



The Straggling ASTROLOGER

OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY;

OR, MAGAZINE OF
Astrology, Geomancy, and Occult Philosophy.

COMPRISING

The ancient Practice of raising Spirits, and invoking the Dead.

Apparitions, Visions, and extraordinary Dreams.

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An easy Introduction to the celestial Science of Astrology.

The art of setting a Figure to any time proposed.

The art of casting a Nativity, and resolving all lawful Horary Questions relative to the Fate of both Sexes.

Monthly Prognostications and Predictions.

An Explanation of the Oriental Science of Geomancy, upon which no Author has written for 150 years.

With a variety of important and interesting Matter not to be found in any other Publication.

BY

The Members of the Mercurii,
THE EDITOR OF THE PROPHETIC ALMANACK,
AND OTHER CELEBRATED ASTROLOGERS.

By his Spirit he has garnished the heavens.---JOB.

For Heaven

Is as the Book of God before thee set,

Wherein to read his wondrous works.---MILTON.



HIEROGLYPHIC—No. XXIV.

No. 18. Oct. 2, 1824.—Three-pence.

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The Weekly Astrological Calendar:

FOUNDED ON CELESTIAL INFLUENCE.

From Oct. 2, to Oct. 9, 1824, inclusive.

For Fortune, at some hours, to all is kind:
 The lucky have whole days, which still they choose;
 The unlucky have but hours, and those they lose.---**DRYDEN.**

- Oct. 3. The evening of the day favourable for love and wedlock. The child born this day will be very fortunate in business, and will be enriched by marriage.
4. The afternoon of this day is exceedingly evil, and as the evening comes on, it becomes more malevolent. There will be numerous accidents, robberies, and offences committed. Those who have to travel cannot expect to escape vexation, if they do not experience bodily harm. The child born will be in great danger of death—before the first year is over; and if born near midnight, will not live six weeks.
5. Indifferent, to good or evil.
6. This day is fleeting in benefit, and produces treachery. The child born, will be in danger by water.
7. The afternoon of this day is truly fortunate, especially from 4 to 7 in the evening. All kinds of business will prosper. Trade and speculations will be successful. Travelling quick and expeditious. Lottery tickets purchased will be likely to become prizes. The child born this afternoon will arrive to great honour and riches, and become either a profound philosopher, great merchant, or very eminent person.
8. No affair of secrecy will prosper.

ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS.

- October 2. ☾ ☉ ☿ three quarters past twelve o'clock at night, in **Libra**.
3. Opposition of **Saturn** and **Mars** from **Gemini** and **Sagittarius**, a little before midnight.
4. Moon in Apogee.
5. **Venus** enters the sign **Scorpio**, four o'clock in the morning.

PREDICTIONS

FROM THE APPROACHING OPPOSITION OF SATURN AND MARS.

THE chief feature in the heavens for this week, is the opposition of the two infortunes, **Saturn** and **Mars**, from the ominous signs **Gemini** and **Sagittarius**. This will cause a number of suicides, sudden deaths, severe sicknesses, casualties, accidents of various sorts, particu-

larly cuts, bruises, and hurts to the arms, hands, legs, and extremities, inflammatory diseases, dangerous fires, losses in mercantile pursuits, bankruptcies, accidents at sea, piracies, flying rumours, and various minor evils. From the figure of the heavens at the time this malevolent aspect takes place, vexatious litigation, quarrels, and disputes, are very probable; also some disaster or trouble among the clergy. The evil will mostly affect persons in public offices, and especially in military or naval. Some very *reputed* rich person becomes reduced, and discharges his numerous establishment. Another person of exalted rank in society is scandalized, and materially injured. Many deaths amongst youthful persons. Losses in theatrical life, if not casualties or deaths; and tremendous losses by gambling and speculating are particularly likely.

Those persons who are born under the 15th to the 21st degree of **Leo**, must expect to be terribly agitated by this evil aspect. The truth of which they will learn by experience, if they are in possession of their nativities; the cause of which is a secret in astrology never yet made public. Those persons who are born under 15 to 25 degrees of **Cancer**, will receive much benefit from the aspect, and will even be amazingly prosperous during this and the following week; they will however have relations near death.

