

STAR LORE

AND

FUTURE EVENTS.

By the Editor of ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC.

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THE CONJUNCTION OF SATURN WITH JUPITER, AND THE PROSPECTS OF INDIA, AFGHANISTAN AND TURKEY, 1901-1911.

“Saturnus et Jupiter mutant res et convertunt, eritque variationis initium cum mutantur de una triplicitate ad aliam in conjunctionibus, et ex una figura in aliam.”—Ancient astrologic aphorism.

JUPITER overtakes SATURN in the sign CAPRICORNUS $14^{\circ} 0' 18''$, on the 28th of November, 1901, at $4^{\text{h}} 36^{\text{m}} 15^{\text{s}}$ p.m., Greenwich Mean Time. We gave the figure of the heavens, for this conjunction, at p. 62 of ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC for 1901, showing *Aquarius* $13^{\circ} 23'$ culminating and *Gemini* $19^{\circ} 5'$ ascending at the centre of London (St. Paul's cathedral). The conjoined planets are in the eighth house, or division of the heavens, MARS being in $3^{\circ} 26'$ of *Capricornus* and VENUS in $22^{\circ} 53'$ of the same sign. The MOON is in *Cancer* $12^{\circ} 38'$, only $1^{\circ} 22'$ from exact opposition with the conjoined planets. The SUN is in the sixth house, in *Sagittarius* $5^{\circ} 46'$, attended by *Uranus* in $16^{\circ} 27'$ of the same sign. Mercury is also in the sixth house, in *Scorpio* $17^{\circ} 53'$. We gave our opinion as to the import of this figure, as far as it concerns Great Britain, and stated that the greatest effects of this great conjunction in the tropical sign *Capricornus* will be experienced in India, Afghanistan, Mexico, and Greece, those countries being ruled (or influenced) by the tenth sign of the Zodiac; and that the south-west of Saxony, Hesse, Bulgaria, and Albania, would be affected in some degree.

This last previous conjunction of Saturn with Jupiter in *Capricornus* took place on the 26th of January, 1842, at $5^{\text{h}} 28^{\text{m}} 44^{\text{s}}$ a.m., in γ $8^{\circ} 54' 1''$, as calculated by Zadkiel I. and fully treated by him in *Zadkiel's Legacy*. From that conjunction Zadkiel I. foretold the terrible fighting in India and Afghanistan which immediately followed; and the Indian Mutiny of 1857.

There was a conjunction of Saturn with Jupiter, in *Taurus* $1^{\circ} 36' 41''$, a sign of the same (earthy) triplicity, on the 18th of April, 1881, at $2^{\text{h}} 4^{\text{m}} 56^{\text{s}}$ p.m., as calculated by Zadkiel II, and

we gave the figure of the heavens for the moment of conjunction in *Urania*, 1880, and *Zadkiel's Almanac* for 1881. From this conjunction we foretold the war in Egypt and the Soudan in 1882, 1884 and 1885. The fulfilment of these predictions proves the truth of the ancient aphorism that Saturn and Jupiter when in conjunction do "change and overturn human affairs," and that then, or near that time, "there is first an appearance of such changes when those great planets change from one triplicity to another in their conjunctions."

This conjunction (1901) is rendered more interesting and more powerful because it is a very close one indeed, being in fact the closest that has taken place since the year 1683 A.D. That of 1683 took place in the *fiery* trigon—of which *Aries*, the ruling sign of Great Britain, is the first sign—the Mutation into that trigon having taken place in 1603, when the union of the English and Scottish crowns was effected by the accession of James I. The Civil War, the execution of Charles I., the Commonwealth, the restoration of Charles II, the Rye House Plot in 1683, the abdication of James II, the revolution of 1688, the wars in Ireland, &c., and eventually the accession of the House of Hanover in 1714—all these momentous changes took place within a century following the last Mutation of Saturn and Jupiter into the *fiery* trigon.

It must be borne in mind that the average period of the conjunction of Saturn with Jupiter in one trigon is about 240 years. Their Mutation conjunction in the *earthy* triplicity, of late years, took place on the 16th July, 1802, in the sign *Virgo* $4^{\circ} 56'$. The stupendous changes and the fearful wars in Europe which took place in the fourteen years 1802—1815 are matters of history.

The TRIPPLICITY, or TRIGON, is one-third of the ZODIAC, and consists of three signs constituting an equilateral triangle, being each 120 degrees apart.

The First, or FIERY TRIPPLICITY consists of the signs *Aries*, *Leo* and *Sagittarius*. The Second or EARTHY TRIPPLICITY consists of *Taurus*, *Virgo* and *Capricornus*. The Third, or AIRY TRIPPLICITY comprises *Gemini*, *Libra* and *Aquarius*. The fourth, or WATERY TRIPPLICITY comprises the signs *Cancer*, *Scorpio* and *Pisces*.

The reign of the EARTHY TRIPPLICITY extends for at least 200 years from 1802 onward. The present conjunction will be in greatest force for the decade 1901-11—until the planets Saturn and Jupiter meet in mutual opposition—but will have some influence for yet another decade.

As India, Afghanistan, Turkey in Europe, Albania, Greece, Bosnia, Bulgaria, and Croatia, are ruled by the EARTHY TRIGON, great changes and momentous events will be witnessed in those countries during the coming decade.

