

The Stellar Ray

A MAGAZINE FOR THINKERS

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THE GREAT QUESTION

"Some are born to honor, and others to dishonor; some to wealth and others to want; some in the midst of crime, ignorance and sorrow, others environed in happy condittons.

When and where is the law of compensation applied to equalize these conditions, or why should these things be?" H. C. H.

Answered in

SCIENCE AND KEY OF LIFE

PLANETARY INFLUENCES

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A twentieth century work of vital importance, wherein is given a solution of the Problems of Life

"Stellar Ray" Clubbing Offers Through a special arrangement with Woman's Home Companion and The American Magazine, it is possible for us to quote the following prices : "Stellar Ray" \$1.85 "Woman's Home Companion" "Stellar Ray" \$1.85 "The American Magazine" "Stellar Ray" "Woman's Home Companion" \$3.00 "The American Magazine" Additional amounts to foreign countries : 25c. for the "Stellar Ray" \$1.00 for "The American Magazine ;" \$1.00 for "The Woman's Home Companion." This offer includes renewals. Write to "The Stellar Ray." Detroit, Mich.

The Woman's Home Companion for 1913-14 will contain stories by Margaret Deland, Grace S. Raymond and Molke Elliott Seawell. Anne Bryan McCall, Dr. Charles E. Jefferson and Ralph Waldo Trine contribute three splendid series full of high ideals and inspiration.

The American Magazine is now running two great romances—Angel Island and "The Woman's Law." Edna Ferber is writing her famous stories of Emma McChesney and Son. Five of the best reporters of American life now contributing are : Ida M. Tarbell, Hugh Fullerton, Peter Clarke Macfarlane, A. J. Wock and Ray Stannard Baker.

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Editorial Department

Each Individual is Aike a Musical Instrument Reyed to a Certain Chord

H. C. Hodges.



LL forms from the great fixed stars and suns down to the most minute atoms have their own rate of vibration, and each individual born into this physical expression has his or her own dominant and characteristic keynote, color and

aound, these making up together with the other vibratory notes the chord or mass vibration of the aura. This aura, or as we may better term it, the individual atmosphere, is made up of life atoms in which many varieties and types of vibrations are latent. It is true that in each individual, one particular rate of vibration is dominant, one class of these life atoms more immediately operative than others. In order to know these rates of vibration in one's atmosphere and the chord, to which the individual is keyed, the selfconsciousness must be raised from the personal self to that of the divine within self. Each one is similar to a musical instrument, keyed to a certain chord and is emitting a certain sound, and the great Master of Wisdom never makes a mistake when He hears the sound. We may term it the life sound of any person or thing, for it is the dominant note, and gives the key, so that it can be told just where the soul has attained to in its evolutionary progress by considering the rate of its vibration.

These vibrations also manifest themselves on the physical plane in the pitch of the voice, which is an index to the life's tone of persons generally, character being expressed in a remarkable manner by the voice; as for instance, an individual born under the influence of Mars, the voice is sharp, commanding, positive and if combined with Mercury is shrill and metallic, while the Venus note or sound is pleasant, gentle and negative, while the Jupiterian will have a deep and powerful voice, yet harmonious withal. Very few, with the exception of the student of the divine law, realize how clearly the character is manifested by the sound produced.

There are sounds innumerable that one has not heard and cannot comprehend until he unfolds himself to a harmonious chord with the music of the higher spheres, and can only then begin to realize the wonderful vibrations of each separate planet with regard to its numerical ratio. An exact prediction concerning the coming destiny of any nativity can be accurately given only when the dominant chord or note of the individual is known, together with the rate of vibration at which he or she is manifesting; some individuals being able to exhause unfavorable influences and cross vibrations much more rapidly than others, though this would naturally depend to a great extent upon the experience of the soul working and manifesting within its self-made limitations and would be especially true with those whose minds were turned toward the higher life unfolding the divine laws in Nature, and who sought diligently to cooperate with her, thus to dominate their lower animal nature and in this way realize their higher soul ideals, and using the will in conjunction with the planetary forces by aspiration and individual effort the higher notes of the scale of each planetary rate of vibration would be brought into action and thus hasten the progress. ...

The way is being prepared for the coming generations' evolutionary progress, and we are manifesting in harmonious accord with the needs of humanity, struggling in the darkness for what they know not of nor can they comprehend, seemingly at times having it in their grasp and then when attained find the valueless of it all, and is not what was most desired. It is the soul seeking to express itself, but owing to the crude instrument through which it is seeking to make known its wants the result is imperfect and unsatisfactory, and this cannot be changed until the individual will finally co-operate with the planetary laws and play upon the finer, higher notes of each planetary vibration; as for instance, we may consider the vibrations of Venus, which are finer and more rapid than those of Mars, and these higher, finer vibrations tend to neutralize and harmonize the slower, coarser Mars vibrations; thus, as humanity thinks and lives purely, the coarser matter of impurity is eradicated, as in manifesting love, the coarser matter which we know as hate, is cast out, thus constantly replacing the coarse and crude by the finer, always appealing to the centre of our being, the true self within.

Let us consider more closely, for instance, an individual who comes into expression under the dominant influence of Venus, and that this planet's influence or vibration was affected in its action by the slower vibrations of Saturn, or as we would term it astrologically, afflicted by the planet Saturn, then we would find that until self has been dominated, the rate of progress would be very slow, and great suffering would be experienced by the individual until the soul had learned the truth that all are one, and in order to find progress must assist humanity along with him. Thus, the truth would then set him free, for it would have

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realized through sorrow and pain that separateness and self-seeking do not bring happiness and joy that are lasting and eternal, and the vibrations of the planet Venus would be liberated from those of Saturn, and evolution and unfoldment of the soul could go on unhindered, and the physical man which would be most affected by these vibrations could then provide a more sensitive and finer instrumentality for the soul's expression.

It will ever be found that those persons that come into physical expression with the planet Venus free from the affliction of the malefics Urania, Saturn and Mars, are lovers of mankind, most unselfish souls, compassionate and tender, ever thinking of humanity before themselves, as the love of the solar logos conveyed through the vibrations of the higher Venus would thus be able to flow through the instrument of personal self unhampered and without obstruction.

