

# The Occult Magazine :

A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

Psychical and Philosophical Research.

"A Chronicle of Strange, and Secret, and Forgotten Things."—SHELLEY.

VOL. I. No. 4.]

GLASGOW, MAY, 1885.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Omnia vincit Veritas.

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"I, Marshal Brevet Cornelius, pupil of the late Hoky,

\* London: Cousins & Co., 3 York Street, Covent Garden, W.C.



X. X., LIVERPOOL. DRUIDS.—The ancient Druids explained the cycles, the division of the upper regions into *Seven* heavens, and their mysterious knowledge was embedded in signs and symbols. Taliesin, the ancient Welsh poet, describing his Initiation, says:—"The secrets were imparted to me *without the use of audible language*," and in the poem called the Chair, he says:—"I am a *silent* proficient." Their symbolical *egg* was entwined with a snake, somewhat resembling the emblem of a very ancient and honourable Occult Fraternity still existing. The Druidical invocations were made to the *One* all-pervading power (Selden, etc.). They taught that Time was only an intercepted fragment of Eternity, and the endless succession of Worlds, the Immortality of the Spirit, and a future state.

FRATER, EDINBURGH. FREE-MASONRY.—Free-Masons know nothing whatever of the INEFFABLE NAME. Their pass-words are, as they truly say, "mere corruptions" of God engraved on the Triangle, and they have adopted a "substitute" for it. They know not the real origin of their supposititious *Hiram Abiffs*, neither do they suspect even the real meaning of their substituted mystic "*word, at low breath*"—MAHABONE, or MACBENACH, etc. But this absurdity is repeated in the ears of Novitiates, as if the jingle of the word possessed as much potency as would deflect from the perpendicular a spider-web hanging from the ceiling. Free-Masonry is a corpse from which the spirit has long departed.

MYSTIC, PARIS.—The ASTRAL LIGHT of the Universe keeps an unmutated record of all that was, that is, or in fact that ever will be. The minutest acts of our lives are imprinted on it, and even our thoughts rest photographed on its eternal tablets. This is the Book which we see opened by the Angel in the *Revelations*, "which is the Book of life, and out of which the dead are judged according to *their works*" (not their faith).

S., LONDON. H. B. OF L.—An article upon such will appear in an early number; but as to any *inner details*, you can only arrive at a Knowledge of such by *winning your way* by merit into the Higher Grades.

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To stimulate and satisfy the desire for information upon subjects of a Psychological nature, it is desirable to place "THE OCCULT MAGAZINE" on the Tables of Reading-Rooms, in Clubs, Mechanics' Institutions, etc.; and when such consent is obtained, the Editor will post copies for public use for 1s. annually. We hope that many of our friends will assist in this direction.

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Students in the Occult Sciences, earnest searchers thirsting for Truth, and Theosophists who may have been disappointed in their expectations of Sublime Wisdom being freely granted by the HINDU MAHATMAS, are cordially invited to transmit their names to the *Editor* of this Magazine, on receipt of which, applications will be forwarded to them for signature, etc. If found suitable after a short probationary period, they will be admitted as Members of an Occult Brotherhood, who do not boast of their knowledge, but teach freely and without reserve, all they find worthy to receive.

All communications to be addressed to—

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In order to meet the wishes of the Members and Neophytes of the Exterior Circle of the H.B. of L., and of the many Students of the Occult Sciences, who have hitherto been prevented from procuring Hermetic works, owing to their exorbitant prices, the Proprietors of "THE OCCULT MAGAZINE" beg to announce that, as correct translations and reprints of those writings are now appearing in the columns of that paper, upon the completion of each it is their intention to publish, BY SUBSCRIPTION, *cheap* editions of the following works:—

THE BOOK OF THE KING OF AMMON; THE VIRGIN OF THE WORLD; ASCLEPIUS, or the MYSTICAL DISCOURSES upon INITIATION; the works of the ROSICRUCIAN, PHILETHES (Thos. Vaughan), viz., LUMEN DE LUMINE, MAGIA ADAMICA, etc.; SECRETS REVEALED by COSMOPOLITA; THE HERMETICAL TRIUMPH, and ANCIENT WAR of the KNIGHTS; BISHOP SYNESIUS on the PHILOSOPHER'S STONE; the COUNT DE GABALIS, or CONVERSATIONS upon the SECRET SCIENCE; the works of ELIPHAS LEVI (*English Translation*), etc., etc.

The cost of each Volume will be such as to be within the reach of the *many*—not of the *few*—and in no case will the price of any of those Works exceed 3s. 6d. per Volume.

