STRAGGLING ASTROLOGER;

OR

MAGAZINE

CELESTIAL INTELLIGENCES:

MINIME NOSTRA-NOSTRADAMUS:

Several Artists of First-rate Eminence:

T. C. R.

A principal Calculator of the Predictions in that popular Work,
THE PROPHETIC ALMANACK.



HIEROGLYPHIC—No. VII.
THE FIRMAMENT FORETOKENS WHAT TIME UNFOLDS.

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The significators of marriage are, first, The cusp of the seventh house, together with the lord of that house, and what planet or planets soever may happen to be in possession of it. Secondly, The Moon and Venus are to be taken as general significators in the nativities of men: and the Sun and Mars in the nativities of females.—Or, if it be a horary question, the lord of the ascendant is the significator of the querent; and if a man, the Moon and Venus are his consignificators—the consignificators of a female being the Sun and Mars, in queries of this nature.

Now, by a due consideration of these, according to their mutual positions; their configurations with the lord of the ascendant; and the favourable or unfavourable aspect they have with the degree ascending; it may be ascertained whether the person desirous of knowing will ever marry; and if so, when it will probably happen: also, whether he will marry more than one, and what kind of person he will have for his wife.

If the lord of the ascendant apply, by any good aspect, to the lord of the seventh house—or if they be in reception—or if Venus or the Moon be in any good aspect, or reception, with the ruler of the seventh; or with the Sun, or with Mars; the native or querent will be strongly disposed to marry, and probably will effect his wishes. The cusp of the seventh house receiving the friendly radiation of the Sun, or of Jupiter, or of Venus, is a positive signification that the person will marry.

If the significators appear in weak or barren signs; or if Saturn be strongly posted in the first, fifth, seventh, or eleventh houses in barren signs; or if the Moon or Venus are any where in quartile or opposition to Saturn; or Venus being unfortunate in Leo, are presages of a single life, and indisposition to matrimony.

The significators possessing fruitful signs; or, the Moon or Venus strong in the seventh house, in a double-bodied sign, free from the rays of Saturn or Mars, are declarations that the native will marry more than once.

If the significators are at unity among themselves from good houses; or if the Moon or Venus, from double-bodied signs, apply to many planets; or if the lord of the ascendant be in the seventh with other amicable planets, although they behold neither the Moon nor Venus; or a friendly aspect of the lord of the ascendant with the lord of the seventh, from bi-corporeal signs, argues that it will be the lot of the native to have many wives.

Venus, in any geniture, being oriental, strong, and essentially dignified, shews that the wife will predominate, and wear, as it is called, the breeches.—If she be seated in the tenth house, the native will marry into a good family, and gain honour and preferment by the match: but if she be seated in the second house of any natal figure, money more than love will be the object of the marriage.

Venus in Aquarius, or Cancer, in quartile or opposition to the Moon, possessing the north angle, signifies the husband will be addicted to debaucheries, and a lusting after many women: if Venus also be in conjunction, quartile or opposition with Mars, it denotes a very ardent passion for varieties of women, and a continual changing of pasture to gratify his appetite.

Saturn in the seventh, afflicting Venus, signifies the wife of the native to be listless of gratifying her husband's desires, and a reluctant sort of bed-fellow: but if Venus be with either Saturn or Mars in Capricorn or Cancer, it declares that both husband and wife will be mutually ready to answer each other's wishes, and be very agreeable bed-fellows to one another.

If the lord of the eighth be in a favourable posture, and quite free from affliction, the consequence will be, that it will fall to the lot of the person inquiring, to obtain considerable property by the marriage. It is also a good sign if Jupiter, Venus, or the Dragon's Head, be in the eighth. If either Jupiter or Venus rule the eighth, and dispose of the part of Fortune in that sign, it is prosperous to the marriage. The lords of the eighth and second in each other's houses, or in friendly aspect, with reception, are signs of acquiring property by marriage.

If a quartile or opposition happen between the significators or consignificators of each party, without reception, the match will be broken off.

If it be a female that inquires, instead of taking the Moon and Venus as consignificators, let the Sun and Mars be taken, and the same configurations will express the same with respect to the opposite sex, which has been here disclosed with regard to that under consideration.

When this subject is next resumed, some observations as to personal peculiarities will be introduced, proper to be taken into consideration by both sexes previous to the matrimonial compact being fully settled between them.

A VERY PUZZLING QUESTION.

(Continued from p. 96.)

