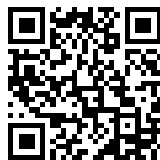

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THE CELESTIAL

♫ *LIFE* ♫

—
FREDERIC W. BURRY

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The Celestial Life

BY
FREDERIC W. BURRY



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INTRODUCTION.

IFE, and more of it, is the first and final desire of every soul, And we want a Celestial Life, even an Existence nothing short of all that is suggested by the word Heaven.

The race has ever been seeking for this world among the mere externals or placing it beyond the grave somewhere—heedless of the teachings of the great Masters and Philosophers that it is all Within; and that Man is here to externalize and unfold the mighty spiritual resources.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is within you.” “Thy will be done on Earth, as it is in Heaven.”

The Celestial Life is something you must give birth to. From the Subjective to the Objective. Then a return of the cycle of expression in a mystical blending of Consciousness that is Universal Identity.

This book is something alive for you—a messenger to your soul that will prompt and impel you to Action. A book of Propaganda. A Teacher in itself. With reiterations, repetitions, reminders, similar statements from various view points, and in different connections—simply making you *respond*.

At least, so are the following chapters designed to work. To this end, some conventional canons of “literature” may seem to be discarded.

And, of course, the real practical value of these pages will depend on you, the reader. If the book is a teacher,

INTRODUCTION

there will be no results until the student co-operates. One helps the other.

It is "helpful" literature that is needed. Let a book be "amusing"—but oh, best of all, let it *help!*

The words herein, I know, are alive, full of meaning and vigor, because I, who have written them, have proved their value. They have done me good, both to write and to read them.

Therefore, I offer no excuse for this egotistical Introduction.

I am speaking to you in this book—one soul talking to another. Here are words certainly born of earnestness and experience.

All is One! Often is the statement, and other complementary statements, repeated in this book. Unity is Everything. From the Simple to the Complex, and then returning again, endowed with character and individuality—the Spirit of Life, the one Infinite Being, goes through the myriad evolutions of existence. To the end that Consciousness may be born—even the Life Celestial.

And this is all You! Man, Know Thyself! Feel and know the Infinite Universal Spirit that is You, O wondrous Self of Man, Shrine of Love and Consciousness!

This book might be entitled the Key of Heaven. Not because of any intrinsic literary worth, or any original views. But because it repeats to you forcibly and plainly the great spiritual truths that all sages and seers have uttered—what your own native genius will say to you if you listen—and it offers you new suggestions of tried, practical, every-day value, as well.

This is the day of NEW THOUGHT—an expansive title that is now applied to many new schools of philosophy and religion and science; the day of new unfolding Con-

INTRODUCTION

sciousness. It is at last the Dawn of Recognition, Awakening. The Dawn of LIFE !

We want the Celestial Life to be manifested on Earth. Let the Lord's Prayer, now in this illuminating age, be made an external reality.

And to create is to recognize. To open your eyes—for what you see will make you act accordingly, and reform the world.

This book will show you how to turn philosophy into immediate practical value, as well as giving you far more than dim hopes for the future.

And if you find something on one page that hits you too hard, or does not agree with your present sentiments—turn over and you will surely find at least something suggestive there.

You can even be stimulated by opposing arguments, or suggestions contrary to those convictions of yours. We would not learn much if we read only those things we agreed with. We would not grow much without counter frictions. Also too much consistency is depressing. Truth is naturally elastic.

We have heard so much about Love. We have been told that God is Love. And the Life Celestial would seem, first of all, a Life of Love.

And then when we look at the daily life of mankind, we do not find so very much Love—it is generally quite narrow and contracted when we find it at all. This betokens a lack of an universal consciousness. Men do not *feel* their union with their fellows; therefore, they can not love them. And yet, all the time they are ONE; and the only reason there is not a Celestial Life made manifest is because there is no Universal Recognition.

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Love is Unity—the Consciousness of Oneness. Not mere Knowing, but Feeling.

A man's body is not a tomb for the Soul—or should not be. Through the agencies of the myriad personalities, also the lower forms—the One Omnipresent Being becomes existent, for the manifestation of individuality, consciousness, Joy—for the externalization of the Kingdom of Heaven.

And so your destiny is, indeed, Celestial Life—which may be made yours, in a measure, today by a transformation of Mental Attitude. Giving you power over things within and without. And ultimately placing you on the Right Hand of the Father—in other words, giving you a sceptre of super-royal authority, to wield over things Celestial, as well as the Terrestrial.

THE CELESTIAL LIFE

I.

DREAMLAND

WE live in a world of dreams. Ever seeking happiness, we rush hither and thither, trying to make money or to see fresh scenes, or to reach some pinnacle of society or fame—always reaching after something *outside*, imagining that thus are we to discover happiness.

But it is all Dreamland. And we might as well stay at home, take it easy, and recognize the fact that *All is Mind*.

Yes, outside appearances, the world of phenomena, is a transitory show, a set of symbols, the purpose of which is to bring the soul to Consciousness.

Wherefore, O Soul art thou concerned so with Things—Materials? Why do you forget your native dignity, overlook your mastery and divinity, and descend into a sorrowful state of subjection?

Are Things—perishing, decaying physicals—of such importance that your celestial nature must be obscured, your glorious powers compelled to lie dormant?

It is now time for you to re-assume your dominion, O Soul of Man—your place of authority and creatorship, for awhile laid aside in the necessary stages of your experience and development.

The Universe is a wondrous Dreamland—reposing in the womb of the Infinite. Spirit *contains* all.

THE CELESTIAL LIFE

Do not mind what others say about being "unpractical." The world is really "unpractically practical," dealing in "practices" that are of no account, bothering itself about things and conditions that are most inconsequent. A sad way to spend the opportunity of Time, neglecting the Eternal for the Temporal, the Spiritual for the Material, the Soul for the Body, the Reality for Illusion.

But the race has ever been given to Idolatry, in one form or another. Idols appear so much more tangible than Ideals. And people want something they can *touch*.

This desire for contact, to touch and be touched, is natural enough. The sense of touch is elementary and foundational in the principle of creation. But what is this touching, feeling? What, indeed, but consciousness, in more or less unfoldment?

So we can see that what we are really seeking is consciousness.

Consciousness! Knowledge! Recognition!

We cannot despise the means that bring us to this, our goal; namely: Experience, Matter, Sensation. But (in due time) there is no call for us to be continually *subject* to Materials.

The Soul can rise and rule. The Will may assert itself. The thoughts can be concentrated and controlled—and these are veritable forces. We can become conscious, co-operative centers of the Universe.

This height of Power is to be reached as we approximate a recognition of our universal nature, perceiving that All is One; that everything exists indeed in a Universe, held together by the bonds of the law of Attraction—working, moving, living, all together.

Thus by giving up selfishness, by expanding our interests, by forgetting the little exclusive personal ego, we reach

to the depths of a Larger Self, a Universal Self. We only yield a Fraction and merge into the Unit. This extension of consciousness takes place through Love.

All things and conditions are first dreams.

The brain of man is a cosmos that cradles ideas, which become matured and materialized, expressed in images and symbols of matter. Matter is Thought made visible and palpable to the senses. Of course, it all takes time—often considerable time.

In our dreams we have illimitable resources. Our ideas and ideals are worth more than gold and silver to us; they possess the virtue of sustenance and medicine. Our minds are veritable universities and libraries of fathomless wisdom. How? Because of the race's ages of experience. And we are each forever one with every member of the race—past, present and future.

Our days are successions of dreams. How much do we materialize out of them? How much do we express as the days go by? Remember, Time is thy Opportunity, O Soul; profit by it today, and more tomorrow.

Life is here for happiness. The development of consciousness, through experience, means more happiness. Only too many dwell for protracted periods among the fleshpots of Egypt, content rather to taste scraps of happiness than to exert themselves and press forward to lands of paradise and life celestial—to richer realms of Consciousness.

There is not much Happiness without Power. The stage of the spectator should lead by rapid steps to that of the actor, participator, creator. "Go and do thou likewise." "Work out your own salvation."

Take some active part in Humanity's trend toward the Expression of the Ideal. Results may appear slow, but it is nevertheless true that the tendency of creation is toward

the manifestation of that which is within—toward Dream-land, Idealism, toward Art and Beauty.

The Golden Age is in front of us. Science is showing the way. Have patience, O Soul; and even welcome the rough methods sometimes necessary in the process of the evolution of Character.

Experience must be worth while, if it makes you *understand*. What is Life without Understanding? Welcome the steps that lead to increased Consciousness.

This is not to say that you are to be a weak and willing sufferer. You are to learn to conquer conditions. Fear not to take them in hand. Know that Nature wishes you to make her your subject, O Man, Potential Master of the Universe.

And how are you going to be the Master, but by dreaming, meditating, thinking, concentrating?

What has made the world what it is, wonderful with all its imperfections, what but Human Thought?

The Genius, he the topmost point in human evolution, is first of all a Dreamer. And every man can be a Genius.

In some sphere, large or small, you may evolve some new idea, out of that deep reservoir of consciousness, your Brain. Exercise a practical, active faith. Close your eyes; meditate; concentrate. Then, up and out and act—forward—express your newly-discovered ideal.

Oh, you must believe in yourself, Soul of Man; you must not insult the Divine Life, common to all, by indulging in self-abnegation. It is Self-Reliance, Boldness, Courage, that has made and is making the world. And you are expected to do some share. It is going to be a very small share indeed—of a minor and negative quality—if you continue looking upon yourself as a Cipher, instead of a Unit—a Nothing, instead of a Something.

II

CREATORSHIP



HE Will is Supreme!

What is the Human Will but the one Life and force of the Universe come to a high development of consciousness?

Your reason must instinctively tell you that you and all else in Nature are so much Necessity. This is a Universe of Law—not Chance or Divine Caprice. And there is an impelling, active force within every object and element, in every form of life. There is an active Will; a principle of forceful Desire—which, in the order of evolution, has reached a great development in Man. In fact, this is the one Universal Creative Energy and Principle, working through various media, but none the less Infinite and Supreme.

Be not afraid, O Soul of Man, to recognize this, your Divine Identity. Truly is Man the Image of God. The Personal the manifestation of the Universal.

It is not difficult for you to discern this, if you allow your thoughts to spread their wings, if they are free and untrameled by superstition.

Let go of unproved theories, hearsays, precedents. Never mind revered creeds and books, ancient or modern. The Spirit is worth more than the Letter.

Science must take the place of Superstition; Theology give way to Truth; Fact come before Fiction.

Creeds have served their time; fairy-tales that may have been well enough in days gone by, for an infantile racial consciousness; but they will not do for the questioning, growing Brain of today.

They will not, indeed. This is the age of Action. We are doing things. We are harnessing the forces of the air, earth and sea. It is the age of Creatorship.

And it will be noted by the keen observer that the creatorship is of a collective nature. A single individual in himself does not accomplish so very much. But by means of co-operative endeavor, then there is something worth showing.

There are certain superficial observers, always looking for "signs and wonders," themselves doing little else beside criticising, who will pick out some individual and also pick this individual's work to pieces, declaring he has done nothing.

Never mind those who may find fault with you. Be not discouraged. The race moves together. And while there are so many lagging behind, it is impossible for the more earnest ones, near the front, to do as much as they would wish.

Now and then may appear some intrepid soul, with little conscience or scruple, like Napoleon, for instance, and the possibilities of the Human Will are brought to the front. However, this spectacular display of power does not represent the ideal use of the Will. The stronger man is he who, with less display, accomplishes something of positive value to humanity, one and all.

It is easy to "succeed" if one is harsh, unkind, unloving—though such success amounts to nothing.

Let the Will unite with Love—then we see the expression of a god's power.

Any other kind of activity leads to misery. And what is the good of Power without Joy?

True enough, we have our common, every-day necessities, and our natural ambitions as men and women. And

CREATORSHIP

it is perfectly right that we should exercise our wills with these ends in view. But let us not forget that Life is not *only* bread-and-butter, and leads into realms of consciousness far beyond and remote from the region of bread-and-butter. And these realms may, if one chooses, be reached Today.

It is possible to consecrate the every-day pursuits and raise them up to a higher plane. As long as we keep things in their proper place, we can not go astray. It is when we unduly emphasize conditions which are really of small import, when we give an inordinate affection to the perishable and transitory, that we enter states of misery and discontent.

Keeping our divine nature ever in view, and the larger end of existence, we can safely use our creative power for the establishment of our natural desires and aspirations. It is all right to possess and enjoy—as long as we know how and when to pass on.

Life is perpetual Growth. Creation is Unfoldment, Growth. Everything comes from within outward. An act of Will-power is a faithful, practical recognition of the Soul concerning its real Life. An affirmation that simply expresses and manifests itself. Such is the power of a statement. For All is Mind. And Faith is infallibly creative.

The atoms of the body respond through the nervous system to the thoughts in the brain, the governing center of the body. The command of the Will permeates and penetrates throughout the Temple of Flesh and Blood, the Tabernacle of the Divine—it does more: on the etheric waves it influences environment and surroundings.

Success and Health respond to the Faithful Thought, the Act of Will.

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III.

CONCENTRATION



THE very first step to happiness and power is Concentration—both of thought and action; the one leading to the other.

It is necessary to fix one's mind on what is desired. To shut out the disturbing negative thoughts. In other words, to enter heart and soul, with earnestness and enthusiasm, into the matter engaging our attention.

If we desire happiness, our thoughts must be centered upon our ideals. If we desire power, we must concentrate our actions with defined ends in view.

Thought-wandering must be stopped. Worrying, fretting, nervousness must be conquered. There must be patience and promptness. Some things done today, others left till tomorrow, according to their special requirements.

There is no fear where there is concentration; health and success follow in its train.

How much people miss by neglecting Self-culture. By not having the habit of controlling their thoughts and actions. Human energy that is allowed to run riot, not trained or directed, can not express its possibilities. Unless your Will is poised, definitely, determinedly, you cannot expect to accomplish much.

A concentrated thought will at once take you out of the confusing shadows that darken your existence, and be a light to illumine your path, that you may go on and do something.

And here let it be stated that Concentration is not Strenuousness. A determined will is none the less power-

CONCENTRATION

ful because it is easy and gentle. Actions are just as potent, and more so, when they are reposeful.

What a relief to realize that we have so close to us, in our very midst, within ourselves, the key to our desires. That we need not be dependent on the passing winds or tides, on friends, materials, conditions; that we can overcome circumstances, and create opportunities.

First one thing and then another. Discharge one thought and take up the next one. The universe moves by steps and grades, along spiral terraces, and so upward and onward.

We have to learn to fashion our personal affairs according to universal principles. In this way we epitomize the universe, and become incarnations and manifestations of divinity.

It is impossible to concentrate when your brain is racked with bewildering doubts, terrors, regrets, fault-findings. You must say 'All is Good, and recognize the educational nature of experience that requires the light and dark shades, and center your mind on the purpose of Life, which is beyond the means. Expand your interests. Do not limit yourself so.

Empty out the anxieties; dry the tears. Laugh with the sunshine; it may require an effort at first, but it is worth it.

Never mind if others seem to look through darkened spectacles. Perhaps it is largely your imagination that they do, anyway. And why should you be guided by the actions of others?

How strange is this human habit of blindly following one another like sheep. Instead of using our glorious prerogative of initiating and originating.

Many will continue to be mere followers, but you

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need not. If you desire, you can take hold of fate and mold the future according to your will. At least, in a large measure so. You can exercise as much power as is good for you; the power increases as you grow.

Is it worth your while to become a master of circumstances, and no longer be a weak victim? Does the prospect of Power seem worth the effort to gain it?

Concentration is not exactly going to make you work miracles. But it is going to make the erstwhile "impossible" become "possible." It will take you from the verge of toppling over the precipice of shaky circumstances and place you on your feet at the sound Center.

As an exercise, get by yourself, close your eyes, and calmly allow the worrying, wandering thoughts to subside; then when you have approximated a condition of stillness and silence, hold some thought or ideal up to your mind, and dwell on it. You may, for instance, affirm and reiterate such statements as the following:

I AM ONE WITH INFINITE LIFE.

ALL IS GOOD.

I AM MASTER.

MY WILL IS SUPREME.

Or other positive assertions.

When you thus give your soul's testimony to Truth and indwelling Life and Power, you create a definite change in your mind and body and surroundings—for all is one. And such exercises help you to develop the habit of concentration. Similar statements and affirmations may be used in the midst of your daily duties.

Then beside the affirmation of thought and word, there is the affirmation of action; one is the complement of the other. When your energies are directed with con-

CONCENTRATION

centration and attention, with promptness and system, or when your consciousness is settled and serene.

Everything can be accomplished with patience and perseverance; some results being immediate, others taking time.

Keep to the middle of the road before you; do not allow yourself to be sidetracked, either by forces within or without. Preserve the dignity of your really infinite character; and act accordingly.

These suggestions imply that you are to think well of yourself—without being conceited. You are simply to recognize the divinity of all humanity; and to see yourself as a Centre of the Infinite Life.

We show forth outwardly, and our affairs in general correspond with the attitude of our mind.

Be not discouraged if old, undesired habits of thought or conduct continue to cling to you, and seem to resist your efforts to displace them. And if you find it difficult to concentrate at first, you must not mind. Perhaps you try too hard. The method of faith, repose, poise, relaxation will lead to the quickest results. There is more in silence than in noise. And love and peace and gentleness will do more for you than mere bulldog tenacity.

But there must be no shirking; there must be always calm determination.

And also know when to change; the universe is fluidic, currents ever flowing and transforming; no fixture anywhere. Learn when to move and where to stop (for awhile). Man evolves out of one limitation after another—and there is nothing to fear.

"I am Fearless and Free." Repeat this affirmation to yourself. It will buoy you above the illusory spectres that have been tormenting you. Concentrate on the ideals;

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and forget the useless and harrowing thoughts. Do not magnify the importance of the every-day, trivial things. If you would be successful in a large way you must get out of the small grooves.

Live in the present. Everybody is troubled over the morrow. While they ought to know, by past experience, that all sorts of conditions will be drawn to a focus to make things all right for tomorrow, somehow.

And we ought to welcome the difficulties, since only by overcoming are we developed and made more capable.

It has been said, "Bear ye one another's burdens;" and such a spirit of altruism is commendable enough; but do not make the mistake of taking the whole world on your shoulders; let not sympathies carry you away. Control your emotions, and do good without hurting yourself too much. Do not interfere. Mind your own business. Be independent and self-centred. We all have to work out our own salvation. A man's consciousness is developed by bravely acting the part of conqueror—especially over the realm that is within him.

Thus you can be kind and generous without treading too much on the individuality of another. You can give—but the best thing you can give is good advice—that the man may help himself.

Life is a series of concentrations. Each soul is a centre of infinitude, and is required to do a certain amount of solitary work in the evolution of existence. Though by invisible, and partly by visible, means we are all working together.

The apparent separations are the necessary means of Nature's method of producing consciousness—and finally universal consciousness. The Universe becomes Individual by the path of Experience; and the Individual becomes Uni-

CONCENTRATION

versal. A mystic vortex—working in the limitless circle of Infinity.

