their spiritual significance is born in the soul.

There must be a natural connection between the symbol and the thing signified; for the symbolic words require different terms in rendering in different connections. They have a relative diversability of states, powers and functions, like living things, and are an element which is nearest of kin to thought therefore, if there is a natural connection between symbol and the thing signified, it will recall the desired object when used.

Human speech consists of two essential elements, these are Voice and meaning. We use the word "meaning" rather than thought, for it seems to be more comprehensive term, from the innermost and least explored center to its outermost frontiers in physical sensation.

The Voice consists of two parts that should have our earnest consideration, for in the first place the Voice is necessary vehicle of meaning; in the Second Place, the Voice forms the harmonious accompaniment to the meaning. Thus it is plainly seen that to receive the full benefit of this wonderful Word " OM " the key or sound must bear an accordant, concentric, illustrative part as being an outer harmony to the strains of the inner meaning having also a formative and a creative power. Then its manifestation upon the physical body is great and will stir the whole being, strengthening every nerve, purifying the blood, giving in this manner a response to the spoken Word. This is the reason why all students in the Hermetic Brotherhood should be trained in chanting and intoning the A-men, and the "Word of Power", for one discordant note will produce inharmony

that will rob the Word of its power to uplift those who gather in the Knots and other meetings.

The key should be the pitch that all can intone the Word, and one that produces the best effect. All through the training along these lines, the students should be instructed so as to realize that Voice culture is one of the highest Yoga practices, and the Hermetic Brotherhood is not unmindful of its wonderful power in producing harmony; for it is a well known fact that the Voice will modify the emotions of the Astral Light, thus becoming a most powerful instrument for magnetism.

The Hermetic Brotherhood uses the " Word of Power", in its full three syllabled form "A-U-M ", and pronounces it Ah-oo-m.

The sound is made with the Larynx and the palate as a sounding board. The first letter "A"-Ah, is the root sound and is produced without touching any part of the tongue or palate, and as said before signifies CREATION.

"U"-oo, rolls from the root of the tongue to the sounding board of the mouth; meaning Preservation of the Universe.

"M" the last sound is made with the lips closed, meaning Destruction or end. Thus this awe-ful Word gives the whole phenomena of sound producing, and will when properly used give the greatest stimulus to all spiritual impression the Mind can receive, creating a peace and calmness that vanquishes all our fears and doubts in the realm of thought.

The repetition of the Word " OM " in self-surrender to the ONE, carries us toward the state of knowledge of the Truth, that "I and the Father are one". It is no longer a belief.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Lessons on Self.

I am Who? WHY am I on the Earth?

These two questions comprise all that man is or does, while passing from one stage of existence to another on this planet so given to illusion and discordant vibration.

The Earth is called Mother: Most of mankind think her a hard, cruel mother. It is more like the Matron of a jail, who doles out dieting rations to those, who walk in manacled, and are in the shift of "take what you get or nothing." We are restrained from leaving our often undesirable and repressing confines, by the power of fear generated in our own hearts. Knowing that we already have, we shrink from what we assume may be something still more mendurable. We imagine that we are tantalized by the Earth. We are kicked and cuffed by fear, until we become so stoop-shouldered, our eyes are constantly fixed on the brown, dark shadows of Earth.

It is time we arouse ourselves to our true position as Masters of Earth, and all its accoutrements; CEASE to say or think anything we do not wish to be true.
Cease to talk the worst and SPEAK only of the BEST.

Demand within us from all sources of potency which we can control, that this pessimistic stream be reversed.
The best that Earth can furnish is none too good for the children of God -- manifesting as Spirit and Mind.
The number of human beings allotted to the Earth, is equal to capabilities for supporting them, even if they were all in her lap at the same time.

"I am Who? Let us return to this question. I am an inseparable compound of two of the Great Trinity - Mind, Matter and Spirit. The two that hold for us all the "I", is a duality. The real Ego - the Knower, throughout infinite ages, is the Spirit and one with God. Before it consented to come down to Earth, IT was part of the Great Existent.

The thinkers of today have a fashion of calling it the Higher Self. Man is part gold and part clay. The brightness of the Higher Self casts a shadow upon the clay with all its characteristics of inertness, thus when left to itself it becomes environed in the soft clay and forms what is termed the "lower self".

The Higher Self is dominant and regnant. IT holds as its own for its single purposes and behoof, all that it gains from every experience during the whole or part of any life in which it contacted on Earth or any other planet. It is in no sense the son or child of Earth or any other inert matter. It is the

heir of God's promises, when it shall have finished a proper education for that purpose and become able for all Eternity, to maintain the rights and privileges of its potency.

The Higher Self always looks up to God the Father, as the only source from which it can renew flagging qualities of strength, light or brilliancy of action or expression.

Under psychic law, in the supposed rising into touch with the Omnipresent, the change is entirely within itself.

The One's perception of us is always in touch with the Ego. It is not an angry, revengeful, blood-thirsty Being whom we are to recognize; such qualities come from the limited, mortal obscured plane only. On the contrary, it is the source of Love, Light and Life, and a friend indeed, aya, more than that, He is a well wisher and a lover, whose affection for His children is ever far above and beyond thee, even as the One is greater than man.

