

BROUGHTON'S MONTHLY PLANET READER, AND ASTROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Entered according to the Act of Congress in the year 1865, by Dr. L. D. BROUGHTON, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Vol. 6.

NEW YORK, OCT. NOV. & DEC., 1865.

No. 4.

ALPHABETICAL LISTS

OF THE HERBS, FRUITS, PLANTS & ROOTS,

ALLOTTED UNDER THE

Several Planets of whose Quality they partake:

TOGETHER WITH PROPER

DIRECTIONS AS TO THE BEST TIME OF GATHERING.

This being that particular season of the year when ripe fruits are gathered for preserving, and that also when most medicinal herbs, plants and roots, are in perfection for being collected to store; it would be negligence to omit, at this moment, such instructions concerning the times most proper to be observed in collecting each production, as they have been transmitted by some of the highest authorities that the medical profession could ever boast. This, indeed, may be said to be one of the most useful and best perfected branch of Astrology, as it is altogether practical, and established on the experience of all ages and countries. It wants no arguments to prove that one time is better than another for performing the operations of botany; and every person at all acquainted with the subject, knows that there are peculiar hours of the day when every species of herb is more vigorous than it is at others; and these changes are occasioned by the influence of its planet, according to its various positions in its diurnal progress. We shall, therefore, first allot, under each planet, the herbs, &c., which have been assigned to it; and afterwards give proper and plain directions concerning the times of gathering. The mode of arrangement here adopted on this useful and valuable subject will, it is presumed, be found more perspicuous than any heretofore made public, and its benefits will be soon discovered by any persons who pay attention to the observations, and put them in practice.

Botanical productions assigned to Saturn.

Alder, black	Polybody of	Shepherd's	Two leaved
Angelica	the Oak	Purse	Grass
Barley	Blackthorne	Fern	Hemlock
Bearsfoot	Burdock	Fumitory	Henbane
Beets	Cat-tail	Giadwyu	Mandrake
Bird-foot	Clowns	Hawk-weed	Moss of Oak
Paranip, plan-	Woolfswort	Hellebore,	Nightshade
tane	Comfrey	black	Oak
	Poppy, black	Tamarisk	Yarrow

Botanical productions assigned to Jupiter.

Agrimony	Dodder of	Periwinkle	Gromvel
Aromatic Reed	Thyme	Hartstongue	Purplewort
Arack	Dogstones	Myssop	Sage
Barberries	Elecampane	Knograss	Saracen's Coff.
Betony, Wood	Elm leaves	Larkspur, blue	Satyrion

Betony	Water Elm	Yark	Liquorice	Scurvy-grass
Bilberries	Eudive		Liverwort	Self-heal
Bloodwort	Fellwort		Lungwort	Smallage
Borage	Feverfew		Mallovs	Spleenwort
Bugloss	Flax, wild		Marjoram	Succory
Centuary	Flower-de-luce	Mint, Gilly-		Thyme
Ch-ries	Foolstones	flower		Thyme, Mother
Cinquefoil	Foxglove	Mulberries		of
Coltsfoot	Fumitory	Earsnip, wild		Violets
Daisy	Gandergrass	Peony		Wallwort
Dandelion	Goatsbeard	Poppy, blue		Wheat

Botanical productions assigned to Mars.

Agnus Castus	Crosswort	Hellebore	Rocket
Alehoof, or	Crowfoot	Helmet-flower	Rupturewort
Grand Ivy	Danewort	Hemp, Holly	Savine
Anemone	Darnel	Hops	Sassafras
Ar-smart	Dittander	Horse-radish	Scitica Cresse-
Asarabacca	Hittany	Horse-tail	es
Asphodel	Docks, all kinds	Jack-by-the	Scorpion-grass
Beans, scarlet	Dogstooth	Hedge	Selfheal
Beet, red	Doves-foot	Ivy	Sena
Bell-flowers	Dragons	Knapweed	Shepherds
Bendwood	Dropwort	Leeks	Purao
Birchwort	Dyersweed	Louseberries	Sneeze wort
Bishopwood	Elderbuds	Madder	Soapwort
Buttersweet	Fern	Monkswood	Solomon's Seal
Box-tree	Ficgane	Mouse-ear	Spearwort
Branhle-hnds	Fuize	Mustard-seed	Spurge
and Berries	Galangal	Mustard, hedge	Swallow-wort
Brookline	Garlick	Nettles	Tamarisks
Broom, rape	Germander	Onions	Tarragon
Briony	Ginger	Osmond	Thistles, all
Buckthorn	Gladen, stink-	Peppertwort	kids
Butterbur	ing	Pilewort	Toothwort
Butterwort	Glasswort	Poppy, red	Wakerobin
Catmint	Goutwort	Radish	Wallwort
Cockle	Groundpine	Ragwort	Wood
Coloquintida	Hawthorn	Rhubarb	Wood sage
Cookoo-pint	Heath	Rhubarb, bas-	Woodwaxoh
		tard	

Botanical productions assigned to the Sun.

