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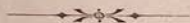
No. 3.

THE ORACLE,

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.



Now gird on the armor of pure desire and come into the path which leads to the Regions Celestial. This path is at the opposite extreme from the one which has led you, by human pleasures and human sufferings, to the present point.



Address inquiries and make remittances to

CHAS. H. MACKAY, Editor the Oracle,

623 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass.

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**Motto of the
West Gate Brotherhood:**

{ There is but one victory worth
the struggle, there is but one
world to conquer—the victory over
self, the world within.

THE ORACLE.

EXPONENT OF WEST GATE PHILOSOPHY.

ISSUED MONTHLY.

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

VOL. 3. BOSTON, MASS., SEPTEMBER, 1897. No. 3.

Objects of the West Gate Brotherhood.

I

To live a pure, simple and useful life. To make no complaints regarding the lot in which we find ourselves, but to look continually *within* for the cause and source of all inharmony. Believing that thro' a pure life of regeneration, as taught in W. G. Philosophy (and as before taught by the master Jesus) new and more congenial environment will evolve from present chaos as soon as *we* are fitted for the change.

II

To consecrate at least 30 minutes each Monday evening to a *silent session* to the end of *individual* purification as well as for the good of all the world. At these sessions the following thought should be uppermost: "*We are willing servants in the Creator's hand for this noblest of purposes, and we realize that we must become individually purified before we can work with power as a Brotherhood.*" At every session a few moments should be given to silent prayer for guidance in this great work in which each member should feel an individual responsibility. When possible this session should commence at eight o'clock Eastern time, which is one A. M. Greenwich time, five P. M. Western time, six P. M. Mountain time and seven P. M. Central time. But when, from interference of other duties, it is impossible to observe this hour, then let your individual session take place at any time before midnight. *Yet whatever else occupies the mind at the mystic hour (8 P. M.) try and dwell for a few moments, at least, with the Brotherhood at large.*

III

To aim individually to live the perfect life upon earth, *here and now* and exemplify the basic principles of West Gate Philosophy, namely, (1) *Purity of Speech*, (2) *Faithfulness to Environment*, (3) *Physical and Mental Harmony*, (4) *Sexual Purity*.

IV

To cherish a high ideal of communal life with the hope of realization in the way of a general gathering of the Brotherhood into one central district, or permanent home. There is but one way to make this plan a success, that way is through the individual purification of the members. This purification, this training and discipline, can be gained in no better manner than by the trials and burdens of *your present environment*. Let us make of ourselves celestial creatures and we will surely be led forth from the world's darkness into celestial condition. By "celestial conditions" I mean (1) a gathering together of men and women who have learned the lessons of the world and have become fitted for association with those who have had similar experience and thus have learned the right of companionship with the people of pure desires and aims. (2) To live close to God and nature; devoting from three to six hours per day to the tilling of the soil and other manual labors. The remaining eighteen hours of each week day to be given to study, lectures, sports, music, etc., etc. (3) To publish a periodical, books, pamphlets, etc., setting forth, as thoroughly as we deem advisable, our methods of living and the general principles of our philosophy.

* * *

The above is merely *suggestive* of our aims and objects. I publish it for the benefit of those who know nothing of the W. G. movement, also for the benefit of present members to aid them to a clearer conception of the ultimate for which we are all laboring and hoping. There is, I believe, a change in store for us as a brotherhood. This

change will be in the shape of a *communal home*. Let us make ready for it by improving all opportunities of development and purification. There is one important condition of membership which I should wish rigidly adhered to, namely, no applicant can be received except he or she has been at least twelve months in the West Gate Brotherhood or can show that for this period they have striven to live the Life of Purity, as per our *four basic principles*. Many powerful movements are now afoot in this same general direction. Let *our* movement be not the least effective. Let each humble member take an individual responsibility. Let each consider that the ultimate is withheld because of *his own lack of strength and wisdom*. Thus as he builds wisely and well his own structure he also is adding strength to the common and permanent abode of all the Faithful.