A great change has already begun in Afghanistan, under the rule of the new Ameer. The late Ameer died within nine days after the Solar Ingress into *Libra*, of September 23rd, 1901,

immediately preceding the conjunction of Saturn with Jupiter in *Capricornus*, the sign ruling that country. We foretold "trouble in Afghanistan and danger to the Ameer," from the position of Saturn setting in ♄ at the autumnal equinox at Calcutta.* Sceptics cannot dismiss this as mere coincidence.

At CALCUTTA the conjunction of Saturn with Jupiter takes place at 10^h 29^m 35^s p.m., local mean time, of the 28th November, the sign *Taurus* 16^o 45' culminating, and *Leo* 18^o 33' ascending. The conjoined planets are five degrees below the cusp of the sixth house, in which Venus is posited. This is ominous of an extension of epidemic disease in India, in the Bombay Presidency chiefly. The position of the Moon in *Cancer* just above the cusp of the twelfth house is promising of an amelioration of the condition of prisoners and the poor who have to ask for State relief. But the proximate opposition of the Moon with Jupiter and Saturn constitutes a serious warning to the Indian Government to beware of secret foes, who at the bidding of a jealous Power will make strenuous efforts to undermine British supremacy. As the Moon is in *Cancer*, the emissaries who stir up rebellion—and any invaders—will come from the north. The conjunction falling in the place of Mars at the birth of the Emperor of India (*vide* p. 36), is ominous of Indian warfare.

At CABUL the conjunction takes place at 9^h 12^m 55^s p.m., in the sixth house; Mars, ruler of the sign (*Aries* 27^o 3') in the upper meridian, hastens to conjunction with Saturn and Jupiter; and the Sun in the fifth—the eighth from the tenth—applies to Uranus. These relative positions import danger to Afghanistan from rebellion and invasion, and danger to the young Ameer of either deposition or early death.

The question now arises as to whether the threatening evil influences are neutralised by benefic influences? Unfortunately, the benefic planets, Jupiter and Venus, are disposed of by Saturn and are not in any harmonious configuration with either the Sun, Moon, ascendant or midheaven, at Calcutta. There is, therefore, but little ground for hope that the threatened warfare will be averted entirely. However, inasmuch as the conjoined planets are nearly in trine (120^o) aspect to the degree in the upper meridian, the ultimate triumph of Great Britain, whether the war be waged on the borders of India or in Afghanistan, is promised; and there is good ground to anticipate for India great improvement in commerce, manufactures, and revenue, soon after Saturn shall have passed out of the sign *Capricornus*. This conjunction *per se* is not so threatening as to warfare as was that of 1842—which as Zadkiel I. observed spoke "strongly of plots and conspiracies, and of open insurrection against the rulers of India"; but as it takes place within 6^o of the place of that of 1842, and as Mars is within 5^o of the same

* *Vide* ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC FOR 1901, p. 60.

place, it will re-awaken the force of that conjunction—which Zadkiel I. deemed to be the MUTATION. If, as the writer considers, the conjunction of 1802 was the MUTATION, then the influence of that of 1842 passed away in 1861, and the present conjunction cannot re-develop the evil influence of the conjunction of 1842. *Nous verrons.*

We have already stated our opinion³³ that as Mars will be just setting at Constantinople, this conjunction is very serious for the Sultan of Turkey, “for more than one European Power will be arrayed against him soon.”

We wrote sixteen months ago that: “The UNITED STATES will be greatly affected by this phenomenon, for it falls in opposition to the place of the SUN on the 4th of July, 1776.”†

At WASHINGTON, D.C., the conjunction takes place at 11^h 27^m 59^s a.m. of the 28th of November, in the twelfth house, *Sagittarius* 1° 1' culminating, and *Aquarius* 11° 56' ascending. This is of serious import for the Government of the United States, which will be *changed* very greatly ere long. The presence of Mercury (configured with Mars by semi-quartile) in the ninth house that of secret foes of the Government lends additional force to the import of Saturn with Jupiter in the twelfth house in opposition with the Moon near the cusp of the sixth. A racial war is threatened! Also a conspiracy to substitute for the present form of Government one in which Labour representatives will have responsible offices. The army and navy of the States will be greatly augmented. Within the next two years anarchists and socialists will give great trouble and will resort to violence, in the south and west especially. The worthy President will, in all probability, be in some danger in the second week of December, and again early in January next. Notwithstanding the threatened evils, the prospects of the United States are excellent. Inventions, and extension of trade and commerce will largely increase the prosperity of that great country.

Earthquake shocks, resulting from the remarkable series of conjunctions in *Capricornus*, in November and December, will be felt in the vicinity of Calcutta, Mandalay, New Orleans, Nashville, Akishi and Osaki; chiefly about the middle of December, and the middle of January next.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

The tragic death of PRESIDENT MCKINLEY shocked the whole civilised world. In the afternoon of the 6th of September, at his reception at Buffalo, he was treacherously shot through the abdomen by a Pole, and succumbed to his injuries on the 14th of the same month at 2^h 15^m a.m.

* *Vide* ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC for 1901, p. 64.

† *Ibid.*, p. 35.

