

THE ORACLE.

EXPONENT OF WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

CHARLES H. MACKAY, " " " " " Editor and Publisher.

VOL. 2 BOSTON, MASS., DECEMBER, 1896. No. 6.

A West Gate Legend.

Our people once had more life and power than they now possess. Among the least, even, there resided the gift of temporary increase in size, strength and general force of the physical. These gifts were not, however, possessed by all. A favored few—those who had lived pure, unselfish lives—alone understood the strange power. The multitudes then, as now, were unawakened, entirely upon the animal plane and knew nothing of the superior class of beings of which we are speaking. Centuries before the beginning of the Christian Era a certain Grand Master of the Awakened appointed Adept No. 17 as an agent to go among the common people and demonstrate divers principles to them. This Adept hoped that they would be ready to receive him and so live thereafter that they, too, might possess those secrets which would show them the way to eternal life—freedom from the usual limitations of earth. Adept No. 17 chose as the scene of his labors a certain hamlet, the name of which shall be Sense. He approached the village in the guise of an ordinary traveller and applied for lodging at a cottage near the square. When a night and a day had passed he began to talk to the people in the open air. He told of the deceitfulness of the ways of the world, and of the pain and suffering which their residence in Sense would surely lead them to. He exhorted them to abandon their wicked ways and become even as himself—Superior to every limitation of the human body. For many days he regularly spread before the people of Sense the most beautiful principles. But all

to no effect. Sometimes one, sometimes three—rarely a dozen stopped to listen. He almost lost hope, and finally sought advice from the Grand Master. "Solve the riddle yourself," replied the Chief, "I have sent you upon this mission and you must attend to it faithfully. I have confidence in your earnestness. Enter into a season of prayer and fasting and you will get new inspiration as to how to proceed." It was in a rather discouraged frame of mind that Adept No. 17 began his period of seclusion. At the end of twenty days he had decided upon an entirely different method to pursue. He again entered the square and again drew the people as at first. But now, from his different attitude, he drew multitudes instead of a mere handful. For now he dealt with principles which appealed to the eyes, the ears and the feelings. He performed miracles and did many astounding things. He showed his superiority to pain and his ability to avoid accidents and all forms of intrigue. But the thing that most astonished the people was his power to change the form of his body. At will he made himself into a being twelve feet in height, and so terrible was his aspect that the multitude were greatly alarmed, until he resumed his normal height of six feet. He took advantage of their awe by assuring them that they all possessed this power in embryo. "Meditate upon the wonderful mechanism of your breathing functions," he said, "you all have the ability to increase and diminish that section of the body lying between the hips and the neck. This, as you all know, may be done by simply inhaling and exhaling the air, which is common and free to you as well as to myself." But of all the throng there was but one who seemed to be sufficiently impressed to desire to possess the wonderful gift which had been so forcibly illustrated. And this One came to the Adept and prayed to be given the power to perform this great wonder in himself. Impressed with the man's earnestness the Adept took him under personal instruction and at the end of a year had shown him the secret. Then a most distressing

series of events began to take place. No sooner did the One realize his power than he began every imaginable form of crime. Former enemies were visited and beaten. Merchants were taken bodily into lonely places and made to give up immense sums of money. In fine, depredations of every description were committed by this novice with his new and invincible powers. In despair the Adept reported the matter to the Grand Master. The latter then spoke as follows : "For a long time I had seen your intense desire to go among the people and seek to imbue them with the grand principles of our Brotherhood. I determined to grant your desire, believing this to be the most potent way to unfold to you the immensity of the undertaking. In your instruction to the One you omitted the most vital of all principles, namely, the proper training of the morals, and (secondarily) the disciplining and strengthening of the will power. Had you commenced with the first principle you would have seen at once that the applicant lacked experience through suffering ; hence you would have immediately abandoned your task. Now there are a few among the world's people who are nearing the time when they may possess our secrets, but even they will not have to be sought out by us ; they will make their needs known to us by the sheer force of their desires ; then we may wisely guide them to the Light. Here ! return to your disciple ; with this charm strip him of his power ; remedy, as far forth as possible, the harm which you have done, and then remain with the people as one of them, quiet and unobserved, until your Monitor tells you that you are forgiven. During your absence meditate often upon this truth : *the people are not to be saved through phenomena. When the Great Passion is realized WITHIN, then will follow their Redemption and the New Birth.*"

— "Authorized rules of the Shaker Community," is a work which must be of deep interest to all people who are aspiring to live the higher life. The price is only ten cents. Address Mr. W. C. Ayer, Union Village, Ohio.

