

# THE SECRETS OF THE HAND

AND HOW SCIENTIFIC PALMISTRY  
REVEALS THEM

BY

MAUD HARRIES

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# THE SECRETS OF THE HAND





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# The Secrets of the Hand

AND HOW SCIENTIFIC PALMISTRY REVEALS THEM

It does not require any mysterious power, nor, as the prejudiced seem to suspect, the aid of his Satanic Majesty to read a hand, but simply some practical hints, keen observation and hard study. Palmistry is not fortune-telling, but undoubtedly it has sunk to that level, owing to the blunders of incapables, who take it up without the slightest knowledge of any of the rules, on purpose to amuse themselves, or to make money as the case may be, regardless of the harm they are doing in abusing an useful science.

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In character reading, the writer has found it remarkably useful, and hopes that this small effort will do a little, to correct the wrong impressions with which the subject is still regarded by many. Happily, however, among the educated, the sceptics are becoming fewer, and some instead of condemning it through prejudice, are taking the trouble to find out what it really consists of. All who have sufficient patience and perseverance can succeed in it, although perhaps not so quickly as those who possess a natural gift in this direction. Objections to Palmistry have been raised, owing to the idea that the lines are formed by folding the hands, or by general action, but even if this could be proved, all vary considerably, and as two cannot be found exactly alike, it may be

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unhesitatingly said, that each has its own special individuality shown in the formation and markings, which have their signification, according to the manner in which they are placed.

If horizontal lines are accounted for in this manner, the upright ones are surely a direct contradiction to these assertions.

To prove this, the hand of a baby only two days old, was examined, with the result that the Life line and attendant ones were already there, and the thumb imprisoned in the palm, because at that early age, she was too weak to be able to think for herself, or make any use of the brain power she had been endowed with, but as the mind increases in strength, and developes each year, so also do the hands to correspond.

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The hand is a slave of the brain, and in childhood it may be compared to gold in its raw state, before any refining influence has been brought to bear upon it, or as a shapeless mass of clay, which has to be modelled by the Sculptor, previous to any great results, thus in a figurative manner is early life represented, before knowledge has any control over it.

Others affirm that manual work causes lines to appear, yet the average workman who exercises his mental powers but little, does not possess the numerous ones which are to be seen with brain workers, or the highly nervous.

The brain directs the hands, but when it ceases to be healthy, or loses its balance, it is discovered almost immediately by the action of the thumb, which is one of the principal keys to an individual's

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character, but these signs it may be noticed, are not communicated to the other limbs.

Medical science acknowledges a thumb centre in the brain, and as the nerves and muscles are directly influenced in this manner, it is only natural to suppose that all impressions are transferred to the palms through its activity.

In cases of Paralysis, when the mind is clouded by a clot of blood on the brain, the appearance of the hand alters considerably, the lines becoming fainter and less positive in character.

Edward Heron Allen, in his work on Chirosophy, says—

“Under the outer skin lies cellular tissue, the surface of which, consists of a greater or less number of cylindrical, or conical protuberances called papillæ.

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“The nerves of the skin, which terminate in single fibres, only extend to the surface of the second skin or dermis, where they end peculiarly in papillæ. . . .”

They are of course most numerous where sensation is keenest.

On the palm, the papillæ are arranged in regular rows, thus causing the lines of the hands.

By the chiromy of the hand, the tastes and professions are chiefly pointed out, and doubtless every one will agree that there is as much difference in the types, as between a cart and a carriage horse.

It does not require any great discernment to distinguish this, and the next consideration is, to separate one profession from another, by noticing the various characteristics of each. As a Botanist,

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Conchologist, &c., knows at a glance, to what order the specimens in their own department belong, so the Palmist also judges and pronounces, giving an outline of a career, describing the talents and influences likely to be felt, as well as the disposition of the subject.

The chief object is, to direct the attention to what ought to be cultivated ; the good qualities and the bad, so that what is best may be used to advantage, and faults overcome ; conscientious delineators are able to do this with as much correctness, according to their branch of study, as in any other Profession, for even the Medical one, which is of greater importance, is not always infallible.

To Desbarrolles and D'Arpentigne, we owe much of this discovery, and although it was much practised in ancient

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times, it is principally due to their practical teaching, that it has made such strides in the present day.

They laid the real foundation-stone, and all interested in it, are trying to do their utmost, through keen observation, to further the science, and render it generally useful.

The idea that Palmistry upholds belief in blind fate, is erroneous, and although some absolute Fatalists exist, who are under the impression that whether gifts are used to the best advantage or not, the result will be the same, the "Parable of the Talents" ought to be sufficient proof to the contrary.

Our unknown destiny is given by a Higher Power for us to do what we can with it, not to sit with folded hands awaiting the unravelment, and the various

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signs and warnings of our weaknesses are pointed out, to help us to avoid temptations, as we press onward.

Objections on religious grounds ought to be mentioned, even though conscience warns that these remarks are becoming monotonous, and in spite of the saying that even "dark angels" can quote scripture to suit their purpose, the following texts which bear upon the subject have been copied.

Psalm 7 - 3

"If there be iniquity in my hands."

Psalm 26 - 10

"In whose hands is mischief."

Proverbs 3 - 16

"Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand riches and honour."

Job 37 - 7

"He sealeth up the hand of every man, that all men may know his work."

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Rev. 13 - 16

“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in their forehead.”

I Samuel 26 - 18

“For what have I done, or what evil is in mine hand?”

Many other passages also bear upon the subject, but doubtless, these will suffice to show that scriptural reference has been made. Almost every individual unthinkingly accepts some statements with regard to Palmistry, such as the thumb showing will power, &c., &c., and why such controversy should arise about other matters pertaining to the science, it is difficult to discover.

The hands of criminals are photographed, (in England this seems to be a

recent innovation), also thumb impressions taken, as the minute hair lines of the skin do not alter, and people may be recognized by them, after the lapse of many years, although disguise may change the countenance.

Yet, is not all this the first steps to Palmistry?

It is amusing to hear how some secret believers in the science, make an emphatic denial of it, for fear of being thought credulous, or lacking in common sense, and this may be more particularly noticed among those who are not overburdened with intellectuality, or courage of opinion, for really clever men and women do not condemn what they have not studied, and from them hitherto the greatest assistance has been obtained, and may in future be expected.

## CHIROGNOMY

THE shape of the hand ought to be first considered, being of as much importance to Palmists as different letters in alphabet are to those learning to read or write.

There are five distinct classes, pointed, conic, square, spatulate, and the mixed.

With a few hints, every observing person can tell at a glance according to the finger terminations, what principal characteristics to expect, the type readily giving a key to channels in which the mind works.

Taking them separately in rotation

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< the distinguishing traits will be easier to recognize. Pointed tips may be associated with impulsiveness, refinement, love of study, beauty, artistic taste, and the power of giving and returning affection ; but if the mounts of Mars and Saturn are not fully developed, these subjects will be emotional, highly strung and impressionable.

In ideas, they are decidedly original : keenly imaginative, and lovers of romance. As a rule, Literature and Art is much pursued, but with indications of musical talent, they also possess the gift of song.

Unpronounced joints give evidence that the best results will be attained through inspiration, rather than steady perseverance and plodding.

Many of our idealistic artists and >

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< romance writers own fingers answering to this description, although very smooth ones rarely belong to the practical, and may usually be found with those who dislike ordinary every day duties or anything that does not give sufficient scope for imagination. With prominent knuckles there will be independence of action and a greater love of reasoning, but less intuition and inspiration.

The conic tips also belong to artists and lovers of beauty, as well as to enthusiasts.

Swayed by impulse or moods, they are inclined to be fanciful, fastidious, and with regard to criticism too keenly sensitive.

Pads, or balls of flesh, found on the tips of the fingers inside the phalange which contains the nail, gives adroit- >

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ness which prevents the possessors from making stupid blunders; when these are very highly and unevenly set, it adds touchiness to the disposition, and self-consciousness, being uncertain in moods, and too easily offended by trifles.

Well formed evenly placed ones add power and the capability of "feeling the way" and using to the best advantage that rare gift—Tact.

Brilliant conversationalists and good orators may be known by the long straight little finger, and well developed mount of Mercury.

Attenuated hands, long fingers and very large joints look suspiciously irritable and are usually seen with book-worms, students, etc., who live in their study, and have patience with but little outside it. Square fingered people are

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very exact in their methods of proceeding, reasoning out everything with the utmost caution and calculation.