Again I remind you (and remind myself) to master the thoughts. CONCENTRATE! Otherwise the thought-energies will be transformed into demons to torment you. Take hold of your forces within, your emotions and thoughts, and make them serve you. Do not any longer allow yourself to be tormented by any extraneous conditions.

CONCENTRATE! Then there will be no worry or fear, and you will be able to march on to Conquest and Freedom.

IV.

FREEDOM

FREEDOM is everything. It is to have wings and fly where you will. To move or stay, as you desire. To be delivered from what you do not desire. To possess and enjoy Life and all its bounties.

Freedom of action must be preceded by freedom of thought. Your thoughts must be delivered from every bondage — superstitions, the false belief in your intrinsic weakness, fear and anxiety. Then you can move and accomplish something.

People are not free, even in this so-called land of liberty. They are afraid to unfurl their wings, though they have made the flying eagle their emblem. They are tied to the past, to dead archives and dead ancestry; they cling to old habits; and so are they limited in all directions.

And it is by their own free will. They exercise the power of their will to make them chains and manacles.

It is because they are afraid. Afraid to step forward for fear they land in worse conditions than ever.

But since progress and development is the order of nature, things ever moving upward and onward, we may rest assured that a step forward will lead to something better.

For the moment or so, a new step may appear to be dangerous, or at least of uncertain quality; we have to make our steps in the dark, often; but a new light shines very soon. Then we discern new possibilities and opportunities, hitherto undreamed-of conditions of happiness and power. Our vision becomes clear; we unfold; for *All is Mind.*

F R E E D O M

Thus, future events are in a sense existing Now. Time and Space are enclosed in the embrace of the Infinite. All is Now. Even the Past and the Future are cradled in the Eternal Present. We move toward Events; things are relatively subject to and exist within the Absolute. All is Unfoldment. All is Consciousness. Creation is Manifestation.

Wherefore, O Soul, do you continue to be so foolishly tormented by what you call the daily annoyances? Be more indifferent. Be a man. Rise above the infant stage where there is weakness and fear.

Then the world and the universe will appear bright and lovely. Everything depends on your point of view. Boldly change your view-point, and enter the gate of heaven.

No matter what your circumstances, you may enter today into the joys that your soul is longing for. Only stop magnifying the importance of conditions. Be courageous; forget and forgive; send forth showers of love; be at peace with the world and yourself.

Stop those foolish pratings about morality; let go of the conventions; lift up your eyes, lift up your heart. Be not cast down, O Soul. Stand erect, and be a Man.

For All is Good; and There is No Evil.

This is the attitude that will make you free mentally, and then you will be free physically. Your body responds without delay to your New Thought. You see a way to commence straightening your business and other affairs, and to build anew.

If people could only realize the blessings that are brought within their reach by these modern doctrines of the New Thought.

For without money or means, here is shown the way to one's desires. You are independent of friends, wealth,

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society. You are made free. For it is shown you how you have, right within yourself, all you can need or desire.

Your mind is the kingdom of heaven; and if you are seeking anything else than the kingdom of heaven, you do not know what you want. This kingdom contains all the minor necessities or luxuries. Aim for the highest; it is all yours, and within your reach.

The heavenly life is not anti-physical. The soul and body are one. Spirit and matter are the same. Only Spirit is the positive element; therefore, the wisdom of living the spiritual life, and dwelling at the centre—where you can command, and make materials serve.

You must not expect to accomplish everything at once. Seek the kingdom of heaven first; and all things, in due time, will be added unto you.

Many of the things you are craving for so impatiently are not essential for your happiness, just now; if you will think a moment, you will see this is so. Don't be impatient; and enjoy the present moments for what they have to offer you.

Meanwhile, move. Take steps for future development. And allow yourself to become interested in the gradual process of transformation and production.

What a delightful sensation of Peace comes over one, and stays, as we assume the role of true Manhood, of actual Divine Power, and wield the sceptre of our awakened Will. What do we care for, then, when we recognize what we are, and what we can do? And this is no Fool's Paradise, but the most real of conditions, the most practical Life, reared on the foundations of Truth.

One gets so tired of the uncertainties and annoyances of the ordinary existence that is out in the world. The soul longs for wings like a dove, to fly away and be at

F R E E D O M

rest. And Repose is to be had without going away. Right here, where we are, may we also lead a new life and change conditions to suit ourselves.

This is Freedom, if you like—defying precedent and authority, custom and creed. Waiting not for the slow multitude to come along. For we can, at least, do a great deal by ourselves, now; become leaders in the vanguard of human evolution, and then by example and propaganda get others to join us, and in due time form a massed force to move the whole world to a higher plane.

But we cannot afford to wait till others are educated, or choose to come with us, before we move.

Life is motion; self-preservation is the first law of nature; we must move or we die.

There are too many dead people walking through the world; ghosts and shadows of human possibility; men who choose to let their life and energy lie dormant.

You need no longer continue to be one of the mass who drift through life anyhow. You can shake the old shackles off, and lead your own life and go your own way.

Become a free man; lead yourself, and do your part to lead the world into the land of liberty.

V.

FAITH



YOU have always had a sort of vague idea that Faith is a power, but you have, perhaps, not known how to exercise this power, or fully realized what Faith is and could do for you.

And yet, more or less consciously, you are using Faith every day. Habits of the past have become a law with you, and you make all sorts of confident moves without doubt or questioning.

Faith is a most natural thing. We do not stop to think every time we take a step. The majority of our moves are of a subconscious character. And what is this but Faith acting?

If we want a precedent for an act of Faith, we have not far to look for it. And we are so used to looking for precedents.

Faith gives an impetus to the forces of Life. It is strengthening and impelling. It opens out one's energies. It clears our mentality; and gives us a most practical courage.

Faith and Love go together. They form the sunshine of Life. And what is Life without sunshine?

They are really the most practical of forces, though many think otherwise.

All force is spiritual. If we would have success, we had better look where resides the real fount of energy.

Let us determinedly shut off the depressing doubts. Take a positive stand, and let the negative go. Have Faith. Even superstitious faith has been known to work wonders. How much more can be done with rational faith?—a firm, reasonable belief, followed by action.

FAITH

Faith will make you enthusiastic. It will give you inspiration. It will take you above the ordinary wear and tear of plodding and scheming and planning. It will show you the Better Way.

Keep reminding yourself of your Higher Self, of your Oneness with the Infinite Life. Give birth to the Faith that will enable you to remove mountains.

Pause awhile in the midst of your care and hurrying, and question yourself as to the wisdom of all this strain. There are so many things you think and do from sheer habit, because others do likewise. Where is your Personal Character, your Individuality, that you continue to walk so blindly? Mark out a path of your own. Be a law unto yourself.

For your soul-centre is the one Infinite Centre, common to all. You have every reason to have Faith, when you know you have the storehouse of limitless supply of life and energy within you, to draw upon.

One has to take ventures into unexplored fields, making trials with our theories, making the most of our ideas, if anything is to be done. Success even demands some mistakes and failures. Action is called for; it is sure to lead somewhere in time. Anything is better than standing still. At any rate, we are developed by exercise. And personal development is the end of existence.

An attitude of Faith implies a recognition of the fact that All is Good. And all is good because the evolution of life demands the various, apparently, conflicting kinds of experiences.

Remember that you are not living only for a day; and that your existence is made up of so many events. Expand your vision; don't tie yourself too closely to "convictions."

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Take a wide view of Life, your Life, and be patient and go ahead.

You are not required to go without things any longer than is good for you. Nature is waiting eagerly to pour her bounties into your lap—waiting for the correct receptive attitude, the faithful attitude.

Lovingly work *with* Nature. Stop frowning, and imagining that she is partly evil. Look farther, and you will see that All is Good.

Then your Faith is stimulated. You know there is something to have Faith in. You know there are resources and opportunities for you.

We often are made to yield some of our cherished possessions—our playthings and little idols. Then for awhile everything looks poor and empty. But we are soon rewarded and more than recompensed. When we give up one thing, there is always something better ahead for us.

So there is every reason to have Faith in the invisible. Such a small part of Life is visible; a sample to give us some idea of what is yet behind the scenes.

How privileged we should feel that it is our office to bring things forward into manifestation. Recognizing the undeveloped resources, then proceeding to give them expression, by the agency of a determined will.

Never mind the past at all; your future is to be entirely different—how much different, rests with yourself. Your will is a very real power; you have only to exercise it to increase its energy.

When everything around seems to have gone to pieces—have Faith. If you feel sick, or poor, or ignorant—have Faith.

The faithful attitude will bring you immediate peace, and it will open out new paths that you never dreamed of.

THAT PASSETH UNDERSTANDING

VI.

PEACE THAT PASSETH UNDERSTANDING



HERE is a wonderful sense of relief in the thought of Peace. Calm! Repose! Rest! The world is so trying with its scramble and commotion. People bother you, affairs worry you. No wonder that a message of Peace is welcome.

And then the Peace that Passeth Understanding. That transcends mere rest, and brings one deep, spiritual composure that is healing, inspiring, uplifting.

This is the Peace created by Faith. By a recognition of the I Am within you—a realization of the universal and omnipresent divinity. A knowledge of your Self.

“Know Yourself” is the ancient injunction—then you have the universal knowledge, which is power.

Then you possess the Peace that is beyond your ordinary understanding or reason—the illumination of your spiritual nature.

It is a state approaching ecstasy; and the nerves are settled and not pitched too high. You then can take a proper view of Life; a larger measure of Truth is disclosed to you.

It is in the Silence where you are to find the source of all Life. In the Spirit the cause of creation.

Relax yourself. The affairs of the world and the flesh are not worth the concern you give them. Get down to the foundation of Life, Consciousness. itself.

How indifferent one feels when there is a recognition of the Infinite Life. Things may come or go, then; we fear nothing; our souls rise to a plane of power and dominion.

What worries most people almost more than anything

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else is the fear of what others may think concerning them. As if this matters. How super-sensitive we are. It is all right to be, to a certain extent, solicitous over others' feelings—but not too much so.

Become self-centred; and, while for a time you may feel isolated and lonely, you will soon feel more courageous and independent, and give birth to life and power divine.

Mingling with the crowd often keeps back the development of individuality. One is then apt to overlook the meaning and possibilities of Self. The consciousness can be blurred by sights and sounds.

Hence the value of Meditation—when one may enter the kingdom celestial—the self-consciousness universal.

This is the plane of Refreshment. Where the weary soul and body find rest and gather renewed strength. In the Silence, at the Centre, shall be found Peace and Plenty.

Then we can go out into the world again, with our message; our new life showing forth; our words and actions expressing the new joy we have found.

A state of Peace is not inertia. There is such a thing as reposeful action; this is indeed the kind that is most potent, that by its system and concentration gives birth to results. Repose in action creates the work of genius, the fine art, the masterpiece.

There is nothing in mere noise, what is generally called life. We need less display and ostentation and more reality.

Control your emotions and passions, O Man, and make something out of them. Don't think too much, but with concentration economize your thought-energy. Don't fritter your brains away. Draw yourself in; stop the wanderings; take your forces in hand.

Keep quiet; make the very most of your possibilities

and opportunities, of the minutes as they fly by. And all without strain or hurry. Sometimes a dream, a suggestion, a thought, an idea—a concentrated expression of spiritual energy—taking only a few minutes, has been known to save years of labor. Look at the inventor, how he economizes energy.

It is glorious to realize that we need not follow in the footsteps of the past. That if we are not satisfied in any way we can make a perfect change; out of the wondrous resources within, fashioning a new world.

Let us turn our backs on at least much of the past—and proceed to give our new ideals a good trial; we shall get along, and rise and expand.

If we are looking for happiness, it can be found in the simple process of not thinking—that is, quelling the thought-wanderings, assuming an attitude of faithful indifference. Thus are we prepared to make a new start, and take steps that are more certain than before.

A concentrated attitude of mind leads, by rapid strides, straight to success. It is akin to infallibility—reducing mistakes, and the time lost thereby, to a minimum.

The road to joy and to power is found by entering the gateway of Repose.

VII.

THE HUMAN FAMILY

LIFE is Unity; all is one. And the Universe has subdivisions, special families and kinds and species; still further subdivisions of life, until the microcosm unit is reached.

And so Humanity at large constitutes a united family, bound together by very real, though partly invisible, ties.

The law of attraction is universal; everything works together.

Men will look after the interests of their own little family, but the affairs of the larger family of humanity do not concern them much; and the race is seldom looked upon as a family at all. Convention and custom does not go in for universal familiarities, wide-spread affections. Properties and possessions, fences and limitations, are more attractive to the ordinary mind.

Nevertheless, Humanity is one Family, a Brotherhood; and more or less consciously we are working and living together.

Until men expand their interests, enlarge their vision, be more loving and kind and unselfish; until they learn to co-operate and work in unison; until the Brotherhood of Man is recognized, there can be little happiness.

What are the links of mortal flesh that they should take precedence of the spiritual law that makes all mankind one? Why do we live only for our own person, or, at most, our immediate relations, and forget that All is One?

There is also a certain spirit of citizenship and of patriotism; though these, as a rule, do not amount to

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much. But where is the Universal Love—especially the Love of Humanity?

In our early stages of development we have needed the limitations; the contracted selfishness has been necessary as a stage in the evolution of existence. But this is the day of Expansion. The day of Consciousness, Illumination. We are beginning to live a larger life—we are unfolding.

The tendency of the time is in the direction of outward combination and collectivity. We are finding we can do more when we are united. True, the trusts and unions are often made with not very loving intentions in view; and they seem to be strange perversions of their titles—but these are only steps; wait awhile, men are feeling their way.

It is almost ludicrous, the wide-spread distrust of one another. The mad desire for gain at the expense of others, the feuds, the jealousies.

When there is more than enough for all. The world groans with opulence and plenty. However, men are commencing to perceive the true state of affairs.

In the meantime, while we are making steps and preparations towards prosperity, let us build our castles in the air, and *feel* our potential richness. And without waiting for too many outside moves, take our own courageous, self-reliant strides—acting the part of vanguard and exemplars while we proceed to enjoy what Life has to offer us today.

We have each a personal and social life to consider. Let us be true to ourself, and a true citizen of the world.

If men are so eager to fight for their flag, forgetting every hardship in their love of country, why can they not display some practical sentiments in connection with the larger love of mankind? Why this narrowness and exclusive partiality? And then we find even the patriotism

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largely a superstition; men do not evince much spirit of kindness to those around and near them.

Is it not time that we gave up empty sentiments and superstitions; that we place Reason at the head, and make the Emotions serve?

Since Life is one; and the Centre of each common to all—being infinite, transcending the finite dimensions; a personal recognition of this unity gives one a drawing force on the whole racial consciousness, bringing us in closer touch with universal life and energies.

There are currents of force ever traveling through the ether, crossing, interpenetrating—unseen messages of a spiritual nature; these keep humanity in touch with each other. How much do we personally profit by these powerful invisible electric streams? Or do we shut ourselves up in the seclusion of the tomb, and remain in consciousness dead to the universal palpitating essences of Life?

How much do we mingle our interests with our fellows? Are we altruistic, given to comradeship and brotherly love?

For it is by the way of universal love that happiness and prosperity are to be found.

Never mind the misdeeds of others; stop the recriminations; men are children, and if they seem wicked and cruel it is the fault of ignorance or lack of development. Cast out the suspicions; be no longer crafty; look for goodness and honesty, and you will find it, you will create it.

You need not walk in the ordinary way. By precept or example, show something better. Be brave enough to live your own ideals; it will make your own life brighter, and you will be a shining light for others.

The world is waiting for real reformers; the majority of people are too timid to step out from the ordinary path, though they would often like to; they wait for more deter-

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mined souls to take the initiative. Why not you be one of the noble vanguard, leading the race on to a larger life and consciousness? The step forward will give you a new freedom and all its advantages, right away; and your example will make you a true friend, reformer and apostle, for suffering humanity.

Suffering indeed! Afflicted with every imaginable ill, coming from this direction and that. Wherever we turn, a new difficulty seems to strike us. But the New Thought shows our troubles in a new light; it points out how they are opportunities, gymnastic exercises for the development of the soul. And what conquests we shall make as we work together.

Co-operation! There is salvation in the word. Each member of the Human Family, giving his special contribution to the world's life and work, expressing his special talent, doing his share of labor, with no mere narrow selfish end in view.


We are going to build Dream Cities, and the land will blossom forth with naught but health and beauty, when people recognize the natural principle of Co-operation.

Human ambition takes on a new meaning and intention to the soul who would live and work with his fellows. At present, it is the custom in many places to work against the interests of others—with craft and graft taking advantage of others. Even for selfish purposes, this method of action produces most meager results. Love reacts on the one who sends it forth. Compensation and Justice reign universally supreme.

As a matter of business, to view Humanity as one Family, and act accordingly, is most profitable. It is the right view, the natural view. It discloses your true relationship to Life, and brings you nearer the celestial vision of the universal consciousness.

VIII.

THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS

XISTENCE is a process of Education. Experiences are the lessons, and we need them all, hard and soft, good and evil.

At first, like children learning their lessons, we chafe at the educational developing process of Life; we make complaints against the scheme of the Universe; we condemn and vilify Nature.

Meanwhile, with or without our gracious acceptance of things, we grow and unfold; in spite of our resisting, we are kindly carried upward and onward in the spirals of Existence.

If the process of locomotion does not always appear gentle, perhaps we are to blame; Nature doing the best she can for us while we meddle and interfere. Let us cooperate, assuming a cheerful, faithful, loving attitude, and behold the path is easier at once; there is now harmony and peaceful progress.

And when you stop to think of it, how very much of the misery in general is only imaginary. From lack of concentration, our consciousness is scattered, and we take all sorts of unnecessary burdens of the Past and Future on our shoulders, while the difficulties of the actual Present are seldom so very formidable.

We make many mistakes in learning the lessons of Life. They all help; the failures as well as the successes, in the long run leading to a large and glorious Success.

It is because Experience is Educational that All is Good. And what a relief to be rid of the narrow fault-finders, of what popularly goes by morality and piety. We

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waste a lot of nervous energy by being so concerned over "good and evil;" we have our difficulties in "drawing lines;" the line dividing vice and virtue is indeed hard to find.

As a matter of fact, all is equally good, all things and conditions whatsoever, because all serve a necessary part in existence. It is the belief in the existence of evil that causes the wide-spread misery; we are creatures of our beliefs. Surely, it is self-evident that Life requires the negatives as well as the positives, the shadow as well as the sunshine; and anything that is essential, necessary, natural, must be all right and good. Call the negatives "necessary evils," if you like; but the evil is nevertheless good.

What is real is true; Truth is that which exists. So hush the irrational condemnations, and give your testimony to the righteousness of all.

You are then made more capable of improvement and reform; you learn; you unfold; you grow quicker and easier. The acknowledgement and recognition of the Universal Goodness makes things around you rhythmical and harmonious. In the music of the spheres there are passing discords that lead to the final harmonies.

Education leads to final harmonies. Education is the savior of mankind; and ignorance is the devil.

The education of experience is the best kind; making you feel and think; hammering Truth into your very bones. By experience we prove our inspirations and observations. Then we know, without any room for doubt.