Each Work will contain *Explanatory Notes* by the eminent Occultist, M. THEON. Immediate attention is therefore requested, so that the approximate number of copies may be ascertained in order to justify our intentions and warrant the undertaking, as publication will only take place as soon as a sufficient number of Subscribers come forward.

Meanwhile Subscribers' Names should be sent as promptly as possible to—

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BY ORDER of the

SECRETARY.

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Poky, Winky, Wang, celebrated Hierophant of the Cannibal Islands, and Professor of the Psychic quadratic equational Formula, for the solution of the Phosphoric foot-prints of the Pentagonal Orohippal soul-lines of the Shining-Star, in the azimuthal Double of the trailing Pleiades, and student of the Meteoric Aural star-dust, which, by Magnetic reciprocal equilibrium, evolves through the interstellar galaxies of the unseen orbits of Uranus and Saturn; am prepared by the hypothetical Atlantean system of my renowned Guru, of the Triple Abn, "Aye-Is-It," to impart by Magneto-Electro-Telepatho-Theurgy, a few of the Minor Decades of the Thessalian Tarot-Sages, to those who hate money-getting, but with the utmost tranquillity and mental apathy, wistfully, and with their whole energy, love money-giving," etc., etc.

Want of space compels us to hold over "*Occult Notes*" and Part III. of "*Ancient Myths*," etc., until our next issue.

R. H. F. AND THE "DIVINING BALL."—We are requested, on behalf of the members of the H. B. of L., to thank Mr. R. H. F. for his *very liberal offer*, to send them gratuitously a copy of the paper he advertises in the *Medium*, in the form of a letter, which letter was *refused insertion* in the pages of our contemporary, *Light*. This offer the members of our noble Order beg to decline, as they understand where to obtain the paper when so disposed. Our readers must know that the "*Revelations*" of the so-called Divining-Ball, or Magic Crystal, are the most unreliable of all revelations, in fact *they are not revelations at all*, as the seer only perceives the reflections of his or her own mental state. In the pages of *Zadkiel's Almanac*, many years ago, were "*Crystal Revelations*" supporting all the dogmas of Christianity, and if "*Zadkiel*" had been a Mahometan, the same angel (?) would have upheld the doctrines of the *Koran* as Divine. These "Divining-Balls," in the hands of "*British Seers*," may be all that the Gipsy fortune-tellers require to reveal the simulacrum of the future husband or wife, to their clients; but when the Mysteries of Nature are conjured from such a source, the result only makes "confusion worse confounded," and speaks but very unfavourably for the Occult acquirements of the authors of such a startling series of "Revelations." It is only the trained expert of Occultism that can use such a means of obtaining knowledge with anything like a satisfactory result, and our readers may rest assured that this *sine quanon* of soul-culture is not even *remotely possessed* by the authors of those crystalline emanations.

### THE VEIL OF ISIS.—Part III.

By ZANONI.

"He is the One self-proceeding,  
And from Him all things proceed;  
In them, He Himself exerts His activity.  
No mortal BEHOLDS HIM, but HE beholds all."  
—Orphic Hymn.

It will thus be seen that the full meaning of the inscription upon the temple at Sais *can be applied*

to the Moon, when considered in her true Astrological character. G. Higgins was evidently wrong, simply because whilst continually admitting the universality of this Astral Science amongst all ancient nations, he was himself entirely ignorant of its principles and teachings, and consequently could not perceive how the Moon could be the Mother of all that *was, is, or shall be*, and likewise be alternately *male and female at the same time*. Had he only reflected for a moment upon the fact that the Moon was only considered by the ancient Sages as a *Medium*, who "in herself is neither fortunate nor unfortunate," but "by her proximity to the earth, she receives and transmits to us the Magnetic influence of all the bodies in space," and in consequence becomes "the most potent factor in all sublunary affairs," or, in other words, *through her mediumship*, she becomes *either male or female, according to the nature of the planet controlling her*, and the secondary cause of all the blessings and miseries that flesh is heir to—he would not have been deceived by the paradoxical sayings of her Initiates.

Their Astrological teachings, though beautiful in themselves, formed but the stepping-stone, as it were, to the Greater Mysteries of Nature's immutable laws, which constituted the Astro-Masonic Science,\* concealed beneath the Veil of our Goddess. Everything that modern science proudly looks upon as its own, was taught thousands of ages ago. Until quite recently, astronomers looked with contempt upon the ancient theory, that the *Sun moved through space*, but this is now one of the cardinal facts of the *exact science* of our modern Professors. The fortunate and *timely discovery* (?) of the TIRVALORE TABLES, and Egyptian Papyrus-Rolls, prove beyond a doubt, to any thoughtful mind, that so far as real knowledge is concerned, the ancient Astronomers were infinitely in advance of our boasted nineteenth century schools. Their Cycles (*i.e.*, such of them that have been either discovered or *revealed*) are only further proofs that their science was not one of mere theory and speculation,† but on the contrary, was built upon the sure foundation of TRUTH itself. The laws of the Cosmos are unchangeable, and by a Knowledge of these laws it was as easy for them to foretell the future events of Human life, or the destiny of Empires, as for our modern astronomers to calculate an eclipse of the Sun, or Moon, or a conjunction of the planets. Such terms as CHANCE and COINCIDENCE *could find no place in their vocabulary*.

