

THE BEAUTIFUL PHILOSOPHY OF INITIATION.

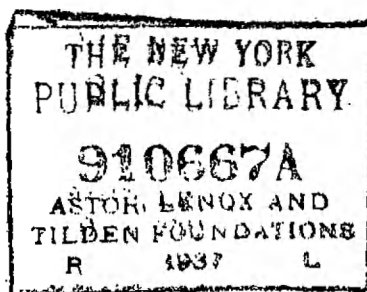
Being the Philosophy of an Arcane Fraternity, which is taught to all its students, and which they are taught to individualize in their own life.



Issued by the "Imperial Order."

Privately printed by
The Philosophical Publishing Co.,
Allentown, Pa.

By instructions of
The Royal Fraternity Association.



ROLL OF HONOR.

Some of those who have been willing to sacrifice themselves and all that they had in the cause of the Fraternity.

PASCHAL BEVERLY RANDOLPH, M.D.

JAMES R. PHELPS, M.D.

KATE C. RANDOLPH, M.D.

SIDNEY H. BEARD.

HAROLD W. WHISTON.

J. TODD FERRIER.

EDWARD H. BROWN, M.D.

FREDERICK H. ALLEN.

~~FRANZ HARTMANN.~~

FREEMAN B. DOWD.

TO ALL STUDENTS.

You must strictly observe the following rules:

To make it impossible for our writings, books, letters, etc., ever falling into wrong hands, not even in case of sudden decease of a member, all are solemnly obligated to the following:

All printed matters, letters, etc., of the Order, of which this is a part, in fact, all things relating to the "Imperial Order," which you, as a member, know what is referred to, are to be kept locked up in some case or other, which is to bear the inscription.

"Property of the IMPERIAL ORDER.

"To be forwarded to its acting Secretary—R. Swinburne Clymer, Allentown, Pa.

"1. Should I be taken seriously ill.

"2. Go upon a long journey, whereby I may be cut off from communicating with him.

"3. In case of my death or a serious accident.

"This case or portfolio or its contents must be at once forwarded to the above address. THIS Case and ALL its contents must NOT BE sold under any circumstances.

"The Imperial Order."

THE BEAUTIFUL PHILOSOPHY.

LIFE.

Love, flowers, music, three of the grandest things to be obtained in life, and without which life would be worth nothing. Love, for God the Universal Principle. Love, for all eternity. Love, for family, and Love for *one*. With love, and without flowers and music, life would still be dreary. Flowers show us the language of art and that which is beyond and without which the earth would be truly barren. Music, the language of the soul and of the angels. Nothing can attune two souls as one as can music. When we love one we bring them flowers. We desire to take them where there is that low, sweet music that thrills the very soul. Truly, without these, life would be worth very little, and true man and woman could not exist without these.

By music, subtle language of the soul and inseparable from art, the Masters calm the outer nature and soothe the soul that lies buried in the man of sense. By the secret power of sound they reach the souls of the most degraded and debased and stir them, even though it be ever so little, to a higher life.

Music is the feminine principle, the heart of the universe. What the tone is to the word, what expression is to form, what affection is to thought, what the heart is to the head, what intuition is to argument, what religion is to philosophy, what moral influence is to power, what woman is to man—is music to the universe. It is not poetry but the *soul* of poetry; it is not mathematics, but it is in numbers; it is not painting, but it shines through colors; it is not architecture, but the stones take their

through his fit instruments, we therefore have many grades of men, both visible and invisible. It was intended that the attributes of the Heavens should be pre-eminently manifested in the world by men of just and humane character. It was meant that these creatures who serve man in lowly, though necessary, toils, should find both their pleasures and their reward. Did the ass discover Balaam to be the Father's prophet through the treatment he received? Would the animal world, which is a conscious world, discover from the prevalent spirit of modern Christendom towards it, the man's Creator is such as we know Him to be? I think not.

Pity is the due of our fellow creatures in pain, in sickness, in old age, and because man's hopes are high and his faith over-leaps time and death, we owe to our fellow-creatures, poorer than we are ourselves in all these sustaining hopes and visions, *greater consideration*.

Man truly has his own heavy burdens and deep pains to bear, but he can with confidence expect the momentary pain and affliction will be light compared to the consolations and joys of the future. We need no new religion as we have the purest religion that the purest mind of the developed being can conceive but it must be followed in its spirit and not in its letter. The first step in the Universal Brotherhood towards which all lofty minds and true secret fraternities are tending, is a new humanity, a humanity that will not cause pain to any human being or living creature. Without this we cannot have a Universal Brotherhood nor can we have peace so long as animal flesh is used for food.

The food that we eat determines to a wonderful extent the thoughts we think and our habits in general. Eat foods which stimulate passions and your life will be one of passion. Eat pure foods and you will think pure thoughts and lead a pure life. Meats are used in the human slaughter-house called the world; in particular that part called Christendom. It has no place in the home of him

who would walk the path that leads to intuition. Meat gives strength, but as oil makes a fire—very hot, but of short duration. If you take enough of it, and your digestion is good and you can stand the strain of almost constant use, it will keep you going; but never expect to accomplish anything in the line of thought so long as your stomach requires all your life energies. So long as nature grows grains, vegetables, fruits and nuts, there is no need for us to establish a red vibration in our bodies or to kill a single evolving creature.