When the Spiritual man has come to the full consciousness of the constant presence of the ALL-Spirit, then he will put aside the Veil wrapped about him, and stand forth as the perfect Man. The Spiritual, alway perfect, does not seek a physical body, as a necessity, but as a matter of overcoming, of Victory, it does seek such a body, not only must this body be transmuted from the physical, but it must be perfect in all its conditions, so that it can manifest as the Spirit manifests. Like the "wheel of the four", shall move harmoniously and potently on all planes; the guiding force is the Will of the Spirit, that and that only.

Many theorists and dreamers, having perceived the opening of the Way become anxious to know how to proceed to attain further advancement. They seek out unnatural methods; noticing that spiritual power manifests in certain directions, with more vengeance where the body is shorn of its strength, they set to work to deplete it to the point of Deterioration.

We are never to exalt the spirit at the expense of the bodily condition. The spirit does not need that sort of exaltation. But it does need the body to be made the most perfect, potent powerful and equally balanced mechanism that can be possibly constructed. Then when the Spirit calls upon the Body to manifest any where, under any condition, for any circumstance, or any place whatever, the body MUST be able to respond.

During every life, the struggle is for the physical to hold itself up against the intense impulse of the Spirit, and manifest in a maintained equilibrium. When the perfecting of the body is attained the Spirit will have so spiritualized the body in which it dwells, that both will be equally balanced, thus entering the Great Unity. They will then be necessary to each other, being competent to act for each other, as life demands co-operation. Therefore, let the body be strong and powerful, then let the Spirit rise to the point of easy dominance, the coming perfection is assured.

-: SECOND LESSON ON SELF :-

Let us consider the other part of the perfecting physical man.
The material man consists of four complete bodies:

- First - Body of Consciousness;
- Second - Psychic body;
- Third - Rational body;
- Fourth - Atomic or cell body.

All these act on different planes of growth and of activity. Like dogs running in the same leash, still they do not always run with the same movement or impulse.

It is then apparent that the body as a whole is a constant divergence because it goes out from the Great Center of Unity. Therefore, let us consider these four men. When we shall have done this, we shall only have advanced in our undertaking and understanding of the physical realm. We can have acquired nothing except that which touches us in the every-day life.

Each of these four have a plane to live upon, determined by the environment constituted by the conditions surrounding the human being. Out of this environment comes not only unfolding into the brilliant light of Truth, but also the unfolding of mistakes and errors; the traveling wilfully or ignorantly in the wrong direction; and our seeking in untried fields and pastures, that when proved develop only dust and ashes.

We must also consider in this connection, that the things said by men regarded as the chosen ones of earth, are not always the result of their own experience in the quaternary realm, but are their theories or deductions of the rational man from things already here. Often, these, if followed, lead straight and swiftly to the last accounting with our self-imposed tyranny - Death. Before their enunciation they have not been proven by these men nor their disciples.

It follows then that these men and all similar teachings are valueless. Another necessary statement is: Whatever is contrary to Nature under all circumstances and conditions is contrary to Law; because that which men call Nature is only the manifestation of the Creative Thought. That which we do in violation of Nature as exhibited throughout the whole sequence of linking, cannot be true. It cannot be experienced. It cannot be anything but the theory of some person who supposed that this, that or the other thing might possibly be conducive to advancement and unfolding.

Often the seeker along the lines of unfolding are misled by their own intense desire. They say to themselves: "Oh, if I could only separate myself! If I only had time to do so many things I'd like to accomplish! If I could only meditate in a certain way. If I only was not interrupted with other matters when engaged in what I desire to do, how I could grow."

But they are mistaken even in that, because through their overcoming of the urgent self, thus bringing all parts into harmonious contact with their environments; by commencing just where they stand and doing well, the things that press upon them for the doing, they are doing well, they are always sure to win for themselves more lasting growth; more perfect unfolding and a more even balancing of the powers within, than if they should go out in pursuit of that which is, at the most, only theoretical. We are always likely to stand upon the theory and not upon the real thing.

It is really one of the most important things to understand, not that which is perfect, because we do not find the perfected, but that we shall meet the material upon earth. This includes both those who are really our fellows, and that which constitutes our environments. Therefore, it becomes necessary for us to consider along these lines mentioned, what belongs to each, how they are inter-related one with the other and the final unity.

When we have come to the place where we can perceive the four-fold unity as the lower self welcomes the Higher Self into a period of incarnation, we may possibly cognize also the potency that Spirit holds, and how it is transmuted. This knowledge reaches to the origin of the manifested.

Manifested man at the beginning of his career had an object set for his accomplishment. This is not directly of his own choice but is of his acceptance, (as a part of the One who seeks to manifest for himself,) through all weakness and buffeting storms, he must be or become Master of himself; that he may be able to perceive himself, that he can comprehend the laws of limitation through which the Creative Thought has acted to bring about both the present and future conditions of his advancement.

