

# THE ORACLE

EXPONENT OF THE WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

CHARLES H. MAUCKAY,

Editor and Publisher.

VOL. 2

BOSTON, MASS., SEPTEMBER, 1896.

No. 3.

## Virgo People.

AUG. 22—SEPT. 23.

It always seems to me that Virgo people are characterized first by their almost perfect satisfaction with the good things of this world,—provided they, themselves, can get a generous share of said “good things!”

Occasionally we find a most sensitive, highly developed Virgo, and such an one is a rare and beautiful soul to know: but I am convinced that the strictly “of the earth earthy” species is by far the most numerous. In marriage or business these people should choose either Capricornus (Dec. 21—Jan. 20) or Taurus (April 19—May 20) provided they desire worldly success and worldly happiness, and this is usually as high as most Virgo people aim. If, however, extreme discipline and training for a spiritual life is desired, then an associate born in a water sign would doubtless provide a foeman worthy of their steel!! Virgo people possess bright, inquiring minds and are very interesting and agreeable to meet. They are quite strongly centralized in thinking of self, and animal comforts; delight in colors and harmonious surroundings. They possess great literary and reformatory ideas, but are too often over-shadowed by the physical nature to allow these higher attributes full scope. Following is a list of noted Virgo people: Prince Albert, Aug. 26, 1819; Goethe, Aug. 28, 1749; Oliver Wendell Holmes, Aug. 29, 1809; Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, Aug. 31, 1880; Meyerbeer Sept. 5, 1794; Marquis de Lafayette, Sept. 6, 1757; Bishop Wilberforce, Sept. 7, 1805; Tolstoi, Sept. 9, 1828; James F. Cooper, Sept. 15, 1789; Louis Kossuth, Sept. 16, 1802; Francis

Parkman, Sept. 16, 1823; Michael Faraday, Sept. 22, 1791.

NOTE—We have thus far published brief delineations of people born in March, April, May June, July, August and Sept. Back numbers of the ORACLE will be supplied at ten cents each. We can, until further notice, send the loose numbers of volume first, complete, for one dollar.

### The Moon's Position by Hours, Sept. 1896.

EASTERN TIME.			
Moon enters the sign:			
Sagittarius,	Sept. 12	at	3 p. m.
Capricornus,	14		2 p. m.
Aquarius,	16		5 p. m.
Pisces,	19		4 a. m.
Aries,	21		10 p. m.
Taurus,	24		4 p. m.
Gemini,	27		3 a. m.
Cancer,	29		7 a. m.
Leo,	Oct. 1		10 a. m.
Virgo,	3		3 p. m.
Libra,	5		10 p. m.
Scorpio,	8		1 a. m.
Sagittarius	9		12 p. m.
Capricornus	11		9 p. m.
Aquarius	13		11 p. m.
Pisces	16		9 a. m.
New moon, Sept. 7th, at 7 p. m.		Full moon, Sept. 22, at 4 a. m.	
Conjunction of the moon with:			
Jupiter, Sept. 5, at midnight.		Venus, Sept. 8, at 4.30 p. m.	
Mercury, Sept. 9, at 7 a. m.		Saturn, Sept. 11, at noon.	
Uranus, Sept. 11, at 9.16 p. m.		Neptune, Sept. 28, at 1 p. m.	
Mars, Sept. 28, at 4.19 p. m.			

Upon the morning of Monday Sept. 19th the planet Jupiter and the first magnitude star Regulus (of Leo) will be nearly in conjunction. The actual conjunction takes place at 11 a. m. The student of astronomy will be intensely interested to note the position of these bodies and if he rises an hour or so before the sun and directs his gaze about ten degrees north of the point where the sun peeps above the eastern horizon he will be amply repaid for his pains; provided, of course, the morning is clear. Jupiter will be seen one third of a degree north of Regulus. Sept. 24th Mars and Neptune will be in conjunction (at one a. m.) and upon the same day (at two p.

m.) Mercury and Venus. At the conjunction of Mars and Neptune the former planet will be a little less than one degree north of Neptune. These planets are now midway between the Pleaides and the Hyades and may be viewed to fine advantage at three to four a. m., during September and October. At this hour the Pleaides will be seen nearly overhead (slightly south) while Mars will be easily found a few degrees toward the east. As Neptune is a telescopic planet his position is rarely known to the average star gazer, hence the above plain directions to locate him.

—Upon the evening of Saturday July 11th (9.45) I noted a very bright path of light, which seemed to spring from the centre of the constellation of Aquarius and, passing about mid-way between Delphinus and Aquilla, shoot across the Milky Way, in the direction of Corona Borealis. It was scarcely visible west of the Milky Way, however. It was about two and a half degrees in width and was plainly visible for five minutes. It was a phenomenon entirely new to me, as I do not remember ever having seen such a brilliant flash of light coming up from the east. Upon this evening the Aurora Borealis presented a most magnificent spectacle, also; the entire northern section of the heavens being beautifully illuminated.

