



Elementary Instruction in Hermetic Philosophy.

No. 2. The Principle of Mentalism, or Mind.

By FR. K. X°.

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Preliminary Observations.

Let the Student—

- 1 Begin the study of each Instruction, with a brief meditation on the presence of Our Father Hermes.
- 2 Engage in a daily meditation on the Permanent Mantram of the Hermetic Section which is given in this Second Instruction.
- 3 Study Hermetics at all times from the standpoint of the vital truths underlying the surface, instead of from the critical and academic standpoint.
- 4 Practice diligently the daily introspection in reverse, at the appointed time; this as a means of lessening the purgatorial career and passing the first heaven after death. Approve your own good acts as well as disapproving and disavow in your errors.
- 5 Use the Holy Bible and the Book of the Dead for correlative readings. When these Instructions are used in Class work, each member of the Class should come prepared to present at least two selected correlative readings. These may easily be worked out by use of the standard Concordance.

THE PRINCIPLE OF MENTALISM, OR MIND.

The general subject of this Instruction as given above is best considered from the starting point of Mental Transmutation. From this we learn that MIND as well as Metals and the so-called Natural Elements may be transmuted from one status to another, raised from degree to degree, condition to condition, polarity to polarity, lower vibration to higher vibration.

True Hermetic Transmutation, whether applied to Mind or Metals, in the Mental or the Physical Laboratory is fundamentally a *MENTAL ART*. Ignorance of this fact may lead earnest seekers after truth to expend whole life times in fruitless search along lines unproductive of results, except disappointment. All substance may be and is homogeneous, but its manipulation from a lower to a higher status must begin first on that plane wherein are all beginnings as we

are able to understand them, the plane of mentalism or Mind.

Mind, as we have previously taught, is not an organized vehicle of man as yet, nor is it definitely organized in any plane or status, but is the mirror thru which the higher is reflected in the lower, hence the mirror thru which the lower can also gain a glimpse of the higher. Mind, being not a body, but an element is a phase of Universal Substance and is the vehicle thru which WILL operates, functions and focusses.

The word "TRANSMUTATION" which was formerly derided by academic science and now accepted by it as having a definite place in modern chemico-physical processes, has been usually employed to designate the ancient art of the Transmutation of Metals—particularly of the "base" metals into "GOLD."

The Wisdom of Benjamin Franklin. No. 5.

"Good sense is a thing all need, few have, and none think they want."

Exotericists have seen nothing in this art except the attempt to find a physical process of raising common or base metals into precious metals, largely from motives of human greed, and in some rare instances from actual scientific inquiry of a truly commendable nature, devoid of selfishness. Divested of the religious element mentioned as a requisite in the last Instruction the ordinary reader or inquirer will find himself wallowing in the Slough of Despond or Failure thru purely materialistic concepts, but the correct esoteric and spiritual understanding of the term Transmutation, makes the successful accomplishment of it possible to all who will undertake to live the life necessary to its practical application.

The word "Transmute" means to change from one nature to another, from one form or substance into another; to transform.

Therefore, mental transmutation means the art of changing and transforming mental states, forms and conditions, into others. More than this, it means that any form or mode of transmutation applied to substances or conditions other than purely mental, must perforce begin with the requisite mental status.

MENTAL TRANSMUTATION IS REALLY MENTAL CHEMISTRY.

And *ALL* transmutation, even when devoted to raising a "base" metal to a higher, *must be accomplished thru the operation of mental force,—mental chemistry, in co-operation with physical chemistry, BUT FIRST THE MENTAL.*

In the previous Instruction the First of the Seven Hermetic Principles was stated to be that of Mentalism.

In this Instruction we have already stated that Mind is an Element, and a phase of Universal Substance. This being true, we may state further that

The UNITY or ALL, in one of its aspects, is Mind. Therefore,

The Universal is Mental—

or existent in the Mind of the ALL. For it is composed of the substance utilized by the ALL in reflecting its macrocosmic image into the microcosmic image. The Universe being mental, then

Transmutation *must be* the Art of Changing the Conditions of the Universe along the lines of Matter, Force and Mind.

This is just the point where the operations either of so-called Black or White Magic begin and become effective.

Now obviously,—

if ALL be mental, then the ART which enables one to transmute mental conditions must also make the Master the controller of material conditions, as well as those ordinarily called "mental."

As a matter of fact, none but advanced Mental Alchemists have been able to attain the degree of power necessary to control the gross physical conditions, such as the control of the Elements of Nature, Raising of Metals, Cessation of Tempests, Earthquakes, etc., etc.

