



Elementary Instruction in Hermetic Philosophy.

No. 3. Transmutation, and the Principle of Mentalism. (Continued.)

By FR. K. N°.

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Preliminary Observations.

Let the Student—

- 1 Begin the study of each Instruction, with a brief meditation on the presence of Our Father Hermes.
- 2 Engage in a daily meditation on the Permanent Mantram of the Hermetic Section which was given in the Second Instruction.
- 3 Study Hermetics at all times from the standpoint of the vital truths underlying the surface, instead of from the critical and academic standpoint.
- 4 Practice diligently the daily introspection in reverse, at the appointed time; this as a means of lessening the purgatorial career and passing the first heaven after death. Approve your own good acts as well as disapproving and disavow in your errors.
- 5 Use the Holy Bible and the Book of the Dead for correlative readings. When these Instructions are used in Class work, each member of the Class should come prepared to present at least two selected correlative readings. These may easily be worked out by use of the standard Concordance.

The physical bodies of human beings always have been and are now in a continuous process of TRANSMUTATION.

The LIGHT and LIFE of the ABSOLUTE through its secondary and tertiary manifestations (Supreme Being and Logoi or Solar Gods) has been crystallized or materialized into the baser metals of the composition of the human body.

These baser metals or materials are being gradually raised and brought into higher spiritual expression.

The body it must be remembered is composed just as much of metals in chemical form, as though they could be demonstrated in their virgin expression.

For instance:

RADIUM materializes into a number of different elements, until its ultimate expression becomes *lead*,—an example of the lowering of higher vibrations resulting in the densest state of Matter.

Conversely;

If LEAD is the lowest polarity of RADIUM, then RADIUM is the highest polarity of LEAD.

Alchemically and Hermetically—

Lead corresponds to the lower personal mind;

Radium corresponds to the Higher Mind—
IS the Higher Mind,

for—analytically

Radium will be found to be the perfect expression of the Activity and Radiation of the Higher Mind itself, that Higher Mind whose attributes we have found in previous study to be Will, Wisdom and ACTIVITY.

Both The Higher Mind and Radium are inexhaustible sources of Radiant Power, Energy, and Illumination, and draw from the same Source—the

"Charity not only begins at home, but usually hates to leave the house,"

—Herbert Kaufman.

Universal Mind.

The same Law applies to all other Metals and Elements of which the physical Body is composed.

All have their higher correspondences, which on the higher planes are Qualities, Colors, Forces,—the Soul, Light, and Spirit of the materialized aspects.

In the present instance LEAD, symbolized by Saturn, is the emblem of Matter, the Element of Earth.

The ALL.

SUBSTANCE;

is that which underlies all outward manifestations or expressions, Essence—Substantial Reality.

REALITY;

the state of being REAL, true, enduring, valid, fixt, permanent, actual

THE LAW

Under and behind all outward appearances and manifestations there must *Always* be the Substantial Reality.

Man, a unit in the universe sees nothing but Change in Matter, Forces and Mental States. He sees that nothing really *IS*, but that everything is being born, growing, maturing and apparently dying. Nothing seemingly endures, but CHANGE itself.

Among philosophers of all times, the Substantial Reality has been called the "Infinite and Eternal," defined as Energy.

HERMETIC MASTERS call it the ALL.

The true and inner nature of the ALL is unknowable, for naught but the ALL itself can comprehend its own Nature and Being.

The ALL must always be unknowable except to itself and to such as progress in infinite cosmos to at-onement with the ALL, and develop the Cosmic Consciousness in amplitude.

All efforts therefore to ascribe to the ALL personality, qualities, properties, characteristics, and attributes through human concepts are presumptuous:—the ascription of the qualities of the creature to its creator.

This is the difference between THEOLOGY and RELIGION: between PHILOSOPHY and METAPHYSICS.

RELIGION:—

is the intuitive realization of the existence of the ALL.

Theology:—

is the attempt of men to ascribe personality, qualities, and characteristics to the ALL: the assumption of the office of mediator and middle-man.

Philosophy:—

is the inquiry after the knowledge of things thinkable and knowable.

