

STAR LORE

AND

FUTURE EVENTS.

By the Editor of ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC.

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THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

WE described the immediate astral pre-significations of the struggle in South Africa, in the December issue of this magazine, viz., the conjunction of Mars with Jupiter, on the 10th of October, 1899, in the sign *Scorpio* $13^{\circ} 32' 46''$, and the relative planetary positions at the Solar ingresses into *Aries* and *Cancer* at Capetown last year.

We also then expressed the opinion that the ascendant, or else the descendant of the Transvaal Republic lies between the 12th and 14th degrees of the sign *Scorpio*.

There can be no doubt that the Jameson raid at the end of December, 1895, led Kruger to enormously increase his artillery, and to prepare for war with Great Britain the moment we became involved in a struggle with a European Power, he being encouraged to do so by his sympathisers and our enemies on the Continent. The great crisis which we safely passed through at the beginning of 1896 by quickly commissioning the Flying Squadron of six magnificent vessels, and thus showing that we were prepared to defend our Empire at any cost—was clearly predicted in Zadkiel's Almanac for 1895, published fourteen months before the event, from the conjunction of Mars with Saturn in *Scorpio* $11^{\circ} 33' 13''$, as follows:—

“This [conjunction] seems to indicate a very serious coalition of enemies against Great Britain. It is imperative that we should be fully prepared to defend our Empire!”

For December, 1895, it was foretold that:

“Colonial affairs will be beset with difficulties, and a blow is likely to be directed against Great Britain.”

That conjunction, taking place as it did in the most martial of all the zodiacal signs and in the seventh house (that of war) or descendant, attended by the Sun, Moon, Mercury, and Uranus in the same sign, at 3^h 8^m 21^s p.m. of Nov. 15th, 1895, at London, was the celestial warning, as we then declared, of a great crisis for Great Britain.

Yet Mr. Arthur J. Balfour, in his speech to his constituents at Manchester, January 15th, 1896, said:—

“Undoubtedly it is a fact that within the last few weeks the political heavens have been covered by unexpected clouds, and the peace and prosperity of the world seem threatened by dangers, the very existence of which was not suspected three months ago.”

The warnings published in Zadkiel's Almanac, based on the monitions of the sidereal heavens, were disregarded by our statesmen alike in 1895-96 and in 1899-1900, with the result that our Government made no adequate military preparation for the tremendous struggle in which we are now engaged.

Astrologically speaking, the conjunction of Mars with Saturn in *Scorpio* $11^{\circ} 33' 13''$ on the 15th of November, 1895, was the remote cause, and that of Mars with Jupiter in almost the same degree, viz. in $13^{\circ} 32' 46''$ of *Scorpio*, on the 10th of October, 1899, was the immediate cause of the war in Natal, which began on the day following the last-named conjunction.

But there is another singular coincidence between celestial phenomena and warfare between Boers and Britons, which, perforce, proves that, to use the Scriptural expression, THE HEAVENS DO RULE. It is that the Boer revolt in 1880 was begun on the 16th of December, the day of a total eclipse of the Moon, partly visible in Great Britain, in the sign *Gemini* $25^{\circ} 8'$. At Pretoria, at the moment of full moon, Mars was exactly setting, and nearly conjoined with Mercury. On the 17th of December, 1899, an eclipse (almost total) of the Moon, took place in *Gemini* $24^{\circ} 56'$. Both those lunar eclipses coincided with reverses to our arms in South Africa; and the significance of those eclipses is accentuated by the fact that they took place when the Sun was very close to the place of Uranus Π $23^{\circ} 20'$ at the birth of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, whose horoscope was given in STAR LORE for June, 1897, the Moon being eclipsed in the ascending sign, Mars being in the seventh house of the royal horoscope at the 1880 eclipse, and Uranus being therein at the 1889 eclipse. The middle of December, when the Sun transits the place of Uranus, has, alas! too often proved unfortunate for our beloved Queen.

Writing, last July, our opinion of the import of the figure of the heavens cast for the moment of ecliptic opposition of the Moon with the Sun, viz. $1^h 31.1^m$ a.m. of December 17th, 1899, Greenwich mean time, we said:—

“This eclipse happening so close to the winter solstice accentuates the danger of war which might be regarded as imminent and inevitable but for the desire for peace which was shown by the representatives of the Powers of Europe and America, assembled at the Peace Conference at the Hague. About the end of December the British Government will be in a difficulty.”*

*Zadkiel's Almanac for 1900, p. 54.