To realize the immense value of educational experience is to make us more patient; ready to wait, suffer, work, when necessary. We must curb our impulses; and gradually build up, stone by stone, the structure of our existence. Time hastens when we are busy, bringing us

quickly to our goal; and with concentration we can make all the roads interesting.

Get into your work, and do it well; be a master, and create masterpieces. All sorts of opportunities are just waiting for you to take hold of them; so many lines of action, new and old, presenting various possibilities for you. Improvements can be made in old lines; or you may exercise an originating office, and be an inventor.

The world is active enough; but the lack of development in men make their activities of a somewhat crude character; we have local and national strife, all the time; individuals, classes, races, warring against each other; everywhere a spirit of competition and combat. This is a decidedly roundabout way of getting results, when victory seems hardly worth the price paid for it.

The world is advancing, however; everywhere we see signs of dissatisfaction with old orders; men are getting more human, even divine—less like brutes.

We are rising, as a race, above the brute animal plane, an educational stage in the evolution of existence.

Therefore, you may as well at once decide to get rid of any feeling of depression. Don't take things so seriously. A masterful indifference is the scientific attitude to assume. Cheer up; and march ahead. Make yourself courageous, by facing your fears. Exercise promptness and patience.

This is a busy world; the large family of humanity are building up the structure of existence, each doing some share, large or small; a wonderful variety of capability expressing itself. Yes, the world is being made by Man; the resources utilized. First human thought, then human action.

How interesting is the process. Our inner faculties are

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unfolding, and we are making conditions outside unfold. A source of enjoyment and of profit.

Life should interest us as well as instruct us. All depending on our point of view. We make a childish mistake when we are always seeking comfort and ease. This is not even happiness, tending to weaken the capacity of feeling; and with little feeling there is little enjoyment. The more we are conscious, the more we can enjoy.

It is a mighty thing to be educated, cultured, developed. Then our Manhood shines forth. We see where before we were blind.

Those who have not been made to suffer very much are not to be envied. Those whose sufferings are chiefly in the nature of ennui, boredom, discontent, are to be pitied. Life is often made very empty and wretched to the idle rich. In seeking to escape responsibility and sharp experience, they turn their backs on the means that would gladden their lives.

Education makes you free. Experience gives you dominion. Here is the key to true happiness.

Do not depend on props, friends, outside influences. With all due kindness and sociability, stand alone; be a law unto yourself; look within and find the goal your soul is reaching for.

In your mind is Wisdom locked up, with treasures incalculable; to be opened out by an act of faithful recognition. What many call education is nothing but an array of unproved doctrines and statements, of a superficial nature; while the deep verities of Life are ignored or considered beyond our comprehension.

True, there are many things which we cannot understand yet; but consider how much science has given us during the last few years, and then think of the possible

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future, and pause ere you place limits to Man's potential knowledge.


Yes, the possibilities of the Future are very encouraging. Without living altogether in the subjective realm, our dreams of a better time to come buoy us up over many a hard place. With encouragement, our energies are quickened, hastening the fruition of our present sowing, giving us joy in our labors.

Thus, we find there is no cause for regret and sorrow over hard knocks and obstacles; these are the principal educational factors in a successful life, the active, practical experiences that awaken the slumbering forces of the soul, that develop what is within.

We are made to feel, and thus we are made conscious. We are made to think, and thus we give birth to the Knowledge that is Power.

IX.

HEALING

HE subject of Healing interests everyone in greater or less degree. Perfect health is something unknown to people living the artificial life of civilization. We pay dearly for the way in which we ignore and insult our mother Nature.

But our mother is most kind, and all her efforts are directed in our behalf; when there is discord, she seeks to restore harmony; her tendency is to cure, to build and renew, create and recreate.

The sick person has but to assist the tendency of Nature; often, simply not to interfere or put anything in the way of Nature's tendency. Apparently an easy thing to do; but how few there are who do not set up their little obstacles in the shape of worries, fears, experiments, absurdities. Even half the accepted material means of cure are ridiculous superstitions, to say nothing of their harmful character.

We torment our minds over such trivial matters, though they seem important; a passing friction is magnified into a tragedy; and our bodies show forth corresponding weakness and wretchedness. When we tone the mind with stimulating thought, the body becomes strengthened.

We have a fount of sustenance and medicine in our own beings. We are only to trust and live up to our ideals. These are the charms of magnetic power, that transform the whole life of one's personality.

Many are too depressed as a rule; there is a stifling cloud over their days, which hampers their liberty; their thinking, their breathing, their actions, are not free. To

shake oneself out of this condition of bondage, the result of the widespread habit of fear, is to gain more health and happiness. It is indeed worth our while to exert our will, and insist on being free, mentally and bodily.

And such powerless things that we are afraid of. We endow them with power in our imagination, and make ourselves timid over illusions. There are only our fears to be afraid of, and these can be annihilated.

It is necessary to be healthy to be successful; the two conditions go together. Health is the natural state. There is a semblance of criminality about disease.

It is all a matter of vibration—harmonious or otherwise. Disease is a negation—the absence of Ease.

There is much superficial talk about the dangers of germs, bacteria, microbes. Which are generally considered to be virulent little devils, having power to afflict mankind with a thousand dire afflictions. The Germ Theory is in many respects an inverted view of the nature of disease; though, of course, like all theories, it contains its elements of truth. The real position of Man in the cosmos is overlooked; for instead of being an impotent creature he contains the potencies of a creator; instead of his body being necessarily a prey for such things as micro-organisms, it is an incarnate temple, every atom being charged with infinite electric energy.

The awakened, faithful mind has full control of its tabernacle, the body, and whatever outside influences come near, large or little, are made to serve in some way. For there is nothing intrinsically bad or malevolent about anything in nature, as long as things are kept in their place. And "germs" are useful scavengers, devouring up decayed matter.

Life is a flowing stream; there is no death. What

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is called death gives place to renewed life. Atoms give out daily, to be replaced by new ones. In fact, it is this constant "dying" that constitutes existence. For all is changing; transition everywhere; always new births and conditions of growth.

A recognition of this natural order gives one a key to the mysteries of creation and restoration. We discover the means of personally taking hold of Life's forces; co-operating with Nature in her efforts to restore health and create anew.

Do not be terrified or hypnotized by the vauntings and pretensions of the popular "schools." You must admit that the conventional "science" and its connections are but makeshifts at the best of times. Popular education, even that which comes from the seats of flourishing universities, is decidedly tentative and fallible, often hampered by prejudice and various kinds of superstition.

In yourself—in your judgment, your ideas, your inspirations and intuitions, are to be found more useful rules for conduct; while you need not despise any really good advice to be found outside. Only do not be afraid to think for yourself—without being conceited or thinking that you know it all. But you must have faith—and within large limits be a law unto yourself.

The art of healing is generally simple enough. In how many cases do such remedies as a cheerful thought, a hopeful thought, free breathing, a little muscular exercise, work a cure? Existence consists of alternations of repose and action; health is these vibrations when they are rhythmic and harmonious.

However, if there are times when you are only required to do what seems very little to possess health—that little is

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by no means inconsequent and must not be shirked. Without delay, give your co-operation and assistance to Nature.

It is Fear that principally makes and keeps people sick. Fear is the opposite of Faith. How necessary then to overcome it. Fear deadens the cells of the body; it freezes the blood. Let there be freedom, circulation; be brave, defiant; laugh at your fears—and behold, they fly away.

How much power you have in yourself if you only choose to use it. What mighty forces are your thoughts, to be used just as you declare.

Here are suggestions for you, to be applied in your own way, which will bring you health and success; which will bring out the Character and Manhood in you; which will make you show forth the powers of your Human Will.

Take a little time to think about the verities of Life. Give your new consciousness a chance to unfold. In the silence of your room meditate—concentrate. In the street, still concentrate, and apply your philosophy. Make your affirmations; say, I AM STRONG—I AM HEALTH AND SUCCESS—MY WORD IS LAW. And personify in your being, by your attitude and actions—your habits of thought and conduct. Incarnate your affirmations.

For All is One. The Flesh is negative to the Spirit.

ATTITUDE VERSUS PLATITUDE

X.

ATTITUDE VERSUS PLATITUDE

WE are often taken to task for not practicing what we preach. People criticise us calling us dreamers given to sophistry and platitudes, and want to know if we are specimens of what the practical, physical philosophy of the New Thought does for you.

While these onlookers, who are afflicted with that common enough perversity of seeking for faults, are unjust to the men and women laboring against all sorts of difficulties in their efforts to get out of the old and ordinary bondage—it is nevertheless true that we ought to have something to show. Words are valuable—so are thoughts—but ours is indeed a practical philosophy; and we must have the *deeds*.

Let occasional affirmations and suggestions, periodical thoughts and ideals, now be supplemented with a new Attitude; a new habit of living, thinking and acting; the establishment of a new foundation and standard of life.

It is your Life that counts. Your Character—Personality—your Individuality.

YOU, by your mere existence, can be a great influence, radiating life and energy all around you. The infinite power that is within you and belongs to you, that is You, expresses itself always more or less sub-consciously. Now you can express the same super-consciously—bringing it to the surface, sending forth streams of energy all the time, for the unfoldment of your being and in a measure of all humanity.

It is your new Attitude that does this. Your Stand

for Truth. Words, platitudes—what are these beside you yourself made a living affirmation and incarnation of Truth?

Let us not make a fetich of the New Thought. For while it is perfectly true that thoughts and words possess a certain definite force, all their own, they are nothing until in one way or another they are supplemented by action. Words are symbols of Intention, steps toward the expression of Desires.

The Desire is the power behind the scene of action. Watch your desires; get to the root of the matter.

Keep yourself well in hand; harness your forces. Make the thoughts and words count for something; use them with economy and purpose. Take a strong Mental Attitude; recognize your Will.

Don't over-estimate the power of the thoughts in themselves. Some look upon a thought as an ethereal projectile; rather it is a spiritual influence—the feeling behind having more potency than the form or frame of the thought.

So, in a sense, it is the state of your emotions that should most concern you. E-motion—is this not the expression of motion, force, energy, life? Yes, the feelings are not to be despised; certainly not be allowed to run riot. They represent actual power, and may make or undo. Which is it to be? You have the key to the power-house of your emotions in your Will.

It has been said that "Love is Life." So it is. "Desire is Power" means the same thing. The law of attraction, with the numberless natural orders moving and working together, is Love or Desire without Consciousness. That is, Consciousness as Man knows it. In Man we see the awakening of the Law—a gradual unfolding, in time to reach a Universal Consciousness.

An Attitude; an erect posture of a man's being; a

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character individualized, standing on its own feet; here is a magnetic force. This is the manifestation of a human genius, a vision of divinity. Such a man, who recognizes his Self, living his ideals, *being* instead of only *talking*, is the hero in the vanguard of the race's consciousness—entitled to the name of Master, Author, Creator.

Stand upright, fearless and free, a living portrayal of your ideals; and you have the forces of life at your command; even your fellows, taking for awhile a timid and retiring attitude, will gladly serve and follow you, the leader in the vanguard.

So much—everything—depends on the Positive Attitude. And all men have the privilege of assuming this royal robe of authority, but few care to do so.

People shirk responsibility. They prefer an enervating ease to a little strenuousness that leads to Power. And what can you do, what have you got, without Power? Power that drives the machinery of your existence; especially personal, conscious Power, that veritably gives you the Key to celestial resources.

All this is gained by faithful acts of recognition; which form altogether new habits and conditions in your being.

Keep up the steam of activity. Bravely get yourself forever out of the old ruts. Live for something worth while—the ordinary living is ridiculous in its emptiness. Take a strong stand for Truth. Dare to say, "I Am the Truth," and express your Real Being in deed as well as word—Attitude, rather than Platitude—Spirit, rather than the Letter—in all your native divine Glory.

XI

THE WONDERFUL POWER OF LANGUAGE

DO not think that I fail to recognize the value of Letters. If I would put symbols in their proper place, that is not to say I ignore their office. We live in a world of symbols; existence is the giving expression to imagery and form.

Words are the utterances of the soul seeking manifestation. At first these utterances are more in the form of cries, prayers, pleadings. As our eyes are opened, as the soul unfolds, these give place to commands. The Will awakens.

So there is indeed Power in Language—because of the Ideas represented. And truly, as a conquering influence, the pen is mightier than the sword.

First thoughts, then words, then deeds—this is the order of creation. Ideals, Language, Action! How can we despise the power, the central power, of Language?

A material object is an incarnation of a thought. We call it by a name, which represents a tangible idea to our minds. And without a name it would mean nothing to us. Language interprets existence; it makes things known. Consciousness is developed by the medium of Language.

Are our words chosen each day with careful intention? Do we really think of what we say? Do we realize the important office of Language?

How musical, how filled with wondrous influence, drawing tears or laughter, enthusing, inspiring, comforting, have we found *Words*. They have given us entertainment as well as instruction. They create and recreate.

Words of Life! Words of Wisdom! Words of

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Power! Who shall fathom the depths of Language?—its infinite possibility; its intense meaning to us, its imperative place in the scheme of existence.

How do we choose our words; with due economy, not chattering too much, using them to the best advantage, recognizing their potency?

We find delight in reading; but is a good share of our literature educational and uplifting as well as amusing? We must not waste *too* much time over the general empty fiction.

Today we want facts. It is Truth that is to lead us into realms of happiness. This is the age when we are to walk in the light—the age of science, of creatorship—the enlightened age.

Words are the luminants. You will find nothing comparable to a good book—it contains every desire of the heart. The record of inspirations which are the creative forces.

You have but to apply to yourself the suggestions you read; the printed page is like a mirror, reflecting your own unexpressed thoughts and feelings. And you must learn not to always depend on mirrors. You must utter your own new Words, born in the Silence—your own inspirations, which are light and life for you and for others.

Do not be afraid to think, speak, act, for yourself. Stop and get at least a glimpse of your own inner resources; you have within a fount of living Wisdom, and you need not be forever seeking information from without.

Up in your apartment, you can concentrate and settle yourself, and your thoughts will be comrades enough for you. You will discover new Ideas; and you will go

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out into the World and surprise people with what you can do.

Books and papers do their part in assisting us. We like visible companions—thoughts given expression—they can encourage us to emulation.

The world has yet to see the possibilities of Language. We have dwelt long in dark ages, and Man is only beginning to show the results of education. It is education alone that tells. Blessed is the man who gives utterance to a new thought.

The vibrations of Thought and of Language encircle the globe, darting through the ether, carrying their creative messages whither they are sent. Humanity makes things by mutual interpretation. We correspond with each other; we talk and listen; we interchange ideas. By means of suggestions, commands, teachings, utterances of various nature—we make the world go round.

The invention and extension of printing has given a wonderful impetus to man's progress. Words have thus a very wide scope and sphere of action. And a master of language puts his flesh and blood into his words; and makes the Letter to be an incarnation of Spirit. A strong book is something alive—breathing and palpitating with the author's personality. A good book can be made as real as an oral utterance—even more so.

Living Language is a Fine Art. It is the Voice of Deity. The most righteous Passion of Genius.

And then that simple panacea for one's ills—the Kind Word. The Word of Love: within the power of the humblest individual. In many respects, this is the most glorious and potential part of all language.

There are a good many varieties of Language—we come in contact with all sorts of scales and tones and styles.

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And there is generally room for improvement. We want more culture; better styles—of the real variety—no more pretenses.

Very often the arbitrary standards of Talking and Writing made by selfish and arrogant minds will have to be ignored. We must say our say—and our pens must be free. Hasten the day when men will cease to be hypocrites, speaking their minds, sending forth only words of real conviction and truth.

In this country Speech is now almost free—at least, it looks so, when we compare our privileges to some other countries. And the measure of Free Speech represents the growth and development of the nation. Oh, for more golden orators and earnest writers, who with their work of propaganda shall liberate us from weak incompetencies, firing us with renewed enthusiasm—so that we march on and conquer.

Let us not wait for others to speak the word. In spite of it feeling lonesome, let us take a stand for Truth, for our individual Ideal, and express our thoughts and feelings boldly and bravely, recognizing their divine nature.

We have words of life and power, words of health and success, a-trembling on our tongue; let us defy the trepidation, and give birth to our utterances, with no uncertain sound.

Affirm, affirm your Ideas and Ideals—in thought, word and action.

XII.

SOCIETY AND SOLITUDE



HERE are some who emphasize the social side of man's nature; others the individual side. Some who view Man only collectively, others who prefer the personal aspect. Why not see both points of view?

Man is naturally gregarious and social; and also requires at times to be alone. Certain work needs co-operation and combination—Society; other work calls for special, personal concentrated attention—Solitude. The same opposite states have a place in human life in all its spheres.

We must mingle with our fellows; and we must learn the joy and value of being alone.

Great works are born by the individual, often working entirely alone; the results afterwards to be scattered far and wide among the millions.

The lost and isolated feeling some have when compelled to go alone for awhile would vanish if the Oneness of all Life was recognized. As Thoreau has said, it is not necessary to be rubbing up against our fellows all the time to be with them. We are always with each other. Let us learn to dwell in the consciousness of Unity, and feel and realize the eternal attachment to all.

Then our Solitude will no longer seem "lonely;" we will cheerfully dream and work away, for the advancement of ourselves and for all.

It is when we are alone, concentrated, free from distraction, that we can find love and delight in our work. Then

our productions are made excellent, and we reap abundant rewards.

The time is undoubtedly coming when men will work collectively together, co-operating for the equal advantage of one and all. Humanity will become a loving brotherhood; a fair comradeship and socialism will visibly unite mankind throughout the world. Labor will be lifted from stigmas; there will be no poverty. Science will have made our lot most easy.

Nevertheless, the dignity of the Individual will be recognized—more than ever. There will still be incentives for human ambition; but of a higher order than the present-day commercial greed.

We shall still be business-like and practical—but in a far different way. A divine way.

The New Thought looks forward to everything being outwardly divine—as it ever is inwardly. The coming of the kingdom of heaven—the celestial Will being *done* on earth.

In other words, the SELF of Man being fully manifested. All in One; and One in All—a perfect combination of Unity and Universality.

Life represents a multitude of apparently separated organisms, working more or less harmoniously together, under the law of attraction. But it is all one Being—omnipresent—working through what we call Nature—phenomena—for the purpose of individual unfoldment and consciousness.

The Unity becomes conscious by the experience of Diversity.

The Ego seems to be imprisoned in a few cubic inches of matter called a physical body—and this temporary illusion of separateness is part of the necessary scheme of existence.

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Deception and ignorance have actually been good for us awhile in the developing process. In the silence of Solitude we can get a more conscious grasp of what the words Unity and Universality mean for us. And so we can deliver ourselves from the bondage which we have outgrown; we can unwrap the swathing-bands which belong to an infant-consciousness.

If you are forced to be alone for awhile, when your nature craves for company, accept your condition as an opportunity, and make the most of the same—it may be some time before a similar opportunity is offered to you. Every kind of circumstance presents its useful features; we need them all.

The successful man takes hold of all conditions that come his way, as lessons or opportunities; he knows that existence necessarily consists of many varieties of experiences, and he does not waste energy in complaint over what is, in some way or other, good.

The thing is to have patience. To remember that Life is composed of seasons and alternations, waves and tides, positives and negatives. If we are alone today, we shall have company tomorrow, and if we are at present bored with "society," we shall soon have quiet and solitude.