Again, if the planet Mercury, the ruler of the mind, is vibrating in unison with the benefics, as the Sun, Jupiter, Venus, then will the mind be lofty, generous and noble, able to study the great essence of life, to be profoundly meditative, contemplative and wise; but on the other hand, if the Mercurial vibrations be afflicted by the malefics, Saturn or Mars, then Mercury, the mental ruler and messenger of the gods, will be unable to transmit his message, his wings being smirched with the dross of the earth. He will become a captive, fettered by the bonds of self and sense, and the mental images manifested will ever be of the earth, earthy.

It is a truth that each atom that goes to make up the atmosphere of the individual is created by certain rates of vibration which have their color accordingly, and the heavier and darker the color the slower will be the rate of vibration, and the lighter the color the more rapid will be the vibrations. In the consideration of the Venus influence which we recognize as love, the higher octave has been reached, the whole gamut of the lower vibrations of Mars has been overcome, and the deep scarlet which is created from passion, lust and anger, as found in the Mars vibration is transmuted and replaced by the lighter, finer pinkish tint that speaks of love and affection.

That which marks the higher evolution of man is the breaking away from the barriers of selfishness and pride that characterize the animal ego, and to overcome these is to break the chains of bondage to escape from the fetters that bind, as it were, from the chrysalis state, and unfold the higher spiritual. It is to pass on from the narrow plane of the personal into the birth of the universal; and if we will look for a moment at this physical world with its most marvelous discoveries, its progress in all the fields of science, invention and art, we shall perceive that during the Sun's progress through the Zodiacal sign Pisces, the watery sign, steam was the greatest factor in all the many improvements and inventions, revolutionizing all the industries and bringing the various countries and nations closer together through the greater facilities of communication

In a similar way, only upon a higher round of the ladder, will the Sun's passage through the Zodiacal sign Aquarius be marked by discoveries and inventions relating to the air and ether as the agency brought into operation; as for instance, the communications without visible substance as in the past. In fact, the attention of science will be given to this agency of communication and travel as the many attempts in this direction to construct a practical serviceable airship will be accomplished shortly under this influence.

From an esoteric standpoint, the Sun's progress into Aquarius strikes the keynote of unity; that wonderful symbol of the man with the pitcher of water pouring out upon humanity, clearly shows that concord, harmony and unity will be the dominant keynote of the coming century, and yet there are those of the Asiatic races who will manifest upon the lower plane of Aquarius and Urania, and there will be a division of the two. the Anglo-Saxon and Asiatic nations.

Institutions of all kinds for the improvement and amelioration of the present social conditions will become more widespread, through a banding together of the more educated and thoughtful of humanity inhabiting the world in the present and coming generations, and this all for the purpose of forming the necessary environment for the coming race who are to follow; and in this way shall we begin to touch the spark of divine man and womanhood, for to be merged into humanity, is to be born into divinity.

Karth Life is to the Soul as Soil is to the Seed

H. C. HODGES.



HEN considering this divine science from its material application, it is diversity rather than unity; as for instance we look upon Venus as the planet representing love; Mercury as wisdom; Saturn as intellect; Mars force, etc., but when considering the science from the higher esoteric we must recognize unity, and in order to grasp the principles of

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unity it will be necessary to think of the one self-manifesting through its various expressions, from the lowest form of matter up to the highest type of expression; and we consider the Sun as a correspondence to the God within, that is the divine self. Then, too, we may realize this spiritual ray emanating from the divine infinite, veiling itself in a first sheath, the soul protection, in its descent through the matter forms; and finally reflecting itself through the personality. The first we may compare to Venus as the body of love; and finally expressing itself through a vehicle corresponding to Mercury, mind or intelligence, which, reflecting itself downwards on the physical plane, manifests as thought, reflection and reason. Thus we see the unity manifesting as the trinity; the one life corresponding to the Sun, expressing itself as existence, love and intelligence; the Sun, Venus and Mercury representing the manifestation of the infinite.

Now, this self in man most necessarily utilizes the various grades of matter belonging to many planes in order that it may come in contact with objects mental, astral, ethereal and physical, for the purpose of recognizing itself as individual. In a similar way, as the seed is placed in the ground, so is the immortal essence or seed deposited in a sheath, as we may understand the spiritual body, and that invisible sheath or form composed of the finer grades of matter, though not visible to the physical sight, is nevertheless a grand reality to the eyes of the soul; and in the same way as the seed is deposited in the ground to germinate and develop, so is this subtle form of causation or causal body, attracted to a physical body as its environment in which to unfold; for just what the soil is to the seed so is the earth life and experience to the soul, the showers of tears and the Sun of joy being essential to stimulate and call forth its qualities otherwise unexpressed. Heat and cold, represented by the planets Mars and Saturn, also manifest upon it, and vibrations from without calling out vibrations from within, for within the seed is contained the divine life, and in the spiritual sheath is contained the germ of infinity to become in time, one with the Gods, as the Gods created man in their own image, and the terrestrial man is but a reflection of the divine Infinite.

In the first expression the soul is very liable to mistake the reflection for the reality, finding itself with a form of feeling sensitive to desire, emotion and the reflection in the lower planes of divine love, with a thought body, sensitive to all impacts of thought. The soul then identifies itself with the vehicle it uses and becomes attracted by objects of sensation; but as the soul goes onward in experience which is only obtained by pain and suffering, just as the moth is attracted to the flame, dazzled by its brightness until it drops exhausted, scorched by the cruel flame,

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and the soul awakens and becomes wiser by experience realized through sorrow and pain, eventually finds that those objects, once so attractive, do not give out to it any lasting happiness or real pleasure, and finally discovers that it has mistaken the shadows for the reality.

When the individual once awakens to the reality, and leaves off seeking the shadows of the objective, he is then impelled by the desire nature within him, and he begins the search for something more permanent and stable than the passional nature can give, and thus become identified with the mind body, and manifests under the higher Saturn, and Saturn, though ruler over the passions and emotions, is but one of the vehicles the immortal soul uses in its expression; just as the telegraph instrument may be utilized for transmitting a message, in a similar way does the soul use the physical brain for expression.

