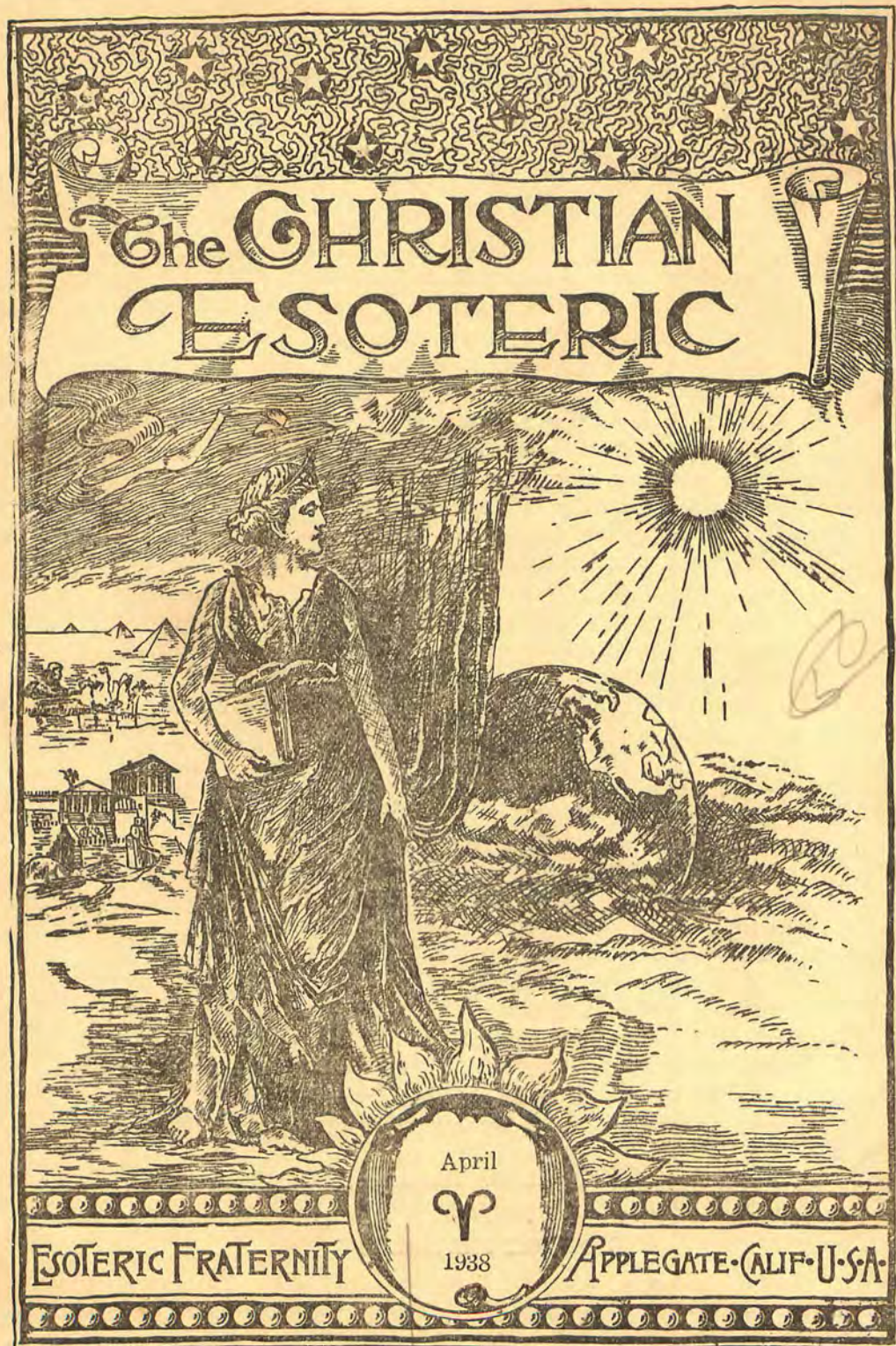


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ESOTERIC FRATERNITY

Vol. XLV of the Esoteric Series

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We recognize the real man to be the conscious, thinking part in us, that is, the "soul," which has two spheres of action and consciousness—one interior and spiritual, the other external and physical. When both spheres of consciousness are obtained, man will understand the use in everything, and will cease from selfish struggle and combat with his fellow, and thus help to bring about a new order of humanity to spread over and to control our earth. We know that there are many who look forward to this goal, and THE CHRISTIAN ESOTERIC is sent out for the purpose of uniting them in a concerted effort to attain it, with the hope that the time will come when these will gather to one center set apart for their education and perfection, so that the highest possible ultimates may be reached. This magazine therefore, together with our other publications, expounds the doctrine and supplies the methods that, if carefully and zealously applied, develop and awaken the faculties of the soul, enabling one to become conscious of the Spirit, wherein is a knowledge of all things necessary for man's use and true well-being.



CHRISTIAN ESOTERIC

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VOLUME XLV OF THE ESOTERIC SERIES

THE CENTER OF ALL TRUTH

BY H. E. BUTLER

THE words, "The center of all Truth" cannot be taken in the absolute, but rather in the finite, or relative to the physical, mental and spiritual world, so far as it affects human life. The revelations given in our Bible, give the key to that center. We read in Genesis i 26, that God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness," then man began to experiment with the workings of God's great nature, and by and thru that experimentation that has been carried on from the beginning to the present, has grown, has developed, mind. That this was the purpose in the mind of God, there can be not the shadow of a doubt. Before going any further let us stop and look around us to see what there is that is real. The best minds of the world have concluded that vibration is the cause of all consciousness; and they have also decided that as the octaves are on the musical scale, so are the octaves of human consciousness.

Now for the sake of helping your imagination, draw two horizontal lines a given distance apart; call one the lowest vibration that human consciousness can cognize,

and call the other the highest vibration that the human mind can take cognizance of. Between these lines is absolutely the whole gamut of human consciousness; by virtue of these vibrations between these two lines there is darkness, there is light, there is cold, there is heat, there is sound, but beyond these limitations there is, to our consciousness, but silence and nothingness. Within these limits is the whole of human mind and consciousness; in other words, all the activity that we know in nature is limited within these two lines. Now if you can elevate yourself, to stand upon an eminence overlooking these lines, at first it will appear that all outside the two lines is blank, nothingness. But can you imagine that within those narrow limits within which you are now able to cognize, is the absolute ultimate of all that is? The higher reason cannot be satisfied with that thought.

