

THE
HERMETIC CONCEPT
OF SUCCESS



By

R. SWINBURNE CLYMER, M. D.

SOURCE OF TEACHINGS

THE present Monograph is based on, and is a Digest of, the writings of Hargrave Jennings, the Rosicrucian Initiate; Richardson, greatest of all modern Occult Masters, and the *Philosophy of Fire*, by R. Swinburne Clymer, M.D., wherein full credits are given.

THE HERMETIC CONCEPT OF SUCCESS

*The Hermetic Key That Will Unlock the
Door to Achievement*

*Teaching the Laws Which Make Consummation Possible
on All Three Planes of Being: Physical,
Financial and Spiritual*

MIND, THE ARCHITECT AND BUILDER

The Arrangement of the Laws as Taught by the Initiates,
Masters and Adepts Belonging to the Hermetic School;
the Application of These Laws to Modern Conditions
and Environments; Their Interpretation Making
Them Applicable to All the Affairs of Life,
and All Notes Throughout the Text

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of the*

CONFEDERATION OF INITIATES

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FOR more centuries than man is willing to admit, it has been a fundamental belief that the successful business man could not be a spiritual success. To attain worldly honors was to risk heavenly blessings. Those seeking spiritual gifts, such as salvation of Soul, had to forego riches and honors and the good things the earth has to offer.

Furthermore, though the fiat was cast in the beginning of time that men must "live by the sweat of their brow," it has been the dream of most men to be able to evade physical effort and attain a position which would permit them to live in luxury and idleness.

Lastly, it has been a universally accepted belief that all things of a spiritual nature would have to be accepted in faith and, however great the faith, could not be demonstrated.

Every single one of these conceptions is fundamentally WRONG. Man can achieve success and honors honestly and without the exploitation of his fellow-men. He can attain the highest spiritual development, a complete Soul Consciousness of his own Divine origin, and at the same time achieve worldly success. Riches and honors may go hand in hand. It depends upon the methods pursued.

Those who have reached spiritual enlightenment

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now *know* that labor is *not* debasing. It is essential to mental and physical well-being. The fewer the hours of labor, the greater the opportunity for the animal or carnal nature in man to become debased and bring destruction to himself and others. Labor is honorable; it is desirable; it is destructive only when enforced beyond reason—the Divinely apportioned eight hours a day.

Spiritual enlightenment and Soul Consciousness are *not alone* a matter of faith. They can be demonstrated by first accepting the fundamentals with a faith strong enough to apply them to the activities of life and mode of thought, and then by bringing into manifestation those powers which alone belong to the Soul and the Soul's relation to God (the Creative energy) and all that is governed by the Divine Law which governs the universe and all that is therein. *Fiat Lux!* And man *shall* know.

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The Hermetic Key That Unlocks the Door to Success

Material success is the clarion call, sounding the advance of all men in this, the twentieth century of achievement, in the realm of physical science and spiritual knowledge.

Success *is* a science. It is governed by its own Laws, which are absolute when properly applied. To gain real success, the heritage of every free-born man and woman, one must consciously and scientifically mass his or her potential qualities until they resemble in force the movement of a mighty current and then choose the *one* quality which is strongest of them all and the desire for whose gratification is most overpowering. When thus massed and the one quality has been selected, the ability to direct this forceful energy will be at the command of the individual, to be directed as desired, and with the assurance of returns conforming to the energy released.

In the very beginning success must be aimed high. The Law, call it God or Father if you will, under which we are born and whose children we are, desires and directs that we shall seek for much and choose from the best of all that is laid up in the great Universal storehouse.

Success can be grasped by being fully prepared and constantly master of the situation and by and through the activity of a positive, controlling and directive Will—a Will which never wavers or falters in any situation or under any condition. There is an old saying descriptive of being thus ever ready: If you see a star falling and can clearly make a wish before that star disappears, your wish will come true. Basically this is true. It indicates that the desire is so embedded in the mentality, so constantly in mind,

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that it supersedes all else and must draw to itself the thing desired.

We who most succeed in the accomplishment of a set purpose are we who, standing firm, fix a certain mark, prepare ourselves for the purpose in mind, and from this the Will never swerves or changes. We say truly: "Irrespective of physical conditions, no matter what opposition is offered, the prototype of it *within ourselves* claims it as its own." Thus the ego or real self moving forward step by step, from vantage to vantage, in the end conquers, as it has a right to conquer by reason of superior fitness and stick-to-it-ness. The human Will, fortified by knowledge, derives its liberty from the freedom of the Divine Over-Soul, to which it is allied and related, and which desires the success of all its individual units.

From Abram to Abraham

We find in the book of *Genesis* a description of the Soul's growth from darkness to the heights of sublimity and illustrated by a type of man called Abram. After a long and useful life and when he had reached the age of ninety and nine years he was able to talk with God. Before that time and during all those years he was merely a type, a negative, having all the possibilities of the God-man, but failing in the direction of any of these potentialities. But when he was ninety and nine he fell on his face; that is, he liberated himself of the activities of the carnal senses and was then able to recognize and communicate with the Godhood or Divinity within himself. At last the spiritual or Soul man was brought into spiritual consciousness. Previously he had attained to nothing more than all the generations which had gone before and represented mankind *in toto*. Now, by self-recognition of all his forces and powers, the Soul-fire or spiritual self within had become awakened, and he became a god and father and a leader over many nations, which, mystically interpreted, indicates that he had become Master over the natural forces resident in man generally and awaiting awakening and direction. He was hence-

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forth called Abraham; that is, father—a creator or exponent in his own right.

Nothing on Earth Is Unimportant

In the Divine Logos, or Spiritual world, success is symbolized by the Veiled Lamp, or Absolute Wisdom.

In the intellectual world it is prudence directed by the organized and developed Will.

In the physical world it is circumspection directing action through knowledge, science overcoming mystery.

Thus we see in unfolding life that prudence is the armor of the Sage or Initiate. In physical life circumspection leads man to avoid the rocks and breakers of unrolling or unfolding destiny, teaching him to beware of treason to either God, the Law or his fellow-man, lest the *reaction* of the Law take again from him all that he has gained and even that which belongs naturally to himself.

All choosing the Veiled Lamp or the road to Wisdom as their guide in all their acts, even in the merest trifles, *will never submit* to defeat in anything worthy of doing. Nothing on earth is actually unimportant; a pebble may alter the destiny of both man and empire, and as a rule it is the smallest incident which sometimes leads to the greatest achievement. An infinitesimally small thing left undone because of its seemingly unimportance is the *key* to failure all along the line and makes ultimate success impossible. The loss of a tiny screw in the largest and most intricate mechanism may cause it to be useless, though otherwise perfect and capable of functioning to complete satisfaction.

“Know All Things, But Remain Thyself Unknown”

In the search for success, let all remember that if speech be silvery, silence is golden. Therefore, if he who seeks success can keep silent, the odds are in his favor. More failures can be traced

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to words idly spoken, secrets revealed or offense given through looseness of tongue than to all other factors combined. "Know all things, but remain thyself unknown" should be on the escutcheon of all who seek the ultimate in success.

The law underlying success is that of Love. Love's messenger is attraction, a magnetic force. Once comprehending how to send forth the message of success, one can draw all things lawful unto himself, because that same Law of Love demonstrates the Law of Vibration, which again is *attraction of its like in another form*.

This does not, in its true application, encompass drawing to the self anything for a selfish or unworthy reason. He who loves self alone shrivels and consumes himself under the intensity of his own self-kindled fire. Success under spiritual law must have as its intent and purpose the benefit of the self, to be sure, because all things begin with the self, but it must have another motive as the impelling purpose. Man is lawfully permitted all things which are for his benefit and enjoyment, but there must be the opposite of the Law also; that which will bring benefit to others and be for their welfare.