Then again we observe the soul in its pilgrimage through matter now seeks gratification through mental joys and mental pleasures, something that is relatively permanent and lasting when compared with sense objects, though still changeful and inconstant when compared with the life of the immortal soul, and in time the soul begins to realize that the mind thought is entirely dependent upon its organ, the brain, and can only be gratified for a certain period of time; that it becomes wearied and tired if too much thought and study in one particular direction be indulged in, and even here satiety and dissatisfaction is found, and for a certain period of time the thirst of the intellect is one that cannot be slaked, though the time will come when the soul realizes that this mind thought is but the instrument and not the player, and turns from intellectual study to prove if it may not be the self it seeks.

We observe that the soul begins to withdraw its attention first from sense objects and then from mental pursuits, and that it draws steadily from the circumference to the centre of being, and as the consciousness alowly and gradually widens and expands, it is natural at first for the individual to seek without, in space, which seems to him to hold the key of mystery and the spiritual light and truth, consults the various occult arts and metaphysical teachings, and various religious bodies in order to discover what they may have to disclose to him concerning the mysteries and secrets of his own soul and of universal immortal life, for he does not readily comprehend that he himself must seek within himself internally, not externally. He does not understand that all that is without is more clearly and vividly existing within.

The ancient teachers taught, the kingdom of heaven is within you, a grand and infinite truth, though it is difficult for this soul, inexperienced as it is, to feel that the God is within, only waiting the opportunities of manifestation, but must have the assistance of the individual in order

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to become recognized; for the going inward, meditating and aspiring, really means going upward for a higher consciousness, and this condition is conformed to a state of being that only awaits his readiness of response; for we may observe now that the soul, through the mind thought, is ready to detach itself from the external and transitory world, and gradually reach forward to the internal and permanent reality; or in other words, we may say the soul which has been expressing itself through the physical brain, sorely confined to the lower manifestations of consciousness, is now ready to unite itself with the higher and greater consciousness of itself, and as the brain cells cease thinking on their own account, thus allow the voice of the soul itself to be heard in the silence, for when the mind is no longer swept about by the lower desire thought or caught by the glitter of some worldly object, then it turns inward, and naturally seeks to blend itself with the soul, and the result is that the individual becomes equalized, and he stands face to face with himself and God; for the only way in which humanity may ever attain for themselves that first hand knowledge of their own souls, is through the higher influence of the Saturnian rays, which we find is serious concentration and silent meditation.

The Mind is the Shuttle of Destiny

H. C. HODGES.



He manifestations of the mind are thoughts and thoughts build up the aura about us and assist us to make our fate. We have given birth to these thoughts and are responsible for them. They react upon us and form habits, that is, a tendency

to act and think in a certain way and so create character. It this way the character represents the past and has control over the future. We cannot hope to escape the seed we have sown, and the conditions and environments of the life represent some of the seed sown in the past; the manner in which ye met the environments in which we may have found ourselves would generate a new force to the individuality.

It is true that all humanity is manifesting today amid the circumstances and conditions they have been instrumental in creating in past manifestation; still the surroundings are being changed for the future, and what a helpful and beautiful thought to hold in times of socalled affliction, that we are creating future, and can make of it what we will.

Thus we must realize that mankind is not altogether the slave of fate, but in so far as he creates thoughts he is master;; for the same mind that bound itself by desire, will, on the recognition of truth, break asunder its own chains; for all humanity is forging today, each hour, each moment, by thoughts, links of love that bring their friends about them; and at the same time, ties of hatred are being created, that will bind enemies with fetters so strong that it will be difficult to break them asunder except by pain, sorrow and distress.

The science of astrology, in its higher interpretations, unfolds to humanity the law of being and through its wonderful symbology teaches in a higher form one aspect of the wisdom of the Infinite.

In considering the interpretation of the symbol Mercury, the planet which rules the thought principle in man, let us recognize that if we would become masters of fate we must seek to become self-conscious, and learn to control the thoughts, endeavor to extricate the mind from all that tends to demoralize, cramp, limit and bind it, and while learning the lesson that life's experience teaches, resist to the utmost the alluring temptations of the desire, thought which would make of the God a slave.

Cause and effect are but the positive and negative poles of the same thing and are part of one another, and in the physical expression there has been much of perverted good as well as that which was not perverted. Thus when pain comes the individual can realize it is but a condition he has made for himself, and as he realizes this he will seek to attain knowledge. This makes all the difference in the attitude towards it, and while only self is to blame, even though the suffering continues, the individual must eventually perceive that he has incurred a debt that must be discharged; thus awakening to the cause of pain he resolves to clear up the account and to avoid error.

This divine science teaches that the life of each individual is in his own hands through the fact of Free Will, and he need never be a slave to circumstances, but through that right of the divinity enshrined within, all are free, possessing a perfect certainty in the divine scheme of evolution, to attain knowledge, to comprehend, to fit one's self in order to assist others, to realize and feel within one's self the power and the joy that springs from the certainty that one can help to be no longer mentally overwhelmed and crushed by the idea of the great problems of the universe, can pass this light on to one's fellowmen; to share the wisdom and joy found with others is to make life worth living even in the finite understanding.

Knowledge is power, the great lever to remove the weight of diffi-

culty, and when we realize that every pain that comes is for the purpose of calling the attention of the individual to the fact that a mistake has been made that must be righted if such pain is to be eradicated from his environments, then out of the socalled evils of the past will come a present good. Then by the very way these pains and sufferings are accepted is it possible to make of them stepping stones to the higher life and develop many of the qualities that go to make up the divine man of the future.

The divine science of Astrology is the only reasonable hypothesis which explains to mortal comprehension the mystery of life in all its phases, solves the great problems of the universe, and confers on man the power to teach, help and comfort others. Do not complain, but open the eyes to the light and see, for the light is all about. It is only necessary to remove that thick, heavy veil of ignorance. This light is ever shining and it is eternal.

> Let me but live my life from year to year, With forward face and unreluctant soul; Not hurrying to, nor turning from, the goal; Not mourning for the things that disappear In the dim past, nor holding back in fear From what the future wills; but with a whole And happy heart, that pays its toll To Youth and Age, and travels on with cheer.