A most singular piece of villany seems now to be hatching, which, when found out, will astonish most classes of society. The evil will most probably be frustrated through a person revealing the intelligence, which person will be described by **Mars** in Sagittarius.

Several predictions of the **ROYAL MERLIN** are now being fulfilled.

The stars in their courses fought against Sisera.

Raphael.

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VERIFICATION OF PREDICTIONS, AND POSSIBILITY OF FOREKNOWLEDGE.

TO RAPHAEL.

SIR,

I THANK you sincerely for the observations you kindly gave me in your answer to my request. Every prediction, save one, has already been accomplished in the fate of the youth whose geniture you inspected. Unfortunate from his infancy, when about six years of age, he received the blow over the left eye as you wonderfully informed me. When about twelve years of age, he fell from a very high horse; and throughout the whole of his life, he has been the ball of misfortune, and the laughing-stock of adversity. Evil has always walked by his side, and satire characterizes all he says. This is indeed precisely the character you considered him to be from his geniture. Indeed, sir, I am surprised at the exact correspondence between your prophecy, and the actual facts. May the work in which you write most widely spread, and may it be in

the hands of every man of sense, science, and learning, which is my most ardent desire; and I am confident, that in a few years we shall see the science of astrology the most popular, and the most authentic of all sciences.

An immediate insertion of this I beg leave to request in the pages of the "Astrologer;"

And remain your obedient servant,

COUNT ADELPHI SUMADARTSON.

Bath, Sept. 23, 1824.

Astronomical Tables.

(Continued from page 262.)

TABLE II.

Places of Mars for Jan. Feb. March, & April, 1825.

1825.		δ	
		deg.	min.
Jan. 1.	-	15	39
7.	-	20	21
13.	-	25	4
19.	-	29	48
25.	-	4	30
Feb. 1.	-	9	59
7.	-	14	41
13.	-	19	21
19.	-	24	0
25.	-	28	39
March 1.	-	1	43
7.	-	6	19
13.	-	10	54
19.	-	15	27
25.	-	19	58
April 1.	-	25	13
7.	-	29	40
13.	-	4	6
19.	-	8	31
25.	-	12	53

(To be continued.)

An Introduction to Astrology:

IN ITS THREE PRINCIPAL PARTS,

HORARY, GENETHLIACAL, AND MUNDANE.

THE most noble and celestial science of ASTROLOGY may be defined to be the art of *foreknowing* and *predicting* future events by the motions, positions, and influences of the heavenly bodies; and other celestial phenomena, deduced from rational and experimental observations, made by the most wise philosophers in all ages, and in most parts of the civilized world. And it is no small honour to this celestial science, that the greatest poets and philosophers of all ages have been amongst its firmest votaries.

Thus CHAUCER, the father of English poetry, writes—

For in the stars clearer than is the glass
Is written, God wot, whoso could it read,
The dethe of every man withoutin drede.
In starrs many a winter there before
Was writt the deth of Hector, Achilles,
Of Pompey, Julius, or they were bore;
The strife of Thebis, and of Hercules,
Of Samson, Turnus, and of Socrates,
The dethe; but that men's witts ben so dull
That no wight can well rede it at the full.

MAN OF LAWES' TALE.

HOMER, VIRGIL, SHAKSPEARE, DRYDEN, MILTON, and CHATTERTON, and of late years many first-rate poets, have deemed it nothing irrelevant to set forth the excellence of Judicial Astrology. And the inspired writers declare, that the heavenly bodies were created “for signs, seasons, days, and years:” that “the stars in their courses fought against Sisera;” and, that “the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handy work.”

Heaven's golden Alphabet---
And he that runs may read.

YOUNG.

At the request of numerous correspondents in the higher circles of society, we have undertaken the present introduction to Astrology, which will be a complete system of the art in its different branches, so placed as to be valuable to the inquiring student, and a desideratum to the most experienced of inquirers; it being our aim to give every possible explanation in the simplest manner, but nothing superfluous.

The first thing which should be learned in this science are the characters made use of by astronomers, as follow:—

CHARACTERS OF THE PLANETS.