—If these were the days of chivalry; if the prize we seek were to be had through the successful combat with physical or animal enemies; if, through the subjugation of men or beasts we could attain the ends we covet, how assiduously and bravely would we enter the arena, and how unwearingly fight from early morn till night! But the age has passed in which objective foes were offered for combat; our era is given a much harder task; a task commensurate with the greater prize. Our foes are invisible. The objective world has been well conquered, and now we must, up to a certain line, struggle in the dark, with no guide save Faith. Yet faith is all sufficient and will never lead us off the safe path.

—In all temptations to commit wrong there is always a golden

moment when the higher nature is fully competent to decide to its own credit. If there is the slightest hesitation, however, then the victory almost invariably goes to the demon of sensualism. Study this law carefully and note the almost imperceptible thread of division between the higher and the lower. One divine resolve of "get thee behind me" expressed just at that decisive moment will waft you upward; one little moment of *hesitation* and the Beast gains *his* ends.

—Have you read "The Society of V. H.?" It is a small eight page pamphlet, nicely printed and of intense interest to the occult student in general. It treats mainly of points of most vital concern to young men, and all who desire to see the establishment of an era of nobler manhood. Price ten cents, or three copies for 25 cents.

—Some one in Oakland, Cal., posted a letter to the ORACLE and neglected to put a stamp on it. Result,—the missive found its way to the Dead Letter Office and has not yet reached us. If we ever get it and find out who it is from we will promptly explain matters. If you write this office and get no reply within a reasonable time, then you should write again, for the delay is sure evidence of mis-carriage, "held for postage" or mis-direction.

—Have you seen Mrs. True's "Mental Healing?" Price reduced to fifteen cents per copy.

—My friends, you have hardly *commenced*, as yet, to know the peace and the consciousness of power which follows the realization,—comprehension—of even the more simple subjective truths. You have merely loitered by the way and childishly sported at the foot-hills of the towering Mountains of God. When will you start forward and upward with that irresistible determination which all must have ere the prize is won? When will you rise superior to every grovelling desire and take up permanent abode in the Light? No one can force or hasten you to enter this inheritance which awaits you, but if you can be convinced that it really does await you, then I



am sure you will receive fresh inspiration to commence your journey anew.

—The concluding paper of Mr. Hotchkiss' "Physical Development" will be published in October ORACLE.

—Our Teacher's Course of 16 lessons are constantly receiving highest praise. They were prepared more especially for my advanced students but they are invaluable for all people who have read and thought upon advanced lines for a year or more. They point the way to ultimatum of highest ideals right here in present environment. They contain fundamental principles of true healing and teaching. The drills, concentrations, etc., are of inestimable service to all who aspire to adept powers. I have put the price at \$2.50. If several month's private correspondence is desired in connection with these lessons, the price for all is five dollars.

—An important mission of the W. G. Philosophy is to show that there is no need of mysticism in occult study. It is not in the mountains of Thibet nor at the antipodal haunts of the "Brothers" that we are to search for the true light. No doubt it is to be found in these far away places, but no more surely than here, right at our own firesides. The way is plain, the methods are simple, the opportunity is ever present. In fact nothing stands in the way of your initiation except your own lack of determination and enthusiasm.

—How senseless to suppose that the weal or woe of this country is in the hands of the "gold bugs" the silverites" or any other party or faction of political color! The small politician will not mould our lives. He is merely a shuttle in the Loom of Fate. He would get horribly disgusted with himself if he knew how little he really weighs in the balance which registers the precious events of this nation. But as he does *not* know and as he is growing meanwhile and thus doing a service to himself with his much shouting there is, after all, "method in his madness." Political excitement and occult study are a long distance apart. They have very little in

common. Yet the domain of politics with its wrangles and its worship of the money power is a necessary stage for our country to pass through. But it is not for the student of occultism to actively and personally take part. The greatest service we can do is to hold pure ideals of that regenerate nation of which the present is merely a prophesy.

—The star-gazer will find some very interesting groups to study during Sept. While the heavens lack that extreme brilliancy which winter gives the stars, yet we think the soft, mellow twinkling of the late summer stars is a happy variation which comparatively few students duly appreciate. The most brilliant constellation to be seen in the early evening hours of Sept. is Scorpio, now occupying a central section of the southwestern heavens. Immediately west of this group we find the two principle stars of Libra, with the red planet Saturn between. Then, in order, following up to the zenith we shall discover the Serpent, Bootes, Hercules, Lyra, Draco, and (passing slightly north of the zenith point) Ursa Minor and Polaris. Leo and Virgo are hastening out of view in the west, while Sagittarius, Capricornus and Aquarius are rising to prominence in the east. Cygnus, the Dolphin and the great square of Pegagus are now in fine position in the eastern heavens, while Cassiopeia and Andromeda are seen near the Milky Way in the north-east. Let the student remember that through the study of the stars he may receive that inspiration and broadening of spiritual powers which no other line of research can give. We offer every encouragement and tender every point of assistance to those who really desire to pursue this grand line of study.

