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# THE FORECAST

*A Popular Journal of Scientific Prediction*

EDITED BY SEPHARIAL

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**SUMMER, 1906**

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Scholar and Astrologer

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# THE FORECAST

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## Notes of the Quarter

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WE have due cause to be grateful for the generous reception which has been accorded to THE FORECAST alike by press and public. Editors who wish to sustain their reputation for intelligent anticipation, as well as those worldly-wise people who are credited with a faculty for discovering things in the germ, all, in fact, upon this rather abandoned planet of ours who take an interest in its secret store of possibilities, have found something of more than usual interest in our pages. There is promise of still more.

We think it very gracious on the part of the Government that it has done its best, and really tried hard to fulfil our predictions. It was said that certain positions of the planets clearly indicated that it "would not be a strong Government." It has proved itself unexpectedly weak in having taken a rather high-handed course in regard to the death sentence passed by the Natal Government upon twelve blacks convicted of murder, and on the Ministry going out, immediately assenting to the carrying out of the sentence, and excusing itself in the most deplorable manner for having interfered with the responsible Government of Natal. Moreover, the Government was certainly "not strong" when it yielded to the pressure of the Labour Party on the amendment to the Trade Unions Bill, and threw over the Attorney-General. At the present moment it is trying to further involve itself over Education Reform.

Mr. Chamberlain has been promised some good thing from the transit of Jupiter over the Ascendant of his horoscope in July next (p. 10), and it is gratifying, from the point of view of Astrology, to learn that Birmingham has conspired to do him honour at that time, Conservatives and Liberals alike celebrating his thirtieth year of Parliamentary representation of the City. Some better thing shall happen in the same month two years hence.

France has had a terrible visitation in the shape of the mining disaster at Lens. Italy has been "shocked beyond measure," as I have read, by the terrible earthquakes and volcanic eruptions experienced during the first fortnight in April. Both countries are astrologically indicated by the sign Leo, and it was in that sign that the last eclipse of the Moon took place. The ecliptic conjunction fell on the 9th February in the 20th degree of the sign Leo. The line of eclipse passed over the Gulf of Mexico, Central America, and terminated south of the Sandwich Islands. On the 13th, news was received of a devastating earthquake and tidal wave, which attacked the coast-line between Tumaco and Buenaventura in Columbia. Following closely upon these phenomena came the terrific upheaval which wrecked the most beautiful city of the Pacific coast, whereby in less than a single day thousands were rendered homeless, the loss of property amounting to millions sterling. That eclipses of the luminaries have a direct influence in producing seismic phenomena of this order, students of Astrology have been well assured for hundreds of years past, and their significance in this connection is to be found in the writings of Ptolemy, Ricciolus, and others. Recently seismologists have been demonstrating anew the combined action of the luminaries in this connection. Elsewhere in these pages will be found an article dealing with some modern instances of ecliptic influence.

It is satisfactory to know that these and other similar effects due to planetary interaction were well defined and predicted. Thus in the 'Green Book of Prophecies' it is said under the month of February 1906: "*During the month there will be eclipses of the Sun and Moon. In many parts of the world there will be some serious earthquake shocks soon after these eclipses. The wreck and ruin of property will be widespread and exceptional.*" Under March, the terrific floods experienced in this country and at Antwerp and in other parts, were referred to in these words: "Inordinate rains continue to deluge the land and produce disasters of various descriptions, causing great distress among the people in badly-sheltered places." The *Express* and the *Daily Mirror* of the 13th March both supply graphic descriptions of devastation by the flood tide: "Gales and squalls, floods and wrecks, furious blizzards, snow, sleet and hail—such were the weather conditions yesterday." In the political arena also, the evidence of planetary influence in human life is conspicuously to the fore. The rising of the Zulus with

its consequent tragedies, the punitive expedition against Bambaata, and the Ministerial protest against the interference of the Home Government in colonial administration, were thus tritely indicated : "There are signs of internal troubles in our South African possessions, and about the end of March or the beginning of April, there will be some danger of a crisis."

Thus we see that individuals, nations, and even the terrestrial body itself, are involved in the play of the celestial bodies. Why should it be otherwise? So far as we know there is nothing in the domain of science which militates against the idea of interplanetary action. On the contrary, it constitutes an important part of the Newtonian thesis, and there are certain analogies to be discerned between the Solar System and the smallest molecule of which its various bodies are said to be composed, which, taken in relation to the solidarity of the Solar System, seem to suggest that an Astrology of some sort must be taken as part of any intelligible theory of Cosmology. How far this may legitimately be pursued is a matter rather of empiricism than conjecture, and those who have made a study of it, are doubtless better able to sound its depths and fix its limitations than those who have only an uninstructed opinion about it.

We have to ask indulgence at the hands of those who have availed themselves of the coupon for the test. We have made notes on dozens upon dozens of cases, but so far have only been able to send a reading of a portion of those received. The remainder will be dispatched as early as possible. It is obvious that a very widespread interest has been evoked by our appearance, and elsewhere I am printing some few of the replies received from those to whom answers have been sent. It would, of course, have been easy enough to have obtained some degree of assistance in the computing of the various cases submitted, but as it would in any event fall to our task to make the final statement, we have preferred the more tedious but more satisfactory method of dealing with each case personally *da capo ad fino*.

## Dr. Richard Garnett, C.B., LL.D.

Scholar and Astrologer

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**B**Y the death of Dr. Richard Garnett, the distinguished editor and philologist, the science of Astrology has lost a most able and industrious advocate. It need be no secret now that he was sincerely in favour of a close and painstaking study of its principles, and in his own contributions to the literature of the subject he shows the greatest discrimination and acumen. Always a familiar figure to me in the British Museum Library, Dr. Garnett came to have a special interest for me when I discovered that he was the author, under the pseudonym of A. G. Trent, of an admirable astrological brochure entitled: *The Soul and the Stars*, in which a principle enunciated by Ptolemy was thoroughly threshed out and substantiated by reference to a large number of historical cases of insanity in notable people. He proved that abnormal conditions of brain function, obtained wherever Mercury or the Moon was heavily afflicted by aspect of malefic planets, though he puts it in a form which, perhaps, would better commend itself to the scientific investigator. He was not a voluminous writer on this subject, but a very industrious researcher, and his contributions to my journal *Coming Events* always had point and particularity. He propounded one or two theories, as the result of his investigations, which have since been confirmed by independent observation. Dr. Garnett was born at Lichfield on 27th February, 1835, at 5.30 p.m. when the Moon and Sun occupied the 5th and 8th degrees respectively of the sign Pisces, and the 7th degree of Aquarius was rising on the horizon of Lichfield. It will be seen that Saturn made the transit of the Ascendant of the horoscope in 1900 and 1901, and passed over the place of the Sun and Moon at birth in March, 1906, having been stationary close to the Moon's place in June, 1905.