Inquiry into the astrological pre-signification of this treacherous crime should begin with an examination of the figure of the heavens cast for the moment—2^h 15^m 9^s a.m. of the 21st of March, 1901—of the SUN's Ingress into the first punctum of the sign *ARIES* at Washington. The right ascension of the Meridian was then 14^h 7^m 37.1 = 211° 54' 16", *Scorpio* 4° 10' culminating and *Capricornus* 10° 56' ascending. *MARS* ruler of the Meridional sign, and therefore, significator of the President, was retrograde in *Leo* 24° 19' in the eighth—the house of death—and in sesiquadrate (135°) aspect with both the *MOON* and *JUPITER*. Now, at the time, September 6th, at which the President was shot by the anarchist, *MARS* was in 4° 2' of *Scorpio*, that is to say *in transit over the mid-heaven—Scorpio* 4° 10'—of the figure of the Vernal Equinox at Washington.

It was the position of *Mars* in the eighth house, and in evil aspect with the *Moon*, ruler of the seventh, that led us to foretell that during the rule of that ingress—which extended for over at least six months, as a "fixed" sign culminated—"Criminals and rowdies will give trouble"; and that there would be "many sudden and violent deaths."*

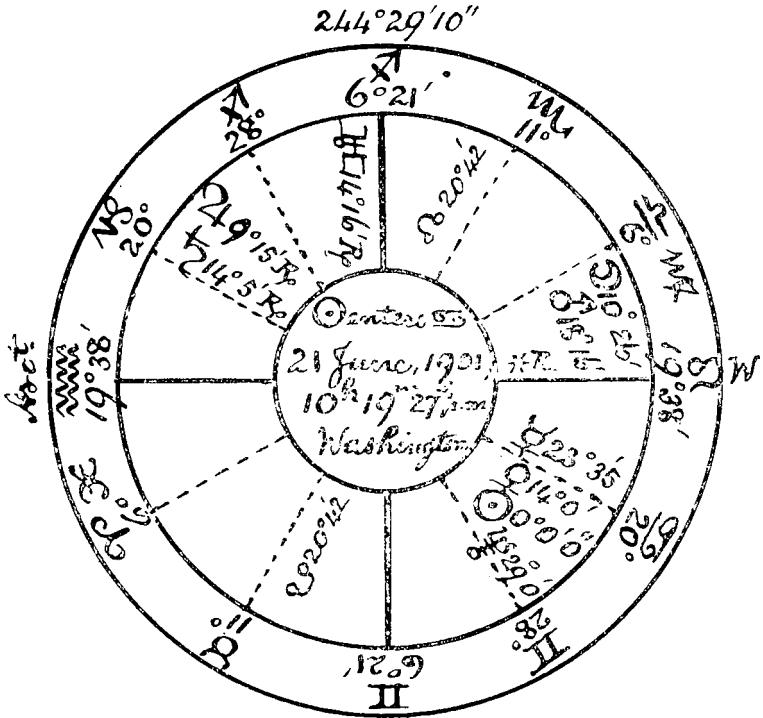
Secondly, we must examine the figure drawn for the moment of Estival Ingress. At Washington the SUN entered *Cancer* at 10^h 19^m 27^s p.m. of the 21st of June, 1901, when *Sagittarius* 6° 21' culminated and *Aquarius* 19° 38' ascended. Here we find the evil planet *URANUS* in the tenth house, in † 14° 16', retrograde; and the *MOON* in the seventh house—that of crime and murder—in † 10° 26' applying to quartile (90°) aspect with *URANUS* and conjunction with *MARS* in † 18° 16'. On the 6th of September we find that the SUN had arrived at † 13° 20', within 1° of the quartile of the place of *URANUS* at the summer solstice, and approaching the place of *MARS* thereat. Referring again to the figure, we find that *MARS* ruled the eleventh (*Scorpio* 11° being on the cusp), the house of secret enemies of the President. Also the SUN significator in a general sense, of rulers of peoples, is seen in the fifth house, which is the eighth from the tenth, and in conjunction with the evil *NEPTUNE*. As the SUN passed over the place of *MARS* at this Ingress, President McKinley became weaker—notwithstanding the absurdly optimistic bulletins issued by his medical attendants, who had not discovered that a portion of one kidney had been shot away—and died ere the SUN had passed that place by 2°.

The violent positions and configurations at the solstice led us to form the opinion that they pre-signified "fatal riots" in a "State ruled by *Virgo*, if one there be."† It seems now very probable that Buffalo is ruled by *Virgo* (or else *Scorpio*) as the assassination

* ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC, 1901, p. 57.

† *Ibid*, p. 59.

took place there. Had not the Moon been in sextile with Venus and only 1° past the trine with Jupiter, we should have foretold danger to the President at the hands of assassins.*



President McKinley was born on the 29th of January, 1843. At Greenwich Mean Noon of that day the following were the places of the Sun and Planets:—

$9^{\circ} \approx 0'$ $26^{\circ} \approx 35'$ $27^{\circ} \approx 18'$ $26^{\circ} \approx 50'$ $18^{\circ} \approx 1'$ $5^{\circ} \approx 44'$
 $19^{\circ} \approx 19'$ $25^{\circ} \approx 42'$ $18^{\circ} \approx 37'$