-Henry Van Dyke.

A WISH.

By Charlotte deBorde Burgess.

But if I could from out the infinite I care not if the soil above my head store Be russet all the year; Reserve one seed of love Or if a carpeting of grass To plant within some heart, methinks And tender flowers appear My soul within the realms above To deck my grave: Though all unseen Or if it rise in graceful mound, Would sing through many eons praise Or, sunken, scar the earth: If it should thrive and grow, Its mute lips testify but this: Entwining with its fronded vine And flowers that heart to overflow To me a resting place and birth The infinite gave. My memory with green.

Psychic Research

All Communications to the American Psychical Research Society should be addressed to Dr. James H. Hyslop, Tribune Bldg., New York

SOME EXPERIENCES OF A PSYCHIC.

From "Problems of Psychical Research."

By Hereward Carrington.

The following case is one of the most remarkable of its kind I have ever read. So many incidents happened to the percipient in so many different localities that one is tempted to say "hallucination" immediately. But then there is the difficulty of the corroborative evidence!

The first account appeared in one of the New York daily papers. Subsequent correspondence follows. All the names are in my possession, but are suppressed by request. Here is the story as it originally appeared: A GHOST SEEN BY THREE IN

BROAD DAYLIGHT.

In the fall of 1888 we decided to leave the country for the winter months. A lady friend with two daughters joined us. We rented a house on Fayette street, near Gilmore, Baltimore, Md., and moved in.

About a month later, at 3 o'clock on a Sunday afternoon, I left our rooms on the second floor and ascended to the top floor I heard the door bell ring and waited midway on the stairs, leaning over the banisters to know if it were anyone to see me. I heard a familiar voice ask for my mother. Mary directed the visitor to our rooms on the second floor. She started up, still talking to Mary, and besides the two voices of the visitors, Mrs. K— and Mary, I heard a child's voice. As I leaned over as far as possible I could distinctly see a little boy following her, two steps behind, his little fat hand clutching the banisters. He appeared to be about four years old, wore a dark Norfolk jacket and black button shoes, a Byron white collar, blue tie, and soft hat, back on his head. His hair was light. I never dreamed that he was not living, breathing, healthy flesh and blood

On account of the stairs cutting off a direct view I only saw part of his face. I watched him up the first flight. There was a landing. a turn, and four steps to our door. I continued to the girls' room. When I reached their door their mother, Mrs. J—, came out, looked over my shoulder directly down to our door, got a full view of Mrs. K— standing there, and the boy beside her.

Mrs. J—— asked me who the boy was, remarked on his handsome appearance, and if I had taken the trouble to turn and look I should have had a perfect view of the child

Mother answered the knock and ushered (as she thought) two guests into the sitting room. She gave Mrs. K— a chair and turned to seat the little boy—but he had vanished!

I returned to our sitting room, greeted Mrs. K—, looked about anxiously for the boy, excused myself, and searched all the rooms downstairs, winding up in the kitchen with Mary. When Mary told me that she had admitted no boy, only Mrs. K----, I thought she was crazy, and she thought I was, because I insisted that Mrs. J---- and I had seen him.

I returned to Mrs. K---- and questioned her.

No, she had not seen the boy, and was unaware of the whole affair. Once more I mounted the stairs to Mrs. J's--- room.

She described the same boy that I had seen to the smallest detail. When mother opened the door she saw the boy distinctly; he followed them through a large room into the sitting room. She could have touched him at any time while he was in the room.

We found that no one ever lived long in the house, and we understood why the rent was cheap!

LILY F-.

I called on Miss F— a few days after reading this, to find that she had removed to Washington, D. C. I left a note, however, giving my name and address, and a week or so later received the following communication: Washington, D. C.

Mr. Hereward Carrington:

Dear Sir-I understand that you called at my former home in New York, to ask about the story published last winter. I am the only one living at present who saw the little boy on the stairs. My mother and Mrs. J----. the other two, have passed beyond. Mrs. J.s two daughters are still living and were in the house at the time, and no doubt remember the occurrence very well, as both were young ladies at the time. One is Mrs. Emma Lof Jessups, Maryland; the other one is Mrs. Walter G-, of Baltimore, Md. (Address can be obtained from Mrs. L-.) Both ladies could vouch for the story, as their mother saw the boy more clearly (full view) than I did. I saw him ascending the long flight of stairs. All happened in broad daylight.

The house is situated on Fayette street, three doors from G-, if I am not very much mistaken. We found out that people never remained long in the house. I know we only stayed a short time. I only saw the boy this once, but Mrs J-said she saw him in the parlor one evening looking out of the front window, and that he was very distinct against the light. I want to add that I never believed in "ghosts," never having been thrown with spiritualists. I had several strange experiences before the boy episode, and since that time have had many, all unsought, unexpected, and unaccountable. I am writing you the facts. We never imagined for one moment that the boy was not flesh and blood-a child in good health and happy, from his expression.

> Very respectfully, (Signed) LILLIAN F-----

SHALL WE LIVE AGAIN.

I feel in myself the future life. I am like a forest once cut down; the new shoots are stronger and livelier than ever. I am rising, I know, toward the sky The sunshine is on my head. The earth gives me its generous sap, but heaven lights me with the reflection of unknown worlds.

You say the soul is nothing but the resultant of the bodily powers. Why, then, is my soul more luminous when my bodily powers begin to fail? Winter is on my head, but eternal spring is in my heart. I breathe at this hour the fragrance of the lilacs, the violets and the roses, as at twenty years. The nearer I approach the end the plainer I hear around me the immortal symphonics of the worlds which invite me. It is marvelous, yet simple. It is a fairy tale, and it is history.

For half a century I have been writing my thoughts in prose and in verse, history, philosophy, drama, romance. tradition, satire, ode and song; I have tried all. But 1 feel I have not said the thousandth part of what is in me When I go down to the grave I can say like many others, "I have finished my day's work," but I cannot say, "I have finished my life." My day's work will begin again the next morning. The tomb is not a blind alley; it is a thoroughfare. It closes on the twilight, it opens on the dawn.—Victor Hugo.