This transit of Saturn over the place of the luminaries, being of such rare occurrence and of very sinister import, occurring at so advanced an age as 71 years, proved fatal, and within a month of its transit of the Sun's place in the horoscope of birth, the distinguished scholar had passed away. I have not the slightest doubt that this event was well within the scope of Dr. Garnett's personal anticipation and reckoning. The event is only one other proof, among a multitude, of the validity of those tenets which he expounded with such circumspection and reserve.



## Seismology and Astronomy

---

EVERYONE has heard or read of ocean currents. All mariners have reason to know them well. They are set more or less permanently in definite directions. Atmospheric currents or winds are familiar to all, but are more capricious: though some, like the trade winds and the monsoons, have a certain permanent periodicity, blowing in a certain direction for a definite period at regular intervals. Few people, however, know much about terrestrial or magnetic currents, and many have never heard of them at all. They are more uncertain and inconstant even than the winds, but like the winds they are always more or less in play. It has been observed, however, that there are irregular periods when these earth-currents are of greater intensity and frequency than at other times and that earthquake shocks and violent storms are then experienced. A delicate instrument called a seismograph has been invented which makes a record of any tremor of the earth's crust, and it is possible for a skilled seismologist, not only to determine the extent and duration of earthquake shocks, but also to localize them.

While geologists have been endeavouring to formulate a consistent theory to cover the phenomena of earthquake disturbances, astronomers have (*maugre* their professed disbelief in the principles of astrology) studiously sought to link these terrestrial phenomena to the celestial order of things, and

inasmuch as every celestial combination is repeated after a certain number of years have elapsed, an attempt has been made to refer the law of periodicity to seismic disturbances. Indeed it has been ascertained that detached groups of these phenomena recur after certain lapses of time. Professor Falb of Vienna has clearly indicated that he suspects a connection between planetary conjunctions and earthquake shocks, and he has made much of the geocentric conjunctions of Mars and Mercury, which recur after a period of seventy-nine years about the same day of the year. Thus there are conjunctions of Mars and Mercury on the 19th August and 5th September this year, and in the year 1827 similar conjunctions occurred. But it is obviously inadequate to suppose that a complete theory can be founded upon the configurations of any two bodies of the system to the neglect of others. If Mars or Mercury or both these bodies have any effect on the electrostatic condition of the earth or its atmosphere, so also must other bodies have such an effect in proportion to their distance and mass.

A later theory, and one which has recently received much support is that which seeks to refer earthquake shocks to the tidal pull of the luminaries when acting in conjunction or opposition, and more particularly when acting in a right line upon the earth's centre, as at times of ecliptic conjunction or opposition. It was found, for

instance, that at the Solar eclipse of May 7th, 1902, the luminaries were vertical over St. Pierre in Martinique and immediately the eruption of Mont Pelée and terrific earthquake shocks were experienced. The same conditions did not, however, obtain at the earthquake at Lahore, though there was an eclipse of the Sun visible in those parts on the 6th March. On the 26th August, 1883, there was a terrific earthquake and tidal wave at Krakatoa in the Straits of Sunda, when 35,000 souls perished in a single hour. There was not an eclipse of either luminary at or near this time. On the principle that "one swallow does not make a summer," therefore, we must conclude that the case for "tidal pull" is not established. That earthquakes and other great terrestrial calamities are within the range of prediction, however, there is abundant evidence to show. To go no further back than last year I find it put forward as a prediction concerning the opposition of Mars and Jupiter in May of that year: "Alarming earthquakes will take place and destruction of life and property will be great. The 11th and 12th May will be particularly productive of these disturbances." An earthquake took place in Roumania on the 9th, and on the 11th the town of Snyder, Oklahoma, U.S.A., was wiped out of existence by a tornado. It seems obvious, therefore, that any attempt to formulate a comprehensive system of seismological prediction must have regard to the fact of interplanetary influence equally as to that of the luminaries when acting in ecliptic syzygy. The solidarity of the solar system is a principle which must be respected in all scientific inquiries of this nature, and there is little doubt that eventually it will lead to a fuller

appreciation of some of the better regulated observations of modern astrology.

Just as I pen these notes, the news has arrived of the awful devastation which has been wrought by the earthquake at San Francisco, now a devastated wilderness of flame. Other towns adjacent or within the area of direct shock are also reported to have been disturbed. Over two hundred and fifty thousand persons have been thus rendered homeless. It is appalling, and altogether eclipses the recent event of the eruption of Vesuvius. The city has existed for only fifty-eight years, having been created by the gold-rush in 1848. As to causes, there are no less than four distinct scientific theories at our disposal to account for the disaster. Some authorities, such as Camille Flammarion, connect it with the eruption of Vesuvius, as being part of the same disturbance over the earth's crust. The contraction of the earth's surface by shrinkage is assigned as the cause of these disturbances in a general way; failure of the earth to swing true on its axis owing to the action of sunspots, is also advanced as the cause. Another authority ascribes the phenomena to a landslip of geological strata. Finally, we have the very probable cause given us by Flammarion as "The tension of the over-heated steam which we know to exist in pockets several miles below the surface of the earth." In review of these several theories it may be said that if the disturbances are due to sunspots, what causes the disruption of the sun's envelope to produce sunspots? Has the periodicity of these latter no analogy in planetary configurations? As to the failure of the earth to swing true to its axis, this is an impossibility. Whatever core the earth turns upon is its

axis, and if this were temporarily changed by only a fraction of a degree it would immediately be detected by the fine instruments of observers from the elevation of the pole and the apparent altitude of the stars at transit from day to day. Shrinkage of the earth's mass, as suggested by Sir Hiram Maxim, is no doubt the primary cause. This is involved in the geological statement of the earth's evolution. It is confirmed by astronomical observations. The day is shorter than it used to be and the earth is getting nearer to the sun, the source of its electrical stimulus. It is giving out more heat. In effect, it is getting colder and is shrinking.

As to our own position. It is observed that although the shrinkage of the earth is the primary cause, the secondary or exciting cause, is planetary action. There has just occurred a rare phenomenon, the opposition of the planets Neptune and Uranus, which only takes place once in one hundred and ninety years. They formed the opposition on February 28th. But inasmuch as they were in opposition during the days immediately preceding

and succeeding this date, some local agency seems to be required to determine the area of disturbance. This I find in the total eclipse of the Moon of February 9th, which was in the zenith of longitude 117 W. and latitude 15 N., immediately in the centre of the affected area. At that eclipse there were no less than five bodies in earthquake-producing signs, Leo, Aquarius, Scorpio or Taurus, known to the ancients as "fixed" or "foundation" signs, and when these are the sphere of planetary combinations or eclipses, the foundations are apt to be shaken and the most durable structures to come down *fait en comble!* There is an eclipse of the Moon on August 4th, 1906, from which I predict that between the 11th and 12th of that month there will be exceptionally heavy seismic disturbances, again on the 19th, and again on September 4th or 5th. The opposition of Uranus and Neptune will then have worn off, and will be replaced by that of Uranus and Jupiter, and thus similar positions will be excited to action by the eclipse of the Moon.