Allgood	Crown Im-	Lovage	Rosemary
Almonds	perial	Marigolds	Rue
Angelica	Daffodils	Marjoram,	Saffron
Anis-	Dibbany	sweet	Sage
Ash-tree	Dill	Masterwort	St. Cath.
Avens	Eulantine	Maudlin sweet	flowers
Balm or Baum	Elecampane	Mawweed	St. James's
Basil	Eyebright	Mellilot	Wort
Birdseye	Fennel	Mint, garden	St. John's
Borage	Fugwort	Mistletoe	Wort
Bugle	Gillyflower,	Motherwort	St. Peter's
Burnet	sweet	Megwort	Wort
Butterbur	Golden Rod	Mullen	Samphire
Calamints	Herb-sar	Nutmegs	Sanicle
Camomile	Hollyrose	Oxlips	Savoury
Celandine	Juniper	Palma Christi	Saunders
Centuary	Ivy	Parsley	Scordium
Chervil	Ladies Bed-	Pennyroyal	Sorrel, wood
Cloves & Mace	st, aw	Peony	Southernwood
Comfrey,	Ladies Mantle	Pimpernel	Spiguel
yellow	Lavender	Raisins	Sumach
C-atmary	Lavender,	Rosa Solis	Sunden
Cowslip	cotton	Roses, Damas	Sunflowers
	Lillies, yellow	Koes, red	Truelovg

Botanical productions assigned to the Moon.

Agrimony	Flags	Mouse-ear	Privet
Water	Flower-de-luce	Mushrooms	Purslane
Betony	Fluellin	Orpine	Roses, white
Burnet	Houseleek	Palm-tree	Sassafras
Cabbage	Lillies, water	Plantain,	white
Chickweed	Lettuce	water	Turnips,
Coleworts	Nelons	Pompions	At all roses
Cupcunbers	Moonwort	Poppies	Willow-tree
Duckweed			

All such herbs, besides the above-mentioned, as turn towards the Moon, increasing and decreasing as her power is exerted, more or less, upon them partake of her nature, and sympathize with her, being most juicy or full of sap when she has most influence, and they may be collected under her at the discretion of the collector.

Botanical productions assigned to Venus.

Adder-tongue	Beans, white	Burdock	flowers
Alehoof	Bearsbreach	Cherries	Cockshrad
Apples	Bachleaver	Chickweed	Coltsfoot
Archangel	Beet, white	Clary	Columbines
Arrow-head	Blites	Cleavers,	white
Artichokes	Buckthorn	Herifor	Comfrey
Crab and Crab-tree	Herb Truelove	Goosegrass	Cowslips
Cranesbill	Houndstongue	Parsley, stone	Snakewood
Cudweed	Ladies Mantle	Paul's Bettony	Sorrel, wood
Daffodil	Larkspur,	Peach flowers	Sowthistle
Daisies	white	Pellitory of the	Spinaige
Dandelion	Lillies, white	Wall	Stitchwort
Devilbit	Maidenhair	Pennyroyal	Strawberries
Duckweed	Mallows	Periwinkle,	Sycamore tree
Elderflowers	Mellilot	wild	Tansy, wild
Flaxweed	Moneywort	Plantain	Throatwort
Fleawort	Moss of Apple-tree	Pondweed	Three-leaved
Groundsel	Mugwort	Primrose	Grass
Sourdes	Mulberry	Ribwort	Turnip Roots
Gromvel	Leaves	Roses, white	Vine leaves
Héartsase	Navelwort	Rushes	Violet leave
	Orrack, white	Saunders	Watercresses

Botanic productions assigned to Mercury.

Acon'e	Endive	Majoram,	Shallage
Allgood	Fluellin	sweet	Sörrel garden
Barberries	Hazelnut	Meadowsweet	Starwort
Bloodwort	Honeysuckle	Medar tree	Succory
Bell-flower	Horehound	Millet, Oats	Tansy, wild
Bluebottle	Liquorice	Parsley	Tresfoil
Carraways	Liverwort	Pellitory of the	Valerian
Carrots	Loose-strife	Wall	Whortleberry
Columbine	Loosewort	Privet	Willow-tree
Dill	Lungwort	Quinces	Woodbine
Dog grass	Madder	Samphire	leaves
		Savoury	Yarrow

So variously and so widely does the science of Astrology branch and shoot out, that it cannot be expected in a periodical like the "Planet Reader," to pursue any one of its subjects from beginning to end: our aim, therefore, is to give that which applies to particular times and seasons, in the best manner we are able.

It would have been desirable to have given brief sketches of the great men who laid the foundation of botanical astrology and medicine, previous to introducing what we are here doing on these subjects; in order that our readers might have been better enabled to appreciate that which is about to be offered; but had this plan been adopted, we must have postponed our botanical remarks until the annual season of gathering had passed by. A fact or two however, from the life of Hippocrates, who was one of the first and perhaps the most successful Astro-Medical Botanists, will serve to show the importance of a knowledge of herbs, in connection with the Astral Sciences.

