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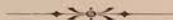
# THE ORACLE,

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Exponent of West Gate Philosophy.

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

HERALD OF A NEW SYSTEM OF OCCULT TRAINING



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.



Per Year, 50 Cents. Single Nos. (Current Month) 5c.



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39 East Springfield St., Boston, Mass.

# THE ORACLE.

EXPONENT OF WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

CHARLES H. TACKAY, - - - - - Editor and Publisher.

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VOL. 3. BOSTON, MASS., AUGUST, 1897. No. 2.

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## Stars of the Zodiac.

Scorpio is the subject for the present month. And a most interesting subject, too, from the star gazer's standpoint. During the evening hours, all through August, this beautiful group may be seen low down in the south, somewhat to the west of the meridian. Scorpio has but one star of first magnitude, Antares, but there are several others in the group which are nearly as bright and which, with Antares, make a most brilliant cluster. At the present writing the planet Saturn is but a few degrees west of this group, and adds greatly to the brilliancy of this section of the heavens. Upon the evening of August 5th the moon will be a few degrees west of Saturn and upon the evening of the 6th a few degrees east. The actual conjunction taking place at 10 a. m., August 6th, with the planet seven and one-fourth degrees north of the moon. The conjunction of Uranus and the moon takes place one-half hour later, at which time Uranus is five and one-third degrees north of the moon. The conjunction of these planets (Saturn and Uranus) takes place August 25th, at 7 p. m., when Saturn will be one degree and forty-eight minutes north of Uranus. Upon the evening of August 7th, the moon will be right in the midst of the stars of Scorpio. At 8 p. m., this date, the star Antares will be seen somewhat less than half a degree north of the moon. Let us hope for fine, clear evenings, that all may observe these rare positions.

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—The Moon Table, by hours, for the entire year (1897) is now ready. Price 10 cents.

### Sailing or Sleeping—Which ?

A black tug-boat, with its usual puffing and blowing, is pushing its way along the coast as I sit here looking out upon the bay. Nothing unusual in this simple fact. Dozens of these unsightly craft pass in and out the waters of Coweset Bay bearing freight for Greenwich and adjacent towns. But this particular craft with its black sides and trail of smoke has a romance attached to it.

The "romance" is a pretty little yacht, white sails loosely set, painter made fast to the larger vessel and ignominiously dragged along a course over which it should go with ease and grace by the simple spreading of sail and manning of tiller. I say ignominiously, which perhaps may seem an expression born of an over vivid imagination, but I will remind the cool and self-contained reader that he or she must suspend criticism until such time as they shall actually view a similar spectacle. Then they will forget, for the moment, that the boats are inanimate objects. They will imagine the tugboat some fierce marine monster bearing away an unwilling captive. This impression is but a momentary one, however. The simple fact soon presents itself that the occupants of the yacht have taken this humiliating method of getting to port because it is an *easier* method. They can now lie lazily in the cabin or upon the deck ; smoke, drink wine and tell stories.

Meanwhile, the beautiful southwest breeze which might bowl them along independently and at as good a pace as they are now making, mixes with the gas and other foul odors from the tug, and casts a polluting atmosphere around the yacht and its occupants.

The incident impresses me as a most striking illustration of some people's lives. By simply and wisely "spreading sail," and then patiently standing at the helm the divine powers will bear them in the right direction. To be sure a little more care is necessary and a great many sensual pleasures must be renounced, but the recompense is found in the clearer view, the environment unmixed with

strife and darkness, the vision able to exercise its normal function and free to roam to that point where earth and heaven unite.

Study your ship. Learn to correctly use its white wings. Ask questions of those who have sailed or who are now sailing in the same general direction. But *make fast* to no black, polluted tug-boat!

Oakland Beach, July 21, 1897.

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### Hidden Manna.

The Master said: "I have meat to eat that ye know not of," when, after his interview with the woman of Samaria, his disciples asked him to eat. At that moment he was so filled with divine power that he felt no need of material food. He had met and talked with a person sympathetic enough to touch his own heart and more thoroughly intensify the naturally vivid consciousness of creative force, within him. Yet his disciples did not know what he meant, and most of his followers to-day also fail to comprehend the great significance of the above quotation.

This hidden manna is within the reach of all of us. Christ could not make the mystery plain to his followers, because none of them had ever felt the subtle force, therefore any amount of teaching upon the subject could not bring the true meaning into their hearts. But since that era the human race has taken great strides upward. Thousands of people have experienced the same quality of life force which Christ knew. It has differed from that which he felt, only in *quantity*.

