

Occult

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Ernest Loomis & Co.,

No. 4731 Champlain Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

TESTIMONIALS.

We quote from a few of the many letters received during the past month, from those who have voluntarily expressed themselves regarding their

Character Delineations.

We would recommend this important department of our work to students or others who wish to start the new year with good resolutions that are based on Self Knowledge thus scientifically obtained. (See adv. elsewhere.)

(The following is from one who is very widely known, and whose brain measurements equal those of Daniel Webster. Both name and address are omitted, as either would identify him to many.)

Nov. 1st, 1897.

Your delineation of my character was most satisfactory. Will remit the well-earned \$5 extra, and also send hand cast, brain measurements, etc., of my wife so that you may make a delineation for her.

Dr. ———

Grand Ledge, Mich., Oct. 3d, 1897.

The character delineation came Saturday, and to say I am delighted does not express it. I re-read it daily, and find more each time. It is beautiful from first to last and true in every point. I will do all I can to make the most of the excellent teaching which it gave. The back numbers of O. S. L. came also. I like them best of anything I have read, and am learning much from them.

M. W. E.

Aurora, Ill., 10-12-97.

My delineation received. It is remarkably correct, and helpful.

M. S.

Chicago, Oct. 24th, 1897.

I have received the delineation and am much encouraged on reading it. I feel most keenly the imperfections you have hardly more than hinted at. It seems too good to be true that I have such latent possibilities. I hope you do not take a too optimistic view of my character. Perhaps you kindly present that side of it most strongly because you know how discouraged I have been. I have found the delineation most helpful, and will depend upon you to indicate to me the next step.

Blue Earth City, Minn., Oct. 30th, 1897.

The delineation was accurate and most remarkable.

A. H.

London, Gr. Pa., Oct. 24th, 1897.

Most gratefully do I acknowledge the receipt of the character delineation. It is a source of great encouragement to me. At first, much of it seemed too good to believe, but after a careful consideration I became convinced of its accuracy and truth. You have made me feel that there are possibilities before me, and my next thought is how to find the way thereunto.

P. J.

Chicago, Oct. 6th, 1897.

Many thanks for your character reading which seems to be very true and accurate, and I think expresses very clearly what I might achieve. If I have the opportunity later on, I shall hope to come to you for a more complete delineation.

T. C.

Somerville, Mass., Nov. 4th, 1897.

The character delineation came just as I was leaving town. It was very satisfactory indeed.

A. K. M.

Bloomington, Ill., Oct. 3d, 1897.

My delineation was received in due time, and has been read and re-read many times. It has given me much to think of which I can understand. Allow me to thank you for the good advice which I can now see will give me much strength and help in my every undertaking.

The delineation, as well as your little O. S. L. booklets are more and more enjoyable and valuable after the first few readings.

C. H. F.

Allentown, Penn., Oct. 20th, 1897.

The delineation was received ten days ago. I have read and re-read thoughtfully its many pages. It affords me pleasure to assure you that I have derived great benefit from your words, and am convinced of a still greater profit to be reaped as time flows on.

Buffalo, N. Y., 10-4-97.

The delineation was received this a. m. I have read and re-read it. Each time it takes on a deeper meaning. I ask myself again and again, how shall I fulfill the possibilities which it shows to be within my reach? I said to myself when I filled out the blank, "He will find me a puzzle, for I am so alone—so different from others." I will make a great effort to follow your advice.

H. E.

Mankato, Minn., 11-8-97.

It might be inferred by my delay in acknowledging the receipt of the delineation, that I am lukewarm and indifferent in regard to it, but such an inference from my silence would be wrong. I was greatly pleased with it, and especially with those parts of it which pointed out defects and deficiencies in my character and thought methods, of whose existence I was more or less aware. I am terribly in earnest in my desire to profit by it in every possible way, and by speedily finding my place as a concordant note in the grand harmony of the Brotherhood and its work.

C. O. H.

SPECIAL.

There are many important occult and other reasons why each reader and each individual member of the Home Silent Thought Brotherhood should in their respective localities, begin at once to establish thought centers for the generation of helpful forces and occult currents, that will aid not only in their own affairs, but also in relieving and harmonizing the intense general conditions which are likely to continue for some time. This means you. Do you ask how to begin? You could begin by putting into practice some of the occult principles, formulas and observances, such as have been given in the Occult Science Library. If you have forgotten what they are, then re-read them at once, or better still, form a parlor group of two or more interested friends, and read them aloud and then discuss and put into practice the principles and leading points. The larger the number which can unite harmoniously in such a group, the greater will be the forces so generated. "Thoughts are things." There are thousands who are beginning to realize that fact, and to form groups as above suggested. The result has been marvellous. Just think for a moment how it is likely to grow, and the greater the growth the greater will be the power thus created for the benefit of the whole and of each individual member. It is something you can do. Begin now.