WE do not always, when we most intend it,
On subjects form our notions strictly right;
And, as to judgment, better quite suspend it,
Than, without proof, decide 'twixt black and white.
Indeed, to save the chance of farther rambling,
I'll to my tale, which shews how some will back
Their fancy, from a passion hot, for gambling—
How knowing-ones may think that white is black.

Two noblemen—that is, two men of title—
Who always settled questions by a bet—
Who sometimes met at White's—sometimes Whitehall—
Held wager-arguments whene'er they met.
Well were they match'd, and thought upon a level,
Till one, describing black with all his might,
Swore something was "As black, sir, as the Devil!"
"Black!" shouts the other, "why the Devil's white!"

Thus was their question regularly stated,
According to the logic of their schools;
And now it was forthwith to be debated,
With all the nice precision of their rules.

"The Devil white !--let's see--why, barring bubbles, For half I'm worth," replies his Grace, "he's jet."

"Done, sir," Most Noble cries--"An't please you, doubles"-"Done, sir"---rejoins his Grace--"he's black, I bet."

Thus closed the arguments of these logicians;
Which being noted down by either side,
The next thing was to settle the conditions,
By which they might the puzzling point decide.
Each was persuaded there was no authority
Upon the subject downright sound and good;
So both agreed t' abide by a majority,
And each get all the voters that he could.

All preliminaries were now adjusted—
The wager ratified, the nobles part;
And troops of friends on both sides are intrusted
Forth as election-canvassers to start:
But let it not be thought their operations
Were 'twixt Penzance confined and John o'Groat's—
It was a question which concern'd all nations;
And 'twas but fair that all should give their votes.

To enter down particulars unable,

As it would make my narrative too long,

I merely say, upon the side of sable,

With hearty plumpers Europe sent her throng:

From Asia, too, some clans the same way voted:

And both Americas the ebon hue,

As far as mongrel races went, promoted—

Those did not poll who thought the Devil blue.

The eye, on glancing round in these directions,
Perhaps has caught the hint, and is aware
The folks already noticed have complexions,
Which we, describing, designate as fair.
These beauties herd together very snugly,
And have combined, for many ages back.
To feign the Devil's features monstrous ugly,
And not a bit like theirs---but black---coal black!

From time to time, imagination fuller

Becomes of things in it, work'd up in youth:

And to dispute in this wise age the colour

Of Boguy's skin, seems like profaning truth.

Yet manifold and sundry were the races

That down from Noah claim'd succession right,

Who forward came with black and tawny faces,

T' assert by plumpers that his worship's white.

From climates tropical had you but seen 'em
Flock the majority for white t' advance,
You would have almost thought the Devil in 'em--Black had not e'en the shadow of a chance.

The loser then reproach'd the planets evil——
Reproach'd old Satan as the Lord of sin——
Thought he could not have been so base a Devil,
As to deceive one thus about his skin.

But as it was, at length, with him all over,

All he could do was, do the best he could:

His goods and chattels nothing could recover:

And now he wanted a mere livelihood.

All I need, therefore, do is just make mention,

That friends at court politely begg'd his Grace,

To serve the state, by accepting of a pension,

And—if he'd stoop so Low—a good fat place.

AN

EPITOME

OF

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF ASTROLOGY.

(Continued from p. 84.)

AFTER having suffered the mind to pause, for a time, over this view, our next object will be to fix, as deeply as we can, the necessary impression which a return to the Newtonian principles is calculated to make, concerning the influence of these inconceivably vast masses upon one another. In this part of our investigation, it is necessary to understand something of the revolutions and rotations which each orb is subject to; and by which they are constantly varying their positions relative to each other. Hence, they are occasionally brought to act with varied effects; and from their perpetual change of place, being sometimes nearer together, and sometimes farther asunder, than at others, there is a continual variation of force exerted on every distinct portion of the system; and the more susceptible particles, connected any how with every planetary mass, are thus compelled to change their place every successive instant, in consequence of the attractive or pulsive force which every sphere is exerting.

As all treatises of astrology that have obtained any degree of reputation are founded upon the quadripartile of Ptolemy, and as the system

of our fraternity of planets, as regards their centre, and their order, is so different, as laid down by that philosopher, to the system now prevailing, it will be proper, before we proceed to the effects of the several aspects, to give the order of the planets according to Ptolemy, and also according to Copernicus, or Newton.

PTOLEMY'S SYSTEM.

Centre, The Earth.