Creative Thought moving forward to accomplishment must of a necessity set up a certain limitation. That which brings the best results to those under the law, seemingly happening to all men under inherent urge, is really and truly the thing designed to occur to all human beings. Thus, the doing of certain things in a manner diverse from other people, in a strange and curious way may make others stare, but that does not, of a necessity cover any improved condition.

The body is of more consequence than the food it eats. We do not need to dwell on any part of the body so as to make that an absorbing condition of life. It is for the physical, or lower self, to go up to the Spiritual, or Higher Self.

When man has learned that the improvement he calls "Bleeding" in man is the beginning of the manifesting of the permeation by the consciousness of the atomic or cell body, this consciousness being in direct touch with the Spirit or Higher Self, he will know who he is, and why he was put upon the Earth, in his present apparently helpless condition.

If the lower self had not so long denied its Master; and refuse to listen to instructions, not only might the first part of his Great Work have been accomplished, but a large proportion of secondary conditions would have already yielded allegiance. In fact, a large proportion of the second part would have been kindly disposed to his efforts. We have studied much and know some things of the Eternal Spirit, but how much has come to us of an everlasting body; and yet the ONE is ALL. IT must then be both Spirit and Matter. Both of these then must be permeated by both Consciousness and Existence.

M Y S E L F .

Still I am I; though all the world forsake me
As a thing of no account; yet I am I.
Though the flesh fail and misery overtake me,
I am myself who smiles without a sigh.

I am the center where the cyclone rages;
A point of peace and clear untroubled calm;
Senses may storm and broken hopes surround me,
Still am I source of quiet, and of balm.

I am the comfort in the endless torment
Of changing lives and shifting hearts that ache;
The perfect chord in all the jarring clamour
Of mad death-pipings and false tones that break.

I pass not, I who am completion,
Drawing each curve into the orbit whole;
Lightnings may flash and fire-mist float around me,
I am the one fixed Star - I am the Soul.

A.H.

-: Fourth Lesson on Self :-

Having thus considered who we are, and the purpose that impels us to appear again upon the earth, another question comes up of more importance: "Why do we not progress faster and farther in a given time."

Not alone is it our own slowness, but because the knowledge and the potency is wisely used only in the hands of the instructed. There is drawn between the Seeker and the thing sought, a veil whose shimmering, gossamer folds no mortal hand can rend, nor human eye can see.

Its symbolism has appeared three times in the world, in as many different places. Now, while the symbol has disappeared, the reality remains as ever mystic "Initiate of the Hermetic Brotherhood" can testify. The race is not always to the swift; nor the battle to the strong. Between him who seems to almost touch attainment and accomplishment, it often happens that an impassible gulf suddenly widens or an intangible, immovable barrier rises up, and holds back from further advance or progress.

This barrier at the first, holds behind it perfect beauty of form, color, sound, as shown by woman's wonderous body. As the brain idealized this vision of the perfect thought of God, the physical relation disappeared from the thought and was replaced by the thought expression of Wisdom - that Wisdom talked of by Sol-om-on, when he says: "Wisdom hath builded her house, she hath hewn out her Seven Pillars."

But as the subject of thought passes from the manifestation to the realm of the unmanifested, the Wise Ones saw the necessity for concentration. The Great White Temple at Atlantis with its Heaven-piercing tower, was the first spot on Earth where the unapproachable Light of the unmanifested becomes visible.

The Temple of Atlantis was founded on the rock that buttressed the whole Northern part of the Continent. The tower rose directly from the foundations which were many feet below the surface, and there by processes known only to the Wise old Atlanteans themselves, was inseparably bolted to the rocky bed itself.

To none but the Initiates of the Higher Orders was there the least knowledge of the fact that there was any method whatever of entrance below the marble pavement of the Shrine. This "Holy of Holies" was visible at all times, to all the comers and goers of the Temple. It held not only the central thought, but the means for the concentration of the thought of the world. Within this Shrine, none of the uninitiated dare enter. The darkness there was profound and terror-inspiring. Any person or thing entering the darkness uncalled ceased forever to be visible to human sight or sense. No more returned they to the presence of the earth-born. The likeness evermore held them. Thus did the legend and power of the Shrine protect itself against the curiously careless and impertinent.

From foundation to the crystal dome at the top, all things combined to increase the wonders of its use. Nowhere else, at that time was it possible to have produced the conditions necessary to the work done, and the marvels which were ever and anon the result of the thick shadows, which held within themselves the Fire and the Air as they rest upon the WATER and the EARTH.

On either side of the front of this Shrine of Ancient Atlantis the hands, faces and foreparts of the bodies of Sphinxes (symbols of the beastly habitat, on earth, of the Spirit) carved in white marble, the winged globe, resting on the tips of its outstretched wings, completed the framing of this Adytum. Both of the symbols used are original emblems specially designed for the purpose described, by the Wise Ones of the MOST ANCIENT CITY.

Under this winged globe, held by rings of pure gold on a rod of pure gold, reaching in under the outer edge of the carvings of the "DESCENDING SPIRIT", hung the first and most glorious "Veil OF THE ONE." It was made in two parts, lying closely together in folds or pleats. The stuff of which it was made, was of the finest linen; because the vegetable does not contain the vitalized grossness that would come from fabrics of other material. This linen was dyed Blue, the blue of the heavens, and so richly wrought with gold, it seemed as if the whole texture of the fabric had become almost metallic.