The reader can readily cast the figure for this eclipse by means of the Tables of Houses given in our "Science of the Stars," from the following data :—Sidereal Time $7^h 12^m 34.8^s = 108^\circ 8' 42''$ in arc of R.A. *Cancer* $16^\circ 43'$ rising, *Libra* $12^\circ 46'$ ascending. ☉ in ♀ $24^\circ 56'$, ♃ in ♀ $24^\circ 56'$, ♁ in ♀ $5^\circ 56'$, ♀ in ♃ $17^\circ 47'$, ♂ in ♃ $2^\circ 27'$, ♃ in ♀ $28^\circ 6'$, ♁ in ♀ $25^\circ 58'$, ♃ in ♀ $9^\circ 17'$, ♁ in ♀ $25^\circ 38'$.

The aspects are : ☉ ♂ ♁, ♁ ♃. ♃ ♂ ♁, ♁ ♁. ♁ ad ♂ ♃.

Our good friend Mr. H. B., a veteran student of astrology, reminds us that : " On the 15th December, when Mars transited the place of the Moon ($1^\circ 15' 14''$) at the last conjunction of Mars with Jupiter, General Sir Redvers Buller was repulsed on the Tugela; and on the 6th of February, when the Boers were repulsed in their attack on the defences of Ladysmith, Mars was in ☐ with the place of the Sun ($7^\circ 27'$) in the same figure.* [When the Sun was eclipsed in $2^\circ 15' 9''$, on the 22nd of January, 1879, a British regiment was totally destroyed by the Zulus at Isandlwana.†] There is just 1° distance between the place of the conjunction of ♂ with ♃ and the cusp of the fourth house (opposition to M.C.); does that $1^\circ = 1$ year, and does it indicate the downfall of the Boer Republics when one year shall have elapsed ? "

The conjunction of Mars with Jupiter remains in full force until the opposition of those planets shall take place, viz., June 30th, 1900. We anticipate that the Boer Government will be overthrown before the month of July opens; but we hardly dare hope for a permanent, peaceful settlement in South Africa this year, because of the Solar eclipse of the 22nd of November next, visible there, the Sun having the quartile aspect with Mars.

Referring again to the Pretoria figures for the conjunction of Mars with Jupiter, we find that on the day, 20th January, on which the Sun and Mars transited the cusp of the seventh house ($29^\circ 42'$), the great fight took place at Potgieter's Drift, Generals Lyttelton's and Warren's brigades forcing back the Boers. Fighting continued from that day to the 23rd, when Spion Kop was captured, to be evacuated next day. On the 7th of February, when Mars in *Aquarius* 13° formed the ☐ aspect with the place of the conjunction ($13^\circ 11' 33''$), General Sir Hector MacDonald turned the Boer flank at Koodoosberg, and drove the Boers from that position, thus preparing the way for the crossing of the Riet river on the 11th-12th, and occupying the attention of the Boers while General French, with the Cavalry Division, hastened to the relief of Kimberley, which was splendidly

* Vide p. 51 of STAR LORE for December, 1899.

† A diagram of this eclipse is given at p. 25 of the "Science of the Stars."

effected on the 15th of February. Saturn's transit, on the 2nd of February, over the place of the Moon at the conjunction brought disaster to the Boers. At the time of writing (February 21st) Great Britain is anxiously waiting for news of the capture or destruction of Cronje's army, and the relief of Ladysmith.

That indefatigable observer, Mr. A. G. Trent, whose contributions to our pages are so highly prized by the readers as well as by the Editor of STAR LORE, writes: "You probably remarked that Mars was transiting the Queen's mid-heaven at the time of the important attack on Spion Kop." We trust that the transit of Mars over the place of Jupiter, at Her Majesty's birth, will bring a crowning victory at the end of the present month (February). Mr. Trent kindly sends us the days of birth of several of our commanding officers, but we must leave consideration of them to a separate article.

BIRTHDAYS OF COMMANDERS.

With the exception of Lord Wolseley, whose horoscope we gave in *Future*, Vol. I. p. 68, we are not in possession of the times of birth of commanding officers, and can therefore only present the planets' places at Greenwich mean noon of the day of birth of the following distinguished soldiers. As Field-Marshal Lord Roberts was born at Cawnpore, however, we give the degrees of the zodiac occupied by the planets on his birthday at his birthplace:—

LORD ROBERTS, born September 30th, 1832.

☉ ♃ ♁ ♀ ♂ ♃ ♃ ♃ ♃
 ≈7° ♄20° ♃21° ≈25° ♃6° ♃22° ♃21° ≈15° ♃25°

The Sun has the trine aspect with Mars and applies to parallel with Jupiter. Mercury, Venus and Jupiter are in their chief dignities. The Moon is in quartile with Mercury, Jupiter, and Saturn, and in sextile with Venus, nearly, at noon.

At the new moon of the 3rd of December last, Mars and Saturn were close to the place of the Moon above, and on the 15th of that month Lord Roberts' son was so severely wounded when nobly trying to save the guns that he died*—a terrible blow to Lord and Lady Roberts. At the Solar return in 1899, Saturn was in 18° 20' of Sagittarius, and Mars was nearly in conjunction with Jupiter. In all probability Lord Roberts was born in the forenoon.