There is an entity in the animal which in time evolves into a human form: an intelligence which has been deeply hidden within, that entity then unfolds and a human form with a mind functioning therein is the result—in a word, man. But that which in time evolves into man cannot be said to be man until it has so evolved. There is that in man which has been through all the lower kingdoms even to the mineral; but man, as such, never was in any of them. This is one of the great secrets of occult knowledge; through that, in them, which has been through all kingdoms, men can know all kingdoms; and not only know, but control great portions thereof, and herein is the secret of magic.

The true secret of spiritual (occult) progress and attainment is to open one's heart to the Divine influx by *concentration* to high and beneficial endeavor, by bold aspiration, by resolute separation from the things that hinder, and by faithful and prayerful effort.

Just as, in this physical world, there are different social spheres which represent different degrees of soul-culture and mental and spiritual attainment; so it is in the ethereal realm which over-shadows and inter-penetrates our own, and where the majority of human souls are now living and working their way upwards. These degrees are recognized in all true occult orders and are classed as first or sub-degrees.

The soul is eternal and created, and passes from life

to life and country to country, and if we hold steadily to the right course and become one with the brotherhood, passing through the higher courses, the vast knowledge that is connected within our soul from many lives gone by, will be revealed and become a part of our consciousness and we may behold the scenes of past existence. This is in reality the secret of the Master's knowledge of whom so much is said in the works of the higher knowledge by the masters. It is within the power of all men to become like unto the masters, for all masters are but men who have passed on to the higher plane of being.

The number of souls in the present universe is fixed; no new ones come. The transmigratory flow from the universe before us has ceased. Do not for a moment think that souls are created for every new-born body—'tis not so. The body cannot be the cause of soul, the low cannot cause the high. Can the temporary cause the eternal? Can body cause spirit? No. Spirit, perverted as desire, prompts the formation of bodies. If God had to create a soul for every body he would be subject to the lusts and caprices of men; a sub-servient maker of souls for bodies; whereas the reverse is true, and bodies are made for souls. If the soul was made for the body, and the body was the cause that called it into existence, then does death of body end the soul's existence. But the reverse is true; the body is created or formed for dis-embodied souls.

For each sphere that we recognize *here*, there is a corresponding sphere *there*; "As above so below," the same dividing barriers exist between them, but it is more complete, and every man, like Judas, "goes to his own sphere."

Even in *this* real intimacy and communion of soul is impossible between a man of sordid ambition, unenlightened mind, or debased appetite, and one whose aspirations are noble, whose tastes are refined and whose disposition is spiritual and philanthropic.

Though the former may be a millionaire, or an aristocratic exquisite of the 'smart set,' and the latter a poor,

but spiritually-cultured artisan, there is a great gulf fixed between them, and though the soul that is spiritually enlightened may temporarily descend to the level of those less highly evolved, in order to help or uplift them, these cannot, because of their more elementary condition and their spiritual ignorance, enter a sphere that is above their own until they become qualified.

Much more, then, is it so in the realm where the fleshy mask is no longer available, in the third degree, and where the true condition of each soul is at once perceived by spiritual eyes that can discern its past record as well as its present status. Brother, dost thou now understand why signs and pass-words are no longer necessary between those of the higher degrees? Dost thou now understand what thou hast been taught in the occult lore of the past ages? Learn from others, but when thou knowest the secrets of life be sure to follow them for the punishment of the wise who know, is far greater if he doeth not, than is that of the ignorant.

And, just as we recognize intuitively that the "Christ-life," is the highest life of which we are cognizant *here*, so is the "Christ-sphere" of third degree, regarded there. For in that sphere dwell those who are most like unto God; those who are able to bear the intense spiritual radiance and vibration that emanate from the Great White Throne of the Brotherhood—because they have been perfected in Wisdom, Purity and Love.

From the Christ-sphere a perennial and abundant stream of life, illumination, and love is being outpoured. Through the higher and intermediate spheres it reaches the lower ones. And through various media, and like the rays of our sun this stream of influence imparts energy, vitality and happiness to those who receive it, though in different degrees according to the capacity of the recipient.

By the work done by brothers of the third degree, through those of the other degrees to which the dwellers of this earth belong, destinies are ruled and thrones fall,

although the world knows it not. France became a republic and Napoleon Marbon became Napoleon the Great, through this mighty influence. No man is great in himself; he only becomes so by expressing the will of many.

We realize that the teachings of the first Master, although so simple when rightly understood, were eminently adapted to meet our human needs, to bring about the solution of our social problems, and to promote the spiritual upliftment of our race.

And instinctively we feel that the need of to-day is a revival of *true* discipleship, so that *our* lives also may be characterized by that altruistic and beneficent spirit, that understanding of spiritual verities and facts, that love of justice, *truth, compassion* and *Humaneness*, that filial obedience to the will of the Master, and that fraternal love and service, which marked His life on earth—which will forever constitute *true orthodoxy of the heart* and which forms the absolute rule of that august fraternity which is silently but steadily advancing and gaining new Neophytes.