SEPHARIAL.

## Purblind Science

---

IN the editorial Notes of the Month for April, the *Occult Review* refers to our initial efforts to popularize the study of Astrology in terms that are altogether equivocal when not complimentary, or *vice versa*, the doubt being raised whether the "man in the street" knows anything more or less of the celestial science than he who occupies the professorial chair. But the Editor of the *Occult Review* should know that, among things so-called "occult," Astrology counts more students than perhaps any branch of science, the most orthodox and matter-of-fact, and that, too, among men in the street! And as to the ground in which we dig and delve, it is admittedly far richer in its products than those particular "potato-patches" worked by the scryers, the diviners, telepaths, dreamers, and seers of visions, with whom and whose experiences, reputable magazines are now-a-days concerned. This is the passage, briefly stated in the Notes, referred to:

"Such planetary positions can be noted by the merest tyro [tyros like men are always "mere"—Ed.], and rough general deductions made from them, while they reflect little credit on the observer, serve yet to throw into startling relief the utter lack of observation on the part of men of science of the present day, even of facts that literally stare them in the face. The generalizations from mathematically worked out horoscopes are infinitely more reliable than the predictions of clairvoyants."

Which is, perhaps, saying much or little, according to one's experience of the said clairvoyants. But while bewailing the lack of observation among men of science of the facts of Astrology, albeit some of our most prominent scientists *are* sincerely affected by its principles and are qualified by no little share of practice to form a competent opinion as to its paramount truth, to compare predictions made from what is fundamentally a mathematical science with the psychological facts imported by the inconstant and elusive faculty of clairvoyance, is surely *mal à propos!* The two methods do not rest on the same basis, and if one can be referred to the other at all it must be on the ground that, since planetary configurations at birth determine faculty, certain horoscopical positions produce the clairvoyant.

But why there is a seeming lack of observation regarding the facts of Astrology among men of science, has already been clearly stated by me in the Foreword to the first number of *The Forecast*, where I quoted the late Professor Max Müller to the effect that popular misconceptions regarding the science of Astrology prevented men of learning and distinction from letting their studies be known. What men of science are capable of observing is one thing, their proneness to declare upon all observations at inauspicious times and in uncongenial atmosphere is another; and a science which has attracted and successfully pinned the attention of the Editors of the *Occult Review* the *Referee*, and the *Daily Telegraph*, is good meat for the "man in the street."

## Studies in Brief

---

ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR, M.P.

THE ex-Prime Minister and present leader of the Opposition was born on 25th July, 1848. Mr. Balfour has previously filled the offices of President of the Local Government Board, 1885; Secretary for Scotland, 1885; Secretary of State for Ireland, 1887; First Lord of the Treasury, 1895; and became Prime Minister in July, 1902, his administration ending with the General Election of January, 1906.

The Sun at Mr. Balfour's birth was in the 3rd degree of the sign Leo, and when, in the autumn of 1903, Saturn became stationary in opposition to this point of the ecliptic, there was a wholesale secession of Mr. Balfour's adherents, the resignations of the Duke of Devonshire, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Ritchie, and Lord George Hamilton among others being recorded.

Mr. Balfour is born with a satellitium in the beginning of the sign Leo, including the Sun and Jupiter. It is just a matter of coincidence, let us say, that he has been consistently surrounded and sustained by an influential set of friends in the course of his political career, and during his recent administration an *entente cordiale* with France (whose ruling sign is Leo) found spontaneous and popular expression. Saturn in the western angle at the birth probably accounts

for Mr. Balfour not having married. A less fortunate man would have put his fortunes to the test in this direction and would inevitably have had occasion for regret.

At the present time the Sun has reached the 28th degree of the sign Virgo in the horoscope of Mr. Balfour, and in the summer of 1907 Saturn will be stationary close to the opposition of that point, and on the 23rd July there will be an eclipse of the Moon close to the place of the Sun in the radical horoscope. These positions imply danger of ill-health, loss of influential friends. But in 1908 the Sun will have reached a position where it will form benefic aspects to the dominant positions of the horoscope, and after the transit of Saturn again over the Sun's place of direction in March, 1908, there will be a stationary position of Jupiter on the Sun's place at birth. This is calculated to lift Mr. Balfour once more to a position of highest responsibility in the political world. But in the meantime considerable care should be bestowed upon his health, and for this reason it is to be hoped that his colleagues on the Opposition Bench will continue to give him effective support. In the language of the classics: "May his shadow never grow less!"

WINSTON CHURCHILL, M.P.

Mr. Churchill entered upon this sublunary life on the 30th November,

1874, when the Sun was in the 8th degree of the sign Sagittarius

and the Moon in the early part of the sign Virgo, at the last quadrature. The hour of birth is unknown to me, but not undiscoverable, and were there any sufficient grounds for undertaking the calculation, it would be effected. Mr. Churchill was trained at Sandhurst and was engaged with the Spanish forces in Cuba in 1895, where he gained the Order of Military Merit. In 1898 he was attached to the Tirah Expedition in 1899, Saturn being then on the place of the Sun at birth by transit. The following year he was engaged in the Boer War and was taken prisoner on the 15th November, when Mars, Venus, and Uranus were all conjoined in the 8th degree of Sagittarius, the place of the Sun at birth, and the Moon was in quadrature to Saturn. Within a month the Moon formed the trine aspect of Venus, and the combination of malefic influences had broken up, so that on the 12th December he regained his freedom by a timely and daring effort.

During the whole of his military experiences the Sun was directed to the sextile aspect of Mars, giving him successful enterprises of a martial character. In 1900, under the direction of Sun to Venus, he stood for parliamentary honours in Oldham, and under the same continuous influence he has made exceptional progress in his career. At the present time the Sun is directed to the 11th degree of Capricornus, the benefic influence of Saturn's radical aspect to the luminary is on the wane, and Venus, now going away from the Sun, also withdraws its pacific and benefic influence, while the Sun presently receives the transit of Neptune and

that of Uranus next year. The former influence is exerted in the last days of June, and during the whole of July, 1906, and again in January, 1907, and May, 1907, while Uranus will be affecting the Sun by opposition transit from February to July of that year, forming its final opposition in December. It is an easy prediction in the light of so much conspicuous affliction of the major luminary, to say that Mr. Churchill will be well advised to moderate his ambitions and pursue a steady course during the next two years, avoiding as far as possible all contentious feelings, especially during July, 1906, and the summer of 1907.

