

BROUGHTON'S MONTHLY PLANET READER AND ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Vol. 1

PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 1, 1860.

No. 5.



Born April 23d, 1813, at 11.50, A. M.

Nativity of Hon. S. A. Douglas.

Is as a book before thee set;
Wherein to read his wondrous works, and learn
His seasons, hours, or days, or months, or years.
MIXON.

For heaven

Hon. S. A. Douglas was born on the 23d of April, 1813, and after rectifying his nativity, we place the time of birth about ten minutes to twelve o'clock in the forenoon. If the above be the correct time of birth, he was born under the Sun in the Sign Taurus. "The sun in Taurus describes a person rather short, well set, rather dark complexion, expressive mouth, broad face, and high forehead, strong and athletic. He is confident, has much self-esteem, and is not a little proud; delights in contention, having plenty of combativeness, and generally becomes conqueror." The Sun being in square to the planet Jupiter, and the Moon will give him great energy and perseverance in accomplishing what he thinks is right and just; and he will often cause himself many enemies among the higher classes, on that account, yet perhaps there is not a more honorable man living, and one that will be more merciful to enemies when he has proved himself conqueror. The planet Mercury, which rules the mental faculties, being in conjunction with Venus, will give him a refined turn of mind, and one that will appreciate the beautiful in nature and art; and we should say that he will take much pleasure in such as music, poetry, or paintings. But at the same time, Mercury being in square to both Saturn and Mars, will cause him to be of a very suspicious turn of mind, and one that will act with some degree of caution before he commits himself; and he will often be on his guard for fear his enemies will try to accomplish their object by some underhand work. But at the same time, he will be a straight-forward, bold kind of a character, and will scorn to stoop to mean actions himself. The planet Mercury being in Aries in aspect to the Moon will cause him to have a very accurate and penetrating mind, of good elocution and sound logic; and his arguments will be calculated to carry conviction to the minds of all those who are within reach of his voice. He will be quick at learning, and will never be satisfied to remain a superficial scholar; but will want to penetrate to the bottom of every science that he takes

hold of. He would make a good lawyer, and be better calculated to split hairs, than Lincoln is to split rails.

The Sun is the Giver of Life in this Nativity, and, it being in evil aspect to the planet Jupiter and the Moon, will show that he is not of a very strong constitution but will be subject to severe spells of sickness. The parts of his body that will be the most likely to be affected will be the throat and upper part of the chest, and he will be likely to be affected at the side and heart.

The Moon first makes a good aspect of the planet Venus, in the sign Aries, and of course his first wife would be denoted by that planet. Venus in Aries describes a person about the middle stature, slender made, light hair and good complexion, oval face and of a very genteel appearance, and of good abilities. But the planet Venus being afflicted by an evil aspect of both Saturn and Mars, and they being in the sixth house (the house of sickness) would cause her to be of a very weak constitution and of short life.

His second wife is denoted by the planet Mercury, in the sign Aries, which will describe a person about the middle size, rather slender made, brown hair, and rather light in complexion, good looking, and one that will be very intelligent.

The above nativity would indicate but few children, on account of Jupiter lord of the fifth house, (the house of children,) being afflicted by a square of the Sun and in opposition of the Moon, which would show that he would not be very fortunate in children nor have a large family; perhaps he might have some three or four altogether.

Mr. Douglas has a fortunate nativity, but he will meet with a great deal of opposition all through life, chiefly from the higher classes, yet he will generally prove conqueror. He has had several unfortunate aspects in his nativity of late, he had one very evil aspect about last January, that is Saturn stationary over the ascendant and in square to Herschel, which would affect his health and cause him some unhappiness of a domestic nature; he likewise had evil aspects in his Nativity last April and May, that is the Moon in opposition to the Sun" place and in square to Jupiter's and her

own place (secondary directions) and at the present time he has the planet Saturn passing a square of Herschel's place, (transit) and likewise he will have the Moon passing a square of Jupiter (secondary direction) in the latter part of September next, which will cause him to become somewhat unpopular. But at the same time he will have the planet Jupiter transiting over his own place and over the ascendant which is a very fortunate aspect, and we are of the opinion if there is a President elected by the people this coming election he will be the MAN.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.