It is needless to say that no profane hand might touch this, lest the Divine Fire might fall upon him and consume him. Once a year at the time of the yearly Convocation, when the fullness of the season had come - at the very height of expectation - of intense and concentrated thought, the Veil, moved by invisible hands would unfold, instead of the blackness usually behind it, the darkness typical of the Absolute Silence, holding within itself the possibility of everything that has been, is, or will be ever manifested upon the Earth, would come a brightness far surpassing the light of the Sun.

The whole interior of the Shekimah would seem one blaze of dazzling whiteness, not radiating from any central point, but appearing of itself, to occupy the whole space, pouring forth in great floods upon the assembled multitude. The prominent quality of this Light was soul-inspiring, uplifting and creative in many ways. It contained within itself intelligence, intuition, inspiration and potency. It assisted all who had the good fortune to see it and be seen by it, to a better understanding of the higher realms and the HIGHEST TRUTH.

Was it strange that no member of these assemblages of tens of thousands ever attempted to face the Light standing, but with one accord, bowed themselves to the earth and their faces hid, waiting the passing of the Great Wheel of the Four. This light was the symbol of the ALL-LIGHT, thus given to the children of men. It was the effect of real, unselfish concentration. No undertalancing of color tinged it, IT was absolutely White.

-: Fifth Lesson on Self :-

NOTE: We have, in this latter day, many lights, and among them a peculiar radiance developing as the product of internal action.

From the pituitary bodies of the frontal brain a ray of unmanifested Fire which shines within this seat of the Spirit, and under the continued influence of the influx of this reverberatory furnace, the whole of the real man rises higher and higher, until for a single instant as time is measured, but for the Ages of the Countless ONE, the Ego becomes consciously perceptive of the triune attributes of the Divine - Omnipresence, Omnipotence and Omniscience.

We recognize that the Adytum of Atlantis was a symbol of the real enlightenment of the interior man. It is the stepping from the finite into the Infinite. Those thus privileged come to an attainment whose strain could not be endured by the mortal body and live. So it is only permitted even to such glorified ones, like the glimpses of Paradise we occasionally have. But under the conditions of the perfecting body, a continuance of that state of transfiguration would soon dissolve the whole organism.

These seasons of uplifting are of the same kind and nature as were enjoyed by Moses, when he was upon Sinai - the Mount of Fire; or that Jesus showed to His disciples on the Mount of Transfiguration.

IF we would only practice this self-elevation, we might have a longer presence, with a quickened re-creation, which we might inbuild into our bodies, until our faces shone as did the face of the Ancient Lawmaker, when he emerged from the thundering and lightnings and thick darkness of the trembling, quaking mountain.

This light, so personal to a greater or lesser extent, there are but few living who have not quaffed in larger or smaller drafts, sometime and somewhere in their experience. With this explanation in our minds, we are able to comprehend quite perfectly the nature and character of this Light, thus filling full the Shrine of the Great White Temple, with all its brightness and whiteness, before ever the Veil was withdrawn.

In the ceremonial of the Mysteries, the great multitude stood with their eyes fixed; their concentrated thought brought the possibility The Light would dawn, as when the Sun rises, growing brighter and brighter, until a sudden movement, like lightning's flash the unfolding Veil, as if dissolved in light would disappear, leaving the watchers in the full blaze and glory of the hour when God said: "Let there be Light", and there was light.

For a few minutes this real miracle would be so visible to the whole assembly, that no soul would fail to perceive it, as with heart-stifled breath, they awaited in the direct presence of the Unmanifested ONE.

What does this Veil mean to the "Self?"

It is the intangible something we ordinarily feel standing between us and Attainment. As we essay to pass, the still, small voice, out of the silence sounds in our ears, more intensely than the loudest thunder, reiterating:
"BE ye perfect; as your Father in heaven is perfect."

Can we, shall we? Have we children of the mortal, the ability to even meditate upon the possibility of perfection for ourselves?

We can try, and help will be tendered us in the effort, proportionate to our persistence. This is the explanation of Jesus' last words, when He cried with a loud voice:
"Eloi, Eloi, lama Sabchthani," and gave up His Spirit.

This sentence He used contained, after the Hebrew idiom, a reversible word, and thus means both of two things, the one:

"My God! My God! Why hast Thou forsaken me?" and the other

"My God! My God! How hast Thou glorified me."

The first is the cry of the lower self to the Higher Self, as the Veil of Isis rolls in between the two, and the intangible, impassable separatrix stands between. In the case of the unattained man, it is always forever. But with Jesus the hour of fulfillment was at hand, when the Master Spirit Self would return to the pupil - physical Self.

On the other hand, the Higher Self, rising on the wings of a subordinated Immortality into the Father's presence, was lost in the rapture of the perfermeht conferred upon it. Then and there was the unity of man with God fully recognized. The object of all living comes always once for all, in its true presentation.