Readers are requested to ask their newsdealers for the Occult Science Library. We would make favorable terms with salesmen who would travel and place our publications with newsdealers and others. Those who desire to teach Occult Science, or to prepare for teaching, would do well to correspond with us.

We have a 50-cent, 400 page book on the marriage question, by Alwyn M. Thurber, entitled Royal Hearts, which on payment of the postage (15 cents) we will send free to any one who orders our Occult Science Library series, amounting to \$1.00 or more, and also to those who order one or more of the following publications, viz.: Your Practical Forces, by Ernest Loomis, price \$1.25; Zelma, the Mystic, \$1.50; Power of Silence, Dresser, \$1.50; Old and New Psychology, Colville, \$1.00; Karezza, or the Ethics of Marriage, Stockham, \$1.00; In Tune with the Infinite, Trine, \$1.25; What All the Worlds A-Seeking, Trine, \$1.25; All's Right with the World, Newcomb, \$1.50; Sex Worship, Clifford Howard, \$1.25; The Three Sevens, Phelon, \$1.25; Supply, McGowan, \$1.00; Regeneration, \$1.00; How We Master Our Fate, Gestefeld, 75c.; Through the Invisible, Tyner, 75c.; Healing Thoughts, Barton, 50c.

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Character Delineations

It is designed in this important department of our work, to offer students the safe means of obtaining that true self-knowledge which is at the foundation of all development of occult powers. It is only when one **fully understands** his individual talents and capacities, that he can **make** the **most** of them. To the degree that one lacks conscious omnipotence, does he need self-knowledge.

This department was originally intended, exclusively, for the somewhat advanced members of our Brotherhood. The entire cost of our first five degrees of the Brotherhood, which includes these delineations, two books, and the OCCULT SCIENCE LIBRARY MAGAZINE for a year, is \$7.50 (only \$2.50 more than the delineations alone), and, it is a **great advantage** to take the delineations in connection with the degrees; but, they will be given separately if desired. The five degrees may be taken at one time.

In these delineations we undertake by exhaustive and scientific methods, to ascertain what are the various esoteric undercurrents of the character in question, and thus are we able to give helps and accurate advice for the development of the individual talents so discovered, such as could be obtained, perhaps, in no other way. Do you value business success and growth?

Your Business Adaptation

is the most important question you have to consider. You cannot **overestimate** its importance. Failure, disappointment, regrets, and humiliations are the almost **certain** results of ill-chosen pursuits. Most persons **stumble** into business, or, are thrown into it by accident, temporary necessity, misguided ambition, or perverted fancy, without any serious **thought** as to their real **fitness** for the vocation they adopt. The natural consequence is waste of time and life's forces, loss of hope and courage, and a sapping of the very **foundations** of success and talent.

Success is Certain

in most cases where they get into the right place, and then work **faithfully**, **with** the earnestness which hope and adaptation inspires. Most persons **have** **ten** times more talent than they think, and waste their very **lives** in occupations which yield only about **one-tenth** of the money and happiness that would be possible in an occupation scientifically determined by their inherent constitutional biases.

Address

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Methods of Self-Help Through Self-Culture.

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Your *self* is your life. To truly cultivate that self is to enrich your life as nothing else can. There is for you an elixir of life. Your thought forces are its dangerously powerful ingredients. By your every thought and act you are pouring those ingredients through the channel of your thought faculties, thus forming them into new combinations and compounds.

The nature of these resultant compounds depends upon the tendencies of your mind and on the emphasis and cultivation which you give to your various thought faculties. Whenever you strike a harmonious combination of the thought ingredients, the result is happiness and good. All misery and so-called evil are but the results of ignorantly dabbling in these powerful ingredients, thus forming them into inharmonious combinations. Each individual must in time learn to understandingly form combinations which are harmonious from the standpoint of universal good. His every act should be based upon the law of Love, for all persons and all things are intimately related. To injure others is to injure yourself. The acts of each individual must, therefore, be harmonious from the standpoint of

the general good before they can become entirely harmonious from his own individual standpoint.

The most direct pathway to an altruistic Love is the individual pathway of self-culture and self-help. That which underlies all things including human character is the exact and unchangeable law of Love, and in truly cultivating the self you are but cultivating the Love. That law of Love is the cause of vibration and is the generator of all forces and all thought ingredients. It acts with mathematical precision. Man has only to set up the thought causes which put this law into operation to thus insure to himself its consequent effects. The law of Love is the law of vibration. That law is, therefore, complete and all-inclusive so far as manifestation is concerned, for all manifestation is through vibration.

