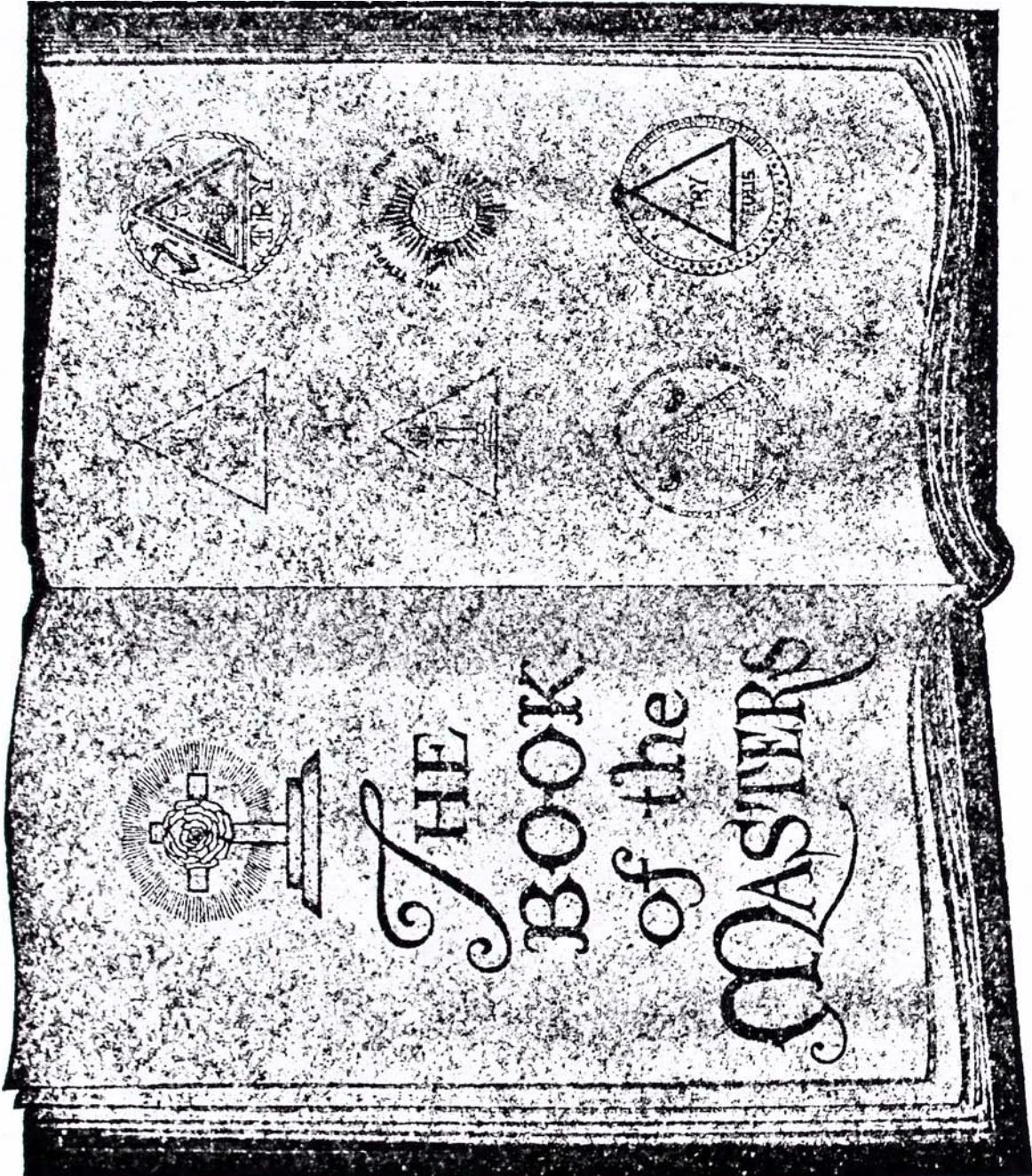


THE
GATEWAY
into the
AUGUST FRATERNITY



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From the Master Teacher To His Neophyte



You have enrolled in the Oldest *Arcane* Fraternity in existence today. We can easily trace our lineage from India to Egypt, from Egypt to the Essenes, then the Gnostics, and to the *August Fraternity*.

Study these recommendations well until they are burned upon your memory in letters of fire:

By enrolling you have set yourself entirely apart from your fellow men, though you still remain part and parcel of them. The identical Laws which bind them also constrain you. The difference is this: YOU ARE SEEKING FOR THE TRUTH, YOUR SOUL, FREEDOM FROM BONDAGE.

You differ from others in that you accept the *Divine Law*, having taken the solemn Vow, you will not be free from it until you have fulfilled the Law, to yourself, your God and your fellow man.

This is the Mystery. Almost from the beginning of formal churchism and throughout the centuries, the

THE GATEWAY INTO

emphasis has not been on what men should *do*, but what they should believe. Furthermore, all the effort has been to *convert their fellow man INSTEAD OF THEMSELVES*. This has meant universal interference with the Will and the freedom of men, setting up defiance, ill will and revolt.

YOU ARE BOUND BY A NEW LAW. That Law is that you MUST make a new life for yourself. You will become your own savior and your salvation will be in changing the carnal passions into Godly ones.

You will LEARN TO BE CONSCIOUS that *within* yourself is the *Christos* who, AWAKENED AND BROUGHT INTO CONSCIOUSNESS WILL BE YOUR LORD AND MASTER. The animalistic forces that have held you in bondage to all the world will be TRANSMUTED BY YOUR WILL AND DESIRES, AND BRING YOU THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN—that is, ALL THAT IS DESIRABLE AND TO YOUR BENEFIT.

IT IS FOLLY TO ATTEMPT TO CHANGE OTHERS

No more will you try to change others because you will recognize that they have the same opportunities you have, the same freedom of action, the same Free Will. Your duty is to *yourself* and to prevent others from interfering with your actions so long as that action is not to their detriment.

You will not interfere with others in their habits, their policies, their business and, above all, not in their religion and religious practice. You will not permit either friend or

foe, either loved one or enemy, to interfere with your affairs. You will live for yourself and your own Soul's sake, for God and to HELP OTHERS IN THEIR NEED.

Having enrolled for the *Great Work* of the *August Fraternity*, you have decided that life as you have known it, conditions you have had to meet, are not the type you would choose for yourself and you resolve to change it all by the power of your desire and *efforts*.