Their deliberation in action is proverbial, and as a rule they are straight forward in their dealings, and have a great respect for the truth.

They often get into a set form of living, vegetate and plod on without much change, doing their work mechanically, and in proper order unless the mount of Luna is fully developed to give love of variety. Being decidedly sceptical, nothing if possible is accepted until its worth has been proved, or they discover the reasonableness of any new theory.

In business transactions also they are eminently practical, and make excellent managers provided the palm is of good size and well formed. A

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< With Doctors, this type of hand is frequently seen, especially if the pads on the fingers are highly marked to give sensitiveness to the touch and sympathy in their work.

Having great powers of endurance, they can bear much mental and physical strain without evincing such proportionate fatigue as the pointed type, and perhaps because they are capable of enjoying life, desire to live long.

Mathematics, languages, and constructiveness, may be included among their attainments, but one of the strongest characteristics appears to be love of their own country.

The spatulate may be associated with a desire for power and command, being unceasingly energetic in striving to >

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gain honours or to occupy an important position.

These are good executive fingers, for those who take up instrumental music, and are also possessed by engineers, surgeons, architects, dramatic actresses, soldiers, explorers, etc.

This type is slightly antagonistic to art, and is seldom seen with painters, for being indifferent to ordinary beauty they can only admire what is massive or magnificent. They are of an aggressively sarcastic nature, sceptical and inclined to be materialists unless the mount of Jupiter is high and sloping to moderate it.

Excessively spatulate fingered people are not remarkable for their politeness in society, being deficient in tact, and at times unpleasantly sullen.

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< The mixed hand partakes of the qualities of each class, pointed, conic, square, and spatulate.

One of their chief endowments appears to be versatility, and in their numerous undertakings they succeed correspondingly well, but few give them the credit of possessing much individuality or strength.

Their principal talent lies in ingenuity, and as a rule they do not perfect themselves in any particular branch of study, but prefer having hobbies and change of occupation. If some of the fingers are inclined to be spatulate without large joints they will take a delight in all kinds of exercise and out-door pursuits.

With a few square terminations they are practical, capable, and have decidedly conventional ideas. >

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< The characteristics of each class are moderated when found on the mixed hand; but the strength of will and individuality, in the writers opinion certainly depends more upon the size, formation of the thumb and length of the fourth finger.

To be in thorough harmony the palm and fingers ought to be proportionately equal when measured to give an even balance.

The owners have the most common sense, and their judgment is as just to friends or foes as human nature is capable of being, but if excessively pointed tips are added impulsive actions will be likely to slightly counteract it.

The long fingered are the most persevering but perhaps the most impracticable also, although their mental cap- >

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abilities are exceedingly good and their completed work will bear the closest inspection.

In business or directing, however, owing to their carefulness about minute details they advance but slowly, and are apt to lay down certain rules which they apply to everything in and out of season, taking note of the most trivial incidents, while dreamily allowing important matters to pass unheeded.

Musical performers and composers also possess these fingers with knotty, or developed points.

The incapability and helplessness of very narrow hands is strikingly apparent. They lean too much upon the efforts and decisions of others, without making any attempt to turn their own talents to account.

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∠ This type is more commonly seen among the fair sex, who rarely or never make good housekeepers ; because they are unable to manage their home and servants in a proper manner.

Short fingers belong to the impulsive, whose keen instincts almost amount to clairvoyance, they form impressions quickly, yet when guided by intuition they are unerring in their judgments. In temper, like everything else, they are hasty and lose patience with what cannot be immediately completed, yet the excellency of their work is undeniable, and anything they take an interest in doing will bear investigation.

In business transactions, management, planning, arrangement etc. they are exceptionally clever, in letter writing and quick descriptions, their observing

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nature promoting original ideas and intelligent conversation.

Small hands are possessed by those who are blessed with a variety of talents in which they seem to succeed equally, but being unable to turn all to account, are likely to aim at too much and perfect nothing.

Having a great desire to win fame, study in every branch is greatly pursued. In feelings and ideas they are decidedly refined and cannot tolerate coarseness, shrinking with disgust from any roughness or rudeness. They are passionate in love, and apt to be a trifle tyrannical and exacting, especially when their affections are deeply roused. A moderate-sized hand is the best to possess, as it gives greater power to the performance and more general sympathy. Very large >

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ones are attributed to clumsiness ; but it may be noticed that girls who own this characteristic make small stitches in sewing, and finish off their work neatly.

Thick swelled looking fingers, except when they are the result of manual labour, have a tinge of vulgarity about them, and if held closely together habitually belong to the selfish and cruel, particularly when accompanied by a high mount of Mars and unduly hard or soft in consistency.

It must be remembered, however, that it is not sufficient to take one sign alone, so the delineator must carefully weigh every line and particular before pronouncing judgment, as very good qualities will to a certain extent counter-balance, or at least make amends for some of the bad.

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Soft, thick, fleshy, hands, with strong hair growing on them, are seen with those who study their own comfort to a great extent, and are likely to be tempted into a variety of excesses.

The consistency, when pressed, should next be taken into consideration. One that feels firm, yet neither hard or soft, is the best regulated, and may be found with the bright, energetic and trustworthy who lead busy and useful lives. Very hard hands show little sympathy, intense energy, and inability to enjoy luxury or ease; if not constantly employed they will worry and fidget until the peace of all around them is destroyed.

Owing to lack of kindness they are harsh in judgments, have little patience with sentiment, and view life narrowly.

Misers possess very hard hands with

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twisted crooked fingers, the tips of which turn inwards.

Extravagance is shown in the moderately soft consistency, or rather firm and supple, the thumb turning backwards and the first finger sloping away from it, to suggest a love of spending, or giving.

Hands that are always white, soft and inclined to stoutness, belong to the conceited, dissipated and selfish, who are fond of pleasure if it can be acquired without much trouble or inconvenience to themselves.

Courage and constancy in affection is found in a moderately hard or firm consistency with high mounts. Fairly soft hands belong to the good-tempered and easy-going who are ardent in love; but not very enduring when difficulties arise.

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Flexible hands and thumbs can be turned and twisted at will, show adaptability either to circumstances or surroundings.

Weakness of character may be suspected when the fingers are always held loosely apart, with the tips of each bending backwards.

In opinions the owners are inclined to be suspicious and unjust, moodily abrupt in manners, and miss many opportunities in life through irresolution and procrastination. After thirty, the age can generally be determined by the texture of the skin, which becomes visibly relaxed, excessive tea drinking also causes wrinkles and flabbiness.

All observers must have noticed how quickly the hands of confirmed drunkards betray them.

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4. The elasticity has vanished, the skin is loose, dry, flaccid, and peculiar in appearance, especially in the centre of the palm, which seems to the touch as if the flesh beneath had shrunk or become decayed. Clumsily shaped thick palms with the third phalange of the fingers next to it excessively full, are coarse and brutal in action, and it is simply crucifixion to a refined nature to marry this type.

### JOINTS ETC.

If the first phalange is of good length, it gives religious instincts and keen insight into character particularly when seen with pointed or conic tips.

The second phalange from joint to joint, denotes reasoning power, intellectuality, and love of cultivation.

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◁ The third nearest the palm, if very thick, are possessed by lovers of luxury, gormandizers and the worldly.

Fairly well-developed, fondness for pleasure, attenuated, too much indifference with regard to these things.

The first joint is rarely large, but when seen, belongs to philosophers and free thinkers. On a weak hand it suggests intense curiosity and general unrest.

Enlargement of the second joint gives orderliness in arrangement, exactness, formality, and ceremonious manners if found with square terminations. Knotted ones are possessed by those interested in science and political arguments.

Desbarrolles says——

—“When the fingers are excessively long they show a love of gambling,

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especially when the second and third are of equal length."

This also applies to the ordinary length who are owners of the last named characteristic, as they, too, are much given to it, and indulge in all kinds of speculation.

Successful people and those famed for diplomacy, have large thumbs and long, straight little fingers. The formation adds influence, and power of persuasion, but unfortunately it can be used for good or evil.

On very weak hands it is not well to see this, or on thick fleshy ones, as they seldom use their gifts for benevolent purposes. By the term weak, hands too narrow across the palm, are particularly specified, with small pointed thumbs, and a look of incapability about them,

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but the slim fingers of the inspirational and imaginative, must not be confused with this type.

### THE NAILS.

Although the colour has been said by most Chiromantists, to give an insight into the disposition and temper of the individual, experience proves, that it depends more upon the temperature and state of health, than anything else.