Success may be considered as a triad, three sided. Each side is absolutely necessary for the building of a symmetrical structure. These three are: *Desire*, *Preparation* and *Expectation* or *Reception*. In this, our present age of the recognized power of the unseen or Occult forces, there is freely opened to many a method or system of thought higher than any ever before known to the intellectual faculties or the human Soul. In fulfilling the promise to those constantly seeking to realize the presence of the Most High, or operation of the Law now functioning, great things have been revealed and continue to be revealed.

The great and mighty experiences of the past have brought us the conditions for the present realization. The present opening up of the funds of Wisdom, the sweeping changes and onward march, unfold all knowledge of the Law and of Him who is back of the Law and enable us to make use of the Law and harmonize ourselves with the operation of the Law. The sublime promise of

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the Future is: All wisdom will be given those who now are willing to master the Law and its application to the works that should be done.

The Fountain of Life Is Within

All substance expresses ideal embodiment. Evil is no more than a misapplication and misuse of ideal substances and results in abortions of the ideal. All things are the evolvment of that substance, plus its application. Substance is the material out of which all matter is formed. From the substance we must necessarily draw our supply in one manner or another, the method not being particular so long as it does not infringe upon the rights of others.

If we Occultly affirm: "God (the Law) is my supply," then, to truly and logically manifest according to the affirmation, we must look *within*, as did Abraham, to the fountain of life and *source* of all things, of which the outer man is but a reflection, or, as voiced by Hermes: "The inner is like the outer, the lower like the higher," thus drawing the attention from the environment to the inner reality. BUT, if that inner condition or reality be in chaos, then it is not to be expected that perfection will issue. "Like attracts like" and, equally true, "Like produces like." Such is the Law; "Each after its own kind."

We have a right, as demonstrating one of the three sides of success, to expect so-called miracles or wonders which are the result of the *unwritten*, yet operating, Occult Law. If we hold our eyes steadily fastened upon the *one* Divine Cause, unselfish Love—God in manifestation—nothing is impossible that can enter the thought of man or be pictured by his imagination. God *imagined*, and it was *so*. Man, being the microcosm, a small replica with all its part of the whole, he likewise is the same power in limited form.

This drift toward bringing forth and manifesting our thoughts, desires and expectations is a doctrine promising speedier and more pronounced methods for attainment than any hitherto em-

ployed. It is growing more and more prevalent under the present conditions, of perceiving for ourselves the creation or manifestation of our thoughts—a materialization of the inner potency in the outer form.

The Spiritual Element in Man Should Always Rule

A new heaven or a new earth in *another* sphere is no longer looked for or thought necessary. Hands are already upon the ploughshare of production and reproduction, clearing away with as little confusion as possible the erstwhile impossible social and economic conditions; building the paradise of success upon God's promise of abundant supply, which may be tapped just as quickly as we recognize the *Law of Personal Responsibility and Equal Exchange*. This is simply to state that success on *all* planes, material and spiritual, may be obtained by a superior and scientific understanding and application of mental and spiritual Laws in their direction of material affairs, conditions and environments.

This heritage is awaiting those whose hearts are filled with the desire for rightness and fairness, who are trying to live a rational life, one free from taint and degrading tendencies. Those who are striving for money, honor or power alone—things which are no more than the *symbols* of success, and to satisfy carnal appetite—will not succeed and would never be satisfied even if they did succeed.

All true success results from man's ability to collect and properly group atoms of energy. One must preserve the inherent nobility of Soul in order that the grouping may be harmonious and the *inner* Law of power be expressed. The world does not furnish one single example of permanent and constructive success but that based upon the principle that in the conflict of forces the spiritual elements in man must overcome the tendencies of Nature's diverse law. There can be no contradiction of this statement when all the facts of spiritual law leading up to success are understood.

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Generally considered and classified, worldly success is now a form of progressive disease. The greater the success, the more intensive the selfishness and the hunger for power. Possessions become an obsession, no longer to be properly applied along avenues of construction, but to be hoarded. As the selfish desires increase and progress, cruelty becomes part of the nature so that others are sacrificed in the accumulation of a still greater hoard. This is not real success. It is merely an accumulation which gradually corrodes and destroys man, body, mind and Soul.

The Invitation to the Golden Feast

"Come, all things are now made ready. Behold, I have prepared a feast for you." This is the perpetual invitation out of the invisible silence. *The rest man must do.* It is we for whom the repast is set. It is we who must accept and eat, digest and assimilate the food upon the table, before we can come into individual contact with the Universal storehouse of supply of all things. The table is set. The work of God now rests. It is for us to act. This Law has been repeatedly pronounced to us, but we have failed to apply it. We are still the slaves to our inertia. We still innately feel or subconsciously believe that either the world owes us a living or that some other force outside of ourselves should be compelled to feed, clothe and supply us with our needs. We are forgetful that in sight of the Law no man is greater than another. Each must be responsible for himself. *No human creature is so important to man, to the world or to God, so as to be made an exception and be compensated for weakness and idleness.*

Why not begin to improve at once the opportunity for understanding and knowledge such as will enable us to do our part in the building of that most subtle of mansions—character—the Soul strengthened by effort and enlightened by inner development, which must crown every ultimate, known success. We must willingly, aye, even gladly, cast away our own idols, which we worship and caress, so long as we cling to them and delude ourselves in thinking them realities.

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So long as the idea that poverty—so-called ill fortune or failure—is husbanded by us, believing it to be something beyond our control, just so long are we inert to burst the fetters which bind us to weakness and slavery in some form. Through such misconceptions we deprive ourselves of our inherent freedom and remain our own gaolers.

To some it may be a startling assertion when we say that we can actually make our life just what we choose it to be. Nevertheless, it is fundamentally true. We can fulfill our desires as surely and as truly as we learned to walk and talk. It does require effort and patience, but effort becomes a pleasure when results begin to appear. Success is as much a part of man's destiny and as truly an obligation as it is a possibility when his forces are husbanded and properly directed along avenues of construction and accumulation.

Consciousness is the center of attraction for all success. It is the Universal *Light* for our own individual sight. All we can attract by our own mental volition, by our individualized, vital force, becomes more and more keenly powerful in expression as the atoms of life become more and more spiritualized. We may with profit watch our desires unfold from bud to blossom, from blossom to fruitage as we progress, and judge with a degree of certainty what the ultimate result will be.

Consider the Lily

The lily of the field and pool has been held up to us as a symbol of true spiritual progression with a perfect reliance of the source of supply. Of it has been said: "It toils not, neither does it spin." Why not? Because it knows its own perfection lies in the intangible secret of the "Father and I are one," or "The Law which gave me existence will, if obeyed, vouchsafe my well-being." It knows, symbolically speaking, before bursting its covering on earth, that by adjusting itself to the conditions of darkness and silence for a time this very condition of rest will cause it to generate a force with which to pierce a wall of great thickness and

lift its head into the brightness of the sunshine. It knows its petals will be touched with color, the like of which no artist can imitate. Its contour of form cannot be chiseled by mortal hand. And yet the same spirit which permeates the lily also leavens man's Soul into larger type. The exact proportion of the life-giving ray is not lessened nor added to in either case; it is simply a differentiation of the modes, of the grouping of atoms.

But this is not the whole story of the lily. The lily obeys every law of nature without question, because it is *true to its own nature*. It does neither toil nor spin, it is true, but neither does it ask anything of any man or the world. On the other hand, it *gives* everything without recompense: its beauty, its encouragement to the weary and sorrowful, and offers itself as a lesson of the generosity of God or the Law which created it. It spins not, nor does it toil, but it *gives* and continues to give until its life span is ended.