In this month's number we have published the Nativity of S. A. Douglas, and given our opinion that if there is any one elected President by the people Douglas is the *man*. But we might mention that the aspects indicate that it is very doubtful about any one being elected President by the people this next November, but that it is very likely to go to the House. Should that be the case, it will cause much contention and broils in that building, and there will be much excitement throughout the country. But Douglas will be very likely to come off conqueror after all, as he has the strongest Nativity of the whole four candidates. Should it be delayed in the House until December, Lincoln has a very fortunate aspect that will come up about that time, but we should say that it will be too late to be of any use to him in that respect. We did think that Breckenridge would be a great rival with Douglas for the White House, but we are not sure that we have got Breckenridge's correct date of birth, as there are two dates published, one is the 16th and the other the 21st of January, 1821; if the former is the right date of birth, Breckenridge has not such a fortunate Nativity as we thought he had.

So far as we have been able to examine Bell's Nativity he will be the last man in the race to the White House. But we are not sure that we have got Bell's correct date of birth.

Some of our readers will perhaps say if the science of Astrology is true, and can be depended on, that we ought to be able to tell for certain who will be elected Pre-

sident, and we ought to be able to tell just how it will end. If the correct hour and minute of birth of all the candidates could be had, and the science was properly understood, then in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, of any thing of that nature, could be told for certain just how it would turn out months before it took place. But when the given time of birth is not the correct time, or it cannot be had, then every Astrologer is liable to make mistakes, and the science is not to blame for those mistakes, any more than the science of arithmetic would be to blame if a person had to state two numbers for you to multiply together, and those figures were of the wrong kind. It would be a rather curious affair if the sum should come out all right and square in the end.

Sometimes when the given time of birth is correct, then it even may be possible for an Astrologer to make mistakes, just the same as a professor of any other science may make mistakes, and perhaps more so. As Wilson, in his Dictionary of Astrology, when writing about Placidus, stating that a certain kind of aspect never fails, he says, "For my own part, I am persuaded it never fails; but I cannot say so much for human judgment, which too often fails, owing, as Ptolemy justly observes, to the vast magnitude of the undertaking, where such numerous opposite and intricate points are left for our consideration."

 In our next number we intend publishing Lincoln's Nativity, in the same style that we have published Douglas' Nativity this month.

Continued from Page 28, No. 4

ASTROLOGY DEFENDED.

Mr. Bonner has tried several times to get the public down on the fortune-teller in New York. We remember seeing very near a column in "The New York Ledger" at two different times, written with the intention of exposing the fortune-telling business in that city.

If Mr. Bonner had stuck to the plan of exposing the impostors who take up the business of fortune-telling, or any other business, purposely to swindle people out of their money, he would have had our warm

thanks and co-operation. But when he leaves these impostors and turns round and begins attacking Astrology, and tells us that fortune-telling by cards, by casting nativities, or by any other method, is utterly false and an insult to the Majesty of Heaven, then we have to stand on the defensive and declare war against him.

One of the main reasons that we have chosen the above sentence to make a few remarks on, is, that it appears to contain in the fore part of it the sum and substance of what the dictionaries and encyclopædias have to say on Astrology; and the latter part of the sentence contains the opinion of the ignorant class on that science and its professors, as almost all uninformed persons believe that Astrologers are very wicked people, and that they sell their souls to the Devil,* and when they leave this world they go to a very bad place.

We shall proceed to examine this wonderful sentence each part separately, and see how much truth it contains, but we shall dwell more particularly on the latter part of it, as that is the most important part to us. Because if it be true that casting nativities is an insult to the Majesty of Heaven, we must plead guilty of having insulted the Majesty of Heaven very often, and we are afraid that it will be woe unto us when we come to die and the day of retribution arrives. "Then us poor sinners can't stand the fire in that great day."

To be.

continued in our next.