From the shape, much can be determined, and the most reliable conclusions arrived at.

Well-proportioned nails belong to the good tempered, cheerful, and affectionate.

Large ones, have control over passion, but are slow to forgive an injury, when deeply offended.

If short, and broad, with a high mount

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of Mars, they are critical, delight in argument, and seem somewhat contradictory in actions.

Bitten nails may be seen with the nervous and despondent, who often appear to be shy, and shrink from the society of strangers. When small and round, they will be impulsive, sympathetic, and capable of passionate love, but very jealous in friendship or affection.

A fluted little finger nail is found with good speakers, who are concise and capable of "holding their own" in debate.

The almond-shaped are seen among the sociable and refined; the long, narrow, curved ones, with those who lack distinctive character, they are timid, and cowardly, yet often skilled in artifice and contrivance. If square and short, they may be associated with revengeful

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feelings, but this, like everything else, depends upon the rest of the hand.

Large hard nails, are possessed by those who have good constitutions and plenty of physical strength, who steadily advance in their pursuits, unhindered by ordinary fatigue, and if endowed with brain power to correspond, generally gain eminence.

Hard ones, however, of any shape, can be ascribed to the healthy, who have the fewest illnesses.

If thin and brittle, they go with delicate constitutions, but the pale purple, point to weakness and lung complaints.

Dark, with half moons of a lighter colour, tell of poor circulation.

The thin, transparent, fluted, curved nails, are seen with the consumptive, and those suffering from spinal disorders.

## THE THUMB

When fairly equal in length of phalanges it shows determination, good judgment, authority and reasoning faculties. If the second greatly exceeds the first, the subject will be of a drifting nature rarely accomplishing what they intend, unless urged on by those interested in them, yet although they act strange perverseness with regard to their own affairs, in important matters they can clearly see what course of action is likely to lead to the best results. If the nail phalange is broad, heavy and large it belongs to the obstinate >

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and unreasonable, who love to assert themselves in trifles as well as in matters of greater moment.

They tyrannize over their household, are inclined to be narrow minded and prejudiced, approving of but little that they have not seen or tested for themselves.

A fairly large thumb which turns back at the tip, especially if thin and flat, shows strong will power undismayed by resistance and capable of firm, quiet determination.

Sympathy, benevolence, and a touch for extravagance, either in spending, giving, or ideas can also be attributed to this formation. If short, a desire for affection is shown, much rounded at the tip, obstinacy, and little real firmness. Thumbs which taper considerably belong

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to those who are easily influenced by flattery, admiration and the opinions of others.

Being fickle and fond of flirtation they love receiving homage to satisfy their vanity, and, without intending to be heartless, do a great deal of mischief through this weakness.

When thick, deeply set and stiffly held an amount of sullen positiveness may be expected, all impulses are governed and its possessors will have but little sympathy or kindness to bestow on any one.

The large thumbed are independent, reserved, and have their feelings well under control.

If the second or middle phalange is more slender than the tip it gives acuteness and penetration.

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When too much shaped and slight to correspond with the rest of the hand it is a sign of cunning and deceit. The third, nearest the wrist, outside the mount of Venus, represents the affections.

If clearly defined there will be tenderness and unselfish devotion.

When short and clumsily formed the affection is unlikely to be of a very high order.

The amount of intelligence does not, as many imagine, depend upon the length of thumb, for some of our famous men and woman of genius do not possess this characteristic, yet their work proves that they are entitled to the success they have attained.

Experience encourages the belief that long thumbs indicate will power and decision, and may frequently be seen

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with those who hold or are capable of holding an important office, while the shorter thumbed people, although equal in intelligence, do not seem so fitted for command, because they are less logical and unable to direct with the same firmness.

By the thumb all weakness, or strength can immediately be gauged according to the shape and movements.

When in a shop making a few purchases, the writer had an opportunity of witnessing a very singular thing which quite proves the truth of this statement.

Having obtained some desired trifles the proprietor of the establishment signed the bill, but did so without making the slightest use of his thumb, which he held out uselessly while he wrote in what appeared to be an impossible manner, with the pencil

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< between his fingers. Soon after we heard that he had completely lost his mental balance, and while in that state, committed suicide.

Doctors at Asylums also say it is an infallible sign of their patients' great mental weakness when they are unable to use their thumbs properly.

Another curious fact is that the thumbs of those who have been born idiots are frequently turned inwards or malformed, with the head line extending past Luna towards the wrist, or breaking up into many parts.

Young babies habitually keep them enclosed in their palms, with the fingers folded over, until the brain becomes sufficiently active, but as soon as they are able to exercise will power and think for themselves there is a marked differ- >

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ence.—It is no longer the same passive member.

When delicate children after early childhood continue this habit, it ought to be a warning to parents not to allow them to study too much or be over taxed in any way, because they are not physically strong, and although their brains may then be of ordinary strength, their will power becomes noticeably weaker under much strain.

Epileptics, as every one knows invariably turn in their thumbs before an attack of illness and during the time they are thus afflicted. At the approach of death the same characteristics are visible and as the ball of the thumb is the most important part of the hand and contains the greatest amount of vitality, no doubt the first chill of fading life is felt there.

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Those who have had an opportunity of witnessing a case of tetanus, or lock-jaw, cannot doubt the close connection of the brain and hand when they see the painful contorting of the fingers and thumb of the sufferer.

The writer believes the following statement also to be correct, that when cures are effected through an operation, one hand of the patient remains for some months afterwards paralysed.

A few signs of illness will now be briefly touched upon, and no doubt numbers of other instances will readily occur to the reader.

The puffy, glassy-looking skin of those suffering from watery diseases may be easily distinguished; gout has similar characteristics accompanied by deformed joints, while acute pneumonia gives its

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warning by the extreme puffiness of the hands : and the unnatural position of a child's thumbs before and during convulsions is also a very well known sign.

These are indicated by chiromy but others seen on the lines will be taken in their turn. As we are told that the human race is but a civilized edition of Apes and Monkeys, it ought to be doubly interesting, since our evolution, to notice the hands? of the creatures who most resemble mankind.

It may be seen that the more intelligent these animals are, the better shaped thumbs and hands they possess ; a sign which Palmists take as a positive proof of their near approach to civilisation.

When those who are deficient in will power endeavour to promote it, they generally succeed in a measure by

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< cultivation, and as our natures change gradually, so do the form of our hands in the same gradual manner, as we improve or deteriorate ; yet it is quite impossible for any nature to change so completely that it cannot be recognised as an improved or disimproved edition of our former selves. Objections to Palmistry on the plea that the lines never alter is imaginary, for the contour of the hand, differs slightly, and lines appear after a lapse of years, according to the exercise of talents, habits, or any thing likely to affect the life. >

## THE MOUNTS

### THE MOUNT OF JUPITER

The mount of Jupiter is the fulness situated at the root of the first finger. If well developed it denotes ambition, proper pride, benevolence, religious feelings, love of power and a desire to succeed, or win fame.

When excessively full, especially on a weak hand, there will be much arrogance, vanity, unreasonable ambition, and love of display; its subjects yearn for position and wealth and frequently marry on purpose to obtain them.

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If the mount is flat or scarcely visible, it shows want of independence, self-command and patience to direct the talents and abilities to the best advantage.

If the mount is not seen, irreligious tendencies may be suspected and a conspicuous absence of honour, on soft hands; it also gives great indolence. When Jupiter inclines towards Saturn, there will be reverence and a taste for divine things.

Priests, ministers, classical scholars, clergymen, &c., who are in sympathy with the calling they have chosen, may be known by this characteristic, but if the mounts converge into one high bar of flesh they will be Fanatics and probably suffer from acute melancholia and religious mania.

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### MOUNT OF SATURN

This mount is to be found at the base of the second finger.

When moderate in height it gives discretion, caution and a love of solitude.

These subjects are reserved, reflective, profound in thought and study, but somewhat inclined to be incredulous and suspicious.

Musicians who have been noted for the grandeur and solemnity of their compositions and performances, own a highly developed mount as well as prominent little pads of flesh on the tips of the fingers.

If the finger and mount of Saturn are excessive there will be much morbidity, bitterness and melancholy in the disposition ; they brood over their sorrows,

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quickly resenting slights, and make but few friends. Disappointed and unsatisfied with life in all its aspects they view it gloomily and often have suicidal tendencies. Subjects whose ruling planet is Saturn are considered selfish, because their habitual coolness checks impulsiveness and makes them appear self-contained. They make excellent counsellors for others, and being of a secretive nature, will honourably respect confidence in the same manner in which they guard their own private affairs from public scrutiny.