The lily accepts the Law. Unconsciously, it is true, but it is *according to its nature*. In man faith for a time must take the place of such ready, unquestioned acceptance. Faith is lacking in man because he bases all his conclusions on the actions of other men, unaware that their actions are *not* in harmony with the Law and, therefore, abnormal actions.

Faith must, for a period, take the place of actual knowledge. Faith then turns into knowledge. At first we can only *know* by that subtle and certain guide which is known as *intuition*. Logicians claim this to be a defective faculty, but it is as much a God-given power as any other visible and manifested faculty. We cannot cognize the "substance of things hoped for" until we *feel* within ourselves that it exists. It is the *feeling* or inner *sensing*, the consciousness, the Soul-sense, that brings us into complete faith and which is so much needed. More than aught else, it is necessary to better the condition of the thousands of struggling Souls who seek a less painful fate than the slavery and bondage which have been fastened upon them.

Soul Consciousness Gives a New Meaning to Life

We are all truly magicians. We handle our wand of destiny according to *our own* Laws. If we know the Law and direct it scientifically and with a masterful hand, we walk on to thrones (1). Fate and circumstances are manacled under our feet. Hitherto the possibilities of the Adam man (the carnal man) have not been fully recognized or appreciated. Man has been blinded to his capabilities by ignorance. In our present century of magnificent potency and accomplishments, in this period of revelation of man's power over physical things, we are able to claim our God-given inheritance or royal prerogatives if we obey the Law. Thence we may begin to climb the heights attainable in the mental and Soul realm, no longer puppets of fortune to be ground down by the wheel of fate as it rolls pell-mell over us. On the contrary, man may be ruler of his own world kingdom. With thought so polarized, the mind unfolded, the *Soul conscious*, life takes on a new meaning and glimpses a view of "that yet to be."

(1) Napoleon is our greatest example. He set forth to conquer a world. His thought-desire was *Brotherhood*. As he progressed in his plans he was destined to become conscious that, though he did establish such a Brotherhood on earth for man, after his task was finished and he passed on there would be none among all he knew either fit or capable of maintaining such an Ideal State. As a result of this awakening he conceived the idea of a son so that he might leave the government of his conquered world to his own progeny. Selfishness naturally followed the lowered Ideal, and all he had sacrificed, suffered and fought for was lost, and he himself became the circumscribed slave of the forces he had awakened but could not continue to direct.

All win success in some degree. It may be only successfulness in being miserable and incompetent, but this proves we could be otherwise if our powers and energies were properly exercised and used. We are as free to enter the *Light* as we are to linger in the darkness of the *Light's* shadow.

It Is a Delusion to Think That the World Owes Man a Living

What, in reality, does success mean? Some answer: accomplishment. This alone does not fill the conditions of true success. Behind all accomplishment, in its broadest sense, there lies a subtle something called by the wise "the upholding of accomplishment." In common parlance, "nothing succeeds like success."

Success is not merely in attaining a certain status in the affairs of men. To succeed and then to lose that which had been attained is the height of failure. But to succeed and then to be strong enough to apply and direct that which we have attained and obtained, to the greater betterment of ourselves and to the benefit of all others—that is success in truth.

There are thousands of experimenters in the professions, in the liberal arts, amongst artisans of all varieties of work, amongst traders in all kinds of commerce, who are simply standing on the average mass equality. Only here and there is one who cares to labor with patience to make for himself or herself a brilliant success. All the rest of the mass still live under the delusion that either God, the World or Society (Government) owes them a living. These are the most pitiful failures because they never become conscious of their own handicap as a result of their ignorance of the operating Law.

However, doing as others do, accumulating perishable material which may be lost or taken from us tomorrow, is *not* success. It is no more than a symbol of the real which may be ours. The inspiration does not appear, as so admirably expressed by the grand old poet Virgil. In singing of a winning crew in a boat race he concisely said: "*Possunt quia; posse videntur*"—they are able because they *seem* to be able—and which we moderns would state as: "They are able because they *believe* themselves capable of winning." This is success. It is not simply accomplishing a task. It is the *inspiration* which is the *heart's wish* that gives the power of adding accomplishment to accomplishment. Each step must

bring renewed vigor and courage for a higher and greater effort on the next occasion of necessity.

Doubts and Worries Keep Man From Being Successful

Our accumulating doubts and worries, the single but deep-rooted fear, are potent to withhold success from us where otherwise we would come into our own. Such doubts and fears may even finally reverse the vibratory forces accumulated as a result of our knowledge and the efforts of our training. Failure is never the result of the things we need not being ready for us, but because of our weaknesses, the courage to go forward, lack of inner perception—these are the things that win for us in the struggle.

We are like the lady of tradition who, after earnest and impassionate prayer to the Lord for rain, immediately after nullified all the vibrations she had set in motion by her conclusion of: "I don't believe it will." The mass of humanity are like that. They live in the borderland of misfortune and non-success; they are always about to be but never actually blessed because they *stop short just when success might be achieved*. Even in those instances where unbelief does not give birth to a positive and impassable barrier, it is nevertheless a serious and impending drag on their energies and efforts, frequently sapping and neutralizing the life forces and preventing its expression in the accomplishment of a worthy object or noble purpose.

Lack of preparation frequently nullifies every effort made, even destroying the benefit of success itself. It is much as when the man of business casts forth the fiat: "I am going to put forth all the *exoteric* means at my command and win success." He does so, and the response is immediate. But despite the success, ultimate results demonstrate that there existed doubt in his innermost thoughts and heart. When he made his declaration he failed to make provision for enlargement, for storage capacity to provide for the business he invoked and expected. As a result, the large volume of business he commanded was well within his grasp when

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he found himself without the facilities to handle it successfully.

John the Baptist voiced this *Law of Preparedness* when he said: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make his paths straight." That is merely to say: "Qualify yourself and clear away the physical rubbish, so that the inner Consciousness can work out the Law you invoke for yourself. When seeking success along any avenue of endeavor, plan, prepare and act as though success *had already been achieved.*" This is preparing for success by expecting success.

Success Requires an Intensified Desire

God's promises never fail when we comply with the condition of His or *the* Law. He says most emphatically: "Ask and ye shall receive." Why do we fail? Because we question, we doubt; our faith is not as great as the proverbial grain of mustard seed.

It was not thus with the biblical character Noah, who believed and consistently preached in an age of unbelief, incompetence and degradation. Not alone did he preach the things he *felt* were to happen; he made full preparation for the fulfillment of the prophecy. This was all done under a continual fire of doubt and utmost discouragement from all sides. The fear of opinions of his fellow-men affected him not one iota. The building of the ark went steadily forward until it was completed. According to the sacred records, he and his alone obeyed the Law and were amply rewarded for their faith.

It is the *underlying* motive and not the surface conclusions which determine the ultimate result of all human activity. One constantly sees man toiling as did the fabled criminal in Tartarus who, trying to roll a huge stone to the top of the high hill, always found that, as he had but one more effort to make to finish the task, the stone would again be lying at the bottom, necessitating the work to be done all over again.

This is the manner of success men and women often vouchsafe to themselves. More or less content to drag out their existence in distressful poverty or suffering under the excuse of "what is the

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use?" which acts as a sedative, deadening the activities of positive action and endeavor, they fail to gain the mountain peaks of accomplishment and success; the moving power of the mighty Will, which is man's *Divine heritage* from his Creator, is impeded and obstructed.

There is no success in such instances, nor can there ever be, because all active desire for it has become dormant, and even the ability to plan for it has faded into nothingness. Without a single salient point or aim, the necessity for success becomes a myth in the chain of such an existence. He who resorts to any stupefying influence, irrespective of its nature, on mind or body, encases himself in an adamantine envelope from which even the shock of a major misfortune can seldom free him.