We stand upon the earth, we make telescopes, we turn them toward that wonder-world of suns and their systems of worlds, we see those suns with their systems flying thru space with incalculable speed. Why is it that we see them at all?—Is it not because the number of vibrations requisite to produce the sensation of light and reflect it on our consciousness is active in these suns? Does not this suggest to your mind that there may be an infinite number of suns with their systems whose vibrations are above and below the range of our consciousness? and that therefore we know nothing of their existence? We can neither see them, hear them, nor feel them, because all our consciousness is limited by the octaves between these two lines we have drawn. As there is infinite space beyond these lines, so undoubtedly there are outside of and beyond our limited sphere of consciousness suns, worlds and systems of whose glory man has never even dreamed. Having received this expansive thought, boundless in its nature, into our minds, we are now ready to proceed with earth-bound thought.

When God said, "Let us make man," *et cetera*, God was in that higher vibration that the human mind can not cognize; therefore, we can neither see him nor know him with our physical consciousness; but it was His purpose in the order of creation to develop humanity to where the vibrations of their consciousness would reach a height that would enable them to see, to know, and to be conscious of God's own great nature. The race is rapidly approaching that high vibration at the present time, and all that is required fully to reach that high vibration, is for the people to know the methods of life that will harmonize their life-currents with those of their Source, the Infinite. The purpose of the Esoteric Work from its beginning to the present, is to bring before the minds of the people the purpose and methods of God in the creation of the world, and to bring man to a development where he will be conscious of and know God.

You have seen from the reading of the Esoteric literature that generation, labor, sorrow and death were the beginnings of this evolutionary development and unfoldment, and this development and unfoldment, pain, labor, sorrow and death, had a definite object in view which was not simply to multiply the race and fill the earth with its kind, but while this multiplying of the race was going on, mind was being developed, soul-qualities were being refined, and the vibrations of these souls were growing higher and more like their Creator; so that now at the end of the age, at the fulness of the development of the multitudes, there are many souls who are awakening to the realization that generation has done its work—refilled the earth. Those persons who have awakened to this fact, and who are able to rise up in the power of the Everlasting Father and conquer all that belongs to generation, by the retention of all the life that the body and soul are able to indraw and incorporate into themselves (this means the retention of all the vital fluids that heretofore have been used for the creation of children), will have so

increased in them the vibrations of the body and of the soul, that their consciousness will be enabled to pass over these lines of limitation that we have made, and they shall begin to be conscious of God and of those souls that are beyond the limits of these octaves of vibration that now limit our consciousness. Now let us see what these things mean:

Everyone knows that the highest development of manhood is the manifestation of a man who is honorable, kind, wise, just and forgiving in all things and who is able always to manage his own affairs equitably and successfully. Such a one stands on the border line between this world-consciousness and the awakening of the real or spiritual consciousness. No one with ordinary intelligence can be oblivious to the fact that the race of men is growing mentally and spiritually; therefore, if these true noblemen are to go on and to become nobler men, grander and fuller in every respect, and if this development is to go on age after age, infinitely on, what may we expect to find when the soul awakens in that eternal world; or, in other words, what may we expect to find when we have grown large enough, when the vibrations of our consciousness have grown high enough, to pass over the line of the world consciousness into the consciousness of what is now unknown.

Those of you who have been following the instructions in the Esoteric magazine and books are coming up to a point where you will awaken to two most desirable spheres of action and of thought.

The angel in the Revelation said, "And they shall see his face"—because the vibrations of their being have risen high enough to make real to them the very spirit of the Infinite. That which in the churches for thousands of years past has been called "prayer," will cease; and when you feel the absolute need of anything, you will close the consciousness from the old world-vibrations and go into the soul-consciousness to your heavenly Fa-

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ther: while there beholding his face, feeling his great love, you simply will ask for what you need and it will be granted; and when you come back home to earth, you will find that you are in mental touch with those great, grand and noble souls that have past beyond the limitations of earth. You then will walk and talk with men on the earth plane, realizing that they are but babes; and without egotism or self-elevation you will realize that you are a man among men who are worthy of the name, angel-men who have passed on beyond the limited consciousness of an earth-life, and have awakened into a world of consciousness of God, and of his wisdom and his love.

You yourself then will have risen above the earth's confining principles and laws, and will have begun to live in the immortal world, and then will be true of you the words, "Neither can they die any more; for they are equal unto the angels" (Luke xx 36). This is why we have been talking to you in this magazine about the immortality of the body; we have not only been talking to you about it and telling you of its possibilities, but we have been trying to teach you the methods requisite for the attainment of that state; and you who have been following these instructions faithfully and long enough, have reached and crossed the line into that immortal state of consciousness which has laid the foundation for the final step, the attainment of the immortality of the body.

It does not matter what takes place in the earth, what animal-men may do, you, who have reached this state, are not affected by it, for your consciousness now has begun to be one with the consciousness of the "souls of just men made perfect;" and you and they and I, feel our bosoms filling with joy, with love. We feel like saying, "Glory to God! Praise God!" but when we stop to think that he has all the glory, and that to praise him is an insult to divine dignity and honor, we seek, but cannot find, words to send forth on the vibrations of the air the

soul's love and admiration; and we can say only, "We LOVE God," and rejoice in his consciousness, and exclaim with the prophet, "From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs, even glory to the righteous!" (Isa. xxiv 16)—not "glory to God," but "glory to the righteous," for God glorifies his children.*

May divine peace rest upon all those who think and accept the truth. (From Vol. XII, B. R.)

*Whom he foreordained, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified" (Rom. viii 30).



THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY

BY ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

MAN has explored all countries and all lands,
And made his own the secrets of each clime.
Now, ere the world has fully reached its prime,
The oval earth lies compassed with steel bands!
The seas are slaves to ships that touch all strands,
And even the haughty elements sublime
And bold, yield him their secrets for all time,
And speed like lackeys forth at his commands.

Still, tho he search from shore to distant shore,
And no strange realms, no unlocated plains
Are left for his attainment and control,
Yet is there one more kingdom to explore.
Go, know thyself, O man! there yet remains
The undiscovered country of thy soul!

Your manners will depend very much upon the quality of what you frequently think on; for the soul is tinged and colored with the complexion of thought.—Marcus Aurelius.

THE POWERS OF LIGHT

BY HENRY PROCTOR, F. R. S. L., A. V. I.