You will recognize sanely and sensibly that you, as a Neophyte, will not be able to change environments and circumstances all at once.

A SLOW CONSISTENT DEVELOPMENT ASSURES SUCCESS

You will realize that all progress must necessarily be slow, by a gradual procedure, FELT RATHER THAN MANIFESTED. The first essential is that you become thoroughly conversant with the underlying philosophy of the Work, the *Divine* and Natural Law, and do this as thoroughly as you would subjects were you a student in a first class college. This is to be followed by a REGULAR, SYSTEMATIC PRACTICE necessary to the awakening of the *latent* talents WITHIN YOURSELF.

It demands the arrangement of your affairs, as you would were you attending College, so that you will have certain periods for the practice of methods to develop your now *latent* physical, mental and Spiritual forces. These forces are to be directed in the accomplishment of the work, business or profession, you have planned for yourself.

Having gone this far it is of the utmost importance that you keep in mind the Master Teacher's command:

"No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is FIT FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD."—*Luke 9:62.*

In these few words are contained the Law and the Prophets; the Law which has governed the actions of those Neophytes who entered the *August Fraternity* and achieved ultimate success and freedom in all affairs of life. They are simple words, spoken by a simple man who had climbed to the highest achievement of which men are capable. If you fail in this one thing, which, simply stated is: REGULARITY IN YOUR EFFORTS, PERMITTING NO INTERFERENCE EXCEPT FOR DUTY, you will have failed in everything.

If you attended College you would not dare to permit friends, foes, loved ones or family to interfere with your study periods. There is no excuse for you to permit them to interfere with your present efforts. You may not be arbitrary in your actions. You must proceed calmly, slowly, silently and without the "blare of trumpets"—*i.e.*, much talking.

EXCUSES ARE THE DEVIL'S INVENTION

Consider the statement of *Luke* further and realize its implications as it concerns every one. What would happen to the student in music, or singing, if he or she made the excuse that they were unable to practice because someone interfered. Having let go of the "plow," would they become artists of world renown?

This, the work you have entered, is of the Soul. As such it is Work of God, because your Spirit, your Soul, came from God with a *mission and an obligation*. It is still in mortgage to God and will not be yours, you will not be free, until such time as you have fulfilled the Law. To fail, is to fail God, and this is to bring upon you the greater penalty, because **YOU CAN SUCCEED IF YOU WILL**. You have inherited in total all that is essential to reaching the **HIGHEST ON ALL PLANES OF BEING, THE PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL, AS WELL AS THE SPIRITUAL**. If you will "follow through," on the advantage given you, then it is certain you will succeed.

Referring again to "putting your hand to the plow," this cannot be understood too thoroughly. If your desire was to become a Physician, a Minister or an Attorney, it would require you to attend College day after day for years. It would require you to study day and night. It would take you away from family, and friends. It would prevent you from engaging in any business or occupation, and in the end you would NOT achieve as great a status as you will if you will follow through until Initiation or Soul Consciousness is attained.

The *Great Work* demands a short period each day for study and practice. This should not conflict with duty nor sever you from friends, relatives, business or occupation. By obedience to the *Divine Law* you will be able, in addition to your Spiritual attainment, to succeed in your worldly affairs beyond any and all ordinary expectations.

This demands of course, that your mind be single. You must follow the straight and narrow path, Biblically and Occultly speaking, inferring that your studies must be ALONG

A SINGLE LINE. You may not mix your studies with the teachings of any other than the chosen one.

This is NOT an arbitrary rule, but it is based on sound practice. If you were to attend a Medical College or a Seminary for religious training, you would not be permitted to study the texts of another school. Why not? Because being different in theory, though perhaps just as true, it would result in confusion, and you would soon be unable to judge what is right. As a result of this confusion you would lose faith. Confidence would be lost, and both faith and confidence are essential to success.

"LET THINE EYES BE SINGLE"

It is not basically a question of WHO is right or who is wrong, or who is most nearly correct, but of agreement. No two persons, though of equal training and attainment, will see eye to eye; to teach the philosophy in the same words. Reading the writings of two persons would be to be confronted by two concepts. Shortly the question would arise in your mind: Which is right? Even though both might be right, but stating the principles differently. Failure would be the result of this doubt and questioning. The *Arcane* commands: "Let thine eye be single."

A Spanish philosopher has said:

"One must have an iron Will¹, a superior Spirit² and be unshackled from the tenacles of others so as to be free from the fear of ridicule or discouragement."

¹ This might be well, but it is not necessarily true to begin with. If you have the right Spirit (desire) then however deep the barbs

TRANSMUTE THE UNDESIRABLE INTO THE DESIRABLE

Change, *Arcanely* known as *Transmutation*, is the art of the Alchemists and Occultists. In the *Great Work*, when ill thoughts arise, such as hatred, bitterness, malice, resentment and jealousy, they must be acted upon immediately, changing them into desires for Spiritual achievement. Time and effort may be necessary to accomplish this, but it is part of the *Work*.

Improvement and advancement in the *Great Work* can in part be measured by the ability to meet undesirable experiences calmly, by the ability to meet and transmute the hates, passions, resentment, disappointments, failures, ill-feeling and all carnal thoughts and desires into **FEELINGS OF GOOD WILL AND THE DESIRE FOR GREATER ADVANCEMENT.** These changes also bring to the fore a different personality, one that **DRAWS OTHERS TO YOU AND HELPS TO ASSURE SUCCESS IN ANY FIELD IN WHICH YOU MAY BE ENGAGED.** Enemies become friends; abhorrence changes into respect.

In the Climb upwards it is certain, aye, necessary, that many discouraging factors are confronted, and it will appear that as each problem is solved, another presents itself. The climb upwards is like climbing a

of ridicule might sink, you will be able to build such a Will, and it will be the key to success in all affairs of life.

² This superior Spirit is the *keen* desire, such as was manifested by a Lincoln and an Edison. With such desire, nothing will be able to successfully stand in the way of material or Spiritual success. **WHATEVER THOU WILT TO DO, THAT SHALT THOU BE ABLE TO DO!**

ladder or staircase. To reach the top, one *must* climb one step or one rung at a time. This is the Biblical climb to the Divine.