"Success or Chaos Is Mine"

There is a wide difference between carelessness and contentment. It is not a manifestation of contentment, but of carelessness, which holds man in the vilest surroundings such as could readily be changed for the better if the effort were not lacking. The person who is so held by environments and circumstances has little right to dream of success because only the worthy, those making the necessary effort, are entitled to the reward of their endeavors to improve both themselves and their surroundings.

"He who seeks success in untried fields," says a teacher, "must burn his bridges behind him. He must be prepared for any or all of the deprivations that can possibly beset the Soul as a part of the discipline of attainment." True, he may never be called upon to endure, but he must be willing, always ready, ever prepared to pay the price success demands. He who seeks success in an untried field or along new avenues, with the thought in mind: "If it fails I can always return to my old position or environment," has the seeds of failure actively growing in his subconscious self. The thought of success is: "I will try. I will try yet again and again. I will refuse to even think of retrieving or admitting the possibilities of failure. Success or chaos is mine."

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Thus far we have considered only *exoteric* success—the symbol—which the worldly wise as well as the philosophers have discoursed upon through the ages with more or less practical effect. There is another side of vantage, also called success.

A biblical writer enjoined upon us to “seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things (power, wisdom and possessions) shall be added unto you,” but who is there seeking religious inculcations and biblical injunctions in connection with the search for worldly success? How little the mass appreciated the age-old truth that, whether they be cited as God’s Laws, religious inculcations, Nature’s Laws or the Laws of Success, they are but ONE and the SAME Law—the underlying principle of constructive activity, and that whatever is constructive *must* build, must *bring forth*, must *bring possessions* to the one directing the operation.

Man Is a Harp of a Thousand Strings

The Sages, teachers or Initiates in communicating knowledge to the pupil and others frequently employ an Occult language, perhaps a word or two, often so seemingly inappropriate that the whole thought seems juggled and almost incomprehensible to the average mind. So it is with the quotation just given.

What is signified by the phrase, “Kingdom of God”? “Kingdom” is a term frequently used by Initiates and Magi, the wise and learned, to signify power and dominion, the exaltation of the spiritual, mental and even physical.

The Kingdom of God, then, must be the power of the Divine or unseen, of the *unlimited*, as distinguished from the purely human and limited. Hence, the Acolyte seeks the power of God, of Omnipotence, as of first and greatest importance toward accomplishment. It is not consistent to think that we are to sit down in an inane, lifeless manner and simply wish for success, waiting for it to come to us, especially when we remember that God, or the Creative, producing Law, is *ever active*. We are to *seek*, which is to say, put forth every effort, all power to attain that which we

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seek; cultivate and awaken every possible vibration of latent, potential drawing power within us. That we cultivate every faculty so assiduously that when, Occultly speaking, the Master of Hearts passes his fingers over our "Harp of a Thousand Strings," it may be well tuned and responsive to the slightest vibration of all that is lasting and desirable here and now, as well as in all of future time.

Man Must Harmonize Himself With the Law of Supply

Having sought on all planes and even "taken something by violence" as commanded, we are really and truly prepared with the one means that can render man powerful, insuring to him uninterrupted success. It is only after we attain this point that defeat becomes impossible. It is then, when rising to the consciousness of our "oneness with the Father," which is to say, with all reality, that all things become possible.

It is essential that we be thus fully armed and equipped and living and dwelling in the *consciousness* of the certainty of power, to make it possible for all other things to be added—to flow—or be drawn—toward us. We must not alone develop the magnet which creates and draws success to ourselves, but that such success and increase in plenty be of benefit to others as well (2). More than even this, we must open the way and show the path to others who are seeking the route we have taken. Self-help is first, and, having been helped, it is mandatory upon ourselves to be of help to others.

(2) The sun is a nucleus of cosmic rays, and these rays are continually thrown off and attracted to the earth by means of the earth's magnetism. These two, the rays of the sun and the earth's magnetism, give life to all things living. Man must imitate the sun. Having become a reservoir of power and success, he should freely and willingly "cast such influence upon all he contacts."

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It has been truly said that "Man's power is greater than he is aware of, and the depths of the forces of the mind have never been fathomed. He can do *all things*, once he truly believes and is willing to fully enter into his 'oneness with God,' or which might be differently stated as 'when he is willing to wholly harmonize with the Law of supply.'"

Let us give some consideration to this phase of our subject by placing emphasis on the fact that in the final analysis God is *all, in all and surrounding all*. We must either admit this or declare there is no God and that matter is the only reality. This last statement has no basis in fact, because the merest tyro in physics is fully aware that matter is ever changeable and, therefore, but temporary. If, then, in seeking success and inner advancement we accept it as truth and with full faith, that his (God's) power is within us, and everyone to the degree of his consciousness, and that this power be sought first, the "upholding of accomplishment" may truly be expected and ultimately realized.

"I and the Father Are One"

Success, implying and embracing constructive accomplishment, is of itself an attractive center toward which all allied things are drawing, again impressing upon us that "nothing succeeds like success." The movement toward such success commences as soon as the thought of such possibilities is established in the mind and changes to probabilities and then to an absolute certainty. The Initiates of the Secret Schools have always taught that Jesus, himself an Initiate, because of his attainment of Soul Consciousness, performed his apparent miracles by the application of his knowledge of Laws unknown to the mass of mankind.

His work was in no sense supernatural, since he used natural means, but was entirely in accordance with the Laws of the Hermetic and Alchemic Schools, the changing or transmutation of the gross into finer elements. The Law best understood by him and of which he spoke most frequently and emphasized most was that of *oneness of the Creator with the created*.

This he enunciated fully when he said: "I and the Father are one." In other words, he sought for and found the kingdom of God within himself, and which by right belongs to all men who are willing to accept the Law and attain as a result of obedience and the practice of the precepts taught. Quite frequently he emphatically stated that whatever he was or had done, other men might do and be.

Appearances are misleading unless they are accepted as settled facts. That which frequently appears a failure may, under proper direction, prove a magnificent success. Nor is it always true that the things which appear to be either failure or success count most in the age of fulfillment, but rather is it the inspiration and the aspiration which is the incentive and which offers the inducement to others. (As the great Temple of Atlantis was once buttressed by the mountain beds, so now it stands at the bottom of the ocean, still fulfilling its mission, though not apparent to mortal eyes.)

Nature Perfects Herself Only After Her Own Kind and Species

It is well known to all searchers of Occult truth and for the higher life that in all ages there were those called the "wise ones"—the Magi—searching for success, the Philosopher's Stone, and called it the "Great Art." When questioned concerning their aims they answered: "We seek to change or transmute all base metal into gold; incidentally, to find the recipe for the Elixir of Life, which transforms all who quaff thereof into a continuous life of health and Immortality." It is these who were the founders of the Secret Schools, who evolved the plan of life and who have been the guides of all who truly seek.

In the confessions of capable and tireless pioneers who, having labored for centuries to blaze through the wilderness of the material world a *new path to success*, we frequently find statements like this:

"Wherefore, I conclude, believe me; leave sophistications and all those who believe in them; flee from their sublimations, con-

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junctions, separations, congelations, preparations, disjunctions, connectors and other deceptions. And let those keep silent who affirm a tincture other than ours, which is not true, and brings no profit. And let them keep silent who speak of sulphur which is different from ours, which is concealed in magnesia (philosophical); and who wish to derive quicksilver, except from the red servant, and other waters than ours, which is permanent, which unites to its proper nature and moistens nothing save that which *is one with its own nature*. Nature perfects herself only after her own kind and species."

From these carefully veiled instructions we interpret in plain, simple words that we cannot manipulate matters simply to produce results in any condition or position of living; it is the influence they yield over all other things which is the ultimate consideration. Especially is this true of all healing which material medication does not produce; likewise, and beyond question, is it so of the conditions which we have in mind—Success.