Hippocrates and his skill in subduing Plagues.

"While dwelling in his native island, Cós, the Illyrians sent Ambassadors to him to come and remove a raging pestilence which threatened to depopulate their country; and having acquainted himself with some circumstances

preceeding and attending the contagion, and of its probably spreading into Thessaly and Greece, by the winds which prevailed; he immediately sent his two sons, Thessalus and Draco, with his son-in-law, Polybus, and several of his pupils, into different places, with necessary instructions, and went himself to the assistance of the Illyrians; and by his wonderful skill, he in a short time purified the air of the noxious quality with which it was infected; afterwards visiting some other places to which its ravages had extended themselves, and in the course of which mission he administered life to thousands of the dying, and was everywhere hailed as a saviour of the countries he visited. Having finally stayed the devastating malady, he went to Delphos and offered up prayers and sacrifices to Apollo; and passing through Bœotia, made his appearance in Athens, where he received the title of *the divine*."

"On another occasion mentioned by Thucydides, an eye-witness, he delivered Athens from a plague, which was more pressing and raging than the former. This extraordinary deliverance is also recounted in the subsequent writings of Lucretius, who informs us that one of the methods he made use of, was to order great fires to be kept lighted up along the streets, into which he directed that quantities of aromatic flowers and herbs should be plentifully thrown; the odours of which contributed to cleanse the air, and arrest the ravages of the pestilence.

Planetary Influences to be consulted by Botanists.

Those who intend to arrive at any degree of perfection in the science of botany, must thoroughly understand the manner in which the several planets successively reign over the successive hours of the day; and by means of this knowledge, they will be able to exercise a necessary discretion in gathering and preserving the various productions of vegetable nature. Our limits will not, of course, permit us to give a regular treatise on so enlarged a branch of practical medicine; all therefore we can do is to refer to those authors which contain the best instructions for practice. Those who would go to the fountain-head, will consult Mackius's Hippocrates, 2 vol. folio, Vienna, 1743; and Gallen's works. 5 vols. folio, Basil, 1588. But for common and general use the works of Mr. Nicholas Culpepper, may be consulted with advantage.

The tables of the planetary hours, and of their places of dignity, and increasing and diminishing power, may be found in almost any elementary work upon Astrology; but Morinus in his *Astrologia Galica*, has the most rational elucidation of these particulars: and indeed, were he not so famous for his unscientific blunders, Sibly has collected a variety of useful matter relative to Medicinal Astrology, and the subject we are here upon.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS RELATIVE TO GATHERING AND PRESERVING LEAVES.

The virtues of some plants reside wholly in the leaves—in others, the whole plant is cut off close to the root—some, again are only cultivated for the flowers—others, for the fruits—others, for the seeds—others, for the roots—while sometimes the bark, the wood, the excrecences, &c. are alone efficacious. Now according as the nature of the plant is, so are these parts to be selected, and used as medicinals, either fresh gathered, or to be dried and preserved for use.

When the leaves of any plant are the part fittest for use, they are never to be gathered from the stalk, but are to be chozen from the most vigorous of those springing immediately from the root; and the virtue of these is most powerful when there is no stalk for in many plants, although the leaves growing from the root were very vigorous before the stalk grew up, yet, as it rises, they lose their essence, and wither and die. When the juice is required, these are the leaves from which it is always to be pressed; and for this and all other purposes they should be cut up close from the root, and only shook clean, not washed. Washing them, carries off, in many, much of the virtue.

If such leaves are to be dried, they must be gathered when most vigorous; the same caution not to wash them being enjoined. The best way of drying them is in an airy room, prepared with proper lines. They should then be threaded on coarse thread, with a needle, in convenient lengths, and hanged along the lines; but never laid on the open ground, which draws from them much of their juice. When thoroughly dried, they should be put up in a drawer; pressed down very compact, and covered with clean paper, to be used at any future time; as they may be wanted at a season when not to be had from the field or garden.

When the entire plant, except the root, is to be used, care must be taken to gather it just when in season. Nature in the whole growth of plants, tends to the production of their flowers and seeds: but as these are arriving at perfection, the other parts begin to decay. The exact time, therefore, when the entire plant is in perfection, is, when the buds are formed for flowering, and previous to a single flower having disclosed itself.

If the entire herb is to be dried, it is especially necessary that it be gathered just in bud; and the best time of day on all occasions, is just as the morning dew is dried away. This is an important thing to be observed: for if herbs be cut in a state of wetness with either dew or rain, they will not dry well, nor retain their proper virtues. It is also well to observe that the leaves of many plants which belong to Saturn, Jupiter and Venus, in particular droop in the middle of the day, if the Sun is very

powerful; and, when its leaves at all flag from this or any other cause, on no account must the plant be gathered for keeping.

When herbs are to be used fresh, it is best not to take them entire, but only to cut or nip off the tops. If for infusion, they may be used three or four inches long: if for other purposes, less; if to be beaten up with sugar, &c. the freshest and very tender parts, not more than an inch in length, should be chozen.