Mistakes rightly accepted, are ALWAYS stepping stones to success, and NOT A CAUSE FOR DISAPPOINTMENT. Lincoln failed thirteen times, but was wise enough to examine each failure, find the CAUSE, and avoid it in the next effort. *Man cannot fail who truly tries and keeps on trying.*

There is so much more reason for success *within* man as a part of his destiny, than there is reason for failure, that failure is *impossible* for one who continues to TRY. This is Illustrated in the motto of the Rosy Cross: "Try and try again, again and again and you will succeed at last."

One of the great Laws that even those on the Path would like to evade, but which brings benefits otherwise impossible, is *that the greater the difficulties met and overcome, the more important will be the benefits or returns received.* The Divine Law clearly assures us of this. The Immortals prove it. Read the history of the truly great who became such because of their sterling honesty and manhood, their willingness to meet all conditions, however heart breaking, and you will have the proof.

FAILURE IS OFTEN THE STEPPING STONE TO SUCCESS

Edison failed one hundred times in the invention of the electric light. Instead of being discouraged, he used the

failure as a field of exploration, seeking the cause of each failure, and avoiding it in the next experiment. Discouragement is for the timid or weak. Weaklings never become successful or free men.

Problems are *essential to achievement*. They try the strength and the calibre of the person. When accepted in the right spirit, they build strength for greater trials and future success. Accept each problem willingly, and with alacrity, and in the spirit that the prizefighter meets the sparring partner; the football player the opponent. *That is the Spirit of achievement and directly affects the physical self, the mind and the Soul.*

Learn to recognize and evaluate conditions and circumstances calmly and logically; NOT emotionally, and then like the contractor viewing the mountain to be removed, *proceed calmly to the task.*

Love is the Key to all real success in every avenue of achievement. In the past those who LOVED WHAT THEY WERE DOING, WERE WILLING TO DIE FOR IT IF NECESSARY. Nothing else mattered to them. These thought little of compensation. They frequently were willing to work without remuneration, asking only that they might be permitted to continue with their efforts on the work they were engaged in. *With love in the heart for a work to be done, it becomes a pleasure.* Without that love simple tasks become drudgery. Learn to love your work, *whatever it may*

be, do it with all your might and to the best of your ability, and the LAW WILL SOON PROVIDE YOU WITH A BETTER FIELD OF ACTIVITY.

Failure to succeed in any effort, irrespective of what it may be, all too frequently is due to lack of preparation and application. It is often an unwillingness to be REGULAR IN WHAT MUST BE DONE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW. This is due to instability of character—a mercurious temperament the Alchemists said. It is a mental attitude that must be corrected if you are its victim.

ABSTINENCE

Abstinence in act, desirable as it is, is useless in Spiritual development UNLESS IT IS ACCOMPANIED BY ABSTINENCE IN THOUGHT AND DESIRE. The Nazarene made this most plain in his statement: "He who looks upon woman with lust in his heart HAS ALREADY COMMITTED LUST."—*Math. 5:28.*

Substitute any other word for lust and IT WILL BE EQUALLY TRUE.

THE INFLUENCES OF THE SPHERES

Always bear in mind that whenever you permit yourself TO THINK UNKIND, VICIOUS, DEGRADING THOUGHTS, THE INFLUENCE OF THE SPIRITUAL SPHERES WILL BE LOCKED OUT, NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, PRAY OR WHAT MANTRAMS YOU REPEAT. The Spiritual beings will KNOW what you THINK

AND FEEL, AS WELL AS WHAT YOU SAY. It is of utmost importance that you ever bear this in mind in making your efforts toward the goal.

UNDERSTANDING

In developing understanding, so essential to all success, you will gradually learn to distinguish quickly when you make a mistake and why you made it. Likewise you will recognize how to avoid mistakes by acting differently. Always be *frank with yourself* and freely admit to yourself when you are guilty of error, as also the whyfore of it. Gradually the Subconscious will warn you when knowingly or unknowingly you are about to make a mistake.

A MIGHTY LAW

It is a part of the fundamental philosophy of the *Great Work* of the *August Fraternity* that whatever you can conceive in mind or imagination, you will have the capability and the power to achieve or bring into manifestation, *providing* the DESIRE TO DO SO IS STRONG ENOUGH TO AROUSE YOUR WILL TO MAKE THE NECESSARY EFFORT, AND CONSISTENTLY REFUSE TO PERMIT ANYTHING TO INTERFERE. This offers you the secret of success in any avenue of activity.

IMPATIENCE

All progress should be by a slow, gradual procedure. The first essential being that you become thoroughly conversant with the underlying philosophy of the work, and the Laws

of operation. You should be as thoroughly informed on the subject as the student in College who is prepared to write the necessary thesis. This is then to be followed by a regular, systematic practice essential to the awakening of the latent forces **WITHIN** you, it being assumed that you **KNOW** just what you seek to become or achieve. This likewise includes the arrangement of your affairs so that you will have a certain free period for those practices which **WILL**, if faithfully carried out, develop your mental and Spiritual forces, and their direction in the accomplishment of the work you have planned for yourself.

Having proceeded thus far, it is of utmost importance that you keep in mind the Master Teacher's command already stated but of importance to repeat:

"No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, [halting or permitting something to interfere] is **FIT** for the kingdom of God."—*Luke 9:62.*

In these few words are contained the Law. They are simple words, easily understood. If you fail in this one thing, all else that follows will work toward failure, and you alone will be to blame.

OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE

The Soul, **YOUR** Soul, being *feminine* (the *Divine Sophia*) demands **REGULAR**, though not constant devotion, except in case of duty. Woman-like, she **KNOWS** and will accept no excuse. She is just, and does not demand the impossible from you, but she will not be neglected for the lesser of your interests.

ACCOUNTING TO YOURSELF

Each evening devote some little time giving an account of your day's activity to yourself. Analyze your actions of the day. Ask yourself the questions:

Did I do anything today of which I am not proud?
Did I do anything that was dishonest? Why?
Did I do my best in the position I am in?
Did I do anything that I would not want my friends,
my wife, my loved children to know?
What direction did my thoughts and desires take?
Did I weaken in my objects in life?

Question yourself daily: Have I been guilty of any thought or act that one seeking to become an Initiate should not do, that was not done by those who became Soul Conscious. Have my actions been such as to make of me a light for others to follow?

As you question yourself, remember that THOSE SPIRITUAL FORCES WHICH YOU MUST HAVE TO HELP YOU AND WHICH YOU WILL LATER (gradually) CONTACT, KNOW EVERYTHING YOU THINK, DESIRE AND DO (even if you were *not* engaged in the *Work*), and will credit or debit you accordingly. Remember likewise, that it pays to be honest, the REACTION of acts compensate you fully for righteousness sake or demanding of you payment "to the utmost farthing."