It must be conceded and accepted that all the effective, vibrating, vitalizing forces are the result of continually exerted individual Will. The Will is our portion of the Universal spirit—the mainspring of the golden coil—*power*, the kingdom of God which is to be found within ourselves.

Desire Is the Foundation of All Success

We have already called attention to what is said to be an old Persian saying: "If one sees a falling star and can formulate a wish before it ceases its fall, that wish will be granted." The foundation of success, it cannot be too frequently reiterated, is the complete permeation of the mind by the *thought desire* which permits its instant utterance under any condition.

Desiring success in business, success fortified by aspiration and inspiration, we must possess the courage to be perfectly honest with the inner self and keep within the limits of the Golden Rule, which might be paraphrased as: "Do *not* unto others that which you would not have them do unto you." Otherwise fear and weak-

ness will breed dishonesty; through these will come failure. Faith in, and consciousness of, one's power, once acquired, is half of the victory in achievement in any chosen direction.

To attract the things necessary to make life vital and commendatory, the God (Universal) power within should be continually given recognition. This can be cultivated. How, you ask? By the constant assurance of yourself that you are seeking to become a *conscious* individual which necessarily must be a child of God. Thus one need never allow a dishonest or dishonorable thought to creep into the consciousness, nor permit any dishonesty to creep into a transaction. Each negation allowed within the consciousness will necessarily weaken the individualism; will build enervating elements into the physical-spiritual structure and, if permitted to remain, work toward self-destruction. The elimination of all imperfect elements from the realm of Soul building will ultimately establish Divine Harmony in the microcosm or little world which is man.

Man Must Find His Own Center of Consciousness

To become a perfect magnet, an instrument of attraction harmoniously tuned, we must tune ourselves to the Keynote of the universe, the Macrocosm; to the Law which is Infinite because unlimited and never changing, and to the Love atmosphere which alone can light the *fires* of the Soul center.

Once coming into complete unity with the spiritual essence on our threefold plane, we will be unable to encompass dishonesty in any phase in our efforts toward success, and, unbelievable as this appears in a world of almost universal dishonesty (3), double dealing will not be necessary, nor any help, toward true success.

(3) It is questionable whether any age known to history or to man was so honeycombed with dishonesty as the present period. Nations scrap treaties made with each other as of less worth than scraps of paper. They war with each other

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without possessing the honesty or decency of declaring war. Nations war upon their own citizens, destroying them as though they were so much vermin. Nations practice confiscation of the property within their borders belonging to other nations or nationals without thought of recompense. Individuals of nations and families repudiate their contracts without a thought of responsibility. Manufacturers and unions enter into solemn agreements, only to break them at the slightest misunderstanding. Property is destroyed as though it had no value and without a thought that the destroyer is responsible for the destruction. In all the realms of the dealings of man with man there apparently is but one contract still held intact—the poor man's signature upon the face of the collateral whereon he borrows money. This being true, nations universally face disaster unless they right-about-face and accept personal responsibility for their contracts and exile their rulers who refuse to do likewise.

Any failure to recognize the sense of power flowing from the inmost being—*our own conscious center of consciousness*—breaks the connection or contact with the Great Center of both the Macrocosm and spiritual spheres, rendering man cowardly and impotent toward actual accomplishment. Until a man attains consciousness of his own worthiness and that he is *too much a man* to be untrue to himself, he will be unable to find the *Christos* which is his own Illuminated Soul and known to men as the Christ. True, he may find the outer, the material man, Jesus, and therein put his trust without awakening his real or ideal nature and find himself in the darkness of failure. Here again we find that the Master-Teacher uttered a scientific truth when he said that the kingdom of righteousness (rightness) must first be sought and, when found, be immutably made a part of the Soul.

Success Is for All Who Make Themselves Worthy

Not until we recognize the Law of Personal Responsibility and awaken the consciousness within to at least an appreciable degree

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will the power be ours to draw to ourselves the things needful for everyday life. Not until we achieve to this state will the beggarly spirit of ignorance, fear and weakness leave us and free us; and, as children of an all-embracing Father, we may command—be potent to command—our loyal and princely birthright.

Any amount of worldly goods may be bestowed upon us or be accumulated by us, but if we still be beggars in spirit, what avail is it to us? How long will we have it before it will be taken from us? Let us truly live and, so living, also give the same privilege; yea, more, to our fellow-men which we claim for ourselves, though be careful and have the strength that the vicious take not advantage of our generosity and fairness. If we do thus, then very soon eternal forms will be clothed with robes of glory, symbolizing power, possession and potentiality; and poverty and squalor, the warp and woof of the garments in which fear wraps herself, will flee us.

Success is for *all who make themselves worthy of it*. In the attainment it is not so much the outer substance with which we must deal, but the *spirit* of abundance which awaits the *inner* call based on the assurance of readiness. Neither is it people or things with which we must trade in order to fully enter into possession of our estate. We are assured that our "kingdom is within us." If this be true, then it is certain that the king or the "Master" of the estate reigns there. It is the Master's realm, and His throne is there. The one Spirit of which our Consciousness is a part reigns forever and permeates all matter. We are part, or *may* be part, of the Great Whole; therefore, the wide earth may be in our grasp as may be the heavens above us. It is our heritage, but we must *earn* it and have the strength to take it. We are everyone born to success and the lawful heirs as part of the whole. There is nothing the matter with the title or the legacy, but we must be able to *prove our right*, for the judge upon the throne who applies the Law can neither be bought nor misled. None can take our share from us, but we may lose it by lacking the proof of our worthiness.

To Know—to Do—to Dare—to Keep Silent

Our principal study and care, the object of our search and work, is the *self*. The machine we must learn to handle carefully and with skill is the mental-physical, the human creature which can set at naught all laws, both spiritual and Divine. How can it be otherwise? Time and again we have been impressed with the self-evident truth that "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak," as well as that "a house divided against itself cannot stand." We know from many experiences how weak the flesh is, how strong carnal desires. It is a serious and most difficult matter for us to tune our dual elements to a harmonious key when the body, vigorous in its physical perfection, is capable and able to demand the helpful guidance of the Soul's Consciousness to the harmonious octave above.

In our search we must diligently avoid all that weakens the body under the excuse that this will permit and manifest the spirit's willingness. It is only the intense, everywhere-present, illimitable power of the spirit (Soul Consciousness) which can make the flesh willing *to know, to dare, to do and to keep silent*. Unless we compel on the instant the consenting attention of every part of our body, a voluntary compliance and obedience, as the instrument of the awakened Soul, we will always be decidedly at a disadvantage. Such an uncontrolled body is much like a balky horse whose driver can never be certain of obedience, or an inopportune resistance resulting in loss. In every instance relating to the mutual concern of the body and Soul the Soul must be acknowledged an absolute director and dictator.

Concentrating the Will to One Set Purpose

Thus having the lower, the carnal, mortal self in obedience rather than mere subjection, knowing that within reach there is a table bountifully spread with all the good things the earth can supply, and yet know that unless the hand is put forth to partake of those good things, we will surely starve to death, although in the midst of plenty, it becomes necessary for us to fulfill our part

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and stretch forth our hand to *help ourselves*. Thus truly is it said that "the Lord will help those who help themselves." All things being arranged, we must voluntarily, consciously and *willingly* fulfill our part in the Divine drama and thus assure ourselves of success.

The one axiom as unchangeable as the law of the Medes and Persians, as essential to success as is the earth for the domiciling of the race and the accumulation of things material, is the *persistent projection of Will with a set purpose* and the co-joint effort to obtain that which we desire.