The Lunar period of 19 years, known as the Metonic cycle, and the cycle of 600, are well-known examples of their extraordinary calculations. This period of 600 years, which has been appropriately named "*The Cycle of the Sun*," is the Luni-

\* Our readers must not suppose that the term Astro-Masonic has anything to do with modern Free-Masonry.

† Unproved theory and speculation constitute more than one-half of modern Astronomy, strange though the fact is.



Solar *Naros*, or Sibylline year. It is composed of 31 periods of 19, and one of 11 years, and is the most perfect of the Astronomical cycles, although no chronologer has mentioned it at length. It is the most ancient of all, and consists of 7,200 solar months, or 219,146½ days, and this same number of 219,146½ days gives years, each consisting of 365 days, 5 hours, 51 minutes, and 36 seconds, which differ by less than 3 minutes from what the length of the year is observed to be at the present day. Yet, in spite of this indisputable fact, there are *educated people* (?) who, in the press and elsewhere, still unblushingly assert that the ancients did not know the exact length of the year! Prejudice is still a dominant power, but *verbum sat sapienti*.

This wonderful cycle will repay careful study. For instance, if on the 1st of January, at noon, a new Moon took place in a certain part of the heavens, it will take place again exactly in 600 years, at the same moment, and under the same circumstances. To make ourselves better understood; suppose that on the 1st of June, 1885, one hour after sunset at Greenwich, a new Moon took place, then in exactly 600 years from that date, viz., 2,485 A.D., at one hour after sunset, there would be another new Moon, and this new Moon would be appearing in the same part of the heavens to an observer at Greenwich. Cassini, one of the greatest of modern astronomers, declares "that if the ancients had such a period of 600 years, they must have known the motions of the Sun and Moon more accurately than they were known for many ages after the flood." Such a fact was known, but it was guarded, like all the other secrets, and hidden from all mankind, except the Priests, and even amongst those it was only communicated to a favoured few, who did not betray the confidence reposed in them. Yet it was covertly hinted at in the Sibylline Oracles, it was the acknowledged source from whence the Hebrew Priests, who brought their sacred volumes from Egypt, drew their predictions of a Messiah, and it was more than hinted at by Virgil, in his Fourth Pastoral:—

"The last great age, foretold by sacred rhymes,  
Renews its finished course: Saturnian times  
Roll round again, and mighty years begun,  
From their first orb, in radiant circles run.  
The base, degenerate Iron offspring\* ends,  
A golden progeny† from heaven descends:  
O chaste Lucina! speed the mother's pains,  
And haste the glorious birth! thy own Apollo reigns."

*The Son shall lead the life of Gods, and be  
By Gods and heroes seen; and Gods and heroes see  
The jarring nations, he in peace shall bind;  
And with paternal Virtues rule mankind."*

—VIRGIL (*Dryden's Trans.*)

The future Messiahs, foretold by the Sibylline Oracles, were derived from their sacred *Naros*.

No wonder, then, that the Priests predicted a Messiah, and that the character of Jesus should have been made by his followers to tally with the ancient Oracles. At this portion of our subject it is as well to point out, that only the highest Initiates were acquainted with the exact date of each Messianic Messenger, or Messiah, but with their usual *literal interpretation*, the lower, or corrupted priesthood, expected the Son of God at the expiration of a certain, but to them, indefinite period. They did not know to a century even, when the Divine Birth would take place, consequently there was always sufficient scope for religious impostors to exert their talents. Another important consideration which they always overlook, is the fact, that although at the end of one *Naros*, or in the beginning of another, when the Messianic Teacher appears, *he does not always appear in the same country, and to the same people*, but that each country in turn has its own great Teacher, at the proper time, is a well-established reality, consequently he appears in different types, according to the genius of the people to whom his mission is devoted. The ideas that would suit a Greek or Roman, would fall powerless upon the soul of an Indian; the subtle and sublime mysticism that would captivate the Egyptian, or Arab intellect, would be utterly lost upon the dull mind of the carnal European, whose coarser nature is unable to comprehend those ideas which, to an Oriental fancy, are the impersonation of all that is beautiful. This fact has proved the great stumbling-block to the spread of a *pure Christianity in the East*. Christians claim that their Jesus Christ is the only Messiah, and certain sects of *Christian Spiritualists* make the same great mistake. Christ is an ideal man who has lived in every clime, and amongst every people, in all ages. To term the wise and noble reformers, such as Gautama Buddha and Zoroaster, "heathens," is a strange way of impressing the Hindu or Persian with Christian charity. An old and haughty nation like the Chinese, for instance, would never be persuaded that all their ancestors, so wise, so pure, and so excellent, were utterly excluded from all the active interference of Heaven, and that such influence was never exercised until thousands of years had elapsed, and millions of human beings had lived and died, when it was at length showered down, as it were, by accident, for a wandering horde of exiles from the land of Egypt, who, so far from deserving the Divine blessing of God, were the most blood-thirsty tribe of cut-throats that ever ravaged a country (if Biblical accounts can be credited). If Christians wish for success in the East, they must adopt a different policy; pay more attention to Psychology, and less to the dead letter of a miscellaneous Bible, which is anything but "holy." They must return their rites and ceremonies to the true source from which they were borrowed, and drag down from the bleeding Cross of Calvary the martyred Son of God, and