Students will observe that the Solar eclipse of the 28th of May next will fall in the degree held by Mars at birth and in trine with the Sun.

*Lieutenant Roberts was born January 8th, 1872 when the Sun was nearly in conjunction with Saturn and in parallel with Saturn and the Moon, the Moon being in sextile with Mars.

SIR REDVERS BULLER, born December 7th, 1839.

☉ 15° ♃ 0° ♀ 4° ♁ 27° ♄ 19° ♀ 9° ♃ 13° ♁ 12° ♃ 10°

General Buller was very unfortunate on the 15th December, when Saturn was about to transit the place of the Moon at his birth, and Mars was in *Capricornus* 1°; and again in January, when Saturn was exactly transiting the Moon's place. As the Sun had the conjunction with Saturn and quartile with Uranus at his birth, the gallant General cannot have a fortunate nativity unless Jupiter and Mars were "accidentally" strong, which cannot be ascertained in the absence of information as to the true moment of birth. Jupiter will transit the Sun's place this year, but not before the middle of November.

LORD KITCHENER, born June 24th, 1850.

☉ 3° ♃ 2° ♀ 15° ♁ 1½° ♄ 23° ♀ 16° ♃ 20° ♃ 29° ♁ 7°

Lord Kitchener was born at full moon, both Sun and Moon being in cardinal signs, Mercury dignified in *Gemini* and configurated with Jupiter, and Mars in "his own lion." Saturn is now, by transit, very near the Moon's place, and in opposition to the Sun's, signifying dangers and difficulties for him to surmount. If he was born near sunrise, noon, or sunset, his personal danger will be great in the present campaign. At his 50th birthday anniversary the Moon will be very nearly in conjunction with Mars.

LORD METHUEN, born September 1st, 1845.

☉ 9° ♃ 4° ♀ 27° ♁ 8° ♃ 22° ♄ 11° ♃ 14° ♃ 9° ♃ 24°

Lord Methuen was born near new moon, the luminaries applying to trine aspect with Jupiter; Mercury dignified and in parallel with Venus dignified; and Mars nearly in conjunction with Neptune in *Aquarius*, Saturn being in the same sign. Lord Methuen met with good success in November, but met with a check at Magersfontein on the 11th of December, attacking when the Moon was in transit over the place of Uranus at his birth, and Uranus was in quartile with his Sun's place, configurations which account for the reverse and the wound he then sustained.

GENERAL WAUCHOPE, born July 5th, 1846.

☉ 13° ♃ 26° ♁ 29° ♁ 4° ♄ 5° ♁ 5° ♁ 0° ♃ 14° ♃ 28°

This gallant general was killed at Magersfontein on the 11th of December, when leading the Highland Brigade. He had the Sun in Cancer (the sign ruling Africa) in quartile with Uranus,

and the Moon nearly in quartile with Saturn at his birth. At his 53rd birthday anniversary the Moon was in opposition with Saturn; and on the day of his death the Moon was in the place of Uranus at his birth. It is lamentable that General Wauchope and so many other brave officers and men lost their lives that disastrous day owing to a mistake.

COLONEL BADEN POWELL, born February 22nd, 1857.

☉ ☽ ♃ ♀ ♂ ♃ ♅ ♃ ♃
 ✕ 4° ≈ 8° ≈ 7° ♀ 20° ♀ 0° ♀ 11° ☾ 7½° ♃ 21° ✕ 19°

The hero of Mafeking has Mars, Venus, and Jupiter in *Aries*, the ruling sign of Great Britain; and the Moon in conjunction with Mercury, in sextile with Jupiter. By transit Jupiter is now in sextile with his Moon and Mercury.

GENERAL GATACRE, born December 3rd, 1843.

☉ ☽ ♃ ♀ ♂ ♃ ♅ ♃ ♃
 † 11° ♃ 2° † 8° † 26° ≈ 22° ≈ 22° ♃ 22° ✕ 28° ≈ 19°

When General Gatacre met with a serious reverse, on the 9th of December, through the mistake of a guide, Uranus was in 8° 50' of *Sagittarius*, within 2° of actual transit over the place of his Sun; Saturn and Neptune being in parallel declination with his Sun. At the end of March Jupiter will be *stationary* in 10° † 52', close on the Sun's place, so that the gallant general may then expect success and promotion.

GENERAL SYMONDS, born July 17th, 1843, died October 23rd, 1899.