ALWAYS EXPECT THE BEST

It is essential that in all things you look for, and expect *only* the best. If in need of anything for yourself, or family if

married, and there is need of a thing NEVER LOOK FOR HOW CHEAPLY YOU CAN OBTAIN IT. To do so is to attract to yourself those forces which will DRAW TO YOU ALWAYS THE LESS DESIRABLE. If there is something needed, *buy the best you possibly can*. If there is no actual immediate need, WAIT UNTIL YOU CAN BUY THE BEST, though possibly not the costliest. *This is the Law to opulence.*

OBLIGATIONS

Do not ever obligate yourself to anything, no matter what it may be, unless you FEEL that you will be able to meet the obligation. If you should find later that you cannot do so, do not wait until the last moment, but as soon as you know, consult those to whom you are obligated, and explain (*never make excuses*) the conditions and circumstances and come to a fair, honest agreement. Do not, however, permit yourself to be imposed upon. This includes making your reports in the *Great Work*.

DO NOT BE A BRAGGARD

Never brag, be overbearing in your attitude, or attempt to appear what you are not. Do not try to seemingly be better than anyone else. Let your efforts and calm demeanor impress others rather than your words. Do not, in common parlance, be a "show off," as that will impress no one. BE YOURSELF and even so, be reserved.

ARGUMENTS

Never engage in arguments, more especially not in relation to religion, politics, philosophy, or Spiritual things.

Remember always: He who talks does *not* know; He who KNOWS, WILL NOT TALK. Discussions between those seriously interested may be of benefit, but even then, do not be impressed by what they think, or what they claim to know. They may not be of your grade of development, and what they know by experience may be, not at all suitable upon your plane.

BE NEUTRAL

Learn to be neutral, in thought and feeling, in order that you will not be affected by anything people may do or say. This requires that you learn to more or less live WITHIN yourself, yet not allow yourself to become anti-social or an introvert.

DO NOT BE RADICAL IN ANYTHING

Any changes you make should be done in a way that you can give yourself a logical reason for doing so. Do not offend by rendering judgment or because it does not agree with your opinions. Remember that each one has free Will and *a right to his own beliefs and opinions*. To try to change such opinions is to confirm them. Proceed slowly and diligently in all things you do for yourself that it may be within reason, and in the process of rebuilding your human structure. **BE A REASONABLE PERSON, BOTH WITH YOURSELF AND IN DEALING WITH OTHERS.**

LABOR – EFFORT

Whatever be your station in life at the moment, get away from the erroneous and destructive idea that manual

labor is a curse. Labor (hard work) is the FATHER of health and well-being. Unless there is sufficient effort either as a result of exercise or labor during the day to become TIRED OF BODY, there will be lack of preparation for sound sleep so essential for the reconstruction necessary to health. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

THE MIGHTIEST OF ALL LAWS

Only those will fully accept it who earnestly seek to become Soul Conscious Initiates, members of the August Fraternity, and of the select of the New Dispensation.

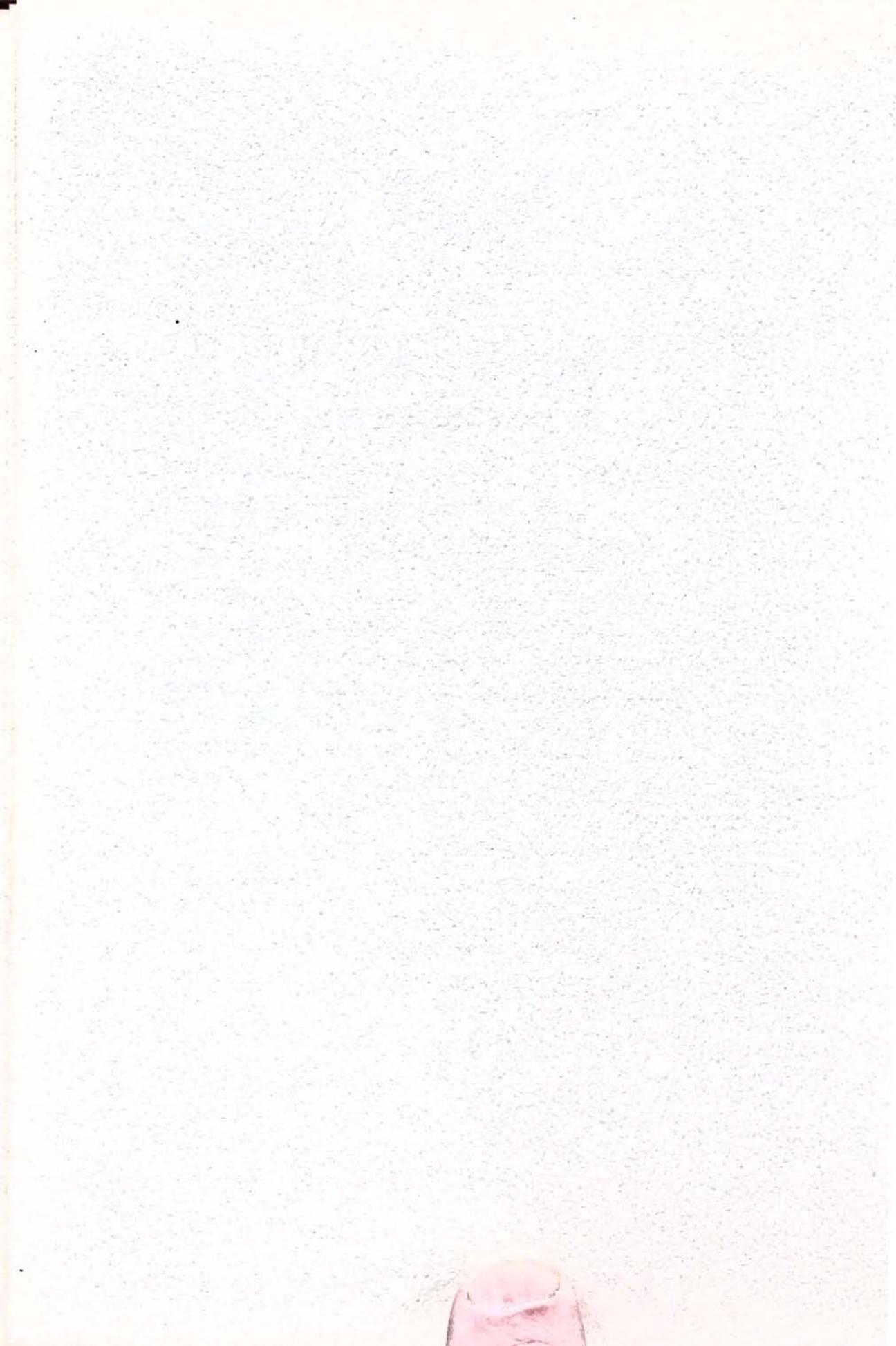
The Nazarene's statement: "As ye sow, so shall ye reap," is so simple that only the very few become conscious of its universal application and its positivity. Stated differently: YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE ONLY THAT WHICH YOU PAY OR EXCHANGE FOR. YOU MUST PAY FOR EVERYTHING YOU SEEK OR OBTAIN. The more ready you are to give, or exchange for that which you desire, BE THIS SPIRITUAL OR MATERIAL, *the quicker you will receive it, and the greater good it will do you.* If you desire something, NEVER falsely make the excuse that you cannot afford it, when in truth you possess the wherewith to obtain it. If you do, you FALSIFY THE SPIRIT THAT IS THE REAL YOU; YOU BLIND YOURSELF WITH THE IDEA THAT YOU CAN MISLEAD THE SPIRITUAL BEINGS WHO ALONE CAN HELP YOU IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE, MORE ESPECIALLY THE SPIRITUAL. "Bread cast upon the waters, etc.," *the*