Few seem to recognize the possibilities of Solitude. It is so easy to follow with the crowd; it requires effort to go alone. But how rich the rewards for individual effort.

We cannot grasp the extent of our inherent powers until we get alone, and meditate and concentrate; and proceed to express something original, born from the long-submerged latencies of our being. Few can realize the actual forces of genius concealed within them, as men. Their minds are distracted by the commotion outside.

What does all the noise amount to—the display and

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ostentation of modern civilization; the conventions of "society?"

Let us work for the establishment of a new Society, or Socialism, when men are really social and sociable; and a new complementary Individualism, where the soul is allowed freedom, and given expression in all its divine fullness.

The centre of this coming redeemed Society will be the Individual. Equality and Democracy shall be the regime. Men will live according to the Law of Attraction, and perceive the Unity of Humanity.

Your new stand for Truth is a mighty, subtle, contagious force of universal redemption. And when in the silence of your apartment, you make an affirmation founded on love, you veritably change the currents of the race's tendency; you send forth vibrations, and help to raise the world onto a higher plane.

Society will be regenerated by the influence of the Individual. First in the singular number, then in the plural. So you need not wait, before you do something, or, shall we say, turn over a new leaf. You need not wait for others; and you can make fresh circumstances and opportunities for yourself. And then as you move, the world moves. Make a brave start by Yourself; you will have assistance and co-operation in due time.

There is a wonderful lot of comfort to be gained by getting alone with our thoughts. Mingling with others, we are apt to let go of the habit of concentration, and our mind gets tormented with a host of impossible spectres and fearsome anxieties.

Alone, when we meditate and concentrate—hushing the wandering fancies, and centering our thoughts—our

reason asserts itself ! We laugh at our childish fears, and quell our inordinate emotions.

Solitude also sometimes demands a certain amount of daring; we have to face imaginary terrors. These soon vanish, however; and we are strengthened by even the smallest act of courage. Be fearless and you will be free.

The gates of Freedom will be opened for you by just letting go of some old props and connections. Not every kind of companionship or society is valuable. There is the drawback as well as the impetus—both sometimes in the same guise. Get alone; and learn to distinguish between the false and true, the useful and harmful society. Again, certain connections can safely be close, while others ought to be at least a little distant. Everything and everybody in the proper place. Our welfare largely depends on arranging matters touching ourselves in just this harmonious way—with due gentleness and love.

After taking a periodical mental bath in the silence of Solitude, settling the tumultuous thoughts, re-inforcing our energies—we can go out into the world, refreshed and strong, and make of ourselves truly worthy members of Society.

The world needs the strong man and the strong community. Thus a true Individualism and a true Socialism are to serve in Nature's scheme of evolution—the unfolded Personality and the reformed Society.

"THE WORLD IS MINE!"

XIII.

"THE WORLD IS MINE"



HERE is an affirmation for you: "The World is Mine!"

A statement like this has a most encouraging, stimulating air about it; it lifts you off your feet and gives you wings; it carries you above the narrowness and sordidness of your old life. Where before you felt cramped, you now expand. You feel rich instead of poor.

The world is yours—you have personally a universal share—it is yours and your brother's, belonging to the Human Family. Man is the rightful owner and master of the world.

The word "world" is used here in more senses than one. Man is the potential owner of the physical world, and the world of possibility, opportunity, knowledge—the worlds of spiritual, mental and material resources.

The material resources form, in many respects, the first and most important of our present needs. The physical is the foundation or root of our existence. We cannot amount to very much if we are kept very poor. We must have tools and agencies to work with; these are the means for the expression of the higher things. And though from one point of view it is advisable to "seek the kingdom of heaven first," there are certain imperative essentials that compel us at times to seek the kingdom of this world first.

The world is a kingdom comprising many kingdoms—and they all have to be *conquered*. We are to take hold of the resources of Nature, and be masters. Yes, we come into our possessions through *conquest*.

The ordinary "rights" and "titles," held by physical force, are not the "conquest" I am talking about. Property and ownership in the accepted sense are often the product of an unjust system of confiscation—actual dishonesty. Vast stacks of money and bonds, while they claim to represent the resources of the earth, are holding an usurped position. The world is yours, not because you happen to hold the deeds to some acres of land, but just because you are a Man; it is yours for use, collectively with your fellows.

The day is coming when the words "mine" and "thine" will have different meanings. Is not Love the ruling, creative principle? Then carry Love, with its practical activities, into your life, your "business." Share up!

Certainly, it is quite evident that we are, at present, forced to some extent to use what some would call "devil's tools," and recognize the office of money and the commercial scheme in general. But we can take decided steps out of the standard boundaries. We can be very much laws unto ourselves.

If our visible possessions are small, we can still assert: "The World is Mine;" and in our imagination, in our consciousness, realize our universal authority and ownership. We live in a world of dreams, ideals—and, as we have seen, they can be made very practical and tangible.

Let us each look within and abroad, and discover the opportunities and resources, which utilized, would make for our personal advancement. Concentrate; specialize. You cannot use everything at once; too much is just as bad as too little. Make the very most of what is within your reach, and you will soon be able to grasp more.

People mistake the meaning of ownership. Private ownership is really nothing at all. An assumption of man's

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narrow selfishness. We are all one. What is yours is mine, and *vice versa*.

Do not clutch so. Don't try to carry the world away on your shoulders. Share up. Let go the strain. Undo the bolts, and tear down the bars. Let us have freedom.

What does the grasping and clutching amount to, after all, but a swarm of worrying responsibilities?

Here is a man who has worried himself bald trying to get his first few thousand dollars; and now he would give a million to get a crop of new hair on that cranium which simply swarms with "money-bacilli." Is this good business? Is this the only way to possess the earth?

The millionaire's way is no way at all. It does not give him what his soul is all the time yearning for, whether he realizes it or not—spiritual happiness. It only succeeds in temporarily keeping the majority of mankind out of their rights.

Yes, only temporarily. The time has arrived for the masses to get hold of their just share; to be no longer beat out of their opportunities and possessions. "The World is Mine" is a declaration to be made by each and every Individual.

You need not wait for the coming revolution before you declare your divine authority and ownership. It is worth a great deal for your immediate comfort and success to say and mean it: "The World is Mine." The earth and the fulness thereof is only coming into the hands of its true owners, the workers, through the agency of the brave vanguard who defy accepted standards, and govern their words and actions by the infallible standard of JUSTICE.

When you do this, you are going counter to the stupidity and ignorance and greed of those in usurped authority. You may raise a "hornet's nest" in the flock of humanity

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who know no better just yet than to "follow." But you must not mind. You can well afford to stand "alone," when necessary, if Justice and Truth are by your side.

Calm your troubling perplexities, those doubts, apprehensions. Tomorrow will come out all right with you. Everything is growing, advancing. Get above the trivialities of the past, and the unthinking multitude around you. Fix your mind only on the Eternal, endow the visible with its higher meaning. See in Matter the *reflection* of Spirit.

This new meaning in life will mean so much for you. The purpose of Existence is to unfold Meanings, Interpretations; by the path of experience, and the consequent growth of our consciousness. Get Knowledge and you have Power. Ignorance alone is what retards.

Take a survey out into the moving panorama of the Universe, and say, "All this is Mine." Identify yourself with creation. Cease looking upon yourself as an insignificant pigmy, wandering through the days, without law or guidance, a prey to chaotic and capricious elements. Make the affirmation, "Justice reigns." Drill your mind into thinking in wider channels. Take your thoughts out of the old grooves. Let all the chambers in the mansion of your Mind now be opened, and furnished well with Ideals of celestial glory, with Ideas of creative power. Let your Consciousness expand.

How childish and absurd seem the old worries, when our consciousness ascends to a spiritual plane of activity; when we ascend from the valleys of deadness unto the mountains of air and life. The breezes of the new atmosphere cleanse and refresh the soul; the mind discards the accumulated cobwebs and rubbish of the past.

Oh, if men would only climb their way out of the narrow Past. If they would only stop everlastingly con-

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sidering Precedent before they do anything. What a clog is Custom. And what a race of gods and geniuses shall Man become, when he defiantly ascends to the altitudes of Spiritual Consciousness.

From the heights, the Soul can then indeed look all around; and with the feelings of conviction, say, "The World is Mine." The point of view makes all the difference in one's feeling. It is difficult to make a strong assertion from a low level, a distorted viewpoint.

So let the Soul ascend. Say: "The World is Mine,— if even with fear and doubt and trembling; your faith will increase; more success will crown your efforts; and then your consciousness will expand; you will see how and why the world is yours. You will ascend the throne of conscious divinity. You will enter the Universal Consciousness.

XIV.

OUR BELIEFS

AT the risk of being criticised for too much repetition, or of making the same statement in different ways, I will entitle this chapter "Our Beliefs," and devote it to some more considerations on their subtle influence.

Creeds and doctrines rule the affairs of mankind. Religion strikes at the centre; it gets at the soul; and the rest is easy. Priestcraft has thus been a decidedly thorough method of gaining control over the affairs of men; by fear and threat, men have been forced to walk the very narrow plank.

We are creatures of our beliefs; we can easily see that. It is not money or possessions or opportunities that determine our happiness, but our beliefs.

Men by the million have gone into raptures over the most worthless relic or image; with others, it is the sacred name of Money that gives them feelings akin to ecstasy. All a matter of belief.

Neither the ancient creed of Athanasius or the modern creed of Mammon is going to bring you real salvation or happiness. You must ignore the accepted beliefs, and be a law unto yourself.

How foolish to keep on, day after day, believing and doing things just because of custom—especially when we see that no advance is made. It is all right to appreciate the value of the past, but let us go on. The beliefs even of yesterday are not for today. For one thing, there was too much fear connected with them. Let us first of all proceed to be courageous.

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It requires courage to let go of an old habit of thought, an old conviction or belief, even when our Reason commands us to do so. But when we consider how very much depends on the state and nature of our mind, we ought to bravely make the effort.

It may cost a few tears to give up a worthless belief, which has clung like a barnacle so long around our soul; but we must do so, even if there is to be a surgical operation. The soul must be purged from superstition and delusion. Let the shining light of Truth illuminate you through and through.

You may have to take desperate moves and leaps in the dark at first. Without being unnecessarily reckless, do step out of the cramped situation you have been in so long; your soul is dying for want of freedom; your forces withering for need of exercise.

Believe something new. Get rid of the stagnated thoughts. Allow your mind to grow and unfold.

The kind of content offered by the "systems" around you, whether spiritual or material, is in the nature of a narcotic. What you need is a stimulant, a spur, even if it stings at first. The happiness and power you gain afterward more than compensates you. Get away from the vegetating plane.

Like moths we flutter around some flame of ostentatious display; we are befooled by a little color, a bit of tinsel.

Are you believing in things that are worth while? Are your thoughts and actions dictated by fear or by love? Are the goals you are seeking and working for of any real value? and are some of them merely fool's paradises or foolish pastimes? Are you wasting your time over absurd hobbies or fads? Are you doing things because others do

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them? Are your beliefs governed by traditions and hearsays?

These are questions we may well ask ourselves; and strike out for entirely new fields of thought and activity.

Oh, let us liberate ourselves from the stifling beliefs of the past, whether they were born in church or state, in others' minds or our own. We live in a world of Mind. The outside show corresponds to our thoughts. How urgent, then, that we proceed without any more temporizing to completely change our order of thinking, let go of the deadening doctrines and dogmas, and be free.

Let us calm our natures, and go out into the world with a certain indifference—free from care and worry, bright and cheerful.

Let us forget the old beliefs, the make-believes, the stupid standards and customs—and, I repeat, be laws unto ourselves—with our own morals and principles—directing our conscience, exercising entire Self-control.

Still those fretful anxieties—they are nothing at all. Make yourself ashamed of being so put out, losing your balance over empty sentiments and enslaving falsehoods. See that your thoughts and beliefs do not annoy or in any way belittle you. Assume the role of master, assert your will—gain control over the most varied forces and functions that are within you.

Make one of the first articles in your credo: "I believe in Myself." No, this is not blasphemy. It is a testimony to the divinity within you. Depend on Yourself. Have reliance in Yourself. After friends forsake you, after failures and disappointments, you can look in your mirror and see a reflection of One that is always there to comfort, aid, strengthen you. Recognize Yourself. Your personality has a dual, even a complex, nature. You are

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consciously resting in the bosom of the Infinite, when you say: "I believe in Myself."

This is the belief that takes off the strain from your labors; that annihilates care and misery. This is the practical Faith that economizes energy. You must make your beliefs concrete and definite; you have had enough of abstractions.

Change your beliefs; place your faith according to scientific principles; and you immediately absolve yourself from the conditions of much weakness and unhappiness. You become courageous where you were timid; your nerves are strengthened; your health improved; your success insured.

Instead of this strong attitude of mind, we find people making such negative statements as the following: "I am worn out," "I am so weak," "I am the most unhappy creature," etc. And these actual cowardly statements stamp the body with corresponding negative conditions.

It is not necessary to offer any proofs as to the influence of our beliefs; we can see the effects everywhere. Hence the urgency of seeking, living, thinking the TRUTH!

The agnostic and infidel have become so disgusted with the crippling superstitions of popular religion that they shrink from any suggestion of "creed," "belief," "faith." In demanding free-thought, they insist on having nothing to do with "dogma" and "doctrines."

They go to an unhealthy extreme in taking this attitude—an attitude of negation; for, as a matter of fact, almost any kind of faith is better than none at all. We must believe in something. But we should look upon Truth as relative, and be ready to change our views as more Truth is disclosed to our vision.

The "unbeliever" has no use for a divinity, above or below. To him, a man is, with the rest of creation, a little,

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animated fraction of Matter, capriciously tossed about by "Nature." He sees no plan of creation—no soul or spirit.

This is the philosophy of deadness, appealing to the perverted pessimistic temperament.

But the Universe is all Life; and there is *everything* to believe in.

As in the order of growth our minds are illuminated, our intellect and consciousness expanded, we attach a new meaning to the word "belief." Our faith is no longer blind; it becomes *recognition*. Though we may not for awhile recognize things in their fulness; we at first see through a glass darkly.

But let us make the most of our vision; our faith taking ventures.

We create what we believe. Conditions within and without are creatures of belief. The ideal presses toward manifestation.

So guard and guide your beliefs. Have much faith—but of the best kind—rational faith; the emotional acting in consort with the intellectual.

XV.

A NEW BODY



HERE is a universal desire for Youth and Beauty. Men and women (especially the latter) dread the encroachments of age, with its usual companion of ugliness; and often resort to artificial means to, at least, display a semblance of youth and beauty.

But here is a philosophy that shows you how to get the *real thing*. Actually telling you that it is possible to renew the body in substance and appearance, manifesting in flesh and blood the mind's ideal, and, I repeat, also showing the way.

Eternal change is the order of existence. We are always throwing off dead atoms, giving birth to new ones; the invisible ever coming out into the visible, the spiritual becoming the material and palpable. The world of manifestation is a constant stream; phenomena is fluidic; life is a flow of currents of energy. All forever passing along, from stage to stage, for the purpose of expressing Character and Consciousness.

Matter in all its forms is the objectivation of Mind.

Your Body—the shell of the soul, the temple of the spirit—is being made and renewed day by day, molded according to the nature of your thoughts, feelings, ideals. This corporeal temple is, to be sure, something more than a house or a shell for one's being—since the one Infinite Life permeates through and through every atom—and thus Whitman has truly declared that the Body is the Soul. Still, the *visible form* of the body is, in a real sense, but a shell, continually casting off dead atoms, an everlasting "dissolving

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view"—we can almost see the changes. But the Soul, the Individual, remains the same being or ego.

What *changes* does Time create with people? We do not always see them take on added graces, gathered through the lessons of experience faithfully learned and practically applied. We see people, as they call themselves, "victims of circumstances," marred instead of beautified by the passing of events. Time, to them, has been no angel of opportunity, but a relentless, cruel monster, with a scythe cutting down the results of growth and development.

All this need not be—and, in the future, shall not be.

There is an universal, natural desire for personal immortality; and all men shall be immortal, the best part of them living on and on, growing from perfection to perfection.

And in a mystical sense, the immortality is to be *physical*.

What do we know about the Body? Our doctors and professors very learnedly and scientifically analyze and dissect, discovering "natural laws," giving names to organs and functions; and without doubt what material sciences have given us have been valuable enough as far as they have gone. But they could never find LIFE. They have dealt in forms, "accidencies," figures and labels, symbols and shells.

We must go deeper. We must look to the Cause, rather than the Effect—the realm of the spiritual and mytaphysical.

With their amazing bull-headed, think-headed audaciousness—the doctors of the schools call you visionary and erratic if you would probe into the kingdom of heaven, the invisible world from whence the visible issues forth. It

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matters not—probe ! Seek; delve; meditate; concentrate. The Spirit of Wisdom will enlighten you; there are infinite resources of Wisdom within you. You have had enough of the shams and illusions. Look now for the Reality, the Infinite, the Absolute.

It is your new, earnest spiritual attitude that is to create for you a New Body—such as you have never had before.

For have you not been following blindly in the rut of custom; a creature of habit, bound to the unholy past; and so picturing forth in your body your poor ideals?

Change your attitude, and you change your body. Live on a higher plane, live out immortal ideals—and, lo, a wonderful celestial body presses forward into manifestation. The rate of vibration of the myriad atoms is changed; different blood flows through your veins; the nervous system is charged with rarefied magnetism—you are made more alive, *bodily*; and so the infinite energies and currents express themselves with ever-increasing perfection.

Without looking ahead into the far future, for it is with the present and near future we are most concerned, it does not require much stretch of the imagination to see how new ideals are going to create new bodies. I have, in the preceding pages, given some hints and suggestions concerning the reconstructive process. Just get to work. At least, allow the radiations of your soul to give you a wholesome body that expresses the sunshine, that glows with health, youth, beauty.

You need not get old. Do you want to? Why, then, cling so ridiculously to the beliefs that make you a weakling, trodden down like a worm by Time, by Experience? Why keep up those habits which you know very well that your

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reason keeps telling you, robs you of health, youth and beauty?

Be the master of Time, instead of its slave. You can be all the more improved by any and every experience, if you accept the same in the right and faithful spirit.

Don't take things too seriously; though you must not be neglectful. Keep poised. Recognize what great forces and energies are yours, and make use of them accordingly.

Let your smiles illuminate your countenance. Love the world. Be indifferent, as well as diligent. Make your work joyful. Value simplicity and repose—also the complex and activity. Be balanced, concentrated, systematic, attentive.

(Never mind if I keep reiterating and emphasizing statements. This book is to help you, so that the mere reading of it will be a tonic to you.)

So that you have not got to "die" before you put on the garments of immortality. You have but to *express* Life—and all Life is immortal. There is only ONE.


Rise to the recognition of Truth. Let go of the delusion. Take the Spirit for your guide, instead of the Letter. In other words, *expand your consciousness*. Live nearer the Centre. Nearer Reality!

Beauty is the expression of harmony. Youth is renewed Life. If you would have both, keep your poise; keep your feelings and thoughts fresh, drawing on the fountains of Wisdom, the waters of Life within you.