And when this is brought about, Christianity—the *real* thing—will again attract all classes of the community. For it is a combination of spiritual *science, genuine philosophy* and *practical philanthropy*, and there is nothing yet discovered that can take its place, nor will there ever be discovered a system of philosophy that can embrace the true, not pseudo, science and philosophy, as does this Christianity taught by the Master and now taught by the masters, it is the heart of the Christ.

Says Sydney H. Beard, England's greatest reformer, a man who is to England what Count Leo Tolstoy is to Russia:

"I believe—and my belief is strengthened by many statements which I have personally received from Christian workers who have passed through the experience, called death (Brothers of the Exalted Third—that it is not by the setting up of any new theological system that a revival

will come, but by a great influx of light and love from the Christ-sphere (the Great White Brotherhood) which will produce a marked increase of mental illumination and humane revelations of the Divine will and purpose and by the outpouring of God's spirit upon His sons and daughters in these latter days, as foretold by the prophets; by the restoration of communion between the church militant and the church triumphant; by the breaking down of the wall of separation that exists through *ignorance, fear* and *misunderstanding* between human souls who are incarnate and those who are *discarnate*; by the increase of knowledge concerning the *unseen* world, and the evolution of spiritual faculties hitherto undeveloped; by the testimony of a great cloud of witnesses to spiritual verities hitherto unrealized, and by the ministry of angels."

For thus will truth and immortality be made apparent and the reality of "the life to come" be demonstrated. And by such means will be produced a clearer apprehension of the inexorable Karmic operation of spiritual law in connection with human affairs, a wholesome and remedial dread of the Nemesis which follows every form of human transgression, a re-statement of the Christian position, and a more spiritual interpretation of the Christian scriptures. Thus, also, will the materialistic position, with its limitations of understanding and experience, be made unreliable; and all classes of society will be led to apprehend the supreme importance of preparing themselves for the life beyond the grave, and of seeking entrance into the Great White Brotherhood.

Of one thing, however, we may rest assured—that *it is coming*—and in the near future! Already the premonitory signs of a great awakening are apparent; and occurrences are everywhere quietly taking place which evidences the fact that the Immortals, or Brothers, are working in our midst for this great end, revealing themselves in the sanctuary or secret chambers to spiritually-minded watchers, giving tangible proofs that "there is no death," and ex-

encies not good for them; but in soul culture will be found the only remedy that never fails.

Sexive health and *purity* is the price of power. You cannot have it on any other terms; therefore being *true* to one love builds up the entire being; while any departure therefrom, any degree of promiscuity, beats the soul's wings to the ground, cripples its energies, lays it low, just as summer torrents lay low the ripening grain. This is one of the greatest truths. In *nothing* is this law more imperative than in the cases of such persons who desire to cultivate the *inner* powers of the being; for any passional excess or variety will as certainly disarm the soul, seal up the spiritual eyes, blunt the *inner* powers of perception, and ruin the capacity for psycho-vision, as that water and fire are antagonistic. You cannot serve God and Mammon at one and the same time; and it is just as true that you cannot cultivate the better and loftier powers resident within you, and at the same time give loose rein to the carnal passions of your nature.

A man who is full of vigor and in perfect health, will scorn to do a mean thing. Why? Because he feels that he is too much of a *man*. He will throw out his chest and walk erect as a god because he feels that no matter what may happen he is able to take care of himself and no matter what may befall him he is strong enough to bear any sorrow no matter how great.

Watch all the scoundrels and drivers of hard bargains and you will find that the Love-nature is missing; no color to their face, no manhood in their being; they are absolutely too mean to live, and too miserable and evil to die!

Remember this, no great act or mighty thought and deed can originate in, or be accomplished by, one who is deficient in the foundational quality of absolute manhood and who cannot Love deeply and passionately. Just so long as man is weak or morbid in his nature, so long will he be demoralized all over. The body cannot be demoralized unless the

mind is weak and when the mind is demoralized it follows that the body *must* of necessity be demoralized.

The force of Genius is the force of the Sex Nature; both are the force of Destiny. No man or woman can be truly great unless their amatory natures are well developed—and controlled by a Master hand.

Those who condemn those of the gentler sex nature who may have fallen, are those that have usually been the cause of some one's fall. The libertine has no mercy for the fallen, because by condemning he seeks to justify his own weakness; while those who say a good word for the fallen ones, who know how it is themselves to be maligned, lashed, scorned, neglected; and that by those unworthy to latch their shoe-strings; while they, who hate the opposite sex give proof positive of foul personal habits when alone. People who have no charity towards those who, by pressure of circumstances, step aside and commit a social fault, will upon analysis be found not overly sound at heart, unprincipled, and woefully lacking in the basic elements of genuine man or womanhood. No man or woman, no matter though they may be innocent themselves, have a right to condemn any woman who may fall through a weakness or through pressure that might have been brought to bear on them. If a woman falls, it is either because she has been wrongly taught or mayhaps not at all, because she has "loved too well but not wisely," or because she was conceived and brought forth wrongly. In either case, it is not *her* fault but the fault of those who should be her teachers, parents, or perhaps that of a lover. She is to be pitied but not condemned.

The test of all love is its self-sacrificing unselfishness; and all amative love is false, unclean, abnormal, unless it be based upon the non-physical; it must be builded on respect, affection, that which is mental and spiritual; or it will not last.