—If you would possess freedom seek to make *others* free. However small your list of friends and associates may be, and however limited your sphere of action, still you have a certain influence with one or more persons and a certain power for good or bad as you elect. Be very watchful as to how this talent is exercised. Put self in the background and labor to make your companions perfectly unconscious of anything binding or limiting on your part. *Merit* freedom and she will seek you. And in no way can you so potently draw her as through steady adherence to this simple rule of respecting the rights of others and always trying to bring to them that which you, yourself, would have.

—Now we know a sinful thought the moment it presents itself. If we do not know it we may come to know it through pure desire. So if we promptly repel or transmute such thoughts we destroy the seed of Evil Act and lay the corner stone of happiness.

—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.

Stars of the Zodiac.

During September, Sagittarius occupies a central position in the southern heavens if viewed in the evening hours. This group is almost wholly within the Milky Way and may be easily found. Sagittarius contains no first magnitude stars and but one of second magnitude. Nevertheless it is a most interesting constellation with its numerous smaller members, shining in bright, symmetrical lines so pleasing to the naked eye observer. This constellation is very rich in star clusters, nebulae and variable stars. Some of the nebulae are easily seen with the naked eye. (Certain astrologers claim that Sagittarius people are changeable and "flighty." I, myself, think these people are *over active* and possess a great amount of physical life which often urges them to impulsive and spontaneous things. I wonder if these numerous variable stars in the constellation have to do with the apparent variable people!! Let the astrologers figure it out.) To make it perfectly easy for the reader to find this group of stars I will state that the moon will be in the midst of Sagittarius upon the evenings of Sept. 5 and Oct. 2.


—Why not throw your influence with the *West Gate Brotherhood*? Through the Creator's guidance we hope to regenerate ourselves and the world. Could you embark in a nobler calling?

—For the benefit of new readers I will say that membership in the W. G. B. is *free*. Simply send in your name with date of birth and I will enroll you "without money and without price." Enclose a stamp if you desire a certificate of membership.

—A catalogue of *West Gate* lessons will be found on third page of cover. These lessons are designed to meet the needs of occult students *in their homes*. They contain drills, concentrations and general instructions, which if followed, will guide the searcher to the very Fount of Wisdom.

—Another "camp-meeting" season is past and another disappointed horde of truth seekers turn their faces homeward. "What went ye out for to see? A reed shaken by the wind?" When will these people learn that the truth is never farther from them than at a typical camp meeting or at a so-called summer school of philosophy? Viewed in the light of a needed vacation and change these things may be all right, but as to getting *spiritual* food at such places, it is hardly possible. The hard, money making influence is too prominent for spiritual things to be clearly seen or felt. I have just been looking over some lectures on philosophy, oriental religions, etc., delivered by well-known teachers at a well-known summer resort of "advanced thinkers" and I am astounded by the lack of true spirituality. I pity the spiritually hungry who go to such places for bread and are offered stones. Yet it is doubtless one of the many methods which the Creator uses to convince us that the secret of life is never so near as when we are calmly stationed within the walls of our own tent.

—My friends, let the Klondike and its gold take care of itself. The spirit that urges men to that faraway region is identical with the ordinary greed and desire for power which permeates the entire business world. Let the money-crazed people rush forth in their search for the useless, but you who yearn for the eternal things, seek them nearer home. But considered from a strictly money standpoint, I see small prospect for the average miner. The men who really gain through this crazy scheme are the railroad people and the mining companies. These men sit comfortably in their offices and count the money which the struggling miners pour back into their treasuries. These companies are trying desperately to keep the craze at a high pitch.

 —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.

—“My people” are you who have been through the usual experiences of earth and from the heart can exclaim “enough.” Now gird on the armor of pure desire and come into the path which leads to the Regions Celestial. This path is at the opposite extreme from the one which has led you by human pleasures and human suffering to the present point. A great change in your inmost life must now be made if you would taste the higher joys of the new life. * * * When you were born into this earth life you began a new, original and independent method of existence. Now, at the *second* birth, you must adopt a still higher system and spurn the old.

—A *new* student in West Gate Philosophy sometimes writes me like this: “Your lessons are good, but I expected something more advanced.” After studying the lessons for a year or more the same student will say to me: “I am constantly finding new beauties in your teaching. The longer I study the lessons the better able I am to see their application to my own life. They are a constant guide and inspiration.” All which forcibly illustrates that trite saying, “No man can learn what he hath not preparation for learning.”