Until the body is renewed and again renewed, until it withstands every shock and circumstance, its atoms the wondrous vortices of infinite radiations—at last a Body that is the Manifestation and Incarnation of the Beatific Vision, Infinite Recognition—the Spirit of God made Visible.

XVI.

SUCCESS

OW we have to keep descending from heaven to earth, so to speak. We rise for awhile, winging our flight into the ether; then down we come again, made to face some hard and knotty problem. If we have our ideals with all their possibilities, there are also the sordid, unsettled earthly conditions right around and with us, and we know we must not neglect them.

Some of these earthly things, even, have a fascination about them; promising, if we look after them, at least some tangible, temporal reward — and what men usually call Success.

Ambition is a laudable thing, and not to be despised, as certain of the religionists declare it should be. We ought to produce; to labor and reap the results of labor—Success.

Too often, the laborer reaps results for others, having to be contented with a little pittance, barely sufficient to procure the fuel to keep his muscular machinery at work. The laborer works for the capitalist, who, with cunning and craft, uses his brains, robbing the easy-mark "employee," who thinks he does well if he gets a "raise" of a cent an hour.

After awhile, perhaps, the laborer begins to think a little, and finally becomes himself an "employer," and in turn robs others of his fellows, who still remain mentally somnolent.

This bare-faced scheme of thievery is universally called "business." And we are all so hemmed in by social condi-

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tions, that we are obliged to participate, more or less, in this marvelous "system."

So hush your hypocritical pratings about honesty and morality, ye pharisees and scribes; let us have no more pretense.

Perfectly true, we are on the animal plane, and as all admit, "we have got to live." What is wanted, however, is less hypocrisy, and at least an attempt to do the best we can with a corrupt system—the best for others, as well as ourselves.

The ambition and success that ignores the rights of others is devilish enough. How can you call your land prosperous when thousands are starving? Surely, you are not barbarians.

Certainly you have yourself to look after, and it is possibly so that self-preservation is a first law of nature. But do you need to trample over the bodies of others in your mad march for wealth? If you do, at least try to be a little kind, and tread tenderly.

Success is not the mere making of money. It means Achievement; and is something independent of commerce.

We are living under an universal law of attraction. The conditions we desire and go after meet us half-way. We are powerful dynamos and magnets, and can influence things according to our intentions.

When we try to accomplish something, there are subtle, natural forces at work for us and with us. Nature has a tendency toward Achievement; and our hands stretched out *to do* are grasped by Nature; there is then a powerful co-operative combination at work, that infallibly begets Results.

If your efforts are for money-making, the law works in the same way. But you would be wise to carefully

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guard and guide your commercial tendencies, and not fall into the error of imagining that Success consists only of sordidness and mere accumulation of materials. Make money; you need it; but beware the "money-mania."

Aim high—toward the Celestial—even while you are digging among the foundations.

The object of Success is Personal Development. You are not supposed to amass some perishable materials together, and then sit down to "enjoy" them. At least, don't sit down too long. The things are not worth it. Pass on; away from mere mortal pleasure unto the happiness that is eternal; take your gaze from the lure of the passing panorama for awhile, and look at the Spiritual. Stop mistaking the means for the end; or a half-way house for your Goal.

Talk like this is not unpractical. It may help you to place things at a truer valuation. Men's minds are doped with commerce; their higher perceptions blunted by an inordinate affection for what appeals to their lower and elemental sensations.

Let us all rise. Trying to glorify life. The genius and the artist are the best types of success. Do something worth while.

Of course, every day you have to face difficult problems; but you need not over-estimate their importance; you need not descend into abject slavery over the stupid man-made systems and rules, which in some measure, affect us all.

Take an entirely new view-point of your situation; focused from a central attitude. Stand erect; dare; defy; have faith and fear not.

Your bread-and-butter and the other material necessities and luxuries will be insured more easily when you

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take the right Mental Attitude. You are not only made more *capable*, but Nature delights to help the man who stands at the Centre.

As I said, Ambition is laudable. You must have it, you must have an aim in life, if you would express your Manhood. Success is yours—in any line—if you will but determinedly go ahead.

There are a number of Opportunities for you to choose from. You have but to think awhile, and you will see some of them today—and more tomorrow. Concentrate and stick, and as well move and change, according to your judgment. Take one step, then another. Success is not hard, if you really want it. All may Achieve—in spite of the man-made drawbacks and organized selfishness of the day.

Happily, we can see signs of wide-spreading social and national reforms. Every advancing step of an individual helps the masses onward. We move together.

The so-called “failures” also count. They teach you lessons all their own, making you expand your plans. It would be terribly hum-drum without “failures;” we would be contented with too little. Our consciousness is developed by feeling sharp spurs like “disappointments;” we actually need the “drawbacks;” and mistakes make us develop and strengthen ourselves by “trying again.”

Welcome the conditions that lead to a conquest. A large success requires many little “failures” on the way.

Don't you see how the negative and positive complement each other; and that *All is Good*?

Then, by concentration and self-reliance you minimize the failures, and make rapid strides to your goals. You can learn quickly, and by practice become perfect—even infallible, in many lines.

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Habit becomes a law.

Meanwhile, let your Faith take ventures. Until Experience proves its value. Until you, at last, see what you have at first *felt*: Consciousness unfolding from Sensation.

Success is yours if you want it; in any line. Its key is called Concentration.

XVII.

COURAGE

IT is all very well for people to pride themselves on their fearlessness; but the fact remains that everybody is, in some way, at some time or other—*afraid*.

Fear, even, like everything else, fills a necessary part in life's evolution. Its limiting nature prevents recklessness and a too rapid growth. The man who feels the most, who has lively nerves, is very often timorous; people call him a coward—most artists are like this. A lack of physical development may have something to do with this sensitiveness, but not altogether. Wherever there is a particular mystery or ignorance coupled with a general capacity of intelligence there must be an element of fear. We naturally shrink from the unknown; because it is strange and foreign to our experience. And, after all, how far does the knowledge of the wisest reach?—not so very far.

Fear is caused by ignorance and illusion; for there is really nothing intrinsically to be afraid of—since *All is Good*.

Hence the wisdom of becoming *wise*—in the meantime, while we are learning, facing our fears, and thus see them dissolve into their native nothingness.

Courage makes you *advance*; and there is everything for you if you will only *go on*.

Consider it a privilege if you are made to encounter some fearsome conditions. Face them in the right spirit; and whatever they are, the experience will strengthen you. You will get more *nerve*.

Fear affects different people in a variety of ways.

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With some it is a peculiar physical pain they shrink from; others only run from mental spectres. Soldiers have been known to face terrific dangers without a tremor in time of war, but quake when they visit a dentist. Thus, again, everything is just the way you look at it.

Don't be so foolish as to be afraid because of custom. Even fears are fashionable—they are contagious. Make yourself immune from at least many of the fears, and send out influences of faith and fearlessness—by brave thoughts and actions—the Courageous Attitude.

You know you cannot amount to much without it. Health, Success, Character, depend on *Courage*.

Fears, like all disagreeable conditions, are given us to be conquered. In facing what we fear, in bravely meeting the negative conditions, we create a new positive condition in our character. The "bad" is only with us that we may exercise our creative power, and transmute it into the "good." The exercise gives us renewed capacity and strength.

What element in a man is so attractive and desirable as *Courage*? It signifies a development out of weakness into strength, out of ignorance into wisdom.

The most timid individual has often changed into the most intrepid. Circumstances have forced him to change his attitude. We can all be fearless if we would wish. A mere matter of determination and concentration.

Not that you can throw off every fear at once. As I said, everyone has his own peculiar fear to pester him; only let us overcome them, one by one.

It is principally the little things we are afraid of. Our reason plainly shows us that there is nothing in them. But childishly we continue to shrink, a slave to our emotions, our thoughts and feelings controlled by the past.

It is weakness to allow ourselves to be such creatures

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of habit; and it will be a profitable move to even make a desperate plunge out of such a state. One thing is certain, that if we are going to get anything, it has got to be fought for. And our enemies reside principally within our being—they are our old habits.

We must conquer them; and establish new precedents. We are always needing new thoughts and new habits of conduct. It is very foolish to obstinately cling to the venerable and old when we begin to see that whatever value it ever possessed it has none now.

Life is perpetual change. Transition within and without. There are vast resources in unexplored realms. Mind and matter represent infinite material to work with, exhaustless fields of opportunity for men who will go forth and conquer.

Concentration will help you so much. Stop those wandering fancies, which lead you nowhere. I know they have a certain piquancy and fascination about them; but they are dangerous, miasmatic influences; they lull your energies to sleep. What you want and need is to be AWAKE.

Concentration will awaken you in every way. It will bring your forces to a focus, and make you accomplish something. Bravely resist those thoughts that you know drag you down; it will be worth your while.

Do not entertain the harrowing spectres of fear, worry, weakness. Affirm your fearlessness. Keep your mind centered on the positives—goodness, sunshine, courage, faith, self-reliance. Recognize your Mastery; and promptly live up to your recognitions.

It is wonderful what you can do, when you make yourself think in the right way. Human Thought creates everything. But it has not much chance when limited by

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childish fears and superstitions. You must get to the Centre, where there is Positiveness and Power.

And what a comfort and relief to know there is nothing to fear; that all our old apprehensions have been so much ignorance and illusion. And that there is nothing in all this Infinite Universe but the GOOD?

We have simply been looking at things in the wrong light. We have failed to see the *educational* office of all experience; and have been so easily worried or afraid—when everything turns out just *right*.

Surely it is time to get above the infant stage of consciousness, necessary enough in days gone by—and bravely refuse to believe in the old, weakening spectres of fear. Surely it is time to assert ourselves—in defiance of our nervous acquaintances, who will look at us and comment on our audacity.


In the past, we have been kept down. Religion taught us to tremble and be humble. Those years and centuries of weakness have got into the very bones of humanity, and we are not going to overcome all the old habits in a day. But we assuredly can do a very great deal in a day, if we try, if we proceed.

We must not wait for sure things or certain goals before we step forward. We must move, and again move—ignoring our falls and failures. Don't look for results too much. Keep moving. There is pleasure in the work, if you concentrate. There is joy in an attitude of courage. And finally there will be the glory of success and victory.

Just refuse to think those deadening thoughts; those that make you discouraged and disagreeable. Never mind the world's way of thinking. Just you become a law unto yourself—in thought and action. This is the attitude of Courage, that leads to Conquest.

XVIII.

THE NIGHT

XISTENCE is made up of contrasts, periods, alternations. Night and day, winter and summer, repose and activity. The opposites, positive and negative, make up consciousness, existence. The roar of Niagara in your ears *all* the time would only produce the effect of silence. The universe must keep moving—if it was to stop it would vanish.

Motion makes up Life. Everywhere the ebb and flow, the coming and going.

Nature symbolizes spirit. There is a night-time for the soul as well as the body, also serving a beneficent purpose—preparing for the Dawn.

There is a wondrous mystery connected with the Night. How filled with romance, especially when illuminated by the subdued lights of the moon and stars.

I love the night-time, and have done much good work “after hours.” Why should we be bound by the limitations of the animal kingdom altogether and be always compelled to miss the wonders of the Night by being asleep? Of course, a great deal depends on a person’s temperament. Some need more sleep than others. They believe they do, anyway; hence the necessity for them to sleep away—until they find they can stand a little less “rest.” Then the various duties of people order their hours. The time of our sleeping must largely be governed by circumstances.

The “early to bed” doggerel, no doubt, has a great deal in it—especially for children; use your judgment.

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Only don't sleep your life away. When you are asleep you are practically dead; get enough of it, but not too much.

There is work for you in this world; at daytime and at night; and this work requires you to be *awake*.

You must get your forces in conditions of concentrated activity; your mind alert; your consciousness illuminated. Sleep assists this end of existence; and it has rightly been called nature's restorer.

However, while there is the natural alternation of sleeping and waking, the former has not half the value of the latter. Less than one-third of the twenty-four hours ought to be sufficient for most people. Time is our opportunity; let us not doze the hours away.

Some people are asleep when they are awake. Their consciousness is always in a sort of coma. This is the drowsy state that keeps most people where are the failures, makeshifts, mediocrities. It isn't that they have not got ability; but they will not arouse themselves and fully recognize themselves.

For meditation and inspiration, the calm Night offers particular advantages. Your mind is then not so distracted by the follies and worries of the ordinary day. The Night seems to take you nearer the Silence of the Infinite. You can gather of the invisible resources something to make manifest tomorrow.

The shadow of the Night comes as a blessing to the sick and discouraged; bringing its sweet recuperative sleep, and tomorrow there is going to be a change for the better—sunshine for the soul and body with the coming dawn of day.

Then one who has temporarily descended into some negative condition of body, mind or estate need not, in all cases, use all the Night for sleep. One advantage of sleep

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is that it makes you forget your troubles. Still, you can do this while awake, and concentrate on ideals, and center your consciousness on things practical and inspiring. You can rest and recreate your forces by refreshing, as well as stimulating, acts of meditation. You can change the order of your thoughts and actions; and a change, you know, is as good as a rest—better.

It is a great thing to be a law unto yourself. To feel that your will is not bound by "natural laws," as they are called. That you can rise above the animal, physical limitations, and speak your word and create a new law.

You have but to realize that you need not be bound by any kind of precedents whatsoever. That you can create new habits, think in an entirely different way—and so be a new man, living in a new world. The other ordinary plane of existence then has a new meaning for you; and "nature" is something to be subject to the mandates of your desire, your will.

I am writing these words in the middle of the quiet Night, with a feeling of the deeper import of my Life, of all human Life, resting upon me. Amidst the scramble of the daily bread-and-butter business existence it is not always so easy to feel the *deeper import*. The usual "duties" and "requirements" becloud one's spiritual vision. The noise and smoke associated with the daily labor stifle the aspirations of the soul.

But we are emerging out of all this sordidness. We are reaching toward the artistic stage and plane of action—when work shall be beautiful, in the process and in the results.

At Night, we can have our dreams of the coming future Dawn—when we shall recognize all there is in spiritual and material *Light*. We can concentrate and

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plan and work for future ends. We can do this literally and figuratively; using the *negative* opportunities of Life for all they are worth. Giving ourselves due rest as well—working away at all times with joy and ease, without wear or strain.

Work, work ! The word has not a pleasant sound for some ears. Many associate the word with drudgery and even misery. The New Thought shows you how Work may be a Pleasure. You can work with your mind, building your dream structures, and you can work with your hands to materialize them; and whatever you do can be made most interesting by concentration. Exercise your originating capabilities; everyone has some kind of inventive genius in him. Take heed of that "idea" that comes to you tonight; and carry it out tomorrow.

Of course, the Night is not the only time of inspiration. I shall have something to say about the Day in the next chapter. But I want to impress on you the fact that every hour of the twenty-four represents *opportunity*—the passing minutes are circulating capital to work upon. In repose or in action, let us make the best use of our Time, not being limited too much by the methods and laws of the past.

Whether it is physically dark or light, the energies of Man may still express themselves, his spiritual radiations shine forth. There must be certain limitations for his protection, which he can grow beyond and overcome, one by one. Until finally his consciousness illuminates all, and there is everlasting Light and Life immortal.

Remember, O Soul, that the physical concerns are only means leading to far deeper ends. That your little transitory pleasures and duties will evolve to something much

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higher. Continue your interest in the little things—but don't forget the larger ends—keep them in view.

You can draw up so much more energy from the depths of your being, if you want to. You, you, yourself, are the genius, god, ideal, that your soul looks up to and worships. Look in the mirror; and see *Within* all that you have been searching for *Without*.

Have patience, you will manifest your desires in good time; all the quicker, now that you perceive the real source and centre of life and power—even *within yourself*.

And be prompt to obey your ideas. *Do it now*. Also be patient, and leave what should be left till tomorrow—some things still later.

And what you henceforth do, let it be *well done*, a stroke of genius, a master-piece, work stamped with excellence.

This requires periodical acts of concentration, to be followed by the habit of concentration. You can make use of some of the night-hours for forming this foundational attitude of your forces.

So if you want Tomorrow to be better than Today, make your preparations *now*.

Sow the seeds; the harvest must soon follow.


Work today; and enjoy the results thereof tomorrow.

Enter your chamber at Night, for due meditation and concentration and action as well as repose; and with the new Day go out into the world recuperated, and holding in your consciousness new material to work with—born all from *Within*.

THE DAYTIME

XIX.

THE DAYTIME

 HE Night has gone; and another Day is here. The sun shines once more, as of old, and all is well.

Always the shadows pass away; the Sun is ever *there*—and never can possibly fail to reappear.

By the same token, if your soul is enduring a period of night-time, if shadows are around you, you can have faith, and be sure that the sunshine will soon come again. The physical symbolizes the spiritual, which is ever the underlying *reality*.

The average person is concerned only with the material symbol, with the universe of crumbling, changing shells and images. Life itself is overlooked; consciousness considered of less moment than sensation. We must get above this habit of the masses, and live only for Life and Truth.

We can continue to enjoy all that the physical life has to offer us—all the more as we give it its proper place. Only at no time should we allow it to master us.

For instance, how the life of the soul is kept in bondage, one's character narrowed, by the habit of being so dependent on the state of one's finances. This habit must be checked. Whether you have one dollar or a million, one meal today or three, rags or fine raiment, is not of such terrific importance—unless you choose to let it be. Certainly, your nature rightly desires the necessities, and some of the luxuries, of physical life; and you have a perfect right to go after them. But don't be so cast down, if they don't all come your way as quick as you would wish.

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The New Thought is a practical philosophy, and has little sympathy for the Oriental ideal, with its asceticism and physical inertia. But we must be all round; and the spiritual must have the pre-eminence.

With most of us, at least a good share of the Day-time has to be spent in solving the insistent problem of getting a physical living. The time when the sun shines over the earth is the time for most labor. Nature invites us out to assist her in her efforts toward growth and development.

One can do so much in a day, even in an hour, if he *attends and concentrates*. It is the wisest plan to get, as soon as possible, into a desirable occupation—something you can take a decided interest in; then you get considerable pleasure and profit at the same time. To this end, don't be afraid to give up an old occupation when the time seems at all ripe. Venture forth. The new move itself will open out new opportunities. Take a step. Don't be afraid.

How urgent is *Change*. Here comes in the value of death. Which, by a dissolving process, renews worn-out material and transforms. Life is spiral; all is one; birth follows death.

Some of your old habits need to be exterminated. You must be determined; with the dawn of each new day, make yourself, in many respects, a new man, with new ambitions, new intentions.

Let the magnificent sunshine encourage you to drop your fears and anxieties, and go out into the world, cheerful and courageous, to work and conquer. You have the same infinite resources to draw upon that supply the mighty Sun with its energy day by day. All is One. You

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have but to apply and appropriate to yourself the infinite, to recognize your divine forces. Then things are born.

Men are too timid, too retiring. They should come out, and claim their native inheritance of genius. Then, by the law of attraction, their environment is made to correspond. Your mental attitude draws things to you or repels things from you.

Today is your time of opportunity. Then the morrows will bring their opportunities, as well. But why keep temporizing, and putting off some work when you have a chance? Get into it, and its distasteful features vanish. Overcome that habit of shirking, even if it requires a big effort, as it often does.