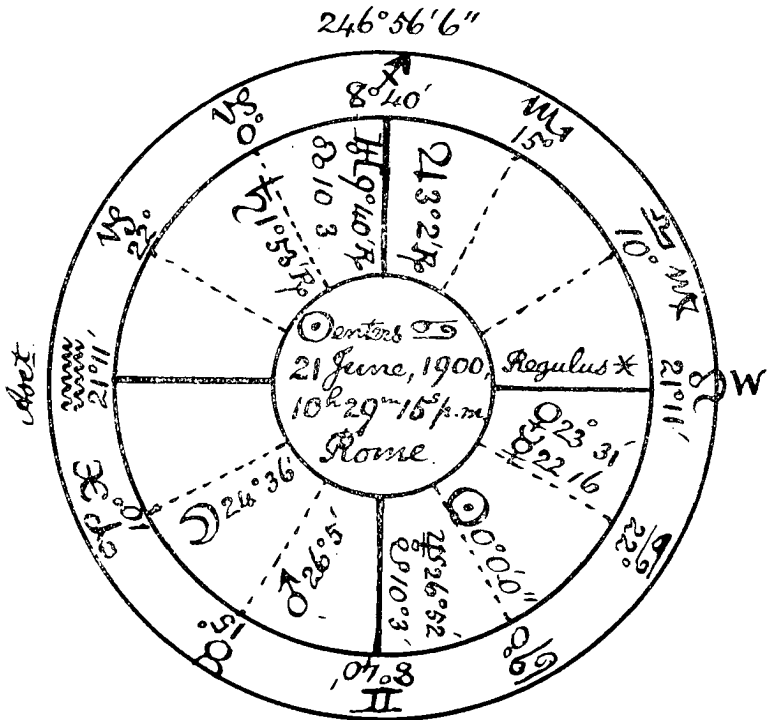
On the day of his death Mars was in $\text{m}9^{\circ}$, that is to say in exact quartile with the place of the Sun at birth.

There is no secondary direction to account for the assassination; indeed the astrologer "Raphael," who relies solely on secondary or progressive directions, predicts a good time for President McKinley in 1902!

The late Dr. Broughton, an American astrologer of high repute,

*It is remarkable that at the summer solstice, 1900, at Rome, Uranus was culminating; and the King of Italy was shot on the 29th of July following. See the diagrams.

said that Mr. McKinley would never give the time of his birth. Dr. Broughton assumed that the time of birth was about 2^h a.m., and foretold that Mr. McKinley would be assassinated some day—



so we are informed by an American gentleman who holds an official position. If the late President was born at 2^h a.m., or thereabouts, *Scorpio* was his rising sign and *Mars* was in his ascendant. When his biography is published we trust that the true moment of Mr. McKinley's birth will be given. Then we can compute the primary directions.

It is an aphorism in Medical Astrology that a new moon taking place during a serious illness is very dangerous to the patient unless the Moon be free from affliction and well supported by a benefic planet. The new Moon of September 12th, at 4^h 10^m 2 p.m., at Washington, took place in 19° 23' of *Virgo*, that is to say in the place of *Mars* at the summer solstice; and as *Virgo* rules the abdomen, this new Moon pre-signified the fatal issue of the abdominal wound suffered by the President. Moreover the new moon fell in the eighth, the house of death; and had no support from either *Venus* or *Jupiter*.

It is fortunate for the United States that so capable a statesman as Mr. Roosevelt succeeded to the Presidency on Mr. McKinley's death. An American gentleman, in writing to us last September, says:—"The rule of President Roosevelt, if he lives, will leave its mark on Europe, and both North and South America. A man of such force of character, education and talent, has never before filled the Presidential chair; and changes, first in Washington, then throughout the States, will certainly come. That we might be sure of wonderful changes you pointed out very distinctly in your ALMANAC for 1901."

NOTES ON NATIVITIES.

I.—At page 58 of STAR LORE for June we presented the nativity of Mr. G. R. Sims. That it is correct is proved by the following note written by that gentleman, in the *Referee*, June 16th:—

The editor of "Zadkiel" sends me "Star Lore" for June. It contains my horoscope. It is very interesting, and Saturn and Jupiter and Venus have a good deal to do with it. The kindly editor concludes, "We will not play on DAGONET'S nerves by making any lugubrious predictions. We wish him success, health, and all the good gifts of the benefic planets, Venus and Jupiter." H'm, I have my doubts about the gifts of Venus, but anything that Jupiter likes to send along will be welcome.

On dit that Mr. Sims was married about the middle of August last. The arc for the happy event would be (1° = 1 year of life) $53^{\circ} 57'$. We have not been able to spare time to compute a series of primary directions in his nativity, but can see that a rectification of four minutes earlier would bring up the direction of Ascendant sextile Venus, Zodiac, conversely, close to the required arc for marriage. Without any alteration of the stated time of birth, viz., 6^h p.m., the direction of Moon opposition Venus, Zodiac, conversely, measures $53^{\circ} 54'$ —very close indeed to the arc $53^{\circ} 57'$ for marriage. Here is the process of calculation. The opposition of Venus falls in $15^{\circ} 54'$ of *Aries*; the right-ascension of this point of the Zodiac is $14^{\circ} 38'$, and its meridian distance is $56^{\circ} 38'$. The declination is $6^{\circ} 16'$ N., and the semi-arc is $82^{\circ} 4'$. Then by proportion:—As the semi-arc of the opposition is to the semi-arc of the Moon ($65^{\circ} 36'$) so is the meridian distance to the second distance = $45^{\circ} 16'$. This added to the Moon's meridian distance $8^{\circ} 38'$ gives $53^{\circ} 54'$ as the arc of direction of Υ \oslash ♀ Zodiac, conversely.