The reason then, WHY the lower self does not at once accept the invitation, in the tender, pleading voice of the Higher Self to "Come up Higher," is because this Veil of Isis, is not at the first perceived. Then when it has come into the knowledge of the barrier, it has neither understanding nor strength sufficient to raise the Veil, and thus waits for the coming help, which may be delayed for years or many centuries.

The symbology of the Veil of Isis, is the hiding of the Unknown from the Knower, who, unsatisfied, still seeks further knowledge. It is this curtain, so thin, that but a second of time separates the living from the so-called dead, that by the ordinary mortal eye nothing can be perceived from the mortal side, concerning the Immortal. For thousands of years it has been thus. They whose eyes could unfold the Veil were few; and those from whom all was hidden that lay around, were many.

While we are fully aware, under the teachings of experience, that this Veil is at once so diaphanous and so opaque, we also are very apt to forget that it hangs forever between the Present and the Future, with all its exasperating obstruction.

It cannot be fully and completely pierced, even by the eyes that are the brightest and keenest; even those whose eyes are lighted by the Spirit power of the Invisible side of life are baffled by its impenetrability. Many can perceive a little; rarely few are those who are able to perceive all.

So it comes to pass this Veil is constantly unfolding before us, under the impulse of unseen hands. We often come to a blank wall. Let us take courage and gather strength from our Higher Self, for the effort to put it aside, and the victory shall be ours.

Remember "out of the toilsome darkness the Father leads." Just as the Lily grows out of the darkness of the river bed, reaches the upper air where the beautiful Lotus floats on the surface of waters; so will the soul of man following the dictates of the Higher Self reach the sunlight and be bathed in the glory of the Father's presence.

-----oOo-----

O Thou Supreme! Since thought can trace,
From childhood on through years, dreams
I have dreamed
And castles built, and laughed and mourned,
and wihed and wept,
Until the veils have lifted one by one,
And for a while have stood within a point of
time -
A moment's space. All - all has passed.
I ask that unto me be shown Thy way,
That I Thy will may understand, Thy law
fulfil,
May give to others thoughts made pure
by love divine
That Thou hast given to me.

Anna B. Newbegin.

-: Sixth Lesson on Self :-

Having considered the question of who the Self is; What it has on the Earth to accomplish; what the obstructing conditions are; we come now to ask ourselves how we may be enabled to move forward in our unfolding, so that time may not be wasted in our progress.

We are held in four-fold domination of the Great Angels - Earth, Water, Fire, Air. These speak to us and command us, because our bodies, our lower consciousness of Self, hold within their forms, atoms coming directly from the realm of these Great Ones.

The proportions of the sway of each depends upon the part of each which we hold and harbor at any particular period. The point of equilibrium is adjusted by the summing up of the consciousness of the atoms. This should be in the same ratio as that which maintains the Universal equilibrium. We say: "I am hungry;" "I thirst;" "I am cold;" "I stifle" These experiences all indicate there is a lack, for the time being, in the gross material supplies under the dominion of some one or more of the four great realms. The most difficult for us to introduce into our systems, are not for systemic circulation until their solid form is changed to a liquid, for their hardness and constituent elements are most nearly related to the rock form of the Earth.

Thirst demands for its satisfaction, those subtle fluids, which are at once solutions and general solvents.

When we overcome cold, we change the tattvic, vibratory character of the atoms, and are thus relieved of the crowding or solidifying we name Cold.

We admit the fresh, free Air with all its glorious vivifying power into our bodies unchanged - even into the Holy of Holies, the lungs and heart, where we rob it of its life-giving quality and then turn it again into the open, to find its own place of healing and readjustment. Thus are we dominated by the awful four, whose power broods over us, and all manifested conditions of every kind upon the Earth and in the heavens. When, they, with swaying shock, meet animal or plant life, they find their power checked only by the positive, potent Will of man.

Everywhere and in all directions man overcomes and baffles the four elements, by the exercise of his machinery. *The Earth* he subdues and cultivates. Rocky deserts are cleared and fertilized. Mountains are leveled or terraced. The unproductive wilderness blossoms as a rose and furnishes sustenance for man and beast by thousands.

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Everywhere and in all directions man overcomes and baffles the four elements, by the exercise of his machinery. The Earth he subdues and cultivates. Rocky deserts are cleared and fertilized. Mountains are leveled or terraced. The unproductive wilderness blossoms as a rose and furnishes sustenance for man and beast by thousands.

Man climbs the lofty peaks of the mountains by the use of his roads of steel, and whisks across the gorges of measureless depth. Wherever his hand touches, Nature's face changes, becoming more and more subservient to the caprice of the Master Man.

Man, long since, found means to make the realm of Water his, not only using it for power both of its weight and velocity, but as the bridge that shall carry him from continent to continent around the globe. Were it not for this acquisition, he would be clothed, cribbed and confined, "when he reached the place where the Earth and the Waters meet." He has learned the laws controlling the Water, and through the knowledge he has gained, he has made Water his slave, abject and servile.