RELIGION, LIKE MAN, HAS LOWLY ORIGIN.

"The Evolution of Religion" was the subject of a recent sermon by Rev. Dr. Eugene Rodman Shippen at the First Unitarian church, Detroit.

"Religion, like man himself, has very lowly origins," he asserted "As the animal through the ages gradually became human, so gross-superstitions are transformed in time into profound philosophies. Lovely flowers seem to have little in common with their humble seeds, but God is in the seed no less than in the flower.

"The blade stage of development is represented by supernaturalism or the theory of God as outside of the natural order, manifesting himself through miracle and special revelation and virgin-born envoys. This is intellectual immaturity. All religions pass through this stage in which mast is more or less the puppet of a far-off sovereign, usually an arbitrary despot. Absentee landlordism works no better theology than in economics.

"Naturalism, aware of the universal reign of law which leaves no room for miracle or any form of special manifestation, tends to exalt the mechanical and unconscious processes of nature. But insofar as naturalism neglects man's noblest instincts and interprets the universe in terms of law rather than love, it is destined to be supplanted by a higher stage, spirituality, which we may call the full corn in the ear. Spirituality denies no positive truth of naturalism but goes deeper, forcing the scientist to recognize spirit as the finest natural product of the universe Asceticism, which crucifies the flesh and the natural impulses, is a false or sham spirituality. The truly religious man makes his body serve his soul and insists that the machinery of life shall not exist for itself, but serve the common good. Every reformer, though he may not know it, is a spiritually minded man, serving ideals. Every discoverer or inventor is working with God. We are outgrowing the unspiritual creeds which despise man. We dare to believe that everyone is a possible Christ, for 'as many as are led by the spirit of God they are sons of God.'"

WE MEET AT ONE GATE.

* * * We meet at one gate

When all's over. The ways they are many and wide,

And seldom are two ways the same. Side by side

- May we stand at the same little door when all's done.
- The ways they are many, the end it is one.
- He that knocketh shall enter; who asks shall obtain;
- And who seeketh, he findeth.

* * * No stream from its source

- Flows seaward, how lonely soever its course.
- But what some land is gladden'd No star ever rose
- And set without influence somewhere. Who knows
- What earth needs from earth's lowest creature? No life
- Can be pure in its purpose and strong in its strife

And life not be purer and stronger

thereby.

- The army of martyrs who stand by the Throne
- And gaze into the face that makes glorious their own,
- Know this, surely, at last. Honest love, honest sorrow,
- Honest work for the day, honest hope for the morrow;
- Are these worth nothing more than the hand they make weary,
- The heart they have sadden'd, the life they leave dreary?
- Hush! The sevenfold heaven's to the voice of the Spirit
- Echo: "He that o'ercometh shall all things inherit."
- -From "Lucille"-Owen Meredith.

A TRUE INCIDENT.

Early evening. A young mother sitting before an open fire in the parlor, day-dreaming of love. Upstairs the little girl whom she has just tucked in bed. A little stirring in the room overhead, the mother's ear alert to listen. Then a patter of little feet upon the stair and along the hall, and the mother, through the portiere which separates the parlor from the dining-room, sees this childish Eve climb on a chair, take a big, rosy apple from the fruit dish in the center of the table, and patter back through the hall and slowly climb the stairs again.

It would have been easy to stop the theft before it was completed, or detect the culprit with her booty in her hand. But this is a wise mother. She does not care to stop the uncompleted theft or to detect the culprit and compel her to a shamefaced but reluctant confession. She wishes, not to stop the child from committing a sin, but to prevent her from becoming a sinner. She wishes, not to control her daughter, but to create in her daughter a power of self-control. She wishes any confession to be not compelled but voluntary, not reluctant but spontaneous. She waits and thinks. She is accustomed to think first

And as she waits, still all alert, she hears a stirring again in the room overhead, and again the patter of little feet upon the stair and along the hall. What? Is the child going to take another apple? No! she climbs into the chairs, puts the purloined apple back into the fruit dish,

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The spirits of just men made perfect on high,

and through the curtained doorway the gladdened mother hears the childish voice say softly, with what was half a sigh and half a chuckle, "That's one on you, Satan." And then the feet patter along the hall and climb the stairway, and all is still. And the mother is thankful in her heart that she did not follow her first impulse and interfere.

This true story, as it has been told to me, suggests the answer to certain questions which some of my Unknown Friends have lately put to me. For it contains four of the elements of life's continuous drama—temptation, sin, repentance, victory. The fifth element is not there—redemption. For the mother did not save the child; the child saved herself.—Lyman Abbott.

THE CREATIVE POWER OF THOUGHT.

Ralph Waldo Trine.

Of the vital power of thought and the interior forces in moulding conditions, and more of the supremacy of thought over all conditions, the world has scarcely the faintest grasp, not to say even idea, as yet. The fact that thoughts are forces, and that through them we have creative power, is one of the most vital facts of the universe. the most vital fact of mans being. And through this instrumentality we have in our grasp and as our rightful heritage, the power of making life and all its manifold conditions exactly what we will.

Through our thought-forces we have creative power, not in a figurative sense, but in reality. Everything in the material universe about us had its origin first in spirit, in thought, and from this it took its form. The very world in which we live, with all its manifold wonders and sublime manifestations, is the result of the energies of the divine intelligence or mind.— God, or whatever term it comes convenient for each one to use. And God said, Let there be, and there was,—the material world, at least the material manifestation of it, literally spoken into existence, the spoken word, however, but the outward manifestation of the interior forces of the Supreme Intelligence.

Every castle the world has ever seen was first an ideal in the architect's mind. Every statue was first an ideal in the sculptor's mind. Every piece of mechanism the world has ever known was first formed in the mind of the inventor. Here it was given birth to. These same mind-forces then dictated to and sent the energy into the hand that drew the model, and then again dictated to and sent the energy into the hands whereby the first instrument was clothed in the material form of metal or of wood. The lower negative always gives way to the higher when made positive. Mind is positive; matter is negative.