Personal Magnetism.

No. 2.

The Face.—Clear cut, classic, regular features are not always a necessary attribute to an otherwise attractive and magnetic face. In fact it quite usually occurs that a face with outlines so perfect that criticism is forever silent still lacks a certain "something" which lies hidden behind a *retrouse* nose, and eyes that speak! But a clear complexion, healthful, bright and firm is one of the charms which every woman who prizes true beauty must possess. Regularity of features cannot to any great degree be *acquired*. This appears to be one of the favors of the gods to which you must be *born*. With the complexion it is different. Any woman with persistent attention to our practical suggestions, may improve, and in many cases, render well nigh perfect the most unattractive skin. On the start we take for granted that your general habits of life are correct. It must be understood that intemperance of all kinds is to be avoided. Eat and drink *to live* and do not allow the appetite to rule. In cases where tea and coffee have been a regular habit for years we do not advise that they be dropped at once and completely, but rather that these drinks be gradually diluted and lessened in quantity. Thus the system will be given time to re-adjust itself to a new way of existence and, in due time, will be fully and safely free from the thralldom of these unnecessary articles. From six months to a year should be the limit for breaking up *all* intemperate and useless habits of eating and drinking. In some instances a useless habit of years' duration may be conquered *at once*, but we cannot suggest such a course for general adoption.

Wrinkles.—No face can be attractive which is prematurely furrowed and crossed with wrinkles. Freshness of skin and wrinkles are seldom (I might say *never*) found combined in the same face. Therefore render the skin firm and fresh and the underlaying tissues active, by a system of persistent massage. I would advise that you

commence with the forehead. Stand in front of a mirror with head erect and eyes directed below the chin (as reflected in the mirror). In this position the eye-brows will not be elevated and the lines between the eyes and across the forehead will be at their minimum depth. Now place the fingers of the left hand at the upper edge of the forehead, drawing the skin upward, then with the right fingertips firmly and lightly press upon the skin and slide the fingers slowly downward until the eye-brows are reached. Repeat this process over and over from one side of the forehead to the other. Then proceed the same with the lines *between* the eyes—those lines running perpendicularly. Always using the left hand to *hold* and the right hand to *smooth*, and always moving at right angles to the direction of the lines. After treating the forehead, then take the lines at the corners of the eyes and at the sides of the mouth. But remember that the lines are not desired to be *entirely* removed but, rather, that their rigidity and harshness be changed to features of attractiveness. Attention to diet is one of the conditions in this line. Avoid excess of fatty food substances and drink very lightly at meal times. . . . In all your steps to acquire new strength, symmetry, beauty and general acquisition of the divine force, do not for a moment forget the *real* issue, namely: the power of true magnetic force and charm that you may be of greater service in the high spheres of the earth existence. And always hold in mind this fact: Whatever you add to your "holy temple" that can be converted into an agent for enhancing its beauty, its power, or its magnetic force, may be considered a definite advance heavenward.

Sagittarius People.

NOV. 22—DEC. 21:

The people of this sign are usually full of life and activity. They are impulsive and frequently create trouble and misunderstanding with their best friends. They are loyal to their friends, however, and will often make great

sacrifices to do them true service. Their steady devotion to a particular line of labor or research and their unceasing activity often raises them to high places in science, letters and art. Sagittarius is quite magnetic and easily convinces people to his own way of thinking. In business affairs these people are not always model managers, but they do not find it difficult to counterbalance their lack of economical traits with their proclivity for attracting money. Sometimes, however, we find a person of this sign who seems to fairly reverse this rule, that is, they have all the virtues of economy and very little power in the line of money getting. This is one of the fire signs. The other members of the triplicity are Aries (March 21—April 21) and Leo (July 22—Aug. 22). In love, social affairs and business Sagittarius will usually find these two signs most harmonious. The people of this sign well known to the world are as follows: Franklin Pierce, born Nov. 23, 1804; F. T. Buckle (historian) Nov. 24, 1822; Cyrus W. Field, Nov. 30, 1819; "Mark Twain," Nov. 30, 1835; Thos. Carlyle, Dec. 4, 1795; Lillian Russell, Dec. 4, 1862; Martin Van Buren, Dec. 5, 1782; Gustave Flaubert, Dec. 12, 1821; Phillips Brooks, Dec. 13, 1835; John G. Whittier, Dec. 17, 1807; Benj. Disraeli, Dec. 21, 1804.