♄ Herschel.	♄ Saturn.	♃ Jupiter.	♂ Mars.	☉ Sol, or the Sun.
♀ Venus.	♂ Mercury.	☾ Luna, or the Moon.		

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ASPECTS.

♌	Conjunction,	the same sign, degree, and minute in longitude.
*	Sextile,	2 signs, or 60 deg.
□	Square,	3 signs, or 90 deg.
Δ	Trine,	4 signs, or 120 deg.
♐	Opposition,	6 signs, or 180 deg.

AND THE NEW ASPECTS.

The Semiquartile,	45 deg.
Quintile,	72 deg.
Sesquiquadrate,	135 deg.
Biquintile,	144 deg.

There are also three other characters requisite to be known :

♈	Dragon's Head.	♏	Dragon's Tail.
⊕	Part of Fortune.		

Previous to the student proceeding any farther, it will be necessary for him to learn the above characters perfectly by heart, or at least to be able to know them, and distinguish them, when requisite. Having learnt this important part of the science, which, like the four rules of Arithmetic, and the quantities of Algebra, will prove the *primum mobile* of future knowledge, the student will next have his attention called to the

Zodiac,

Or the path of the planets through the heavens, which forms an imaginary belt, or circle, about 18 degrees in breadth, and is divided into the twelve signs—**Aries**, the Ram; **Taurus**, the Bull; **Gemini**, the Twins; **Cancer**, the Crab; **Leo**, the Lion; **Virgo**, the Virgin; **Libra**, the Balance; **Scorpio**, the Scorpion; **Sagittarius**, the Archer; **Capricornus**, the Goat; **Aquarius**, the Water-bearer; **Pisces**, the Fishes. And they are noted on globes, &c. in the following manner :

Aries.	Taurus.	Gemini.	Cancer.	Leo.	Virgo.
♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍
Libra.	Scorpio.	Sagittarius.	Capricornus.	Aquarius.	Pisces.
♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓

The former six are called *northern*, and the latter *southern* signs, because the former possess that half of the Ecliptic which lies to the northward of the Equinoctial; and the latter, that which lies to the southward.

The northern, are our summer signs. The southern, our winter ones.

These twelve signs answer to the twelve months of the year; and it is probable that their astrological efficacy or significations were discovered to the natives of the oriental regions by the following observations.

The first sign **Aries** denotes, that about the time when the Sun enters into that part of the Ecliptic, the lambs begin to follow the sheep. On the Sun's approach to the second constellation, **Taurus**, the Bull, the cows are about to bring forth their young. The third

sign, **Gemini**, was originally two kids, and signified the time of the goats bringing forth, as these animals generally produce two at a birth, while the former, the sheep and the cow, commonly produce only one.

The fourth sign **Cancer**, the Crab, an animal that goes sideways, and backwards, was placed at the northern solstice, the point where the Sun begins to return back again from the north to the southward.

The fifth sign, **Leo**, the Lion, as being a very furious animal, was thought to denote the heat and fury of the burning Sun, when he has left Cancer, and entered the sign Leo.

The succeeding constellation, the sixth in order, received the Sun at the time of ripening corn, and approaching harvest; which was aptly expressed by one of the female reapers, with an ear of corn in her hand, viz. **Virgo**, the Maid, or Virgin. *Libra*

The ancients gave to the next sign, **Scorpio**, two of the twelve divisions of the Zodiac. Autumn, which affords fruits in great abundance, affords the means and causes of diseases, and the succeeding time is the most unhealthy of the year, expressed by this venomous animal, here spreading out his long claws into one sign, as threatening mischief, and in the other brandishing his tail, to denote the completion of it.

The fall of the leaf was the season of the ancient hunting; for which reason, the stars which marked the Sun's place at this season, into the constellation **Sagittary**, a huntsman with his arrows and his club, the weapons of destruction for the large creatures he pursued. The reason of the wild goat's being chosen to mark the southern solstice, **Capricorn**, when the Sun has attained his extreme limit that way, and begins to return and mount again to the northward, is obvious enough; the character of that animal being that it is mostly climbing and ascending some mountain as it browses.—There yet remains two signs of the Zodiac to be considered, with regard to their origin, viz. **Aquarius** and **Pisces**. As to the former, it is to be considered that the winter is a wet and uncomfortable season; this, therefore, was expressed by **Aquarius**, the figure of a man pouring out water from an urn.