In an enlarged state it may be seen with eminent writers, who by their efforts do so much to raise life's standard to a higher and more perfect level.

If only a fair amount of fulness is visible, the interests will be chiefly

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centred in agricultural pursuits and the subjects frequently adopt farming as a profession.

Deficiency denotes little force of character, and an unimportant career may be expected.

When the mount of Saturn slopes towards Apollo the sunny side of life will be clouded, owing to the unhappy tendency of "meeting troubles half way," and lingering before parting with them on their return journey, losing hope as soon as the first shade of sorrow approaches.

### MOUNT OF APOLLO

(SITUATED BENEATH THE THIRD FINGER)

A good development shows refinement, great love of beauty, taste for Art and literature, but if the line of Apollo

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also appears they require appreciation to spur them on. In actions they are noble and conscientious, and if the rest of the hand agrees, make faithful friends.

Grandeur strongly appeals to them, and their aims in life are great to correspond. Owing to their high ideals they often meet with disappointments, yet the amount of hope given by this mount enables them to make the best of their opportunities. When called upon to occupy a high position, they are able to command advantageously without arrogance or self assertion.

An excessively full mount seen upon an inartistic hand, denotes pride, ostentation, love of dress, frivolity, conceit, uncertain temper, and a fondness for money, especially if the first finger is longer than the third.

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When Apollo encroaches upon the mount of Mercury, it gives power in the creation of Art, and a natural gift of correctness in drawing. Being lovers of harmony, music, and worshippers of the beautiful, they devote much time to study and cultivation ; their associates, it may also be noticed, are generally intelligent people.

If deficient, indifference with regard to Art, lack of ambition, talent, hope and brightness.

### MOUNT OF MERCURY

(LOCATED AT THE BASE OF THE LITTLE FINGER.)

If of ordinary fulness it denotes activity, genius, inventive powers, dili-

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gence, good business capabilities, cheerfulness, and wit. Mercury's subjects are lively, fond of pleasure, change and travelling.

They are industrious, clever in science and profound studies, energetic in commerce and constructive, but being fond of variety they generally take an interest in a number of pursuits.

With square fingers it gives love of order, correctness and systematic arrangement. Their inclinations turn towards the following professions, which of course, like everything else, depend whether the rest of the hand agrees.

Accountants, Inventors, Teachers, Authors, Commercial travellers, Tradesmen, &c., in accordance with the development and lines which will be mentioned later on, in their turn.

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If deficient, inability to manage their own affairs in a profitable manner, and utter indifference to ordinary practical duties.

Orators have this mount well marked, also Critics and Solicitors if they are good advocates.

When very excessive it is a bad sign, as the owners are untruthful, malicious, and mischief loving, their envy and jealousy prompting them to do base actions. They are neither honourable nor upright in their dealings, and delight in spoiling the pleasures of others, in a secret manner, but happily for the sake of general peace it is not often seen in that overgrown state.

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### MOUNTS OF MARS

One is found beneath the mount of Mercury and the other between Jupiter and Venus. When well marked they give slight aggressiveness, courage, presence of mind, self-control and great power of resisting temptation. Surgeons, Commanders and Soldiers possess a high mount added to square or spatulate fingers. The ardent in affection, and all who prove fascinating to the opposite sex, have a fair representation of Mars.

It is also of much assistance to speakers and lecturers when prominent, as it enables them to argue well, and in debate few can get the better of them. When this characteristic is excessive it points to a suspicious nature, violent and irritable temper, especially

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when this formation is the most noticeable under Jupiter.

They are tyrants and compel those over whom they have authority to submit to their wishes in an unpleasant manner, if the ring of Venus is also seen, the owners are stubborn and inflexible, rarely or never forgiving any real or fancied injuries and frequently revenging themselves on the offenders when opportunity offers. Absence of the mount shows little energy, want of resolution and cowardice.

### MOUNT OF VENUS

(OR BALL OF THE THUMB.)

Love being the principal magnate to happiness it is properly represented by the largest mount and judging from the craving everyone has for affection in one

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form or another and the influence it has over each individual's existence to make or mar their joys, it may rightly be considered one of life's great essentials.

Warmth of feeling, and love of the opposite sex is shown when this mount is full and well formed, also taste for music and brilliancy in society.

Mesmerists are fully aware of the magnetic power of this part of the hand, and by contact can impart sensations to those who care to be experimented on. Deficient in fulness, flabby looking, with a heavily marked cross lined mount, points out a person who has squandered their best feelings, and are indifferent and contemptuous towards the opposite sex.

According to the appearance and feel of this mount, much of the individual's

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character can be gauged. Almost absent, or very flat, denotes coldness of disposition, meanness of spirit, wilful disregard for the feelings of others, and much selfishness. Too fully developed, impulsiveness, exaggeration, passionate affection, and rashness in action. Although fond of flirtation, and a trifle changeable, love means much to these subjects, but when disappointed in it, they lose sight of justice and reason while the resentment lasts, and act in as evil a manner as they are capable of, morally ruining themselves. A good mount of Saturn, however, moderates this to a great extent and gives more prudence.

Singers, Musicians, Poets, Actors, &c, who through the exercise of their talents are able to touch the hearts of others,

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possess high but not too excessive mounts of Venus and Luna.

### MOUNT OF LUNA, OR THE MOON

This mount is situated beneath Mars, on the opposite side of the hand to Venus. When full and well formed it shows keen intuition, sentimentality, love of solitude and a dreamy meditative nature; somewhat uncertain in moods, fertile in ideas, restless, fond of excitement and roving.

A formation answering to this description may be seen with Sailors, Travellers, Romance-writers and Poets.

When absent, it denotes dulness of intellect, want of originality and lack of high feeling.

Too excessive, great capriciousness,

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superstition, general inquietude, vague presentiments and longings which cannot be satisfied.

Spiritualists and Clairvoyantes have a very full development, the latter, in addition to this, possess a triangle in the centre of the hand formed by the lines of fate, head and Apollo.

Few are more talkative, original, and entertaining in conversation than those on whose hands Luna is well represented ; but it is only while they are in the humour for it, as their love of solitude prevents them from being generally sociable.

To be accurate the delineator must note the height, markings, and harmony of the mounts and lines, comparing the two hands and if a bad sign is not repeated on the right, or only slightly

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indicated it shows that the habit has been, or will be, corrected. Bad qualities are often seen on otherwise "good hands" for to expect perfection from frail human nature is to be disappointed ; but because some evil tendencies appear, it does not follow that the whole character is hopelessly wicked, there are always redeeming points to be found in every hand, which we claim to be the mirror of the disposition.

## CHIROMANCY

This is a most complicated part of the study, pointing out the signification of the numerous lines.

To observe these with accuracy a reading glass should be obtained, as the markings on the hands of delicately constituted, or nervous people are sometimes so faintly outlined that without it they cannot be readily detected.

Regarding the choice of position, the subject should hold their hands directly in front of them, the delineator sitting where it is possible to command a side view, in this light it will be found that even the faintest suspicion of furrows

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will be distinctly shown up. The hands can either be held wide open or slightly relaxed but the latter position is the most advocated.

### LINES, STARS, CROSSES, &c., ON THE MOUNTS

Numbers of lines crossed on Jupiter, tell of disappointed hopes, and want of success in desired undertakings.

A star, literary talent when other signs correspond, or some surprising advancement in life, the higher up the mount the greater the power, especially if it appears on the finger of Jupiter, as fame and notoriety will then be a certainty.

If at the side of the mount, disappointment in love may be anticipated and the subjects losing faith, become cynical and do not often marry.

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A square gives warning of difficulties to overcome but ultimate success.

Circles on any mount have a happy influence and bring sunshine even to the gloom of Saturn, but on the lines of the palm they have a different signification. A wellmade cross on Jupiter and on Venus indicates a happy marriage, or that the affections will be engaged but once in real unselfish affection.

A triangle shows cleverness, often accompanied by whims and oddities.

An unmarked mount, tells of a life without much ambition, quiet, and undisturbed by any yearnings for fame.

Numbers of lines crossed and re-crossed, tell of great pride, especially when seen on a weak hand.

Lines crossing this mount from the side of the hand, horizontally, uncon-

## The Secrets of the Hand 63

nected with Solomon's ring, predicts deferred wishes, and frustrated plans.