The force insuring the accomplishment of any definite purpose is Universal energy. Knowing this to be true, our entire existence is to be aligned with this Universal essence that it may be directed by our conscious efforts, just as we would control and direct a powerful but highly complicated machine. In this manner we energize action with a part of the Universal or Divine Energy which is generally called God.

Once set into motion, this Universal force works constantly along the avenues in which it is directed. It may be a day, a month or years before the necessary dissolution and readjustment of the old material, the old self, will give place to the formative, inspiring conditions required for the new structure.

During the entire process of reconstruction the Great Work is carried forward atom by atom. Moment by moment the old is forced to give way to the new. The ultimate result, the perfection and the means of attainment all are a part of the new life, the new being, and mean success.

Mutual Exchange Is the Law

Success is not an accumulation of money, the winning of fame, nor yet the cultivation of power. All these are desirable and advantageous, but it is the settled conviction of the spirit, the Soul within, of the inability of mundane conditions to resist the silently expressed desire which the Higher Self directs.

Man declares: "I am success!" And every single declaration,

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in proportion to the intensity of the vibrations set in motion by the command *and the efforts made*, will bring him nearer to the end to be achieved. Success is at once the cause *and* the result of itself. *We make or mar it for ourselves*. Not only can we command helpfulness from others, but by the same unalterable Law we are compelled to be of service to others in the proportion we have been helped. The Law *is* mutual exchange, yet, strange as it may appear, we lose nothing by it, but gain as we give.

There is a simple illustration of this. The man who has become successful in a financial way is a capitalist. He seeks for investment whereby he may increase and perpetuate both his capital and his power. He decides to bring fuel oil into a vast, outlying district not heretofore served. He must purchase the right-of-way, he must buy and lay pipes, he must build storage tanks and finally he must connect the supply lines with the source of service. All this commands an immense outlay. It is a huge risk, but in this respect it concerns only himself.

In order to accomplish his desire so that he may reap the benefits, he must buy an immense amount of material, giving work and income to many; he must employ men to lay his pipes, giving them an income, and finally he will make life easier for the multitude of people and at less expense for heating than they paid before. The benefits to the mass of the one man's desire to make a profit are unaccountable, and despite the fact that his idea was a selfish one, nevertheless, he has accomplished, and continues to do, an immense amount of good. But that is not the end; the fact that such a man has amassed a fortune demands of him that he subscribe to many public charities, and good is done which otherwise might have been impossible.

Suppose this man had concluded that the means he had accumulated were sufficient for his needs and the needs of his family, and that further efforts were useless, then factories would have remained closed, countless workers idle, poverty apparent and heating laborious and expensive. As it is, selfishness has been the means of benefiting a countless number. Such selfishness is not evil, but constructive and helpful. It is only when selfishness robs

others, degrades or exploits them or takes rights and privileges from them that it is evil and destructive. Time and again these latter days the benefit becomes the welfare of the many, and thus the good of one is simply expressed as "One for all and all for one." Divine justice thus emphasizes the truism that success is the common property and the heritage of all.

"All Things Are Possible to Him That Believeth"

Are we in need of special help along some particular line? Do we wish to free ourselves of all doubts? Is it our desire to free ourselves from the destructive, enervating, paralyzing sense of fear which dominates our thoughts, feelings and desires? If so, then by every possible known means we must train the mind and the eyes to look high above the entanglements of the material conditions and see the radiant glory and brightness of the Ideal—the real success. We must hold the gaze steadily upon that thought-ideal which is to be built, must realize with all our heart that the probabilities and possibilities exist and set about the building of them. We must never be laggard in accepting the ever-present invitation of the Law: "Come, for all things are now made ready."

The Master-Teacher said: "Whatsoever ye ask, believing, ye shall receive." So many ask, but in their heart of hearts there is not the slightest faith that it shall be so, nor is there sufficient faith there to induce them to make the necessary effort to obtain that which they seek. It is an inert request, coming forth from the mouth, induced by a selfish desire. Then there is that other injunction; or shall we call it a promise? "All things are possible to him that believeth." This is a Law of the Soul known and taught by all the Initiates, and might we not well here call attention to the fact that, great and almost unbelievable as have been the teachings of the Occult Masters, everything they have taught or now teach, improbable as it may appear, is covered by this: "All things are possible to him that believeth."

It is the unquestionable (even in his mind), *conscious* belief

in himself which enables the financier to manipulate the market or stock exchange successfully. "Unto him that hath shall be given" was the inculcation of the meekest of all men. Why? Because the possessions in hand or under his control give him reason and cause to believe he can gain more. This gives him faith and confidence in his own power. It illustrates the phrase: "Nothing succeeds like success." A purse well filled with the symbol of power and success assures success much more readily than an empty pocket and a hopeless outlook. The latter has nothing; therefore, for want of incentive and encouragement, he constantly expects still less or failure if he makes an attempt to succeed. His fears thus active unconsciously draw to him less instead of more, and thus we see illustrated another axiom: "The thing that I feared has come upon me," though it would be more truthful to say: "My fears have caused good fortune to forsake me."

How Miracles Are Wrought

The doubter—and they are multitudinous—will naturally question: If man be a failure, how can he believe in his own capability to succeed? It is simple. There *is* a Law of the mind which provides that if a proposition be repeatedly set forth, even though it be thoroughly doubted at first, it will in the end, sooner or later, be accepted by the *latent consciousness within as true*. This is an Occult Law and underlies the certainty that he who tries and tries again, however great or many the failures, will ultimately succeed, irrespective of the seeming impossibility of the thing he attempts to do. Thus are miracles wrought. The sooner the failure accepts this Law as a truth, even against all the odds of environments and the bondage of circumstances, the quicker will he be able to taste the first fruits of achievement. Such acceptance and application of the Law will reveal the secret spring opening the doors to success.

We must refuse the suggestion of the possibility of failure to reach either the mind or the Soul. Such a suggestion must be considered as a mortal enemy to be eliminated at all cost. We

must insist, even though it be mechanical at first, that we are gaining, winning in the battle and visioning success.

Let him who hath not consistently refuse to see the lack and as courageously fight the possibility of envy of the success of others entering his heart and consciousness. Let him insist at all times that he is *becoming* what he desires to be, then gradually, deep in his heart, believe in the possibility,—faith will spring forth and grow. Faith will blossom into assurance, and assurance is the incentive to achievement. At all times while seeking success think and live exactly as though success were already a fact. Thus one thinks and acts success, and the vibrations sent forth will be such as to draw success.

In the attainment of any goal there is work for the Soul to do; it must *feel*, aspire and reach forth for that which is desired. It must contact the Ætheric spheres of the God-world or Cause-world-plane wherein all things are created by our own thought-desire long before the slightest shadow of exterior manifestation can appear.

“Unto Him That Hath Shall Be Given”

There is an equitable Law, as part of the science of human life, teaching the Soul that cheerfulness and expectant realization of the fulfillment of desire are far better for its growth than uncertainty and worry, both of which are grounded on doubt. “Unto him that hath shall be given” is no longer to be considered an unjust Law. The self-recognition of our own magnetic power of attraction is the basis of this Law. With this in mind we have the reason why the man who keeps faithfully the Ten Commandments fails to win in the game of life, while the man without principal succeeds in amassing a fortune and gains recognition. The latter has become part of the Law of being as important in its essence as the whole ten other Laws, whereas the one who keeps the Ten Commandments has ignored that most esoteric Law of all Laws—the command to believe and to receive.

Not only are we human magnets ourselves, but we are com-

posed of an aggregation of forceful, life-centering atoms, every one of which is a magnet. Each atom is a center of life, pulsating toward a polarization such as every individual may claim for himself.