\* The Iron Age, i.e., one of trouble and darkness.

† The Golden Age, or the reverse of the Iron rule.



place him in his only true position, viz., the Vernal, or Equinoctial Cross of the Celestial Zodiac, then *they may be more successful, but not until then.*

*(To be Continued.)*

### EXTRACTS FROM THE HERMETIC WRITINGS OF THE ANCIENT SAGES.

#### FRAGMENTS FROM THE BOOKS OF HERMES TO AMMON.

##### CHAP. I.—ON THE GENERAL ECONOMY.

PROVIDENCE rules the Universe; Necessity contains and surrounds it; Destiny urges on and contains all things by a compelling Force which exists in its Nature. It also causes the Generation and the Dissolution of Life. The world therefore receiveth Providence in the first place. Providence extends throughout the Heavens, around which circulate the Gods, with a Motion that is Untiring and Eternal. There is Necessity, hence there is Destiny. Providence is Foreseeing, Destiny rules the position of the Stars. Such is Universal Law.

##### II.

All things are generated by Nature and by Destiny, and there is no place destitute of Providence. Providence is the self-sufficient liberty of the celestial God. There are two spontaneous Powers, Necessity and Destiny. The latter is subject to Providence and to Necessity; the Stars are subject to Destiny. For no one can escape from Destiny, neither can any one avoid the action of the Stars. They are the Instruments of Destiny, thereby accomplishing all things in Nature and in Humanity.

##### III.

The Soul therefore is an incorporeal substance, and when it enters the Body it does not lose entirely the nature of its being. Its substance is a perpetual Motion, the spontaneous activity of the Mind; it moveth neither in anything, towards anything, nor for anything. For it is a primary Force, and that which precedes hath no need of that which follows. The expression "in anything" applies to Place, to Time, and to Nature; "towards anything" applies to Harmony, to Form, and to Figure; "for anything" applies to Bodies, for Time, and Place, and Nature, all relate to the external Form assumed by Matter. All these terms are united by reciprocal bonds. A Body requires a Place; for we cannot imagine a Body without the space which it occupies; it changeth in its Nature; these changes are only possible by Time, and by an operation of Nature; the different parts of the Body cannot be united without Harmony. Space existeth only because of the material Form which it evolves, it containeth their Changes, and yet is not destroyed by these Changes; the Form passeth through successive Changes, but amidst all these Changes it remaineth the same.

It was a Body, and thus it remaineth; its Condition alone differeth; what changeth alone in the Body is its Quality, or its Condition. Time, Space, and Natural Motion are therefore incorporeal, each having its essential Property. The Property of Space is receptivity, that of Time consists in Numbers and Intervals; that of Nature, Motion; that of Harmony, Friendship; that of the Body, Change; and that of the Soul, Mind.

##### IV.

Each Motion is produced by the operation, or energy, which moves the whole. The Nature of the Universe supplies two distinct Motions, the one according to the Forces of Nature, the other according to its Activity, or Energy. The first permeates the entire World, and acts Inwardly, the other encompasses it, and acts Outwardly; these two Energies work together. Universal Nature produceth and sustaineth all Being, and scattereth her fruitful seeds throughout Matter, which latter is warmed by Motion, and thus becomes Fire, and Water, the one the Active Element, the other the Passive. Fire, in opposing Water, drieth it partially, thereby producing Earth. From this drying process comes forth a Vapour, formed from the Water, from the Earth, and from the Fire, and thus it is that the Air is generated. These four Elements combine, in obedience to the law of Harmony, the Hot with the Cold, the Dry with the Moist, and from their combination a Breath is produced, likewise a Seed analagous to this Breath, and contained by it. This Breath falling into the Matrix, acteth upon the Seed, transformeth it and causeth it to grow. Whilst in the womb this Breath hath no vital operation, but a motion of fermentation, by Harmony therefore it is made the receptacle of Intellectual Life. The latter is indivisible and unchangeable, and never ceases to exist. The Germ, contained by the Uterus, is brought to Light by Numbers, and is produced outwardly; the Soul becomes attached to it, not through any natural analogy between them, but by a Law of Fatality; the Soul desireth not its Union with the Body; it is therefore in obedience to Destiny, that it provides the Being that is born with the Intellectual Principle, and with the Ideal Essence of its Life; for in blending with the Spirit, it produceth the Vital Principle.