☉ ☽ ♃ ♀ ♂ ♃ ♅ ♃ ♃
 ☾ 24° ♀ 2° ☾ 5° ☾ 4 † 7° ≈ 26° ♃ 22° ♀ 2 ≈ 21°

General Symonds was so severely wounded, when gallantly leading his troops, on the 20th of October, in the moment of victory, that he died three days later at Dundee. At birth the Sun was in opposition and parallel with Saturn and sesquiquadrate with Mars. Uranus, by transit, was in parallel with his Sun, and in the place of Mars, and the Moon was in opposition with Mars when he received his death-wound. If General Symonds was born near noon he had the Moon in conjunction with Uranus in *Aries*.

THE MARQUIS OF WINCHESTER, born February 6th, 1858, killed in action.

☉ ☽ ♃ ♀ ♂ ♃ ♅ ♃ ♃
 ≈ 17° ♃ 24° ♃ 22° ≈ 12° ♃ 15° ♃ 8° ☾ 23° ♃ 25° ✕ 21°

Violent aspects are found at the birth of the noble marquis, viz.:—The Sun in quartile and parallel with Mars; the Moon separating from conjunction with Mars and applying to opposition with Uranus. At his 41st birthday anniversary the Moon was in conjunction with Saturn and opposition with Neptune.

The author of all this mischief in South Africa and instigator of the sanguinary war, the canting, wily, and double-dealing

President of the Transvaal, had the Moon in quartile with Saturn, the Sun in quartile with Uranus, Mars in conjunction with Jupiter, and Uranus nearly in conjunction with Neptune. His planets are not in fixed signs, but his obstinacy may be attributed to Saturn being accidentally powerful at the moment of his birth, probably.

PAUL KRUGER, born October 10th, 1825.

☉ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♂ ♃ ♅ ♁ ♃
 ≈17° ♀25° ≈2° ♀11° ♀44½° ♀6° ♀22° ♀16° ♀9°

The Solar eclipse of June 8th, 1899, fell within 5° of the place of Saturn at his birth and in opposition with Saturn. At that time Kruger rendered the conference at Bloemfontein a fiasco, and thus prepared the way for the war by which he fondly hoped to drive the British out of Natal and Cape Colony. The eclipses of next May and November will extinguish his effulgence. At his 74th birthday anniversary the Moon was in conjunction with Saturn in opposition to his Saturn's place, and Mars was in conjunction with Jupiter in semi-quartile with the Moon's place at birth.

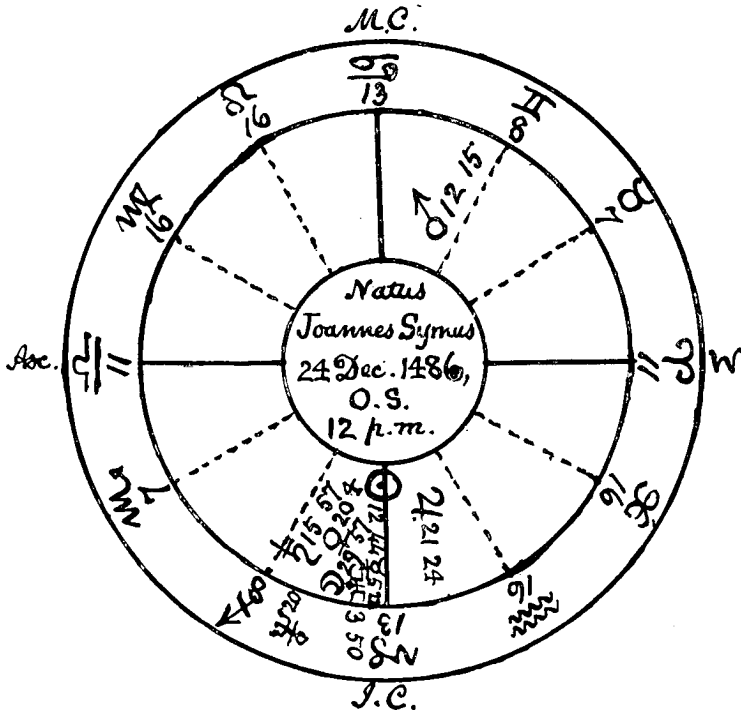
URANUS AND THE ANCIENT ASTROLOGERS.

Much might be done for the vindication of astrology by one who would take the trouble to investigate the nativities given in the works of Cardan, Gauricus, and other ancient astrological writers, and point out how the difficulties which at first sight beset many of them, involving frequent fallacies and absurdities in the commentaries which accompany them, disappear in the clearer light of modern knowledge. The old astrologers were by no means inferior to their successors in intellectual power, but their habit of mind was entirely unscientific, and they were ignorant of things now known to every tyro. If we take the horoscopes preserved in their writings exactly as they have delivered them, we cannot avoid perceiving that in many instances the figure fails to correspond with the event. This is especially the case with nativities which ought to pre-figure great misfortune, or a violent death. When, in such cases, we turn to the astrologer's commentary, it is seldom indeed that we obtain any sort of satisfaction. The explanations on which he relies would in most cases be rejected by the modern practitioner as wholly visionary.