Man restrains it in reservoirs; he directs its streams to irrigate the Earth; concentrates force; and floats his vessels of burden from continent to island, and from island to continent, carrying himself and all his belongings of ALL kinds. He is beginning to think that he can also beckon to the sky, and its watery clouds will also obey him.

When he can maintain his irrigating systems in the blue ether, then he will have made a wonderful step toward the complete domination by his God-given powers of all the realms outside of himself. When his present power over Aqua Pura has reached its limit, he brings to his aid the Angel of Fire, and bids it enter the Water a mighty Cyclops is at once visible. When properly harnessed in bands of steel and bars of brass it is prodigiously useful. But let it break away from its restraint, woe to those within its reach.

The Angel of Fire is man's greatest friend and most dreaded enemy. As he wheedles the Fire to overstimulate the Water, so when he has need, he overcomes the power of the Fire by a destructive surplus of Water. But these three supporting guardians and preservers of man's life and happiness, are only appreciated and used after man has become a living being. His manifested life did not appear until the Breath of the ONE left in the body both a Higher and a lower consciousness. This life, not only came forth from the Angel of Air, but must constantly remain in touch with it, or it will cease to manifest.

This granted, we need not concern ourselves about anything but the Breath. The other three Angels being dependent for their service upon the burden-bearing, unifying Angel. IF the Breath IS life, then we must appeal to the Angel of Air as the Master under God, of all lives.

As long as we can hold the Immortal Spiritual in this casket, which is the essential of all BEING, and constitutes us units of the God total.

Having awakened to the consciousness and perception of the lower self, its position and its demands, we must also see that when by the struggle of ages, we have spiritualized its atoms by the use of the Divine Breath, which was breathed into us "In the Beginning", and became henceforth ours, we can hope to become Masters of both the Selves merged into one, even as the two ones become two and are characterized by a single symbol, that does not bear resemblance to the unit before assimilation.

Earth - to stand upon; Water - the universal solvent;

Fire - the Divine transmitter;

Air - life of the two Selves.

Let him who hath knowledge, grow wise by understanding, then shall he know God, through himself, and himself from God.

W. P. Phelon, M.D.

"Life said to the Artist, "show my dreams
That men may know me loftier than I seem.
Not only kin and servitor of the clod,
But the veiled Image and the Thought of God."

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Instructions for First Degree Work.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

Program for First Degree.

INITIATION.

Master of C:- Call to Order.

Two Bells: -- Members standing, Chanting Buddha Chant.

Mantram repeated in unison. One Bell members seated.

Meditation: -- Subject given by Elder Bro. Three to five minutes. Chant.

Two Bells: -- Grand Hailing Sign, One Bell, members turn back to place.

Concentration on the Invisible Section, Chant.

Initiation.

Master of C: - Presents the Candidate.

Elder Brother: Words of Welcome.

Scribe: - BY-LAWS read by the Keeper of the Scroll.

Meditation: - Instruction by M.of C. to Candidate to reconsider his a application for membership. Members to hold in thought for Candidate, "May God defend your Ego and maintain your mortal life."

Five minutes given to meditation.

Master of C: - Questions Candidate: "You have heard the Organic Law of the Hermetic Brotherhood, do you still desire to go forward in this Order? If the answer is in the affirmative

Master of C:

Two Bells Members stand during time the Pledge of Allegiance is taken. Members repeating the last words after the Candidate, "So help me my Higher Self."

One Bell: - Members seated.

Elder Brother- Gives Oral Work. Greeting Sign, Grip, Password. Grand Hailing Sign. Rap. Word of Power. Instruction regarding Full Moon Tryst.

Master of C: - Reforming the Circle of Human Life. Members intoning the Two Bells Word of Power.

Glorias.

Master of C: Greeting to the New Brother. Five minutes.

. S E C O N D P A R T .

Master of C: - Call to Order.

Brotherhood Mantram "May the union and potency of the Hermetic Brotherhood everywhere increase, and merge into the One".

Subject for study during the month, discussed.

B U S I N E S S .

Master of C: - Takes charge.

Scribe: - Roll Call.

Minutes of last Full Moon read. Correspondence.

K of T: Report of the Keeper of Treasure.

Unfinished Business.

New Business, pertaing to the Good of the Order.

Closing Exercises.

Master of C:- Members reform the Circle. Members repeating three times,

"The Circle of human life, is to Know, to Will,
to Do and keep Silence."

Chanting,

Girdings: "I gird myself with Right Thought!
I gird myself with Right Speech!
I gird myself with Right Action!

Prayer:

"Oh, Holy Father, Love, The Truth!
With Thy sword cut asunder all evil in
thought and assbociation. With Thy cord
bind and restrain all passions and de-
sires. With Thy flame purge and purify
mind and body."

A-MEN.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

NOTE: The following questions are for the purpose of assisting the members to remember what pertains to the First Degree, and to save the Elder Brothers from repeating and explaining what can be easily carried in Mind.

Ques: What is the object of the First Degree?

Ans: Character Building, and to gain mental control through concentration and Meditation.

Ques: How are the members classed in this Degree?

Ans: Members are divided into Knots. Fifteen in a Knot.