- 1 The Moon.
- 2 Mercury.
- 3 Venus.
- 4 The Sun.
- 5 Mars.
- 6 Jupiter.
- 7 Saturn.

PRESENT SYSTEM.

Centre, The Sun.

- 1 Mercury.
- 2 Venus.
- 3 Earth and Moon.
- 4 Mars.

5, 6, 7, 8 - Vesta, Juno, Ceres, Pallas.

- 9 Jupiter.
- 10 Saturn.

11 - Georgium Sidus.

To get into the right road to philosophy, is not very easy, but once set straight forward, in this respect, it is not very difficult to keep in the right track. My object, in the present article, is to convey a notion of the comparative influence of the several planetary bodies of the solar system on the terrestrial atmosphere; and, consequently, on the animal organs which are invigorated by the respiration of this fine vapour.

To strike into all the minute and abstruse ramifications which concern this curious part of philosophy, would be very tedious to both the writer and the reader; and would, therefore, be inconsistent with the nature of such a weekly miscellany as "The Straggling Astrologer." Having, in the preceding number, supplied such calculations as are sufficient to assist the mind in estimating the power of one planet on any other, by shewing the proportion of matter which each brings into action, the judgment of those for whose consideration this subject is chiefly adapted, will be able to supply those arguments relative to difference of effect which is produced by the difference of distances between the several orbs: and also of that peculiar change in place between apogee and perigee, by which peculiar fluctuations of effect on the atmosphere, and consequently on all animal nature subsisting within it, is occasioned.

Before we proceed farther upon this topic, it will, however, be necessary to correct an error, which has, by some means or other, found

its way into the estimate of the proportion of matter in each planet, compared with the quantity in the body of the sun. The proportion of the mass of Jupiter has been, by mistake, ascribed to Saturn; and the proportion of that of Saturn has been wholly omitted in the estimate. It will be necessary to erase Saturn therefore, and substitute Jupiter, in page 84, three lines from the bottom; and to insert the quantity contained in Saturn; which alteration will be, when rightly made, as follows:

The Sun contains about 1,070 times more matter than Jupiter. - Saturn. 3,400

That which has been said, hitherto, on the theory of astrology, extends no farther than the elementary principles of the science; and we next come to propound arguments, established on the principles already laid down, relative to the continual and fluctuating action of matter upon matter, -of celestial upon terrestrial bodies -of the stars upon man.

No fact in philosophy is more indisputable than that which assures us of the influence of the sun, moon, planets, and stars, on the earth and its inhabitants. The continual and periodical change in the weather-the constant and the variable winds to which particular climates are subject—the phenomena peculiar to the several seasons, and many other effects that might, were it necessary, be pointed out, are proofs which render the existence of such planetary influence unquestionable. There is, however, one means more visible than either of those before mentioned, by which the effects of planetary influence may be exemplified, and pretty well estimated; and that is, the alternate ebbing and flowing of the sea. The phenomena exhibited in this department of nature is so analogous to those operations on which astrological doctrines rest, that it cannot be too closely examined into: and the more scrupulously it is brought into comparison with atmospheric fluctuations, the more will these be understood, and the science of astrology be venerated. To the arguments and means of exemplification of astral influence, which the flux and reflux of the ocean furnish, shall this part of my subject be confined.

(To be continued.)

A

RETROSPECTIVE VIEW

OF

CERTAIN REMARKABLE EVENTS.

WITH

OBSERVATIONS ON THE SIGNS

BY WHICH THEY WERE SEVERALLY ACCOMPANIED.

By all persons who have paid close attention to the subject of astrology, with a desire to ascertain its efficacy with regard to popular events, it will have been observed, that when planets have been passing through the sign Gemini, conflagrations have been commonly prevalent, and some very great ones have happened under this sign. But we are not to take this alone as the sign by which such catastrophes are to be anticipated in this particular quarter of the world. Aries, Libra, and Sagittarius, have had their share of great fires as well as Gemini; and few have ever happened, except in parts very remote from England, but when those signs have been very strongly affected. The particular quality of any combination of influence that may happen to be in familiarity with those signs, should, however, be at all times attentively considered, when that which depends upon them is investigated with a view to foretell events which they are known to rule.

Those who have given this part of the subject of astrology the most minute attention possible, have found the sextiles and trines of Saturn and Mars from those signs, invariably attended with consequences remarkably disastrous; and very often much more so than the quartiles and oppositions of those planets on other occasions. Such positions will scarcely ever occur without being followed by great fires—popular tumults—dreadful murders—awful suicides, and such-like: and wherever war is carrying on under such configurations, it rarely happens but that they bring on times of extraordinary slaughter and devastation.

