

TO  
**HERMETIC STUDENTS**

BY  
**JAMES U. SPENCE.**



**PUBLISHED BY**

**HERMETIC BOOK CONCERN,**

**509 VAN NESS AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.**





...A fairer, more propi-  
tious day could not have been made to order.

In former issues of our "Proceedings," we have striven by words to picture the decorations, and general appearance of the parlors in which the sessions were held. For the Eighth Annual Convocation, we have the pleasure of referring to our frontispiece and saying: Look on this picture and then on that.

The sound of the chimes, by Master of Ceremonies, C. W. Weld, silenced the hum of harmonious, loving voices, as they announced the beginning of another Convocation.

The rising signal brought the comrades to their feet, to join in chanting the "Mantrim of the Year."

The Master of Ceremonies read the call for the Convocation, adding a few pertinent words of warm greeting and welcome, to all comrades present, as follows:—

HEADQUARTERS HERMETIC BROTHERHOOD,  
509 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 15, 1901.

COMRADES BELOVED: Year after year, age after age, we have met and parted. Because we belong, we still listen and are pleased to hear the sound of each other's voices; to be permitted to look into each other's eyes and to feel the glad pressure of the welcoming hand. We are more to each other than friends or Brothers. We are Comrades, sworn by the heart's tenderest ties to aid and assist each other, from life to death, and from death to life. The true Brother so recognizes himself, and all his Comrades.

The closing year has been one of intense activity, within the Brotherhood. Its corps of trained workers have been urged to the utmost. The results are very gratifying, in the harmony, unity, and peaceful progress of those within our ranks. But we tell you more of this in detail, at the Eighth Annual Convocation of the Hermetic Brotherhood, of L. and E., which is hereby called to convene in the usual manner, on Sunday, March 18th, at 10 o'clock A.M., in the Home Temple, 509 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, Cal.; the same to remain in session, during the day and evening.

Cannot every member who receives this call find, at least, time to write us that they have not forgotten the Past, upon which the Present is builded? If they cannot be with us in person, let their written words burn with the fire from off the great high altar of Ancient Days.

[Attest] E. TITCOMB,  
Scribe.

W. P. PHELON, M. D.,  
E. B., C. of L.

My comrades, time moves ever forward; never backward, and the turning of the wheel has once more brought our planet to that position in its orbit which we call the Vernal Equinox, the date of the ancient feast of Atlantis, which we are congregated to-day to celebrate. It is with more

the love of God and the Christos has said. As we stand to-day we are nothing if not co-operative. I have heard the thoughts of some concerning the stability of the Brotherhood. I have not the faintest idea that the Order will cease to be.

It is very much better that this Convocation state how things really are, than to simply say the propaganda work is flourishing. I desire those who go forth from this Convocation shall feel we are doing our best. With these remarks, I call your attention to some necessary items which the Master of Ceremonies will now present.

The Master of Ceremonies then said: "The first subject to be taken up will be a Memorial Day for the Order. Remarks are in order." After some remarks the 23rd of February was fixed as the date for the annual Memorial Day of the Order. This time was chosen in remembrance of the passing on to Knot 10 of Mrs. M. M. Phelon who so generously and ably assisted the Invisible Section, and sustained Elder Brother Phelon in times of discouragement when starting the present manifestation of the Hermetic Brotherhood. It is intended to be a day of remembrance of every Hermetic Brother that has ever lived upon the earth.

It was asked that a committee of three on propaganda be appointed to report to the Convocation during the afternoon session. The following comrades were chosen: Albert W. Craig, Chairman; Mrs. M. E. Harris; Dr. Hattie Lacy of Chicago.

J. Livingstone Mott, Elder Brother in charge of the Southeastern Section having resigned, Elder Brother Hugh Knight was appointed to fill the vacancy.

As the transfer of the Headquarters to the Pacific Coast was completed, the office of Elder Brother in Charge of this Coast has been discontinued.

It was suggested that a frequent letter from Headquarters to each of the Knots, there to be placed on file, would be of advantage. This has been tried with marked success before.

The Elder Brother of the Temple—"The Temple Talks" have been published for two years. I would like to have them go out as the Official organ of the Hermetic Brotherhood. It was so ordered.

Comrade M. E. Harris offered this resolution: "Whereas some of the members of this order desire occasionally to consult with



Indian people—so gentle, so obedient, so grateful—by educating them in sound morals and economic industrialism. It is proposed to establish a school at Benares or Calcutta, for which a fund of one hundred thousand dollars is necessary for its equipment. American, Indian, and Japanese teachers will be appointed to teach the pupils.

“To all humanitarians, to all Christian philanthropists, Dharmapala appeals. He has faith in the generosity of the noble-minded American people. Contributions payable to the ‘Hermetic Brotherhood’ will be added to this fund. Address ‘Hermetic Brotherhood,’ 509 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California.”

We have been able to present a very good likeness of the Rev. H. Dharmapala on the opposite page.

M. of C.—“The next number on the program is music. As the time is passing, we will omit the music, and hear a poem from Comrade Rockwood on: ‘Fragments from Concentration.’”