Ques: What does the Obligation embody?

Ans: A Pledge of Allegiance to the Higher Self and to the Hermetic Brotherhood.

Ques: In this Degree, What position must the Neophyte establish?

Ans: That of a King. He MUST rule his own kingdom wisely.

Ques: What one of the Four Elements symbolizes the work of this Degree?

Ans: AIR --Mind. The conquest over personal opinions, prejudices, illusions, sharp passions of unguarded moments. Gain Self-control

Ques: What Implement of Hermes belongs to this Degree?

Ans: The Sword -- the Will of a Hero. It requires strong Will to attain "Right Thought, Right Speech, Right Action."

Ques: What Flower belongs to this Degree?

Ans: ~~Morning-Glory~~. The symbol of the Angel of Air, like thought it is ever changing, fading but to renew its beauty.

Ques: What are the colors of this Degree?

Ans: Blue and Gold. Symbolizing the mental and spiritual planes.

Ques: What obligation is required concerning the meetings of this Degree?

Ans: Each member is required according to the BY-LAWS to observe the Full Moon Tryst in silent meditation, or with others at the regular meetings.

Ques: When is the Full Moon Tryst held?

Ans: On the first Sunday of, or after the Full of the Moon.

Ques: What name are the members known by?

Ans: Brother: Because the Brotherhood of man recognizes no sex. Comrade is often used and requires no explanation.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

The Daily Tryst.

The Tryst is held at a convenient hour in the morning of each day, is the method by which the Hermetic Brotherhood follows the Most Ancient Elder Brother's instructions of entering The Silence found in Math., VI, 6th.

It is not in any sense an empty form. It means concentration, active, potent projection and harmonious unity.

"Ask (in the right spirit) and ye shall receive", is the promise.

By so placing ourselves, "and those to whom we belong" in the hands of the "Invisible Helpers", the avenue through which God operates, we are better prepared for the duties of the day than in any other way.

We begin the Tryst by making the Grand Hailing Sign, and repeating the yearly Mantram, also such mantram, or any helpful quotations, until the mind is cleared of all disturbing thoughts or elements, then make the demand - prayer - for the thing desired. The time given this is determined by the participant. Those who practice holding Tryst and keep it sacred, would not forego it under any consideration. Every part of the procedure should thrill and quicken into new life and energetic action.

All the Brothers, wherever located, can, if they choose, for an instant at least, come in touch with every earnest, active harmonious soul in the Brotherhood; thus gaining individual strength, and adding their own individual power to the sum total of the Brotherhood everywhere.

The Monthly Tryst.

A monthly meeting is held on the First Sunday of, or after the Full of the Moon. Convening at the time most convenient for the Brothers.

All members are expected to attend this meeting according to the BY-LAWS, unless unavoidable conditions prevent. When this occurs, the Brothers should give some part of the day to Meditation for the good of the Brotherhood. By this unity of thought throughout the Order, great purposes can be accomplished.

NOTE: It is desirable that all members should report, either to Headquarters or the Knot to which they belong, if they desire assistance from the Brotherhood, thus avoiding all seeming neglect.

ATTENTION: If any misunderstanding arises concerning the work of the Order or the members, the Elder Brothers are the proper advisers and efficient helpers. It is neither wise nor just to yourself or comrades, to nurse dissension or appeal to incompetent members for readjustment.

— "ONE FOR ALL, AND ALL FOR ONE." —



The H. B. of A. L. & E.
CIRCLE OF ISIS.

Hereby declares Virginia B. Weld
to be a Brother attached to Knot Five
Located at San Francisco, California.

HEADQUARTERS, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

W. P. Phelon

ELDER BROTHER.

This 16th Day of June Month 1894 A. M.

M. E. Applegate
SCRIBE.

5899

Signature of Brother.....

Hermetic Brotherhood

OF

Atlantis, Eucor und Elephantis

This certifies that Brother.....

Is a member of the Hermetic Brotherhood in good standing for the
current year of 19.....

Scribe.....

FRANCES I. ROGERS

ELDER BROTHER

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD .

Membership Card.

The small Card is intended as a means of introduction between Brothers. When this is supplemented by the Oral Work correctly given, it can be assumed that the Bearer is in good standing in the First Degree of the Hermetic Brotherhood of Atlantis, Luxor and Elephanta.

This small Card can be carried in the pocket so as to be ready for use if required.

The larger Membership Card is more important as it gives facts regarding data of Initiation, and to what station on the "Knotted Cord" the owner is attached.

The letters "A.M." stand for the year when prosperity of the Great Temple of Karnac and Luxor was at its height.

Every member of the royal house of Egypt, whether of Priestly or Kingly line, was permitted by law of the land, to wear a Seal devised and chosen by the wearer.

Prince Rameses - the Elder Brother, according to succession in the Hermetic Brotherhood, so exercised his prerogative by choosing the "Winged Globe;" NOT the two-winged globe of the Cherubin, but the Four-winged globe with its wings in balanced equilibrium showing its perfection.