Occult science is but an esoteric system of higher mathematics. It is a statement of God's method of geometrizing. Mathematics is the only exact science that is known, and simply because it is all-sufficient. It is all-sufficient because all-inclusive. It is all-inclusive because it is founded upon the all-inclusive law of vibration. The purpose of this science of numbers is to register, number, classify and express the different rates of vibration of which all nature is composed. Every manifestation in nature, from the atom up to man or to the world, is but a rate of vibration. Every organism is a combination of vibratory forces or ingredients which were brought into action by its individual efforts to put into operation and so express its interior and underlying law of Love. Each of such organisms

has its own individual number or vibratory keynote, because it is composed of vibratory ingredients. The science of numbers is, therefore, so related and inter-related with everything which exists, that it becomes fully related to and expressive of the wholeness of its cause. That is why it is all-inclusive and all-sufficient. To fully understand this science of numbers which is so closely in touch with causes, vibrations and all manifestation, is to fully understand all things.

All manifested things spring from the law of vibration, and, therefore, have their correspondence to that. Those correspondences in an individual life may be known when the vibratory keynote of that individual is known, and vice versa. Each of man's thought ingredients and thought faculties has its own special keynote of vibration. To understand those various keynotes, both individually and collectively, is to form a basis from which the whole nature of the individual can be comprehensively understood, not only in its general trend but also in its individual tendencies.

There is no knowledge which equals self-knowledge, because it is only through self-knowledge that man becomes able to understandingly put into operation these interior laws of his life which produce all force, all motion and all power. So long as man misunderstands his own nature and tendencies, he will be unable to comprehensively take into consideration all the factors in his life problems or to so combine his thought ingredients that each will exert its full strength.

It should be plain that there are underlying principles or causes which govern life as well as all other

things, and that these principles can be understood and reduced to a scientific system of self-culture that is thoroughly practical because adapted to all the needs of an individual, no matter what may be his condition and place in the world. It is through the understanding and practice of such a system of self-culture that man may become able to produce any desired effect by simply setting up its thought cause within himself. It is through the mathematical and scientific system of correspondences that the individual tendencies of a character may be ascertained and from a basis of actual facts. It is thus that one's true place in the world may be determined. When it is so determined it becomes comparatively easy to prescribe a system of individual self-training which will enable him to live for his best and to thus attain the highest possible degree of life's enjoyment and life results.

Unfortunately our present systems of education do not sufficiently take into consideration these differences in individual character. The result is that too often the round man finds only the square hole, and thus his bright hopes and his chances of happiness, success and usefulness are ruined. The fact is that our educational systems do not even take into consideration the whole nature of man and, therefore, they do not, nor can they reasonably be expected to offer the best method by which he can work out his ultimate destiny. If a man could but fully understand the esoteric significance of such educational influences upon human character, they would grate upon his nerves and make him shudder as would the screechings of a complicated and uncoiled

machine whose most important screws were loose or missing.

Each soul is the builder of all its conditions. It is the chief sufferer if its methods of self-culture are wrong, and, therefore, should not depend upon priests or others who represent the present inadequate systems of education for his methods, but should give the matter careful personal study. It is the ultimate destiny of each soul to fully express the omnipotence of that interior law of Love which generates every force, every thought ingredient and every factor with which a system of education should deal.

It is important that man should understand that all occult powers come within the range of his thought forces and act through his natural thought faculties. Each faculty has its own special quality of thought force. That thought force is its natural food, and when supplied contributes to its power and healthy growth. It is the purpose of each and every thought faculty to express its own peculiar quality of that life force which flows from the law of Love.

The thought faculties are man's alphabet of expression from which he is slowly building words to express the interior meanings of life. Each faculty is a letter in that alphabet and represents its distinctive ingredient of thought force. Each thought and each act is a word in the language of life because it represents its own peculiar combination of letters or ingredients. Each letter in this or any other alphabet has its own peculiar vibration (sound) because it is founded upon the law of vibration. Its power is measured through the mathe-

mathematical science of numbers. In fact the science of numbers, and also man's thought faculties, have their intimate relations and correspondences to all methods of expression and to all things which exist.

Each word in a language is a combination of letters, and of their respective vibrations. The meanings of those words should correspond with the esoteric meanings of the combined numbers or vibrations of the letters of which the word is composed. In a perfect language that will be invariably the case, and, as a rule, will be found to be the case in the sacred books or Bibles of all languages and all religions, because they were written by occultists or adepts, who not only understood this law and its possibilities of use in expression, but who also *used* it to express the deep meanings which have so charged it with life-giving vibratory power and vitality. To become a true occultist is to become inspired with the deep truths, meanings and wisdom of the higher self or Lord—the God within—as was the Christ. That is true inspiration.