SIGNS ATTENDING THE CORONATION, AND EVENTS CONNECTED WITH IT.

It has been moreover observed, that, when planets have been making their transits through some particular degrees of the signs Gemini,

Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces, England, France, and some other countries that border upon these, have been dreadfully agitated. The degrees thus specially alluded to may be considered to extend from the 11th to the 15th, and from the 24th to the 28th degree of each of the said signs. Eclipses of the Sun or Moon, when they happen in the limits of those degrees, are certain forerunners of calamities to this part of Europe. The great elipse of the Sun which happened on the 7th of September, 1820, took place under the 14th degree of Virgo, and so virulent were its effects in those quarters where the beforementioned signs principally predominate, that it has been thought by some very experienced astrologers to have afflicted the earth for upwards of two years. Events certainly followed it of a most serious and alarming nature. In the latter part of that year, and in the early part of 1821, a general ferment was excited by the persecution of the Queen. It was also on the 5th of May, 1821, that Napoleon Buonaparte died; and I mention this particular consequence, for the sake of pointing out to the notice of students in the science, that this great eclipse fell not only in the ascendant of Paris, but within two degrees of the place of Mars in the nativity of the late Emperor Napoleon; and which was, no doubt, a signal of his approaching end.—The coronation of his present Majesty on the 19th of July, 1821, was distinguished beyond every other ceremony of a like nature by the attempt of his lawful queen to be present in the Abbey, and the forcible means that were employed to prevent her admission. Eleven days after the ill treatment she experienced on the coronation-day, she was taken ill at Drury Lane Theatre; and after lingering under the fatal malady until the 7th of August, she died, regretted by all humane hearts. These are circumstances which left behind them an impression which time will never be able to obliterate; and those who will take the trouble to examine the planetary aspects at the time of the coronation, will find that the infortune, Mars, was in the 14th degree of Gemini, one of the ominous positions before particularized. On the day of the Queen's death, Mars had attained the 27th degree of the same sign; a part of the Zodiac already alluded to as singularly baleful: and on the day when her remains were removed from Hammersmith to be conducted to her native country, and on which were witnessed those frightful contentions between the military and that part of the populace who had resolved to take the hearse through the city, Venus had just reached the 14th degree of Virgo, the very point of longitude on which the great eclipse before alluded to took place. It will be also remembered, that two innocent spectators lost their lives, on the day of the funeral, by the outrageous conduct of the military in using their fire-arms.

Having called the attention of my readers to the subject of that memorable eclipse, and certain domestic events which seem immediately connected with it, we should not omit to mention the persecutions of the Grecian Christians by their Turkish taskmasters, which became general just at the occultation of the great luminary; and which brought on a train of massacres and brutal violations as horrible and as revolting to human nature as any on record, by which the great cities of Turkey in Asia were filled with female victims, and children, the prey of the barbarian; and the cities of injured Greece with reprisals of Mahommedan blood.

It would also seem forgetful to omit noticing the extraordinary distress that prevailed in our own country among the griculturalists the whole of the year following the eclipse, which may very justly be esteemed portentous of the ruin experienced by thousands; and of the great depreciation of land, which was left in many districts almost entirely on the hands of the proprietors, and rents, in consequence, were reduced throughout the country from £30 to £60 per cent. These are events of too much magnitude to be indifferently passed over by the reflecting and philosophical astrologer.

A COMPARISON OF THE SIGNS AND ASPECTS UNDER WHICH SOME OF THE CHIEF DESTRUCTIONS BY FIRE HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

In order to afford the admirers of the science an opportunity of witnessing how instrumental planetary positions in the particular signs and degrees before pointed out have been in the production of extraordinary calamities, and more especially of such as result from fires, particularly in and about London, sketches are here subjoined of some of the most remarkable accidents of this nature that have happened during the last thirty years, together with a scale of the configurations which prevailed at the time of each conflagration. This sort of comparison cannot fail to be highly satisfactory and of great value to artists, as it gives ample groundwork, deduced from facts within our own immediate knowledge, for future judgments, and for raising the science from its present degraded position to that eminence, and dignified condition among the philosophical doctrines of the universe, which it so justly merits.

FIRST DESTRUCTION OF ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE BY FIRE.