—If our delinquent subscribers will kindly remit the fifty cents now due for volume second they will confer a substantial favor. Any subscriber who will send us a new name with fifty cents will receive this journal free for one year.

—We are preparing a very important system of organization of the Brotherhood the coming fall and winter. We would

like to hear from each and every one of our old correspondents and students. A definite plan of work for *you* will be started in September of the present year. An advanced course of instruction will be commenced and all are invited to write for particulars which cannot be given here. Each person applying for "light" will be given such as he needs and will be invited to enter upon an independent line of teaching. This has been partially planned before and the "West Gate Teachers" are already working and building better than they know. We want to hear from each of these and from all others who may be impressed to write us and who feel the yearning within them to take a conscious and more wisely directed part in the world's uplift. The new private lessons will begin sometime during the present month and will be prepared especially for advanced students. This Course will probably be completed in seven months. It will contain new drills and exercises, concentrations, and detailed instructions for increasing and wisely directing the mental and physical forces. Do not let the point of *money*, or your lack of it, debar you from taking this Course. This is one of the things that the lessons will aid you to master and you have but to write me your *desire* to take the Course; then if you are even half faithful to the principles set forth herein you will be fully competent to adjust this part of the matter, and to forever rise out of the depressing influence of this material and degrading power to which most people appear, at the present time, to be kneeling in ignorant worship. *Join us.* Come into the circle of Light; cast your influence with the "People of High Ideals." Your simple request, with date of birth, will insure your name being placed with that spiritually organized circle,—an order limited neither by "dues" nor human "by-laws" and rules,—namely, *The West Gate Brotherhood.*

—The moon tables and the planetary positions, conjunctions, etc., which we give from month to month in the ORACLE are, we believe, published by no other popular priced journal in the world. By carefully studying these tables the student

may speedily become familiar with every member of the Solar System. Thus a solid foundation may be laid for a more extensive and useful knowledge of astronomy, as the science should be applied to spiritual growth.

—There is a language of the heart which pen and tongue can never make plain. Heart speaks to heart and there follows rest and satisfaction which is impossible to describe but must be experienced to be comprehended. And often, behind the empty utterances of the tongue, a hidden meaning is conveyed and a wave of soul-force is felt which vibrates and flows in melodious strains along the darkened vales of the hearer's soul, until all the gloomy places are rendered temporarily bright. Then, indeed, life is worth living. The pangs of past struggles are forgotten: everything is forgotten in the peace of this moment in which two congenial spirits unite and find, each within the other, a complement—a missing thing without which life holds no attraction.

—There is a marked influence in books, pictures, sheet music, etc., which is often felt by a sensitive person. Sometimes this influence is pleasing and helpful, but more frequently it is of an extremely harmful nature, and through these agents there are often suggested all sorts of degrading and sensual thoughts. This is especially true of "art" subjects where the artist runs wild over painting nude or semi nude figures. Now there are numerous works of this description which leave no degrading effects and such are always inspiring and pleasant to study and admire. But when sensuous thoughts or influences are experienced in connection with these creations it will be found by far the safer way to lay them aside at once. As the student in occultism becomes more highly developed he will constantly and plainly feel the effect of this nameless magnetic force which a man puts into his work for good or evil. Surely "thoughts are things."

—Remember that it is not he who gives abuse or blows who affronts, but the view we take of these things as insulting. When, therefore, any one provokes you, be assured that it is your own opinion which provokes you.—*Epictetus*.



This Journal is published in the interests of all people who are struggling with environment; who are seeking a comprehension of the earth mission; who are striving to know the scope and the right uses of the dormant powers of the "Temple of the Holy Ghost," namely, the human body.

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Subscription 50 Cents per Year. Single Copies, 5 Cents.

Address inquiries and make remittances to

CHAS. H. MACKAY, Editor the Oracle.

39 East Springfield St., Boston, Mass.

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A Journal of Progress, Dedicated to the People of High Ideals

HERALD OF A NEW SYSTEM OF THEOSOPHY.



To uplift and make free every human being; to disclose the Light to those who yearn for it; to fulfill the desire of those who hunger for the association of congenial souls; this is the Mission of West Gate Teaching.



Vol 2.

Boston, Mass., October 1896.

No. 4.

ENTERED AT THE BOSTON POST-OFFICE AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.