* We remember some years ago, going to a hospital in that part of England that we came from, to see a friend that was sick, and in the same ward there was a young girl that told us she used to live with an old Astrologer called William Seeds, (a gentleman whom my father was well acquainted with, as he was in the habit of visiting our house.) And to the same room there was a very religious lady who heard the girl telling us about living with the above named gentleman, and this lady asked her why she lived with such a wicked man as that fortune-teller. But the girl replied by saying that she never knew anything wrong by him, but, on the contrary, he was a very pious man, and used to say his prayers every night and morning. The religious lady said, if he did pray, then he prayed to the Devil. We find it uncommonly difficult to live with us. A short time ago I sent a girl, and there was one I agreed to come right away; but when she came and found out what kind of business we followed,

The Fate of the Nation, for August. 1860.

The New Moon, from which we make our predictions for August, occurs July 16th at 9 h. 18 m., a. m., Philadelphia time. Mercury is lord of the scheme and is on the cusp of the twelfth house, near a conjunction of Saturn, but before Mercury comes to the body of that planet, he turns retrograde. Herschel is on the cusp of the tenth house, and the Sun, Moon and Venus are all in opposition to Mars. These aspects indicate that there will be much excitement and treachery among the politicians. Business is not good this month, and danger of heavy failures among the higher classes on account of speculation.

Mexico feels the effect of Mars afflicted in Capricorn; there will be much treachery and warlike movements in that country; and the government of that nation stands on a very tottering foundation. The above aspect will likewise afflict California; business will be dull with them, and the gold diggings are not yielding so much of that precious metal now, nor will not for some time to come.

Philadelphia still feels the evil effects of Saturn in Leo, business will keep dull for some weeks to come. Fires will be plentiful, and the state of the public health will not be over good during this month, and robberies and perhaps murders will be too frequent; let the people take care of their lives and property this month.

Things are not so prosperous in New York as they have been. Fires will be numerous, and great danger of some heavy calamity befalling that city before a great while.

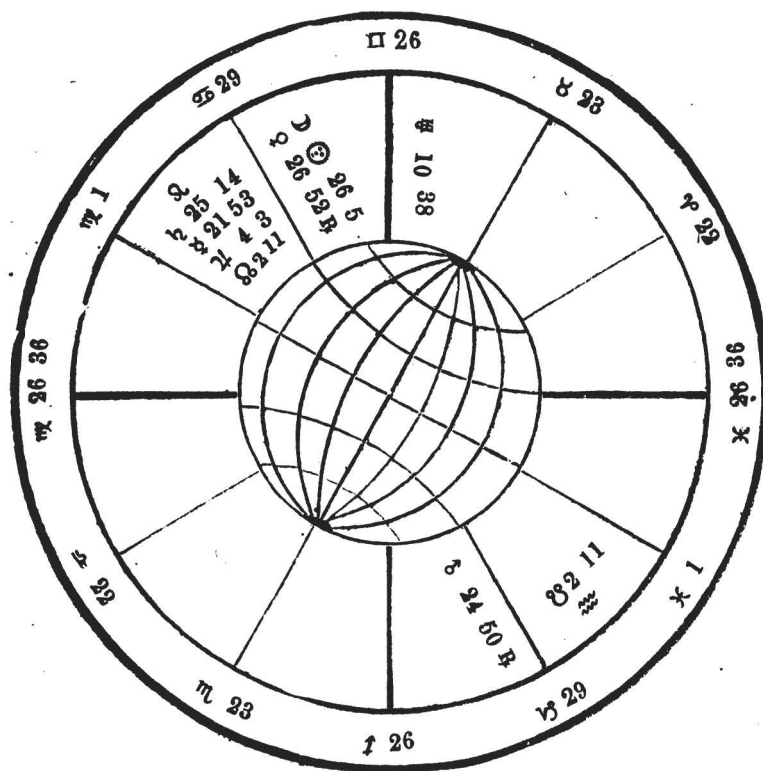
All those persons born about the 18th of July in any year will feel the evil effects of Mars in opposition to their Sun's place; much deceit is threatened to them, lovers' quarrels, domestic disputes, and danger of much business, and perhaps unfaithfulness will be their portion for these

much quarrels, much sickness in private life next two months.

people at the Intelligence Office that she would not sleep a night in our house for all the world, as she said, she went back and told the Intelligence Office that she would not stay there for all the world, as she said, that the Devil would fetch her.