Metaphysics:—

is the attempt to carry the inquiry over and beyond the boundary, into regions unknowable and unthinkable, with the same result as that of Theology, as witness the self appointed mediators, exponents and middle men and women of the modern phase of metaphysics, and the consequent disagreements.

While the essential nature of the ALL is unknowable, there are certain truths connected with its existence that the human mind CAN comprehend.

These truths are:

- 1 The ALL must be ALL that *REALLY IS*. Nothing can exist outside the ALL. (Remember the mantran for the Hermetic class, "In Him we live, and move and have our being.")

- 2 The ALL must be INFINITE, without confinement, boundaries, limitations, or restrictions.

- 3 The ALL must be ETERNAL, Infinite in Time, uncreate and continuously existing, indestructible.

It must be Infinite in Space, without break, interruption, separation or gaps.

It must be Infinite in Power, without limitations, restrictions or restraint and subject to no other Power.

The ALL must be IMMUTABLE, not subject to change, not added to or subtracted from. It must have always been and always remain, just what it is now

Postulate;

As the ALL is Infinite, Eternal and Unchangeable—the ABSOLUTE—anything that is changeable, finite and conditioned cannot be the ALL, and as there is nothing outside of the ALL in Reality, then any such things must be nothing,—in Reality, and as the ALL is ALL that IS, then that which is Nothing in Reality has really no existence. Refer to this in your later studies in Hermeticism, and especially those who may engage in the Healing work of the Order.

MATTER forms the foundation for all physical forms.

Matter cannot manifest Life or Mind.

Life and Mind are manifested in the entire Universe;

Therefore as they are properties of the ALL, the ALL cannot be MATTER, for nothing can rise higher than its own source.

Herein modern science and Hermetic philosophy agree, for science states that Matter is non-existent as such,—that what we call Matter is "interrupted energy," or energy at a low rate of vibration.

The ALL is not Energy or Force; because—Energy and Force are blind and mechanical, devoid of life or Mind.

Neither Life or Mind evolve from Force or Energy, for nothing evolves unless it be involved.

Therefore, the highest concepts of the human Mind regarding things KNOWN to be existent in the Universe, are LIFE and MIND, properties and qualities of the ALL, but not life and mind as we ordinarily understand them, but

INFINITE, LIVING MIND, that which in its highest expression is called—

"SPIRIT."

All the foregoing may be summed up in the words of the Mass:

"Absolute and Incomprehensible."

CORRESPONDENCES:—

When Universal, Primordial Substance, or Cosmic Root Substance manifests Polarity, it differentiates into

Spirit.....Matter.

When Matter manifests polarity, in the case of water for instance, it differentiates into Hydrogen and Oxygen.

Tremendous cosmic processes and powers of affinity cause Spirit and Matter to mingle chemically and etherically, and—uniting—form SOUL.

These tremendous cosmic forces of affinity in manifestation, operate as DESIRE, with the polarities of Attraction and Repulsion.

Repulsion cause the differentiation from, separation from, and therefore creation, propagation of the original in diversity of types.

Attraction causes the re-union, recreation of the types in Unity.

Thus, Desire, in the true cosmic sense is the Divine Force of Love or that which desires to

see itself reproduced, reflected, multiplied and magnified, and which then draws all individual expressions of itself back to their Source in Unity.

"I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

Hydrogen and Oxygen disappear as such when united in the drop of water.

Further Thoughts on Transmutation.

By SATURNINUS, 9°-2° (Morganton College)

This is a sort of "Chapter 2" of the article which appeared in Mercury, Vol. 5, No. 12., under the caption, "To Members of the Alchemical Section."

If the reader will refer back to that article he will note that our theme was developed on the following question, viz.: "And may not death be the ultimate ejection of this physical core from the center of the vortex, that the higher vehicles may in turn attain more definite form and structure?"

Our position was, and still is, that the question may be transformed into a positive statement, and that the affirmation is strongly attested by Astrology and other facts in nature as well.

Now the "other facts" to which we wish to call attention in this instance is the evidence offered by Magnetism and Electricity.