One line on Saturn, gives good fortune : numbers crossed, ill luck.

Two or three lines standing apart from one another, indicate a great, and grand destiny, with distinction and honours.

A cross, peculiar opinions with regard to religion, but if the mount is very high some fatality will be threatened.

Saturn, is called the mount of destiny or fate, and the planet is said to exercise an evil influence over the earth. A star gives warning of danger and when unnaturally full suicidal tendencies. A square shows that the subject will be protected, and escape when in peril.

A triangle, skill in solving mysteries or problems.

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A clear line on Apollo, signifies Artistic merit with success therein, two rays, more than one talent, three, fame and certain celebrity.

Stars, prosperity and gain, if strengthened by good lines of Saturn and Sun.

Triangle, skill in contrivance.

Badly formed cross disappointed hopes and sometimes loss of money.

One branch on Mercury is the result of sudden luck, and success in the invention of scientific things.

Two clearly outlined rays, give evidence of an aptitude for systematic pursuits, also when other characteristics agree, sympathy and the power of healing.

Three furrows, ability in law studies, and great influence as Lecturers, this may be seen on the hands of, those who

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have gained honours and distinction through steady application and hard work.

Numbers of small markings give keen discernment, with interests inclining towards medical studies.

Horizontal lines, attachments or marriages, which will receive further consideration later on.

Stars, sign of eminence, but on a bad hand with other evil tendencies, it points to dishonesty.

A square shows turbulent times, which will require much dexterity to overcome.

A triangle, diplomacy, success in commerce, and on a talented hand, literary fame.

A cross, troubles and vexations.

When the mounts of Mars are covered by a network of lines, there will be many

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worries and disputes to contend with, also the envy and ill will of others to mar the prospects.

A square, power in arguments of a vehement nature.

A cross signifies an accident, and a triangle, that the subject will do some heroic deed. A star shows recklessness and danger.

If Luna is much lined, it denotes worry, anxiety, and restlessness ; sloping towards Mars, love of adventure and daring.

A single line speaks of mediumistic power, keen presentiments, intuition, and unerring instincts.

Long lines across Luna from the wrist, mean voyages, travels, removals, &c., and the horizontal ones, important changes.

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If ascending from the wrist, and breaking in the centre into two pieces, it tells of a proposed journey of great moment, which circumstances will prevent from taking place.

A square, preservation from danger by water, a cross, an unfortunate undertaking, or voyage.

A star, dropsy or watery complaints, and sometimes death from drowning.

A circle indicates harmony and little change, but if there are many lines as well, peace after turmoil.

A triangle is a sign of great genius.

The mount of Venus heavily crossed and recrossed, shows passionate love.

A star, unhappy affection or misfortune through the opposite sex, a cross, happy attachment or gratified ambition.

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Rays from this mount to Mars crossing the hand, speak of lovers quarrels.

A square intensifies the love of solitude, and those who possess it enjoy, and prefer life in seclusion.

An unmarked mount gives evidence of a lack of kindly feeling, and coldness in affection.

## LINE OF LIFE

This line rises under Jupiter and encloses the ball of the thumb, taking its course towards the wrist. If of good length, forming half a circle, clear, strong and unbroken on both hands, a sound constitution and long life are indicated.

Chained at the commencement, delicacy during childhood, but how many years this continues can be determined by the length of the chain.

Small lines cutting into the main one also predict ill health and trifling ailments.

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If short and very faintly traced it points to a brief life, but a long well defined line of Saturn adds strength, and favourably counterbalances to a certain extent this weakness and increases the number of years.

When a speedy dissolution is suggested, it may frequently be noticed on the hands of those who have had, or will have a heavy sorrow to endure and after losing what they prize most in life, do not desire a long existence. Delineators are strongly advised not to mention an early death, or any overwhelming calamity for the sake of making unusual statements, as it might prove a great shock to susceptible people and do much harm.

Amateurs especially are apt to transgress in this particular, and almost with-

## The Secrets of the Hand 71

out exception those whose skill the writer has tested, have instantly remarked that the line of life is not a long one ; the memory of this has been an inducement while writing these pages to remind the thoughtless for the sake of others who may be less indifferent on the subject, that there are times when "silence is golden."

If the line is much broken it tells of many illnesses, on both hands at the same point, a fatal one, but if a weak thread runs through the gap the owner will finally recover.

Crosses represent worries in the home, or troubles which will cause change of circumstances.

Circles, defective or weak sight. Branches ascending towards the fingers correspond with promotions or gains, but

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the downward ones tend to failures and reverses.

Uncrossed rays rising from this line to Jupiter give evidence of gratified wishes and ambitions, crossed turning to Saturn, thwarted hopes caused through circumstances over which the subject has no control.

A twist in the life line reveals a change of profession, or some momentous event may be anticipated.

If a fork appears at the end near the wrist it suggests an excitable nature, but if the line is chained all along its course the owner will suffer from many nervous illnesses.

Loops or islands, except when there are indications of inherited maladies, tell of unhappiness and severe grief. Furrows slanting towards Mercury prognos-

## The Secrets of the Hand 73

ticate the influence of law or business, whether favourable or unfavourable must be judged according to the absence of crosses.

To Mars, domestic quarrels, turning to Apollo, the power of money or Art.

To Luna, sudden changes and events, but if a deep strong line passes over this mount from the life, it shows that the possessor will be tempted to become intemperate. If the life divides into two branches, one turning to Luna, while the other continues its proper course, there will be constant changes, travels, voyages and a varied existence.

When the line of Mars, which runs parallel with the life, is seen, it adds strength, power of fascination, influence over others, and happiness in love if the possessor is not too exacting.

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Running closely connected and occasionally becoming one with it, denotes success in money matters, and if other signs correspond, wealth.

Short parallel lines on Venus point out the influence of others over the affections. Life and head lines joined under the first finger gives quick discernment, practical reasoning and caution.

Continuing for some time without separating, speaks of much conventionality, bashfulness, timidity and lack of independence.

Divided at the commencement, rashness, ambition, ready invention and contrivance, but love of daring generally leads them to do many unaccountable things.

Too wide a space makes the subjects impatient with ideas they do not under-

## The Secrets of the Hand 75

stand or approve of, and too stubborn to be reasonable.

Small rays crossing the life, signify every day worries and vexations.

The number of years are divided into tens, and counted downwards towards the wrist.

## THE HEAD LINE

Rises beneath the index finger, taking its course across the hand.

A sensible character is apparent, when this line is clearly traced and of good length, also high intelligence and an excellent memory. Very long extending over the side of the hand near Mercury, shrewdness in bargaining and in business matters.

Short, stopping in the centre of the palm, shows bad memory, cunning, and great calculation with regard to their own interests.

Numbers of small markings between

## The Secrets of the Hand 77

the head and life lines, when separated beneath Jupiter, tell of vanity and conceit.

A very sloping line promotes imagination and originality, with a small fork at the end, love of justice.

If long, with one branch descending in the direction of Luna, it gives shrewd insight into character, unconventional ideas, love of romance, and inspiration to the talented.

Poets and geniuses who are able to express their thoughts better in writing, or painting than in conversation, often have this peculiarity, more particularly to be noticed when the line of Apollo is good, and the Saturnian rises from the wrist.

Crosses indicate mental worries, islands weakness, and fine threads across, neuralgia or nerve troubles.

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Chained lines belong to the fretful, hysterical and complaining, who lack decision and force of character.

Continuing throughout from its starting point, and falling abruptly to Luna with a star at the end, it denotes brain trouble and probable lunacy.

Broken head lines which slope in this manner are sometimes ascribed to the same cause, but experience supports the opinion that it is generally due to an accident, shock, or severe trouble.

All who are in the habit of creating serious uneasiness, either through misunderstanding the significations, or through wilful intent, ought to be once more reminded that words calculated to produce an injurious effect, should never be uttered.

It is advantageous however, even if

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unflattering, to have the different faults we may possess pointed out, as the knowledge of their existence must necessarily promote a desire to correct them, and attempt to effectually check their growth.

Two parallel branches or a double head line, shows that a considerable amount of property will be inherited, but when this is seen on a bad hand, it also adds deceitful and treacherous actions.

Clear rays rising and joining the heart, speaks of blind, passionate love, unguided by reason, influenced either for good or evil by the object of their affections.

If the head line, instead of continuing its proper course, joins the heart, and appears to become one with it, signifies a degree of fatality, uncontrollable

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jealousy, intensity of passion, foolish actions, and misfortune in love.