"If thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light, having no part dark." Our blessed Exemplar demonstrated on the Mount of Transfiguration the truth of this saying when he was transfigured, so that his face shone as the sun and his garments became as white as the light. The light that then became visible to these Apostles was always shining within, even as it is now shining within *all the sons of light* and "children of the day" (II Cor. iii 18; I Thes. v 5).

We have much to learn concerning the Powers of Light. Real Science, which is the handmaid of Divinity, in opposition to pseudo-science, or science falsely so called, is teaching us much of the hidden wonders of the universe in regard to light. We have now for years been familiar with the "X" ray, which penetrates thru the flesh of the body and photographs the bones, and thru the leather of a purse and shows the coins inside. These rays have been of great use to surgeons in locating bullets, or any foreign body in the organism.

But this discovery, great and useful as it is, has been outshone by the later discovery of the ultra red ray which penetrates fog and darkness, so that photographs can be taken without ordinary light. It has lately been used to detect a fraud on the Inland Revenue* which has been going on for years. But the wonders of Light do not end here, for it has been discovered that by intercepting a ray of light doors can be opened. A child can do this: by standing in a beam of light a door is opened in front of him, and closes automatically when he passes out of the light.

What a remarkable illustration this is of walking in the light: As long as we walk in the light the door of heaven is open to us, when we slip back into the darkness

*Great Britain.

it closes. We are no longer in tune with the Infinite when we walk in darkness, nor can any message of ours reach heaven. But if our lives are lived in the Light, as God himself is in the light, we have communion with one another in the light.

But the wonders of light do not end here, for there are powers in light of which we have been hitherto ignorant. A new discovery has been made which proves the fact that the very need of it may be made the cause of supply. The oncoming of a fog or of darkness, will automatically cause electric lights to become illuminant. So the deep feeling of our need of light is the cause of supply when our longing is directed toward God; for "God is Light," and he himself is the supply of all our need. If we have Christ within us who is the light of the world, then we ourselves become lights shining in a dark place, and he can say of us, "Ye are the light of the world."

Light travels at the rate of 186,000 miles a second, the same speed as that of wireless signals; about a million times that of sound. When a speaker broadcasts from London his voice takes longer to travel three feet, from his mouth to the microphone, than it does to travel a further 560 miles to Berlin or to Milan as an electric wave. Wireless listeners in Australia hear the broadcast message sooner than the listener at the back of the Royal Albert Hall, for they hear it a fifteenth part of a second after its utterance.

We see all around us the powers of darkness. Against these we have continually to wage warfare. "For ours is not a struggle against enemies of flesh and blood, but against all the various Powers of Evil, that hold sway in the Darkness around us." And the contest becomes a thousand times more difficult when the Prince of Darkness and his ministers transform or disguise themselves as angels of light.

But the place of safety is in God, who is Light! And

if we live and walk in Love we live and walk in Light. "And the Light shines in the darkness," and the darkness cannot overpower it, but has to flee before it, as all Nature teaches us. If we live and walk in the Light, therefore we shall be more than conquerors, and this means that we *live in Love*. For "he who loves his Brother is always in the Light, and there is nothing within him to cause him to stumble; while he who hates his Brother is in the darkness, and is living in the Darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes" (I John ii 10, 11; 20th Cent. N, T.).



Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease:
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace.

—J. G. Whittier.

INDEED, we are but shadows. We are not endowed with real life; and all that seems most real about us is but the thinnest substance of a dream, *till the heart be touched*. That touch creates us: then we begin *to be*, thereby we are beings of reality and inheritors of Eternity.—Emerson.

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES
(QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

BY ENOCH PENN

SUPERSTITION AND RELIGION

Question.—I have heard the words “superstition” and “religion” all my life, but I have not yet been able to determine clearly the difference between them. The general idea seems to be that a superstition is the religious belief of an ignorant people who are low in the scale of development. But I think that is not necessarily a correct conclusion. The question arises in my mind, Is there a clear line of demarcation between them? Or, can there be a measure of religious truth in a superstitious belief, and a measure of superstition even in the religious beliefs of the highly intelligent? J. Y.

Answer to J. Y.—We are of the opinion that your surmise that there is some truth in the lowest superstition and some error in the highest system of religious belief, is correct. We see this manifested in the fact that some Christian sects consign to eternal condemnation other Christian sects because of a small, even non-essential, difference in doctrinal beliefs.

Because superstitions and religious beliefs are not usually based upon reason and knowledge gained by experience (tho people do reason rather lamely a great deal about them), but almost wholly upon credulity caused by continuous suggestion, especially during childhood, which seems to be the reason that religious beliefs as a rule are so poorly supported by reason.

To our mind a superstitious belief is a belief not based upon fact but upon fancy without knowledge, while a true religious belief is, must be, based upon the facts of natural law, and this, we believe, is the line of demarcation between them.

Since the different religions contradict each other in certain particulars, and even the different sects of the same religion differ, if only in emphasizing different ten-

ets, and since, so far as we are able to find out, not one of them can prove the important points of their teachings, every one who would know the truth is compelled to seek it and find it for himself.

To our mind no religious tenet should receive full credence only as it can be shown to be in harmony with natural law, therefore possible. And in saying "natural law," we mean the laws of that realm to which that thought or tenet pertains, be it a law of this material world, of the psychic realm, or of the Spiritual realm. (In saying this we are not unmindful of the fact that the laws of a lower realm may at times be on occasion held in abeyance by beings of a higher realm. See Daniel iii.)

We assume that every thinker will admit that a statement that is not in harmony with the laws of nature can not be true. This same thing must apply equally to the things of the psychic and Spiritual realms, and this is the same as saying that all truth is based upon law, that only by knowing the law, or laws, pertaining to the thing stated can we know its correctness: and this is the same as saying that a true religion is scientifically accurate, and is almost the same as saying that a true religion consists of living in harmony with natural laws—with the laws of man's being. And since, speaking in general terms, one's religion consists of knowing and doing those things which are pleasing to God, and God's will concerning man is that he should develop a character like unto God's character, and then learn how to control the action of the life in his own body and the action of the life in all other organisms as well, then we see that to develop in himself a Godlike character and learn how to control, and to practice until he can and does control, life in its activities is the religion which the Bible teaches. In doing these things man is doing that which is well-pleasing to God, and that is the only true religion. And when we consider how greatly the teachings and practice of the various religious peoples differ from these fundamentals as declared

at man's creation, we see clearly how far those religions which claim the teachings of the Bible as the basis of their faith and practice have wandered from the truth by accepting for doctrine the traditions of men. All religions deteriorate in time, and this is true of orthodox Christianity, because ambitious men in authority make additions and subtractions to suit their own notions.