In drying herbs with their stalks, let the dead end of the stalks be cut away, and all the dry or withered leaves be taken off; then tie the herbs in small branches, the smaller the better and hang them along your lines in your drying room, six inches asunder. When perfectly dry, take them softly down without shaking off the buds of the flowers: and laying them evenly in drawers, press them down, and cover them with paper. They are thus ready for infusions or decoctions; and for distillation they are even better than when fresh gathered.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON GATHERING FLOWERS, SEEDS AND FRUITS.

For the most part, the flowers of plants are used fresh, though several kinds retain their virtues very well dried. Among these are the Lavender and Stœcha flowers. Those of the Lavender require to be simply stripped off from the stalk, and spread upon clean sheets of paper until perfectly dry. Of the Stœcha flowers the whole head is to be cut from the stalk, and dried in like manner; and these when dry, are to be kept as directed concerning herbs.

Rosemary flowers are generally taken with some of the leaves about them, and as the leaves near the flower retain considerable virtue it is desirable that plants of this nature should be thus gathered.

Rose-buds are sometimes dried, but more frequently the leaves of the full-blown flower. If the buds are chozen, they must be cut from the stem, and cleared from the husk, and dried in like manner; and it is the red garden rose that is always used for these purposes.

Flowers that admit not of being thus preserved, are formed into syrups and conserves, such as the syrup of cloves, or of poppies; the conserve of cowslips, and the like; and as these remain only a very small part of the year in a state of perfection, it is necessary to be very particular in the time of using them.

Nothing is more easy than to preserve the seeds of plants, which are all required to be perfectly ripe before gathered; and nature having performed her part, they are delivered to our hands in a state almost fit for use. They only require to be spread for a few days, after being collected, where the air has a free passage, but where the sun cannot reach them; and having turned them over a time or two while drying, they will be fit to put up for use, in drawers or boxes.

The seeds used in medicine may be classed under three general kinds ; first, such as grow in naked heads or umbels, as fennel, parsley, &c. : secondly, those in pods, as mustard, cresses, &c. : and thirdly, those enclosed in large fleshy fruits, such as the melon, cucumber, &c. In each case, being perfectly ripe, the two first kinds may be beaten out of the pods or heads by a smart stroke upon a table ; and thus separately spread to dry. In the last instance, the fruit must be cut open, and the seed separated from the moist and membranous matter that surrounds them : and being spread on a convenient place for drying, according to the foregoing precautions, as they gradually grow dry they must be repeatedly turned and rubbed that they may, in the end, be perfectly dry and clean.

Among the fruits of plants several require to be used fresh ; as the quince, mulberry, currant, &c. from the juices of which syrups are to be made ; and hips, also, and all from which conserves are prepared. Juniper-berries, Bay-berries, and the like, are only to be gathered when turning ripe, and not when mellow ; and being then spread on a table or clean floor, are often to be turned until quite dry.

We ought to bear in mind that every one of the most common herbs in nature, is indued with some special property ; and that while we are seeking remedies for diseases in dangerous drugs, we might by a little study, find more safe and certain ones in our fields and gardens.

PLANETARY POSITIONS TO BE REGARDED IN THE GATHERING, &c. OF HERBS.

The planet that governs any plant or herb, should, at the time any part of such plant or herb is to be gathered, be in his own house, or his exaltation, and in good aspect to the Moon. These are the chief points to be attended to. But if a planet be in controversy, or be assigned to two different plants, it is better, if possible, that one of them be on the mid-heaven at the time of gathering ; and that both be clear from affliction by the malefics, and in good aspect with the fortunes. Some plants will wait very well for a few days, without declining in vigour, and hence, an opportunity may be obtained of getting the Moon into a good aspect with their ruling planet, which is one of the main things to be observed. It is also better that their respective planets be oriental than occidental : which may be known by consulting "Raphael's Prophetic Almanack," as it gives the time of their southing ; and twelve hours previous to their southing, they are oriental ; each being occidental during the other twelve hours. *

*It is my intention to continue articles on Astro-Botanic Practice of Medicine, in the *Planet Reader*. For some time I have had it in contemplation, to give a wood cut and a written description of some particular Herb, so that any person may know it when they see it, and stating what particular Planet governs it, and also how it is used in medicine, and what it is used for, and when it is the best time to administer it, &c. &c.

[Continued from page 23, vo. 6.]

AN EPITOME OF THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF ASTROLOGY.

The distinction necessary to be observed by Astrologers between the effects of planetary influence as it is exerted upon animate and inanimate matter.

Those who have taken the trouble to weigh with attention what has been already advanced concerning the proportion of force with which the Sun, Moon, and Planets, severally act upon the waters of the ocean, will have, no doubt, come to this inference ; namely, if those bodies do thus compel so gross a mass of matter as the ocean, to periodically toss and roll in a manner contrary to its own nature, which is *inert repose*, so must their respective influences operate to disturb and alter the state of every sort of matter whatsoever, sensible and insensible that is connected with the earth.