Mr. Churchill has not a strong horoscope, the quadrature of the luminaries at birth being adverse to his eventual prospects; but he has a good configuration of the Sun to both Uranus and Saturn, and may look upon Time as a friend and moderator, and perhaps his best counsellor. The conjunction of Mars and Jupiter in opposition to Neptune at his birth tends to produce an over-zealous nature, to the greater distress of his friends and the amazement of his colleagues. The good aspects of Uranus and Venus to these planets, however, will act as moderators, and it is to these benefic aspects at his birth rather than to the discovery of any conspicuous faculty or strength of character that I should look for such success as may attend his efforts. But I am disposed to think he has drawn pretty heavily on his credit and that the future will provide him with many salutary experiences.

## ALFONSO, KING OF SPAIN

Si j'étais roi! The possibilities from any point of view, providing one has an object in life, are immense! We know what men and women of ideas would do if they were suddenly to become millionaires. They have all told us. But, if one were King? What then? Perhaps the experience of Don Cæsar de Bazan might help us a little in estimating the effect upon ourselves of such a responsible position, but as to our influence upon others from that position, no man can judge for another. At the back of each of us there are two great streams of heredity, hedging us upon all sides in an environment of other men's making, and in front of us is the ever-present problem of exigence *versus* duty. Pitchforked, as it were, into such conditions, what is a soul to do? There is only one thing possible. He must make the best of it. This, it seems to me, is what the young King of Spain intends to do.

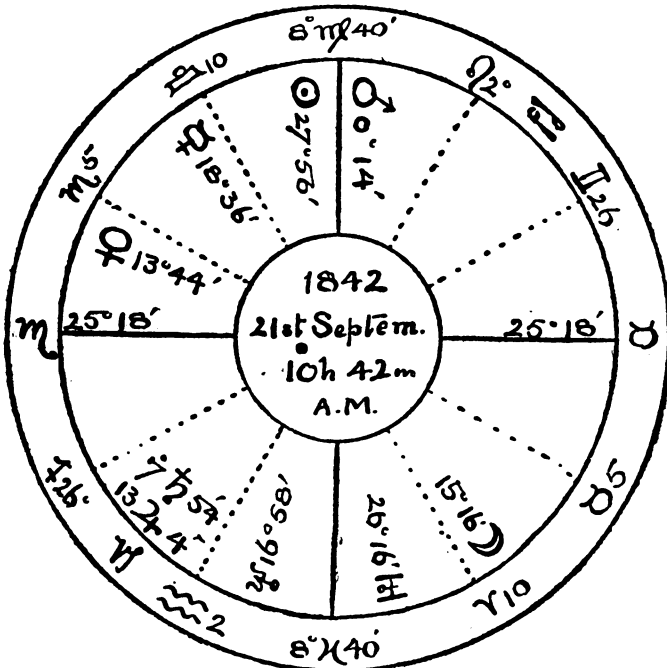
Born on the 17th day of May, 1886, with the Sun close to Neptune in the sign Taurus, these bodies being in elevation in the horoscope, it cannot be said that Alfonso XIII is likely to exercise the most fortunate influence on the destinies of his country, and it must not be overlooked that in reflecting these

influences, he will perforce gather around him those in whom the blighting effect of discontent will engender the wish that the range of his influence may be curtailed. There is this threat in the horoscope and it will be in evidence during the years 1912 and 1913.

The oriental position of the planet Mars gives a degree of enthusiasm, recklessness, and scorn of consequence, which contributes so largely to the general impression of cordiality and ardour for which the young King is so remarkable. Just now he is adding new conquests to his record, and captivating English hearts as he has already done those of his own people. His prospective alliance with Princess Ena is not undertaken under the most favourable influences, for he will shortly be under the adverse influence of the planet Mars and may become involved in trouble through acts of rashness and indiscretion to which his ardent and fearless nature predisposes him. Five years hence there is a most critical period in his life which is fraught with grave personal dangers, and King Alfonso will be well advised to temper his actions with discretion and order his goings with circumspection.

# Abdul Hamid

Sultan of Turkey



**T**HE Sultan of Turkey was born on the 21st September, 1842, at 10.42 in the morning, when the 26th degree of the sign Scorpio was rising. The character presents some singular features, among which are reserve, determination, and subtlety. While Mars and the Sun in elevation indicate an independent and bellicose spirit, the opposition of the Moon to Mercury shows vacillation and craftiness. Abdul is daring enough to play with fire and gunpowder, but too cunning not to employ agents at a safe distance from his person to do the dangerous work.

Abdul Hamid II ascended the throne on the 31st August, 1876, when Jupiter was in transit over the Ascendant of the horoscope in Scorpio 26. He appears to take an almost morbid delight in sailing close to the wind. He is continually getting into trouble with the European Powers, and so far as his relations with them enable us to judge of his methods of government, it would seem that he is a capable diplomat and quite able to hold his own with the most astute ambassadors. Prevarication and procrastination have been his watchwords for years past. Such temporary reforms as he has initiated, have been wrested



from him by a demonstration in force by one or another of the Powers. In the case of the Paris Note of November 4th, 1901, he allowed affairs to reach a crisis before he attempted an understanding. At that time the Moon had reached Gemini 15.3 by direction, and a conjunction of Mars and Uranus took place in Sagittarius 15.3, in exact opposition to the Moon on the very date of the ultimatum! It is noteworthy that the total eclipse of the Moon of May 18th, 1901, fell in the 26th degree of Taurus, in exact opposition to the Ascendant of the Sultan's horoscope. At the present time Abdul is causing us a great deal of trouble in Egypt, and the report goes that the King is coming home from his much-needed holiday in the Mediterranean to receive the advice of the Cabinet. Saturn has just crossed the lower meridian of the horoscope, and will be again stationary in opposition to the Midheaven in November. There will be the usual retreat from the "unalterable position" of the Porte, an undertaking which will never be carried out, further trouble in the course of the next six months, the demonstration in force—*et voilà tout!* Abdul has a profound sense of the humorous, and is well content, no doubt, to remain the bone of contention for all Europe. It has been said that the sublime Porte is seated over a powder magazine. It may be so, but Abdul has wit enough to know that the hand which carries the torch will be slow to exert itself. Between now and then he may smoke many cigarettes in peace. But when the end comes it will be short, sharp, and sudden, for Uranus occupies the lower angle of the horoscope and is in opposition to the Sun.

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## The Dreadnought

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ON Saturday the 10th February, 1906, at 11.58 a.m., His Majesty King Edward VII launched the largest war vessel ever constructed within the history of the world. This magnificent triumph of the shipbuilding craft, having a displacement of over 18,000 tons, took the water when the 22nd degree of the sign Gemini was rising on the horizon of Portsmouth. At this time the Sun was close on the meridian in conjunction with Venus, while the Moon being just past eclipse was in close opposition to Saturn. This latter position is not of good import as regards the vessel's future, and the opposition of Neptune and Uranus from the cusps of the 8th and 2nd divisions of the heavens is a further augury of evil portent. Two years from the time of launching, the vessel will be in action, and about June, 1908, will come by some accident to its bows. The hull, especially about the magazine and engine room, is particularly liable to serious injury, and also the propellers at the stern. From a calculation made off this horoscope, I judge that the vessel will be disabled in 13 years, and lumbered at 17. The *Dreadnought* has nothing to dread except the adverse influence of the stars, commonly called "disaster," and until that befall let us repeat the benison—"Good luck to all who sail in it!"