Therefore, a knowledge of the natural laws pertaining to religious beliefs becomes a necessary basis of one's faith, otherwise one's "faith" can be but credulity. This is almost the same as saying that "faith" is perfect confidence in the out-working of efforts in harmony with natural laws, while "credulity" is belief without knowledge.

REMITTANCE OF SINS

Question.—I should like to have your opinion about the statement Jesus made to his disciples: "Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted. And whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained." It seems to me that this was placing in their hands the power to condemn to eternal death, or to grant eternal life.

Answer.—Yes, we agree with you that taken as we believe that statement usually is taken, it implies all you say. But we are not willing to accept that explanation.

When Jesus healed a man with dropsy, he said to him, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." This has caused some who understand the term "sin" to mean a wicked wrongdoing against God, to question. But the term "to sin" means in the Greek *to miss*, that is, to try and fail. The failure, or sin, of the man was that he did not keep his life in order; or perhaps it is better to say, that he did not keep his body in order and that the disorder in his life manifested as disease; or to say that by wrong thoughts and emotions the life-activities were disordered until that disorder in the life-forces manifested in the body as disease. This was his sin, his failure, which Jesus

forgave by setting his life-forces in order and thus healing him. Every person who becomes ill has sinned against his own body in that he has failed to keep his life-forces in order.

It could not be that Jesus gave to his disciples the power of eternal life or of eternal death, for "All judgment is to be given into the hands of the son." Christ, the son of God is not yet in existence as a gathered body. For the Christ-body is to be formed of those faithful and successful followers of Jesus who have been anointed sons of God. When his disciples have attained to Divine sonship, and have been gathered together to form God the Son, then, because "all judgment has been given into the hands of the son," his disciples will have the power of life and death, but until that time they may restore or not restore the sick as they will.

If the judgment is to be given to the son, then it is not to be given to his disciples until they have become the son. But the power, or the ability, to heal men of their failures to keep their life-forces in order so as to remain well, was given to the disciples, and was manifested by them in many instances.

Unhappily this statement of Jesus has been used to strengthen the control of the Church over its adherents by implying that eternal life or eternal death was meant by the words. But we have no reason to believe that the disciples had the power to forgive man's moral wickedness, that being a matter of character, and that, we believe, has to be worked out by each individual person. In I John v 16, 17, it is explained that we should not even pray for forgiveness for some kinds of sins on the part of others.

THE GARDEN OF EDEN

Question.—What do you understand to be meant by the statement that Adam was driven out of the Garden of

Eden, since I read in your teachings that the Garden of Eden is a term meaning man's body?

Answer. — Man was created a "living soul." He, the soul, was given a body in and thru which he could be conscious of and function in this material world. The fact that while in the body the soul can become conscious of God, as we read that Adam was, implies that the body is the means whereby the soul attains to a spiritual consciousness. When Adam, thru his mind and his sensations admitted evil into his body with him to that extent he lost control of his body, and lost, as well, his consciousness of Spirit and of spiritual beings. These things imply that the soul is given a body in and thru which to become conscious of Spirit, conscious of God and of the inhabitants of the Spirit-world, and thus to be enabled to enjoy the good of that Spirit-consciousness, which is to enjoy to that extent of the happiness of heaven.

Jesus taught very clearly, tho indirectly, that sicknesses, insanities, and nearly all the ills and evils of the body are caused by the fact that unclean and vicious discarnate souls enter into and control the bodies of men and thru the sensations and the thoughts induced by them cause men to do all manner of wrong, which they otherwise would not do. This fact Paul recognized in his own case when he declared, "the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. . . . when I would do good evil is present with me" (Rom. xii 19, 21). And this shows that when a person admits an evil thought or impulse and acts in accord with it, that discarnate soul which prompted the evil to that extent takes possession of the person's body, and the soul to whom the body rightly belongs thus becomes to a certain extent helplessly dispossessed in proportion as the body is more or less fully controlled by those interloping souls.

While these thoughts are counted by the "intelligent" Christian of to-day as rank superstition, yet they are fundamental truths of the Christian religion, and of the

teachings of the Bible, and those who apply the teachings for the regeneration, the new birth, find these things to be true in their own experience. By following Jesus faithfully they learn to see and to recognize and to know the workings of unclean discarnate souls. Because of these things we reason that man is outside of Eden because he has lost control of his body, and not until man gets control of his body can he hope to return to Eden again.

REFINING THE SENSES

Question.—I have read in your magazine that to retain the seed in the effort to become regenerated will refine the senses and the life, so that one in time becomes conscious of things of which one could not before be conscious. Is this true? And if it is true, will you show us the evidences of it?

Answer.—Yes, it is true. Yet we cannot show you the evidences, but we can tell you of them and let you find out for yourself by experience. For, after all, no matter who has told you anything, you do not know it until you have experienced it.

If you retain in your body the life that is generated by the sex-function, and your mind is active in the desire and effort to know the things pertaining to a spiritual life, after a while (and with some persons it will not be long), you will find that forms, usually of persons, tho they may be of flowers, or they may be of animals or of hideous things, will appear before the mind's eye. You may as say, "I imagined so and so." But if you watch carefully you will see that some of these forms—or "imaginings" you may call them—suddenly appear and as suddenly disappear, and you will then see that they are not your imaginings, but are things outside of yourself, and in time, if you pay attention to these things, you will be able to distinguish between them and your imaginings. Care-

ful observation will then show you that your sense of sight (soul-sight) has become so refined that you begin to see in another realm of being than this material realm.* The ability to see in this other realm is called "clairvoyance." It is a faculty which must be awakened before you can see the angels of God, and have the promise of Jesus come true to you, "The pure in heart shall see God."

At times some of these forms will speak to you, and you will hear what they say coming as thoughts into your mind. If you speak to them mentally, even tho the forms be of the lower orders of animal-life, at times they will answer you, perhaps truly, perhaps falsely. This shows that your sense of hearing has become so refined that you begin to hear in another realm than this material world.

We fancy we hear some one exclaim, "Spiritualism!" No, this is not Spiritualism, yet there is grave danger of being deceived and led astray by these things that are seen and heard, if one is not wise. For some of these forms are evilly inclined and at times try to lead people into evil ways. Because of this we are admonished in the Bible to "try the spirits," and we are informed that any spirit that will not acknowledge Jesus to be the anointed one of God, is not of God, is not a good spirit. In spite of these dangers wherein many will fall, these faculties must be developed before one can communicate with those beings who dwell in the angel-world.