It is through the understanding of this law that to the occultist the Bible becomes perfectly luminous in its meanings. It is through the meanings thus and in other ways ascertained that the occultist is able to know to what extent the religious creeds and practices of the church are perversions of the true meanings of Christianity, because but an observance of the mere letter of the law instead of its spirit, which the Christ taught.

Many of the religious observances and true thought practices which are ignorantly or unconsciously observed by religionists are tremendous in their meanings. They

have supplied the vitality which has held together and so greatly enlarged the Christian church. The significance of these practices become greatly enhanced when one learns the laws of thought and the vibratory influences of words. The esoteric meanings of some words are simply tremendous, and especially so if oft repeated.

What occultists term the "Lost word" is that combination of ingredients or letters which *fully* expresses every vibration which springs from the law of Love. It is by pronouncing it that all of the meanings of life may be expressed, but that word will never be expressed nor the unspeakable vibratory thrill of its harmony be realized, until man learns how to set up those causes which fully call out the ultimate of power which belongs to each of his natural faculties. The thrill of that Lost Paradise can be regained only in that way. It is by no means an ignoble work for man to learn these the scientific principles which govern true self-culture. In fact, the true purpose of life is character building or self-culture. True character building is to so combine the thought ingredients of human character that they will express themselves through the natural faculties in that comprehensive and orderly perfection which faithfully represents the perfection and completeness of their underlying cause and law. The principle of Love is that law.

There is a science of Love. The formulated principles and rules of that science are true methods of self-culture and self-help for man because they outline the best possible processes by which he can develop his individual powers and gain that balance toward which all

things in nature must in time drift. Love is omnipotence itself. Its law is the law of man's heart. Its science is the science of power. Its principles are related to everything which concerns him. They created the forces which caused and which underlie his external conditions. His external conditions are but reflections which indicate to what extent he has become sympathetic and consciously awakened to the true principles of Love within himself. It is by becoming sympathetic to those principles in their wholeness that he can attract to himself external conditions which represent the perfection of that wholeness. There are definite methods by which that can be done, and by which he can avail himself of Love's interior but not latent omnipotence. To develop the interior Love forces is to develop power, for Love is power. All power manifests through vibration, and Love is the cause of vibration. That cause is interior and can be awakened by the simple process of thought hereinafter indicated, and through which self-culture and true self-help are ever available.

It is through the Love forces and the vibrations thus awakened that the human organism may become thrilled with the vibratory harmony and joy of human love, therefore there is no other pathway in life that is so delightful as is the pathway of Love, self-culture and self-help. Love is the law of the human soul, therefore joy and bliss are but that vibratory ecstasy and harmony which are its natural conditions. If your daily life is lacking in the thrill of that ecstasy, it is an evidence that you have not yet fully put into practice those rules and principles which govern the science of Love

and through which Love forces may be awakened. To master that science of Love is to become anchored to your higher self. It is to find the Christ, the Christ powers and the Kingdom of Heaven within yourself, and, therefore, it is the true pathway to power and happiness. It is to envelop and overshadow every act and circumstance of your life with the awakened halo of Love's magic charm—with the charm of your higher self—with that manifested divinity and permanent reality which is something more than the counterfeits of passion, and more than the perhaps genuine but yet sensuous and emotional religious ecstasy which is so much in evidence at negro camp-meetings and revivals.

The interior forces of Love when sought from the persistent practice of Love's principles, become permanent like its principles, instead of a thing to effervesce with the very first thaw of the springtime. Religious ecstasy is not likely to be lasting until its vibratory thought causes are continued as a habit of daily practice. The Kingdom of Heaven must be found in the within before it can be manifested in the without, therefore each individual should deal first and chiefly with himself—with the matter of self-culture.

It should be plain to you that your opportunities and your possibilities of true success in life are based upon your physical, mental and spiritual endowments, and upon the use you make of those, your natural faculties. One of your chief aims in life should therefore be to so train and cultivate those faculties and mental endowments that the very best results will be obtained from them. It is thus that you may get at the real issues of

life. Until your efforts toward self-culture reach these issues they are thrown away. Hence the importance of getting clearer and higher conceptions of what your nature and your life really is, and what the real issues of life are. Your methods of self-culture should be chosen with reference to their influence and bearing upon your entire future.