SEPHARIAL.

## Phenomena Interpreted

**D**URING the summer quarter, which for purposes of our publication ends with the month of August, there are several important phenomena which call for consideration. At the beginning of June, Venus, which will be an "evening star," will form its opposition to Uranus and conjunction with Neptune. This will have a disturbing influence on political affairs in South Africa, and will further act upon the weather to produce heavy rains. Between the 6th and 10th of June there will be conjunctions of Mercury, Sun, and Jupiter, in quadrature to Saturn. Torrential rains and thunderstorms will characterize this period; but as the benefic planet Jupiter is on the Ascendant of the Metropolis, some distinct benefits should accrue to the City and County of London between the 8th and 11th of June, either by the opening up of thoroughfares, or extension of traffic, and other facilities of communication. From the 16th to 19th, Mercury passes from conjunction with Mars to conjunction with Neptune and opposition to Uranus. These positions point to a crisis in South Africa and a sharp outbreak of hostilities. Between the 22nd and 26th, Mars forms its conjunction with Neptune and opposition to Uranus. There will consequently be a great political strain at this time, and violent storms will occasion much damage to property. The ancients, who had observed this coincidence of atmospheric disturbances with crises occurring in human affairs, regarded the two sets of phenomena in the light of cause and effect. The Astrologer arose who predicted both from the single cause of planetary configuration, and thus aided materially in the founding of a synthetic philosophy.

The above configurations clearly show that the month of June will not be a peaceful or temperate month. What of July?

The chief configurations during the month are Sun conjunction Neptune on the 2nd. Sun conjunction Mars on the 15th, and Venus opposition Saturn on the 28th. These positions indicate further complications and troubles in South Africa. It will be an unexpected blessing if fighting and bloodshed are avoided. During the month there will be an aggravation of existing evils in the Ottoman Empire, but matters should not take particular form of expression until the end of the month.

August has one or two positions of extreme importance. These are, a conjunction of Mars and Mercury on the 19th, and the opposition of Jupiter and Uranus on the 24th. The first of these phenomena will be immediately followed by sharp earthquake shocks, and some recrudescence of recent troubles in France and Italy. Within the next three weeks Austria will have registered the effects of this influence, and a sudden blow to that country through its aged monarch will bring consternation and unrest to its people. The later phenomenon of the 24th will stir up religious strife, and recriminations will be heard upon all sides in connection with the Education Reform Bill. On all the above dates the weather will respond to the celestial phenomena, producing on *June* 6th and 7th, heavy depression, cold air, rain; 8th, wind, and some local thunderstorms; 9th, thunderstorms in temperate N. zone; 16th, electrical phenomena, magnetic disturbances, storms; 18th, 19th, gales; 29th to 2nd prox., gales, high winds, sudden changes.

*July* opens with a spell of fine weather after the 2nd; 15th, heat; 28th, heavy showers.

*August* 19th, violent storms and seismic disturbances; 24th, thunderstorms.

## Market Forecasts

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### Stock and Share Market

**I**T is my intention under this head from time to time to demonstrate the validity of that wise saying of Solomon: "There is a time for everything, and a season for every purpose under the heavens. A time to buy and a time to sell, etc." All I purpose to show is that, after tracking the fluctuations of any stock or produce over a period of several years, it is possible to construct a chart, and thereafter to predict within limits what will be the next and succeeding movements in the price of that stock or produce, and with particular accuracy to say when there will be a rise and when a fall. Thus in 1900, *The Daily Mail* published an interview wherein I predicted that during the following years Consols would be as much below par as they were then above it. They were at 112, and have since touched 88. This was owing to the Boer War foreseen and predicted. Similarly with the Hispano-American War of 1898, the fall of Spanish Fours was foreseen and predicted, as also the reconstruction in 1900 which was given to *The Financial News* before its public announcement. More recently still the Russian defeat in Korea and Manchuria, and the Revolution, were predicted with perfect precision, and the fall of Russian Stocks was foreseen as a consequence. These are the big things made for big "bears," and do not occur every month. Here it will be my endeavour to signalise those minor fluctuations in prices which give the small man a chance.

In extension of my notes upon the markets for the month of May, it will be remembered that I have given indications of a rise in American Rails between the 5th and 12th of the month, and I would now add that in my opinion the most favourable lines to take up, as being those most likely to respond to the best conditions of the market at the time, are Aitchisons, Chicago Milwaukee and St. Pauls, Illinois Central, Louisville and Nashville, Wabash, and Canadian Pacifics. United States Steel Corps are much talked of at the moment, and although very good for April, I am doubtful whether they will run at equal strength during May. I therefore mention them with reserve.

**JUNE.**—The tone throughout the month is far from satisfactory, and although there may be some slight improvement in the second week, values are sure to decline on the month.

*Consols* show marked declines at the end of the first and fourth weeks. More confident feeling is shown for a short spell about the 8th to 12th and recent declines may be recovered. On the month the general tone of the market affects values unfavourably.

*Home Rails.* Among these Metropolitans should advance midmonth and the tendency is to keep up prices till the last week, at the beginning of which rather free selling will bring prices down.

\* \* \*

*American Rails.* These open with a sharp fall, but prices are more than recovered by the end of the first week and look like having a spurt up to the 12th at least. The trading conditions generally through the month are favourable to an appreciation of values.

*Kaffirs.* These open weak and down, but there will be a rally about the end of the first week. Thereafter successive falls brought about by the tension in South Africa and consequent bear sales and clearances, will further bring prices down, the conditions during the last fortnight verging on those of panic.

JULY.—The market tone is by no means good, though a firmer and steadier market will be maintained about the beginning of the second week. Critical conditions obtain midmonth.

*Home Rails* are steady to firm on traffics for the first account, and show advances at the close of the first and second weeks. Afterwards the conditions are not conducive to a further marked advance, and the close is not equal to the best for the month.

*American Rails.* The prevailing conditions in the market are decidedly favourable to an advance in prices, especially from the 12th to 15th and again about the 20th onwards to the 25th. The market falls, however, at the close of the month and with some notable exceptions prices should recede.

*Kaffirs.* A rally will be made in Kaffir shares during the first week and buyers will regain confidence on free covering by bears, the conditions are steady and favourable till after the 8th and may reach the 15th on a bull market. In such case prices will have plenty of opportunity to advance and recent bearish conditions may be permanently reversed.

*Turkish Cedulas* should improve and show bull profits between the 19th and 26th, but will fall back again at the month end and finish weak.