We trust that the nuptial knot was tied at an auspicious moment, and cordially wish Mr. Sims and his bride long life and conjugal happiness.

II.—A lady—Chanoinesse, of a religious order and chapter which dates from the Middle Ages—was born, according to the official certificate, at 7^h a.m. of the 23rd of November, 1856, in lat. 49°

north and long. 34^m east., when *Virgo* 14° culminated and *Scorpio* $24\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ ascended, Mercury having just risen in *Scorpio* $21^\circ 46'$. The Sun in the ascendant in *Sagittarius* $1^\circ 12'$ had the trine aspect with Jupiter in *Pisces* $29^\circ 16'$ stationary. The Moon in *Libra* $12^\circ 58'$ in quartile with Saturn in *Cancer* $13^\circ 32'$ retrograde. Venus in the second house, in *Capricornus* $3^\circ 14'$. Mars in the same sign $15^\circ 19' 51''$. Uranus in *Taurus* $22^\circ 43'$, just set. Neptune in *Pisces* $17^\circ 40'$ retrograde.

This talented lady writes:—"Thank you for your very interesting works on astrology of which I have been a diligent student for many years. I am continually testing the truth of astral science; and a few notes on my nativity will be of interest, to you and the readers of STAR LORE. In January, 1898, the lunar eclipse in \ominus $17^\circ 48'$ near the place of Saturn and in opposition to that of Mars at my birth was immediately followed by the death of my dear father, on the 17th of that month, who held a high office under Government. When on the 26th of April, 1901, Saturn became stationary in $\♋$ $16^\circ 24'$, my dear mother was taken ill that very day and died on the second of May. Jupiter stationary in *Sagittarius* $1^\circ 1'$, in the summer of 1900, close to the place of my Sun, brought about a most beneficial change in my life. During the whole of last winter my health had not been good, but since the *neomenia* of March 20th last, which took place close to my Jupiter, my health improved marvellously.

"I may add that Melanethon, in the 16th century, was a student of *astrologia sana*, and it is recorded that he used to cast the horoscopes of his friends.

"I computed the places of the planets in my nativity from the R.A. and declinations given in the *Nautical Almanac* for 1856."

Writing again, this lady says:—"I think you are right in saying that my birth must have taken place at three minutes after 7^h a.m., for the primary directions you have calculated are wonderfully accurate. $\odot \oslash \text{♀}$ mundo, brought a beneficial change followed by great success. $\text{♃} \square \text{♁}$ Zodiac, direct, my interests were crossed, when this direction operated, by adverse circumstances; and I had great disappointment about a journey. $\text{♃} \text{♁} \text{♁}$ mundo, coincided with a time of deep grief. $\text{M.C.} \triangle \text{♁}$ mundo measures exactly to the time at which I came into the full annual endowment of the preferment. These directions fully correspond with the character of the most important events in those years of my life; and my belief that the laws of *astrologia sana* are part of those great laws by which God governs the world, is firmer than ever.

"I may add that I have always found it of great importance in which direction from the birthplace one lives; and the benefit of a change of air is frequently due in great measure to a move in the direction of a benefic in the radix. I have experienced it many times."

Students will see how well this nativity indicates the religious character, the talent, preferment, and occasional delicate health of this clever lady. The configuration of Mercury rising with both Uranus and Neptune accounts for her appreciation of and keen interest in *astrologia sana*.

III.—Curiously enough we cast the nativity, about seven years since, of a gentleman who was born on the same day as the Chanoinesse:—Dr. H., born November 23rd, 1856, about 3^h 55^m a.m., Greenwich Mean Time, in lat. 53° 55' N. and long. 0° 12' W. This gentleman was left a competency by his father, who died in the summer of 1889. The ascendant of this nativity is *Libra* 21° 2', the Moon having lately risen in 11° 46' of this sign. The Sun in the second house, in ♃ 1° 6', has the trine of Jupiter.

IV.—The late Mr. A. Roland Shaw was born "just before noon" of the 8th of March, 1847, at Rupert, Vermont, U.S.A., lat. 43° 15' N. long. 73° 10' W. We cast his horoscope about ten years ago, for 11^h 52^m a.m., but probably the birth took place five minutes earlier, viz. 11^h 47^m a.m., for this rectification would bring up the primary direction of Sun rapt parallel Mars exactly to the period of his sudden death, August 15th, 1901, arc = 54° 26'. *Cancer* 6° ascended at birth. The Sun was in the tenth house in ♃ 17° 31' in sextile with Mars in ♃ 18° 34' in the seventh house, and in Zodiacal parallel with Uranus in ♃ 12° 44'. Sun's declin. 4° 56' S., Uranus's 4° 26½' N. The Moon was in the sixth house, ♎ 29° 50', applying to quartile with Saturn in ♃ 5° 4' in the ninth, and trine with Mercury in ♃ 4° 6' in the tenth. Mercury was nearly in conjunction with Venus and sextile with Jupiter, ♃ having last ascended in II 8° 43'. Neptune was in the ninth house, in ♆ 28° 35'.