##### V.

Hence the Soul is an incorporeal Essence; if it had a Body it could not maintain itself; for all Bodies require Being and Life, in this consisteth Order. Wherever there is Birth, there also is Change. The fact of Being implies Magnitude, that is to say, Increase; Increase implies Decrease, the latter ending in Destruction. Whatsoever receiveth the Form of Life, partaketh of its Being, through the Soul. In order to produce Existence, it is necessary first of all to Exist; that is, to grow in Reason, and to be made partakers of Intelligent Life. Life constituteth the Animal, Intellect



maketh him Reasonable, the Body maketh him Mortal. The Soul therefore is Incorporeal, and containeth a Power that is Unchangeable. Can the Intelligent Animal exist without an Essence to supply its Life? Could he be a Rational Being, did not an Intelligent Essence supply his Rational Life? If all Beings are not endowed with Intelligence, it is in consequence of the constitution of the Body, in relation to Harmony. If in the constitution, Heat is superabundant, the animal is nimble and ardent; if Cold predominates, the animal is heavy and slow. Nature disposeth of the bodily elements in obedience to the Law of Harmony. This Harmonial combination hath three forms—the Hot, the Cold, and the Temperate. Harmony is established according to the influence of the Stars. The Soul seizeth the Body for which it was intended, and causeth it to live by the operation of Nature. Nature assimilates the Harmony of Bodies to the disposition of the Stars, and the combination of the Elements to the Harmony of the Stars, in order that there may exist mutual sympathy. For the end of the Harmony of the Stars is to beget sympathy, according to Destiny.

## VI.

The Soul therefore, O Ammon, is an Essence which containeth finality in itself, receiving from the beginning the Life to which it is appointed, and drawing towards itself, as it were, a quality or faculty, which hath Passion and Desire. Passion is a faculty; and if it agrees with the Intelligent part of the Soul, it becomes Courage, and never yields to Cowardice. Desire is also a faculty; when associated with the Reasonable part of the Soul, it becomes Temperance, and never yields to Luxury. For Reason compensates for Blindness of Desire. When the Faculties of the Soul are thus co-ordered under the supremacy of the Mind, they produce Justice. The Faculties of the Soul are governed by the Intelligent Essence; which existing within Itself, hath for authority Its own foreseeing Mind. It ruleth imperiously over all, Its foreseeing Mind acting as Its Counsellor. The knowledge of the Essence is the knowledge of those ratiocinations which supply to that which is Irrational, an image of that which is Rational; the image is obscure in comparison to that which is Rational, and Rational in comparison to that which is Irrational, as the Echo, in comparison to the Voice, or the glory of the Moon, to that of the Sun. Passion and Desire are disposed according to a certain Law, having a mutual attraction, and establishing between themselves a reciprocal idea.

[This exquisite Hermetic Gem contains the very foundations of the true Wisdom which constitutes Spiritual Science. How trivially meagre and shallow are the latest metaphysical speculations of modern scientists upon the momentous questions of MIND AND MATTER, when compared with the sublimity of ideas presented in this Chapter. Those of our readers who can read "between the lines"

will see what a mine of knowledge is herein opened up for them. The Laws of Correspondence will supply the *priceless key* to this Chapter. The oft-quoted saying of St. Paul, that "there is a *natural body* and there is a *spiritual body*," can only refer to those spheres of the Soul, or Spirit-World, which constitute the purely probationary stages of the Human Spirit, upon the *Ascending*, or *Descending*, cycle of its eternal Destiny, for the Astral or Spiritual Body of the Spiritualist can only exist upon, or within, the plane of Matter. Few, indeed, can grasp the conception of that state wherein the purified Soul attains the perfect AT-ONE-MENT with the Father. In this radiant state *the Soul, though possessing Form, is really Formless, Time is annihilated, and hath neither Past nor Future, but all things are in the Present*. This condition is the "*Nirvana*" of the Buddhist, and the "*Peace of God which passeth understanding*" of the Christian. —Ed.]