AUGUST.—The tone is moderately good until the close, when considerable firmness and strength is shown, gilt-edged stocks advancing under more cheerful conditions. The improvement sets in about the 27th.

*Home Rails.* The market conditions respond to traffics throughout the month, and these appear to be quite up to the average. There are no remarkable features to record, and a steady market may therefore be predicted.

*American Rails.* Recent conditions are not likely to be maintained. There are several indications of the relapse of last month end being fitfully continued, and falls will be recorded in most shares at middle month, from 12th to 15th, and again about the 21st and 22nd. On the close of the month there will be a brisk recovery and prices will then be at their best for the month.

*Kaffirs.* A better feeling prevails in this market, and there will be some talk of the new era in South African prosperity. I would advise buyers to get in early in view of considerable all-round advances on the autumn market. There will, however, be some check to the immediate realization of the prospective conditions, and a sharp fall about the 24th may prove a little disconcerting. This will pass over quickly, and at the close of the month I expect to see the first indications of the promised recovery in this market. I recommend Turkish Cedulas, India Threes,

most Kaffirs and Argentines for a quick flight between the 24th and 31st.

SPECIAL REPORTS on individual stocks and shares, produce markets and industrials can be obtained at the schedule rates. These reports deal with stocks apart from general market conditions and are spoken well of by clients. Address inquiries to SEPHARIAL.

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### Partial Eclipse of the Sun

This will take place on the 21st July. The Moon has considerable latitude and will only be visible as an eclipse in high southern latitudes. The luminaries will be in conjunction on the meridian of the West Coast of Africa and near the zenith of the Senegal, where disturbances may ensue. The eclipse, however, is not of sufficient magnitude to produce very striking effects.

### Total Eclipse of the Moon

This phenomenon will be produced at the syzygy of the 4th August. Though invisible here, it will be a fine spectacle in the Far East and one that the inhabitants of those parts are likely to pay heavily for about the middle of the same month. From the 13th to 15th appears to be the period when the earliest effects of this eclipse will be experienced, and its influence will range over about four months. In the Seghalien and Yezo, which come within the direct line of meridian influence, there will be a series of disturbances, and earthquake shocks may be expected generally around the Falklands.

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### Reports on the Tests

THE following, among a host of others, all more or less conclusively in favour of establishing the science of Astrology as a dependable source of information, have been received. Space limitations prevent further recital.

"Greatly indebted for your telling me the chief events of life with such marvellous accuracy. I am not a novice in astrology myself. You are wonderfully accurate about my eyes. I had an operation for congenital cataract. Your accuracy is astounding."—H. A. G. (Ilford.)

"Very correct. You have, so far as I can judge, hit me off very accurately. I shall write you on all important matters and new undertakings."—J. W. (West Bromwich.)

"The characteristics are exact. In my own study I feared there might be some bias, and I am thankful to have your judgment."—M. A. (York.)

Owing to the great number of readers who have availed themselves of the Coupon, it is decided to discontinue its publication, but No. 1 of *The Forecast*, containing the coupon, may be obtained from the publisher. After May 31st the coupon will be suspended, but others may make experiment of the "Snapshot Study" specially designed for inquirers and those wanting evidence at small initial cost. (See Advt., p. 3 cover.)

## Weather Predictions

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THE forecasts made in this journal are for the North Temperate Zone, and are especially applicable to North America, the British Isles and the Continent, due regard being had to local conditions and averages. In the first number of *THE FORECAST* the predictions under this head will be found on p. 20. While passing through the press it may be noted that the Storms predicted for the 6th and 7th May have taken effect within twenty-four hours of the given dates. About 3 p.m. on the 7th a heavy pall settled over a large area of England, and as the day advanced the temperature rose considerably, a heat-wave gripping the land at nightfall. The following day was marked by a cloud-burst, violent storms, thunder and lightning; while in some parts of the country the houses were flooded by the downfall and much property destroyed. In France, on the other hand, terrific hailstorms were experienced, stones as large as pigeon's eggs lying several inches deep upon the roads.

The weather predictions for the ensuing Quarter will be found in this number of *THE FORECAST* incorporated with "Phenomena Interpreted."

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## Horse-racing and Astrology

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I HAVE been asked by many correspondents why I do not establish the claims of astrology by the popular exposition of its principles in relation to turf anticipations. My answer invariably has been that the feat is an impossible one. If anybody is clever enough to be able to determine the number of the runners and the exact time of starting, astrology can cover the rest of the ground; but without these essential particulars horse-racing by means of astrology must remain, what it now is, a "spot" system, and therefore outside the range of reliable forecast.

There are several methods, all of which show a large percentage of results, already before the public. The peculiar virtue of these systems consists in their being applied to *results*! Prediction has never been attempted with anything like the same show of success. Indeed, any system of prognosis which relies upon either the number of actual runners or the time of starting or finishing a race is bound to come to grief as anything else than a spot system. I may have occasion to examine and pronounce upon some of these methods of finding the winner in a subsequent number of this journal. As to the merit or demerit of putting astrology to such uses, I have an entirely open mind and desire that others should form their own opinions. Whether the methods employed are dependable, and to what extent so, is another matter. But until proved successful in a large percentage of cases by individual experimenters, I should advise my readers to ignore the printed professions of all exponents whomsoever. If the results are found conformable to the principles of astrology, so much the better for both the system and the science; but any amount of "wisdom after the event" will not serve to establish either the reputation of the science or the *bona fides* of those who claim to have successfully applied it in this direction.

EDITOR 'THE FORECAST.'

PYTHAGORAS  
AND HIS SYSTEM OF PHILOSOPHY  
(*THE DELPHIC MYSTERIES*)

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF

EDOUARD SCHURÉ

BY

FRED ROTHWELL, B.A.

“Know thyself, and thou wilt know the Universe and the Gods.”—*Inscription on the Temple of Delphi.*

Evolution is the law of Life,  
Number is the law of the Universe,  
Unity is the law of God.



*Continued from page 30.*

## GREECE IN THE SIXTH CENTURY II

Pythagoras crossed the whole of the ancient world before giving his message to Greece. He saw Africa and Asia, Memphis and Babylon, along with their methods of initiation and political life. His own troubled life resembles a ship driving through a storm, pursuing its course, with sails unfurled, a symbol of strength and calmness in the midst of the furious elements. His teachings convey the impression of a cool fragrant night after the bitter fire and passion of an angry, blood-stained day. They call to mind the beauty of the firmament unrolling, by degrees, its sparkling archipelagoes and ethereal harmonies over the head of the seer.

And now we will attempt to set forth both his life and his teaching apart from the obscurities of legend and the prejudices of the schools alike.