Mr. Shaw, while in Moorgate Street Station, London, on the 15th of August, became unconscious, was removed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, by the police, and expired without uttering a word while being taken into the wards. Merlin, in the *Referee*⁶³, stated his opinion that "the excitement to which Mr. Shaw subjected himself on the evening of the fifth *séance* was at least contributory to his death. He was widely known among Spiritists, and made extraordinary claims. He confided to me many amazing experiences, and he professed with apparent sincerity to have raised the dead."

A writer in *Light* stated that Mr. Shaw "possessed naturally a good constitution, but owing to a severe malarial fever terminating in abscess of the liver in early manhood, his health had since been more or less indifferent."

Mr. Shaw informed us that this severe illness took place in the summer of 1872 in his 26th year—this was under ♃ 135° ☉ *Zod.*, con. 25° 59' and other directions.

* August 25th, 1901.

† August 31st.

“A few months ago he had a sharp attack of influenza, and gradually his strength had been much reduced; indeed it was known to his friends that his heart had become enlarged and dilated, with indications of liver and kidney complications; but his mental powers and spiritual capacities were not diminished. . . . He was a member of the circle for the unfortunate ‘test séances’ arranged by Merlin of the *Referee*.”

Mr. Shaw certainly, ten years ago, presented the appearance of a very delicate man; his complexion was pale almost to cadaverousness; he had large blue eyes, and long black hair; and was tall of stature—Saturn in trine and Venus in sextile with the ascending degree of his nativity will account for these peculiarities.

V.—MR. A. G. TRENT writes that, when looking into *M.A.* for the erroneous horoscope ascribed to Mr. Sims, he found in the same number the nativity of a lady, born November 26th, 1857, 1^h 25 p.m., stated to be insane. I suppose that we may accept this, and you and I will doubtless agree that it is needless to import Neptune into the matter when the Moon has the close parallel of Mars and mundane semi-quartile of Uranus, with no assistance worth naming. It struck me that I had seen something very like this horoscope before, and then I remembered that I had taken years ago the nativity of a lady born the same day, twenty-five minutes earlier. This lady has never exhibited the slightest symptom of insanity, and you will see that her Ascendant has the exact zodiacal sextile of Jupiter and trine of Venus—a proof that good aspects to the ascending degree will go far to counteract afflictions of the mental rulers.

THE SUN AND PLANETS AS PROPHETS.

IN the *English Illustrated Magazine*, July, 1901, Mr. A. W. Myers calls attention, in his article headed “The Sun as a Prophet: How to Foretell Famines in India,” to the result of exhaustive researches and investigations carried on at the Solar Physics Observatory at South Kensington by Sir Norman Lockyer and his son, Dr. W. J. S. Lockyer—*viz.*, “the conviction that famines in India, droughts in Australia or Egypt, and other meteorological calamities may be accurately forecasted by means of a periodical examination of the spectra of Sun-spots—in other words, by photographing the Sun every day. Sir Norman is confident that not only may the time, but the area and extent of famine and drought be predicted, thus rendering it possible to save millions of pounds and hundreds of lives. The Indian authorities have already been apprised of the Lockyer ‘findings,’ and are taking keen interest in subsequent developments. Though it is thirty years since Meldrum and Sir Norman called attention to the possibility of a connection between Sun-spots and rainfall, and in

spite of the cogent evidence advanced since 1872 by Meldrum and Hutchings, it is only quite lately that the Indian Government have given the matter serious consideration with a view to its practical utility."

Asked what led him to make these investigations, Sir Norman said: "Chiefly through the coincidence during the last few years, of an abnormal state of the Sun with abnormal lack of rain in India, accompanied by the worst famine experienced during the century. This fact suggested to us the desirability of thoroughly re-considering the questions of Sun-spots and rainfall, especially as we had some new facts at our disposal. These have been revealed by a study, now extending over twenty years, of the 'widened' lines in Sun-spots available to us by photographs of the Sun, which suggested the view that two effects ought to be expected in a Sun-spot cycle instead of one. We had, of course, ascertained that the majority of spot-lines, which could be traced to some terrestrial origin, belong to iron, while the lines of other elements are represented in a less degree. There are a great many lines in the spots as yet unknown in chemical category, but it is quite likely that these 'unknown' lines are constituted like the others, only they are at a much higher temperature. In our laboratories we have means of differentiating between these stages of temperature—*viz.*, the temperature of the flame, the electric arc, and the electric spark of the highest tension. At the lowest temperature, that of the flame, we get a certain set of lines; a new set is seen as the temperature of the electric arc is reached. At the temperature of the high-tension spark we again have many new lines—called 'enhanced' lines—added, while many of the arc lines wane in intensity. India has two 'pulses,' or periods of rainfall—one near the maximum and the other near the minimum of the Sun-spot period—and it has been found from a study of the Famine Commission reports that all the famines therein recorded, without exception, which have devastated India during the last half century have occurred in the intervals between these two 'pulses.' It has been found, too, that the dates at the beginning of these two pulses in the Indian and Mauritius rainfall are related to the sudden remarkable changes in the behaviour of the Sun-spot 'widened' lines. From an investigation of the Nile river curve between the years 1849 and 1878, all the lowest Niles have occurred between the same intervals as those governing Indian famines. Also, there exists a general agreement between the intervals and the rainfalls of Scotland (Buchan), Cordoba (Davis), and at the South African Cape."