Sex is a thing of the soul; men think that it is but a mere matter of earthly form and physical structure. It is true,

there are some unsexed souls; some no sex at all, and others still claiming one gender and manifesting its exact opposite. But its laws, offices, utilities, and its deeper and diviner meanings are sealed books to but a few in a million; yet these things should be the chief study of every true human being, every one who aspires to immortality beyond the grave.

Think you that a sex weakling is a fit subject for immortality? Think you that he can face the Terror when the sex nature is so weak that there is barely a trace of it? Never, for the man or woman whose sexual nature is weak through the abuse of that grand nature, is also weak in the brain and such beings have no thought for immortality but think only of gratifying their unnatural passions.

How disgusting it is to see that nature of a man dwelling in the form of a woman! For remember, not all those who have the form of a woman are really women. Not all those who have the form of a man are men? This is why sex is a thing of the soul, never of body. This is why we have so many women whom we give the name of "Tom-boys." To see a man with the nature of a woman, to some extent at least, is not so bad, but it is an awful thing to see a woman, with the nature of a man, become the mother of children and thus produce abnormal human beings, and unless the father of such children has most of the feminine nature, such children cannot be immortal, nor become so unless by extraordinary circumstances.

* For gross and culpable non-knowledge, especially upon all the vital points that cluster around the one word "sex," you must look, not amidst the untaught hosts, the democratic underlayers of society, but right squarely among the so-called "learned" professional, much-boasted, highly-cultured upper-strata, especially in those centers of population whence newspapers by myriads are scattered broadcast over the land. Why is this? Because the materialistic schools of the present day, all those who claim to give a higher course of culture and scientific learning, recognize only the

material and many of the leading professors of our Colleges and Universities boldly claim that there is no Soul and that Immortality is a lie, pure and simple. The students stand by these men, become materialists, believe not in a soul and the man who reaches this point is "good for nothing" but to send millions of untaught and unbelieving souls to the sleep that knows no waking. The Great White Brotherhood, both of this and the spirit world are trying to combat these ruinous theories and are succeeding with many of those who are born with souls, but how many are there who do not even have the germs of Immortality in their being, because they were born in passion and lust and love had no place while they were called into undesired being.

Sex, according to men of materialistic education, has no right to be discussed and when it is, it is only in its outer phases, or its grosser aspects; seldom in its higher ones, and never in any of its loftier and mystical bearings, except by the schools of the mystical brotherhood. Love is from the soul and so is the sex. When men once recognize the fact that when they abuse the sex they abuse their very souls, we may, perhaps, look for a nobler manhood. Not till then, except among the few.

When love sits enshrined over the married man's chamber door, and reason guides his conduct towards his wife (therein, peace will reign, we will have glorious and whole-hearted and whole-souled children and what a glorious brotherhood of man there will be. Syphilis and consumption will be unknown and a few awful curses will be of the past. No pangs will follow the celebration of the rites of holy love, nor judicious use of the divine, but abused, faculties of our nature. Unless love equals passion, Marriage Rites are never right. Truly Randolph knew what he said when he wrote this.

Marriage, as the world gives meaning to that word, the Masters recognize not. Marriages are not made by man-enacted laws, churches, or any human institution. Marriage is the harmonious union of two similarly attuned souls for

the student will find many dark clouds surrounding him which may often cause him to ask whether there is a God. It is necessary that this is so, for if he would join the Souls who truly Love, he must pass through the same trials as they have passed, for it is only through these that strength is gained. *There* are times, when uncertainty will wrap the student in gloom like night and doubts and fears harass the soul. Beware of these doubts and push ahead. It is necessary to be patient, and rely upon the guide that has never failed the Neophyte—the Voice *within*, for, if the motive be pure, you cannot fail. When all the world seems to forsake you and you do not know which way to go, pass into your secret closet and meditate; then, if your soul is pure, the light will be given you.

One of the greatest things you must overcome is the mistrust of those who may be your teachers. The Student will often see the time when he thinks there is cause to mistrust the instructions given. Much misery is caused by this mistrust. Each teacher, perhaps unconsciously, will, sooner or later, do something that will cause the Neophyte to mistrust him. The Neophyte must guard against that and should never mistrust, but faithfully follow the instructions given. Only by doing this can you expect to succeed.

Impatience in the seeker of the true Philosophy is nothing short of a crime which is committed against self and is one

worldly man and woman, of the present age, in use of in bringing about a Universal Reformation.

Remember that man is not only a Temple of the Holy Spirit—but that man is the Divine's Perfect man of God and in remembering this you will gain the strength and courage

that you will need in the work that will be placed before you ere it is given you to pass on to a higher state of existence.

Remember that the present state of social conditions in the world are abnormal, monstrous and contrary to the divine intention; that it is a social state where altruism and industry are made the victims of greed and sloth, but that the end is dawning, because man cannot long mock eternal justice. The end will depend upon man. If in time the moral sentiment becomes sufficiently strong, the present lamentable conditions of things will give place to something higher; but, if this moral change is too long delayed, then, like all civilization of the past, we will sink into the chaos of an awful night; and then, from the shattered fragments of what is left, through years and centuries of toil and pain, build up again. Remember, you are one of those called upon to help to bring about a better state, an Universal Brotherhood. Learn of past histories and bear in mind that you may take the other path and be successful according to the standard of mankind, for a time, and that the end draws near and you will then be judged according to your work. None can escape the judgment. You can take a superficial life for the present or a real existence in the future. It is for you alone to choose.