Minds which have arrived at this conclusion may be said to have made the first step in *rational astrology*. Persons who, unfortunately for the science, have presumed to be qualified to practice it, without thus consulting reason and natural philosophy, will never be able to give judgements otherwise than *mechanically* ; and a *mechanical astrologer* is no better than a necromancer, a soothsayer, a sorcerer, a card cutter, a clairvoyant, or a gipsy-fortune-teller.

Hitherto the pulsive quality, or gravitating or attracting capacity of inanimate bodies upon one another has only been examined ; and in order to understand something of the sympathy that subsists between the inanimate and animate, another course of reasoning than that already adopted will be necessary to be resorted to. From the great depth at which many philosophical truths lie, and the difficulty of getting at them, the ancients had a saying, "*Veritas in Puteo, Truth lies in a well*"; and it is only by a proper chain of reasoning that it can be drawn out of the depth and darkness in which it dwells ; and more particularly in the case of natural and judicial Astrology.

The whole surface of the human body, when moderately corpulent, is about fourteen feet square ; and the pressure which

occasions the rise and fall of the mercury in the thermometer shews, by its variation, that at one time, when the air is most heavy, such a body sustains a pressure externally of 33905 lbs.; while, when the atmosphere is lightest, the pressure on the same body is not more than 30624 lbs.; and consequently, an increase or decrease of weight equal to 3281 lbs. may be externally acting on the body of a person, and which change he may suffer every few hours, as the fluctuations of the barometer sufficiently prove.

Now we well know that this vast outside pressure could not be sustained unless it were properly counterbalanced by some adequate means of resistance within the said body; and internal means of accommodating itself to these fluctuations of the atmosphere, are supplied by the Author of Nature to every animal body. Yet that equilibrium which is necessary to ease is constantly being disturbed; and agitations which may be compared to the ebbing and flowing of the tides of the ocean, are constantly being experienced by every living animal; and this perpetual tossing and rolling of the tide of life is referable to the self-same cause as that which occasions the fluctuations of the ocean, namely, *planetary influence*. Well might the poet say;—

"I tell thee
There's not a pulse beats in the human frame
That is not govern'd by the stars above us.
The blood that fills our veins, in all its ebb
And flow, is sway'd by them as certainly
As are the restless tides of the salt sea
By the resplendant Moon; and at thy birth
Thy mother's eye gaz'd not more steadfastly
On thee, than did the Star that rules thy fate,
Showering upon thy head an influence,
Malignant or benign."

[NORSE.]

In a body that is robust, and has all its members perfect, pulsation, or the natural vibration of its organs, will soon effect composition, as sudden changes in the atmosphere are taking place; but where any member or organ is out of order, the free and rapid circulation of the internal matter is obstructed, and pain or unpleasant sensations are the consequence; nor will these cease, until a perfect equilibrium between the internal resistance and external force, has been restored.

Now the human body cannot be materially affected without the mind partaking, at the same time, of those effects which cause the corporeal sensations, whether they happen to be agreeable or painful. The vicissitude to which beings like ourselves are constantly exposed by atmospheric changes, has been

expressed by a learned poet;

*Temberie cœli, corpusque, animusque mutatur.
By temperature of air we find,
Changed is the body and the mind.*

Thus it is fairly demonstrated, that the combined or contrary influences of the planets are constantly operating to produce certain effects on the body and mind of every living being on the face of the earth, in a manner comparatively similar to the phenomena of the tides of the ocean: and that the lives and actions of men, and the fate of individuals and nations, are thus subject, in a great measure, to planetary control.

*What wonder, then, that we a science scan,
Which, tracing nature, analyzes man;
Whether we view him plac'd in joy or woe;
Whether trace earth, or search her depths below;
Whether we contemplate the glorious Sun,
The circling planets or the changeful Moon;
Whether the elements in mildest form,
Or in the horrors of the roaring storm,—
In all th' Almighty Architect we mark,
Clear, though mysterious, luminous, though dark!*

The champions and promoters of Astrology have, in every age, been men of the most extensive philosophical inquiry, and of the deepest erudition: it has also had antagonists of no small fame and reputation, but they happen to have been either persons who did not understand it, or bigots to some tenets which it may have seemed to oppose. *Now, it opposes no tenets that are virtuous; and it is weakness of mind to fancy, that faith in rational science is at variance with faith in divine revelation.*

After reading the course of arguments which has been already followed on the theory of astrology, no man that is perfectly sane will venture to deny, but that the heavenly bodies operate upon this inferior world, and all things material and immaterial which it contains; by their influential qualities and natural virtues; since nature and experience combine to testify, as before proved, that the change of air alters our bodies and minds—that the humors of men are all moved by celestial influences—and that, according to the *changes of mutual position in the Sun, Moon Planets, and Stars*, every being on earth is sensible of consequent fluctuations of the essentials of existence.