The last of the Zodiacal constellations was **Pisces**, a couple of Fishes tied together, that had been caught; the lesson was, the severe season is over, your flocks do not yet yield their store, but the seas and rivers are open, and there you may take fish in abundance.

(To be continued.)

EXTRAORDINARY DIVISION OF TIME.

ELFRED, a king of the West Saxons, here in England, designed the day and night, equally divided into three parts, to three especial uses, and observed them by the burning of a taper set in his chapel. Eight hours he spent in meditation and reading; eight hours in provision for himself, his repose and health; and the other eight about the affairs of his kingdom.

Ba Chron. p. 332.

Geomancy.

FIGURE FOR OCTOBER 1824.

8.	7.	6.	5.	4.	3.	2.	1.
00	0	0	00	0	00	0	00
0	00	0	0	0	0	0	0
00	0	0	00	0	0	00	0
00	0	0	0	00	00	0	00

12.	11.	10.	9.
0	0	0	0
0	00	00	00
0	0	00	0
0	00	00	0

14.	13.
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17.

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PREDICTIONS FOR OCTOBER FROM THE FIGURE.

Conjunctio ascending denotes the month will be busy, active, and remarkable. Much news and rumours, both true and false; and the evil positions of **Cauda** in the fourth house, and **Rubeus**, in the house of death, are symbolical of heavy calamities, sudden deaths, murders, suicides, robberies, duels, quarrels, and many fatalities. These figures foreshew the ruin of many an upstart, and will pull down the pride of many pretenders. A clergyman, a religious votary, seems ensnared in the wills of a fair devotee, devoted to love as well as holiness. Whispers are abroad concerning it, but **Plutus** opens his coffers, and all for a time goes on well. The heartless **Amissio**, in the eleventh house, will deceive many in their fondest expectations. But yet there are some who, born under more genial influence, will be amazingly prosperous.

Alfred.

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Geomancy.

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8.	7.	6.	5.	4.	3.	2.	1.
00	0	0	00	0	00	0	00
0	00	0	0	0	0	0	0
00	0	0	00	0	0	00	0
00	0	0	0	00	00	0	00
12.		11.		10.		9.	
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0		00		00		00	
0		0		00		0	
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	14.				13.		
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Alfred.

Anecdotes of the Dead.

(Continued from p. 267.)

SUDDEN DESTRUCTION TO A YOUNG MAN THROUGH RAISING A SPIRIT.

CORNELIUS AGRIPPA living in Lorrain, had a young man who lived with him. One day being to go abroad, he left the keys of his study with his wife, but with great charge to keep them safe, and trust them to no man.

The youth over-curious of novelty, never ceased to importune the woman, till she had lent him the key, to view the library. He entered it, and took out a book of magical conjurations, wherein reading, he straight hears a great bouncing at the door, but not minding that, he reads on: the knocking grew greater and louder; but he making no answer, an evil spirit breaks open the door and enters, inquires what he commands him to have done, or why he was called?

The youth amazed, and through extreme fear not able to answer, the spirit seizes upon him, and writhes his neck asunder.

Agrippa returns, and finds the young man dead, and the devil insulting over his corpse; he retires to his art, and calls the spirit to an account of what had been done, who told him all that had passed; when he commanded the homicide to enter the body, and walk with him into the market-place, where the students were frequent, and after two or three turns there, to forsake the body: the spirit did so, the students imagined the death to have occurred through some sudden fit of apoplexy, but the marks about his neck and jaws rendered it somewhat suspicious.

Agrippa concealed this story in Lorrain: but being banished thence, he afterward feared not to publish it.—*Schot. Phys. Curios.* l. 1. p. 177.

PRODIGY PRESAGING THE DESTRUCTION OF THE JEWS.