We understand Magnetism and Electricity to be of equal force and potency, but differing in nature and polarity. All students of Occult Science, and of Rosicrucianism in particular, are familiar with the subdivisions of the Etheric Region of the Physical World, and also with the subdivisions of the Astral World.

Magnetism is said to be feminine in nature. Electricity, on the other hand, is said to be masculine.

By careful investigation, the student will note that the powers and potencies of the Etheric Region are magnetic or feminine. The student may also note that the powers and potencies of the Astral World are electric or masculine.

Therefore, we do in this instance, garb our higher vehicles with a new terminology and call them the magnetic, (Etheric) and electric (Astral) bodies.

These bodies or vehicles are withdrawn from the physical body or "core" at death, which is the equivalent of "ejecting the core," and the withdrawal or ejection does not take place under normal conditions, until the physical body is of no further use; and it requires but little

Matter and Spirit disappear as such when united in the higher or Over-soul.

Infinite balance is gained in eternal unity and harmony.

In the words of the Mass:

Eternal and Infinite.

Everything proceeds from Unity

All are re-united in ONE.

Imagination to conceive the fact that if the magnetic body is *born* when the physical body is seven years of age, and the electric body is *born* when the physical body is fourteen years of age, that both bodies or vehicles are built up from, and nourished and sustained by, the transmuted essence of the physical organism.

Thus does the Ego, by an evolutionary process, build up and perfect its higher vehicles; and when, under normal conditions, all available supply of magnetic and electric properties have been extracted by the Ego from a given physical body, that body or "core" is ejected.

And right here let us interpose a question: IF, the physical body is rendered useless by the extraction of the magnetic and electric properties adhering therein, then, on the other hand, could it not be sustained and rendered useful indefinitely by preserving therein the magnetic and electric properties? Is not this the secret of Bulwer Lytton's "Zanoni?"

And while we are asking questions, let us add one more. When the Planetary Spirit has ended its labors of the present Manvantara, and has transmuted all the available essence of its physical organism, (the planet,) into a higher state of consciousness, WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE CORE? Will it not be disintegrated and dissipated just as is the physical body of a human being? REMEMBER: "AS ABOVE, SO BELOW," and vice versa. Moreover, be it remembered, that WE, the PRESENT HUMANITY, will be a part of that refined essence because we are IN and OF the Planetary Spirit, and when that Spirit becomes a Solar God, WE will function as a Planetary Spirit and still remain IN, OF and a PART of HIS BODY.

In further support of our affirmation that the Etheric and Astral bodies are magnetic and electric, we call the attention of the student to the fact that the COLOUR of the electric fluid in a transmission wire is the SAME as that of the Astral Center in the Human Aura. More anon.

The Second Affirmation.

By SATURNINUS, 9°-2°.

"We affirm the incarnation of Spirit in visible form or matter to be for the purpose of experience."

The question naturally arises: Experience in What?

By carefully noting the activities of human kind, we observe that in whatsoever field of endeavor the individual units may function, the object sought may summed up in three counts, viz.:

1. Organization.
2. Reproduction.
3. Government.

Descending the scale into the lower kingdoms, we note the same operation being carried on by the respective Group Spirits in control.

We observe that animals, under spiritual guidance, first organize their forces, then reproduce, and then in a measure govern the offspring.

In the plant kingdom we observe the same method is employed in that the forces are organized by the supervising Group Spirit preparatory to reproduction, then reproduction takes place, followed by a system of government in growth and development. By careful observation, we may note the same Law in operation in the mineral kingdom.

"As Above, So Below. As Below, So Above."

Reasoning then from evident analogy, the Occultist readily comprehends the Cosmic processes of Involution and Evolution. How that by the one, Cosmic Root Substance, void of experience is crystallized in Matter, the opposite pole of Spirit; and that how by the other, Matter is sublimated ultimately into Cosmic Root Substance, laden with experience.

At each Inbreathing of the Absolute, that which we term Matter, or the Forms in which the One Life is Manifest, is broken up, disintegrated and sublimated ultimately into Cosmic Root Substance, laden with experience.