Remember that it is given to you, as to all men, to attain to the same great end if you but will. Three great steps there are in man's progress to perfection and God-head, and these are all included under the one word—self-control. Separately they are—control of body, control of mind, control of heart. Great is he who controls the body, still greater he who controls the mind, but greatest of all, he who controls the heart. Beware of so-called teachers of the Occult who will teach you of “variety” and “affinities.” There is really such a thing as sympathetic souls. The popular idea of this doctrine is that all souls have their mates and no others. This is an erroneous doctrine. The true

~~teaching is that there are souls—not all—that have become~~

inseparably conjoined because of a harmonious union in lives gone by. These cases, we are taught, are very rare, but they do exist. This is the only true doctrine and all others should be rejected. This and the doctrine of pre-existence go hand in hand. One cannot be without the other.

Reincarnation is accepted as a truth, and salvation is the freedom of the soul from successive embodiments in earthly forms, wherein pain and pleasure alternate; where the glow of genius is dimmed by the darkened understanding of age, and the flame of passion is quenched by the chill of disease and death.

Persons outside of the vast Brotherhood, who hold strongly to the idea of eternal progress are generally skeptical as regards reincarnation, some of them regarding it with positive disgust. To them it seems impossible that man, who is able to rule the beasts and even men, should be compelled, after the change called death, to pass into the form of an animal and thus pass another life period on the earth. They forget to consider that ere the man had passed away into another existence and then back into a beast, he had already been a brute in nature and therefore the only change that had really taken place was but in the form, which is but a very small change. A man is only that which he delights in; no matter in what form he may be; and he who delights in doing that which gratifies the animal is already fashioning within himself the animal body he will enter and live in with pleasure when in the fullness of time he is freed from his human shape.

Some beasts devour others. The little fish are used as food by the larger ones. Man, or rather beings in the form of man, take advantage of the weakness of their fellows to rob them and even slay them, and doubtless would devour them bodily if the helpless animals were not more easily kept and fattened.

Retgression is certainly as much a truth as progression, and the words are interchangeable with evolution and involution. If man by his own acts and thoughts involves him-

yet all have been babies, and the form as then inhabited is not that in which the mature man manifests, so that the fact that we have no recollection of a previous incarnation proves nothing against its probability.

The truth of Reincarnation may be described as one of the lost keys to knowledge, the want of which has rendered the problems of human life so obscure and insoluble. For the lapse into barbarism which followed the disruption of the great civilization of the past was accompanied by the loss of much knowledge that has not yet been restored in our modern civilization. The darkness and sensualism of those mediaeval times led man to fix his whole care and attention on the bodily life and its needs—that is, on the part of his nature which is mortal, and the fact that the *real self within that body* is immortal and enduring gradually faded from his thoughts until finally it survived only as a vague and perverted dogma, such as is now taught by the Churches in connection with their crude fables of heaven and hell. Reader mine, I would ask you to bear these things in mind and consider well over these things. Be careful to remember that nearly all true sciences were lost in materialism but that we “are once more finding the keys to these sublime sciences and unlocking the Doors of the Past and the Future and learning once more not only what we may be, but also, what we have been.”

The belief that man has only seventy years on Earth has become the tacitly assumed basis of all theories and speculations, and the question of immortality, which ever refuses to be shelved or denied, is left to the vague and timorous conjectures of religious thought. Reincarnation may be offered as a key which, for unprejudiced minds, will be found capable of solving many enigmas.

There is no occasion to put forward evidences of the truth of Reincarnation until such times as a plausible alternative theory of life shall be forthcoming. In the absence of this, Reincarnation stands as first favorite by right of its ability to explain the facts of life better than any other hypothesis.

how to properly live. The chief avenue of waste is, perhaps, through the sex functions, but the cause lies farther back. It is in our careless, wasteful, force-scattering habits of thought, and must be dealt with understandingly and by thought methods, before we can successfully remedy the resultant effects which we are now reaping.

Knowledge of the hidden laws of mentality, of thought-force and how to direct it, of the art of mental healing, and of the Science of Being, is of incalculable value and immense practical utility. The experience of thousands has demonstrated this beyond all possibility of doubt.

The development of *occult* powers is but a question of liberating the latent energies *within* man. The powers of electricity, heat, and steam, are made available by virtue of man's ability to liberate latent energies in accordance with natural laws. It is chiefly a question of knowing how, and it is likewise a question of true knowledge, which enables man to utilize, in his affairs, the occult forces, which, through knowledge, are placed at his absolute command.

If we could but understand how great are the potentialities *within* us which through ignorance we are as yet totally unable to realize, our present helpless puerility would seem as pitiful as does the dying gasps of a dying being, who, though perhaps surrounded with sufficient air for millions, is quite unable to avail himself of it.

Everything is of use if rightly placed. Legs are useful on earth, but in the spiritual state where the will is the means of locomotion the legs, being useless, are indrawn. So it is with all irregularities of mind and character; they are not lopped off, exercised, but are indrawn, *transmuted* into the Sphere, which is the form of the perfect man.

