

The Hermetist.

GET UNDERSTANDING.

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W. P. PHELON, M.D. } EDITORS.
MRS. M. M. PHELON, O.S.B. }

"IN SEARCH."

Softly our Lord drew down the crimson fold,
And, laying on the little head those bands
Which help the worlds, he said, "Long be thy bliss!
And lightly fall on him the load of life!
For thou hast holpen me who am no God,
But one, thy Brother; heretofore a Prince
And now a wanderer, seeking night and day
These six hard years, that light which somewhere
shines,
To lighten all men's darkness, if they knew!
And I shall find the light; yes, now it dawned
Glorious and helpful, when my weak flesh failed
Which this pure food, fair Sister, hath restored,
Drawn manifold through lives to quicken life
As life itself passes by many births
To happier heights and purging off of sins.
Yet dost thou truly find it sweet enough
Only to live? Can life and love suffice?

—Arnold's *Light of Asia*.

ABOUT THINGS.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Editors of Hermetist:

Sample copy of THE HERMETIST received. I have not one fault to find: there is not enough of it. I am pleased to see you have the courage of your principles, and are trying to make the world wiser, and therefore better. Go on with your good work. Hope you will enlarge soon.

We have received not a few letters of the same tenor as the above, wishing us all manner of good,

but not backing their wishes by any substantial evidence of their sincerity.

While we are truly grateful for kindly projected breath; we must say, we can make more progress by the aid of the circulating medium which pays for our printing, our paper and postage.

To our minds, the old Quaker was a worthy model, when at a meeting to consider some great calamity, he listened while everybody's sorrow gushed gracefully forth. Finally, he arose and said: "Friends, I am sorry for these poor people £5 worth," taking the money from his pocket. "How much are you sorry?"

Friends, how much do you want THE HERMETIST enlarged? If you cannot spare a trifle on subscription, send us your order for books or magazines. It does not matter whether they are on our list or not. It will help on the work, and we will keep the amount of published matter at least within eight of the income, but we do not intend to wade the slough of desperate indebtedness.

We send "our compliments" with this issue, and wish everybody who sees us—"Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year."

PAPERS BY ONE WHO KNOWS.

Environment is the conclusion of personal sense, made up through the mentality, on premises which are as unreal and baseless as the changing fabric of a dream.

Personal sense from the Ego outward recognizes, first, the impersonal environment; second, the outer; and third, the general environment.

From the inner personal environment the soul manifests its power. It is the link by which the Real and the Unreal are joined. The outer personal sense holds the point of junction of the total personal to the general environment.

The general environment is the idea, manifestation or reflection of the Eternal Principle. When light is reflected from a mirror, the surface of the mirror is a resisting force, or more properly, obstructed. It is only by the reflection born of re-

istance that the sense of vision can perceive aught in the mirror. So the Creative thought of the Divine must be thrown back to us, before we recognize either his works, or Him as their Creator. To personal sense, the very conception of reflection implies opposition. Force can never manifest itself, until resistance appears. We are whirled through space at the rate of a thousand miles an hour. We meet no resistance. But if the atmosphere should stop, what then? Resistance is necessary to the manifestation of force. Hence by the analogy of the Universe, wherever condition, force or existence manifest themselves, their opposites must also appear.

We have heat and cold; light and darkness; negative and positive conditions, of every grade. There can be no mathematical surface which does not admit of two sides, an upper and an under. It does not matter if the thickness be reduced to absolute nothingness. So long as the conception of surface remains, there must also exist the law of the two sides, because the conception is of the mentality, but the law is Divine.

Motion and rest; light and darkness; heat and cold; life and death, are alike indices, the one of the Spirit Force, and the other of the resistance from which the environment is made manifest. The one is an affirmation, the other a negation, in any and all their protean forms.