Vitalized energy is expressed by its own mental activity. Every function of the physical body should be thus vitalized in order that, at the command of the ego or alter-self, it may express itself as a creator and manifestor. It has been shown that brain substance is found in the finger tips of the blind. Why should it be found there and nowhere else in the body save its commanding position—the skull? The brain substance accumulated in the finger tips of the blind is resultant of constant and effortful concentration at that point of the body.

God is concentration because concentration is centralization, and centralization absorbs everything unto itself and forces and compels it to unite with itself. The first atom of brain matter must then have been a manifestation resulting from concentration, hence a part or an essence from God. Why not diffuse such essence in all parts or functions of the body? Thus, each would become an independent and conscious thinker, co-operating for the good of the whole (4).

(4) This is the ideal for governments. The effort must be toward making every citizen a self-governing unit, all units working in harmony with each other. Every unit must observe the Law, as must the central sphere, the directing body. Centralization must be in the individualized unit, all units working toward a central unit. Thus will the "least be as great as the greatest among you."

Recognition of supreme life force or energy through all parts of the whole is the basic philosophical thought for success along all lines: health, love, business, harmony, continued youthfulness and Immortality of the Soul.

Love Is the Supreme Law in Development

It is not years which cause time to express the wrinkles upon

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the face, the decrepit attitude of the body nor the decadence of any of the senses; it is the diffusion and lack of conservation of the life-carrying, fluidic essences called by one of the prophets "The wine that is found in the cluster." It is the waste of life or vital forces which impress the signature of age upon the body, which draws the shades of death about the most beautiful of God's creations and finally drops the curtain of shadows, diaphanous though it be, between the mortal self and Immortal sphere. The waste which clogs and decays comes through self-indulgences of every kind: anger, lust, dissipation, over-feeding and ignorance of the Law which would conserve our forces—the Law that holds within itself the function of teaching us wisdom, giving us knowledge of the correct moment to act and to close the door of the Secret Chamber wherein is centered the most precious of all gifts, the Soul's recognition of God or the eternal verities.

This can and must be attained through the mental attitude and recognition of the needs of both body and Soul. The body must be made the perfect symbol of the Soul's expression and manifest power, mental and spiritual development.

Love is the supreme Law in development. It is the ideal foundation upon which must be builded our mansions of success. The most subtle demonstration of this law is through the union of the masculine and feminine principles in united expression. Such a union is the focus of all creative energy whose exoteric action and ultimate is success. It is individualized vitality by which is generated and then expressed the closeness or *oneness* with the "I AM TO BE" principle of existence. Through its potentialities regeneration has its beginning. In the process of regeneration the essence of transmutation is engendered. By the recognition of one force as important as another, through and by conscious efforts toward concentration, is the ultimate attained, whatever it be.

The Four-Square City

These various considerations make it plain that the centering of

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sex force is for a far higher purpose than physical creation or self-indulgence, because in the enfoldment of this function is wrapped the germ cell, the cornerstone, the foundation principle, upon which must be built the "Four-Square City," the "Royal Square," the indwelling sphere of the Living God. In this manner we lift the floodgates linking us to the Universal supply. The waters of Life and Consciousness pour over the ego, and all the intricate machinery of being, from atom to organ, quivers and thrills at the impact; transmuted force becomes continuous and establishes equilibrium, which is how success is won.

In the search for the soul of all things there must be no barrier to the individual Soul *when once it has found its own Center*. Each step brings it into a higher perception of life; the mystery of life becomes unveiled; wisdom is the Book whose leaves are turned for the reading. The Soul of man has already accomplished much of its mission toward the completion of its own symbology, but there are yet many steps to be taken in rounding out the human mold to a perfect symmetry.

The man whom nature has fortunately endowed with a body fit for the residence of a god, who expresses the masculine qualities to a superlative degree, is one who should cultivate the passive graces until his individuality is crowned with the graciousness of the ideal feminine, while the timid, guileless woman must add to her own innate chastity the masterful quality of the masculine Soul and so express in her type all the attributes of a perfect incarnation.

"Let There Be"

It must be constantly held before the mental vision through which the ideal is formed that, by conservation, perception and correct use, the life forces are lifted up, and all existence is fused into the *Ineffable Light*—the Golden Fleece. This has been the search of the ages. The acme of all effort depends upon the perfect understanding that sex exists in every atom of existent life and that sublimation is the aim and end. Manifestation is dual.

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The duality is masculine and feminine—active and passive, positive and negative. One cannot exist without the other because of the attracting unity—the law of action or harmony—as a result of the command: “Let there be.”

Life is more or less constant change; change is progression; failures are part of life and result from ignorance. So-called failures should be forgotten by magnifying each success. Look for and believe in victory, and the awakening and unfolding Soul will do the rest. Forget small annoyances by visioning greater opportunity. Then in summing up affairs we will find that our investment in faith has paid large dividends.

In all the affairs of life, while taking the morning bath, preparing for breakfast, walking for the car, walking from place to place, going to lunch, keeping an engagement, at all times have in mind the thought: “I am doing these things because they will advance my success, for now I am becoming more and more conscious of my alliance with the Divine Law—God.”

Insist to yourself that all is well, as it should be and for your own good. Smile and see the sun shining. Sooner or later you will express all this in your face, the light in your eyes, the way you walk. Others will begin to notice the change, be attracted to you and open to you the opportunities for your success. Fully half of your work will be accomplished.

It is through obedience to the Law that we are enabled to “commune with the angels.” The ministration of the Hosts of Paradise will begin as soon as the lower self is delegated to its proper position—in the background where it no longer has power to keep the good things of life away from us.

The Law of Success Is Concentration

From the Father's house the demand will be supplied according to the daily needs. The supply will never be lacking except because of the non-recognition of the inherent (God-given) power within us. However numerous and accumulative our miseries and

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so-called mishaps may be, if we become conscious, as we will, of the oneness with the *Source of all that has been, is or shall be*, we may always win the battle and come into our own. Let us build by our faith and efforts a foundation made of such substance as cannot sink. Let it be upheld by the eternal Law, which is incapable of destruction.

When once we *know* what the "kingdom of God" is and come into our own through our efforts, we will know how to create success without wounding ourselves or others in the conflict. Having the faith to work and wait, we will become fully awake to the fact that man can neither give nor withhold from us except as *we permit it*. Success in life, the basis of all worth-while accomplishment, is not a matter of luck or chance, except in a few instances due to Karmic reaction. It is a matter of proper training and equipment for the race and the end to be attained, the goal toward which every energy of mind and body must be directed, and should be one which Nature has fitted the aspirant to achieve. Steadfastness of purpose is admittedly an indispensable quality because the Law of success is *concentration*.

It is necessary to bend all the energies to one point and to proceed without looking to right or left. The range of knowledge has increased so enormously that, except in rare instances, the brain of one man cannot master more than one subject. The man who would succeed in the world must single out the line of activity which he designs to make his specialty and into that pour all the energy of his nature. Broad culture and many-sidedness are beautiful things in theory, but it is the men of single vision and intense purpose (5), who steel their Souls against every desire that interferes with their chosen one, who accomplish the difficult work of the world and who are everywhere in demand when human need is greatest.

(5) This has in mind some special vocation: Law, medicine, business, invention. Besides the vocation, one should have an avocation, be this music, art, literature or spiritual

subjects. Here again we see the operation of duality. The vocation is one's business; the avocation is one's spiritual need.

Success Cannot Be Won on Proxy

Everyone seeking a successful achievement should carefully study his own nature and know his own strong points of character as well as his weaknesses. Everyone born has some special talent which will indicate the direction in which he can succeed to the best advantage, success being the result of placing themselves where their special talent may be made available and applicable.

The successful man in any calling is the one who can truly say: "I am master of at least one thing." With the exception of a few master minds, the men whose names have been handed down to us by history are those whose lives were devoted to some single great achievement and who gave their all to such purpose (6).