White spots point to a successful discovery, or clever invention.

Stars, rheumatism, or chronic complaints, with a broken head line or red spots, an accident.

If a star is found on the line as well as on the mount of Saturn, it gives warning of Paralysis.

Branches to Saturn, money inherited, more than one, many possessions.

A predominating head line, too powerful to correspond with that of the heart, speaks of a nature cold, scheming, and incapable of ideal affection.

If thin, twisted, and unequal, it belongs to the untrustworthy and inconstant.

Branches inclining towards Mercury, give evidence of great shrewdness.

## THE HEART LINE

Commences beneath the mounts of Jupiter or Saturn above the head, inclining in the same direction.

The ideal one begins high on Jupiter registering the most spiritual, generous, thoughtful, and tender devotion.

Unchained and forked on this mount, are possessed by the true and constant, who form but one deep attachment during life, and remain faithful to its memory, even if they fail in obtaining the desired happiness.

Lines rising from Saturn, give great

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control over the feelings, and although these subjects are capable of forming passionate attachments, they are more selfish and exacting than the owners of a Jupiter heart line.

If rising from Saturn and forming many links, it may be associated with fickleness, contrariety, and love of conquest, but when the markings are unnaturally pale and broad, it points to dissipation, and as its possessors have no high ideals, they judge the opposite sex from their own level and despise them.

Another characteristic is, cynical contempt modified or otherwise, according to the branches, which even when kept carefully in the background, is always more or less in evidence.

Jealousy warns by a heavily marked mount of Venus, and the excessive length

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and strength of line, but with a long and much broken girdle of Venus, the feeling becomes unreasonable and uncontrollable.

White spots tell of conquest and happiness in love.

The number of long flirtations are counted by the rays which turn towards Jupiter at the commencement, and inconsistency, by fine lines crossing the main one.

Many disappointments will be experienced if crosses appear, worries and love troubles.

A broad, red, heavy bar, extending completely across the hand and over the side, with short badly formed thumb, belong to those capable of any violence when their affection is unrequited.

Islands indicate a deep sorrow caused by the death of some one much beloved,

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or the severance of a valued friendship.

Breaks, speak of unhappiness and frustrated hopes, sometimes heart weakness.

Dividing into two branches, one ascending to Jupiter, while the other turns down to the head, the subject will escape an unhappy marriage.

Rising from the top of the mount, a high position is likely to be gained through marriage, wealth and power.

If it droops downwards, and joins the head and life together under Saturn or Jupiter on both hands, it gives warning of a severe accident, or an unnatural death.

Clear branches show kindness, and warmth of affection, but if long and heavily traced, there will be unreasonable prejudice, active dislike, and equally

strong feelings of love. When these bars are numerous, cut up, and unjoined to the main one, insincerity may be suspected, and bad friendships are likely to be formed by the possessor.

Heart lines which lie very close to the head, are not good to see, as the affections will be governed by calculation, and worldly considerations.

If punctured by tiny dots like pin pricks along its course, it indicates palpitation of the heart, excitability, and general weakness, natural marks like a wart, blister, or gathering, may also be noticed on the hands of those who suffer from internal ulceration.

Thin, wavering outlines turning up at the end, show deceit, and weak tyranny, too highly placed, or piercing the first finger, jealous suspicion.

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A short line only beginning under Apollo, indicates lack of prudence in affection.

If absent altogether, it gives utter callousness and cruelty.

Stars, are signs of passionate and violent love, squares, the power of resisting temptation, and black spots, the likelihood of fevers.

Two forked lines dividing, to form a circle round the index finger by the meeting ends, is called Solomon's ring, seen but seldom in full, on many hands.

If clearly traced, a delight in visionary things is given, keen intuition, clairvoyance, occult studies, thought reading, and a love of solving mysteries, but it is rarely the possessor is happy, or moderately satisfied, especially if the mount of Luna is also well represented, being un-

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able to enjoy ordinary pleasures, or to estimate life at its true value, they are disappointed at its imperfections, because their ideal expectations are too high to be realized.

## THE RING,

### OR GIRDLE OF VENUS AND URANUS

Forms half a circle above the heart line, nearer the fingers, beneath or across the mounts.

Ancient Chiromantists as well as many of the modern ones strongly condemn this sign and after a few brief words, associating it with vicious propensities, dismiss the subject with the consoling remark that it is but seldom visible.

Experience, however, strengthens the belief that it appears either fully or in part on most hands, but it is only when brutality and evil instincts are indicated

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by other characteristics previously mentioned that it is likely to have an injurious effect.

Clearly cut lines are often seen with scientists and professional men and women who are remarkable for their intelligence and ~~talk~~ing, it ~~is~~ a sign of mental eminence, the disconsolate feelings of the writer at not possessing it may be imagined.

As we are told the Girdle of Uranus but seldom appeared in bygone days, no doubt lines to correspond with the rapid strides of education have formed since then to represent the extra activity of the mind. These subjects are usually of a highly strung excitable nature, contrary in moods, somewhat despondent and sensitive with regard to the opinions of others.

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When this line runs right across the mounts it belongs to the unreasonable and touchy who have frequently a sullen and unforgiving temper ; being capable of the most passionate affection their jealousy is unfortunately in proportion and intense suffering is caused through wilful misunderstandings or unjust suspicions.

They love power and are unwilling to occupy a subordinate position, yet when their highest ambitions are gratified they invariably cease to value them.

If excessively long, heavily marked, broken or with branches, and deep lines on the mount of Venus reckless tendencies may be suspected which any great sorrow or disappointment will probably influence to dissipation.

If the fingers of Apollo and Saturn

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are equal in length, on a short broad hand with spatulate terminations and Girdle of Uranus, horse racing and betting will be much indulged in.

With a long clear outline, high mounts of Saturn and Luna, all energies are devoted to study, but at times much irritability may be expected from these subjects.

Short, well defined tracings are possessed by the ardent in affection, who can be both fascinating and attractive.

When pointed fingers accompany this and a thumb turning back at the tip, there will be great extravagance, enthusiasm and quick changes of moods. Nothing short of perfection satisfies the square fingered owner of this characteristic, and any completed work which is not absolutely correct in every detail,

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outweighs in their estimation its merits, and by discouragement they often blight the hopes of those who are toiling on, and by their talents creating the best result they are capable of.

The Girdle of Uranus with excessively spatulate fingers may be associated with unforgiving and revengeful feelings which of course must be judged according to the position, length and appearance of this line; there is also much philosophical method in their actions, and profound disgust for any weakness found in the character of others.

It is but seldom the possessor of a heavily branched, long girdle of Venus is truly happy in love or marriage, because they expect too much and if once those who occupy a high position in their esteem, fall from the lofty

pinnacle on which they are placed, contempt and pity becomes their lot ; but it is useless as well as impossible afterwards to regain that lost favour, for although their own faults may be legion they will not tolerate even a suspicion of them in another.

On a weak hand, nervousness, restlessness and provoking temper may be expected.

LINE OF SATURN OR CAREER USUALLY  
CALLED FATE

This line commences, principally from the wrist, life centre of the hand, or from Luna.

The best one to possess begins at the wrist and ascends to the mount from which it takes its name. Extending to

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the root of the second finger, accompanied by a long heart line with many branches, it indicates inconstancy, caprice and coquetry which will be carried to great lengths, causing misunderstandings, quarrels and unhappiness, but on hands unlikely to be influenced in this manner, it predicts sorrow occasioned by hasty actions, or danger as the other significations dictate.

If weak, confused and twisted there will be misfortunes, uncertainty and probable loss of money during the time specified.

Upward rays towards the fingers tell of successes achieved, but the downward ones denote obstacles and troubles.

Deeply traced Saturnian lines, with small gaps appearing at intervals, point to a mixture of good and bad fortune

unless another line commences at the side before the first one ends, when a change of great importance may be looked for. According to the usual rules, the first thirty-five years of life are represented by the distance from the beginning of the line to the head, however as all hands are not evenly divided, it creates some difficulties, but practice will soon enable the delineator to distinguish the difference and through careful observation acquire more accuracy. Varied and eventful careers are marked by many crosses, but if the line is broken by them there will be disappointed hopes and failures.

When a branch from Luna joins the Saturnian, some happy influence will in all probability be brought to bear upon the career and give great assistance ;

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but if the fork continues apart until it unites to the heart and turns up to Jupiter at the end, riches will be gained through marriage or inheritance.