Each individual life is a part of, and hence is one with, the Infinite Life; and the highest intelligence and power belongs to each in just the degree that he recognizes his oneness and lays claim to and uses it. The power of the word is not merely an idle phrase or form of expression. It is a real mental, spiritual, scientific fact, and can become vital and powerful in your hands and in mine in just the degree that we understand the omnipotence of the thought forces and raise all to the higher planes.

The blind, the lame, the diseased,

stood before the Christ, who said, Receive thy sight, rise up and walk, or, be thou healed; and lo! it was so. The spoken word, however, was but the outward expression and manifestation of his interior thought-forces, the power and potency of which he so thoroughly knew But the laws governing them are the same today as they were then, and it lies in our power to use them the same as it lay in his.

THE PROBLEMS OF PSYCHICAL RESEARCH.

By Hereward Carrington.

Author of "Death: Its Causes and Phenomena;" "The Coming Science," "The Physical Phenomena of Spiritualism;" "Eusapia Palladino and Her Phenomena," etc.

This book discusses the problems of Psychical Research from a novel standpoint. Mr. Carrington assumes. for the sake of argument, that the main facts are established, and proceeds to discuss the interesting question: Granting their reality, how do these facts occur? Assuming telepathy, telekinesis, spirit-communication etc. really takes place, what are the details of the process? What is the nature of the intelligence lying behind and controlling the spiritistic explanation, at least as at present held, nor the ordinary psychological explanation, is adequate to explain the majority of the facts before us, which he considers are of too complicated a character to be susceptible of interpretation by any single simple hypothesis. Many new cases covering physical and mental phenomena are published for the first time in this work The book is theoretical and constructive in tone, and, on account of its speculative character, it is hoped that it may prove of value to future investigators. Published by William Rickey, New York. Price \$200 net.

A TRAVELING UNIVERSITY.

The latest and most picturesque extension is the traveling university inaugurated by the University of Minnesota It is a sort of academic mountain that goes to Mohammed, for it brings the lecture room almost to the doors of people who cannot find time to travel to the lecture room. Here is an idea that may well be emulated in other States, and especially in those commonwealths which have isolated and mountainous communities off the railway map.

The plan is quite simple. A section of the university, including faculty, students and equipment, is detached from headquarters and temporarily transferred to various parts of the State. The oiginal idea was to hold the lectures and demonstrations in tents, and hence the peripatetic college got the nickname of "the educational circus." It was found better, however, to hire halls or vacant buildings, which give immunity from the weather.

A whole week is devoted to a certain district, and is locally advertised as "university week." Half a dozen neighboring towns may profit by the presence of the traveling academy Each day is devoted to some special topic. The opening day, for example,

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is usually called "business men's day," with lectures on themes interesting and helpful to men in business, ranging from scientific commercial management to fighting forest fires. In the evening, there is a concert by the college glee club.

Another day is devoted to home welfare, and here is where the mothers, and the mothers-to-be get helpful instruction. There are illustrated talks on rational living, kindergartens. domestic economy, and a score of other subjects that enter into the conduct of the home.

Then there are public health days, farmers' days, when the great gospel of the new farming is shown in apt illustration, and days when the social life of town and country is interpreted graphically.

The results achieved by this educational innovation are regarded as highly satisfactory by those most familiar with its workings. The fact that there is a wide demand for a more extended circuit this year is only one evidence of its awakening effect. Everywhere it left in its wake a fresh. healthy, and enthusiastic interest in education It brought home with force and example the value of systematic training for young and old. In many sections boys' farming clubs were organized in connection with it. It opened the eyes of the old fogy who believed that the university is an aloof and undemocratic institution.

In short, this admirable movement is simply one more constructive step toward rural betterment. It helps to emphasize a fact already strongly impressed in some quarters of this vast country of ours-namely, that town and country are becoming one great community. Such things as the automobile, the good-roads movement, the trolley car, the telephone, the parcel post, and the traveling university are the welders.—Munsey's.

TO THE CLERGY OF THE UNITED STATES.

A Letter From the Secretary of the Church Peace Union.

Gentlemen-

Through the kindness of the press, I am taking this opportunity of addressing you concerning some matters in which you will be greatly interested, and of asking your kindly co-operation in the great cause of furthering international good will.

In the first place, the Church Peace Union has authorized me to offer to the churches five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in prizes for the best essays on international peace. The sum is apportioned as follows:

1. A prize of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the best monograph between 15,000 and 25,000 words for the best essays on any phase of international peace by any pastor of any church in the United States.

2. Three prizes, one of five hundred dollars \$500), one of three hundred dollars (\$300) and one of two hundred dollars (\$200), for the three best essays on international peace by students of the theological seminaries in the United States.

3. One thousand dollars (\$1,000) in ten prizes of one hundred dollars (\$100) each to any church member between twenty 20) and thirty (30) years of age.

4. Twenty (20) prizes of fifty dollars (\$50) each to Sunday school pupils between fifteen (15) and twenty 20) years of age.

5. Fifty (50) prizes of twenty dollars (\$20) each to Sunday school pupils between ten (10) and fifteen (15) years of age.

In the accomplishing of the desired results among the church members and the Sunday school pupils, and in the awarding of the prizes. The Church Peace Union will have to depend largely upon the assistance which the pastors can render. It is earnestly hoped that the pastors will make the announcement of these prizes in all of the churches and Sunday Schools of the United States. In competing for the prizes only one essay should be sent from each church and from each Sunday School, the essays of the local church and Sunday School being read by a local committee and the one winning essay forwarded.

It is hoped that from the thousand dollar (\$1,000) prize offered to clergymen one or more essays may be found which will be worthy, not only of the prize, but also of publication and distribution by the Foundation.

All essays must be in by January 1, 1915.

Further particulars about these prizes, as well as literature to be used in the preparation of the essays, and lists of books can be secured by addressing the Secretary of The Church Peace Union, Rev. Frederick Lynch, D. D., 70 Fifth avenue, New York City.