When the Cosmic Night or Period of Rest is finished, and the experience gained in the previous incarnation has been assimilated and plans for extended Work based upon that experience have been formulated, the Great Bosom again Outbreathes, and the SAME Cosmic Root Substance or Spirit Re-incarnates "for the purpose of experience," using as a basis for future experiments in organization, reproduction and government, the ripe experience of past incarnations.

All progress in the building of Cosmos is the result of "Experience by Experiment." Yea, God and the gods experiment and thus improve in organizing, reproductive and governing ability. "As Above, So Below."

R. . C. . C. .

At a special service September 19th, the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity, Rev. H. V. A. Parcell was Consecrated Bishop (Titular) by Rt. Rev. Fr. Nestorius. After ten years of organizing work, this consecration completes the Episcopate and executive bodies governing our Work.

High Council Communication.

At the Stated Consistory held Sunday afternoon, September 19th, the following were elevated to the Eighth Degree, Magister Templi: Sr. Concordia, (M.D.K.), Fraters Rahula, (T.K.D.) and Bassus, (D.S.). The Degree was conferred in full ceremonial form by the Imperator, assisted by Fraters Nestorius, Paracelsus, Reficio, Firmus, Hermeticus, Dionysius, Apollos, Novius and Cronus.

College Notes.

We regret to report the severe illness of Frater Ophites. He is suffering from heart disease, a condition which has only recently come to our knowledge. Several of the Fraters have visited him at his home, 1802 Crotona Ave., Bronx.

At the Convocation of September 10th, we had the pleasure of the attendance of our Senior Magus and Praemonstrator, Fr. Nestorius, IX°, and of Soror Lebania, 9°2°. They departed for their home in Orlando, Florida, following the Consistory, on the 19th.

ROSIERUCIAN FUNDAMENTALS is now ready for delivery. Orders already in hand will be filled as shortly after the return of Frater Paracelsus on October 1st, as possible. Members of Metropolitan can secure copies at the Convocations. The price is now \$3.00 per copy, to all who have not sent in their orders or subscriptions prior to the last Convocation, September 24th. Every member of the Fraternity, whether Collegiate or in the Congregation of the Outer, is expected to be provided with a copy. This becomes the official text book of the S. . R. . I. . A. . in elementary Rosierucianism, and books published by other occult or psychical organizations will not be used further in the Work of the Societas Rosieruciana In America.

There are a few vacancies in the College, caused by action recently taken on delinquents. It is desirable that these vacancies be closed up quickly and the College kept at its full working quota. Members should be careful to note possible candidates for the Work and application blanks may be secured from the Secretary.



Directory.

The One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Stated Convocation of Metropolitan College

S. . R. . I. . A. ., will be held in the Adytum, 310 Lenox Avenue

Between 125th. and 126th. Streets, opposite 125th Street station, Lenox Ave. Subway.

Friday Evening, October 8, 1920, at 8.00 P. M. precisely

Work:

REGULAR CLASSES

Neophytes' Class Instructor, V. Wor. Fr. Reficio IX°

Subject: "COSMOLOGY," Rosierucian Fundamentals, Chapter I.

Elementary Hermetic Class.....Instructor, V. W. Fr. Firmus, IX°

Subject: Elementary Series No. 2,—“PRINCIPLE OF MENTALISM, OR MIND.”

Senior Hermetic Class.....Instructor, Rt. Wor. Fr. Paracelsus IX°

Advanced Class. { Instructor, Fr. K.
Asst. Instructor, Fr. Hermeticus VIII°

Subject: "THE LAW OF COMPENSATION,"

ASTROLOGICAL CLASS Convened at Room 1429, Masonic Hall, 24th Street on Thursday evening, September 30th. It was a Union Class under Fr. Firmus. In future the Class will meet regularly, with Fr. Firmus IX° and Sr. Progressia, 9°-2° as Instructors.

The THEOLOGICAL CLASS will resume work on a date to be announced later.

Declaratio Obsequii.

Metropolitan College acknowledges allegiance to the Magi and Officers of the High Council of the Societas Rosieruciana In America and Affiliated Councils, as the Sovereign Source of the Rosierucian Art in the United States of America. The House of the S. . S. . of this Obedience is at present situate in the the City of New York.