A SCHEME OF THE HEAVENS FOR THE SOLAR ECLIPSE.

For Philadelphia Mean Time of Conjunction, in Right
Ascension, July 18th, 1860, 9 h., 2 m., a. m.



The above Eclipse took place when the Sun was twenty-six degrees and five minutes in Cancer. The planet Venus was in conjunction with the Sun and Moon, and they were all three in opposition to the planet Mars. Mercury lord of the ascendant being in conjunction with Saturn in the Sign Leo will afflict Philadelphia. It fore-shadows many fires and incendiaries in this city during the next six months; and there will be much deceit practised by the politicians, and those in office.

This eclipse will afflict New York for some time to come; there will be many fires and riots in that city, and shipwrecks and vessels on fire will be among the news

of the day. Business will be dull in that city, and the poor will suffer much for want of the common necessities of life. And we should say that the State of New York will be visited with heavy floods and tornados, which will afflict the farming districts very much.

California comes in for a share of its afflictions; the gold mines are not so well attended, and the people are seeking their fortunes in other States. Business will fall off, and there will be much dissatisfaction among the inhabitants of that part of the country, and many of them will remove to other parts.

Mexico is in a very unsettled condition,

and we look for news of a startling nature coming from that Nation before the end of the next September. Some change in their government will take place which will be attended with much bloodshed and loss of human life. And there will be some earthquakes that will afflict that part of the country, and the shock will be felt for a great number of miles.

There will be an Eclipse of the Moon on the 1st of August, 1860, at 33 minutes after 12 o'clock, at noon, but as it is invisible in the United States the effects, Astrologically speaking, will be very slight in this country.

ASTROLOGY.

"Ye stars, which are the poetry of Heaven !
 "If, in your bright leaves, we would read the fate
 "Of men and empires,—'tis to be forgiven."

LORD BYRON.

Of all sciences, whether true or false, which have at any time engaged the attention of the world, there is not one of which the real or assumed principles are less generally known, in the present age, than those of Astrology. The whole doctrine of this science is commonly understood to have been completely overturned ; and, of late, people seem to have satisfied themselves with merely knowing the import of its name. Such contended ignorance, in persons, too, sufficiently informed in other respects, is the more extraordinary, since Astrology has sustained a most conspicuous part throughout the history of the world, even until days comparatively recent. In the East, where it first arose, at a period of very remote antiquity, and whence it came to subjugate the intellect of Europe, it still even now holds sway. In Europe, and in every part of the world where learning had "impress'd the human soil," Astrology reigned supreme until the middle of the 17th century. It entered into the councils of princes, it guided the policy of nations, and ruled the daily actions of individuals. All this is attested by the records of every nation which has a history, and by none more fully than by those of England. Yet, with these striking facts before their eyes, the present generation seem never, until now, to have inquired on what basis this belief of their forefathers was established

nor by what authority the delusion (if it was one) could have been for so many ages supported. Among a thousand persons who now treat the mention of Astrology with supercilious ridicule, there is scarcely one who knows distinctly what it is *he laughs at*, or on what plea his ancestors should stand excused for having, in their day, contemplated with respect the unfortunate object of modern derision.

The general want of information on these points, and the indifference with which such want has been hitherto regarded, cannot surely be attributed solely to the modern disrepute of the science ; for mankind have usually, in every successive age, exercised great industry in tracing all previous customs, however trifling or obsolete, and in examining all sorts of creeds, however unimportant or erroneous, whenever there has appeared any striking connection between such matters and historical facts ; and, since astrology is most unquestionably blended intimately with history, it therefore becomes necessary to seek for some further hypothesis, by which this ignorance and indifference may be accounted for.