One may say, "What you say is not true, for I know persons who have retained the seed for years, yet they have none of these experiences of which you speak." That may easily be true, for the retained seed in itself appears only to give added ability in whatever direction the attention and efforts may be turned, it may be busi-

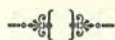
*We would say here that this realm of form to which one opens, is what the Bible calls "the unseen," and is translated "hell," and is called by occultists "the astral." It is the soul-realm.

ness, or it may be in no particular direction, and therefore manifest but little, yet without retaining the seed there cannot be any consciousness of Spirit.

Those who really seek to follow Jesus in the regeneration, and desire to see and know God, and consciously to be with those of the angel-world, will see in time that tho it is well and even necessary at times for them to know many things about the astral realm, with both its good and its evil, yet they will find it best to turn their attention largely away from it toward the things of the Spirit-realm wherein they hope to find a permanent home. Those who continue to seek a knowledge of the Spirit and of its inhabitants will in time become conscious of a light—for the sense of sight becomes more and more refined as the seed is being retained and the heart desires to know God and live in harmony with his character—it is the light of God's presence, for "God is light." And as the sense of sight continues to improve one begins to see in that light shining forms who will come near and may even speak, for the sense of hearing is becoming more refined, so that the thoughts of the angels are heard. And here comes the realization that since all communications with the angel-world are by thought transference, when these angel-forms are near, know that your thoughts are to them as clearly spoken words, and that an evil thought will cause them to disappear, and with them may go the light and leave you in darkness and loneliness. Therefore it now becomes necessary that you get such control of your mind that no evil thought shuts out of your consciousness, Heaven.

So we say that while we cannot show to you the Spiritual verities, yet we can tell you how you can prove them for yourself, if you but live a true and faithful Christian life of chastity and a sincere reaching out to come into conscious touch with the Spirit-world. The fact that only thru a perfectly chaste life can these experiences be had shows that the sex-function is the refining furnace of the

body, and thru its healthy condition and controlled activity as a physical basis, by an attitude of kindly goodwill at all times toward all, one can come into conscious touch and unity with the inhabitants of and live from the life of that interior realm of life and activity, Heaven. It was that men should know and attain to these things that the Bible was written, and to attain to these things is to follow Jesus in the regeneration, and to "take the kingdom of heaven by force."



WHAT DOES "ESOTERIC" MEAN?

WE continue to receive inquiries, as usual, about the word "Esoteric," and the title of this magazine—their meaning, derivation, where found in the Bible, *et cetera*, and altho we have answered these inquiries several times before, we will do so again, for the benefit of those who are new to the Esoteric thought.

The dictionary gives the correct meaning of the word "Esoteric." It refers to that which is hidden—the inner life; also, it implies, the knowledge given only to Initiates. The "Esoteric" teachings are, in our case, the inner teachings of the Christ. The word "Esoteric" is derived from the Greek *Εσω* (Eso) = within; *Εσώτερος* = inner.

Also the meaning includes the thought of the "interior." In other words, our teachings are for the development of the interior man—for the development of one's highest characteristics, or, rather, for the development of the highest characteristics that man and woman are capable of developing. But as a foundation for this development, we believe in beginning with the development of the external man, with the development of the physical body, as the first step, and our little book "Practical

Methods to Insure Success" gives the teachings and the methods for this development.

"THE CHRISTIAN ESOTERIC"

The title of this magazine is derived directly from the Greek, thus:

Χριστιαν (ος) Εσωτερικ (ος)

Christian Esoteric

Acts xix 26, Χριστιαν-ους, Christian-ous, acc. plural.

The word Εσωτερικος is derived from Εσωτερος, *Esoterus*, which is an adjective of three terminations (masculine, feminine and neuter). It occurs in Acts xvi 24 in the *feminine*, Εσωτεραν φυλακην.

inner prison

See also Heb. vi. 19, εσωτερον, *esoteron* (neuter) that which is *within the veil*.

The word "Esoteric" is not used in the New Testament, but Paul refers to meetings for the "teleioi" τελειοι, or perfect ones, "We speak wisdom among the perfect ones," which would mean the *initiates* into the hidden mystery of the Wisdom of God.

The word Εσω is often used in the New Testament, as in Rom. vii 22 κατα τον εσω ανθρωπον

esō anthropon

according to the inner man.

Also in Ephesians iii 16 εις τον (εσω) ανθρωπον

into the (inner) man.

From this the word Εσώτερος in Lecture xxiii, p. 131, "Evolution and Regeneration" is derived.

Εσώτερος, *Esoterus*, inner—refers to the inner meanings of doctrines; but the term used for the title of the Magazine "Εσωτερικ-ος Χριστιαν-ος", Esoteric Christian, is almost *letter for letter with the Greek*, leaving out *ος* which is simply the case-ending—*i. e.* merely a grammatical termination.

The writings of Aristotle are divided into the *Esoter-*

ica, Εσωτερικα and the *Exoterica*, Εξωτερικα. This, of course, is plural.

"Esoteric" is exactly the same word, *letter* for *letter* as Εσωτερικ(ος). We write c for k, and the termination differs according to the meaning.

Nom.	Εσωτερικ-ος	=	Esoteric.
Gen.	ov	= of (or from) "
Dat.	ω	= to (or for) "
Acc.	όν	objective case.



PLANETARY INFLUENCES FOR MARCH

HELIOCENTRIC POSITIONS ARE USED THRUOUT

There is necessarily considerable repetition in stating the planetary influences from month to month, as the larger planets remain in a sign of the zodiac for a considerable time.

URANUS (♅) IN SCORPIO (♏)

Uranus is in the sign Scorpio. As Uranus is the embodiment of the Creative Principle Sensation, which principle is the basis of all consciousness, being in Scorpio turns the attention to the sensations resulting thru the functioning of sex, giving a perception of the, usually ignored, undesirable effects on the body of sexual indulgence or of any loss of vitality thru that function. The perception of these undesirable effects of the loss of vitality will prompt to the restraint of the sex-impulses and give an inclination to chastity.

It will also disincline to express the mind fully, giving a tendency to hide one's thoughts, with the inclination to carry out one's plans in silence and secrecy. These influences will be most perceptible to persons born in the sign Scorpio, from October 23rd to November 22nd of any year, and by persons otherwise qualified by Scorpio. And

particularly now by persons born on or near November 5th.