Islands are generally found with those who form hopeless attachments where marriage for one reason or another is impossible ; but most writers attribute it to temptation or evil doing, this however can only be applied to the hands on which corresponding tendencies are visible.

Small horizontal rays cutting across, indicate vexations about money matters, or business close to the heart, social worries and love troubles.

Double furrows running parallel with one another bring success in enterprise, especially if they divide at the end, and terminate on different mounts.

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Only rising from the life bear witness that circumstances during early years retarded the subject's progress, but all honours afterwards gained will be the result of their own efforts and merits.

Not commencing until the plain of Mars, success will be somewhat tardy in arriving, but ending in clear furrows on the mount of Saturn ultimate prosperity will be enjoyed.

The sociable usually have a Saturnian line rising from the Moon, without very noticeable developments of Saturn and Luna ; they are also fortunate in life and gain wealth either by inheritance, or through the kind intervention of others, and gratify their desire for pleasure, change and excitement.

Stars threaten loss of money or position at the time indicated, but if a square

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appears near, the danger will be overcome through prudent actions.

A sudden disappearance of the line shows financial difficulties, or with other signs, inaction during illness, but if it starts again in a clear manner good fortune will be gained after a period of uncertainty.

When absent altogether a common place existence may be expected without high aims or ambitions.

Hollow palms with very flat mounts denote misfortunes and ill luck.

## LINE OF APOLLO,

### FORTUNE OR THE SUN.

The best one to possess begins on Luna and runs in an even outline, making a clear furrow on the mount of Apollo.

If originating on the plain of Mars it is a prognostication of many difficulties, and it will be late in life before the efforts are appreciated or crowned with success.

Faintly traced, unbranched lines of Saturn and Apollo augurs an uneventful career.

If bars cross the main one from Mars,

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enemies will be numerous, and cause much sorrow through envy, and malice, but if broken by them, the prospects are likely to be injured through mischievous interference.

Joining the life line at its starting point, represents money, or inherited property, but on talented hands with high mounts of Jupiter, success will most probably be gained through the pursuit of Art, or Literature.

Those who are fond of hobbies, and have a latent desire to pursue various studies, possess many broken parallel lines which spread into confused branches on the mount of Apollo, but as a rule lack of patience and perseverance prevents them from using their gifts to the best advantage, and winning the fame they so ardently desire.

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Universal celebrity and power is indicated when three deeply-traced even rays divide and extend high up towards the third finger ; if crossed there will be opposition to contend with, before the high ambition is attained.

Feeble, unsteady Apollo lines denote uncertainty with regard to money matters, want of harmony and many disappointing failures after repeated efforts.

Worldliness and love of wealth is pointed out if the first finger exceeds the third in length and a long head line runs straight across, over the side of the hand.

If united to the Fate line, at the commencement, all advancement and fame will be won chiefly through earnest application and personal merit.

When branches join from Luna,

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legacies are likely to benefit the possessors, or some influential person will be instrumental in obtaining a wealthy appointment for them.

Crossed rays from Venus denote troubles and worries caused through the affections, frequently seen when the course of true love does not run smoothly.

Stars on the Solar line are considered by some to be signs of exceptional good fortune or distinction, and others contend that danger to finance is threatened however, according to the writer's opinion both are equally correct, the former if supported by corroborative evidence, and the latter when losses are indicated by many islands and a broken up line of Saturn, to suggest that difficulties are

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likely to follow after fame has been gained.

When squares appear on the line, obstacles will fortunately be surmounted before a dangerous crisis is reached.

Triangles may be noticed with the eminently intellectual, but large circles on the line are predictions of evil caused by snares or errors which will in all probability interfere with the social position and worldly possessions.

Acuteness of feeling, love of cultivation, keen sense of justice and quick sympathy may also be found where the line of Apollo appears, except when seen on objectionable types of hands, such as the very narrow palms with deep hollows and twisted fingers, etc., as it then loses its power for good, and indicates misused talents and ignoble pursuits.

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When this line is absent there will be conceit and lack of success from personal merit.

### THE HEPATICA, LINE OF HEALTH OR MERCURY

Those blessed with good constitutions, who rarely suffer from illnesses seldom possess this line, its absence indicating vigour, liveliness, and the capacity of enjoying life.

It is not often the Hepatica runs in a clearly traced unbroken furrow towards the mount of Mercury, but when this is apparent the result is very favourable, as the health and temperament may be determined according to its evenness and strength.

Indigestion answers to thin meagre palms with broken up lines, while bilious-

## The Secrets of the Hand 105

ness and liver complaints are indicated by the various twistings and windings. Branching into two parts foretells a serious illness, but if past a space is generally visible ; however to obtain the most correct conclusions it must be carefully compared with that of the life, for when the latter is strongly marked with a defective line of health, the subject is likely to suffer from many trifling ailments.

A well defined life line at the commencement continuing in a feeble manner afterwards, with heavily traced Hepatica accompanied by another ray commonly called *via lasciva*, denotes that folly, wasted vitality, or wilful carelessness has caused this loss of physical power.

Before and after severe attacks of influenza, especially with much depression

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of spirits, the mount of Saturn becomes unnaturally full and sometimes tiny red or black dots also appear.

If the Hepatica starts from the life, delicacy is indicated, thin threads across, headaches and neuralgia, islands, weakness and chest complaints.

Blindness gives its warning by a thinly traced or broken head line, black dots, circle on the life and a star where the finger of Apollo joins the palm.

A parallel line to the health, otherwise via lasciva gives physical endurance and warmth of affection.

## THE MARRIAGE LINE

Long, deep, horizontal furrows, running across the mount of Mercury, taking their course towards Apollo, denote marriages, and the shorter ones, serious attachments.

Illnesses on the opposite side afterwards, but ultimate recovery may be expected, when the ray droops slightly downwards, and ends in fine fringed ends, if however it touches the heart line on both hands, the possessor is likely to be a widow or widower.

This sign is sometimes seen with a

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disappointment on the heart line, when the subject has never married, but remained faithful to an only love, but in this practical age, constancy is becoming rarer, and no doubt in cases of misplaced affections, it must be decidedly more comfortable to be able to adapt the feelings to circumstances.

Man's love is of Man's life, a thing apart.

'Tis woman's whole existence !

are words which seem to be but a memory of the past—at least the latter part, contradicted by many of the hands of the present day, who, in hurrying on with their new interests and occupations now open to them, only dream of a treasured attachment, in leisure hours, and as lightly forget it.

Two parallel lines very close together, indicate the affection for another after

## The Secrets of the Hand 109

marriage, two at a moderate distance, a second matrimonial venture.

What unlimited scope for study, the royal hand of Henry the Eighth would have given to a thoughtful Palmist, for no doubt only a few mortals besides, have ever had a mount so disfigured by horizontal bars, as his must have been, to signify such continual readiness to take the part of bridegroom, upon so many occasions.

If the line runs up to the finger, instead of going across the mount, the owner will probably not marry at all.

A small fork at the end speaks of many years engagement, or that distance will separate the lovers before marriage, but when a long drooping one of this description appears, it will result in unhappiness after the ceremony has taken place.

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If only slightly broken, the likelihood of quarrels and misunderstandings are shown, but a large gap signifies a heavy grief, caused to the possessor by the death of someone much beloved.

Islands indicate troubles, in connection with matrimony, separation, and misfortunes, a thick crossed line added to this, running from Venus to Luna near the wrist, signifies that intemperance will probably be the cause of it.

When the attachment line is near the heart, marriage will take place early in life, from eighteen to twenty-five, nearer the finger, at a more mature age.

Indications of but little feeling connected with it, are often marked by a change on the fate, and indistinct rays on Mercury.

Wealthy marriages are fore-shown by

## The Secrets of the Hand 111

attendant branches from Luna, joining a wrist fate line, also when a furrow starts from the Racette, and runs clearly across Venus, parallel with the life, up to the mount of Jupiter, a little more consideration with regard to the importance of a suitable choice, would do away with much of the unhappiness, which is so apparent in too many cases already.

For example, the miserly grasping hand with its crooked fingers, and turned in tips, is not calculated to bring much felicity to the too generously disposed subjects, they would naturally become disgusted with each other, and all harmony would be destroyed, but on the contrary, indications of thrift and economy would favourably check inordinate extravagance without producing any discord.

It would also be well, if the possessor

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of refined pointed fingers, with superior mental capabilities, and cultivated tastes, avoided the heavy thumbed, thick puffed out hands of the coarse minded, as the result of this union would only create feelings of active loathing on the part of the former, and mutual dissatisfaction.