Note.—We have published delineations of all persons except those born in January and February. Back numbers of the ORACLE can be supplied from this office at ten cents each.

—"The Messenger," is the name of a new monthly paper devoted to the West Gate Philosophy. Here is an extract from the first issue, which will give an idea of the general tone of the new journal: "One important aim of this little journal is to bring new hope and peace to the thousands of sensitive, spiritually minded people who are shut out from congenial association. I desire to make it so pure in its tone and so powerful in its ability to impart deeper and nobler aspirations to its readers that the monthly visits of "The Messenger" will soon be awaited with

the most sincere pleasure." The subscription price is twenty-five cents per year. The *Messenger* and the ORACLE both to one address, 65 cents per year. Send all orders to the ORACLE office. Subscribers to the ORACLE who have paid their subscriptions to Vol. II will be given a year's subscription to the *Messenger* for 15 cents additional. Those who are in arrears for the ORACLE can secure the benefit of this offer if payment is made before Jan. 1st. '97.

—A little book has been brought to our notice which it would be well worth your while to procure and read. It is called "The Milltillionaire." It tells of persons and things "late in the Age of the Planet Earth" and its thirty pages abound in new and interesting possibilities. In this ideal state, described in the pages of "The Milltillionaire," money, competition and business are all relegated to the dark days of the 19th Century. The people's needs are all fully met by the State. In payment for this service from the State each well person between the age of twenty-five and forty must give a "few hours per day, a few days per week, seven months per year" to the state, as the latter may direct. The book may be obtained of Mr. Albert Waldo Howard, 32 Upton St., Boston. The price is 25c.

—My latest course of private lessons are calling forth some very gratifying testimony from students. I make this extract from a letter recently received: "Have just received the last, and, to me, the *most important lesson of a life time*. I have never read or heard anything that would in the least compare with it in its importance. Could humanity be taught these things how much better the whole world would be. Surely you have the key-note and must give it out to all."

—"Our Near Future" is the title of a new book by Mr. W. A. Redding of Navarre, Kans. It maintains "that the world went under a cloud of darkness at a certain time for a purpose and that it is about to come out from under it."

It treats of the wonderful dreams mentioned in Daniel and shows how they were foreshadowings of certain great movements about to occur on this earth. Price of the book in cloth, \$1.00; paper, 50 cents.

—A letter which I recently wrote to one of my students, was, without my knowledge, psychometrized, and the following "reading" is the result: "The light of this soul is whiter, clearer, larger than any other that I have seen. This marvelously clear light cannot be compared to any that pertains to this earth. The physical atoms that form its garment are permeated by it. Being etherealized and vitalized by the soul, the mind and body work harmoniously with it. Touching your letter brings before my eyes a color that is *not yet known to physical sense*. Lilac, with a golden light glowing through it, suggests, but does not describe it. Your musical note is in a minor key. I will say it is the lowest sound drawn from a violin. If there is any difference between it and the note of . . . I do not perceive it. Soul knowledge, or intuition, is very highly developed. I believe you never loose consciousness of yourself on the spiritual plane. You are nearly always en rapport with "Invisibles," whose co-worker and representative (here) you are. Through the medium of your letter I can tact them. If I were to bestow upon them a title it would be "Givers of strength." Your power of concentration and your disinterested devotion to a cause are very great. You are fully identified with your philosophy. You are eager to push your work further, but lack something. I do not see what—but a want is apparent. And there is some uncertainty as to a matter which (I think) need not be decided yet. Or it may not be fully formulated in your mind yet. Whatever it is, it is vague to me. I obtain no idea of your personal appearance."—*A. G.*

—The table of moon positions, etc., for December will be found in the November ORACLE.