In numerous instances, however, the difficulty which the ancient ought to have acknowledged as insuperable by him is no difficulty to the modern, who has only to remember that his predecessor was neither acquainted with zodiacal parallels, mundane aspects of any kind, nor the aspects discovered by Kepler. There is also a large, perhaps a larger number of instances, where the difficulty is instantly solved by the introduction of Uranus into the figure. Nothing can be more beautifully demonstrative either of

the verity of astrology or of the soundness of the views entertained by modern astrologers respecting the influence of this planet than to observe the illumination ensuing upon his insertion into his proper place in the scheme.

Ancient astrologers cannot be blamed for their unacquaintance with a planet only revealed by the telescope. They might, however, have discovered the Keplerian aspects, and probably would have done so, had they been able to admit that there was anything in their science that they did not already know. Instead of interrogating Nature they invented merely fanciful explanations which helped them out of the particular difficulty, and then, becoming stereotyped as aphorisms, gradually buried the sound part of the science beneath an ever-accumulating mass of fantastic errors. A most interesting and satisfactory volume of examples could be easily collected, proving that the progress of astronomical science is favourable to astrology instead of the reverse, and helping to answer the question, at first sight perplexing, why astrology, if indeed an exact science, should have lost its hold upon the minds of men. The answer is that though partly exact, it was partly inexact, and the inexact element was always gaining ground upon the other. At present we have room for only two examples, both from Cardan.



The other horoscope which we shall give is that of a remarkable person, Bartholomæus Cocles, the chiromancer, author or reputed author of a book on palmistry popular in the sixteenth century. Extraordinary stories are told of the accuracy of some of his predictions; and it appears to be historical that he was murdered by the Bentivogli, tyrants of Bologna, for having foretold their expulsion from the city, which shortly came to pass. It is added, perhaps with less truth, that he had also foretold the time and manner of his own death, and had armed himself against an unknown enemy. The nativity illustrates both of the two principal sources of error among ancient astrologers; for Uranus, which they did not know, is in opposition with Saturn afflicting the Moon (Hyleg) by a semi-square aspect, which they did not recognise, and afflicts it himself by another unrecognised aspect, the sesquiquadrate. Cardan, being bound to say something, declares the cause of death to be the opposition of the Moon to the Ascendant, and adds that the Moon in the seventh usually denotes sudden death. It would be difficult to advance an assertion more contrary to experience; but no doubt, in the minds of most contemporary students, experience gave way to the authority of Cardan.

It has been said that the worst of a lie is that it requires two more to help it out. The violent fixed star Bellatrix might help the astrologer out of a difficulty for once, but at the probable cost of creating a new and wholly gratuitous stumbling-block in the next horoscope, to be got rid of by another invention, and so *ad infinitum*. Examination of the ancient nativities should convince the modern astrologer in how much more favourable a position he stands than did his predecessors, and how serious the responsibility he incurs if, without their excuse, he replaces exploded errors by new figments, which in most cases have no proper connection with astrology.

A. G. TRENT.

THE ASCENDANT OF DOVER.

BY NEMO.

In STAR LORE, May, 1898, I showed that the 7th degree of *Scorpio* ruled Dover, and that hence the foundation stone of the new pier was laid at an inauspicious moment. Here are more confirmations.

The *Daily Mail*, February 17th, 1899, says:—“The new pier which the people of Dover have been building, instead of helping the commerce of the town, threatens to strike a fatal blow at it. . . . Some time since, the new structure, which is called Jackson’s Pier, was begun parallel to the Admiralty Pier, so as to form a complete harbour. About a month ago it was suddenly discovered that the water inside this harbour was far

rougher than the water outside. For some unaccountable reason great waves were rushing from one pier to the other, so that a boat attempting to land at either of them would have been crushed like an egg shell. An investigation showed that during even a moderate south-west wind the harbour was untenable for ships of any kind. The reason for this was that the new pier caught the flow of the waves, and threw them back against the Admiralty Pier; and then they rebounded from one pier to the other, every new wave adding to the disturbance. This kept the harbour in a continual state of turmoil. For days at a time the Calais boats were unable to effect a quiet landing, while this could easily be done at Folkestone. . . . Channel experts say that Dover Harbour has been practically ruined. . . . All sorts of propositions are now being made to save Dover from its impending loss of the Channel service. The harbour can be, and ultimately will be, rendered smooth and safe. The new additional works contemplate an extension of the existing pier and the construction of two additional piers, the whole to enclose a vast stretch of water. . . . Meanwhile several plans are proposed to ameliorate the disturbance created by the pier which the town of Dover has built. . . . Dover is prospering exceedingly just now. If a Channel boat should meet with a mishap due to the eccentricities of the harbour, it would probably lead to a serious curtailment of the traffic. And worse still would probably follow."