(6) A single purpose may be many-sided, as, for instance, inventions. The great musician is not satisfied with mastering one composition. All music is his goal. The great artist no sooner finishes one masterpiece when he starts another. Art is his guiding star. So along the whole line of achievement.

It was Charles Dickens who said: "Whatever I have tried to do in my life, I have tried with all my heart to do well. What I have devoted myself to, I have devoted myself to completely. Never put one hand to anything on which I would not throw my whole self [mind, body and Soul], and never to affect depreciation of my work, whatever it was, I find now to have been the golden rule."

Whether *your* life shall be successful or not is a question which must be answered by yourself alone. No one can do it for you; it cannot be done by proxy. A real desire to succeed is the first requisite, and if that be strong enough, all opposing barriers will give way before it. Strong determination and perseverance will

bring you to the goal of success and prosperity. The *real* difference between men, the weak and the powerful, the great and the insignificant, is *energy properly directed by an invincible determination*. A purpose once fixed, then death or victory. This quality will do anything that man or God can do in this world, and neither talent, circumstances nor opportunity make a life successful without it.

Man Lives Under the Law of Labor

The rules of conduct which will bring success are those which heed the dictates of the conscience—the God-consciousness within us—and rather lose an apparent advantage than win it by doubtful methods. The obedience given to the voice of conscience will not ultimately require the sacrifice of any real advantage. On the contrary, it will lead to an honesty of character that is of the greatest aid in achieving lasting success. Disappointments and difficulties will be encountered and must be overcome by energy and determination to win and add strength rather than weakness to achieve victory in still greater conflicts.

The list of men who have overcome what appeared to others insurmountable obstacles is a long one and includes practically all of the Immortals. Difficulties may intimidate the weak, but they only act as a wholesome stimulus to men of vision and resolution. All experiences of life serve to prove that the impediments thrown in the way of success may be overcome by activity, concentration and perseverance and, above all, by a determined resolution to surmount difficulties and stand up manfully against seeming misfortune.

There are many who in their eager desire for success overlook the difficulties in the way; there are as many others who see nothing else. The first class sometimes fail, but the latter rarely succeed.

Success is not possible without labor, and labor is not only a necessity; it is also a pleasure and the *law of our being*, for is it not written: "By the sweat of thy brow shalt thou live"? It is

by the active use of the powers and forces given us by Nature that we find happiness, peace and the perfection of our character.

More and more do we hear the murmur and complaint of an ever-increasing number against the *law of labor* under which we live, without reflection on their part that obedience to it *is not only in conformity with the Divine Will, but likewise necessary for the development of the human- and God-intelligence within us, and also for the thorough enjoyment of our common nature.*

Thoughts of Love and Good Will Are Returned With Interest

Of all wretchedness, idleness is the worst. Those whose lives are barren of utility, who have nothing to do except to gratify their animal senses, who become embittered because of their selfish self-consciousness and who, though too inert to work and accumulate for themselves, envy all who do. The lot of the idler and of those only partly employed is not to be envied, for idleness means the loss or refusal of opportunity and, therefore, the *decay* of all the inherent, God-given powers.

It is the workers, those who *never* count hours, whether rich or poor, who have given the world all that is enjoyable today. To the men who have been forced to work from necessity or who have chosen to work from choice, and to all those who have thrown all their heart into their work and have loved work for its own sake, we owe all of the great achievements which have made it possible in this century for the laborer to command more of the comforts and luxuries of life than a king could a short century ago.

The men who succeed know what they want to do and who in addition apply the power of Will and Concentration are those who know how to avoid obstacles in their path or to remove them. He who infringes on the rights of others builds barriers which will surely prevent him from attaining his end, because he defies the Divine Law which governs success. It is possible to win

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success, honor, laurels, etc., without wronging one human Soul, and no success which is secured by degrading others can be lasting.

He who wins peace of self and carries happiness (contentment) with him every day of his life wins success that is worth more than any other, and success of this nature can only be won by carrying always in the mind, even when in the midst of conflict and contention, thoughts of kindness and love to all. When you send out thoughts of good will and charity to others you receive in return influences of the same nature. If this be continued throughout life, every step taken will be aided and directed by the powers and principalities which govern the universe, whether we believe it or not.

Spiritual harmony in one's own organization produces an easy, perfect rhythm of harmony in all we have to deal with and opens the road to success, while the man who is full of the spirit of combat may be certain that he will be forced to fight every inch of the way. We frequently arouse in others the thoughts we cherish in ourselves, even though such thoughts are not native to them.

Physical Man Must Be the Foundation for Success

Firmly fix in your mind the eternal truth that success depends upon you alone and then proceed to work to bring about the conditions which will bring success in the particular field of endeavor to which you are devoted, and you will assuredly win it, only be certain that you do not sacrifice the greater for the lesser.

Cultivate enthusiasm for your chosen pursuit. If there is no real love for the work that you are doing, you cannot hope for a perfect mastery of it. Enthusiasm makes the driest details of labor attractive and inspires confidence and hope. The quality of romance or enthusiasm is a stimulus to the mind which leads one

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to do his best, and it should be cultivated, as it was implanted in the mind for a wise purpose.

By far the best training for ultimate success is to be found in experience born of successive failures; no failure is final which does not break the spirit and turn the desires away from the goal. Failure in one instance should merely serve to warn in the future how to avoid the mistakes which led to it and serve as a guide to future success. There is no failure for him who never despairs and is ever ready to try again with greater determination than ever before. Not until a man knows by experience the strength of the opposition which he must overcome is he able to muster his own forces and lay his plans in such a way that he will win in the end.

Why be content to bow the head and meekly acknowledge that the force of your environment is too strong for you to overcome? Why spend day after day, year after year, in complaining of your hard lot? The discontented man is ever an easy prey to ill health and vicious influences. Be up and resolve to win your rightful place in life and realize your own conception of what life should be here and now. Cease your inertia and stop cringing like a slave; resolve to conquer and you will become the conqueror.

The physical man must ever be the foundation upon which to build and develop the successful man, and as his intellectual powers develop he will have the knowledge to discriminate and know. But not until we recognize that man has an emotional and affectionate nature do we hold the key to the situation. Man needs something more than food for the physical and emotion for the intellectual nature; he has deep down in his heart a ceaseless craving to love and be loved, and when he is working for the things he loves, *the things which the Soul alone can know*, he puts forth his best efforts. The Secret Schools base their philosophy and training on the requirements of the threefold nature of man: body, mind and Soul, and seek to develop all three natures harmoniously. The spirit is always ready for its influx; the rest must be prepared.

ADDENDUM

The terms embodied throughout the text of these Monographs, such as *Occult Science, Arcane Science, Alchemy, Soul Science, Hermetic Science and Mysticism*, are virtually synonymous and are used interchangeably, referring to the same process in different degrees or stages. Likewise is this true with such appellations as *the Hermetic School, the Arcane School, the August Fraternity* and the *Rosicrucian Order*, as these refer to the *source* of the teachings and of which the Masters were Initiates.

The ideals which motivate such training are clearly indicated throughout the text. For those who sincerely and earnestly seek the true Wisdom taught through the Occult Arcanum, the Door will open if they but *knock* and *are insistent on their admission*.

A beautiful Monograph, "*The Secret School*," has as its subject the Rosicrucians and their work, and another, the "*Confederation of Initiates*," suggests the nature of the training in the Higher Occult of the Æth Priesthood. Either of these brochures will provide a contact for the sincere aspirant with those who will direct him to the Path of Higher Attainment. Upon request, copies of one or both of the Monographs will be forwarded.

The key to admittance to Hermetic Science has always been: "I am willing and eager to begin." Let this desire be manifest by those who apply.

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