more you give to that which the heart seeks, the more you will receive in exchange.

Study this time and time again until it is finally impressed upon your consciousness wherein is hidden the *Christos*.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

By enrolling—and you did so—otherwise you would not possess this text—you have assumed the greatest responsibility of which the human creature is capable. It is the OBLIGATION that you, created in the image of God, given all potentialities of a god and the ability to become an Initiate, will follow all instructions to the best of your ability, because it will enable you, by your own humble efforts, to attain the highest achievement any human Soul can reach, and to help you to find that Kingdom of God which offers you God's highest gift—PEACE—a gift beyond compare and WITHOUT THE SACRIFICE OF A SINGLE THING THAT IS TO YOUR BENEFIT.



Education—The Foundation of True Success

"And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man which built his house upon the sand:

"And the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."—*Matt. 7:26-27.*

EDUCATION, A THOROUGH UNDERSTANDING OF THAT WHICH YOU DESIRE TO ACCOMPLISH, OR BY MEANS OF WHICH YOU SEEK TO ACHIEVE, IS ESSENTIAL TO YOUR SUCCESS.

One of the most successful of all systems of education was that which Lincoln's teacher followed. This is a method which has never been improved upon and which you as a Neophyte SHOULD follow in your study of the *Great Work* in order that you may attain the highest from every point of view: physical, mental and Spiritual.

This method is outlined in a book lately issued and entitled **LINCOLN'S TEACHER**, by Kunigunde Duncan, Advance Publishing Co., Great Barrington, Mass. Our excerpts or outline from it are not always verbatim.

THE GATEWAY INTO IN LINCOLN'S TIME

The method followed by Mentor Graham, Lincoln's teacher, was more or less in vogue in all schools of the period. It was during this period that the greatest men, whether in the little red or log school houses, received their education. Writers, public speakers and Statesmen were the result of the system. You, a Neophyte who has entered the *Great Work*, can do no better than follow the plan in your study of the text books and the lessons, so that you will be thoroughly conversant with the philosophy. Your first text books should be SOUL CONSCIOUSNESS and the present work.

FOLLOW THE WISE MAN

None but the foolish would attempt to build a mansion or a palace upon the sand. The wise man will build a firm foundation. You, if you are wise, will do likewise. The foundation for your Spiritual edifice should be a thorough knowledge of the subject, lest you become bewildered and fail. The method of your study should be IDENTICAL with that employed by Mentor Graham:

"First, open your book and read the first sentence of the lesson. Now shut your book and in mind—without pronouncing any words, either aloud or silent—tell yourself what that sentence meant.¹

¹ You should follow this procedure not only in the study of the lessons of instructions, but of the texts, including the present, also. By doing this the knowledge gained is built on FIRM GROUND—the impression upon the Conscious which in time will Subconsciously direct you in your action away from the weakening, undesirable and debasing; acting as an Angel of Light to you.

"Do the same with *each* sentence until you have completed the first paragraph. Then tell yourself what the paragraph means.²

"Open your book, and reread the paragraph, one sentence AT A TIME to see if you have all of it. If you missed something or if it is not clear to you, find out what it is. Study until you understand the entire paragraph or sentence. Finish the assignment, paragraph by paragraph, in this fashion. Then read the entire lesson from start to finish and explain to yourself what it all means. Then read it again to see if you missed anything, and what that was, and then tell yourself what the entire assignment means—ALL OF IT."

Undoubtedly you who read this have a better education than had Lincoln, and it may not be as difficult for you as it was for him. Always bear in mind WHAT HE HAD TO DO AND WHAT HE ACCOMPLISHED. Rest in the assurance that in your choice for achievement of attainment you will have a much greater opportunity to succeed than he had if you will follow in his footsteps in the gaining of the essential knowledge necessary for your accomplishment.

THE BASIC PHILOSOPHY

The ultimate has in view that you change your per-

² This requires analysis of what you have read and how it may be directed in your efforts toward improving your daily activities, as well as Spiritual indications to be followed, all essential toward success in the *Great Work*.

sonality with all its weaknesses which *draw you* to failure. You are now to attain to INDIVIDUALIZATION, which is just another term for godhood. The individual is one who has, *by desire and effort*, freed himself of his weaknesses and passions, and replaced them with strength and courage, and has BECOME THE MASTER OF HIMSELF AND THE SLAVE OF NONE. In accomplishing this task you will replace every passion by an ability, uppermost of which will be the ability of doing as did Michaelangelo in that which he most desired. Admittedly, this is no mean task, but again you need not accept the Occult concept for confirmation, but refer to the Biblical story of the "talents" which assure you that you were born with an *innate*, THOUGH UNDEVELOPED ABILITY TO ACHIEVE THAT FOR WHICH YOU FIND LOVE WITHIN YOUR INNER SELF.