The *Daily Mail*, Aug. 14th, 1899, thus refers to "the very biggest engineering operation of its kind that has ever been attempted:"

"When Sir Weetman has finished his holiday occupation, Dover will have ceased to have any front to the open sea. It will front instead upon a harbour big enough to hold the British fleet. The long granite arms thrown out east and west of the town will enclose a square mile of deep water, and Dover will be one of the greatest naval stations of the world, and a great commercial seaport as well."

"At present, what is being done is preliminary. There is no room at Dover for land works, so land has to be reclaimed from the sea. Now the staging is extending from the end of the Admiralty Pier, which is to carry the huge engines which will place the mighty blocks of masonry in position.

"On the eastern side a huge sea wall is being built and a small matter of a million cubic yards of cliff is being removed."

The *Daily Mail*, Sept. 8th, 1899, wrote that on the previous day "the final block of the East Pier, which has been in the course of construction for the last six years, was laid By the construction of this pier the commercial harbour of Dover is enlarged by 75 acres, with a depth sufficient at all states of the tide for Atlantic Liners."

The *Evening News*, Sept. 12th, 1899, records a strike among the navvies at work on Pearson's National Harbour Works at Dover, through their superstitious fears respecting an accident which had occurred there.

The *Sun*, Sept. 16th, 1899, states that the Soldiers' Victoria Hall at Dover was opened that day, as a memorial of Her Majesty's record reign.

The above evils are shown by the inauspicious moment already referred to. The good events are shown by the passage of ♃ through ♎. In January, 8-16, 1899. ♃ transitted to 7th degree of ♎; retrograding through the same degree, April 4-12, and becoming direct again in the same degree, Sept. 7-11, of the same year.

THE ANTIQUITY OF ASTROLOGY.

Mr. E. Walter Maunder, F.R.A.S., contributes an interesting paper to *Knowledge** on "Astronomy and Astrology: a Question of Primogeniture." His conclusion is as follows:—

"Most significantly, we find that *Aries* is the primitive sign of the astrological scheme. There is no hint that it ever had been *Taurus*. This fact would of itself suffice to show that Astrology, at any rate in any such systematised form as we now know it, is far younger than Astronomy, younger by that time which precession takes to cross an entire sign of the zodiac, younger, that is to say, by a period which we may roughly put at 2,000 years. No doubt Sun-worship and Moon-worship reach back almost to the birth of the human race; no doubt eclipses, comets, and meteor-showers struck terror into men from the earliest ages, and many superstitions and fancies of an astrological tendency took form and shape in primitive times and prepared men's minds to accept the imposture [*sic*] when at length it had attained an organised development, but we can say positively that Astrology in anything like a complete system cannot date back earlier than 1800 B.C., when the Sun first entered *Aries* at the Spring Equinox, and that it must almost certainly have arisen many centuries later."

Mr. Maunder thus joins issue with the late R. A. Proctor, who maintained that Astrology was the nursing mother of Astronomy. It is evident from Mr. Maunder's article that he has but a very imperfect knowledge of Astrology, although he is a very able astronomer. Professor Sayce's researches place beyond doubt, in our opinion, the fact that Astrology dates back at least one thousand years earlier than 1800 B.C. The Rev. W. Gershom Collingwood, M.A., writes that:—†

* February, 1900.

† "Astrology in the Apocalypse." An Essay on Biblical Allusions to Chaldaean Science, 1886.

"The people of Mesopotamia were the first great teaching nation of the world's history; and the special lesson they had to give was Astrology. Already under King Sargon I. of Agane (whose date is now put so far back as 3800 B.C.), their knowledge of the stars had reached a considerable state of completeness. Eclipses had been recorded during several ages. The stars had been plotted out into constellations. The apparent movements of the planets had been ascertained. Long before Abraham was, his forefathers had studied the heavens.

"Astrology was practised by an initiated class, afterwards confused with the Magi, or Persian priests. But it was not unknown to the people at large. Well-educated people were required to understand something of it, and it is said as a proof of the indolence of a certain King Ninus that 'he saw no star, nor seeing it took note.*' The less educated, perhaps, only worshipped the stars as deities; but they were familiar with planetary and constellational figures sculptured on memorial stones and engraved on seal-cylinders.

"In their origin, then, completely Mesopotamian, whatever learning the Israelites had must have been astrologic—there was none other; and their early religion was a purified form of the religion of their kindred; not so purified but that some heathen superstitions clung to it and continually appeared, from the days of Rachel downwards. The 'Mosaic' account of the Creation, Fall, and Flood is not at all Egyptian; but the authoritative setting-down of so much as was good in the tradition of the faith received through Mesopotamian sources, expressed even here with the prevailing astrological diction when it speaks of the creation of stars for 'signs,' and of the Sun and Moon 'ruling' day and night—words which surely must not be explained away as meaningless Oriental metaphor.