Josephus sets down this as a prodigy presaging the destruction of the Jews. "There was," saith he, "one Jesus, son of Ananias, a countryman of mean birth, four years before the war against the Jews, at a time when all was in deep peace and tranquillity, who coming up to the Feast of Tabernacles, according to the custom, began on a sudden to cry out and say, 'A voice from the east, a voice from the west, a voice from the four winds, a voice against Jerusalem and the Temple, a voice against bridegrooms and brides, a voice against all the people.' Thus he went about all the narrow lanes, crying night and day: and being apprehended and scourged, he still continued the same language under the blows, without any other word.

And they upon this, supposing (as it was) that it was some divine motion, brought him to the Roman prefect: and by his appointment being wounded by whips, and his flesh torn to the bones, he neither entreated, nor shed a tear; but to every blow, in a most lamentable manner and mournful note, cried out, 'Woe, woe to Jerusalem!'

This he continued to do till the time of the siege, seven years together : and at last, to his extraordinary note of woe to the city, the people, the temple, adding, '*Woe also to me !*' a stone from the battlements fell down upon him and killed him !" — *Jos. Jewish Wars*, l. 7. p. 738.

EXTRAORDINARY AND FATAL DREAMS PRESAGING THE DEATH OF
KING WILLIAM RUFUS.

The night before King William the Second was killed, a certain monk dreamed that he saw the king gnaw the image of Christ crucified with his teeth ; and that as he was about to bite away the legs of the same image, Christ with his feet spurned him down to the ground ; and that, as he lay on the earth, there came out of his mouth a flame of fire, with abundance of smoke. This being related to the king by Robert Fitz-Hammon, he made a jest of it, saying, " This monk would fain have something for his dream ; go, give him a hundred shillings, but bid him look that he dream more auspicious dreams hereafter."

Also the same night the king himself dreamed, that the veins of his arms were broken, and that the blood issued out in great abundance ; and many other like passages there were, by which it seems he had friends somewhere (as well as Julius Cæsar) that did all they could to give him warning : but that as Cæsar's, so his evil genius would not suffer him to take it ; for King William, notwithstanding he was forewarned by many signs, would go out a-hunting in the New Forest : yet something moved with the many presages, he stayed within all the forenoon ; but about dinner-time an artificer came, and brought him six cross bow arrows, very strong and sharp, whereof four he kept to himself, and the other two he delivered to Sir Walter Tyrrell, a knight of Normandy, his bow-bearer, saying, " Here, Tyrrell, take you two, for you know how to shoot them to good purpose." And so having at dinner drank more liberally than his custom, as it were in contempt of presages, out he rides to the New Forest, where Sir Walter Tyrrell shooting at a deer, at a place called Charingham, the arrow glanced against a tree, or, as some say, grazed upon the back of the deer, and flying forward, hit the king upon the breast, with which he instantly fell down dead.

Thus died William Rufus, in the forty-third year of his age, and the thirteenth of his reign ; his body was drawn in a collier's cart, with one horse, to the city of Winchester, where the day following he was buried in the cathedral church of St. Swithin. — *Bak. Chron.* p. 53, 54.

EXTRAORDINARY DREAM TO MARGARET, QUEEN OF FRANCE.

The night before Henry the Second, King of France, was slain, Queen Margaret his wife dreamed that she saw her husband's eye put out. There were jousts and tournaments at that time, into which the Queen besought her husband not to enter, because of her dream, but he was resolved, and there did things worthy of himself. When almost all was now done, he would needs run the tilt with a knight who refused him ; his name was Montgomery ; the king was bent upon it ; they shivered their lances in the course, and a splinter of one of them took the

king so full in the eye, that he thereby received his death wound.—*Ibid.* p. 475.

WARNING OF DEATH TO THE THEBAN TYRANT.

Acebias, the Theban tyrant, being at a feast, where were present all kinds of merriment and mirth, there was brought to him a letter, wherein he was certified of a plot that was upon his life: he never read it, but gave orders, that as a thing serious it should be deferred to the morrow, but neglecting that warning, he did not live to read it, for he was slain that night.—*Zuin. Theat.* vol. 3. p. 698.