Men have suffered all the evils of the REACTIONS of the carnal nature. This is because they lacked KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH, the ETERNAL VERITY. This truth which is also the *Divine Law* as well as the Natural Law, is not readily found because, for untold centuries falsehoods HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED UPON THE MIND OF MAN INSTEAD OF TRUTH. You must begin by first living up to one of the things you FEEL is RIGHT, because in its REACTION there is no accusation of conscience. To the first obedience of the Law is added a second, then a third, and thence *ad infinitum*.

As you proceed in this change of life's activity, if you are not wise and talk too much of what you are about, there may be sneers, perhaps villification and even persecution. You will remember the promise that "he who suffers for my sake [that of righteousness] will be repaid manyfold," by reason

of the REACTION of the Law as the result of wisely acting, as also the feeling of moral and Spiritual strength and well-being. Step by step the "ladder to heaven" is climbed until your weaknesses as a novice have been overcome and you are as one of the "select."

THE MYSTERY WITHIN YOURSELF

The *Divine* and Natural Laws you may learn from the texts, but the knowledge—the KNOWING—can come to you only from WITHIN the self; from the SUBCONSCIOUS where all the knowledge gained throughout the ages *is stored to be drawn upon* as you progress in your development and prepare yourself for it.

"Seek ye within." Yes, within yourself you will find that which was hidden from the angels and can be yours only by *trying*. A price MUST BE paid. This is true in all things, even for the things that destroy the Soul. One offers eternal peace, including that which we know as happiness, while the other degrades, leading to Gehenna with all its horrors and the universal suffering and afflictions of mankind, all because man is unwilling to obey the Law which governs him WHETHER HE WILL OR NOT.

This state of being, fortunately while selective, is not arbitrary. It IS selective, as selective as the tree of the fruit it bears. It is ACCORDED TO THOSE WHO COMPLY WITH THE LAW. This Law demands that you change the thoughts, desires and actions which are *not* conducive to your welfare or that of others, until you come within the action of the Law and "bear" the "fruit" for which you were originally ordained.

THE GATEWAY INTO AROUSE THE SLEEPING GIANT

The Spiritual forces, or forces of the Spirit of the eternal are never for those who refuse to recognize and abide with the *Divine Law*. This Law is not selective as to personality to begin with. You as a person possess Free *Will* with the right of choice. It recognizes only desire, or the aspiration of the *real self*, though this self may still be almost dormant. It does, however, demand: "Arouse that which sleepeth" so that the Spirit which is the Divine Self, may manifest in the sleeper.

Never permit yourself to be misled by the *Will o' the Wisp* or illusion known as happiness. At most the feeling of happiness is only for fleeting moments. Your thought and effort should be for the eternal verity—PEACE. Peace is possible only as a result of a free conscience. A free conscience is possible only by rooting out all that is destructive or degrading in thought and desire; by dealing justly by one's fellow man. The ultimate of man's existence is the peace that begins here on earth NOW, and the first step is found in knowledge. Educating the self in what is right and what is wrong; knowing that any wrong against the SELF OR OTHERS is the destroyer of peace. Biblically and Occultly, peace is "heaven" and simply stated:

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness [peace] and all these things SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.—Matt. 6:33.

A SLEEPING GOD WITHIN YOUR SOUL

There is another enlightening statement in the Scriptures that has much to do with your ultimate goal—peace:

"Behold, the Kingdom of God is **WITHIN** you."—
Luke 17:21.

This is the same truth differently stated: God is eternal peace. God cannot dwell *within* your being until *you* first find the Kingdom of God. That kingdom is a free conscience, a state of peace, and that peace may be present even when you are persecuted, tortured or shunned by your fellow men. Where there is peace **THERE ALSO IS GOD.** God dwells *within* the Soul that has found peace.

Another potent thought connected with this Law: "Man was created in the Image of God," but man does not symbolize God until he has found the kingdom. Then man also has *become* the Son of God, knowing good and evil, having experienced both, and having overcome evil.

To add a mundane note to this sublime subject, this freeing of the conscience and finding peace is also *the way* to success in all phases of life. It is said that Lincoln made the remark that:

"God is with me when I do His Will, and there is no evil in me, my conscience is free."

Whether or not Lincoln said this, it is based on a truth that is eternal.

Material success and Spiritual attainment proceed hand in hand if you first seek the kingdom where peace dwells and you are free from an accusing conscience.

YOUR FEELING IS A RELIABLE GUIDE

The illusive something, which will follow in the wake of your efforts to free yourself from the bondage of the flesh

and the carnal self, cannot be uncovered by the mind or the senses. IT MUST BE FELT, and it can be felt only as it becomes a part of your sensing or feeling, a part of your Spiritual, emotional nature.

Feeling is a sensing, and in the ultimate is the *only* REALITY. Your feelings or sensing will at all times place you either in heaven or hell, whatever the physical conditions may be. As a sense of feeling you find yourself in complete peace of mind, or heaven, or suffer the tortures of hell, even though you have all your wants fulfilled. You are more or less now in either one of these states according to the state of your conscience. Conscience stands at the gate of both; the one key opens both doors or gates.

THE LAW MUST ALWAYS GOVERN

In seeking for the ultimate, which will become the immediate in time, bringing you both peace and success in the affairs of life, it is essential that you obey the *Divine Law*. God called this Law into activity at the same time He permitted the first Soul, or *Divine Spark*, part of Himself, to incarnate, and in conjunction with the edict that the *Divine Law* should govern.

Natural Law likewise must be obeyed because they work conjointly. This may appear as a Herculean task, but it DEMANDS ONLY THAT WHICH IN THE ULTIMATE IS TO YOUR BENEFIT. Whether we are willing to admit it or not, we DO GET PAID FOR BEING WHAT IS TERMED "good" and punished BY what is known as evil. You begin with faith as an essential and as an urge to TRY. It is a faith which is accompanied by effort.

This Faith permits you no rest until there is effort; constant effort as part of life's activities, until there is fulfillment of the inborn desire. As an extreme example we can cite Michaelangelo who loved his art so well that he was not happy unless he was wielding his brush. He was happy in doing so though he was both cold and hungry. The result: The world's greatest art and Immortality for himself.

You are held in bondage by your thoughts and this *restricts you to their limits*. By means of the study of the texts of *The Great Work*, and the *actual practice* of the instructions that will be given you as a Neophyte by the *August Fraternity*, new thoughts will come to your mind and these will replace the old. These thoughts will awaken you to new and constructive ideas.