SATURN (♄) IN LIBRA (♎)

Saturn is now in the sign Libra, and while in the sign Libra all the disturbing influences of Saturn, with its tendency to bring about sudden changes, which have for more than two years affected the lives of all persons born in the sign Virgo, will now be felt in the lives of persons born in the sign Libra, between September 23rd and October 23rd. Those persons born between these dates, and especially those born on or near October 1st, are liable to see sudden and decided changes in their lives and affairs.

Saturn is the embodiment of the Creative Principle Transmutation, which causes changes from one state to another state, which is the reason its influence often brings sudden and complete changes. These changes are just as likely to be for the better as for the worse, altho even changes for the better sometimes cause temporary inconvenience.

While Saturn is in Libra it will tend to improve the mechanical abilities, which will lead to increased improvements in that line. It will increase ideals and visions and the appreciation of the reality of things unseen. It will aid those who seek to improve the domestic and social conditions by giving perceptions of better and higher states relative thereto; but to those who seek simply the enjoyments of the senses it will incline to license rather than to restraint.

JUPITER (♃) IN LEO (♌)

Jupiter is the embodiment of fermentation, and in whatever sign it may be it tends to strengthen the corresponding physical function. At the present time it is in the sign Leo, and it will tend to strengthen the heart, and thus while in that sign it will tend to increase the general health, and the ideals concerning the happiness of loving and of being loved. It will increase the appreciation of music and will give the desire for better and more

refined surroundings, with the impulse to self-culture and the attaining of an improved standard of living.

While Jupiter is in the sign Leo it will bring the Creative Principle Fermentation into play in the lives of all persons born in that sign, between July 22 and August 23, which will manifest in an uneasy restlessness, for no apparent reason; this disturbing influence is especially strong now in the lives of persons born on or near August 6th.

MARS (♂) IN SAGITTARIUS (♐)

Because Mars is the embodiment of the Creative Principle Cohesion, the mother principle, its influence tends to bind and restrain in whatever sphere or department of life it may be operating.

Thruout April Mars will be in the sign Sagittarius, and while in that sign it will strengthen the general impulses and emotions, and increase the parental solicitude for the welfare of children, and will at the same time incline to a more exacting control of children, with some insistence on a show of practical results from children for the advantages that they have had.

EARTH (♁) IN ARIES (♈) AND TAURUS (♉)

The Earth being the embodiment of the Creative Principle Order, its presence in a sign tends to bring an increase of order, and consequent ability, into the lives of all persons who were born while the earth was in that sign.

Until April 20th the earth will be in the sign Aries, and while in that sign it will increase the general mental activity and will give the inclination and the courage to follow along the lines dictated by reason and logic.

On April 20th the earth will enter the sign Taurus, and while in that sign it will turn the attention of the people to their sensations, and will increase the general inclination to live in the enjoyment of the sensations of the body. It will strengthen the brain, brighten the imagination, and strengthen the will, and give an inclination toward a happy outlook on life.

VENUS (♀) IN SCORPIO (♏)SAGITTARIUS (♐)

AND CAPRICORN (♑)

The planet Venus is the embodiment of the Creative Principle Discrimination, and in whatever sign it may be it increases the general discrimination relative to the characteristics of that sign. Discrimination prompts to love and to hate, to positive likes and dislikes.

Until April 11th Venus will be in the sign Scorpio, and while in that sign it will increase the general positiveness and selfwill among the people.

It will increase the love and appreciation for the opposite sex in those persons born in Scorpio, between October 23 and November 23.

On April 11th Venus will enter the sign Sagittarius, and while in that sign it will increase the general love and conjugality, therefore the happiness, of the people. And it will incline to abstract philosophies.

It will increase the love and appreciation of the opposite sex in persons born in the sign Sagittarius, between November 23 and December 22.

On April 29th Venus will enter the sign Capricorn, and while in that sign it will turn the general attention strongly toward business and business plans.

This position of Venus will increase the love and appreciation of the opposite sex in persons born in the sign Capricorn, between December 22 and January 20.

MERCURY IN AQUARIUS (♒), PISCES (♓),

ARIES (♈) AND TAURUS (♉)

Mercury is the embodiment of the Creative Principle Force, and in whatever sign it may be, the corresponding physical function is strengthened and rendered more active.

Until April 6th Mercury will be in Aquarius, and while in that sign it will still maintain the general physical activity and the inclination to business endeavor.

On April 6th Mercury will enter the sign Pisces, and

while in that sign it will add to the general restlessness and dissatisfaction and the desire to travel.

On April 12th Mercury will enter the sign Aries, and while in that sign it will strengthen the brain in thought and study, but will incline to a materialistic outlook.

On April 21st Mercury will enter the sign Taurus, and while in that sign it will incline the people to sensual indulgence; so far as this inclination is restrained it will clear the mentality and strengthen the brain.

A SUMMING UP

The earlier part of the month will give a strong positiveness, with physical and mental activity, with an increased restlessness and dissatisfaction. From about the middle of the month the kindlier influences will manifest and will incline to a brighter outlook.

Thruout the month there will be a strong effort, but not always with the kindest feelings, to better conditions generally.



LIKE the star
That shines afar
Without haste and without rest,
Let each man wheel with steady sway
Round the task that rules the day,
And do his best. —Goethe.

“WERE half the power that fills the world with terror,
Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts,
Given to redeem the mind from error,
There were no need for arsenals or forts.”

—Longfellow.

LETTERS AND ANSWERS

—, Washington.

Esoteric Fraternity:

I shall state exactly what I want, and if you can supply anything, I will be very grateful to hear from you. In your advertisement you mentioned your literature will help one to transmute the vital and magnetic energies in man for supreme achievements. And you sent me a pamphlet on "Sex and Spiritual Development." Now this is the very subject I want more light on. I wrote, in the beginning when I was badly in need of help in this matter, to the —, but they couldn't give any information on the subject. Later I sent to your center and found in this pamphlet on Sex, the very subject that I am now seeking light on.

My problem is this: three years ago, I was connected with a Mystic Brotherhood that promised the elevation of spiritual satisfaction, thru their guidance. I took their study course for a year, after that I had to sign for a degree. This degree was for Seership. When I was taken into this degree the teachings came mostly thru "occult experience," and most of it was directed to my sex-glands and organs.