APPARITION OF A SPIRIT TO MARTIN LUTHER.

Melancthon relates, that there came a monk to Luther's house, and with great violence knocked at the door; the servant opened it, and inquired what he wanted? He asked if Luther was at home? Luther being informed, bade him come in, for he had not seen a monk for a long time. He told him that he had some papistical errors, about which he desired some conference with him, and propounded some syllogisms, which Luther having solved with ease, he offered others that were not so easily solved.

Luther, somewhat angry, broke into these words, "You give me a great deal of trouble, for I have other business in hand, that I should despatch." And withal rising from his seat, he shewed the explication of that point which was urged by the monk: and in this conference perceiving that the monk's hands were like the claws of a bird, "Art thou he, then?" said he, "listen to that sentence which is pronounced against thee." And straight Luther shewed him that place in Genesis, "*The seed of the woman shall break the head of the serpent;*" and then added, "nor shalt thou devour them all." The devil, overcome with this saying, angry, and murmuring to himself, departed, leaving a stench in the room, which continued for many days after.—*Wier. de Præstig. Demon.* p. 54. c. 17.

APPEARANCE OF A SPIRIT AT DANBURY CHURCH, ESSEX.

At Danbury church, in Essex, the devil appeared in the habit of a minorite, to the incredible astonishment of the parishioners; and at that time there was such a terrible tempest, with lightnings, thunder, and fire-balls, that the vault of the church was broken, and half of the chancel was carried away.—*Speed's Hist.* p. 628.

EXTRAORDINARY JUDGMENT.

At Fribourg, a town in Misnia, are yet the footsteps to be seen of a stubborn son, who could not be removed from the place where he stood, till he died of the plague; with whose disobedience his father being one time exceedingly provoked, had prayed God, he might never stir from the place he was then in, while he lived.—*Camer. Oper. Subcisio.* p. 399.

(To be continued.)

APHORISMS RELATING TO HUSBANDRY.

From Guido Bonatus.

(Continued from p. 246.)

Saturn in fixed signs causes scarcity of corn, dear years, and the death of many men.

When trees blossom they are most apt to be affected with injuries from the heavens, for then they are like teeming women, and when they have put out their fruits, like nurses giving suck; and therefore, if eclipses happen whilst a tree is so blooming, it most times causes a scarcity of that kind of fruit that year; and indeed the plenty of corn and fruit is not much discovered from the revolution of the world, as from the temperature of the air, in moisture, dryness, or inequality, as also from the new and full moons, and risings of the stars and eclipses, especially happening then, whilst things respectively blossom.

A malevolent planet being lord of the year, though fortunate, generally hurts all fruits of the earth, but those particularly signified by himself.

Astrological Aphorisms relating to general Accidents.

FROM THE SAME AUTHOR.

Saturn obtains kingdoms or supremacy of power by labour, fraud, and infamy; **Mars**, by valour, rapine, and cruelty; but **Jupiter**, by justice, and great opinion of goodness and honesty.

When **Saturn** is in Libra, and **Jupiter** in Cancer, great changes and alterations shall happen in the world.

For discovering such grand mutations we should well consider the great, mean, and lesser conjunctions of the planets in the several Trigrams, the removes of the superiors from one sign to another, as also their applications to the fixed stars.

Likewise the changes of the *absides* of the planets cause mutations in governments and laws, which is a point very much to be regarded.

Mercury, with an unfortunate planet in the eleventh, denotes the establishment of some severe or unjust laws in the world.

A conjunction of **Mars** and **Saturn**, in the sixth or eighth houses, especially in a humane sign, signifies a great pestilence.

When in the radix of any city, **Mars** shall be in the mid-heaven, the inhabitants will be inclinable to sedition; if **Saturn** be there, they will be very mischievous, yet very laborious.

If wars be signified, note the angle or part of the figure wherein **Mars** is posited, for from that part the enemies shall come.

ASTROLOGICAL CAUSES OF THE DREADFUL STORM IN THE
NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 7, 1824.

To the Editor of "The STRAGGLING ASTROLOGER."