The churches of the country will be interested in knowing that a world conference of ministers interested in the peace movement has been called by The Church Peace Union for the first week in August (3d to 8tb), in Switzerland. The German Peace Church Council and the British Church Peace Council are arranging to carry a large number of delegates to this conference, and they hope to meet there many clergymen from It will be a rare oppor-America. tunity for the American clergymen to meet their European brethen. This conference will be of intimate nature rather than of the nature of a great public demonstration, but it is hoped that it may lead up to a great world congress of the churches in the near future. While the Union is asking the churches to appoint official delegates. and while several of the leading peace workers among the clergy have been especially asked by the Union to attend this conference, every clergyman traveling in Europe in August is not only invited most cordially to be present, but if he is interested in the great world movement toward closer brotherhood and good will and the union of the churches in all social reform, he is strongly urged to take part in the discussions. The only credentials demanded will be the desire to help the cause A great many American clergymen will be traveling in Europe this summer, and the Union earnestly hopes that they will adjust their tour so as to be in Switzerland for this first week in August. I would like to hear as soon as possible from any clergyman who is to be in Europe this summer and who would be interested in taking part in this gathering. It will be a very unique meeting, the first of its nature ever held, perhaps the beginning of a great movement. Whoever attends will have the opportunity of meeting some of the leading pastors of both Great Britain and the Continent.

(Signed) FREDERICK LYNCH, Secretary.

MYSTERY OF THE DIVINING ROD.

Few questions have aroused more interest and discussion than has that of whether or not there is 'anything" in the use of the divining rod as a means for discovering underground water or buried metals. Many communities, especially in pioneer days, have had their "water witches," who, with wands of hazel or beech, prospected for underground streams of water, to the entire satisfaction of themselves and their neighbors.

Usually these "witches" and their supporters insist that the magic wand never fails to locate a good stream of water near the surface, but skeptical minded, practical people find it difficult to believe that the wand has anything to do with locating it, arguing that similar results can be obtained merely by digging in a location that is convenient until water of the desired quantity and quality is found.

Scientific men in the past have generally regarded such means of locating water or metals underground as utterly foolish and unreliable, but experience in the realm of science of late has taught them to be more cautious in all matters concerning which they have no positive, definite knowledge, instead of the negative attitude of former times they are beginning to display more and more an unprejudiced interest in all classes of phenomena because they have learned that the realm of phenomena directly or indirectly accessible to man's senses is considerably greater than the scope of physics and chemistry as now understood.

So instead of pooh-poohing the divining rod as they have been wont to do in the past they have undertaken to give it a fair, intelligent study. A scientific investigation of the question has recently been made by a congress of scientific men at Halle, Germany, and a similar study and system of public demonstrations were also made in France. Although these studies and experiments disclosed nothing very positive they show a disposition on the part of the investigators to regard the problem from a scientific and practical standpoint.

E. K. Muller, of Zurich, some time ago made a number of interesting experiments with the divining rod which, while they give no perfect solution, yet indicate a method for further investigation and at the same time furnish substantiation for the theory so often advanced on various little-understood magnetic and electrical influences. These effects, it appears, are largely dependent on the susceptibility or lack of susceptibility of the operator.

In an experiment a brass pendulum suspended by a string and held over a copper plate connected with an electric cell was found either to be set to vibrating or be checked in its motion, depending on whether the charge of the plate was positive or negative. It was noted that similar effects could be obtained with the divining rod, depending on whether the plate was charged negatively or positively.

Two silver coins, when placed either singly or one on top of the other. were found to repel a whalebone divining rod and set in vibration a pendulum consisting of a watch chain. When the two coins were separated by placing between them two matches which served as a dielectric and made a sort of condenser of the combination, their effect on the pendulum and the divining rod was lost. By placing a thin thread in contact with the coins, however, the condenser effect was counteracted and the pendulum and wand displayed the phenomena as before.

The experimenters, by means of the rod, were able to ascertain the height above the floor of a piece of paper held at varying heights in the hands of a third person in an adjoining room. When the rod was above the paper it was found to turn upward, and when it was below, a similar deflection downward occurred. In similar experiments, by focussing his mind on a particular color, the operator was able to determine within half an inch the height above the floor at which flowers of that particular color were held in the adjoining room.

It was also found that the divining rod, by showing deflections, could be used for determining the position of magnetic poles The rod acted the same in every case in which the electrical conditions of the galvanic battery used in the experiment were identical. This was found true even when the holder of the rod was ignorant of the electrical condition.

From the tests made the conclusion

is drawn that certain Dersons are more susceptible than others to the peculiar influences which appear to operate in the use of the divining rod. It is further deducted that the nervous system in certain conditions of excitement is far more sensitive and its faculties are much greater than has ever been suspected. Although it is not proved or disproved that water or metals underground can be successfully found by means of the divining rod, yet it is shown that the rod is influenced by electrical and magnetic forces in a way that might make its use for that purpose less foolish or questionable than has hitherto been supposed .- Pathfinder.

THE CONQUEST OF FAMINE.

The literature of the ancient world is full of records of famine and pestilence, the latter having, as we now know, an intimate relation to the causes that produce the former. Today, famine and pestilence are known almost exclusively in regions that have not been modernized.

The balance between what a community produces and what it consumes is so close that it doesn't need anything like a total crop failure to make a famine, if the afflicted community is compelled to depend entirely on its own resources. This summer the hot winds from the southwest parched a great section of the prairie States and lopped off an appalling fraction of the year's yields; but there will be no famine The worst stricken communities will record a "bad year," but people will not starve, there will be no plague, and society will not have its

foundations shaken by economic chills.

This twentieth century world is a huge economic co-operative organization. Kansas helps feed New York, Argentina and Australia provide meat and wheat for London, India ships grain to Europe, and so on. Famine as the ancient world knew it isn't possible, because the world's stock is getatable for the uses of the world. If Kansas and Oklahoma are short in their surplus for New York, Canada will make it good. Crops don't fail everywhere at once; the yearly averages for the whole world are wonderfully uniform in volume and in the gradual increase that meets the needs of growing population.

If the Mississippi basin of this dry year 1913 were the Mesopotamia of two thousand years ago, there would be famine, because surpluses on the other side of the world couldn't be shifted to the point of stress. As it is, the farmers of our Mesopotamia will cuss the weather rather less genially than usual, conserve their gasoline a bit, wear tires a little longer, and wait till next year's big crop, with a possible shortage in other regions, gives them a chance to get even.