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*(The work of Edouard Schuré, of which these pages are a translation, will shortly be published in a volume entitled "Pythagoras—His System of Philosophy." Price 2s. net.)*

## CHAPTER II

## YEARS OF TRAVEL

At the beginning of the sixth century before our era, Samos was one of the most flourishing islands of Ionia. Its harbour fronted the violet peaks of a slumbering Asia Minor, the abode of luxury and charm. The town was situated on a wide bay with verdant coasts, and retreated, tier upon tier, up the mountain in the form of an amphitheatre, itself lying at the foot of a promontory on which stood the temple of Neptune. It was dominated by the colonnades of a magnificent palace, the abode of the tyrant Polycrates. After depriving Samos of her liberty he had given the island all the lustre of art and Asiatic splendour. Courtesans from Lesbos had, at his bidding, taken up their abode in a neighbouring palace to which they invited the young men and maidens of the town. At these *fêtes* they taught them the most refined voluptuousness, accompanied with music, dancing and feasting. Anacreon, on the invitation of Polycrates, was transported to Samos in a trireme with purple sails and gilded masts; the poet, a goblet of chased

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silver in his hand, sang before this high court of pleasure his languishing odes. The good fortune of Polycrates had become proverbial throughout Greece. He had as a friend the Pharaoh Amasis who often warned him to be on his guard against such unbroken fortune, and above all not to pride himself on it. Polycrates answered the Egyptian monarch's advice by flinging his ring into the sea. "This sacrifice I offer unto the gods," he said. The following day a fisherman brought back to the tyrant the precious jewel, which he had found in the belly of a fish. When the Pharaoh heard of this, he said he would break off his friendship with Polycrates, for such insolent good fortune would draw down on him the vengeance of the gods.— Whatever we may think of the anecdote, the end of Polycrates was a tragic one. One of his satraps enticed him into a neighbouring province, tortured him to death, and ordered his body to be fastened to a cross on Mount Mycale. And so, one evening as the blood-red orb of the sun was sinking in the west, the inhabitants of Samos saw the corpse of their tyrant, crucified on a promontory in sight of the island over which he had reigned in glory and abandonment.

To return to the beginning of Polycrates' reign. One star-lit night a young man was seated in a

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wood of *agnus castus*, with its glimmering foliage, not far from the temple of Juno, the Doric front of which was bathed in the rays of the moon, whose light added to the mystic majesty of the building. A papyrus roll, containing a song of Homer, had slipped to the ground, and lay at his feet. His meditation, begun at twilight, was continued into the silence of the night. The sun had long ago disappeared beneath the horizon, but its flaming disc still danced in unreal presence before the eyes of the young dreamer. His thoughts had wandered far from the world of visible things.

Pythagoras was the son of a wealthy jeweller of Samos and of a woman named Parthenis. The Pythoness of Delphi, when consulted during a journey by the young married couple, had promised them : " a son who would be useful to all men and throughout all time." The oracle had sent them to Sidon, in Phoenicia, so that the predestined son might be conceived, formed, and born far from the disturbing influences of his own land. Even before his birth the wonderful child, in the moon of love, had been fervently consecrated to the worship of Apollo by his parents. The child was born; and when he was a year old his mother, acting on advice already received from the priest of Delphi, bore him away to the temple of Adonaï, in a valley

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of Lebanon. Here the high priest had given him his blessing and the family returned to Samos. The child of Parthenis was very beautiful and gentle, calm and sedate. Intellectual passion alone gleamed from his eyes, giving a secret energy to his actions. Far from opposing, his parents had encouraged him in his precocious leaning towards the study of wisdom. He had been left free to confer with the priests of Samos and the savants who were beginning to establish in Ionia schools in which the principles of natural philosophy were taught. At the age of eighteen he had attended the classes of Hermodamas of Samos, at twenty those of Pherecydes at Syros; he had even conferred with Thales and Anaximander at Miletus. These masters had opened out new horizons, though none had satisfied him. In their contradictory teachings he tried to discover the bond and synthesis, the unity of the great whole. The son of Parthenis had now reached one of those crises in which the mind, over-excited by the contradictions of things, concentrates all its faculties in one supreme effort to obtain a glimpse of the end, to find a path leading to the sun of truth, to the centre of life.

Throughout that glorious night Pythagoras fixed his gaze on the earth, the temple, and the starry heavens in turn. Demeter, the earth-mother, the

Nature whose secrets he wished to pierce, was there, beneath and around him. He inhaled her powerful emanations, felt the invincible attraction which enchained him, the thinking atom, to her bosom, an inseparable part of herself. The sages he had consulted had said to him : " It is from her that all springs. Nothing comes from nothing. The soul comes from water, or fire, or from both. This subtle emanation of the elements issues from them only to return. Eternal Nature is blind and inflexible, resign thyself to her fatal laws. The only merit thou wilt have will be that thou knowest them, and art resigned thereto."

Then he looked at the firmament and the fiery letters formed by the constellations in the unfathomable depths of space. These letters must have a meaning. For if the infinitely small, the movement of atoms, has its *raison d'être*, why not also the infinitely great, the widely scattered stars, whose grouping represents the body of the universe? Yes; each of these worlds has its own law; all move together according to number and in supreme harmony. But who will ever decipher the alphabet of the stars? The priests of Juno had said to him : " This is the heaven of the gods, which was before the earth. Thy soul comes therefrom. Pray to them, that it may mount again to heaven."

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These meditations were interrupted by a voluptuous chant, coming from a garden on the banks of the Imbrasmus. The lascivious voices of the Lesbian women, in languishing strains, were heard accompanying the music of the cithara, responded to in the Bacchic airs chanted by the youths. Suddenly other cries, piercing and mournful, from the direction of the harbour, mingled with these voices. They were the cries of rebels whom Polycrates was embarking to sell as slaves in Asia. They were being struck with nail-studded thongs, to compel them to crouch beneath the pontoons of the rowers. Their shrieks and blasphemous cries died away in the night and silence reigned over all.

A painful thrill ran through the young man's frame; he checked it in an attempt to regain possession of himself. The problem lay before him, more pressing and poignant than before. Earth said: *Fatality*. Heaven said: *Providence*. Mankind, between the two, replied: *Madness! Pain! Slavery!* In the depths of his own nature, however, the future adept heard an invincible voice replying to the chains of earth and the flaming heavens with the cry: *Liberty!* Who were right; sages, or priests, the wretched or the mad, or was it himself? In reality all these voices spoke the truth, each triumphed in its own sphere, but none gave

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up to him its *raison d'être*. The three worlds all existed, unchangeable as the heart of Demeter, the light of the constellations and the human breast, but only the one who could find agreement between them and the law of their equilibrium would be truly wise; he alone would be in possession of divine knowledge and capable of aiding mankind. It was in the synthesis of the three worlds that the secret of the *Kosmos* lay!