### FRAGMENTS FROM CONCENTRATIONS.

Peering from the rim of the silence,

I sought the records of departed years;

The mists of the ages rolled past me.

Fraught with joys and mem'ries blotted by tears.

I sought for angel-penned records,

I found the *God-stamped* impressions of things;  
On the trestle-board of His aura,

The *real* of manifest destiny clings;

The past, present, and future are there,

Forming His Scriptures, most holy, sublime;  
And nowhere else are they printed

In their fullness, in the boundaries of time.

On His trestle-board are recorded facts,

Simply to be drawn, ensured, accomplished acts.

There gleams forth Lemuria's lost lore,

Portraying the glories that buried lie

'Neath the Pacific's foam-crested wave,

Where questioning souls can but vainly pry;

think I shall ever leave it.

Mrs. Rockwood.—“The Hermetic Brotherhood has taught me many, many very valuable lessons in many ways.”

Mr. Rockwood.—“I am glad to be with you to-day. It is seven years this coming fall since I became a member-in-bounds of the Hermetic Brotherhood. I do not know that I have ever regretted joining. I have received many valuable lessons. I cannot talk very much; sometimes I can scribble a little, but I can say this order has been to me two things, a nursery and a training school. Through it has been nursed the highest, purest aspirations of a soul seeking the heights; as a training school it has trained down many of the fighting proclivities that I had years ago. I could not bear to have my pet ideas opposed. Through this training school, I can hear them criticized, analyzed and dispersed; but like the eternal qualities of truth, they ever rise and flourish just the same.”

Weld.—“They say brevity is the soul of wit. I find that the Hermetic Brotherhood is the very best organization to assist one to help self.”

Fong.—“Elder Brother, I have made this journey from Chicago to San Francisco for two reasons. The first reason is to renew old acquaintanceship—though I was here last year, in my astral body. As I could not make any speech then, this year I took my body along. I am not much of a speaker, but you will excuse me. For the second reason, I came here to get something so that I shall not be lacking when the proper time comes in Chicago to do certain work. It shall not be by my lacking that it shall not be done. When the Elder Brother left Chicago, something crept in the way, that obstructed the forces of the H. B. there, to some extent. It is not dead. Nor is it slumbering. It is only waiting for the right opportunity and time. The invisible promises will be fulfilled, and it is that I shall not be then lacking in power when the time comes for it to go on with renewed vigor.”

Boyd.—“My heart is almost too full for utterance. I am so thankful that I am able to be here to-day. It is due to the help of the comrades during my illness that I am here. If you all knew the comfort I have received from this Order, none of you would lack for one moment, faith and the sustaining power. Elder Brother, and comrades, I am very glad to be here to-day, and it is because of your help that I am able to be here.”

Holtum.—“In it I live and move and have my being.”

Beasley.—“The H. B. is all right. I was glad to hear it referred



of the Astronomers, (blind as they are to the hint contained in the constant change in the obliquity of our Ecliptic)—which takes place in about 2,592,000 years, or 100 Precessions; this is divided into four equal groups of 4 Ages, whose duration is ruled,—not according to 7,—but to a progression of 4, 3, 2 and 1, or respectively  $36^\circ$ ,  $27^\circ$ ,  $18^\circ$  and  $9^\circ$ , on the sphere, and who correspond to the Hindu Ages of Satya, Treta, Dwapara and Kali Yuga. It may be appropriate here to remark that, as the obliquity of our Ecliptic is at present  $23^\circ 27' 9''$ .42, according to Hansen, and is steadily decreasing towards the Equator, it can be asserted that we have so far hardly begun a Dwapara Age of the Earth; instead of being, as most Hindu writers assert, in the Kali Yuga, although it may be that the present time is also especially the Kali period of their particular race.

Much more could be said about the laws of periodicity and their various forms and most complicated applications in all the kingdoms of Nature; but the above will suffice to prove that, while the Septenary factor is very important as well as quite common and productive of some marvelous results, yet it is absolutely insufficient to cover all evolutions, as well as to influence all the phases of human life. Therefore, I think this will go to show how useless it is to attempt to reduce all periodicity to only one factor,—and to Seven at that,—all the more so, since many apparent septenary groups can be proven to be merely visible segments of 10 and 12. But the full study and divulgation of the laws of periodicity and cycles has yet to be made, in our modern times,—tho' it was well known to the Ancient Sages, who jealously guarded their knowledge with the utmost secrecy; and it seems that it would be well now, if those Brothers of H. B. who could, would direct their studies and researches on that subject,—which leads to the understanding of much occult lore,—even if it be only by keeping the matter in mind and watching for occasions to collect data and material for following Periodicity under its various disguises.

A. MARQUES.

The Hermetic Brotherhood do not especially recommend the study of "Periodicity and Cycles." Comrade Marques has been misinformed. But we are much obliged for the information the mistake has drawn out.

W. P. PHELON, Elder Bro. H. B.

Dr. Phelon: I had a nice letter from our Charlie. How we love him, and how disappointed he was because he was not here. Now I want to thank him. I cannot find words to express the emotions that well up in my heart as I think of the hours of intense energy that he has put on the greatest work of his life, and that out of the fullness of his love, out of the fullness of all that he has learned, of all of his ex-