Many legends have been circulated during the past centuries concerning the discovery of the secret of transmutation. Every one has heard of the famous Philosopher's Stone. These legends are based on solid facts but are never openly taught and labeled as such secrets.

There is a form of transmutation, the secret of which all

oneness of being. Man can therefore become a *very* God and there are, therefore, many Masters now who constitute the Great White Brotherhood, above who is still the Great White Throne.

That man can exercise will-power and manifest creative thought is evidenced by the achievements of inventors, of men of genius, and those who have shaped the world's destiny in various ways, under direct instruction from the Members of the Exalted Third Degree.

The vast majority of us, however, have not yet realized or become *conscious* of our latent powers, and consequently we do not put forth much effort to cultivate and develop them—nevertheless, they exist *within* us in a dormant state. We have been accustomed to live only as human animals on the *physical* plane, instead of as human souls on the *spiritual* plane, and all our thoughts have been subject to this limited conception, so paralyzing in its effect.

Now, it is a truth, although hidden to most, and realized by very few, that we *have* the power, as *spiritual* beings, to say to ourselves—I will overcome or transcend my physical hindrances—I will be master over my circumstances instead of succumbing to them; I *will*, by the help of God, change myself and my physical body and the world in which I live for the better. The wonder-working power of *imagination*—that *mystic key* to undiscovered realms—is but faintly apprehended by most of us. The power of the human will is too little understood, although history furnishes many examples of its exercise, for men have conceived enterprises which appeared almost impossible, and yet they have achieved them. When it becomes strengthened by what is known in the world of advanced thought as the *spiritual consciousness*—or sense of *oneness* of being with the Infinite Spirit—it evolves into a power which may well be respected.

The power of the *imagination* is yet too little known to mankind, else they would beware of what they *think*. If a man thinks a good or evil thought, that thought calls into

existence a corresponding form or power *within* the sphere of his mind, which may assume density and become living, and which may continue to live long after the physical body of the man who created it has died. It will accompany his soul after death, because the creations are attracted to their Creator.

Every thought calls into existence the form of power of which we think; but these things have no life until life is infused into them by the Will. If they do not receive life from the Will, they are like shadows and fade soon away. If this were not the case, men could never read of a crime without mentally committing it, and thereby creating most vicious Elementals. You may imagine evil deeds of all kinds, but unless you have a desire to perform them, the creations of your imagination obtains no life. But if you desire to perform them, if your will is so evil that you would be willing to perform them if you had the external means to do so, then it may perhaps be as bad for you as if you had actually committed them, and you create thereby a living although invisible power of evil. It is the Will which endows the creations of Imagination with life, because *will* and *Life* are fundamentally identical.

In speaking of the Will as a life-giving power, I am speaking of the spiritual will-power which resides in the heart. A will-power merely exercised by the brain is like the cold light of the moon, which has no power to warm the forms upon which it falls. The life-giving will-power comes from the heart, and acts like the rays of the sun which call life into action in minerals, plants, and animals. It is that which man desires with his heart, not that which he merely imagines with his brain, which has real power. Fortunately for mankind in general, this spiritual will-power which calls the creation of the imagination into objective visible existence is in the possession of very few, else the world would be filled with living materialized monsters, which would devour mankind; for there are, in our present state of civilization, more people who harbor evil desires

must be changed into nobler metals by transforming his vices into virtue, until they pass through *all* colors and turn into the gold of pure spirituality. To accomplish this it is necessary that the grossest elements in the form should die and putrify, so that the light of the spirit penetrate through the hard shell and call the *inner* man into life and activity.

The process of transmutation may be conscious or unconscious. In its early stages it is always unconscious, though none the less real. In whatsoever heart there is wrestling with temptation, fighting with selfish inclinations, or where there exists the desire to participate in a higher and purer state of being, the process of transmutation is silently going on. When any man or woman feels this within the Soul, it is high time that they look for better things. The Masters are calling to such ones and they may well say that connections have been established between themselves and the White Lodge or else they would not feel the necessity of trying to do better and living a better life. Pity the one who feels as though he ought to live a better life but still continues in the same old way. The call from the Great Brotherhood will usually come but once and it is then time to heed the call.

When a particular stage of purification is reached, the process, hitherto blind and spasmodic, becomes a *conscious* and deliberate effort. Suddenly the eyes of the soul are opened, and they behold the light of the Divine Spirit, searching into and illuminating all the dark places of the personality. From this point, the hitherto unconscious worker has become the enlightened *alchemist* in things divine. With the aid of the *divine radiance*, he searches his heart continually. He listens to the voice of the Master Worker of the White Brotherhood and follows his instructions, or the instructions of other Masters not as Exalted as the Supreme Master but who are under obligations to the Great White Lodge, the members of whom constitute the Sublime Third Degree.

Between the higher and the lower, the Divine and the

will, and it explains the symbolism of Transmutation as taught by the greatest Mystics of all ages.

The man who seeks for truth with a selfish motive will never find it, for his desire will pervert his judgment and befog his reason. Truth is pure and undefiled, and none but the pure in heart and mind can see it in all its beauty. The greatest cause of error in the world is that prejudice which distorts facts to make them fit with preconceived opinions, and prejudice has its roots in self.