Without spirit permeation, there can be to, in or about the environment, only darkness, rest and death. These are the conditions of the non-existent, which has no life in itself. All the wondrous changes which delight our personal senses, the soft harmonies of color; the wonderful melodies of sound; the subtle fragrance of innumerable aromas; the delicious flavors of delicate viands; or the quiet embrace of the soothing adjustment for rest, all are the result of the infinite permutations of the action of spirit upon the resistance, a fact forming the corner-stone, upon which rests the whole fabric of our environments. All variety results from the play of the Divine power as it moves to will and to do, even as the breeze ruffles the smooth bosom of the mountain lake, into countless and ever-changing forms.

We are like drops of water in a stagnant pool; not one drop can be pure while one drop is tainted. Let us rise in one mighty evaporation and fall into our parent ocean, there we shall be preserved by its salt. Not one drop can miss its saltness, and every drop has all it needs. The infinite salt, wisdom; the infinite salt, love; the infinite salt, power; and not one hair-breadth can one drop rise above the surface of the all, and carry the least particle of salt with it.

L. McC.

NOW READY.

Hermetic Manuscript, No. 1, entitled, "The Future Rulers of America." Arranged by W. P. Phelon, M. D. Price 25 cents. Hermetic Pub. Co.

This little work, containing a startling prophecy, a wonderful revelation, and many suggestions of occult mysteries, is full of deep thought for those who can "read between the lines." This is especially true, at this time, when all our wise men and political mountebanks are at their wits' end to keep their various ships of state off the breakers. The utter failure of men's schemes becomes the Divine opportunity. Every spiritual-minded person will enjoy its perusal.

WIDE AWAKE, 1888.

The readers of this wonderful magazine for young people are so accustomed to good reading and pictures that they will wonder how it is going to be better than ever this coming year. But it is.

The new year has already begun with the holiday number just out—a truly great number, larger and richer, more varied, and therefore it must be better than ever before. And the publishers have a primer to send to those who want to know what *Wide Awake* is going to have in it in 1888.

The wonder is that such a library and picture-gallery can be got together for \$2.40 a year—a thousand pages and everything fresh and new—stories, history, travels, biography, sketches, anecdote, adventure—and all instructive as well as entertaining. Two worlds are drawn from to make such provision for the education and pleasure of our children.

So high is the best of young people's literature nowadays that we are all of us glad to be young. Nine-tenths of reading people prefer it to what is written for them; for it has the rare merit of being easy as well as good.

We know of no Christmas gift so sure of bringing a happy response in a reading family. Send \$2.40 to D. Lothrop Company, Boston.

ESSENTIALS OF MENTAL HEALING, by L. M. Murston, says: "The divine intelligence, the all-persuasive, brooding Spirit, is ever expressing itself. Omnipotence is creative, and Omniscience puts forth idea, as the tree puts forth branches and leaves. Man is an expression of infinite knowledge, and may be considered an idea of God. But as the twigs and leaves of a tree cannot differ in character from the tree to which they belong, but constitute the tree, so this manifestation or experience of Divine intelligence cannot be unlike that from which it proceeds. Hence we call this idea of God a Spiritual Man, because his essence being the same, he cannot be separated from divine intelligence, but is spirit."

BOOK NOTICES, Etc.

The "Writer" still finds plenty to say in stimulating those afflicted with *cacoethes scribendi* to improvement in the divers branches and departments of this reading age. No one who writes a letter even, can afford to do without the "Writer."

"Bizarre Notes and Queries" were on time this month, and of more than usual interest.

"Lucifer" is growing in interest and size. It is driving as Jehu drove his chariot, irresistibly towards its purpose. It occurs to us, that there are a few persons in England who will have cause to wish it had never been started. They spell their names "S. P. R." which might stand for several poor reasoners, only it don't.

Like the sun shining unmoved upon all—clouds, shadows and storms. Yet in tender rays entering into all. Silently lighting the seed, into the plant, the tree, the bird, the blossom the fruit.

L. D. H.

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