He that would become proficient in this eminent and almost boundless province of natural philosophy, must not expect to accomplish his desires without much laborious study, and intense application of his rational faculties. He must have the map of the whole universe depicted in his mind, and

watch nature with a scrupulous eye, in all her secret operations. It is not sufficient for him merely to be able to run over the names of the twelve signs of the zodiac; he must examine minutely the signs themselves, and weigh their constituent members, and their proportions of matter—their relative positions, and proximity to, or remoteness from, all other powerful constellations without the zodiac. He must not suppose that a knowledge of the several degrees that constitute sextiles, trines, quartiles, and oppositions, make up much towards a proficiency in Astrology; and yet it is nevertheless, necessary for him to perfectly understand these as a part of the rudiments. Nothing in the fundamental progress is certainly more requisite than for the student to make himself perfect in the qualities of the signs and planets and the several significations of the twelve houses of a figure; he should be also expert in setting a scheme, and in varying the significations of the houses according to the subject matter which he may, at any time, have under contemplation.

In seeking to obtain, in as perfect a manner as possible, the preparatory steps, he will have the greater difficulties to surmount in consequence of the discrepancies and conflicting opinions which he will find in the authors he consults, who have, for the most part, advanced many idle conceits of their own; and from which none but a judicious mind will know how to select, and form his system. There is not to be found from Ptolemy downwards, any one regularly written treatise, which, of itself, can be taken as a standard, and will admit of being followed, and yet all contain something worthy to be received. The only way therefore, is to examine as many of the best masters as can be readily laid hold of, and by philosophically investigating their principles, a person conversant in Astrological study will be able to deduce a theory free from obsolete tenets, and fantastic notions. Among the works on this subject it is necessary as original writers, and our first leaders, to consult the Astrological Works of Ptolemy, in four books. It is necessary to inform the student that he will find a great deal more information upon natal and state Astrology in Ptolemy's Quadripartite, than will at the first reading thereof, seem evident, but on a more studious observation, the inquiry

will handsomely repay the young student for his endeavours to obtain the required information. Lilly's Astrology is a valuable book to consult for horary questions, and possesses a great deal of information for the Astrologian; but for a small pocket volume Eland's Tutor to Astrology, by Parker, will be found a compact little work, with tables for calculating directions, &c. &c. I would wish to impress on the mind of the student that many of the tables in old Astrological works are very incorrect; the *table of houses* in Eland, and many others that I have examined, ought not to be depended upon. Placidus should be read, and the works of Partridge on Astrology will also be found excellent; there are many new works published on Astrology; such as Wilson's complete Dictionary of Astrology; Doctor Simmonite's Arcana of Astro-Philosophy, and also his Prognostic Astronomer; Sibby's Illustration of Astrology; Raphael's Manual of Astrology; Zadkiel's Hand Book of Astrology, &c. from which the student will obtain great assistance; but those old works I have mentioned will be quite sufficient to read as "standard works," and will always be essential for reference.

Astrology has been practised and studied by men of learning in all ages. It is a well known fact that many eminent men have derived great pleasure and information from Astrological studies; physicians in ancient times were not considered fit to practice, if ignorant of the astrological rules of physic, the antipathy of one plant or herb, and the sympathy of another, the nature or astrological qualities of the different plants, roots, herbs, trees, &c. or of consulting the state of the sick astrologically, constitutionally, and physically, and discovering the nature, causes and the different changes of the disease, and administering that kind of medicine which either cured the patient by sympathy,* or eradicated the disease by antipathy. By this means many extraordinary cures were effected; there are some students who are truly astonishing in their judgment of diseases, drawn from the astrological figure of decumbiture, or map of the heavens for the time any person is taken sick. Those students who are fond of this kind of study may consult the best edition of Calpepper's Herbal in two volumes, which con-

*Or as the Homoeopathist terms it, "Similia Similibus Curentur," or "like cures like."

jains a good deal of information on the subject. There have been many excellent cures performed from the ancient rules of physical Astrology from herbs, trees, seeds or plants, according to the patient's disease, the nature of the herb and medicine used, was either martial, solar, venal saturnine, lunar, jovial, or mercurial in quality or the herb or medicine were governed by the planets Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Venus, Mercury, Sun or the Moon. The sympathy of the planets, of the herbs &c. with the different parts of the body astrologically considered, affords much pleasing, curious, and profitable information to an enquiring mind, besides enabling the astrological physician to speedily cure diseases, which no other doctor can touch, for when the cause can be perceived, the disease is then easily understood, and a remedy can generally be applied:

(From the New York Herald for August 25th. 1865.)

Extraordinary effects of Mesmerism:— a suggestive warning.

At the Assize Court of the Var, last week, (writes a Paris correspondent of the 11th inst.) there was tried an extraordinary rape case, which I take upon myself to say is without a parallel in the annals of criminal jurisprudence of any country in the world. A man was convicted for having repeatedly violated the person of a virtuous girl of the ripe age of twenty-six, not by force, not by intimidation; not by the aid of drinks or drugs, but by means of magnetic influence; which rendered her, though conscious, a mere passive instrument in his hands, deprived of any will of her own.