(To be Continued.)

## THE SACRED SCIENCE.

AMONGST the many sciences engaging the attention of earnest students of the present day, there is not one science which has had less honours conferred upon it, or more bitterly borne the contemptuous scoffs and sneers of an apathetic world, than the very oldest of them all—the *Sacred Science*, the SCIENCE OF SCIENCES—the noble and venerable parent, indeed, of all our modern pigmies. How anxious in his petty vanity and scientific conceit, does the self-styled positive scientist, ever on the outlook, endeavour to cast the mantle of dark oblivion over its undoubted origin, and try to persuade the courageous scholar, who has deviated from the beaten track traced out for him by his dogmatic D.D.'s, LL.D.'s, etc., that *all is moonshine*, because the former, with his supposed Divine ordination, and the latter, with his Microscopes, Spectroscopes, and what not, has failed to catch *spirit*. One who rejects *à priori*, or even doubts the Immortality of man's soul, can never believe in its Creator, and blind to what is heterogeneous in his eyes, will remain blinder still to the proceeding of the latter from Homogeneity.

But although for nearly half-a-century past, Spiritualism has been dealt with in anything but a sensible manner, notwithstanding the occurrence daily, nay hourly, of proofs which speak to all our senses, stare us boldly in our very eyes, and utter voices from the "great beyond," yet, in spite of frauds and corruptions, in spite of the jeers and ridicule of pseudo-scientists, this celebrated movement has progressed to most gigantic proportions in the many millions of believers to-day, to be found, not only throughout Christendom, but in every part of the habitable globe. But Occultism stands in relation to Spiritualism as the Infinite to



Finite, as the cause to the effect, or as unity to multiplicity, and no wonder it is that this subject is now exciting the interest of all advanced Thinkers and Spiritualists throughout our realm. It is to this vast assemblage that we at present address ourselves, hoping that their interest in so profound a subject will enable us to enter together into a pleasant intellectual communion. We, however, feel the utmost diffidence at times in approaching to Occult themes which will come under the gaze of our venerated MASTERS—the exalted ADEPTS—to whom it must seem as the mere alphabet of knowledge, but we are nevertheless comforted in the hope that through our very humble and feeble instrumentality, many an earnest soul will be assisted in advancing towards higher realms of thought and wisdom—towards those living rays of Light from the archaic altars which illumine the shadows of to-day.

Occultism alone can show us how and why it is that the promised signs have disappeared from the midst of Christendom, and it can furnish proof and illustration of the leading doctrines of Christianity, such as can be had from no other source. It not only demonstrates the basic fact, but gives the *true* philosophy and uses of the now perverted rites and practices of the Church, the *real* meaning of which is now a dead letter, and totally misunderstood. For example, Christian Baptism is held as one *sine qua non* now of salvation, consequently the believer is either immersed in water, or has it sprinkled over his face. But if the "Word" is to be taken as a guide, he is entirely in error. That was *not* the kind of Baptism which was to accompany the Gospel of Christ. The symbol of the Baptism of the Nazarene was FIRE—not Water—the sign of a power which should not simply moisten the surface of the understanding with a verbal assent, but which should penetrate to the very centre of consciousness, and there become a perpetual source of light and heat. Now, where have we such a rite, for in the Church it is non-existent, but the sacred and solemn "*Baptism of Fire*" still prevails amongst the Initiated, as it has ever done, and truly and unequivocally proclaims and establishes the Immortality of the *Perfect Man*—the ADEPT.

Thus the *Sacred Science* exists, and has existed ever since pre-historic ages. Historically begun by the Samothracian Mysteries, it followed its course uninterrupted, and ended for a time with the expiring theurgic rites and ceremonies of Christianised Greece; then re-appeared for a time again with the Neo-Platonic Alexandrian School, and passing by Initiation, to sundry solitary students and philosophers, safely crossed the mediæval ages, and notwithstanding the furious persecution of the Church, resumed its fame in the hands of such Adepts as Paracelsus, and several others, finally dying out in Europe with the Count St. Germain and Cagliostro, to seek refuge from frozen-hearted scepticism in its native country *the East*, from which it has now again branched with wisdom and benevolence to find a home in *the West*.

The day is gradually but surely advancing when the Free-Love philosophers will be remanded to the common jail, in company with the vendors of indecent prints and pamphlets,—when the unseen races of the air, the earth, the fire, and the water, made visible at will by our MASTERS—the ADEPTS—will cease their mischievous work in some of our Spirit-Circles, as "Guides, Controls," etc., and be obliged to keep to their own sphere, and wait their time to be born upon this earth; and when the existence of a grand and blessed Fraternity, in our very midst, will be known, and its majestic mission to elevate and enlighten mankind be duly appreciated. As yet it comes only as a gentle breeze, but soon it will sweep with the power of the hurricane. The friends of Occultism *know* all this, and they patiently await their time—for *they* are *nunquam non paratus*.  
Ed.