SIR,

I HAVE taken the liberty of sending you the scheme of the planets' places at the time of that tremendous storm of rain, thunder, and lightning, last Wednesday morning, with some remarks thereon. If you think it worthy of insertion in your valuable publication, you will oblige

Your reader and admirer,

W. K.

Sept. 15, 1824.

PLANETS' PLACES, SEPT. 8, 1824, 0h. 30m. past midnight.

♄ 11. 55. ♍ R. ♃ 7. 44. ♀. ♃ 4. 20. ♄. ♂ 19. 47. ♀
♀ 26. 17. ♀. ♂ 12. ♄. ☉ 9. 38. ♄. ☉ 15. 13. ♀
Ascendant 22. 0. ♄. Mid-heaven 23. 0. ♄.

The above is the scheme of the planetary positions at the time of the dreadful storm, and which plainly shews the wonderful works of God.

The watery sign Cancer, ascending; the Moon in Pisces, another watery sign, and applying to a trine of Mars in Mundo, who is in Scorpio, also of the watery trigon. The Moon is also applying to the opposition of the Sun, and separated from the square of Saturn in Gemini. Therefore all these things considered, it was no wonder the heavens were so much agitated.

I have often observed, that when the Moon is aspected by Venus, from moist signs, she has generally produced rain; but if from the dignities of Mercury, much wind has followed.

In the present instance, the next after full, the Moon meets the opposition of Venus.

ANECDOTE OF THALES, THE MILESIAN.

THALES, the Milesian, was a man of great genius; he found out many admirable things, as in other arts, so also in that of Astronomy. When he had found out what proportion the Sun's greatness did bear to the greatness of that circle which he finishes in his annual course, and how, by the rules of geometry, this might be clearly demonstrated, he communicated this experiment of his to a rich man of Priene, that was a curious inquirer into such matters: who admiring the comprehensive wit of Thales, together with the excellency of the invention, bade him ask what reward he would. "I," said Thales, "ask no other reward than the glory of this invention."

Muret. var. Lect. lib. xii. cap. 12.

LETTER FROM A CELEBRATED AMATEUR,
ON THE
ERRORS OF ASTROLOGERS.

To the Editor of "The STRAGGLING ASTROLOGER."

SIR,

THERE being at the present day much controversy about the different branches of the Siderial Science, you will oblige me by insertion of a few contradictions to the erroneous notions now held forth by certain professors of the Astral Art. I will begin with the planetary dignities, which I am sorry to see are now attempted to be cried down. I say attempted, for every one who has had any rational experience in the science, must know, that the theory on which they are formed, is too well grounded to fall a prey to petty innovations, either of the past or present day. However, I take the following to be the chief reason of the controversy on this subject, namely, that those persons who exclaim against the dignities of the planets, have, in their own nativities, none of the planets dignified, and thus are fated to become enemies to the art, through knowing they are themselves born unfortunate, if the theory of the planetary dignities be correct. Another cause, which might have given rise to the above erroneous notions, has probably arisen from astrologers neglecting the planet Herschel and his domal dignities in Aquarius, whereby they have been often out in their judgments. For instance, suppose an artist should have neither Mercury nor the Moon exactly well placed, and yet is sensible he possesses clever abilities,—here he finds the science at fault. But suppose him to have in his nativity Herschel in Aries, and the Sun in Aquarius, here they are in mutual reception, and this at once accounts for his ingenuity and cleverness, without straining any point in the science. I shall hereafter offer you some farther remarks, if you will oblige me by inserting them, and in the mean time, I remain,

Your constant reader,

I. V.

SINGULAR INSTANCE OF TACITURNITY.

EUMENES was informed that Craterus was coming against him with an army; he kept this private to himself, and did not acquaint the most intimate of his friends therewith, but gave out that it was Neoptolemus that came to fight him; for he well knew that his own soldiers, who revered Craterus for his glory, and were lovers of his virtue, had Neoptolemus in contempt.

When, therefore, the battle came to be fought, Eumenes was victorious, and Craterus, unknown, was killed amongst the rest; so that this battle was gained by his taciturnity, and his friends rather admired than reprehended him for it.

TO THE MOON.

The Fumigation from Aromatics.