The following is an outline of the strange story:—On March 31st, 1865, the prisoner, a young man named Castellan, aged twenty-four, born at Garde-Freinet, in the Department of the Var, appeared in the guise of a beggar, in the hamlet of Guols, in the commune of Sollies-Farlede. He seemed in the depth of misery, was lame in both legs and clothed in rags. His wretched appearance so far moved the pity of a respectable farmer of the village named Hugues, that he asked him into his house and gave him supper and a bed. Castellan pretended to be deaf and dumb, and only communicated with Hugues and his family by signs. In the course of the evening he made signs that he could write, and on pen and paper being brought he wrote "I am the son of God; I am from heaven, and my name is our Lord; you now see my little miracles, but later you shall see my great ones. Have no fear of me." "The Priests" he again wrote, "are of the devil, but I am by God." Several of the villagers who had come to the farmer's to look at him, were greatly moved by his looks and gestures; but upon the farmer's daughter Josephine they made an extraordinary impression: She could not get the strange

beggar out of her mind, and slept in her clothes all night for fear of him.

In the morning after taking his breakfast he went away; but came back at an hour when he had ascertained that Josephine would be alone in the house. They had luncheon together, and while at table Josephine deposes, and the Jury believed, that he exercised such a fascination over her that when he ordered her to go to bed she could not help obeying him, she being all the while conscious, but utterly unable to resist. Although overwhelmed with remorse, she remained under his influence, and at his desire, followed him away from her father's house. They passed the night together at the village of Crau d'Hyeres, and the next morning Josephine told a witness she met in the woods, what a misfortune had happened to her, and said she thought of drowning herself. Nevertheless they slept together a second night, and the morning after, Josephine again made complaints to the people of the house where they lodged of what had been done to her, saying at the same time, "get the biggest and strongest woman you can—I don't care where she comes from—Castellan will be her master." She begged the people of the house to take her away, and let her sleep elsewhere; but the moment she said so, Castellan, with an imperious gesture, ordered her to walk up stairs, which she did instantly, in a state of magnetic sleep, and without making a false step. He then ordered her to laugh, which she did. The bystanders were convinced that she could not help doing whatever he told her. They were suffered to sleep together a third night, and again in the morning she complained, seemed like one out of her mind, and called upon the Virgin. Castellan, proud of his ascendancy over her, ordered her to go round the room on her knees, and she at once obeyed mechanically. The people of the house were this time so angry with the sorcerer, for such they esteemed him, that they turned him out by force; but he had scarcely gone when the girl fell into such violent fits that they got frightened and called him back. He with a few passes of his hand restored and soothed her, and no opposition was made to their again passing the night together.

The next day, however, while they were out walking in a wood, Castellan lagged behind to talk to some men out shooting, and she, when alone recovered her will, ran away and got somebody to take her home to her father. Such are the facts upon which Castellan was indicted for a rape. The girl gave evidence against him; telling her tale just as above related, but not daring to look the prisoner in the face, and being evidently afraid of him.

Castellan boasted of his power in court; offered to magnetize the Judge, and looked so hard into the eyes of the public prosecutor that the latter, evidently afraid that he was going to be magnetized, then and there, ordered him severely to look another way. Five Doctors of Toulon and the neighborhood gave evidence, that in their opinion, a young girl susceptible of being

a magnetic subject might be so acted upon by a magnetizer, as to be utterly unable to resist him, although not deprived of consciousness.

I do not know what line of defence was taken by the prisoner's counsel; but the jury pronounced a verdict of guilty, and the Don Juan, in rags, who I should have stated, was really a beggar and not a gentleman in disguise, was sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment with hard labor.

This case is a terrible lesson for young ladies who allow mesmeric experiments to be made upon them, thus aggravating a natural nervous susceptibility which renders them liable to be utterly helpless and defenceless. The most fearful part of the story is, that in this case, the young girl does not appear to have lent herself to the influence, but was an unwilling victim of it from the first.

THE FATE OF THE NATION,

For the Autumn Quarter of 1865.

"Beautiful stars in other days.
The prophet's eyes might read your rays,
And tell of many a strange event
Of warfare and of warning sent."

"A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished."—Prov. xxvii. 12.

The Sun enters the sign Libra, (which is the commencement of the Autumn Quarter,) this year on the 22nd of September, at 8 h. 4 m. r. m.; when, 20 degrees of Taurus will rise, and 9 degrees of Aquarius will culminate; Venus is lady of the scheme, and is on the cusp of the 5th house in trine to Jupiter in the 8th. The Moon, is leaving a conjunction of Saturn in the 6th house and applying to a trine of Herschell in the 3d; the Sun and Mars are in the 6th house, and Mercury is intercepted in the 5th, applying to a square of Jupiter.