In placing this Philosophy before you, I am trying to avoid all things that are hard to understand and give you that only which you will be able to use. I am not following in the same steps of the Old Masters and Adepts. One of the greatest teachers of all times was Francis Barrett, author of the "Book of the Magi." Barrett certainly understood Divine Alchemy and the Transmutation of Metals, but, it seems that very few students of the Occult are able to understand him. In view of the foregoing very plain explanation of the Philosopher's Stone or the Transmutation of metals, I will quote from his "The Book of the Magi," and all will understand him then:

"The noble and virtuous Brethren of the Rosy Cross hold this truth sacred that 'Virtue flies from no man;' therefore how desirable a thing is Virtue. She teaches us, first, Wisdom, then charity, love, mercy, faith and constancy; all these appertain to Virtue; therefore it is physically possible for *any* well-inclined man to become an Adept, provided he lay aside his pride of reasoning, all obstinacy, blindness, hypocrisy, incredulity, superstition, deceit, etc.

"An Adept, therefore, is one who not only studies to do God's will upon earth, in respect of his moral and religious duties; but who studies, and ardently prays to his benevolent Creator to bestow on him Wisdom and knowledge from the fullness of His treasury; and he meditates, day and night, how he may attain the true *aqua vita*—how he may be filled with the Grace of God; which, when he is made so

then that the pure ens of gold may be drawn from gold itself. True, it may be so; but then I would ask if they would ever produce more gold than that out of which the soul or essence was extracted: if they have, they have indeed found out a secret beyond the powers of our comprehension; because it is against reason to suppose that if a pound of gold yields a drachm of the soul or essence, that that only will tinge any more than a pound of purified lead, or ; because we have tried various experiments, and I have, in some of my first essays, turned both lead and mercury into good gold; but no more than that out of which the soul was extracted. But, however, not to lose our time in vain and ridiculous disputation, know that whatever prodigious things or experiments have been tried with respect to the first matter, by external subjects, either in the mineral, animal, or vegetable kingdoms, as they are called, I say in us is the power of all wonderful things, which the Supreme Creator has, of his infinite mercy, implanted in our souls out of her is to be extracted the first matter, the true *argent vive*, the of the philosophers, the true ens of , viz., a *spiritual living gold*, or waterish mercury, or first matter, (let us give it the true name—*love*,) which, being matured, is capable of transmuting a thousand parts of impure metal into good and perfect gold, which endures fire, test, or cupel.”

Of the manner of extracting the first matter of the Philosopher's Stone, and the use it is put to in purifying the imperfect metals and transmuting them into good gold.

Lesson XI. Take the foregoing instructions as thy principal instruments, and know that our soul has the power, when the body is *free*, as we before said, of any pollution, the heart void of malice and offence; I say the soul is the *free* agent, and has the power, *spiritually* and *magically*, to act upon any matter whatsoever; therefore I said the first matter is *in* the soul; and the extracting of it, is to bring the *dormant* power of the pure, living, breathing spirit and eternal soul into act. Note well that every agent

Good Spirits (members of the Great White Brotherhood) both day and night, will be thy instructors, and will continually reveal thee many secrets. Think not that thou canst either *profit or benefit so much by the instructions of those who profess great advantages in classical education and high schooling; be assured they are, in spiritual knowledge, much in the dark; for he who desires not spiritual knowledge cannot obtain it by any means, but by, first, coming to God; secondly, by purifying his own heart; thirdly, by submitting himself to the will of the Holy Spirit, to guide and direct him in all truth, to the attaining of all knowledge, both human and divine; and by arrogating nothing to our power or strength, but by referring all to the mercy and goodness of God.*"

So much for the teachings of Barrett, one of the greatest Mystics of all times. The italics throughout are mine; this has been done to call special attention to these parts as it will make his teachings much plainer, and this, with what has already been said on the Philosopher's Stone and on Transmutation, will leave no doubt in the mind of the true seeker after the Higher Knowledge and true Initiation, as to the secret of real Transmutation. There can be no doubt but that the Red Fire of the Philosopher, and without which there can be no Transmutation, is *true and undying love*. Love for one and all humanity. Our conscience is the crucible and through this all things must be tested as the material gold is tested in the material crucible and all dross is thoroughly burned away. Love is really the *argent vive* of the Philosopher and the more he has of this the better for him. All hate, malice and other crude metals can be transmuted into true gold if the operator is willing that it should be so. This will take time in all cases and impatience is one of the crowning evils. This is also the very reason that so few succeed in the Higher and Divine Science. That Barrett taught, or meant to teach, that Love was the true essence of all life as well as immortality there is no doubt, for he says in Lesson X, that: "I say in us is the power

THIS BOOK IS THE
PERSONAL PROPERTY OF
H. A. CARPENTER

this in mind, and know that your growth depends upon your union with a female soul. There are those in the world who are worthy of your highest love. If you find one whose soul is sympathetic with your own, choose her to be your mate; but do not choose unless your heart so bids, and ever let your thoughts be pure. Be not in a hurry to choose one and be sure that such an one is in full sympathy with you and your ideas."