As he gave utterance to this discovery he had just made, Pythagoras rose to his feet. His eager glance was fixed on the Doric façade of the temple; the majestic building seemed transfigured beneath Diana's chaste beams. There he believed that he saw the ideal image of the world and the solution of the problem he was seeking. The base, columns, architrave, and triangular pediment suddenly represented, in his eyes, the triple nature of man and the universe, of the microcosm and the macrocosm crowned by divine unity, itself a trinity. The *Kosmos*, controlled and penetrated by God, formed

“The sacred Quaternion, the source of Nature; whose cause is eternal.”<sup>1</sup>

Yes, here concealed in these geometrical lines was the key of the universe, the science of numbers,

<sup>1</sup> *The Golden Verses of Pythagoras.*



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the ternary law regulating the constitution of beings, and the septenary law that governs their evolution. Pythagoras saw the worlds move through space in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of the sacred numbers. He saw the balance of earth and heaven of which human liberty holds control; the three worlds, the natural, the human, and the divine, sustaining and determining one another, and playing the universal drama in a double—ascending and descending—movement. He divided the spheres of the invisible enveloping the visible world and ever animating it; finally, he conceived of the purification and liberation of man, on this globe, by triple initiation. All this he saw, along with his life and work, in an instantaneous flash of illumination, with the absolute certainty of the spirit brought face to face with Truth. Now he must prove by Reason what his pure Intelligence had obtained from the Absolute, and this needed a human life, it was the task of a Hercules.

Where could he find the knowledge necessary to bring such a labour to a successful issue? Neither the songs of Homer, nor the sages of Ionia, nor the temples of Greece would suffice.

The spirit of Pythagoras, which had suddenly found wings, began to plunge into his past life,

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into his mist-enveloped birth and his mother's mysterious love. Childhood's memory returned to him with striking clearness. He recalled the fact that his mother had carried him in her arms, when only a babe of twelve months, to the temple of Adonāi, in a vale of Lebanon. He saw himself again as a child, clinging to the neck of Parthenis, with mighty forests and mountains all around, whilst the river formed a waterfall close by. She was standing on a terrace shaded with giant cedars. In front of her stood a majestic-looking, white-bearded priest, smiling on the mother and child as he uttered grave-sounding words the little one did not understand. Often had his mother brought back to his mind the strange utterance of the hierophant of Adonāi: "O woman of Ionia, thy son shall be great in wisdom; but remember that, though the Greeks still possess the science of *the gods*, the knowledge of *God* can no longer be found elsewhere than in Egypt." These words came back to him along with his mother's smile, the old man's beautiful face, and the distant murmur of the waterfall dominated by the priest's voice, with that magnificent scenery all around, like the dream of another life. For the first time he guessed the meaning of the oracle. He had indeed heard of the wonderful knowledge of Egyptian priests and their

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dreadful mysteries, though he thought he could do without it all. Now he understood that he needed this "science of God," to penetrate to the very heart of nature, and that he could find it only in the temples of Egypt. It was the gentle Parthenis who, with maternal instinct, had prepared him for this work, and borne him as an offering to the sovereign God! From this moment he made up his mind to go to Egypt, and there undergo initiation.

Polycrates prided himself on being the protector of philosophers as well as of poets. He willingly gave Pythagoras a letter of recommendation to Pharaoh Amasis, who introduced him to the priests of Memphis. The latter were opposed to receiving him, and were induced to consent only with the utmost difficulty. Egyptian sages distrusted Greeks, whom they charged with being fickle and inconstant. They did all they could to discourage the young Samian. The novice, however, submitted with unflinching patience and courage to the delays and tests imposed on him. He knew beforehand that he would only attain to knowledge by entirely mastering his will throughout his entire being. His initiation under the pontificate of Sonchis the high priest lasted twenty-two years. All the trials and temptations, the soul-rending

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dread and ecstatic joy passed through by Hermes, the initiate of Isis, even to the apparent, or cataleptic death of the adept and his resurrection in the light of Osiris, were experienced by Pythagoras, so that he now realized, not as a vain theory, but as something lived through, the doctrine of the Logos-Light, or of the universal Word, and that of human evolution through seven planetary cycles. At each step of this giddy ascent the tests became more formidable. A hundred times the risk of death was incurred, especially if one's object was to gain control over occult forces, and attain to the dangerous practice of magic and theurgy. Like all great men, Pythagoras believed in his star. No path that led to knowledge disheartened him, the fear of death could not check him, for he saw life beyond. When the Egyptian priests had recognized that he possessed extraordinary strength of soul and that impersonal passion for wisdom, which is the rarest thing in the world, they opened out to him the treasures of their experience. Whilst with them he daily improved, and became filled with divine knowledge. He mastered sacred mathematics and the science of numbers, or universal principles, which he formulated anew and made the centre of his system. The severity of the Egyptian discipline in the temples also impressed on him the prodigious

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power of the human will when wisely trained and exercised, the endless applications, both to body and to soul, that can be made of it. "The science of numbers and the art of will-power," said the priests of Memphis, "are the two keys of magic; they open up all the gates of the universe." It was in Egypt that Pythagoras obtained that view from above, which allows of one seeing the spheres of life and the sciences in concentric order, and understanding the *involution* of the spirit into matter by universal creation, and its *evolution* or re-ascent towards unity by way of that individual creation called the development of a consciousness.

Pythagoras had reached the summit of Egyptian priesthood, and was perhaps thinking of returning to Greece, when war, with all its misery, burst upon the valley of the Nile, carrying away the initiate of Osiris in another direction. The despots of Asia had long been meditating the ruin of Egypt. Their repeated attacks had failed, for centuries past, before the wisdom of the Egyptian institutions, the power of the priesthood, and the energy of the Pharaohs. But the refuge of the science of Hermes, the kingdom from time immemorial, was not to remain for ever. Cambyses, son of the conqueror of Babylon, descended on Egypt with his innumerable hosts, famished as clouds of locusts,

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and put an end to the institution of the Pharaohs, the origin of which was lost in the night of time. In the eyes of the sages this was a catastrophe for the whole world. Hitherto Egypt had sheltered Europe against Asia. Her protecting influence still extended over the whole basin of the Mediterranean, by means of the temples of Phoenicia, Greece, and Etruria, with which the high Egyptian priesthood were in constant connection. This rampart once overthrown, the Bull, with lowered head, was about to burst upon the land of Greece. Pythagoras saw Cambyses invade Egypt, he may have beheld the Persian despot, worthy scion of the crowned villains of Nineveh and Babylon, plunder the temples of Memphis and Thebes, and destroy that of Ammon. He may have seen the Pharaoh Psammitichus brought in chains before Cambyses, placed on a mound, and surrounded by the priests, the principal families, and the royal court. He may have witnessed the Pharaoh's daughter, clad in rags and followed by all her maids of honour similarly demeaned, the royal prince and two thousand young men, brought forward, bit in mouth and bridle on neck, before being beheaded; the Pharaoh Psammitichus, choking back his sobs before the frightful scene, and the infamous Cambyses, seated on his throne, gloating over the anguish of his vanquished

*(To be continued.)*

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