### BOOK REVIEW.

PALINGENESIA: or, *The Earth's New Birth*, by Theosopho and Ellora. Glasgow: Hay Nisbet & Co., 38 Stockwell Street.

If we were simply to say that this is a remarkable work, we should pay the authors but a poor compliment, for we are passing through an era of mental activity, which is pre-eminently noted for remarkable books. Whether viewed from a social, religious, or political standpoint, "*Palingenesia*" is by far the most extraordinary volume we have ever had the pleasure of perusing. The scheme laid down of the *Earth's New Birth* is, in the truest sense of the word, Utopian. Still, there is a vast amount that—if only supported by material authority—could be carried out to the world's advantage. As a matter of fact, "*Palingenesia*" is an ideal world, and as such, can only exist in the imagination of the present human race. The Polar Axial Railway, for instance, though quite in keeping with the realm of mind, can never be realised in a more concrete form. Such a world, or rather such a state as the one elaborated herein, could only be inhabited by a people similar to Bulwer Lytton's "*Coming Race*." In fact, this latter volume, and the one under review, should be compared together. The great amount of Occult knowledge displayed in "*Palingenesia*" will specially interest our readers, for the authors are profoundly versed in many departments of our Noble Science, and we are only sorry to say that we are afraid that this fact alone will prevent the book from obtaining the extensive circulation it so richly deserves. It has been the work of a long and laborious lifetime, and we wish it every success. The only faults we can find with it are, that the identity of both Theosopho and Ellora becomes interblended, consequently we are not certain from which source the various ideas are emanating; and that the priestly training and strong tendency of the authors to an ideal Romanism are too manifest for those who are



free from such influence. *Theosophy* and *Ellora* have, however, in "*Palingenesis*," accomplished for the coming race, what the orthodox Moses and Aaron did for the tribes of Israel. The second volume contains a magnificent series of diagrams in illustration of the text of Vol. I., and exhibits great architectural abilities.

### THE H. B. of L.

#### A REPLY TO SEVERAL STUDENTS OF OCCULTISM.

(To the Editor of the OCCULT MAGAZINE.)

DEAR SIR,—Kindly allow me to state through the medium of your valuable paper, that it is quite impossible for me to personally reply by letter to the numerous correspondents who are continually inquiring for further particulars and information upon the "SACRED SCIENCE;" at the same time I should be extremely sorry to deny to any one whose Soul may be eagerly thirsting for LIGHT, all the means that lie within my power for obtaining such. The road that leads to the heights of true Occult Knowledge is both long and weary, and the obstacles to be surmounted are often both difficult and dangerous; yet to those who are determined to win the Crown, there is a path by which they may ascend; once on this path, however, everything depends upon their own determined efforts.

There seems to be a very wrong impression prevalent amongst the outside students of the Occult upon this vital point. Many are of the opinion that if once they can gain admission as Members of some Occult Fraternity, thenceforth the Divine Wisdom will be immediately imparted to them. Nothing can be more misleading, for their Membership simply entitles them to the advice, and if need be, to the assistance of their superiors; a special code of discipline and physical training is laid down for them. This must be followed; certain instructions and lessons upon different aspects of Occult Science are from time to time given, and any wrong opinion is always corrected, but the balance of other results must remain entirely with themselves. Let them remember that the *Secrets of Magical Power* cannot be "whispered in the ear," or imparted by means of a "Written Formula," until the Soul is ready to receive them. The true Occultist and his Master, the exalted Adept, are not immediately ordained, but are only slowly and gradually made such—hence, all who receive the higher and interior Initiation have by their own earnest labours merited it. These possibilities are latent within the Soul of all who gain Admission to the venerated Order—the H. B. of L.; where these qualities do not exist in a sufficient degree, they are refused admission, as the study, etc., would simply be a waste of valuable time.