"The story of the Tower of Babel is the first mention of the building of one of those temple-towers (called *Ziggurat*) which were the observatories of the astrologers. They had books on tablets and papyrus; grammars, dictionaries, poetry, history, and the astronomical records, of which the first edition known is that of the King Sargon I., already mentioned, entitled the 'Eye' or 'Illumination of Bel,' still partly extant. The other fragments in the British Museum include 'The Air-God' (perhaps weather-lore), 'The Earth,' the 'Sun,' the 'Moon,' 'Oppositions of the Sun and Moon,' 'Venus,' 'Mars,' 'Jupiter,' 'Comets,' and the 'Pole-Star.'"

Mr. Maunder's assertion that a complete system of Astrology cannot date back earlier than 1800 B.C., is thus proved to be utterly erroneous. Moreover, Simplicius dates back the Chaldean observations mentioned by Mr. Collingwood to 2234 B.C.

In our "Text-Book of Astrology," vol i., p. 10, published in 1879, we mentioned the fact that:—"During the 2,160 years that the vernal equinox was found to be in the sign *Gemini* (the day-house of the planet Mercury), the Sun was named, universally, Buddha, the Indian name of Mercury. After 2,160 years from the first period of Buddha, or the Sun in Gemini, the precession of the equinoxes brought the vernal equinox into the sign *Taurus*, and then, as this is the house of Venus, the Sun, instead of Buddha, partook of her character and became that female being known in Scripture as the 'Heifer Baal.' After another period of 2,160

* Phoenix. of Colophon (300 B.C.), *apud* Sir G. Cornwall-Lewis, "Astronomy of the Ancients," p. 259,

years the vernal equinox fell in the sign *Aries*, the ram; accordingly the Sun then became *Bal-aram*, because in this sign the Sun has his exaltation or chief power."

This disposes of Mr. Maunder's erroneous belief that Astrology cannot be traced farther back than 1800 B.C., because *Aries* is the primitive sign of the astrological scheme! The ancient Hindu astrology dates as far back as the entrance of the Sun into *Gemini* at the Spring Equinox.

There can be, in fact, no question of primogeniture, because *Astronomy and Astrology were one and the same science* in ancient times. The ancient Oriental observers of the sidereal heavens did not limit their science to the discovery and demonstration of the laws governing the motions of the heavenly bodies; they "proceeded by real inductive reasoning to frame laws of Nature," from which they deduced a cycle of twelve years (really 11.9 years, Jupiter's period) in meteorology, and formulated a system by means of which they accurately foretold the recurrence of tempests, droughts, inundations, earthquakes, the rise and fall of nations, wars, revolutions, and the destinies of remarkable men. So expert was Berossus, the Chaldean priest and astrologer, that the Greeks erected a statue as a monument in honour of him at Athens, which statue had a golden tongue, in allusion to the remarkable truth and value of his astrological predictions.

Mr. Maunder writes of Astrology as "imposture." Mr. Collingwood, who has studied the history of the most ancient of all sciences, states that:—

"All the errors and abominations in history have arisen from perverted developments of truth and virtue; whereas Astrology was the beginning of most that we hold valuable in art, literature, religion, and science. The constellations are the first pictures, and the Sun-epic of Gisdhubar the first poem; astronomy, and to a certain extent mathematics in general, spring directly from Chaldean astrology, from which, indirectly, comes our interest in mountains and precious stones."

There can be no "imposture" in the demonstration of natural laws; and *Astrologia Sana* must be received as a part of Physics, as Bacon received it. Moreover, being founded on natural truth, it cannot be condemned, merely to suit the prejudices of learned astronomers, for All Truth is of God.

Mr. Maunder must know very well that Astrology is the proper term, and not Astronomy, for the science of the stars, as Ruskin insisted. Modern astronomers cannot separate ancient astronomy from its nursing mother astrology.

Let it be observed that Mr. Maunder offers no evidence whatever that *Astrologia Sana* is imposture. If it be held that the failure of some astrological predictions is evidence of its unreliability, we reply that it is merely evidence that the science is not yet perfect, and that human judgment is sometimes at fault. On the same ground Astronomy itself can be shown to be imperfect—

e.g., the non-appearance of the meteor-shower last November ; the comet of 1556, which, it was said by Dr. Hind, of the *Nautical Almanac*, would probably do great injury to the earth on its predicted re-appearance in 1856, but it never appeared ; the great comet of 1861, which falsified astronomical science by never drawing nearer to the Sun ; and Eucke's comet, which does not travel in an ellipse.

As for the comet of 1556, Dr. Hind's prediction scared half of the world with foolish apprehension in 1856—had an astrologer caused such a scare, vials of wrath would have been poured out by astronomers and leader writers upon them.