—Beauty of face, strength of limb, symmetry of the whole! What more is desired for earthly inheritance? Possessing these three, what obstacle is too difficult for us to surmount? How we under-value perfect health until disease sits grimly before us. And yet it seems to be the general fate of mankind to be forced low down in all lines of suffering before physical and mental harmoy can be appreciated. But you who have passed the fires and still have sound bodies, I warn you to so live that another “fall” shall not be possible.

—Don't rush about seeking the society of man, woman or child. With those dear ones in your home circle be kind, charitable and loving, but don't demand their constant attendance, and, above all, don't seek to hold them if

they persist in going elsewhere. The latter remark does not apply to irresponsible beings, as children, for whom you may be sponsor but for friends, companions, relatives, etc. *Let them be free!* Love them, advise them, work for them, *die* for them if necessary, but *do not limit them*. If they must seek other fields, let them go *with* a blessing and you keep about your Father's work with no thought of them save perfect faith that they are under the same guiding hand that directs your ways. When they all have left you, you still have lost but little. The stars, the sunlight and the earth have been left you. Make your own life so beautiful and harmonious that within its mystic aura you can find no other such perfect delight. Friend of the Lonely Path, I will tell you a strange truth: As you struggle up step by step, from the outer darkness, as you make your life more and more acceptable to the Angel, you find that former friends and former lovers somehow drop away from you. Very strange, but too true. It would seem that those who had loved you in your weaknesses and errors would love and reverence you far more when you had reached these high places and purged error from your life, but if they do love you more they usually show that love in the queer way of leaving you for other scenes. But there is always compensation in some way for the loss, and sooner or later you will realize that

“When half gods go,
The gods arrive.”

--There is a grand secret ever within your reach. A key which opens the door to eternal wisdom and unlimited power,—for wisdom *is* power. You take the first steps toward the possession of this key when you conserve your physical and mental forces and dedicate their future use to the high lines in which the Creator of All meant they should be exercised. There is always a right way and a wrong way to expend your excess of life. The wrong way is promptly demanded by the lower sense nature, or (as W. G. teaching has it) the “Temple Devil.” But the

right way is modestly suggested by the Temple Angel and her voice, while prompt in sounding, is yet so covered by the noisy clamor of the beasts that 'tis very often ignored at the golden moment when obedience is not only possible but easy. And so, day by day, month by month, you drift along *partially* obedient to the Angel but most frequently under the iron rule of the Demon. The sceptre of absolute power is always within your reach. When you arrive at that place where you can say : "*I will be pure in heart ; I will live as the Angel suggests,*" then, indeed, you will be free and may hold converse with your equals. It takes strength of mind, strength of body and strength of soul to conquer these sensual pleasures (?) of the lower man, but oh ! the unutterable joy when you have them all at your feet, when you have truly arisen and know your "new name."

—The sunset tonight was something I shall not soon forget. It was a *peace sunset*. You have seen dull, red, "brassy" edged clouds, with ragged, aggressive contour, at sunset, moving along in massive columns as if marching to battle? This is a "war sunset"! But tonight all was placid and beautifully reposeful. At 6.45 the spectacle was most enchanting. Commencing at the horizon, where the sun went down, there was first a long line of deep blue and just at its upper edge (immediately above sunset point) a narrow strip of cloud so brightly illumined that it looked like a thread of purest gold. Higher up in the heavens the blue gradually merged and blended with lighter colors until with deep red, delicate pink, green and violet, the hidden sun spread upon the western skies a most divine picture. Withall, I noted a faint band of light perhaps five degrees in breadth and extending thirty degrees into the heavens, northerly, at an angle of forty-five degrees. This band, or path, was of a most ethereal character and appeared to pulsate, as it were, with a life of its own. Somewhere in these regions the young moon and Mercury were hiding, but search as carefully as I could I was unable to pry them out.

August 29, 1897.

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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Moon Table, by hours, for 189710

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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, 623 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass.

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