This in turn will give birth to desires of a different nature than those which bound you heretofore. As these desires grow stronger they will be followed by efforts different by far from the former ones; resulting in awakening into a new plane of life and activity. **THIS IS THE PATHWAY TO SUCCESS ON ALL PLANES.** Admittedly this will be cause for travail, because all birth is in pain.

The activities of the new life will be far different than the old, though there may be no outward show of this for a time, with the result that former friends and associates will possibly turn their back on you. This is the price to be paid for advancement. Something, whether good or ill, cannot be had for nothing. The Law is EXCHANGE; but that which is received in turn will be WELL WORTH THE PRICE PAID.

YOUR THREE-FOLD LIFE

The *Great Work* and the *August Fraternity* does not consider you merely a physical being to be born to toil; to suffer and grow old for the mere sake of living. It visions for you a three-fold life, each of a different nature, yet all working in harmony.

First of all, it sees you beginning as a weak creature, buffeted about by many things which control you. It sees your body as a machine that must be perfected in detail and engineered.

Then there is the mind which will require much training so as to coordinate it with the governing Law. This mind, very gradually, will become the engineer of the machine, the body, and direct it just as the trained engineer controls the machine in his charge.

This will not be an easy matter because this mind has formed habits and will not readily respond to direction. Gradually, step by step, the mind will fall in line as a **RESULT OF THE IMPRESSIONS MADE UPON IT BY YOUR STUDY AND PRACTICE**. Then, in harmony with the more controlled body and a mind that responds, the desires become aroused in harmony with the new concepts which the mind accepted. In conjunction with this new state of the mind the Will also comes into play. The body, mind, desire and Will begin to work together in harmony and all in an upward trend.

TRUTH IS RESERVED FOR THOSE WHO ARE READY

This is not a new idea. It is almost as old as is thinking man. The *August Fraternity* existed ages ago in India, then

in Egypt and on down the ages. It has not been necessary for it to change these fundamentals in a single instance, because they are based on the recognition of forces Spiritual in nature, but hidden from all but those who have not as yet entered the gates toward this new life.

The blending of the awakened mind with Spiritual aspirations (desires) will lead you, as it has others, to the ultimate of attainment. You must never forget that your future depends on an inner urge which is Spiritual in nature and therefore unchangeable throughout eternity.

You have heard or read the Biblical injunction: "Do not put new wine into old bottles." You are directly concerned. This new *wine* is the new Spirit which your efforts will awaken *within* you. For lo, how long has it been dormant? With the very first practice of the instructions of the *Great Work*, if YOUR FEELINGS ARE IN THE EFFORT, you will begin to arouse this Spirit and slowly bring it into activity.

This naturally requires the cooperation of the mind because the mind will be the director of your action. It is the *feeling* aroused in you by your effort that will cause the mind to gradually change, take another track as it were, and as a result BOTH mind and the Spirit, or feeling, will begin to function in the newly opened channel.

THE WHOLE MAN MUST BE REGENERATED

This gradual change will also be the beginning of the establishment of the Kingdom of God *within* you. This change is not, as has long been taught, a wholly religious

matter. On the contrary, it includes ALL OF MAN, and ALL THINGS THAT CONCERN HIM. *It is for the whole of yourself.*

It appears to be a simple matter to find the kingdom of heaven, the changing of the body for the new wine. It is simple, but you will soon be confronted with difficulties, once you begin to TRY to control your thoughts. This also is not merely of the mind, but involves the whole of you and you will find all the forces of your carnal nature pitted against you.

The old self, this old wine, is formidable because it is YOURSELF AS YOU NOW ARE, but the "wages of the laborer" that is, the results of EVERY EFFORT, and every sacrifice, will REBUILD THIS OLD SELF, *the old bottle*, and bring you its benefits. Oh, yes, there are sacrifices to be made because it is the giving up of much that you are, and making the replacements.

Once you get into the *Spirit* you will no longer feel that it is a sacrifice, because you will get a vision of what it is to be to have found this kingdom *within*, and to be able to be *living* in it. You will also take notice that whatever occupies your thought, will return measure for measure; measure to overflowing as a REACTION to whatever you are engaged in, be this the most menial of tasks.

WITHIN YOURSELF THERE IS A SLEEPING GIANT

Nothing of this *inner* self can come from the outside, nor be given to you. It is ALREADY PRESENT. All that you do is to arouse the *inner* self, the *Christos*, the God-self placed *within* from the beginning of time.

The beginning of this change *within* yourself will be at the very moment you become conscious that the old thoughts are undesirable and degrading, whether they be of hate, envy, resentment, or any one of the many other DEgenerative thoughts.

BY YOUR DESIRE AND EFFORT YOU REPLACE THE UNDESIRABLE WITH THEIR OPPOSITE. At that very moment you will have sown the "seed" that will in time create the *new* self; bringing into manifestation the being that had been asleep *within*, lo, these many years.

THE OLD SELFISHNESS MUST DIE

It is simple, all so very simple, but because it is so simple it does not make the work any easier. The old self will be constantly on the alert to save its own existence and you must be prepared to do battle. This also is simple because it only requires that you replace the old thoughts with the new constructive, exalting thoughts until the old has been entirely eliminated. You must be on the alert because the old self has long experience and is firmly established, while you are travelling the new route toward a newer, greater self; toward FREEDOM AND SUCCESS ON ALL PLANES.

As this awakening of the new self within you and the elimination of the old takes place, you will be changing the old worldly personal and limited self into an individuality, and this individual is the son of God which has been reborn out of the son of man; the Spiritual self out of the limited mortal self; mortality will have been changed into Immortality.

YOU ARE CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE

The *August Fraternity* has a firm belief in good based on experience and that all of man's attributes called "good" are part of Him, or different manifestations. You, being created in God's image possess all the qualities He possesses, though in lesser degree. These are in embryo. They are in a dormant, unawakened state, soundly asleep, and you live entirely on the husks of physical existence.

The Biblical story of the "talents" indicates this truth clearly, and that all that is necessary for you to reap the "harvest" is to DIG DEEP DOWN WITHIN YOURSELF. BY MEANS OF DESIRE, FORTIFIED BY WILL, YOU AWAKEN THE TALENT OR TALENTS INTO MANIFESTATION. YOU WILL BECOME A CREATOR IN YOUR OWN RIGHT—THE CREATION THE CREATOR INTENDED YOU TO BE. THAT WHICH YOU WILL RECEIVE, OR BECOME, WILL BE IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR DESIRE AND EFFORT. IT IS THEN YOURS BECAUSE YOU HAVE HONESTLY EARNED IT, AND NO MAN, OR NATION OF MEN, CAN TAKE IT FROM YOU.