On the 17th of September, 1794, Astley's Amphitheatre, and many houses adjoining it, were destroyed by fire; and the positions of the planets at the time were as follows:

Thus it will be perceived, that the Sun, Georgium Sidus, and Jupiter, are all posited in the ominous degrees of the signs already alluded to; the Sun and Jupiter being quartile to each other. Mars, also, entering the disastrous degrees of Sagittarius, is applying to an opposition of Georgium Sidus, which sufficiently marks the calamitous nature of the event.

DESTRUCTION OF ST. PAUL'S COVENT GARDEN BY FIRE.

In the following year, and within two days of the time at which the foregoing event happened, St. Paul's church, Covent Garden, was destroyed by fire; and on the 19th of September, the day of the fire, the following scheme will shew the state of the planets:

Now it will be here observed, that Georgium Sidus and Saturn are in a platique conjunction in the ominous degrees of Gemini---that the Moon is applying to the same disastrous place in Sagittarius---Mars and Venus, together with the Sun, in the sign Virgo---and Mercury is seen applying to a trine with Georgium Sidus and Saturn.

THE AMPHION MAN OF WAR BLOWN-UP AT PLYMOUTH.

On the 3d of August, 1796, upwards of 250 men perished by the blowing-up of the Amphion man of war in Plymouth Harbour, at which time the planets were seated as follows:

The positions of Georgium Sidus and Saturn will be first noticed as

indicative of disaster from the malignant degrees of Gemini, Mars being in Sagittarius, separating from an opposition of the latter of the aforesaid malevolents, which, to astrologers, will be sufficient to shew how strictly correct the foregoing opinions have been formed.

. VAST DESTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY BY FIRE AT LIVERPOOL.

In 1802, an extraordinary accident by fire happened at Liverpool on the 14th of September, by which a great number of warehouses were entirely reduced to ashes, and property to the amount of more than a million sterling was consumed. At the time of this catastrophe, the positions of the planets will be seen from the subjoined scale:

Here Saturn was in possession of the 13th degree of Virgo, within orbs of a conjunction with Jupiter in the same sign, and from which the latter was separating: and what is still worthy of observation, both being in combustion, the Sun having just separated from conjunctions with both. Mars just entering the 24th degree of Gemini; and the ingress of Mercury into the ominous sign Libra having been just made.

SECOND DESTRUCTION OF ASTLEY'S THEATRE BY FIRE; AND ALSO OF THAT IN ST. GEORGE'S FIELDS, CALLED THE CIRCUS.

On the 21st of September, 1803, Astley's Amphitheatre was again the prey of the raging element, and with it twenty of the adjoining houses were reduced to a complete wreck. This second conflagration was accompanied by the following aspects:

This scheme presents us with a conjunction of Jupiter and Mars in the sign Libra, noted for its ardent effects, and both which planets are quartile to Georgium Sidus from cardinal signs. The positions of the Sun, Saturn, and Mercury, in Virgo, will likewise be particularly noticed, together with the opposition of the Sun and Moon from Virgo and Pisces.

The theatre called the Circus, in St. George's Fields, was destroyed by fire on the 12th of August in the year 1805, which event was accompanied by the following state of the heavenly bodies:

Among the more striking features of these aspects, the conjunction of Saturn and Mars in Libra will not fail to be noticed, nor their quartile configurations with Georgium Sidus from cardinal signs, which occasion their effects to be prodigious. Mercury and Venus have also ominous positions in the sign Virgo, where they are just separating from a conjunction, both being in opposition to the Moon in Pisces.

The respective dignities, &c. of the several planets at these particular times have not been noticed, as it would have swelled the observations too much: but the ingenious artist will, from the grounds here presented, be enabled to enlarge his speculations, and to derive many curious hints in this branch of the science.

To be continued, when the astrological signs which accompanied the late extensive fire in Edinburgh will be pointed out, and placed on record to assist future judgments.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The approbation of "The Westminster Student" is worthy of our thanks, and we beg his acceptance of them. Saturn, he will perceive, comes to a quartile of his place in the nativity at the age of from 21 to 23.—There is certainly no book existing that can teach a person astrology.

The communications of "The English Astrologer" will be found inserted in a modified form.

The interesting article from R. C. S. is too inaccurate in diction to appear, as he wishes it, "without alteration."

Mercurius will have, perhaps, already noticed another fatal instance of the deadly quality of the Dragon's Tail, in the deaths of those three eminent personages...the King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands, and the Chinese Lady. This subject will be treated of in next number, and the observations of Mercurius will then accompany the Author's remarks.