Having lived a high moral life all my life, and then led into such a thing; this to my human sense was outrageous. Now, can you tell me what I was led into? Was it Sex-worshippers? Sex-perversers or what? Sex has never bothered me much in life; so it was so much more disgusting, having this magnetism directed on my body by unseen influences. They said this development was intended to open the Pineal gland in order for me to become a seer, a healer, a clairvoyant—not to be a medium but to become a Master!—I have always been endowed with great healing-power, and thru this development expected to be of a more excellent service to mankind. Also, I lost my dear beloved husband thru transition. Well, naturally, I hoped to know of his existence. I have been a metaphysical student for 18 years. I have put in my last

25 years in study and in searching for the truth of life. I have reached where I can see only the Universal in all and everything pertaining to life.

Now, can you tell me what I was led into? They told me the Life-forces had been opened up and directed on me! When I got frightened, and telegraphed them for help, they answered that they couldn't help me as it was all from the "Inner Planes." Such an organization!—that only could entice human beings by fine religious talks and is unable to guide and protect their applicants. If I can do no more in this world than to warn and protect the innocent seeker from such traps, I shall count my mission great.

I quit the contact with those fellows, but the contact from the "Inner Planes" has not ceased, but I have developed under it so as to be able to see that which before I could not see.

What I want to know is the exact method how to transmute this magnetic power: I also should like to know how I can in the most safe way, contact my loved ones on the Inner Planes without injury to them or to myself?

I know that things come to me thru "radiations," but I have seen deep shadows and streaks of black on my walls, too. I saw handwriting too, but it was wiped out too fast for me to know what it was. I often see an eye on my bedroom walls gazing at me, the vibration from it is very human, sometimes evil; the eye is in the shadows as if it had been drawn in charcoal. Again, I see a white eye, so beautiful that I could not even tell about it! And many shadowy manifestations; again, others in purest white light. Now what do these things stand for? I know I have an Invisible Master-protector. I call this protector the Christ, Jehovah-God, my Father.

When I signed for this degree of development with this Mystic Brotherhood, I had to state what I wanted this power for. I stated I wanted to be one of the world's greatest healers and also one of the world's greatest

seers. Also, I wanted to satisfy myself to actually know there is no death. I wanted the seership so as in love and wisdom to serve mankind with it, and to glorify my God thru it. I feel mine is a worthy desire. Whatever you have for me on this subject, please let me know soon.

Yours truly, (Mrs.) D. S.

Answer to Mrs. D. S.—The general trend of your letter implies that you are simply seeking magic powers, and that in turning to a certain occult society for help you have become so mixed up in their influence that this influence is causing you trouble. You would do well to try to drop this society *altogether*. The eye and the other things that you see seem to be of no value to you, and indicate simply the kind of influences that are about you at that time, which apparently are not always of the best.

Since you say that you desire to serve God, and to work for the betterment of the people in the capacity of healer and seer, it seems to us that you can do no better than to take the teachings of Jesus, and learn what they mean, and practice them in your daily life. Certainly, if you want to serve God, it is hardly reasonable to expect that a society which, more than likely, has but little use for God, can give you much help in that direction.

Your desire to communicate with your departed loved ones is natural enough, but if attempted, will be very likely to lead you into greater difficulties than those you now experience—difficulties from which you may not be able to free yourself.

The things you say you seek and hope for are not to be found in the way you have chosen to seek them, they are to be found only in seeking the conditions of the kingdom of God in your own heart, and following carefully the teachings to be found in the Bible. We suggest that it would be well for you to have our two books, "Practical Methods to Insure Success," and "Special Instructions for Women," each priced at 25 cents.

San Francisco, Calif.

Esoteric Fraternity:

Greetings—may this year be a cycle of higher and greater activity in world service for the 'Christian Esoterics! Your publications are, to use Isaiah's (xxx 24) metaphor, "Clean provender, which has been winnowed with the shovel and with the fan." They are certainly "meat in due season" to and for those who desire to become members of the Order of Melchisedek.

In "Practical Methods to Insure Success" it is said that pimples on the face are caused by sex-passion and loss of seed. I have found that people who eat too much sugar and oils are troubled with acne, too. Therefore, do pimples always indicate loss of the seed, or masturbation? Many persons, including Doctors, believe that retaining the seed produces toxic conditions in the system and causes pimples, and thus the common expression "pimples of chastity."

That acne and the sex-glands bear relationship to a great extent is shown by the fact that it is during puberty when the sex-glands come into dominant activity, and the thymus-gland begins to wane, that acne becomes prevalent, much to the distressing embarrassment of youth.

Hoping you are prospering in the things of the Lord,
I beg to remain ever your friend, W. B. Jr.

Answer to W. B. Jr. —Relative to your questions about pimples on the face, we are of the opinion that Mr. Butler was not mistaken in his statement in "Practical Methods to Insure Success." Small pimples on the forehead indicate losses but not masturbation.

That youngsters at puberty have pimples which you say Doctors call "pimples of chastity" is something of which we have never heard. As to what the Doctors say about the effects of chastity, we must consider that this is out of their line of investigation, and probably Doctors know no more about the effects of chastity than do other persons, certainly, not so much as those who for many years have practiced and studied chastity as a vital foundation stone

of a spiritual consciousness, and of the true Christian life. Because of this we see no reason for going to a Doctor for information about something with which he has had no experience, and who is just as likely to judge in accord with his own personal prejudices as is anybody else.

Many children are very sensitive, and feel the feelings of others, and if by unhappy chance they are associated with persons who are unwise in their habits the excited condition is communicated to such children with evil results. Also, young persons at this age are producing a great amount of life and if all the results that you may expect from loss of the seed are not perceptible at once, that does not prove conclusively that the destructive work is not going on.



IN ancient times, when Biblical history was happening, and the people were living very close to the Spirit of God, the naming of a child was considered a very important event, and in the account of the birth of Gad, whom we have come to accept as the prototype of Aries, we come to an understanding of this nature. We read: "And Leah [his mother] said, A troop cometh:" this expresses the activity of the brain of the Aries person, whose mind is occupied with many plans. "And she called his name Gad," meaning *armed and prepared*: the people of this sign are largely characterized by the reasoning faculty, and are seldom "taken off their guard," for their mental resources are generally equal to every occasion.

"These persons should listen to, and be governed by, intuition: for when the reason and the intuition are united in the individual, the brain is illuminated and draws information direct from the spheres."

EDITORIAL

THRUOUT the many years of our work we have warned the people against the dangers that are likely to be encountered in joining, or in opening up to the influences of certain occult and mystic organizations and societies. But few have heeded the warnings, and now almost more than at any previous time we receive letters from persons who have either entered into full membership with such bodies or have opened up their interior natures to them by accepting them as their teachers and instructors.