Your first and highest duty is to yourself. That duty is the duty of self-help. It may well be done in the name of individual self-culture and self-love. When it is so done the hard word duty becomes softened into the word love. You can never fully pay your debt of service to your fellow men in the coin of duty. That coin has a false ring—it is counterfeit. It carries with it the vibratory thought poison of those hard moods and imperfections of character from which it springs. All gifts and all charities which spring from it are lacking in one essential of a perfect gift. That essential is the spirit of true Love. It can be infused into a gift of but "the widow's mite." Gifts however small, which are truly given in the name of love, represent something of the power and holiness (wholeness) of that spiritual centre from which the love sentiment springs. When you have first done your whole duty to yourself, you will understand your relations to your fellow-men, and through your very self-interest will be impelled to earnestly strive to answer these relations in full, by giving to others of your love, of your wealth, of your power, and of all the best you have, and in the true spirit of loving service.

If you could but fully realize your relations to your

fellow-men, and the wonderful possibilities which are within your reach, by reason of your inherent powers and natural endowments, you would awaken to the fact that though you may be living according to standards which by the world are now considered high and noble, you are in reality devoting your talents to comparatively ignoble objects and standards. Truly the human mind is "fearfully and wonderfully made." Its law is perfect. To each soul much is given, and much more will be required than man has yet been able to even comprehend.

The great difficulty with individuals is not that their talents are insufficient, but that they do not understand how to make the right use of them. The fact is, that they have, through their thought faculties, the available power to draw upon all of the forces of omnipotent Love which may be found within themselves. *

It is a universally accepted and axiomatic business maxim that judgments and business methods should not only take into comprehensive consideration but

* NOTE.—It is, perhaps, proper, even before I go further, that I briefly relate an occult incident connected with the history of several of the following pages. The pages in question were written during a period of unusually deep mental concentration, but afterwards were temporarily discarded as being a slight digression from the subject of self-culture. Immediately letters began to come from unknown and distant sources asking that those very questions be dealt with in this publication. It is, of course, not strange that the somewhat intense thought which is necessary in comprehensively writing upon these subjects, should send out thought vibrations to people at a distance and stimulate their minds to ask questions concerning the same subjects. Though that has been an event of frequent occurrence, the facts of which we have had convincing proofs, and in this case was not a matter of surprise, I at once reinstated the discarded manuscript, but as is my custom in such cases and in all important questions which concern this work, I silently demanded that further and more convincing proof should be given in regard to it. As such proof did not immediately come I again discarded the subject matter in question. This time I received a call from a member of the silent brotherhood, who personally requested that the subject be treated in this publication. Again I reinstated that which I had written, still demanding more convincing proofs, but it was again slow in coming, so I still again discarded that matter and sent the previous pages of this essay to the printer. Soon after that, as I concentrated the mind preparatory to doing other work, I quickly became conscious of unusually deep inner vibratory influences, and also conscious of the seeming presence of two groups of beautiful girls, one group being a little distance away. One of the girls gave me a small roll of papers, which proved to be manuscripts of short poems which she had written. The first poem was to the effect that her present life was greatly lacking in real interests, and had become almost unbearable, and that her heart was greatly burdened with these and other disappointments. It also stated that she had frequently been puzzled with glimpses of past

should also be formed with reference to all the facts and business objects which in any way pertain to that business. To leave out important facts in such matters is like leaving out the foundation bricks or stones from a large house or wall, and yet that is relatively the very thing which our systems of education do in their methods of self-culture. First they leave out of their consideration the fact of man's latent occult powers. Second, they warp and almost invert the methods by which those powers can best be developed. Third, they fail to recognize the ultimate destiny which is his by virtue of those powers, and also the methods by which he can