Mr. Myers says that: "Though Sir Norman and Dr. Lockyer have already obtained much valuable data which will permit of dates being predicted, they are still actively engaged in penetrating further, and obtaining additional evidence and results, in order that the area and extent of droughts may be accurately and safely decided upon before they occur."

In *Urania*, July, 1880, we printed an article on "Sun-Spot Astrology," as it was then termed by opponents.

In our article on "The Royal Meteorological Society *versus* Weather Prediction," in ZADKIEL'S ALMANAC for 1896, we presented cogent evidence of the fact of planetary influence and of successful prediction of good and bad seasons, based thereupon.

We predicted the recent scarcity of grain, drought, and epidemic disease in India long beforehand.* The Indian Government should, therefore, order a careful examination of astrology, as well as of Sun-spots in this connection.

The following extract from the *Daily Telegraph* will be interesting to our readers. In the second volume of the TEXT-BOOK OF ASTROLOGY we gave the results of a careful study of Lunar action on the weather:—

"Mr. H. C. Russell, F.R.S., State Astronomer in New South Wales, has recently shown a remarkable relation between the good and bad seasons of Australia and the moon's position. As is generally known there exists a remarkable lunar cycle of nineteen years—or, to be more precise, of 6,939.69 days. That is to say, after nineteen years, the times of new and full moon come over again almost exactly as before. Mr. Russell's official observations for three periods of nineteen years show that "rain comes in times of abundance, when the moon is in certain degrees of her motion south; and when the moon begins to go north, the droughty conditions prevail for seven or eight years," which, says the astronomer, "is either a marvellous coincidence, or is a law connecting the two phenomena," and the latter he believes is the case. The first bad year of the present cycle was in 1895, and the droughts have persisted to such a terrible extent that from 1895 to 1900 25,000,000 sheep have died of starvation in the Commonwealth, not reckoning 20,000,000 more natural increase, which has been also lost in consequence of the want of rain. Climate is much more regular in Australia than in Britain. Attempts to apply the lunar cycle theory to these islands have utterly failed. In 1860, we had practically no summer; 1879 was nearly, if not quite, as disastrous. This looked like a cyclic repetition; but 1898, the next return, gave us an extremely fine year. Equally the sun-spot cycle of eleven years fails in our latitudes. The wet, sunless season of 1879 was followed in 1890 and 1901 by fine summers, the last being one of almost unexampled brightness. Unknown therefore is still the grand atmospheric law."

From NATURE, August 29th, we extract the following statement by Mr. Alex. B. MacDowall.

"THE MOON AND WET DAYS.—The result of a discussion of the Greenwich records for the last 24 years shows that there is a minimum of wet days on the third, second, and first day before last quarter. There is a maximum of days on which half-an-inch of rain has fallen about new moon. Considering only the half-year from April to September, there is a maximum of days on which 0.4in. or more has fallen about new moon, and of days on which 0.2 or more has fallen about first quarter. The writer is content with stating results and inviting criticism."

At pp. 135 to 137 of Vol. II. of THE TEXT-BOOK OF ASTROLOGY we stated the results of an examination of the Greenwich records from 1868 to 1881, inclusive. Allowing 48 hours to each configuration formed by the Moon with the Sun—viz., conjunction,

*Vide STAR LORE, November 1897, Article: "The Duty of Governments in Respect to Astronomy."

opposition, first and last quadrature, first and second trine (120°), and first and second sextile (60°)—we find that the maximum rainfall took place at the first quadrature and the minimum at the full moon. The rainfall at the two sextiles was greater than at any other configuration except the first quarter. The figures are given in tabular form; and we remarked that:—"The advocates of lunar influence [on rainfall] are now placed in this position, viz., the process demonstrating the effect of *new* and *full* moon, and of the *quarters*, brings out the fact that the *sextiles* and *trines* also affect the weather, for the rainfall at the first *trines* and first and last *sextiles*, exceeds that at the new moon."

Our observation also proves that *changes* of weather take place more frequently at the *first quarter* and the *last sextile* than at any other configuration of the Moon with the Sun; but the *nature* of the change depends largely on the *planet* with which the Moon may be configured at such periods.

ERUPTIVE FEVER IN LONDON.

"Much sickness of a feverish and eruptive type,' in September."—ZADRIEL'S ALMANAC for 1901, p. 29.

SCARLATINA and Smallpox became epidemic, in London, in September. The vaccinating doctors have been reaping a harvest, in fees, for vaccinating people who were scared by the fuss made in the newspapers about the cases of smallpox, although the number of smallpox cases was but one-fourth of that of the cases of scarlatina and diphtheria. Many have suffered seriously from vaccination; but the fear of being pitted in the face by smallpox impels nervous people to submit to what Sir Thomas Watson once termed "the ghastly risk of vaccination"—*il faut souffrir pour être belle*. Notwithstanding that the recent epidemic of smallpox among the excellently well-vaccinated citizens of Glasgow proved the utter failure of vaccination to prevent or modify smallpox—after the oft-repeated boast that vaccination and re-vaccination had stamped out smallpox in Scotland—the pro-vaccinators repeat the old arguments in favour of their so-called prophylactic—arguments which have been utterly refuted time after time—and thereby delude nervous people into submitting to be re-vaccinated in the belief that they will either be thereby "protected" from smallpox or that if they should be smitten with the disease, the attack will be greatly modified and bad results prevented. Many of the medical men who urge their patients to be vaccinated had no previous experience in the treatment of smallpox, and some of them did not recognise the disease when they saw cases of it! Such practitioners just accept the teaching of officials who receive handsome salaries for seeing that vaccination is properly carried out. These officials, in the event of Parliament being convinced that vaccination has really failed to keep away