And some of these persons have written us in deep distress, because they are unable to get rid of the hideous forms they see and of the evil influences these forms bring with them. Tho we would gladly help these unfortunates, yet there is little we can do except to offer them advice which they will not accept. They have entered the psychic realm prematurely, instead of naturally as the proper result of their state of development, and it brings to mind the saying, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." Those who get persons into that distressful state seem unable to help them out of it. Only those whose minds and hearts are set to learn and to do God's will are safe while investigating this realm. "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the God of life!"

Those who are attracted by the truths of occultism are legion, but those who have developed mind enough to think carefully and clearly about these subjects and profit by the knowledge gained are very few. They are like the moths and the millers that are attracted and dazed by the light of a candle; many flutter about the flame until they strike against it and are destroyed. Jesus saw this when he said, "Strive to enter in at the strait gate, for many, I say unto you, will strive to enter in and shall not be able."



A SPECIAL REQUEST

NEAR the close of this month, each of our subscribers will receive still another copy of this April number of the

Christian Esoteric. And we wish to request you kindly to hand this second copy to some man or woman who is likely to be interested. This is an effort to increase the circulation of this magazine, for we believe there are those who have never looked into these teachings, who would be glad to do so if the magazine is brought to their attention by those who are already interested.

For several years past we have come to you with a like request, and your hearty response and co-operation have each time brought a goodly return to this work, in new subscribers and increased interest in the Esoteric books. We have greatly appreciated your valuable help, and we trust you will be able to give us this time the same hearty co-operation as before, and we are thanking you in advance for your kindness.



NOTICE

ALL of our Publications, including this magazine, may always be obtained from the Metaphysical Library and Book Shop, 177 Post St., San Francisco, California.

WE will be pleased to send a copy of H. E. Butler's book, "The Everlasting Covenant," free to any Minister of the Gospel who feels interested enough to send us his name and address and the name of his denomination.



FREE PAMPHLETS FOR DISTRIBUTION

THE Esoteric Fraternity keeps always large supplies of pamphlets of our literature, which are printed purposely for free distribution, and we solicit requests from persons interested enough to be willing to pass these on to others, for in that way this work gains a broader field of service in the world. The Esoteric work has never had large funds to help in its promulgation, as it has no endowments, and it is largely dependent for increased circulation upon those who feel an interest in its purpose, and we appreciate any help we may receive, and are always pleased to supply as many copies of pamphlets free for distribution as will be used for this purpose.

TABLE OF CUSP TRANSITS

Monthly Ephemeris (Time of Cusp Transits).
Washington, D. C., (Civil Time) April, 1938.

moon	sign	day	hour	minute
☾	♈	1	11	34 p. m.
"	♉	4	2	25 a. m.
"	♊	6	5	0 a. m.
"	♋	8	7	56 a. m.
"	♌	10	11	44 a. m.
"	♍	12	4	54 p. m.
"	♎	15	0	14 a. m.
"	♏	17	10	12 a. m.
"	♐	19	10	23 p. m.
"	♑	22	11	2 a. m.
"	♒	24	9	44 p. m.
"	♓	27	5	0 a. m.
"	♈	29	8	53 a. m.

Heliocentric Cusp Transits of Planets

☼	♈	20	1	10 p. m.
♀	♏	11	1	22 a. m.
	♐	29	4	0 p. m.
♂	♒	6	2	42 a. m.
"	♓	12	9	25 p. m.
"	♈	21	8	37 a. m.

On the 1st of the Month

♀	in	♎	13°	31'	27"
♂	"	♏	5	26	31
♂	"	♐	14	44	51
♂	"	♑	8	3	31
♂	"	♒	13	18	59

For every added degree of longitude east the sun time is 4 minutes later in the same day,
and for every added degree of longitude west it is 4 minutes earlier.

These tables are in each number of this magazine in order that
those who desire to regenerate their bodies may have the data
that will help them in their efforts.

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50c to 83c	2c	5.84 to 6.16	18c
84c to \$1.16	3c	6.17 to 6.49	19c
\$1.17 to \$1.49	4c	6.50 to 6.83	20c
1.50 to 1.83	5c	6.84 to 7.16	21c
1.84 to 2.16	6c	7.17 to 7.49	22c
2.17 to 2.49	7c	7.50 to 7.83	23c
2.50 to 2.83	8c	7.84 to 8.16	24c
2.84 to 3.16	9c	8.17 to 8.49	25c
3.17 to 3.49	10c	8.50 to 8.83	26c
3.50 to 3.83	11c	8.84 to 9.16	27c
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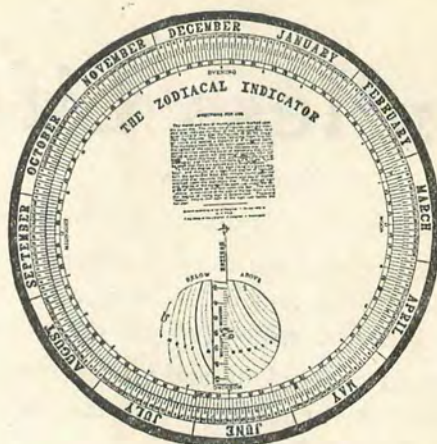
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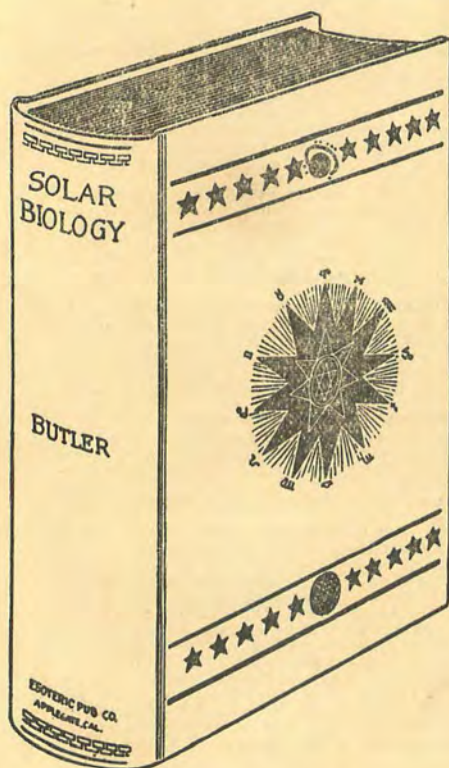
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