memories (in past lives) which she seemed to demand that I explain. In my surprise I gave no immediate answer, and soon the scene came before me of a large church, the vestibule of which was nearly filled with nice but very serious looking people, who had assembled seemingly for worship. Their attention was turned to me by one of the ladies who reprovingly asked why I had presumed to converse with that group of strange young girls. I hesitatingly explained that they had asked me something about the subject of reincarnation and how memories of past lives could be recalled. Before I could say more, several persons who were standing by spoke almost in a chorus, "Oh, you are a dangerous person to teach such doctrines; you should not come here to a Presbyterian church." Before I could answer them that I was most friendly to all churches and to all persons who were earnestly seeking the truth, and that I was a firm believer in the essential doctrines of the church and in the teachings of the Christ and of the Bible, an usher stepped up and diverted their attention from me by reproving them for their bigoted intolerance. With the exception of one person who remained, they answered him in silent scorn by withdrawing into the body of the church. The person who remained was an attractive, charmingly impulsive and cultivated lady who had heard the conversation, and who, with seeming concern, earnestly asked why I had sought to sow seeds of dissention among minds so young, stating that her daughter was a member of the group of young girls. I answered by asking her if she saw one of the ends of a small stick which I held before her. She answered, "yes." I asked her if she thought it possible that the stick should have one end without having another. She said, "Oh, no; that would be an absurdity." I asked if she believed in immortality or in the possibility for an individual soul to exist for an endless future. She said, "Most certainly I do, as that is a central doctrine of the Christian church, and is the final reward which every true Christian earnestly seeks." I asked her if it did not necessarily follow, then, that for such individuals there had also been an endless past, because if to them their future is endless their past must have been endless also. She pondered, and thousands to-day are pondering over the same questions, forgetting that the scientific truths of physical evolution also imply the evolution of the human soul. The religious truths which relate to the immortality of the soul, to the powers within man and to reincarnation, when truly seen, give to those who are groping in the darkness of mere physical science the missing link and a needed backing for their pet doctrines of physical evolution.

Two truths always harmonize with a third truth. When this third religious, scientific, evolutionary truth of reincarnation can in the light of occultism be recognized and understood, man's permanent nature will be also understood, his methods of self-culture will then be based upon the laws of that nature, and therefore be adapted to his needs, religion will become scientific, science will become religious and holy, and instead of opposing each other science and religion will then *unite* in more successfully and rapidly pushing forward to that glorious time in evolution when the "lion and lamb will lie down together in peace." If the effort in the following pages to throw light on these important subjects, which so deeply concern man's needs, is to *any degree* successful, I will feel amply justified in having extended this essay considerably beyond its usual limits.

most directly and rapidly attain to that destiny. In fact, they do not even recognize his whole past or the true causes which have brought him into his present conditions. Is it strange, then, that they so signally fail in bringing out the very best that is in him?

Let us consider these points one by one. First, the laws of man's life are those omnipotent laws of Truth and Love which through motion or vibration give omnipotence to his thought. Second, it is through his thought that he may understandingly come into active possession of those powers, and put into operation those laws in ways that will enable him to outwardly manifest their omnipotence. It is by a very simple process of thought concentration that the thought consciousness becomes attached to the within, and to those powerful interior vibratory forces which then flow through the avenue of man's thought into his external relations in life whenever the interior laws of his permanent being are thus put into operation.

Our present systems of education do not comprehend these principles and methods, nor do they even blunder into an adequate application of those principles. They confine themselves almost wholly to primitive external physical methods of education. So long as man is ignorantly oblivious to the very existence of several of his most important thought faculties, and to the definite methods by which they may be brought into action, he will hardly be able to prevent one faculty from opposing the action and forces of other faculties. It is through the counteracting currents and influences thus caused and set up that lines and furrows become so

common in the face, nor are these the only disagreeable consequences of allowing the mental faculties to run riot.

There is a wonderful significance to the scientific fact, that each and every brain faculty is improvable even by definite physical methods, or in other words, by giving each faculty its proper food; but before these methods can be made available, the action of all these faculties must first be at least understood. When they are so understood, still better methods will then become clearly apparent, and it will become unnecessary to deal with each faculty separately. Those methods of thought concentration by which man becomes more closely in touch with the higher self, brings out the harmonious action of all his faculties, because the higher self is always harmonious, and its forces are thus awakened into harmonious activity and sent coursing through its every avenue of expression. Man's real powers are interior, and can best be developed by interior thought methods.

Third, as man's powers are all founded upon that exact law of Love, which is everlasting and unchangeable, it is his *irresistible tendency* to come *more and more* into a conscious recognition of those laws, and also of the methods by which he can coöperate with them and so awaken and manifest their resultant forces. As this is an ever *increasing* tendency within him, he is certain in time to fully manifest the omnipotence of those laws. That is his ultimate destiny. The method by which it can be most directly and rapidly reached is through the scientific use of his thought forces and powers.

When man truly understands his own nature and the best methods by which character can be built, he will then understand the causes which have brought him into his present conditions and environments. It is then that he may know the history of his whole past. That birth which marked the beginning of your present earth life was not the original birth of your soul life. Nor will the death of your body be the *end* of your soul life. The soul is immortal, and by virtue of inherent powers which are yours now and which may be now exercised. That which has a beginning must have an ending. That within you which will have an endless future has existed during an endless past.