Not that you are to spend every day in work. You must have leisure and recreation; and glorious are the days of sunshine for the holidays justly earned. No wonder that our ancestors used to worship the great Orb in the sky, the God of the Day.

Everything looks so full of life on a bright day. The very stones respond to the beams of the sun, and grow in their own way. And how invigorating the currents of fresh air. What health and delight to be gained by a walk on a sunny day.

The most valuable things of Life, as well as those that yield the most happiness, can be had without money. Learn to appreciate the deep value of the offerings of nature, even if they are simple. Learn to appreciate everything. Remember all existence is an educational process for the soul; and place your consciousness on the throne of directorship, and look on with a measure of masterful indifference, faithful appreciation and patient recognition; identify yourself with the God within, with the I Am that is all in all, and let yourself utter the same words that you

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know the creative Spirit of the Universe is always saying:
ALL IS WELL.

I am, I know, reiterating statements in this book, many times; giving you the same truths in different words; holding up a mirror to your soul at various angles. You must not mind. These chapters are penned with the object of making you think and act; that as you read, the ideas may force themselves into your subconsciousness, impelling you to renewed activities, giving an impetus to your development. You require several views of the same truth. You need reminding. This is a book of suggestions; a looking-glass for your soul. I am not exactly teaching anything; you already know what I am stating herein; but the sentences will prompt you to new endeavors; by reading the words of this book, they will stimulate your spiritual activities, as they stimulate me to write them.

Let no longer sorrow or regret dampen your energies; be no longer concerned over the little trifles. Expand. Unite yourself in consciousness with the ruling centres of the universe. For you are truly one with all the light and life and force there is. All is One. All is Yours. At last claim your infinite inheritance, and govern your thoughts and activities by your awakened recognition.

The sun, moon and stars are yours. The earth is yours. Day and Night are yours. The hours and centuries, endless spaces and transcendent dimensions are yours. The visible and invisible are yours.

All is One. Your Being is the One. This veritably embraces all; your visible personality being an agent for the manifestation of Consciousness.

You are here to develop and grow. As your consciousness unfolds, your capacities increase for happiness and power as well.

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Each day may see an expansion of consciousness with you; and thus you get nearer the real goals of your desires. For the celestial kingdom and all its resources are to unfold from within you. Veils are lifted from your sight, and your intellect develops; for that which is to be in manifestation already is in potency. Creation is a matter of unfoldment.

And to this end the great Orb of Day continues to reappear times without number, giving the children of earth new periods of light, until their consciousness opens out with a wondrous, spiritual illumination, and they see in themselves the vaster, spiritual Sun, that is the Light and Life of the universe.

For the object of the rounds of Time is the conscious union of the finite with the infinite, of the subject with the object, the spiritual with the material—of You with God.

And this is the extension and apotheosis of Love.

At last the eternal Day of the Soul, with all Things under your feet—you seated on the throne of Mastery, wielding a sceptre with a Will that can know no failure. Your consciousness at last unfolded. Your individuality immortal. Your personality universal.

XX.

THE PRINCIPLE OF ATTRACTION



ALL truth revolves round a recognition of Unity. All is One. In this statement, emphasized so often in these pages, is contained the keynote to all philosophy. The various forms throughout the universe are united, held together, and made to move in their respective orbits by the law of attraction, or gravitation. Even the spaces between the objects are not empty. There is the air; and the still finer substance of ether, penetrating all, and of which substance the visible forms are made. So that things always move together; there is a certain beneficial fate ruling all; our personal wills are agents for a deeper and infinite power inherent in our own being, in all being.

Thus the centre of each person is infinite. The finite form is a veil or tabernacle sacramentally enshrining the absolute and eternal.

Nothing can go astray, owing to this universal bondage of Attraction. Existence consists in the interplay of the myriad forms and forces, the Many being the Expression of the Unit, that Consciousness, in ever-increasing variety, may be born. Out of experience comes practical power; out of ignorance—wisdom; out of darkness, glorious illumination. First things move all but unconsciously; then there is evolved sensation and feeling, reason and consciousness, light, life and love.

The principle of Attraction is Love when in the order of growth consciousness is born. Love is Life in manifestation. A consciousness of unity.

If you know you are thus secure in the arms of mother

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Nature, that you cannot fall or be lost, why keep up the anxiety? Why continue to be afraid of the experiences that help our unfoldment? Especially when we have so often proved that our apprehensions never amounted to anything. Why not stop to recognize the law of your being, O Soul, and be not so concerned? Recognition will give you Peace and Power.

Since we perceive that even the mistakes are no mistakes, helping as they do our unfoldment, and educating us in their own way—that the very negatives have a positive value—we are only childish if we keep up our habit of being so “concerned.”

Every day sees a further degree of unfoldment in Nature; and if we would hasten matters, we have only to give our conscious co-operation with the never-ceasing energies of Life’s working Principle of Attraction.

It is motion that produces; the mingling and connecting of different orders and elements of life—this is creation or manifestation. It is all the working of one Being, according to the principle of attraction.

Some people think that there are downward tendencies as well as upward. But this is mathematically impossible. The succession of events adds character to the soul, and as one needs all sorts of positive and negative experiences in the construction of personal character, the passing periods must always be sending us onward and upward. Existence is a system of spiral ascensions. Hence there can be nothing to regret.

The complementary doctrine to Unity is Universal Goodness. All is One; and *All is Good*.

If negatives are educational, and even the failures lead to a larger success, we cannot justly condemn anything. It is a contradiction of terms to speak of a “necessary

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evil," unless one looks upon the "evil" as something intrinsically "good."

Before you criticise or complain, take an all-round view of the situation; and you will see good where before you saw evil; you will make allowances; and perceive how circumstances alter cases; how ignorance and lack of development causes conditions that do not come up to your ideal. But all is good, nevertheless, because all is growing.

The law of Attraction will bring you what you desire and require. The element in your nature called Desire is an utterance of the law of Attraction, and must produce results if it is working in harmony with your larger and universal nature. Selfish desires carry their own death sentence with them. They are but the froth on the surface of life. The same with many of the appetites and sensations. There is something more substantial deeper down than the transitory trifles that bring unrest and nervous prostration.

What you need must come to you. Be more earnest and diligent, and you will be ready for larger opportunities and resources. You can hasten your growth; but you cannot defeat its principle. Whether it is life or death, people get what they prepare for, and so require.

Here we are on this earth, making our moves day by day, taking our journeys from place to place; and the earth goes spinning round, circling the sun; and all Nature is whirling along in stupendous velocity; all up through the infinite spirals of Existence. It is a marvelous system, everywhere the alternations of action and repose, though never any standing still. Motion is Life. And there is no lack of motion anywhere; therefore, there is no death; and the whole thing is held together by the law of attraction or gravitation. Every object is a magnet, and exercises

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some electrical affinity with other objects. The universe is a system of co-operation. We move and work together.

It is easily seen, then, how unnatural are the affairs of men when they are warring and competing instead of collectively moving together. And it is not to be surprised at when results in general are unsatisfactory.

Happiness is not to be gained by being selfish, or by the sense of responsibility and ownership that goes with accumulated possessions. They may seem to give one security and power; but it is possible to have this feeling without the encumbrances, by a calm act of faith and recognition, and so save worry and economize energy. Without going to the extreme of poverty it is easy to perceive the philosophy of contentment; it is foolish to burden oneself with things if we see we can get along better without them.

Possessions have their value in use. But men have no recognition of their infinite nature; and they strive to save and pile up a few perishable things; they place their dependence on props that they can see are shaky, before they will depend on the infinite resources within. This attitude, a confession of limitation and weakness, simply stems the tide of attraction in one's behalf, arresting in a degree one's personal growth. We have simply got to conquer the habit of feeling weak and subject to failure, if we would attract the conditions of success and power.

This means that we have got to take an individual stand, and think and act on a plane above the custom. Let us faithfully carry the principle of our recognized infinitude into *all* our activities.

I repeat again, everything depends on our Mental Attitude. Thoughts are infinite forces, affecting conditions universally. All is One; and all is infinite.

This is the New Thought; an entire inversion of the

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Old. Hence the necessity for a complete change of life; for the elimination of old habits, and the creation of new ones.

Of rising onto the new plane disclosed to us; seating ourselves on the Throne of Mastery; living up to the Ideal; being the spokesman of Nature; our Will, a conscious expression of the Principal of Attraction.

XXI.

THE MARCH OF MAN

AND so Mankind goes on struggling, growing, unfolding, experiencing—with joy and sorrow, ignorance and knowledge, failure and success—marching on to the heights of Consciousness. On to the Life Celestial—Joy and Immortality. Conquering his little kingdoms, and finally entering the gates of the Kingdom of Heaven—the realm of the Universal Consciousness.

Nothing short of Infinity is man's goal; all the symbols and illusions, the pleasures and miseries, darkness and light, sunshine and shadow, all the experiences—are leading up to the Infinite Recognition.

With the dawn of intelligence in ages past, men began to construct their religions and philosophies—and crude enough some of them were. But they were all steps in the Soul's Enlightenment; even Ignorance is a phase of Wisdom, as Failure belongs to the career of Success; because of the educational scheme of experience—requiring the opposites of negative and positive—the scheme of the electrical principle of Attraction.

How trivial appear the ordinary concerns of men, compared to the view of Life given by the New Thought. How ridiculous our old worries and cares. And then we drop them easily; and then our souls and bodies are transformed.

Have patience with those who are still where you used to be. Have patience with their weakness and superstitions—and even their paltry and selfish ideals.

Everybody is marching on—some quicker than others.

Some are indeed losing no time in giving expression to their new-found resources and capabilities. And all are blessed and benefited by the productions of an awakened genius—which is a divine capacity of power, native to all who choose to give their faithful recognition.

We cannot stand still. Let us see that we are marching along the best road we can. No longer wasting time over the old inconsequential concerns.

Never mind if people misunderstand or criticise you. Never mind anything at all. But go on, making the most of everything. All is well; very smooth roads are no good to you. You must have friction of some kind—your soul needs it, and you may as well have it one way as another. Not that you are to sit down, resigned to your fate. Obstacles are to be mastered, negative conditions conquered, that's what they are for.

Glorious is the sense of Power that comes as the result of Experience. We have truly something to look forward to at the end of our trials.

It is the promise of the Future that justifies the chaotic Present. It is interesting to watch the process of unfoldment, and better to take a strong active part in it.

No one need keep in the background. All have got to make themselves Something—sooner or later. And there are no opportunities better than afforded by the Present.

Get to work, O Man; shake off all feelings of laziness. Arouse your soul energies to Action.

March on! Motion is Life. You will get Somewhere. Take the best move you know of; but do not delay to Move. One leads to another. So do not wait too long.

Patience can cease to be a virtue. You can go to unhealthy extremes. You can make excuses to your conscience, and fold your arms too long. The hours are

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precious—even though they are plentiful. Your future great possibilities depend on making use of the present little ones. It's no use putting off or temporizing any longer. **March on!**

You are here to undertake expeditions; untried realms are waiting for you to explore, and bring up and out into expression their concealed potencies. Be no longer like a straw tossed by the waves of life. Take a controlling hand—for such is your office as a Man.

You must not get up in the morning and start worrying over the little problems you are to meet. Nothing is worth the wear of worry. It does wear indeed, destroying health and beauty. You must not be impatient. Build for a year—and longer. Sacrifice some immediate comforts for the larger ends ahead.

This is a straight, practical business talk. The New Thought touches all your life—physical and mental. The body and its requirements are not to be ignored, though subordinated to the spiritual. We need foundations and superstructures for our consciousness. The Material is the foundation.

Do not take this as an excuse for the mere "making" of money. Never lose sight of the fact that money and all materials are but *means* towards larger and deeper ends. Keep everything in circulation. Don't give way to the foolish fear that more may not come your way. Even if it did not, what you possess would soon reach the perishing stage. But more will come.

If assistance of any kind is at present scarce with you, still proceed; march on and conquer; circumstances or no circumstances, obstacles or lack of material to work with—still may the Will *create*, opening a way somehow.

Have but an earnest desire, and the rest is compar-

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atively easy. And aim high while you are about it; the path may be a little longer, but it is worth while.

Steer your vision away and above the old grovelings which are the plane of the majority. Refuse any longer to be limited by such unsatisfying schemes and plans. Since you know you are infinite in character and resources, act accordingly.

Don't be afraid to spend. Money or energy, capital or labor; let it be expended. Never mind the "waste;" be systematic and in a degree economical, but never scrimping and scraping. Keep the word "Infinite" before your mind always; keep reminding yourself that this word applies to *all*.

So there is no scarcity anywhere. Always out of the depths of the invisible appear more and more. Death forever heralds renewed life. And there is nothing to fear.

Do what you can today. And there are always more tomorrows. Opportunities have disappeared from view. Nothing to regret; you have better ones today and tomorrow.

Let the fascination of the Future make you use the Present to draw it quicker to you. You may take hold of Time and make it serve. Which will you have, an *accele-rando* or more retards? It is for you to choose.

Time is like an ocean of opportunity or a realm of resources—past, present and future existing in the ETERNAL NOW—to be navigated or explored; bringing into fields of Expression, new creations of life and beauty, of use and ornament, to complement the growing character of the Soul of Man.

XXII.

IN THE SILENCE



OW we return to the Subjective View again. If Nature is made up of Action, there is also Repose. If we are to Keep Moving, we are also to Keep Still.

This looks like contradiction. It is because existence and experience are made up of certain fictions, illusions, symbols; that Life is in a sense a Dream, and the passing tragedies and comedies out in the theatre of the world, the whole panoramic spectacle of the days and nights, all that is in time and space—not so real after all, excepting as a Vision or Dream is real.

All is Mind, Force, Vibration, Sensation, Consciousness.

Reality is Perfection. Reposing in the Eternal Silence, which is forever behind the transitory phenomena. The Subjective Realm from whence issue forth the conditions of the Objective.

The Silence is the Centre. Noise is out on the circumference. We need both, harmony and discord, in the development of the soul's character. But do not mistake the present plane of show and ignorance, of things more or less beautiful and ugly, for the *reality* of Life.

Rest awhile from your ambitions and enter the abode of the Silence. Still the quakings of your thoughts and emotions. Just *let* yourself become composed. Meditate and concentrate on the deep verities of Life. Don't concern yourself entirely with the passing *means* of the soul's development, with things that surely your reason tells you are of a perishable nature.

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Center your mind on the Life Immortal, the Infinite, the Real and Eternal—which is all inherent in and identical with your own Being. All within, behind the commotion of Thought, behind the veils of mortality.

You do not know your Self. Or the ordinary affairs would not cause you so much bother and fear. There is no personal, localized Being looking down from the clouds, penetrating into every little action. There are idols, created by years of habit, in your minds; and you would do well to harbor them no longer; but get where there is courage, self-reliance, truth.

The Silence will show you the way. So don't grudge to give the little bit of time for meditation and concentration that promises so much for you—even if you have to deny yourself of something.

It is worth while to get a glimpse of the Light; the ordinary affairs have proved themselves so unsatisfactory.

In the Silence, you will get nearer the Kingdom of Heaven. You will approach the doors of the mystic laboratory of Nature, and learn a little of the process of creation; you will see more of your Self—that is indeed All in All—the One Being—the Infinite, Universal, Eternal.

You do not know your Self!

Catching an apprehension of the deeper nature of Life and Being—even of Man himself—how can we care so much over the scrambling courses of events? Then our sensitiveness dies away, in an illumination of consciousness. The nerves are controlled better from the central station.

So rest your weary brain, your tired-out system. Stop the strain for awhile; you will lose nothing. Relax the tension; you can take up a strenuous period afterward, with more energy to work with.

And when you get out into the world again, you can

recollect that all this is a passing show; and not allow a little thing like this to crush you. Carry the recognition of your immortal and infinite nature everywhere. It's no use entertaining two conceptions of your nature.

In the Silence! Where there is the Peace that passeth Understanding. The Consciousness that transcends ordinary thought. The Centre that is of so much more import than the outer circle.

Men make the mistake of not going deep enough in the process of their education. They are all concerned with surfaces and figures. They fritter away their life over scraps of knowledge and consciousness; and it seems almost impossible to show them any other way. Noise, rather than Silence, is attractive to them. Anything for show and ostentation. They do not want simplicity—least of all the simple Truth. And so they go on stimulating their restlessness and nervousness—until there occurs the inevitable collapse.

No one in this Western world of ambition and achievement wants to copy the Eastern method of self-extinction. There is a better way to reach the depths of the Silence and draw up from its great well-springs of resources. You should lead both the spiritual and the material life; for all anything is worth, make the most of it.

For all it is worth! Take a business view. Are the ordinary "concerns" worth the wear and tear often given to them? No, they are not; and it is only habit that makes you give them so much attention—for want of something better to think of. Get into the mystical realm of the Silence, the abode of the Eternal, the chambers of your deeper spiritual nature; and discover the better things. You will then become fearless and free; and your energies will have a chance to express themselves. Don't be afraid

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of being alone. What is solitude; when you know that your being contains the all in all? Only get nearer the centre of your being. In the Silence, the home of the Spiritual.

There is plenty of time. Why are men so impatient, and begrudge a few hours for their soul's unfoldment? What is there so attractive in the affairs and amusements of the world, that these should be considered before the higher things, that these should take up all people's time? Men are hypnotized; for there is certainly very little pleasure or profit in the habits of mankind.

It is not as if the spiritual life required you to give up anything worth while. It interprets all sides of life to you; it is a matter of all-round mental and physical culture.

There is such a relief in dropping the worrying problems of daily life. For awhile there may seem to be "nothing" left; but in due time a light appears, a new world opens to view. And afterward, we take up the old problems minus the worry; we change their aspect by our new point of view.

We need to eliminate many things. So much ought to be cut out. But we are so afraid to give up. We forget that this is an infinite universe; and that whatever we yield we are royally compensated for, according to the law of attraction and of justice.

You are not supposed to rest in the Silence always. But you must relax, and take periods of quiet and meditation, so that you can go out into the scramble and externalize conditions for yourself and for others.

XXIII.

EXPRESSION.



CREATION is expression. An externalization of the substantial that is always within. A manifestation of the ideals.

Creation is here to give us joy. What other purpose could there be in existence, in the unfoldment of power and consciousness, but the increase of happiness? So the kingdom of heaven, with ecstasy and bliss, has always been considered the home and goal of man.

Knowledge brings you joy and power. Extending your capacity of consciousness, the experience that truly teaches develops finer senses, until the universe is opened to you at all points.

At present, because of the general ignorance, most people live in a very small circle. And their consciousness being limited, their whole life is paltry and mean. And they have no one but themselves to blame for it. They cling to their ideals of selfishness and bondage, and their environment has to correspond.

Allow yourself expression. One step leads to another; so don't be afraid to make a move—of any kind. Experience teaches. Do the best you can; a better way will disclose itself. Every move is valuable. After you have meditated and thought awhile, don't be afraid to promptly take the first step that appears before you.

The first is generally the hardest. One gets more courageous as he goes on—and courage gives you more power. Express, express! Whatever you can do—do it!