Perhaps astrology has been conceived to have borne the same relation to astronomy as alchymy did to chymistry. If such has been the notion, it has certainly been adopted in error, for a modern chymist is still almost an alchymist : it is true that he no longer delays his work in deference to the planets, nor does he now try to make gold, nor to distil the elixir of earthly immortality ; but nevertheless he still avails himself, to a certain degree, of the same rules and the same means as those of the old alchymist : he is still intent upon the subtle processes of Nature, and still imitates her as far as he can. He reduces the diamond to charcoal by an operation analogous to that by which the alchymist sought to transmute lead into gold ; and he mainly differs from the alchymist only in having assured himself that there is a point beyond which Nature forbids facsimiles. Not so slightly, however, does the astronomer differ from the astrologer, but *toto cælo* : the astrologer considered the heavenly bodies and their motions merely as the mechanism wherewith he was to weave the tissue of his predictions ; and astronomy is no more an integral part of astrology, than the loom is

of the web which has been woven by it.—To have an idea of what alchymy was, it is sufficient to have an idea of chymistry; but astronomy, in itself, will never give a notion of astrology, which requires additional and distinct consideration.

It may be urged, that in the present day a general idea of this by-gone and disused science is quite sufficient for every body not professedly antiquarian. Such an assertion would doubtless never be controverted, provided the proposed general idea might comprehend the truth. But the present actual general idea of astrology is by no means so comprehensive; indeed, nothing can well be more inaccurate, or even more false: it seems to have been adopted not from the elements of the science itself, but from trite observations made by writers against the science; and consequently the world now wonders at the lamentable defect of understanding that could ever have permitted belief in it—forgetting that astrology has been consigned to neglect, not in consequence of any *prima facie* palpability in its imputed fallacies, nor indeed of any special skill or acuteness on the part of its professed adversaries, but rather in consequence of the sudden and astonishing growth of other undoubted sciences, with which it has been presumed to be incompatible, and which during the thousands of years of the reign of astrology were either unborn, or still slumbering in continued infancy.

In executing here the desire of attempting to vindicate the ancient credence in astrology, an elaborate disquisition would surely be not only unnecessary, but misplaced: it seems sufficient to refer the reader to the works on the subject, and to these undisputed facts,—that the science was formerly inculcated by the highest and most erudite authorities of the period,—that it was insisted on by votaries in all parts of the world, attesting and producing instances of its truth;—and, moreover, that it was so finely and beautifully put together, as to cause the only deficiency of one small, though most important, link in its whole chain of argument, to be undetected by dull minds, and readily supplied by enthusiastic genius. For centuries after centuries all branches of learning were either made subservient to astrology, or carried on in close alliance with it; and many of

the illustrious names which it recalls to our recollection are gratefully revered even by modern science. The genius of Roger Bacon, although he was the first of that school of natural philosophy which acknowledges none but experimented truths, was nevertheless bowed to the doctrines of judicial astrology; and his greater Namesake, who after an interval of several centuries succeeded to him in giving proper direction to the mental energy, was still an arguer in favour of celestial influences: it may be, therefore, fairly inferred, that the subtle spell which had strength to enthrall “stuff” so “stern,” could have been of no weak or vulgar order, but that it was sufficiently potent and refined to interest and amuse even the present age.

J. M. ASHMAND.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE MOON

IN AFFAIRS OF IMPORTANCE AND MAGNITUDE

According as she is Increasing, or in the Wane.

Not only does the moon claim the most powerful eminence, in every part of Astrological Science whether as it relates to the fate of the newborn infant, or to the fate of any individual enterprise; but those who are skilful in husbandry well know that plants or herbs which are sown, or even trees which are planted in the decrease or wane of the moon, seldom thrive, or afford hopes of fruitfulness. But my readers are not aware that her occult influence extends even to affairs of business in a general way. Therefore, let those who would have any pursuit or undertaking successful, observe the course of the moon; and, above all things, *begin nothing of consequence in the decrease*, which is from the second day of the full moon to the next new moon (which the commonest almanack will show:) for long experience *proves*, that, with very few objections, there does not exist half the chance of success to any pursuit during that time; and, on the contrary, affairs and business of any kind, *which are begun in the increase of the moon*, that is, from the second day after the new moon to the time of the full, have a far better prospect of success, allowing for natural obstacles, than at the opposite period.