A pure and steady ideal life always makes the conditions most favorable for the absorption of this divine manna. Kindness is a magical and all-powerful assistant in this matter, and the subtle force will soon be felt steadily flowing along the avenues of the whole body if we systematically cultivate kindness toward all whom we meet.

Silence is another important agent, and frequent medi-



tation and concentration should be practiced. Music, poetry and beautiful landscapes also powerfully enter into the mysterious system of developing a consciousness of the hidden life. A face, a word, a mere hint, sometimes furnishes the spark which is necessary to a realization of our strange inner forces. Power to heal and power of prophecy may be possessed by those who own this gift and who are wise enough to use it aright.

—Not far back in the line of my ancestry there were some famous Indian fighters. And of this I may tell you more particularly, some day, if you care to hear it. But at this time I speak of it in order that the following incident may seem the more simple and natural. I was walking across an open field and my eye (my "Indian" eye) noted a small stick placed on end some distance away. The stick was not large enough to answer as a boundary corner, and I mildly wondered what it was there for anyway. So I went along upon a tour of inspection. It is right here that I claim the Indian scout trait! Without this trait (which manifests in hundreds of other ways) I wouldn't, from my position, even have seen that stick—scarcely visible above the grass tops. As I approached it, a ground-sparrow flew away. I looked down, and wonder of wonders I beheld—a pot of gold? Oh, no! Nothing so comparatively valueless as that. I beheld in that stick a *human heart*, for there beside it was a nest with four speckled eggs. Some one (a child, I hope,—perhaps the proverbial, cruel (?) small boy) placed that stick there to guide the careless feet of chance passers around the precious contents of the half hidden nest. From that small incident my estimate of human mercy received a great upward impetus.

—The true work of art is but a shadow of the divine perfection.—Michael Angelo.

—An amateur may not be an artist, though an artist should be an amateur.—Disraeli.

—The term "West Gate" was first used by me publicly in a pamphlet issued July, 1891. The general ideas of that pamphlet came to me upon Easter Sunday of that year, in Roxbury, Mass., upon the spot where Washington and Lafayette once made their headquarters. The meaning (*my* meaning) of "West Gate" is *America*, or the Occident, and it is applied to my philosophy in contradistinction to the mystical and would-be-magical teachings of the Orient, I have steadily taken the ground that the East holds no secrets which we, here in our homes, cannot fully possess, provided said secrets are susceptible of use to us, hence worthy of our possessing! God is *everywhere*, but according to my idea He is *especially* here in America and has an especial work for Americans to ultimate. This work will be executed through a system of development of Occidental origin and adapted to Occidental minds. "Magic," "Miracles" and modern Eastern teachers cannot furnish the key.

—There will be a most remarkable aggregation of sun, moon and planets about Dec. 21st, of the present year. Upon that day (21st) Saturn and Uranus will be in conjunction with the moon; upon the 22nd Mars and Venus will be in conjunction with the moon, while Mercury is close at hand and Jupiter but a few hours distant. Thus *seven* members of the Solar System are nearly in line Dec. 21-22. Were it not for the fact that mammoth Jupiter stood somewhat at one side we might reasonably predict "perilous times" for earth's inhabitants in December, A. D. 1897.

—"This beautiful Sunday I feel the need of writing you. The back numbers of the ORACLE and the ten W.G. Pamphlets were received, and yesterday the May ORACLE appeared and I was happy to get it. I am more than pleased, and shall always bless the day when I was led to you, for that was the beginning, or opening of a new life. Your philosophy is grand and enobling."—O. I. S.

—A system of occult training which does not provide for wise development of the will powers is of inestimable danger to the student, and is best left alone. The student in subjective research desires, primarily, new powers and new capacities to conform to the higher planes of life which he is about to enter. If these new powers are gained, and added strength comes to the physical as a result of purer living and systematic control of the destructive powers of the animal-man (as usually given rein) then disaster and downfall will result unless a strong will-structure has been provided for. This period is one of the primary steps which the neophyte must pass through. And he usually plods along this section of the "narrow way" in a dejected and semi-conscious condition. He receives a ray of light to-day, and by weakness of will he loses sight of it to-morrow. I may safely estimate that ninety-five per cent. of occult students never, in this incarnation, get above this degree. They stumble and halt, rise and fall, conquer and are conquered, and then lose the physical body without having discovered its key to the body celestial. Far within this body the mystery lies concealed, yet ever within reach of those who live undeviatingly by the line of pure desire. It is this danger rock of *undeveloped will* that W. G. P. constantly points out and shows how to avoid.