You will discover that you can do better than you gave yourself credit for. A spirit of fearlessness and faith

gives birth to inspirations; you have only to exercise a degree of "recognition." That is how men give to the world their great works of art and science—something worthy of the name Expression.

You can do as well, in your own sphere. Don't look back and gauge your future by the past. New precedents may be formed. Either a development of the old ones, or something entirely different. Have patience; but go ahead. If you fall, rise, and start again.

As with the subject of health, the tendency of Nature is to assist a spirit of success. You simply must not harbor those fears of failure. Give yourself every possible chance.

You have been having a too poor opinion of yourself, perhaps. You have been thinking you were cast down, naturally inferior to others—and this negative attitude has prevented you from giving yourself expression.

Perhaps you are kept down. But don't you know that the effort required to break your chains is a muscular exercise that gives you added power? You are compensated at every turn.

What a beautiful world this is going to be when men give themselves Expression. When the arts and sciences are developed to the utmost; when men endow themselves with the spirit of excellence and inspiration.

Earth becomes heaven as it is cleared of sordidness and crude creations; changed to an abode of geniuses and gods—men who dare to express their great possibilities.

It's all a matter of daring. Of even, at times, being a little audacious and reckless. You don't know what you can do till you try. Let your faith take a venture. Believe in the possibility of your desire.

Again I say, never mind the failures; they help, according to the educational scheme of experience.

EXPRESSION

You may as well express yourself in the best way you know of. You have to do something. Just think before you act. Perhaps you can make a distinctly profitable change.

And you must act according to your own plans. You must not be so dependent on advice. Some people think they are universal oracles; but you will notice they have not got much to show, themselves.

You may have to speculate some money (if you have any) before you can secure your chance of gaining some desired end. It doesn't matter. You may lose it. It doesn't matter. The path of expression and experience is by extravagance and by economy.

You must not be afraid to let go of the means, to leave the steps behind, as you reach after your goals.

No; it is not a hard world—unless you choose to think so. Your view is the whole thing. Don't give yourself time to ponder on the "hardships" of life, by entering heart and soul into your work, and thus finding real joy therein.

You must not be childish. Don't magnify the trifles. Time is too valuable to waste over them—so is your energy. Always keep your mind centered on fairly large and then still larger concerns.

This attitude will give you ease and contentment. It requires effort to reach such a condition; but if you want anything, you must pay the price.

Nature is not against you; she is only too pleased to see a man working hard to express his capacities; and assists him, and showers benedictions upon him.

XXIV.

THE SPIRIT OF VENTURE

As this is a book designed to *help* you, rather than as a mere "literary" production of essays, constructed according to conventional rules—it is quite within real "good form" to remind you again of the power of the venturesome spirit, and give another chapter to this subject.

I want you to take up this book, and be *inspired*, even as you read one chapter after another, or just take hold of the suggestions contained in a single chapter, or a paragraph, and give expression to them. You can pick up this book anywhere, and at least gather a *suggestion*.

Let the suggestion of *Venture* enter firmly into your mind, that you may proceed to make some new expedition into untried resources. Have you ever considered what possibilities there are in the vast realms of the *untried*—the potential—the invisible—the unmanifest?

It is for you to proceed and make *manifest*. What else do you think you are here for?

There is something so fascinating about *going ahead*. Suppose we do have to retrace our steps—the experience counts. Though there is never any actual retracing of steps. The return of life's circles are in a spiral form, ever ascending and ascending. You cannot really fail. For your goals are so much deeper and grander than you suppose. The real desire of your heart lies behind the surface ambition that your consciousness is cognizant of.

When you know that the joys which are awaiting your soul's growth are beyond your wildest dreams of

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pleasure, that *consciousness* is going to mean wondrous ecstasy for you, the educational experiences, hard as they often are, seem worth while.

Time passes quickly, and while one is complaining, the trouble vanishes. Nature does not try us too hard. Perhaps we protract the "agony" by refusing to grow.

Movement is growth. *Move on*—this is the ever-incessant cry of Nature. The charm of even encountering danger by our venturesome spirit! And, oh, the joy of conquest! The man who ventures cannot but attain to victory in the long run; and the little defeats are seen to have paved the way for greater conquests.

In olden times, men fought for their ladies fair; or they entered crusades for mother church or father country; they showed their valor by means of blood and sword. Insane enough, these old methods seem to us, though at the time, they were believed to be born of righteousness and justice. Today we have not done away with the superstitions connected with war; and if we don't use swords so much, there are the more deadly scientific, wholesale machines of slaughter. But it is Money rather than Sentiment that is the cause of personal and national friction now. We have commerce in place of chivalry. And people prefer gold to glory.

One must admit that this is more practical. Surely it is better to venture forth with the aim of producing instead of only destroying. And today gold is the standard of value. You cannot do very much without, at least, a little of it.

Call money the devil's implement if you like, but devil or no devil, you need it.

While Success is not only Money, it is partly.

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Whatever it is you want, it is to be gained by Venture. Go after it, with faith. Take steps. It may be that you are, at present, most concerned with getting rid of something instead of acquiring. With faith, just let it go; or venture into different fields. And if you are looking for new resources, the same spirit of Venture will create a mutual attraction.

Your character is advanced each time you venture. You must not rest contented with any little affair—any small success. Don't be afraid of aiming too high. You cannot do so—since are you not one with all the infinite life and resources?

“Oh, for more worlds to conquer,” is the cry of a soul longing for liberty. But how narrow to express the spirit of venture by trampling down others—even if there has been a mutual agreement to fight for the right of way. When there are plenty of ways for all.

In money matters our possibilities are going to be decidedly checked, if there is so much concern over a few coins one way or the other.

You see, whatever you want or need—there has got to be a broader view of life—your life. You must get in a conscious touch with the Universe.

The celestial kingdoms are reached by a spirit of conquest—but no selfish conquest. Power, Character, Manhood, are born of Achievement. If you venture, you will be sure to achieve.

The celestial realms—the kingdom of heaven—are within you. They are the wondrous, spiritual possibilities of the soul. The extensions of your Consciousness. The Knowledge that is Power. That gives you the wand of

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Creation. That allows you to speak the Word—and behold things are born.

If you venture into fields outside, don't overlook the mystic worlds of consciousness within you—where you can learn to retire at any time or place, for rest and recuperation, and for your advance to higher planes.

Never mind if you have got into the habit of being afraid to think or move—still think and move. Then the spell of fear will be broken. Only take steps. The advance will get easier all the time.

While it is not wise to bother oneself over trivialities, it is undeniable that often enough the little things are the ones that count. Though they may go together, Nature gives the place of precedence to Quality before Quantity. Look after the subtle features lurking in unlikely places. Study how to interpret thoroughly; to recognize.

The great displays of so-called daring out in the world often are not so very wonderful or clever. With everything visible to help them, men take what they call a venture, and think they deserve much praise for what they consider their cleverness and valor. They generally get it—people are so easily befooled by some dazzling effects. In a much simpler sphere you may be called upon to *act!* And for you, the visible means to work with may be of very meager proportions; you have little else beside your Will. Still, this is plenty; have faith, go forth and conquer—first in little things, later the big things. You gather strength as you *act*.

Life is a matter of relativity; everything the way you look at it. Take a large view of yourself and your inner powers; a large view of the universe around you. Refuse to be limited any longer by old-fashioned, narrow standards. Go forth and Conquer. Be brave and faithful and

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true. Assume your rightful position of Mastery—of course, first over little things, then the big things.

The whole question of success and achievement hinges on your Thinking. What are you thinking? How are you thinking? Courageously get out of the grooves. Have Faith. Venture forth. Go forward; you will be sure to *conquer*.

IDENTITY

XXV.

IDENTITY



Do you know who you are?

Do you know what you are living for,
working for, striving for?

Have you discovered Yourself?

Analyze your Consciousness. For herein is your orbit of life. You mark your own limitations by the line and method of Thinking you follow.

If you think in the grooves and ruts of your old forefathers and ancestry—personal and national—you are dwarfed and stunted.

You must dare to establish new and larger realms of thought and action for yourself. Morality, Duty, Love, must become arranged and interpreted according to your own awakened and enlightened Reason.

You must stop in the midst of the grind and bustle of today, and draw out from Within something better for the Future.

Your general dissatisfactions are hinting to your Soul to unfold from the depths of your creative resources—a Higher Life.

Where the weak, narrow, ignorant rules and customs of the People shall be forgotten. And your Individuality shall be emancipated from the unreasoning emotions of the Multitude.

A new meaning shall be given you concerning your Identity. You shall commence to know who and what you are—you shall get a glimpse of your Future Destiny.

You have only to expand your Vision to enter a New World.

Life consists of Circles within Circles.

Enter a Higher Plane. In other words, take Another View.

Recognition is everything. As you choose to see things, they *are*. What is Matter but Mind in an objective and tangible shape?

Expand—expand! Until you encompass the Infinite, the Universe, in your Consciousness. Force yourself out of the creeds, theories, conventions, that only keep you *down*.

Why are you eternally asking yourself, "Does So-and-so do this?" "Have I done this before?"—ere you *act*? Wherefore this bondage to Precedent? Dare to be original, and exercise your creative power.

Then you will become self-cultured. And the vast possibilities of your human nature will commence to unfold.

You will have nothing to do with the old selfishness; your Love will take in all.

There is to be no recklessness, though. In an universal consciousness, there is still a place of import for things particular and individual, personal and concrete. You get closer the one centre, and have a better grasp over the outer circumstances.

Do not bemoan because friends have forsaken you, or progs have fallen from you, or possessions have vanished. Do not fear because you have been made to stand alone. Consider rather that Fate has been most kind to you; and given you an opportunity to get in conscious touch with your Identity and all the infinite resources contained in you.

Be willing to give up some of the paltry offerings of this old world for the immortal treasures of a new

IDENTITY

world. All to be born out of the mysterious depths of your own Soul.

Your Identity is not the mere casing of flesh reflected in the mirror. You do not see everything there. You don't see the electric and spiritual life that is the power behind this temple of matter.

You are going to see, however. And it is the purpose of literature like this to make us *see*.

We have been so long blind. Superstition—social and religious, personal and national—has done its work pretty well. The advent of New Thought found humanity a nervous wreck—all fear, weakness, incompetency. But the Energy is ever *there*—and behold, we are losing no time—we are changing—we are doing well.

We are opening our eyes; we are releasing the long, pent-up forces; we are now doing things scientifically. Our wonderful Reason is arousing. Humanity is awakening.

Geniuses by the million are being born.

What one man was—now ten thousand are—and finer, better, greater.

Oh, this wonderful dawn of THOUGHT, that is beginning to regenerate this old earth, and making all things glorious and new.

The words Unity and Fraternity are taking hold of the People. Instead of men Following, like sheep, there is a mighty vanguard of co-operative Leadership.

Out of Weakness, into Strength. From the valleys of Disease to the mountains where there is Health and Vigor. Man is marching, climbing, growing.


And the whole thing is Subjective. Creation is Dream-land. All is Mind.

THE CELESTIAL LIFE

The purpose of existence is the manifestation of ART.
Achievement ! Consciousness ! Success ! Individuality !
What are you doing, O Brother? Where are you?
Do you not see that All is One? All is Mind?
Come away from the allegiance to spectres and symbols.
Dare to be Real and True. Courageous and Free.
Proclaim your Infinite Identity—and Live up to It.

XXVI.

THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT

“ HE Spirit is willing but the Flesh is weak.”
But, again, the Flesh should not be weak.
The Flesh is the proper agency of the Spirit—the Body is the vehicle of the Soul’s expression.

We can harmonize all sides of our nature. Placing the Will at a proper centre of conscious power, with faith and infinite recognition—then the corporeal cells and atoms—even the electrons of material flesh—respond and obey.

Never forget that All is Mind. That Matter is Mind in function and organization. Tone your body from within with invigorating New Thoughts. Liven up the cells with concentrated ideals. Do not give way to “rest,” or “that tired feeling,” or “drowsiness,” or “laziness.” While you have due repose, let the keynote of your life be ACTION.

Be not afraid to Live, in the deepest sense of the word. Go out and feel, think, do something. Let the mighty spiritual forces express themselves more abundantly. Refuse to go under. Refuse to be kept down or held back. Ignore those idols—dethrone them, the toy-gods of your forefathers. Annihilate your old, stupid habits. Resolve, oh resolve, to live the Life of Reason.

If you do not, your Character is going to suffer—though, of course, only temporarily; for all must eventually come to the Truth. And if your Character suffers, everything outside suffers, since this is the Centre.

Be a law unto yourself. Forget those wretched regulations, obligations, limitations, all those extraneous rules

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that your real Conscience tells you are not true. Without losing sight of your identity with all, still affirm and recognize your infinite, individual power.

Indeed, you have so much to draw upon. You can incarnate so much. You may create—both form and substance—function and organism—even a new corporeal structure is for you to create.

The romances and superstitions and fictions and dreams of the past cannot come up to this recognition of Creative Power.

Where is Alladin's Lamp, now? What are the traditional miracles, inspirations, prophecies, compared to the Living Spirit and all its wondrous potencies within you?

This is the Age of Awakening, the Day of Recognition.

If there is to be new revitalized Flesh and Blood, reorganized materials in every way, reformed systems of society—there must be Faith in the Spirit Within. Faith makes the spiritual Will active and creative.

"The Spirit giveth Life." Spirit is Life. The rest is symbol, letter, form. Spirit is Substance.

Get down to the Substance. Don't be afraid to think deep thoughts. Get away from the customary superficial. Away from scraps and fractions—down to the foundation Unit, that is both One and All.

Get away from the lethal draughts of creeds that simply deaden your brains. Get away from the selfish notions of society that harm you and your neighbors, body and soul. Be true; be true. True to your unfolding Ideals.

Get into the Silence, where the Spirit resides; and so draw up new inspirations, new wisdom.

Do not give in. Be determined—though withal, gentle.

THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT

Determination is not obstinacy. Patience, you know, must go with Promptness.

But you must keep reminding yourself of the divine Spirit within, that is your real Self—that is the molding and creating power behind the scene of action.

All is from within outward. Exfoliation, unfoldment, evolution.

It is well to keep on reminding and posting yourself generally. We must not keep questioning Precedent or Custom. We must dare—originate—express—manifest—create.

The Body responds like lightning to the positive thought. The Spirit—once allowed by our mortal consciousness, full play—the veil of prejudice, ignorance, habit, lifted—soon changes the Flesh and Blood; and from this central Sun of liberated Spiritual Energy are radiated influences that spread far and wide.

The Energy within acts at once, automatically. When there is a faithful act of recognition, an earnest desire or thought. Great things can thus be done instantaneously, and greater things in a little time.

We may thus accelerate the Law of Growth. An attitude of Faith makes a man the Master of Time. This is the Eternal Attitude that subdues the Temporal.

Despise not the Invisible, O Soul of Man. Do not be so foolish as to overlook the value of the Mental. How incompetent, how narrow, how ignorant, must everything connected with the mere materialistic be.

Certainly, the Senses, Matter, Tangible Things, have their place. But their's is a passive or negative office; to be acted upon by the positive forces.

No one has the right or privilege to be merely frivolous. We are all here to do something. We owe a great deal

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to ourselves, and to the world at large. Action is Man's normal condition. We are here to Create. Man's Body is the Temple of the Spirit. In other words, it is pre-eminently a medium for the expression of an universal consciousness. Its senses and functions to develop and unfold and give birth to new ones, all in due time.

We are here to develop what is latent—to make actual what is potent—to convert energy into structure.

We are all creators, all the time. But the thing is to become a very conscious creator, to wield a sceptre of divine authority.

Men are now in the advancing age, called upon for Masterpieces. The Day of Mediocrity and Ignorance is gone. We are now to think and work. This is the Age of Geniuses and Gods.

Let your inner Light shine its brightest; and your Spirit manifest itself daily in new incarnations and embodiments. Let the Invisible and Subjective now be expressed more and more—our Dreams made enduringly Visible and Objective.

Faith and Love will do the work.

Only be true to your Ideals.

XXVII.

HUNGERING AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS

RELIGION has been such a paltry, narrow thing in the past, that words like Righteousness, Goodness, and even the word Religion, itself, suggest something hypocritical or almost anti-natural.

People have imagined the Truth to be a peculiar, framed system of divine revelation, not altogether suited for ordinary, every-day life.

Righteousness, Truth, Reality are, in a sense, synonymous terms.

To be Right is to be Perfect. . . And Perfection is an infinitely expanding process. Things are right and perfect, according to the point of view; that is, on the surface—for at the absolute centre, all is ever perfect and good.

We are here to manifest more and more of the Infinite Righteousness. Creation is Manifestation. Let the Soul hunger after Righteousness; and it shall be supplied from within its own being. Life is Consciousness. We need no longer look outside.

Once realizing the infinite resources of the Within, we cannot concern ourselves as formerly so much with external conditions, with extraneous systems of morality, or even with our educated conscience. Knowing that we are creatures of habit, mind and body, and that so much of our habit has hitherto been of a superficial, not to say false variety—we can no longer be much intimidated by the casuistries that are generally considered rules of "righteous conduct."

For we now know that Righteousness means far more

than the prevailing wretched little systems of morality and ethics. We know that it means Life—increase of Life, and Truth, and Wisdom, and Consciousness, and Power.

And for these attributes, the Soul naturally hungers and thirsts. Even for Righteousness, Harmony, Happiness—the Kingdom of Heaven.

Neither are we to be merely content with subjective recognitions or conditions — with mere states of mind. Indeed, our new, strong conceptions shall enforce and create an entire new change of material surroundings, a framework corresponding to the new awakened Ideals.

Yes, every human Soul is naturally hungering for these new extensions and dimensions of Life and Consciousness. The word NEW has taken hold of people's minds as never before. We are living in another epoch of Creativeness.

A marked further step is to take place—is taking place. This is a time of New Birth—Regeneration.

Old things are passing away. Truly, scriptural prophecies are being fulfilled today as never before. Science is proving Religion and Philosophy. Matter is responding to Spirit.

Faith is now giving way to Sight. Though we still recognize our limitations, we do not now see altogether through darkened lenses. We are becoming illuminated—just as fast as our growing consciousness can stand the vision of Light.

We are, in fact, growing new senses. That is what Consciousness implies. New modes of Sensation are appearing. Where before we have come in contact with the mere crust of Life—seeing a few symbols, hearing a few sounds, inhaling a few varieties of atmosphere, touching a few objects, tasting a few of life's essences—we

shall now go deeper, and merge ourselves with the ecstatic sixth sensation, the complement of the present five senses, that shall be a Universal Consciousness of Cosmic Identity.

Consciousness is the extension of Sensation; the same in kind, differing in degree — or the former being the Reality, the other the Dream.

So the sacramental food of Righteousness, which the aspiring soul hungers for, is something very real, indeed, and of intense import.

Be no longer content with husks and shells, O Man. Be brave; and seek deeper; aspire; expand your vision. Do not be afraid that you will lose your body, your personality, if you seek Righteousness. Seek the Kingdom of Heaven, and all else shall be added.

The Spirit giveth life; but the mere Letter killeth.