This, if well understood and duly observed, may save a world of trouble; and it is a singular fact, that nearly all the *unsuccessful* literary publications, especially newspapers and periodicals, which are so continually appearing, and as constantly failing, are ushered forth to public notice *while the moon is in her decrease*: I leave this to the notice and verification of my readers.—It is a fact denying contradiction, I can assure them: and a slight observation of events will enable them to prove it. The reason for which, in an

astrological point of view, is, because the moon signifies not only the community at large, of every nation, but also those changes in fashionable and popular opinion which result from no apparent origin; but which, although whimsical, are yet too powerful for a thinking person, well acquainted with the foibles and vices of mankind, to despise.

"For He made the moon also to serve in her season, for a declaration of times, and a sign of the world."—*Ecclesiastes*. xliiii. 6.

The celebrated Dr. Mead, well known as one of the most skilful of his day, whose portrait is hung in the new assembly room of the Royal College of Physicians, England, has these remarks upon the "Influence of the Moon."

"To conclude, the powerful action of the moon is observed not only by philosophers and natural historians, but even by the common people, who have been fully persuaded of it time out of mind. Pliny relates, that Aristotle laid it down as an aphorism, *that no animal dies but in the ebb of the tide!* And that births and deaths chiefly happen about the new and full moon, is an axiom among women. The husbandmen, likewise, are regulated by the moon in planting and managing trees; and several other of their occupations.—So great is the empire of the moon over the terraqueous globe."

Influence of the Moon on Vegetation.

The value of timber out in the Island of Trinidad, is said to depend on the age of the Moon.—Practical men there report great difference in its durability, when planted in various ages of the Moon.

Who can say from experience that the Moon has not an influence on the growth of beans, peas, cabbage, vines, lettuce, cucumbers, hyssop, palm tree, lily, white roses, poppies, linseed, moonwort, colewort, &c.?

I challenge any gardener to disprove any of the following assertions.

1. That if *peas* are sown in the increase of the moon, they never cease blooming.

2. That a *pomegranate* will live only as many years as the moon was days old when it was planted.

3. That if *fruits* and *herbs* are set after the moon is fifteen days old, they are neither so rich in flavour, nor so strong and healthy, as when planted when the moon is between three and fourteen days old.

4. Vines pruned during the Moon's increase will spread further, than when pruned during her wane.

5. Shrubs, and the like, if planted during the Moon's increase, and in Π , Δ , or Σ , will take little root and shoot straight up.

6. Shrubs if planted when the Moon is in γ , π , or ψ , and on her decrease, they will take deep root and strike downwards.

QUESTIONS.—1. Why do some flowers open their blossoms during the night?

2. Why do some blossoms appear only whilst the sun is up?

ADVICE.—Sow pease, beans, &c., when the Moon is about the full; prune vines during the moon's last quarter. Shrubs intended to grow quickly and luxuriantly should be pruned in the moon's second quarter. Fruits and herbs should be planted in the moon's second quarter. Shrubs intended to take deep root and grow slowly and stiffly should be planted when the moon is past full, and passing through the earthly signs γ , π , and ψ . But if they are to take little root and grow tall and straight, plant them before the full moon, and whilst she is passing either Π , Δ , or Σ , this may be known by consulting any common Almanac.

PUBLISHED BY

L. D. BROUGHTON,

No. 353 North Tenth St., Philadelphia, Pa.

At 4 cents a single copy, and to mail subscribers at 50 cents a year, in advance.

Postage will be pre-paid for 6 cents extra or 56 cents a year, in advance.

Great inducements to Post Masters and others to get up clubs:—A club of five, 2 dollars; a club of ten, 4 dollars; a club of twenty, 8 dollars, and so on, all in advance.

Any person getting up a club of five can have any proper question in Astrology answered by letter free of charge. Any person getting up a club of ten, will be entitled to a five-dollar nativity, written either for themselves or a child, or any other person, by sending the time and place of birth. Any person getting up a club of twenty will be entitled to a ten dollar nativity, to be sent by mail free of charge, within one month of the time of receiving the order.

All orders and communications to be addressed to the publisher and proprietor, L. D. BROUGHTON, No. 353 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa., or to Box 573 Post Office, Philadelphia, Pa.