—My new lessons (the "Phenomena" course) must not be confounded with other works upon the subjects treated. All the methods for development are *original*, and the general idea is forcibly brought forward to preserve your individuality and independence, and never for one moment to surrender to an external or "spirit" influence. By following these principles we would soon hear the last of "deceiving mediums," "fake" materializations, etc.

—Ah! would that we could at once paint with the eyes. In the long way, from the eye through the pencil, how much is lost!—Lessing.

—Riches are the pettiest and least worthy gift which God can give a man. What are they to God's word? Yea, to bodily gifts, such as beauty and health; or to the gifts of the mind, such as understanding, skill, wisdom. Yet men toil for them day and night, and take no rest. Therefore our Lord God commonly gives riches to foolish people to whom he gives nothing else.—Luther.

—Now, the basest thought possible concerning man is, that he has no spiritual nature; and the foolishlest misunderstanding of him possible is, that he has, or should have, no animal nature. For his nature is nobly animal, nobly spiritual, coherently and irrevocably so; neither part of it may, but at its peril, reject, despise or defy the other.—Ruskin.

—A friend and master who has been in retirement for some time, informs me that everything points to an added interest among the people for acquirement of occult knowledge. Teachers are in demand, and during the coming winter this demand will steadily grow.

—See club offer on last page of cover. Seventy-five cents pays for the ORACLE one year, also a single lesson of the "Phenomena" Course. Each lesson is full and complete in itself. This offer is made to both old and new subscribers.

—Earth's crammed with heaven, and every common bush afire with God. But only he who sees takes off his shoes.—E. B. Browning.

—The moon table for 1898 is now ready. We have also a table of planetary positions for the entire year. Price of each table. 10c.

—Your lessons furnished me the *key note*; the very thing, the VERY ANSWER I have been asking for so long.  
—J. R.

—The September ORACLE will be somewhat later than usual. It will probably be mailed about the 5th.



### Resurrection.

From the frozen clasp of the Winter King,  
At the touch of the Goddess Spring,  
The waters flash in the crystal rills,  
As they dance their way through the fertile hills;  
The violets peep in the tender grass,  
And the May-bells nod when the fairies pass,  
And we hear the bluebird sing

Again the leaves in the soft, sweet air,  
Have woven their robes so fair,  
And sigh and play with the laughing breeze  
As it sweeps its way through the bending trees,  
And never dreamed they silent lay,  
Cold and still just the other day,  
Away from the world of care.

And so our years in fruitage show,  
What has lain in the dark below,  
And we learn the truth that nature brings,  
That the Soul shall soar on "Eagle wings,"  
Away from the chains the body wears,  
And finds its home 'mid the silent stars,  
And its mission true will know.

—Abbie Walker Gould.

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—To set the mind above the appetites is the end of abstinence, which one of the father's observes to be, not a virtue, but the ground-work of a virtue. By forbearing to do what may innocently be done, we may add hourly new vigor to resolution, and secure the power of resistance when pleasure or interest shall lend their charms to guilt.  
—Johnson.

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—All advanced thinkers should read our new pamphlet "The Astral Occupant." Mailed to any address for a one cent stamp.

—Nail every good thought with a deed, not in the future but now.—Bro. Gemini.



Publications bearing upon the West Gate Philosophy, by Chas. H. Mackay, Founder :

**Esoteric Development.**—For beginners—consisting of 10 pamphlets issued in '91-'92, \$1.00.

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We will gladly send circulars, pamphlets, etc., to any and all earnest students who are seeking a solution of life's mysteries, and who desire to become fitted for high and noble spheres of usefulness. We have a clear and definite system of training, consisting of drills, concentrations, etc. We hold that the greatest subjective attainments are possible *here and now*, and that we need not go to India, or any other distant spot, in order to reach the Fount of All. Please enclose stamp.

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All earnest people who are striving to know the purpose of life, and the mystery of the present incarnation are invited to correspond with the undersigned. CHAS. H. MACKAY, 39 East Springfield St., Boston, Mass.

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