Not a wholly bad century, this twentieth!-Editorial, Munsey.

OLD YARN WITH A NEW TWIST.

The talk topic at a recent social session switched to the rising generation, when Joseph E Willard, the new Minister to Spain, looked up with an amused smile. He said he was reminded of an incident that happened in a country school.

"Some time ago a small boy played truant, and when he got back on the job next day he handed the following note to the teacher:

"'Dear Teacher—Please excuse James for not being at school yesterday, and don't lick him. The boy he bagged school with licked him, and the man they threw stones at licked him, and the man whose dog they chased licked him, and the driver whose cart they climbed on licked him, and when he came home I licked him, and when his father came home he licked him. He thinks he will attend regular in the future. Yours,

"'MARY SMITH.'

"After that letter the teacher was merciful and Jimmy was permitted to run out and play with no further damage to his hide. In the yard he met a chum.

"'Say, Tommy,' he remarked in a gleeful way, 'ain't I dead lucky?"

"'Why," was the quick response of Tommy, "because the teacher didn't lick ye?"

"'No,' smiled Jimmy, 'because I can write just like mother'"-Philadelphia Telegraph.

THE POWER OF SUGGESTION.

The summer sun was blazing fiercely down upon the wide, white, glaring street. Before one of the cottages, just outside the curbstone, there had been left for some reason a beautiful pile of sand. In the midst of the pile a little brown-haired maiden of five years plied her toy shovel and piled and patted the sand until she had made a small round pillar nearly as high as her waist. Then she stopped a minute, regarded her work approvingly, and said in a tone of perfect satisfaction, "Now, I'll make his head."

At this point there came an anxious voice from the piazza: "Clara May! Clara May! What are you doing out there in the hot sun? You'll get a sunstroke and that is no place for you to play, anyway!"

Clara May gave the pillar of sand one more deft little pat. Then she turned toward the piazza with a lovely smile on her flushed perspiring face. Her voice was as clear and sweet as the tinkling of sleigh bells on a frosty moonlight evening. "Oh, no, Auntie dear, I'm not any warm at all; I'm making a snow man "-Mary Potter Angell, in Womans Home Companion.

MEDICINES OF THE GARDEN.

Every vegetable garden is a medicine chest full of remedies that are recognized by physicians as of considerable value in the treatment of various diseases. Onions, for example, contain sulphur oil, and are recommended for insomnia and as an aid to gastric digestion. They should have a prominent place in the diet of sufferers from rheumatism, for they help to allay the pains.

Turnips and parsnips both have peculiar oily principles which are of value as an aperient and diuretic. It is also claimed that they are good for coughs and hoarseness.

Potatoes contain solanin, which has certain diuretic properties.

The sulphur compound which it contains makes cabbage excellent in cases of scurvy and scrofula.

Spinach has iron in organic form, and is useful as a laxative on account of its fine indigestible fiber.

Carrots are useful for correcting derangements of the liver. They are also excellent as a dressing for painful wounds and swellings.

The tomato exercises medicinal effects which are not completely explained by the presence of alkaline salts. There is a principle present which when taken in a concentrated state produces salivation and a free stimulation of the liver.

THE AWAKENING.

Mabel Gifford Shine. Another day! Grey, chill, dreary; A depressing day. Another round of duties: A monotonous round: Everyday a repetition. The use of it? Is this life? All of life For me? A stagnation; Weariness added to weariness, Mind and body drained; No time for growth or play; Just helping others to enjoy, To do, to grow.

Another day! Grey, dim, mysterious;

THE STELLAR RAY

I await the splendid miracle; The daily glory that attends us. Hushed in Earth In awed expectancy; A soft breath stirs the forest; A far, joyous note Heralds the coming; A single beauteous star Looks down and keeps tryst With the King of Day. Once again God has spoken. "Let there be light," And there is light; Earth is flooded With its glorious rays.

Thanksgiving and praise To Him who sends us light. Life is so sweet! Blessings manifold Shower upon me. To breathe this air, To see, To hear, To thrill!

And to be near Those who love me: Those whom I love: To have a part In their day. And they in mine; To add some brightness, Some joys, At least some comfort: What in life is dearer? Tis not the deed But the love that inspires it. ' Gives service sweetness. I'll make a new song, Sweeter than all before, And sing it to them In a deed of love.

A NEW DAY.

Each morning is a fresh beginning. We are, as it were, just beginning life. We have it entirely in our own hands. and when the morning with its fresh beginning comes, all yesterdays should be yesterdays, with which we have nothing to do. And again, when the morning with its fresh beginning comes, all tomorrows should be tomorrows, with which we have nothing to do. Sufficient to know that the way we live our today determines our tomorrow.

Simply the first hour of this new day, with all its richness and glory, with all its sublime and eternity—determining possibilities, and each succeedng hour as it comes, but not before it comes. This is the secret of character-building. — Ralph Waldo Trine.

HIS SEVEN AGES.

The seven ages of man have been well tabulated by somebody or other on an acquisitive basis, thus:

First age-Sees the earth.

Second age-Wants it.

Third age-Hustles to get it.

Fourth age-Decides to be satisfied with only about half of it.

Fifth age-Becomes still more moderate.

Sixth age- Now content to possess a six-by-two strip of it.

Seventh age-Gets the strip-Louisville Courier-Journal.

NATURE'S ABHORRENCE.

The physics instructor in a Texas high school was teaching a German girl whose vocabulary was not very extensive.

"What is a vacuum?" he asked.

"I have it in my head, but I can't express it,' was the reply.—Lottie S. Saylor in Woman's Home Companion.

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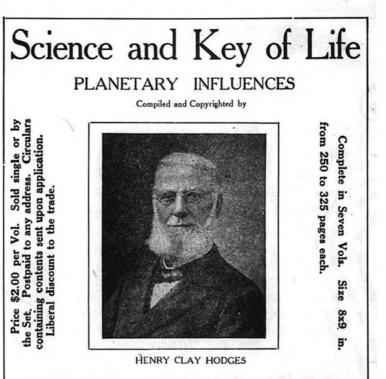
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