An educational system which places man at the mercy of physical evolution is an inversion of the true system and methods of self-culture. It has "the cart before the horse." That interior law which forms the basis of man's occult powers is also the basis of all evolution. Physical evolution is but a reflection of man's progress in soul building. Man may consciously obtain full possession of the law within himself of which physical evolution is but the effect or product. All such external products in nature have resulted from man's growing ability to put these interior laws of his nature into operation. There is a method of self-culture by which he can now put it fully into operation, and thus manifest the ultimate omnipotence of its resultant powers.

Man's dominion over all things is but the result of recognizing his intimate relations to all things. So long as he recognizes father, mother, brother, sister, aunts

and cousins *only*, as his relations, his powers of dominion will be correspondingly limited. It is through the understanding of his nature and of his endless past and future that he learns to fully recognize the whole world as his family. He will then no longer place so much stress upon his present standards of physical relationship, upon mere personality, or upon those systems of education which pertain to only a single earth life. All such things will then become baptized with the spirit of divinity, which is then seen to be within all.

Your character and present conditions and surroundings in life represent results which you yourself have attained during your almost endless past in your efforts toward self-culture or soul building. That plan of self-culture which takes into consideration only your one earth life, is not sufficiently comprehensive to include all the issues which pertain to the permanent principles of your being. The time will come, and by a process of thought can be made to come soon, when you can recall all of the events which have transpired in your past earth lives. The process by which those memories may be recalled is revealed, and can be made available when you understand how your present character has, through your own efforts, been built.

Every desire, every feeling, every emotion and every thought which you have ever experienced has had its influence in making you what you are. All such influences are thoughts and, therefore, are vibratory in their nature. These thoughts and emotions come and go, but their vibratory effects remain and sink into the character as would the sediment of roily water into the

bottom of a basin which contained it. These essences of past thoughts and past experiences are vibratory results which gradually build the magnetisms, forces and interior currents of your entire bodily organism. Every combination of so-called atoms, organic or inorganic, is in reality but a combination of these magnetic forces.

So long as you continue to sow vibratory thought seeds of earth desires, you thus form vibratory ties which connect you with earth, and which will never become entirely severed until, through the acquisition of the knowledge which earth experiences give, you outgrow those desires, and thus cease to set up such causes and vibratory ties. A desire is a thought. A thought projection is a vibratory organism which will live until its vibratory force is spent, and its vibratory cause or thought support withdrawn. Those thought projections and organisms will continue so long as your earth desires continue, for it is through desire that you supply those organisms with vibratory life. Your earth desires will continue until through knowledge you learn the objects of manifestation (external life) and by mastering manifestation thus outgrow and overcome those earth desires. Through self-knowledge and self-culture you get command of manifestation because the cause of manifestation is motion and the cause of motion is a law within yourself. That law of Love may be reached by your thought.

Earth desires are not only thoughts, but also are a species of Love. They are offshoots from the law of Love. To love an earthly thing is to desire it. That which underlies your love and desires for earthly things

is but the desire to know their meanings and your powers. You will outgrow those loves when you learn your higher powers, just as the child outgrows his love of toys when he awakens to the higher meanings of his manhood. As you learn the meanings of earthly things, you will become so attached to the realities of those meanings that you will lose your exaggerated interest for their mere symbols.

Those philosophers who teach that man should "kill out all desires" seem to forget that the God desire is that species of omnipotent Love which is the cause of motion and of manifestation. Manifestation has its deep meanings and purposes. To kill out desire would be to kill out manifestation. It will be impossible to entirely kill out desire by any process of self-crucifixion or until the purposes of desire and of manifestation have been fulfilled. It is impossible for manifested nature to cease until then. Man's desires should be educated but not crucified.

To center your thought too much upon those earthly things which do not contribute to the building of your permanent being, is to become so attached to mere symbols, that you cause the body to temporarily die. It dies simply because the mentality is thus withdrawn from that interior fountain of life which, through the channel of the thought, would otherwise have supplied that mentality, and through it the body, with force. It is only the bodily symbol of the real life that thus dies. Behind that symbol is a tree of individuality, which is the evolutionary product of an interior law which is deathless. That tree does not then die any more than

does the oak die because of the yearly shedding of its leaves, nor will it die until it becomes swallowed up in a still higher growth.

The essences of your experiences, being vibratory are never lost. They simply settle into the seeds of that character or higher self, which builds for eternity. The cyclic law of unity, gravitation, polarity, Love—call it what you may—which guarantees that whatever evolves or goes out will involve or come in, and that “whatever goes up must come down” not only insures to man a life beyond the grave, but also insures to him from time to time a growing repetition of his earth lives, until by tasting of every pleasure, experience and satisfaction that earth can give, he digests their meanings and builds their essences into his character. Through the knowledge thus obtained he gains command over all nature and the last great enemy, death, as did the Christ, and thus becomes “eternal” because fully representative of the law of Love within his nature which is all related and perfect.