THE SLEEPING CREATIVE SPIRIT MUST BE AWAKENED

The Father, whom we speak of, but few KNOW, is God the eternal in Spirit. He is the Creator by force of his creation. He does not need mind, nor WILL, desire is the essence of His being as it SHOULD BE OF YOURS, because He is an eternal Creator. Man is not so because he fails to fulfill the Law, THOUGH HE HAS THE DIVINE SPARK OF GOD WITHIN HIMSELF.

This creative Spirit will NEVER AWAKEN OF ITS OWN ACCORD. The mind must first be brought into constructive activity as a result of some experience, to the fact that there is something more to life than mortality and the hate nature. You must awaken to the assurance that you possess something you as yet know not what, and that you have the ABILITY TO AROUSE AND AWAKEN THIS GREATER SOMETHING WITHIN. When this occurs your work actually begins. You, the Neophyte, now stand before the gate, and it is your privilege to *enter in*, and in due time partake of the "Bread" which is a full life here, and Eternal life in the future.

In the texts of the *Great Work* much is written of the greatness of the Initiates of the *August Fraternity* in the time of India and Egypt. While your problems of today, differ greatly from those of that far time, NEITHER THE DIVINE LAW, NOR THE NATURAL LAW, HAVE CHANGED IN ANY INSTANCE.

Your path is not in the slightest different from what it was for the men of long ago. Your body is the same as was theirs, requires exactly the same care, the same nourishment and the same training. Your mind is as was theirs. Your mortal desires are the same. The same stubbornness, conceit and desires, which led towards failure and decay, are present. The same Will that has never been trained toward an upward trend, is yours.

You have an advantage. You may learn from their experiences and begin practically where they left off, but you must make the same beginning in awakening your mind. Your desires must be aimed toward the end sought. You must study the Law that you may apply it in your efforts and

"follow through" by refusing to give up the effort, or be swayed by the influences of others. Just as these of the past were derided by their fellow men, their associates, their families in the beginning, so may it be with you, especially if you talk too much, while the same honors will be yours as were theirs, if you are steadfast in your efforts.

Ever bear in mind that the man who refused to deviate from set principles is always honored even though he be hated. It is truthfully said that Lincoln was the most hated man who ever lived. It is equally true that he was also, still is, the most honored, and even those of his day who saw him only as a stubborn man handed him the laurel.

"I AM THE WAY"

It is said that the *Nazarene* taught: "I am the way, the truth and the life." It would be more in harmony with the Law if this were changed to "I am the truth, the way and the life," because the Neophyte does not enter the "way" until he has become mentally awakened to the existence of a truth that is new to him, a way of life leading away from death and all this implies; to the *new* wine that will be in the new bottle. Some shreds of truth at least must be learned before there is an awakening of the mind to desire; desire to be on the path, and this path followed as it leads into the *new* life and all that it promises.

TRUTH IS OFTEN MOST DIFFICULT TO FIND

Develop a deep yearning for the truth and the **WAY**. This will create a desire to attain, and arouse you to action.

If the desire is intense enough it will arouse a *Spiritual Fire* that will fortify you against the "old devil," your former weaknesses and habits, and those, who, having no knowledge of a different life, will do all they can to distract you, discourage you, and win you away from your newly chosen path. Keep in mind constantly the promises of this new life; vision the GOLD that is at the end of the RAINBOW; *the arising of the once sleeping Spiritual self.*

"I am the way." These are the words that are spoken constantly by the awakening *hidden self* WITHIN to every human being possessed of a Soul. It is the cry of the *Christos*, the Spiritual self seeking to be released that it may truly live, and lead you onward and upward—instead of the dead self leading you downward—to the lower depths of mortal life which offers no more at best than questionable joys and empty honors; possessions that leave you when most needed; passions that corrode the Real self *within*.

THE OLD SELF MUST GIVE WAY TO THE NEW

This Spiritual self once fully aroused *within* cannot remain confined within the old self. It *must* and *will* find outward expression. This expression is first of all a *feeling* of well-being, then the winning of friends, success in your chosen avocation, greatest of all perhaps, the deep respect and affection of your loved one, who perhaps in the beginning of your Novitiate sneered at you for your "peculiar" way, made fun of you because you would not accept anything degrading. You would not cheat in the affairs of life but kept every promise made even though it might be a loss to

yourself, having the *inner assurance that a loss through honesty would return to you tenfold with the addition of blessings in the form of great peace of mind and approval of conscience.*

"Seek ye first the kingdom that is within you," find it by effort, and all things else will be added unto you. This is a promise never repudiated because it is made by the activating, governing Law itself.

FORWARD – EVER FORWARD – TOWARD SUCCESS

This it is also to become one in the New Age, a "selected" one of the citizens of that Dispensation. The path from the moment you enter it is continuous. It is step by step onward and forward from the present into the future, and, as the song would have it: "For evermore." This is the promise of *St. John in Revelation*. For the present, it is the blessing of such a life in the material world, an unexplainable peace, a love that is eternal. The falling away of one you thought a friend, the turning away from one you thought of as a "loved one," all these things will hurt deeply until you become aware that they were not actually real friends, that the love professed was artificial and selfish.

OVERCOMING EVIL BRINGS MASTERSHIP

Finally, the evils of the world in which you live are multitudinous. As you free yourself from the purely temporal, carnal nature, you will *at the same time free yourself from the effects of these worldly evils.*

The evils rampant on the world are no worse than the reflections from THE HEARTS OF MEN. All of them are temporary as are those who give way to them. To become the victim of the carnal is to "be of a few days to be known no more."

Think not evil and you will become a free man, *conscious* free. The most evil things in the world can affect you only to the degree and to the extent that your Spiritual self is not itself free from these carnal things. All evils in as far as you are concerned, are from WITHIN yourself. Your freedom from them MUST likewise come from within yourself, AS THE RESULT OF YOUR DESIRES AND EFFORTS. You ARE what you THINK YOU ARE if you will act ACCORDINGLY. Any bondage or failure IS YOUR OWN WEAVING. Unthread the tie that binds you. This is the *Great Work* of the *August Fraternity*. It will help you to achieve your destiny and become a *Living Soul*.