The radical injustice of one law for the man and another for the woman; of separate codes of honor, morals, and conduct for the two sexes, has hitherto worked like poison upon the whole constitution of society. The true relations of the sexes is that of complement or fulfillment, the one of the other; so much so that each individual needs something of the opposite sex to keep the balance; for a man who has no womanhood in him is a brute, and a woman who has no manhood in her is a doll. It was Tennyson, the seer as well as poet, who said:

"The woman's cause is man's; they rise or sink
Together, dwarfed or godlike, bond or free."

To such as hold that soul has no sex, and all of the Higher Orders do, and that each of us has been in the past and may be in the future, manifested many times in the form both man and woman, this question of the sexes will entirely cease to be personal, and will become one simply of qualities and principles. The dawn of a new era is at hand in which Right shall be Might, and the Queen shall enjoy her own again. Then shall they stand together, a noble pair that shall regenerate the earth.

Alice E. Major, one of the few real philosophers of the present age, gives us a beautiful philosophy of the ideal woman. Says she: "My worshipful lady is fair and strong, bright and cheerful, helpful and self-reliant. Her bright eyes gleam with fun, as well as kindle with enthusiasm or deepen with earnestness; and if the tears rise into them with pity or deep feeling they seldom or never

man is born with faculties which are capable of infinite progress, and the greatness of a man lies in the conception of a high ideal of life and in the use he makes of those faculties for realizing the ideal. Moral integrity is the essential condition of the growth of spiritual life.

There are various channels—the senses, the intellect and the conscience—through which God reveals His truths to the minds of men. But one who is not faithful to his friend cannot justly claim his confidence, and one who is not true to the truths already revealed to his soul, to the noble ideas and sentiments that have been awakened in his mind is likewise unworthy of being entrusted with more, nor can he expect to have any communication from the Masters unless he first follows the light so far as he has already received it. Man as the highest being in the scale of creation, has multifarious duties to perform—duties to himself, to his family, to society, to his country, and lastly, duties to the world at large. “Be true to thyself and it follows as night does day, that thou wilt be true to God and all humanity.” All these duties constitute his responsibility to God. There are few, very few, men who are unable to distinguish right from wrong, or to determine which course they are to follow in life. Yet how few there are who have the courage of their convictions, who are ready to sacrifice their self-interest for the realization of truths that have dawned upon their minds!

“Knowledge is not to be communicated, but evolved. Knowledge does not come from without, it comes from *within*. All the study of books and things is but to establish the instrumental conditions by which and through which, the *knower* can break forth and manifest.”

It is for this reason that P. B. Randolph claimed that there *was* a royal road to knowledge, in spite of what other so-called teachers and philosophers had to say to the contrary. This royal road *does* exist and it is in the initiation, in the trance or semi-sleep, when the mind is open to receive and the spiritual part of man is developed.

the keys which unlock the gates of power, which is knowledge. In the state of concentration which follows, when we resolve to be truly good, the soul can analyze all objects, things and subjects on which its attention may rest; and it can unite itself with them, penetrate their substance, explore, untrammelled, *all* mysteries, even unto God himself—so know more of him than hath yet been known, and become master of *all* important truths besides.”

“The Brother, know the mysteries of the ages: *Trance, is the royal road to all knowledge, schools and universities can teach but artificial knowledge, but in trance, the trance brought about by the teachings of the masters, all knowledge, even unto the most technical, including languages, science, and all things else, can be mastered. Know this, he who is able to sleep the sleep of Sialtan, is able to be master of all knowledge and science, even though he or she may live in a land where there are neither schools nor universities; they learn and read directly from the astral plane in, or on which, all is slowly written that has ever been, or ever will be.*

This is the mystery of the ages, this is all that can be taught. The Masters of the Secret Schools or the Great White Brotherhood can but teach the Neophyte how to prepare for this sleep and after that he must read for himself. Mighty secret of a mighty age, but he who desires to travel this Royal road must learn to suffer and obey. 'Tis a short but hard road to travel. Absolute knowledge is at the end for all those who are men enough to travel it and who are willing to let love, royal love, be their master.

“When a man once learns this, and has reached this grand conviction, true happiness and true progress have begun. He is serene now, and calm. He has learned that the soul is the *mirror* of the universe, standing in relationship to all living things; that she is illuminated by an *inward* light that flows through this new organ; but the tempests of passion, the multitude of sensual impres-

justice. He who doubts not these eternal principles ever adheres to the right, confident that, no matter what appearances may indicate, he will in the end succeed and triumph over all.

There are protecting powers overshadowing every being, and these powers are proportionately strong as the divinity in man is strong. Those whose aspirations are pure will ever succeed, no matter how great the temptations. It is these powers that protect the Neophyte in his path to initiation if he really tries to follow the path without any selfish motives. These Masters and protectors are perfected men of long-lost races, who have evolved far beyond all men now known in the world, and who have worked for truth and justice. As we are above the savage, so these are even above us. Some of these exalted men still live on earth, but in undecaying bodies; and, known only to the very few and not at all to the world, they go from place to place throughout the world, working ever for the right, protecting the innocent, guarding the helpless and alleviating suffering, giving instructions to those who need them and really desire them and doing work that will help to bring about a Universal Brotherhood of Man.

FINIS.