The above position of the heavenly Orbs is very conflicting, which makes it difficult to scan them aright. Although difficulties will arise for this government before this quarter goes out, yet Venus being in good aspect to Jupiter, will cause the people generally to have confidence in themselves and their national forces; yet the Moon afflicted by Saturn and the Sun by Herschell, indicates that the President and his Cabinet are likely to commit some rash act, that is almost certain to involve us in a foreign war; and the stellar monitors points in the direction of Mexico.

On the 15th day of November, Jupiter enters the sign Capricorn, (the ruling sign of Mexico,) and continues therein the greater part of next year, which will bring better fortune for that country; danger of Maximilian being very much re-enforced from the old country, or alliances being formed between Mexico and other foreign powers. California and the Territories in her neighborhood, receives a new impetus to their Commerce and prosperity; some new discoveries or veins of the precious metal are brought to light, which makes the tide of emigration to flow in that direction, and another kind of California trade springs up. But the above prosperity will be chiefly felt in the coming year.

The Planet Herschell has fairly got into the sign Cancer, (the ruling sign of New York,) and his influence has already begun to be felt; the stuporous frauds committed by the Jenkins, Ketchum's &c., besides other remarkable occurrences too numerous to mention, will give the knowing reader a faint idea of what are likely to occur in this City, during the time Herschell remains in the sign Cancer.

During the month of October, there will be an Eclipse of the Moon, which occurs on the 4th day, and also one of the Sun which takes place on the 19th day. In New York, on the 4th of October, the Moon will rise eclipsed, the right ascension on the M. O. being 18 h 17 m. and 7 degrees of Aries will be rising. This phenomenon will not however produce so great an effect in this country, as it will in England, and on the Continent of Europe. The Moon eclipsed in Aries, (the ruling sign of England,) speaks

ere long, some serious grief, which will befall that nation ere many weeks pass by. The Sun also eclipsed in Libra, the opposite of England's ruling sign, will be certainly felt in that and other countries. RAMESAY, an old Astrologer in stating the effects of such an Eclipse, says:—*Sudden and frequent motion of Armies, assaults and battles with many tumults, and an inclination of the air to interpenetrate heat and drought; also, it bringeth grief and sadness to mortals, and the death of great women, and a diminution of Cattle*:—convincing the skeptic in Astral Science that

"As sure as clouds fore-show the coming rain,
So sure eclipses never pass in vain;
They happen, as their creator them decrees,
And we weak mortals feel their great effects;
Yet some will say they have no influence,
But such we find are always void of sense."

The effect of these Eclipses in this country will be felt mostly by young persons also, it will fall on fruits grain and cattle. Accidents from the falling of buildings, railways, &c. will be more than common plentiful, especially near the middle and latter part of October. Electrical disturbances, and no doubt shocks of Earthquake will be felt,

The FATE of the NATION for Oct.

The New Moon from which we make our predictions for October, occurs on the 19th of September. The lunation falls in the 7th house, and Jupiter is in the mid-heaven; the celestial orbs points very favorably for this nation. There is a general confidence in the President and his Cabinet, among the people generally, which makes trade and business improve, and indeed people are inclined to look on the bright side of the question. The health of the public is generally good; near the latter part of the month accidents and misfortunes from railways, falling of buildings, &c., will be too plentiful; also from storms, heavy gales, both on sea and land. News from abroad attracts much of the public attention; I expect much excitement in London and Paris; the Royal Family of England feel the evil effects of the Sun and Moon being Eclipsed in their ruling sign; very probably a death will occur among their family.

The FATE of the NATION for Nov.

At the New Moon on the 9th of October, all the planets are above the earth, and the lunation falls in the 10th house, and in conjunction of Mercury, Saturn, and Mars. This will be a very remarkable month, nor will this great period go by without a most great and striking political event, which will leave its mark behind. Much danger of the Administration committing some rash act, that will involve the nation in another war. I look for some change in the Cabinet or a want of harmony amongst themselves. President Johnson's Nativity is very much afflicted, let him beware. Trade and Business of all kinds gets to be very dull, as the people appear to have something else to think and talk about. Some particular disease affects the public health.

News from the old country becomes very interesting, if not alarming to the people of this nation; important events are transpiring which will affect this country.

The FATE of the NATION for Dec.

At the New Moon on the 18th of November, all the planets are rising except Herschell, and the lunation falls in the ascendant, in conjunction of Mars. The heavenly spectrum appears dull and threatening, and it is difficult to decipher the whole of the indications. The last three months of this year will be productive of some important national event, and I fear such will not be of a favorable nature. Business of all kinds is very dull and the year closes under a general gloom in that respect.

News from England and France still attract much attention; both those nations labor under evil influences. England suffers much. The evil planet Saturn is approaching the mid-heaven of Louis Napoleon's Nativity; He involves himself in difficulties if not war. President Johnson's Nativity is also very much afflicted.

I had intended publishing President Johnson's Nativity in this No. but for want of room I have to defer it until my next issue.

Gomany is crowded out of this No. but will be continued in our next.