All those Souls, therefore, who earnestly desire to enter this straight but "narrow way which leadeth unto Eternal Life," should at once send in their names to our worthy "EDITOR," when, if found suitable, they will receive further details as to the course they must adopt. Trusting that this may be considered a full and satisfactory reply to those who have so repeatedly written to me,

I remain, Sir, fraternally yours,

T. H. B., Secy. of the Exterior Circle.

### To Correspondents.

F. T. S., CINCINN., U.S. SELFISHNESS.—You, and in fact many others, make a sad mistake—indeed, wrongly and unjustly so—in attributing to Occultists a gross indifference and unwillingness for the welfare of the public, in not sharing with them some of Nature's Grand Secrets that have come into the possession of the *deserving*. This *apparent* unwillingness arises from entirely different

reasons to those which are generally given. The fact is this, the inability to reach to, and understand such lofty physical and spiritual verities, lies entirely with the seekers, and one of the chief reasons for such reticence on the part of the custodians, as regards physical sciences, must be sought elsewhere. It is simply *impossible* to impart that, the very nature of which, at the present development of the race, would be utterly beyond the comprehension of the would-be learner, no matter how scientifically trained and intellectual he might be. Secrets, the true nature of which when revealed will not be turned into misuse, as a weapon against our fellow-creatures, could not be given to any one except an Initiate of several years standing, and during his progressive Initiations, for the human race has first to *come of age*, next to *reach their majority*, which happens only during the commencement of the *Sixth race* (we are the *Fifth*) before such awful Mysteries can be revealed to it. Our *Fifth race* has only so far developed its *Five* senses, the *Sixth* has scarcely made its appearance. How, then, can you imagine men of the *Fifth* race to sense the Nature and Essence of that which will only be fully sensed, known, and perceived by the *Sixth*—to say nothing of the *Seventh* race? Decidedly there are exceptions, but they are rare, and those exceptions do not in reality belong to the *Fifth*, or present human race. Those exceptions may be ranked under two divisions, the one abnormal, as for example the sickly sensitive, the Seeress of Prevorst; the other, the case of an Occultist, who by a higher evolution and occult training has developed the *Sixth*, and in still rarer cases the *Seventh* sense. *Radiant stuff*, the "fourth state of matter," has been only partially yet discovered, for we as yet have no idea of its high import, its possibilities, and its wonderful connection with physical phenomena.

TO SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE H. B. OF L.—As to the "rubbishy" Advertisements you refer to in the Circulars you mention, from their very nature, treat them with the most unmitigated disgust, for they are only a "catch-penny," and we do not want the world to add to its already overburdened throes, either that of learning "*Sorcery*," or becoming the unwitting recipients of "*Black Magic*." But the fact is that the *Publisher* and *Vendor* of such questionable and grossly objectionable MSS. ought to be, from the very nature of such moral obliquity, shunned by all right-minded people.

TYRO, ATHENS. THE DOUBLE.—Yes, the Adept's Astral apparition, or *Double*, is a fact, notwithstanding the pooh-poohs and sneers of the vain-glorious and conceited. Few, comparatively speaking, have the chance of seeing such a splendid sight, for the Magnetic aura of humanity in general—with its steaming fumes of sensuality and spiritual atrophy—debars by Magnetic repulsion the visible presence of the Master. Under very favourable conditions, however, they sometimes approach to individuals who are earnestly devoted to Occult studies; but of course other living persons, apart from the Adepts, can project their *Double*, so as to appear at a distance from their bodies. Peruse the works of Glanvil, Ennemoser, Crowe, Owen, Howitt, Des Mousseaux, etc., etc., and you will find many instances. At rare times the *Doubles* talk, sometimes they wander whilst the subject's body is asleep, sometimes whilst awake, and very often the apparition is the forerunner of death.

S. W., OHIO, U.S.A.—In the first place, become an abstainer from every alcoholic, let three-fourth part of your meals be of a vegetarian nature, cultivate moral purity by transforming the brute nature into the angelic, then become affiliated to that venerated Order to which you allude, afterwards your *Progress* in Occultism is certain.

G. F., LONDON.—No; "*Mental Magic*" is a mere "compilation," with not only extravagant pretensions, but the most mediocre and superficial contents, and for the purpose you require it is absolutely useless.



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## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Students in the Occult Sciences, earnest searchers thirsting for Truth, and Theosophists who may have been disappointed in their expectations of Sublime Wisdom being freely granted by the HINDU MAHATMAS, are cordially invited to transmit their names to the *Editor* of this Magazine, on receipt of which, applications will be forwarded to them for signature, etc. If found suitable after a short probationary period, they will be admitted as Members of an Occult Brotherhood, who do not boast of their knowledge, but teach freely and without reserve, all they find worthy to receive.

All communications to be addressed to—

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In order to meet the wishes of the Members and Neophytes of the Exterior Circle of the H.B. of L., and of the many Students of the Occult Sciences, who have hitherto been prevented from procuring Hermetic works, owing to their exorbitant prices, the Proprietors of "THE OCCULT MAGAZINE" beg to announce that, as correct translations and reprints of those writings are now appearing in the columns of that paper, upon the completion of each it is their intention to publish, by SUBSCRIPTION, *cheap* editions of the following works:—

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Meanwhile Subscribers' Names should be sent as promptly as possible to—

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