smallpox, and even to modify any attack of the disease, would, like Othello, find their occupation (and handsome salaries) gone. So that it is not to be wondered at that *they* advocate strenuously the enforcement of vaccination and shut their eyes to all evidence against its asserted prophylactic power. Our readers have repeatedly had their attention directed to the evils of vaccination and its utter failure to protect from smallpox—*vide*, vol. i., 34, 106; ii., 45, 60, 95; iii., 32; v., 45, 63.

In the years 1871-'72, the severe epidemic which then swept over well-vaccinated England, Ireland and Scotland, convinced the writer that the belief in the prophylactic power of vaccination is a myth and a superstition. The writer, in conjunction with a vaccinating doctor, treated more than five hundred cases of smallpox, and saw many recently re-vaccinated persons die of the confluent and hæmorrhagic forms of the disease. He also saw several *unvaccinated* infants, of a few weeks old, escape infection even though they had derived their sustenance from their mothers suffering from the disease. When the cases were tabulated the difference of the rate of mortality of the vaccinated and unvaccinated was only 5 per cent. in favour of the former—but the unvaccinated were in nearly every instance infants under four months of age. So that really there was no difference, no "saving of life" among the vaccinated compared with the *unvaccinated*, when the ages of the sufferers were taken into account. Moreover the rate of mortality of the whole did not exceed 16 per cent. although the great majority of the cases were very severe—a great contrast to the 45 to 50 per cent. rate of mortality *set down* to the *unvaccinated** cases at the Smallpox Hospitals, in the official statistics. If such a rate of mortality as 50 per cent. could be *truly* ascribed to *unvaccinated* patients in the Smallpox Hospitals, then we say that such a mortality is no credit to orthodox medical treatment.

In the Middlesborough epidemic of 1898, independent inquiry showed that in 98 of the deaths set down to the *unvaccinated* side in the official statistics, the victims had been vaccinated; and one, a soldier, had been vaccinated thrice!

If there were any protective power in vaccination, the recent epidemics of smallpox in Sheffield, Middlesborough, and Glasgow could not have broken out. In the case of Sheffield, 98 per cent. of its birth-rate had received the "protecting" lymph; yet a terribly severe and very fatal epidemic of smallpox scourged that "well protected" town!

Until Dr. Creighton was authorised to write the article on vaccination for the latest edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," he was a supporter of the practice. When he came to examine the facts as a scientific inquirer he was forced by the evidence to the conclusion that vaccination is a delusion. Men of the eminence of

*Because the vaccination cicatrices were obliterated by confluent smallpox.

Professor Crookshank, of King's College, London, and Dr. Creighton are more worthy of respect, on this vexed question, than are the advocates whose heavy remuneration gives them an unconscious bias in favour of vaccination. In a letter printed in the *Lancet* of May 24th, 1890, Professor Crookshank, M.B., M.R.C.S., said:—"I maintain there is no scientific support for Vaccination, and the practice is destined to fall into desuetude." After this weighty declaration, and the utter failure of vaccination to prevent smallpox, we cannot understand how any calm, reasoning persons can submit themselves and their helpless infants to the "ghastly risk of vaccination." That it is a ghastly risk is proved frequently by serious results, sometimes fatal. In New Jersey recently five children died, within a short time of being vaccinated, from tetanus. The risk of conveying disease by means of the lymph is *not* abrogated by using only glycerinated calf-lymph; for, in answer to Question No. 11, 119, in the *Report of the Royal Commission on Vaccination*, the answer was given by Professor Crookshank that:—"We have no known test by which we could possibly distinguish between a lymph which is harmless, and one which might be harmful to the extent of communicating a loathsome disease."

NOTES.

At the Lord Mayor's Banquet, Nov. 9th, 1901, the MARQUIS of SALISBURY, in proposing the toast of "The Lord Mayor," said in the course of his speech:—"I feel that we are, as it were, looking forward in the future, and forecasting a kind of horoscope of what the Mr. Ritchie of 1902 will say of the present Lord Mayor,"—the Home Secretary having proposed "The late Lord Mayor."

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AN ULTRA-NEPTUNIAN PLANET? PROF. G. FORBES in *Proc. R.S.E.*, vol. xxiii. pp. 370-374, gives reasons for belief in the existence of a planet at a distance equal to 100 times the mean distance of the Earth from the Sun based originally (*Observatory*, June, 1880), on the fact that seven Comets had their aphelia at about this distance. He now gives reasons for believing that the Comet of 1556, possibly identical with that of 1264, was perturbed by the planet about the end of the 17th century, and was identical with the Comet, 1844, iii., which would offer a complete explanation of its failure to return, as expected, in 1848. The longitude of the planet is now computed to be 181° , and Prof. Forbes announced at the Glasgow meeting of the British Association that a photographic search is to be made for it by Mr. Wilson, at Daramona. Its mass is probably greater than that of Jupiter.—(*Nature*, Sept. 19th).