Around this symbol of the four-square and perfected, was drawn a Serpent with its tail in its mouth, symbolizing endless and Divine Wisdom. The whole symbol is the supreme struggle of the aspiring soul to attain the utmost limit of Infinite Wisdom.

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Th e Yearly Mantram.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

--: Mantrams :-

The chief Mantram of the Brotherhood, is subject to yearly change, and is given by the Invisible Section at the close of the last session of Convocation.

In each Degree, members are expected to use the Mantrams as suggested daily; it is only by constant use, that the student receives special benefit and advancement, and gains knowledge of their full value individually.

If Mantrams are used at any meeting, UNITY of thought and action are of the utmost importance. This union can only be attained through individual effort which bring about a concentration of energy. Therefore in all training, collectively or individually, let there be a concentration of thought, directed toward all things that will bring into the Order a condition of unity, for in it the strength of the body of the Hermetic Brotherhood lies.

All members should remember that the voice modifies the emotions on the Astral Planes, and is powerful instrument for magnetism. Students individually will find little value in the Mantrams unless in voicing the words the vocalized vibration is such as shall stir up all the surroundings, as well as the person who enunciates the words. If these conditions exist and harmony prevails, the power of the word can be put forth with such force and unity, as to stir the inert energies into activity; just as the sunlight quickens the seed germ into life, and for the same purpose - unfoldment.

There never can be such a thrill of life and inspiration, but what it leaves its impress for days to come upon ourselves to such an extent as to reach our environment. Beside this, our psychic energies are increasing, and we are better fitted to receive from Higher Intelligences messages of importance. It is the lack of these conditions, that the student suffer disappointments and become discouraged.

In becoming a Hermetic student and in using the Mantrams in seasons of meditation, we must cultivate the power to withdraw the senses from their objects and merge them into Mind.

Mind is the Universal Spirit in one of its manifestations, thus as we unite our thoughts with the universal sea of Mind, Truth becomes one with our consciousness. In time we become enlightened -- we KNOW.

It is this interior illumination of the Mind by the eternal Truth alone, that constitutes the final attainment sought for in the Hermetic Brotherhood.

HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD.

First Degree

Four Great Struggles.

- 1st: The effort to prevent the forming Habits not established.
- 2nd: The overcoming Habits undesirable already established and FIXED.
- 3rd: The great struggle to cultivate Moral Powers not possessed.
- 4th: The persistent effort to increase permanency of Virtues already attained, and are necessary in Character Building.

NOTE:

Moral powers to be attained are:

- 1st: Self-reliance under all conditions.
- 2nd: Perseverance -- unremitting effort.
- 3rd: Watchfulness -- Eternal Vigilance, "lest we forget".
- 4th: Self-control -- Power to rule over environment.

Healing Mantram.

used in the

Hermetic Brotherhood.

Speak the name of person or if a number use the words "Dear Comrades

Because of what you are in your real Spiritual Being, a child of God, Infinite Life itself, Infinite Love itself, Infinite Intelligence itself, is flowing through you, permeating every portion of your Soul, Mind and Body. Nothing can prevent you from in-breathing the Healing power of God's Holy Spirit.

A-MEN.

HERMETIC AXIOM.

"IN THE CIRCLE OF ITS ACTION, EVERY WORD CREATES
THAT WHICH IT AFFIRMS!"



Mantram for 1909

O! Thou Almighty One! Fill our souls with the Love that fulfills the Law, that we may be orderly exteriorly and interiorly, and thus manifest perfect life.

M A N T R A M F O R 1910.

O! Thou Source of Light! Flood our souls with Thy wisdom, Thy counsel, Thy power, that we may be conscious of Thy Presence, and understand our oneness with Thee.

A-MEN.



Hermetic Brotherhood

Mantram for 1911

O, Thou source of all light! Thou who dwellest in our souls, help us to realize our oneness with Thee and our fellowman, and that Thy Will reigns supreme in our lives.

A-MEN.

M A N T R A M F O R 1912.

O, Thou who dwellest in my soul, and reigns supreme
in my life, savor my reason with love of
learning, labor and obedience, that I may
know the law that worketh for permanent
peace and prosperity.

A-MEN.



Hermetic Brotherhood

Mantram for 1913

Thou source of all Intelligence! Give
unto me Wisdom that I may understand Thy
will and obey its dictation.

A-MEN.



Hermetic Brotherhood

Mantram for 1914

Thou source of all Life! Teach me to
be still, that I may be conscious of Thy
presence, and learn of Thee.

A-MEN.



Hermetic Brotherhood

Mantram for 1915

GOD and I are one, therefore harmonious Peace must exist. May the Peace of all peoples increase, and harmonious conditions exist throughout all nations.

A-MEN.



Hermetic Brotherhood

Mantram for 1916.

Masters of Light:— Strengthen in me the divinity of my birthright. Render me conscious of opportunities of greater unfoldment that I may reach the goal of attainment.

A-MEN.



Hermetic Brotherhood

Mantram for 1917.

May the love and potency of the Infinite Father, quicken my Spirit, inspire my Mind, sustain my body, to endure all that lies in the keeping of the coming year.

A-MEN.