Letters, books, Bibles, are all right in their way. But you must give your real allegiance to the ever-living Spirit of Life—even your own Universal Self.

Truly, the Scriptures contain much practical Truth and Wisdom, when interpreted as spiritual messages, instead of as merely historical traditions.

And the same Inspirations, even greater, will come to every soul that hungers after the Truth.

What we need is not Dogma or Creed, but Righteousness. We need Right Living; Health; Joy. This is Reality or Truth. Life is Truth.

“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” Incorporate your Ideals into your very flesh and bone. Live them.

Then you become a monument of Wisdom, compared to which the dead writings are nothing. Life is everything. Externalize more of it.

The New Thought is the Religion of Life. Life

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must be kept forever New—changing and growing—otherwise it becomes Death.

So away with all binding customs, conventions, conservatism—whatever insignia they may present as authority. Let the Mind be free. Let the Soul unfurl its wings, and manifest its attributes.

Keep up your faith. And know that your divine hungerings and aspirings, your enthused and earnest desires shall be satisfied.

The world will not satisfy. But you belong to the New World—the World of Truth and Reality—even the Kingdom of Heaven, which, through you, is to be established and externalized, in the oncoming glorious Age of Art, and Beauty, and Harmony, and Righteousness.

XXVIII.

EMERGENCY AND PREPARATION

WE shall now look once more at the very practical side of things; and take again what may be called a "business view."

We are confronted every day with all sorts of responsibilities and doubts; and very often we allow these things to cause us a good deal of mental and even bodily distress. Happy is the man who can face circumstances with coolness; and who can grasp an emergency with ease and concentration and thoroughness.

The ordinary affairs are very often not worth the bother at times given to them; but they do demand recognition, and there is no excuse for neglect. Neglect is not to be confused with that sensible spirit of masterful indifference which perceives the value of all experience, and takes due note and advantage of every one of Life's lessons.

There are some conditions that call for careful Preparation; others must be met on Emergency. The concentrated attitude of mind will be ready for all sorts of circumstances and experiences. Based on the recognition that All is Good, it is not easily worried or frightened or surprised. If existence necessitates a heterogeneous number of both parallel and contrary experiences, attraction and repulsion, the positive and the negative, major and minor, discord as well as harmony—wherefore the weak irritations and squirmings, because Life is not all a bed of roses?

Are we not built up by meeting frictions as well as having some things run smooth? Our Character requires that we shall collide with the Unexpected, as well as meet

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with the Expectations. We must be prepared to encounter emergencies. We must overcome any tendency to being absent-minded. We must not drift; but fight mental and spiritual, as well as physical, laziness.

All this requires Concentration. The Will must rule. No more shirking; no more wasting time; but get right into the attitude and habit of controlling.

Again, let it be said that All is One; that you are not doing any exclusive, personal work; that there is an universal Principle of Attraction, which helps your effort, which responds and co-operates with the faithful expression of your Will.

Your Personal Will is always acting in consort with the one Infinite Power—it is this Power, centred and individualized in you.

While there have been, and are still to be, more Emergencies come your way, things unexpected, which, at first, seem disastrous, it is nevertheless always true that All is Good and Educational, and there is never any cause for Fear. This Fear is but a habit, which continually fostered, only makes you weaker and incapable, and thus preventing the manifestation of desired results. For, while there is an universal life in and through and over all, ever leading to ultimate good—still we have a personal work to do in giving individual expression to this infinite Life, which yearns all the time within ourselves for birth and recognition and manifestation. It is the Soul of Man seeking Illumination and Consciousness. All is One.

And while there will be Emergencies and the Unexpected, we are also to make our Plans—to Prepare, diligently, patiently, for divine ends. If, at times, the Plans are upset, if there seem to be many failures—this is all on

EMERGENCY AND PREPARATION

the surface, and the negative experiences themselves serve their part in establishing a Larger and Greater Success.

How often have important discoveries been made apparently by accident. But there is no accident or caprice or chaos throughout existence. Everywhere Law and Order and Justice.

And as our Consciousness unfolds, our Intellect getting keener and brighter—we see ahead, we become prophetic, illuminated, super-conscious, so to speak; we feel and know things beyond and beneath the ordinary Thought. Then we no longer grope as before; our Faith is complemented with a Divine Illumination; and we proceed courageously, with patience, and promptly — with prepared plans, and ready for emergencies—always concentrated, balanced—we make few mistakes, and our strokes of action give birth to quick results; many and varied are our successes.

The enlightened man is the genius; who knows how, without doubt or fear of error, to portray a masterpiece.

And this attitude of Control—making Time and Conditions and Materials obey your will—is for You, if you desire it. It is, indeed, worth while to be able to wield such a wand of Power. You can do so if you try, if you take steps to eliminate false habits of thought and conduct, believing in your ideals, living more a life of Concentration—following out such suggestions as contained in these pages.

The New Thought gives you straight business propositions, as well as more spiritual talks. In fact, they are the same. Seek the Kingdom of Heaven first, and all shall be added. Unless your desired Success is based on spiritual principles, it will amount to nothing. Only your Personal Character counts, after all; and you might as well waste

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no more time, and drop all methods that do not tend toward the development of Character.

Herein rests your Happiness as well as all worthy Accomplishment.

Do you realize how everything depends on being able to Control? You must learn to Control Yourself first; within you is a great multitude of thoughts, habits, emotions, appetites, desires, even loves—to be controlled. You must no longer be a prey to such conditions. Assert yourself. Be free. Allow the Infinite Power within more expression. Concentrate. Get alone, and consider these things. And then go out into the world; be a leader among men; be yourself; be authoritative; an individual; original, unique, self-reliant; a law unto yourself. See in your being a veritable universe, with your Will a central pivot—a Sun of creative potency. Concentrate.

You will have to knock down many idols of your Imagination. They have seemed like Ideals, perhaps, taken on themselves almost an objective reality. But you will have to be brave, and change your Ideals according to your growing Intellect.

Let the Light shine from within you—Light of Reason—the great Spiritual Sun. As you think, so you are. As you feel, so you are.

Let out the New Emotions, as well as the New Thoughts; and go forth and create a New World.

XXIX.

MEMORY

WE should be able to entirely control our thoughts—we should have the great realm of the Mind under the Will's direction—we should be able to declare what we shall think or what we shall not think—what remember or forget.

But we find it rather the general rule that people have very little power over their thinking—in other words, there is not enough concentration. The thoughts and fancies wander anywhere.

Memory is a matter of concentration.

We should welcome anything that leads in the direction of increased concentration—anything that makes us think. We are often forced to center the mind on certain plans; and we chafe against circumstances that compel us to attend, to concentrate. And yet, thus is that priceless thing, Character, developed; thus again, is Memory developed.

The mind, like the body, requires exercise. Thus does one become fearless and free, healthful and powerful.

There are great resources—wisdom and power—within the Mind; and it is a blessing to be able to draw on this deep reservoir of energy. It is truly worth while to cultivate one's Memory; to be able to remember what one wants to—then to make of practical use the ideas so drawn up from the depths of subconsciousness.

The past has certainly been far from perfect; our experiences have been crude; history has not been a succession of harmonies and symmetrical events. Far from it. But the past experience of all kinds represents so much

material, which we can now remold and fashion according to our new ideals. Time lays strata upon strata of Character in our Personalities.

Our Memory increases with our intellectual and spiritual growth. Our mental capacity expands. We are able to remember the necessary details of today and yesterday—and our Memory stretches far back into the educational Past—we are able to descend deeper into the infinite realm of our subconsciousness, and draw up more ideas and lessons to turn into practical account.

We have so much stored within ourselves—the result of experience, that we ignore or forget; and, therefore, we have little to show. The majority of people go through life with their eyes shut; they are blinded by all sorts of stupid customs and superstitions; they do not live in a consciousness of the Infinite; they are content with a few fragments of Truth, or even some symbols, figures, letters; but they go on growing in spite of their ignorance; gathering experience day by day, which leaves its indelible impression on the tablet of the subconscious mentality. And sooner or later the outer consciousness will awaken, veils will be lifted. There will be an unifying of the various planes of consciousness in one's being—and then, great and glorious manifestations of Power.

At present, we have to be contented to a certain extent with the ability to remember a few details of our life. As we develop the Memory, however, its power is greater, until one can see the whole Past and its Experience, like a present panorama of events.

We are always building on the process of the Past; and the Present is making material for the Future.

In one sense, there is no Present—while you are thinking about it, it is gone into the Past. And in another

MEMORY

sense, All is the Present—All is Now. Because Time means but the subjective succession of events, whose object is the birth of individuality, character, consciousness; all cradled in the Infinite and Absolute Being. *All is One.*

To remember, you must concentrate. You must *trust* your Memory. Success in everything depends on trust and self-reliance; on being largely a law unto yourself; shutting your eyes and ears to the distracting nonsense that the great mass of the unawakened have to offer you. People would not really believe in their rubbish if they actually thought about it; but their thinking is hardly thinking at all—a mere skimming on the surface consciousness.

An earnest, sincere thinker has *per se* a good memory. He has control of his thoughts. Concentration of thought and action is a habit with him. And Success marks his footsteps.

He may have many and varied falls by the way—or what look like falls; but actually there are no failures—the seeming mistakes and accidents spur the earnest man on, give him new determination, strengthen his character, increase his capacity.

Do you not see, then, how great and all-inclusive is this realm of Mind—how infinite, universal? Giving you, by a faithful recognition, the actual keys of desires and resources—putting you thus in touch with all that is meant by Power.

Trust your Memory. Develop a spirit of Trust and Faith to the utmost. Practice Concentration. Assume an attitude and habit of Belief in Yourself and the mighty forces of the Brain—the pre-eminent organ of the Mind.

XXX.

THE LOVER OF THE SOUL

ONE great attraction which the popular religions have for people, lies in the message of salvation they offer for tired and weary souls.

Nature seems entirely too prosaic and generally unsatisfactory; and so one has to indulge in dreams of the Super-natural, and of a sweeter Bye-and-bye. The churches give you romance and sentiment—and, particularly in the more aesthetically inclined sects, a good taste of Art, which is so soothing to the nerves and emotions.

At the basis of it all is the cry of the soul for Love—for Consciousness—for Awakening.

Here perceive the meaning of all your tentative theologies, your idols and gods, your incense and worship and prayers. And here also perceive the real meaning of those lesser and grosser appetites which belong to the animal.

For Love and the extension thereof is the purpose of existence. Love is Life—the creator, healer, illuminant of individuals and nations.

You are being taken care of. At the centre of Nature, there is the Beating Heart, the Mother—the Infinite Source of all expression. That is, indeed, your Self, though not discerned by your present, ordinary consciousness. All is One.

And All is Good. Is not Life, even the Principle of Love, forever expressing itself? The Sun shines day by day on constant renewed manifestations of Life—new reproductions, multiplications—new births and developments. Everywhere is there growth and unfoldment.

THE LOVER OF THE SOUL

Yes, all comes out from the Infinite Within—where, as at a Centre, You from eternity unto eternity—You, the Soul of Existence—forever reside in unspcakable perfection.

Do not be so concerned, little personal consciousness, frightened shadow of the immeasurable Ego, over the transitory results. Only remember that your destiny is to expand and unfold, expressing more out of the subconscious Depths, until you attain the Beatific Vision, which is nothing less than the Soul Illuminated, and with its own ineffable Light.

So remember this when you feel forsaken or forlorn, when you long for love and affection—that there is only One—the Lover of the Soul is mutual reflection; the Objective responding to and recognizing the Subjective; that it is good to be made to stand alone, that your energies may be conserved, that your personality may be prepared for increased light and consciousness. Wherefore the desperate clinging to the shadows and illusions, when you can have the Substance? For only Shadow is what much of the ordinary mortal affection amounts to, and nothing else.

Still, the Celestial Life does not ask you to recklessly forsake your dear ones to follow the Light. Rather extend your Love; and take it out of the merely superficial.

We have been dealing too long with surfaces. That is what Religion has given you—surface, froth, symbol, shadow, letter. All our actions have been colored by the same negative attitude. We have been, therefore, paltry, exclusive, weak, ignorant, fearful, incompetent. What we have called Love has been of a decidedly cheap variety.

It has not been intelligent Love. And that clinging and craving for attention and someone's affection has often been the mark of an undeveloped nature.

As we unfold, we are not dependent so much on the

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external. That is, no more than we choose to be. Not that we become cold or austere. But our Love is more creative; we do not waste energy over gushing, maudlin, sickly sentiment. Though we are none the less human because we recognize the Soul's divinity.

Religion has a good thing, but it knows little or nothing about it. The ministers have been so concerned over creeds and dogmas, that they have had no room for the naked Truth. And our literati and scholastics have thought so much of letters and words, that they have been incapable of entertaining much Love. The Spirit has been dead.

When men only relax themselves for awhile—retiring from the noise of the host of vain conceits out in the world, under the name of religion, science and philosophy—when they get by themselves and drop the inherited and habitual foolishness for awhile—when they allow the Soul's light to penetrate the dense and deadened personality—when the Spirit within is but allowed to express itself; then does Wisdom and Life abound; then is there Love shining forth a glorious creative power.

We must defy precedent; we must establish new habits. Our wills must knock down and out the old, false standards and stupidities. We must emancipate the head and heart.

The objective responds to the subjective. You see what you choose to see. Life is all color and beauty or it is blank and ugly, all according to your point of view. If you send out Love, Nature responds by Love in all its kingdoms. This is a magnetic interchange—and it is creative and productive.

So you may consider Nature as a live Personality—even the extension of Yourself.

THE LOVER OF THE SOUL

We need more creation and production, instead of this continual re-creation and re-production. These incessant renewals—this constant wear and tear; millions of deaths followed by millions of births, in exasperating alternations—these perpetual failures and trials and experiments that have so long marked Existence, have all got to cease.

The time has come when the indolent, vicarious method of Living, the father shifting the responsibility of Life onto the child, must be replaced by Immortality. The time has arrived for Perpetual Youth and the Abolition of Death. In other words, this is the long dreamed of Age, just dawning, when Love, universal, is to reign, and the lion shall lie down with the lamb. When the Infinite Consciousness is to unfold over the earth, and Men are to be transformed into Gods.

God is Love; and Love is God. The Cosmic Consciousness is the extension of Love. All is One. All is Spirit or Mind. So here you have the way disclosed to the Celestial Life and Kingdom of Heaven. The Kingdom of Heaven is truly within you; how long shall it be before it is expressed without? Love is the fulfilling of the Law. The Celestial Life is for Lovers. For those, indeed, who earnestly long for Unity, and Harmony, and Life.

In Love is found a Meaning, an Interpretation of Life—the riddle of the Sphinx answered; in Love extended is a larger Interpretation—an Illumination.

XXXI.

CELESTIAL ILLUMINATION



HIS is the closing chapter of a series of varied suggestions, written in order to help you live now the Celestial Life—to assist the Expression, the coming of the Heavenly Kingdom.

The process of existence is but a matter of increasing consciousness, or a larger range of vision—until the divine stage is reached, and we truly see God face to face—in other words, we attain a Celestial Illumination.

The Celestial is the Real. Spirit is Substance. Matter is Shadow.

So that the ordinary consciousness is an inverted view of life—and decidedly superficial. We have been concerned—so concerned with symbols, illusions. Now, as the Spirit of Life is allowed by your unfolding consciousness to enlighten you, you begin to see why there is no cause for worry, and this state of mental repose alone is joy.

Not that you then sit down and merely dream and do nothing. You are then prepared to give birth to deeds of true worth. Your individuality, when getting in touch with its ever-universal nature, really begins to live. You then leave the kingdom of dreams, in which, indeed, you have had to encounter many a dismal nightmare—and enter the Realm of Light.

This is the Celestial Illumination, that comes in due time, when the soul is properly prepared—to everyone who seeks—who is earnest and faithful to the end.

The illumination requires you to bravely turn your back on the darkness. If you would enter the Spiritual Consciousness—in other words, if you would know your

own Soul—you must not be a slave to anything that may be said to be *low*. You must leave the roots and foundations, or rather not keep remaining there—and aspire toward the superstructure and blossoming of Life.

You must live out your Ideals—which will expand rapidly, one giving birth to another, as you express them.

Illumination is a state of Mastery, of Power. A state when the Will reigns supreme. When one is more conscious of his universal Identity. Not that one keeps in celestial poise all the time. Each soul is interdependent with the racial development. We act the part of vanguard for the multitude, who keep us back to a certain extent. Though the positive individual alone can offset the retarding influence of a million.

Anyway, it is not good for us to grow too quickly. Patience, experience, even suffering and failure, are good for us. All that the Character may be unfolded—and the higher Ideals emphasized.

The masterful soul—the enlightened intellect—however, does not feel suffering like the ordinary consciousness. Then, we are born again, and have taken on the protective armor of righteousness.

When we absolutely feel and know that All is Good, it is not so difficult to face the fears and terrors without much trembling—and even laugh over them. Have not the strong men of old, without any extraordinary illumination, even courted danger and difficulty, for the privilege of being victorious?

Things are so much easier now, in this age of ever-increasing Light—and yet the multitude do so little. Everywhere people are slaves to inherited systems—bound by shackles of various beliefs, spiritual and material—oh, but they are dropping them so rapidly everywhere, just today.

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The last few years have seen so much New Thought. And when the mind is once released, the external world soon corresponds.

At times we seem to go back. We catch glimpses of a celestial realm, we see a new light—and then clouds cover our vision again. We make a little success, then we fall again. We walk on air for awhile, only to return to sordidness again. Be not discouraged, O Soul; all experience is necessary; you cannot bear too much light all at once. First you have flashes and glimpses—later the whole current is turned on.

This Illumination, which gradually comes over the soul, is a very literal affair, and sometimes goes with visible phenomena, more or less startling. The unfolding of Consciousness, when one actually perceives his oneness with the Infinite, his unity with All—what has been called Cosmic or Universal Consciousness, is often accompanied by a sense of physical light. All is One; all really proceeds from the physical; consciousness is the extension of sensation—and the philosophy of Truth embraces the world visible and invisible as being ONE.

The growth of Consciousness, followed by the Celestial Illumination, is the extension of Love. What is even the ordinary Love but a dim feeling of Union? Everything is ever united by the Law of Attraction—but we do not at all times realize it. The Universal Lover enters the Universal Consciousness. Love, Life, Consciousness, mean the same.

You have to first *feel* your union with all—to recognize your identity with everything, and act accordingly. You must love your neighbor as yourself—and extend your concept of brotherhood to embrace all. Then, at last, you see how All is One—you, yourself, are blessed with a

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sense of infinite extension—an expansion that means so much more power and happiness for you.

Who can say what the soul's Illumination is going to mean for one? Who can measure the possibilities of Growth—who define the Infinite?

Into undreamed of dimensions you are destined to descend, your capacities no longer hampered by the old limitations—but not before you are ready. New senses, new nerve centres, new functions—a new immortal body is to be yours—have patience, and work while you wait.

Leave your old superstitions, your old "convictions," your old life altogether.

Enter, O Soul, today—at least take one step to the Abode of Light.

Hold to your Ideals and live them—live this, the Celestial Life—and the Kingdom of Heaven so long Within shall at last appear Without.

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