HEAR, goddess queen, diffusing silver light,
 Bull-horn'd, and wand'ring through the gloom of night,
 With stars surrounded, and with circuit wide
 Night's torch extending, through the heavens you ride :
 Female and male, with silvery rays you shine,
 And now full-orb'd, now tending to decline.
 Mother of ages, fruit-producing Moon,
 Whose amber orb makes night's reflected noon :
 Lover of horses, splendid queen of night,
 All-seeking power, bedeck'd with starry light :
 Lover of vigilance, the foe of strife,
 In peace rejoicing, and a prudent life :
 Fair lamp of night, its ornament and friend,
 Who giv'st to Nature's works their destin'd end :
 Queen of the stars, all-wise Diana, hail !
 Deck'd with a graceful robe, and ample veil.
 Come, blessed goddess, prudent, starry, bright,
 Come, moony lamp, with chaste and splendid light,
 Shine on these sacred rites, with prosperous rays,
 And, pleased, accept thy suppliant's mystic praise.

Mystical Hymns of Orpheus.

EXTRAORDINARY INSTANCES OF GOOD FORTUNE.

MATILDA, or MAUD, the Empress, had the same happiness for which Pherenice is admired. She was daughter of a king, viz. Henry the First ; mother of a king, viz. Henry the Second, of England ; and wife of a king, viz. Henry the Fourth, Emperor of Germany. On her was made this epitaph :

Ortu magna, viro major, sed maxima prole,
 Hic jacet Henrici filia, nupta, parens.

A marvellous happy accident fell out to a rower in a Tyrian vessel ; he was cleansing the deck, when a wave took him on the one side, and struck him into the sea ; and soon after a contrary wave hoisted him up into the ship again, and the lamentations of his misfortune were mixed with congratulations for his safety.

Val. Max. p. 31.

ARNULPHUS, duke of Lorraine, when he had dropped his ring into the Moselle, had it restored to him again from the belly of a fish.

Zuing. Theatro. v. iii. p. 635.

ANECDOTES OF APELLES,

THE FAMOUS PAINTER OF ANTIQUITY.

APELLES surmounted all who ever came before or followed him, giving his pictures a certain lovely and inimitable grace. Having heard of the fame of Protogenes, he sailed to Rhodes on purpose to see him; but finding him absent from his shop, he took a table, and drew therein a fine and small line athwart it. Protogenes, at the sight of it, said, "Apelles hath been there," and he himself drew a second with another colour, in the midst of it, and so left it.

Apelles, upon his return, drew a third, with a distinct colour, so small, as left no possibility of a fourth; which when Protogenes saw, he confessed he had met both with his match and his master. This table was kept for a long time, and better esteemed than any other rich or curious work, till it was destroyed by fire, in the palace of Cæsar, in the Palatine Hill.

Being abused by one of the court of King Ptolemy, whose name he knew not, nor could see in the presence, he took a coal from the hearth, and drew his face so exactly, that he was immediately known. His picture of Venus arising out of the sea, in the nether part of it, caught some hurt by mischance, but there never could be found that painter who would take it in hand to repair the same, to make it suitable with the rest.

He flourished about the hundred and twelfth Olympiad.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Any of our readers who have select Books or MSS. relative to Occult Philosophy, particularly Geomancy and Magic, may hear of a Publisher by directing a letter, post paid, to the Editor, at the Publisher's.

"W. H. B." is informed, that "SIBLY'S ASTROLOGY" may be sufficient to teach the first principles of the art, but no farther. We intend to give a complete body of Astrology in our work, which will be very acceptable to our numerous readers. After Sibly, we would recommend PTOLEMY'S TETRABIBLOS, the best edition of which is published by Davies and Dickson, St. Martin's-le-Grand. LILLY'S and THRASHER'S Astrology, will also be found useful.

"A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER" is informed, he may see the Zodiacal Planisphere, by applying at Mr. J. Denley's, Bookseller, &c. Catherine Street, Strand.

Will "COUNT ADELPHI SUMADARTSON" favour us with another copy of his Query? The last, through breaking the seal of his letter, was illegible.

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