To many, Alphonse Karr truly says —“Love in marriage should be the accomplishment of a beautiful dream, and not, as it too often proves, the end.”

Small thumbed men who have the misfortune to be mated with large thumbed, hard handed wives, do not dare to be happy, because they have not sufficient will power, to struggle against their fate, but when the two parties are owners of equally large thumbs, the case seems somewhat hopeless, as there will be constant strife, both

## The Secrets of the Hand 113

desiring to rule, and neither willing to give way to the other.

If rays from Venus, end in a square near the centre of the hand, the owner will escape an unhappy marriage.

The fair sex appear to make the most disastrous mistakes in matrimony, owing to lack of courage, being unable to bear the unkind ridicule the world levels at elderly spinsterhood, will accept even the poorest apology of a man, whom in their hearts they despise, rather than remain in single blessedness.

This sensitiveness of feeling will undoubtedly continue among the weaker ones, until common sense comes to the rescue.

## TEMPERS, ETC.

Apart from other signs, much may be determined from the manner in which the hands are used.

The nervous, fidgeting, twisting and twining of those who lack moral courage, the authoritative gestures of the commanding, the quick, jerky movements of the irritable, the slow heaviness of the sullen, etc, are all well known indications, betraying the possessor most unmistakably.

Irritability is again shown, by a deeply cut Girdle of Uranus, and finely lined

## The Secrets of the Hand 115

mount of Mars, but a winding Hepatica speaks of bad temper, caused principally through ill health.

A degree of wilfulness with hasty temper is found, when pink hands, short fingers, and small thumbs are seen.

Very white, unchanging in colour, inclined to be thick, belong to the sulky and unforgiving, the smooth, polished looking palms, to the inconsiderately selfish. Thin, weak fingers with knotted joints, denote fault finding, and discontent, and the broad palms, heavily hinged, thick fingers, may be associated with fury and violence.

If the hands are habitually of a soft red colour, it may be ascribed to a passionate, but forgiving temper.

Well formed nails, a fairly even length of palm and fingers, used in a straight-

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forward manner, indicates cheerfulness, and good nature.

It is a sign of judicious sophistry, when the head line divides in two, one branch turning to Luna, and the other inclining slightly towards Mercury, but to what extent it is practised, may be determined according to the slope of the line, and the formation of thumb and fourth finger.

It may also be noticed, that all clever actors and actresses have the power of communicating almost as many ideas by the gestures of their hands, as by their words, and those who are unable to do this, are dubbed inanimate, and fail to win much applause.

The active brain imparts directions to the hands, to be carried out in actions by which many characteristics are revealed, to all who make a study of it.

## The Secrets of the Hand 117

Who has not felt a certain shrinking from the contact of some hands, with an inclination afterwards to wash off the infection of that touch ; and again, the appearance of others, which causes an instinctive shiver of apprehension, at the amount of evil power they possess ; lastly, the feeling of security the strong, wholesome, reliable one is capable of producing, which may be seen in equal numbers, with the ugly, as well as the beautifully formed, who are owners of the essential qualities.

The left hand is the index of inherited dispositions, natural inclinations, and gifts, but on the right, improvement of talents, or wasted opportunities may be looked for.

With left hand people however, the other is the passive member.

## THE QUADRANGLE

Comprises the space between the head and heart lines, which, to be favourable, should spread away from one another as they take their course across the hand, to give a straight-forward sensible character and high moral courage.

If contracted, there will be much foolish conventionality, narrow mindedness, little real stability, and often poverty and meagre possessions.

When very wide, heedlessness and reckless actions are foreshown.

A single cross near the centre denotes

## The Secrets of the Hand 119

great curiosity and secrecy, but if a number appear, outside influences, likely to affect the life, are indicated.

Many lines predict mental strain, a star, or small triangle, genius and occult powers, a circle, an unfortunate undertaking which will occasion much worry.

### THE TRIANGLE

Formed by the life, head and health, when the latter is absent Apollo takes its place.

A clear outline is subservient to superior qualities of the mind and scientific tastes, but if many crosses are visible, there will be a severe struggle before success is won.

If badly formed, stupidity or want of application.

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### TRIPLE BRACELET, OR RACETTE

When the lines on the wrist are well defined they add considerably to the rest of the hand.

Branches towards Luna foretell continual change and travelling.

One chained one, signifies poverty, but with crosses near, active labour will counteract it and bring ultimate good fortune.

If two bars are visible, success from personal merits, may be looked for; three, pleasant friendships.

Four, high distinction, on talented hands and with a corresponding life line, happy old age.

Upward furrows to the palm agree with advancement in position, the downward ones losses.

## The Secrets of the Hand 121

Many are under the impression that the Racette is not visible unless the wrist is bent to make wrinkles appear, but as the natural markings only are taken into consideration no special meaning can be attached to any others.

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

The following extract has been copied from Desbarrolles work on the subject for the benefit of those who have not seen it.

“Lines on the far side of Mercury running from the root of the little finger show children, if long and straight, sons, but if sloping daughters.”

These signs have not always been found reliable, and in the writer's opinion much depends upon the amount of affection lavished, and whether they are likely

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to be regarded as desirable blessings or otherwise.

A broken furrow of this description has sometimes been seen with a corresponding trouble on the heart line, to show that grief has been caused through the death of a much loved child.

Rays on the heart near the percussion, taken in conjunction with the lines on Mercury, give greater assistance in arriving at the truest conclusions.

The line of Intuition, which is but seldom seen, rises on Luna, outside the health, extending across Mars towards Mercury, and belongs solely to Clairvoyants, the Mystical; and dreamily absent minded.

Hasty readings of the hand without deductions, are hopelessly incorrect, for the principal difficulties of Palmistry, lie

## The Secrets of the Hand 123

in weighing the respective merits, agreeing with the development, or in other words, subtracting the right amount from each, after due deliberation with regard to the position, partial, or full formation of lines, prominence of some mounts, flatness of others, etc. and above all, the delineator must possess sound theoretical knowledge of the science.

All Chiromantists who ask questions, and watch the tell tale countenance of the subject whose hand they are pretending to read, ought to be avoided because they are impostors.

Anyone who has really studied, can give a clear outline without hesitation, or as easily write out what a photographed hand reveals, without knowing to whom it belongs.

Others, on purpose to keep their

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identity a secret, make casts of them, according to the instructions given in "The Palmist," which are as follows——

"Take a couple of ordinary wax candles, place in a shallow tin, and melt in the oven. Remove the wicks. When quite soft, press the hands downwards into the wax, and do not remove the hand until the wax has hardened.

When quite cold, mix some rather fine plaster of Paris in a basin of cold water, as thick as whipped cream, and quite smooth, pour or spoon this into the wax mould, and leave to harden.

When the plaster is quite hard, melt off the wax, either by placing it in the oven, or by pouring boiling water over it. The hot water will not harm the plaster cast, which should be well dried afterwards. It takes a day or two before

## The Secrets of the Hand 125

the cast is quite dry, and in the meantime it can be trimmed round the edges, and smoothed between the fingers, if necessary, with a pocket knife."

It is impossible to say whether the directions, although so clearly given are easy to carry out, not having had any personal experience of the experiment.

Few, even among the educated, really seem to understand what Chiromy and Chiromancy consists of, or what its limits are.

Too much is expected, and many imagine that even the very minutest details ought to be given, which it is impossible to do according to the scientific method: doubtless there are intuitionists, but clairvoyance not being an ordinary gift, is possessed by very few, however, most of the pretenders

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who do so much mischief, lay claim to it to cover their want of practical knowledge.

The hand is simply an outline map of the owner's life, with the principal events etc. plainly marked thereon, talents, and dispositions, and more than this cannot conscientiously be done without stepping outside the boundary.

These hints have been given in condensed form, chiefly for the benefit of those who have so frequently asked the writer to coach them for an hour or two before Bazaars, at which they have readily promised, without any previous study, knowing little or nothing about what they have undertaken, to act as Palmists, and have at the eleventh hour begged for assistance, because they desire

## The Secrets of the Hand 127

some foundation for their general guess work.

This certainly does not tend to raise the Science, or do away with the prejudice the careless, or unscrupulous have been guilty of raising.

If this small endeavour to reveal the "Secrets of the Hand," has raised a gleam of interest, perhaps it will induce its readers to procure larger, and more advanced works on the subject, to complete the study.

THE END



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