If Mr. Maunder ventures again to sneer at Astrology we trust that he will present some evidence and not a mere *ipse dixit*. He mentioned Kepler, but *concealed* the fact that that great astronomer practised astrology.

THE ROYAL NATIVITY.

IN STAR LORE for June, 1899, we gave the primary directions operating in the 81st year of H. M. Queen Victoria, and stated that although some of them were good "there are three of opposite nature, which may cause some trouble. The nation will have some disputes and crises to pass through in June to August, and again about October or November, 1899."

The outbreak of the war in S. Africa took place when Her Majesty was $80^{\circ} 5^m$ of age ; this gives an arc ($1^{\circ} = 1$ year) of $80^{\circ} 23'$. The time of the reverses and checks in December gives an arc of $80^{\circ} 33'$. The relief of Kimberley = $80^{\circ} 44'$. Comparing these arcs with those of the primary directions, we find striking corroborative evidence of the influence of directional motion, thus :—

Ascendant * ♂ mundo, con.,	$80^{\circ} 26'$	= October.
☉ Rapt Parallel $\frac{1}{2}$	$80^{\circ} 37'$	= December.
M.C. ♂ ♀ mundo, direct,	$80^{\circ} 41'$	= January.
♀ par. ☉ zodiac, direct,	$80^{\circ} 46'$	= February.

Under the evil influence of Saturn Her Majesty's armies met with reverses. As the benefic influence of Venus came into operation the tide began to turn in our favour, Kimberley was relieved, and Lord Roberts captured Cronje's force.

At Her Majesty's 80th Solar return the Moon was in *Scorpio* $9^{\circ} 47'$, and on the day that Kruger's ultimatum was sent the conjunction of Mars with Jupiter took place in *Scorpio* $13^{\circ} 33'$.

At the 81st Solar return the Moon will be in *Pisces* $27^{\circ} 30'$, the Sun in parallel declination with Jupiter, and the ascendant (*Scorpio* $14^{\circ} 28'$) in trine with Venus in *Cancer* $14^{\circ} 21'$. The

Moon is too near the place of Saturn ($28^{\circ} \times 46'$) at birth for affairs to go as smoothly as could be wished; however, the primary directions being benefic in nature, this summer, peace with honour will soon be secured, although it may not be without some apprehension as to Eastern affairs. The following primary directions are due in the 82nd year:—

M.C. 36° ♃ Zodiac direct,	$81^{\circ} 0'$.
☉ * ☿ Zodiac, con.	$81^{\circ} 2'$.
♀ △ ☉ Zodiac, con.	$81^{\circ} 8'$.
Ascendt. par ♃ Zod., d.,	$81^{\circ} 9'$.
♂ par. ☉ Z., c., last contact,	$81^{\circ} 41'$.
☉ parallel ♃ mundo, d.,	$81^{\circ} 53'$.

We shall have more to say on this important nativity in our issue for June next.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Dr. A. B.—We find contra-parallels of declination quite as forceful as any other. No approximate parallel is worth consideration if the difference of declinations is equivalent to more than 2° of longitude, which may be known on inspection of the Tables of Declination, except near the tropics, where a difference of $15'$ of declination (with the Sun or Moon) = 5° or 6° of longitude. Primary directions of the Sun or Moon to parallels near the tropic should be computed for first contact as well as to the centre of the disc.

T. G.—The horoscope of Cheiro, published in a certain frequently erroneous magazine, has misled you, his time of birth being therein wrongly given as $10^h 55^m$ a.m. of November 1st, 1868.

Cheiro, in December, 1896, gave the editor his time of birth as $9^h 57^m$ a.m. of the 1st of November, 1867, in Ireland, South. Accordingly we cast his nativity for this time and found *Sagittarius* $10^{\circ} 4'$ ascending—the very same degree of the zodiac that ascended at the editor's birth—the Moon in the ascendant in $\nu 4^{\circ} 12'$, in sextile with the Sun in $\mathbb{M} 8^{\circ} 33'$; Mercury in $\uparrow 2^{\circ} 0'$, Venus in $\mathbb{M} 18^{\circ} 3'$, Mars in $\mathbb{M} 25^{\circ} 19'$, Saturn in $\mathbb{M} 24^{\circ} 34'$, Jupiter in $\approx 27^{\circ} 47'$, Uranus in $\ominus 12^{\circ} 52'$, and Neptune in $\Upsilon 13^{\circ} 0'$ retrograde in the fourth house. We sent Cheiro a copy of the scheme with our judgment upon it, and received his acknowledgment of it as quite correct.

OCCULTIST.—Mr. Andrew Lang was born on the 31st of March, 1844. He declined to give his time of birth to a gentleman who wrote to him for it, so that he shrinks from testing the truth of the science he denounced. He had Mercury in conjunction with Uranus in *Aries*, probably in the ascendant.