Ignorance of the meanings of things and man's natural thirst for knowledge, causes his earth desires. Earth desires withdraw the thought attention to external things, and thus the vibratory thought energies are so diffused that frequent and intermittent death periods of involution or concentration become necessary. The law of evolution or reincarnation applies to soul building the same as it does to all physical life. In fact, the evolution of the powers within man is at the basis of physical evolution. Therefore, a system of self-culture which leaves out these powers, their laws, their adapta-

tions and their ultimates, is like trying to play "Hamlet with Hamlet left out."

Do you ask how it is possible to recall memories of your past lives? Your memory is the focusing power of your mind. It is within your power to attach the thought consciousness to the vibratory sediment (within yourself) of every past event which has been instrumental in building your mentality. It is by focusing the thought upon the interior vibratory tie which connects with the thought consciousness or memory, that these interior essences or sediments of past events and the experiences of the past may be recalled. To regain past memories is, however, of comparatively little use. In fact, to spend efforts in that direction is to attach your mentality or vibratory thought organism to a dead past. It is to draw toward yourself the inertia of that dead past. You thus gradually shut off the vibratory flow of new life from within, and as a result you hasten your death. You thus connect with a reservoir of death instead of the interior reservoir of Infinite life. The very forces of your life spring from an interior law which is perfect. The purpose of its consequent forces is to manifest that perfection, therefore it must be kept in constant operation if you would have that supply of life as constant. To thus shut off the supply of life by ever looking back is to invoke the self-acting punishment or penalties which it attaches to every violation of its laws and to every interference with its purposes. It should be your ambition to keep these interior activities of life constantly flowing.

The thought organism and its forces should not be

frittered away in simply focusing the memory upon the events of a dead past which have already served their purpose in character building. To thus keep the attention centered upon the carcasses of past experiences is like spending a life in the morgue in the meaningless purpose of idly viewing the remains of the poor unfortunates who are carried there. Death comes only through ignorance or through that excess of vibratory diffusion which is caused by centering the thought too much upon externals. The dead past always has its bitterness and should not be allowed to add to the burdens of the present even to the extent of being tied to the heels of conscious memory.

If to any extent you mourn, or brood over the bitterness of past experiences, you thus to the same extent gradually shut yourself off from the interior vibratory fountain of life. Man will forever have the instinctive and irresistible desire to know and manifest the truth of his being and that for which it stands. This is his undying hope, and to follow its leadings is his Infinite polarity.

The tendency to look back and review the experiences of a bitter past is already given too much emphasis in our lives. The Biblical allegory of Lot's wife, who by looking back suffered the penalty of turning into a pillar of "salt," faithfully represents the drying up consequences which always follow looking back, whenever that review is not based upon the purpose and desire to obtain wisdom and knowledge which may at once be made serviceable in affirmative ways as a guide to future conduct.

Your present character or vibratory organism is but the sum total of the vibratory sediments which represent your past experiences. They are your "Noah's Ark" in which is represented every animal (animal stage of growth) which you have impersonated. You have impersonated all animals not only from the monkey up but also from the monkey down. To see your past with the eye of memory, and this whole menagerie which you yourself have been, might yield you a little passing amusement. It might arouse your "sporting blood" to thus see the almost numberless efforts which you perhaps were required to make, before you finally succeeded in leaping across the evolutionary chasm which separated a past condition of monkeyhood from the beginning of your manhood. It might enlarge the range and intensify the tenderness of your sympathies for those who have but recently made that leap, and also for the animals which have higher rights than the mere privilege of being eaten by man. It might even cause you great joy to know that every soul who has made that leap will in time fully manifest the perfection of that law which underlies its life. But you should be able to understand all of these things without spending the time and life force necessary to recall all of these events. You cannot afford to deplete your powers and lose your very life for the mere sake of "placing your fingers in his wounds," as did the doubting Thomas. Life is too serious for that. It is too pregnant with meanings to be frittered away in anything less than the wisest methods of fulfilling its meanings. To so fulfill those meanings is the object of self-culture.

To understand those Infinite meanings is a necessary prelude to true self-culture. Infinity means so much that we should not be discouraged if we as yet fail to fully express it in a few words. Were this not so I should perhaps feel sorely disappointed to have so signally failed in herein expressing the Infinite meanings of true self-culture.

As I have hardly commenced to say what I desired and intended to say, and have not yet outlined those occult methods which are and are to be adopted by the Brotherhood, and which are within the reach of every earnest student, I will make those methods and a proposed plan of self-culture the subject of the next essay

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