All that we call "Psychic Phenomena, Mental Influence, Mental Science, Christian Science, New Thought Phenomena," etc., operate entirely

on the Mental Plane, for there is but ONE PRINCIPLE involved, no matter by what name its various manifestations may be called.

The various "Treatments, Affirmations," etc., of different schools, are but formulas, often quite imperfect, very often absolutely unscientific, and still more often unintelligible, of the Hermetic Art, arranged by self-constituted teachers, who themselves have failed to grasp the inner significance and logic of the various formulas or mantrams they have framed.

Mental states of other persons, as well as of one's own self, may be changed or transmuted by Hermetic methods.

Even material conditions depending upon the minds of other people, may be changed or transmuted in accordance with the earnest desire, will, and properly devised and prescribed "treatments" of the person desiring changed conditions of life.

The application of the transmutative processes may be used for good or ill, in strict accord with the Hermetic Principle of Polarity. But it must be understood that our use of the term "ill" or "evil" is not the orthodox acceptance, but in the sense of misdirected good or misdirected energy. For we must ever keep in mind this fundamental truth—

The ALL;—

"Under and back of the Universe of Time, Space and Change, is ever to be found the Substantial Reality"—THE FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH OF ALL TRUTH.

As in the previous Instruction, we shall form the habit which should continue in all Hermetic studies, of seeking such correspondences as the subject may offer. In this case, the Principle of Mentalism has shown us that the ALL is Mind in one of its aspects, and that Mind is a phase of Universal Substance. Therefore we shall allow ourselves a wider range and latitude than the previous Instruction afforded. We have already found that—

CELLS ARE LIVES.

Generalizing therefore, we may say for present purposes, that the

Molecules in cells are the Lower Astral Man.

Atoms of Molecules are the Spiritual Man. Within the Atoms, is LIGHT—GOD, THE ULTIMATE.

One God, One Life, One Ultimate, and WE, collectively, are that Ultimate.

(One Life, One Light, One Power, thou ALL in ALL)

In that Ultimate resides all Sound, Color, Number and Form:—

"ETERNAL AND INFINITE."

Referring to our study of the cell correspondences, if we carry our examination a little farther than we have already done, we shall find in the protoplasm certain clear spaces which are called "vacuoles." In our correspondences, these vacuoles are analogous to the "Kama-Rupa" or Lower Desire Principle. The spaces may be empty, or they may contain a watery fluid.

The Etheric or Desire-Life (magnetic) of the cell, acts thru these spaces, driving the cell to

act thru the Desire Energy transmitted. These spaces in the cell also correspond to the ventricles of the brain and the central canal of the spinal chord, thru which the Etheric and Astral Man receives and transmits impulses. These spaces and ventricles have to do with the mystery of the "Inner Breath," of which more will be learned in our Esoteric Work, or Alchemical Section.

In the Vegetable Kingdom, the Chlorophyll is the element or force center thru which the constructive work is carried on from without. Therefore, in that Kingdom, it is analogous to our Mental Center.

The Visible Universe is the Body of the Heavenly Man.

The Terrestrial Man is an epitome of the Heavenly Universal Man.

The Visible Heavenly Man is the material pole of the Invisible Spiritual Divine Man, called GOD, in His totality.

The Material Body of Man is the external physical counterpart of forces and qualities which are the REAL SUBSTANCES composing the Soul-Man. For instance:—

Faith,
Hope,
Charity,
Compassion,
Justice,
Sympathy.

are the Spiritual Grades of Matter used in building Soul, as

Hydrogen,
Oxygen,
Iron,
Potassium,
Sodium,
Carbon, etc.,

are used in building the Physical Body.

The Four Correspondences noted above, belong properly to the study of the Kabbalah, and there we shall meet with them again. They are given in this Instruction in order to set forth the complete unity between the Spiritual and the Physical, the Ethical and the Material.

This idea of complete UNITY is the prime feature of all Hermetic study and discourse, and nowhere is it better summed up than in the words of the permanent mantram of the Hermetic Section—

"IN HIM WE LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE OUR BEING."

How may we enter into a deeper consciousness of the full truth and significance of this mantram? St. Matthew, tells us how, in the 6th. chapter, 33rd. verse, wherein he says:—

SEEK YE FIRST, the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. (Knowledge, wisdom, personal power, etc.)

We are also told in Matthew iii. 2, that long ago there came the voice of one crying in the wilderness, "Repent ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven IS AT HAND."

Again we are told that The Kingdom of God IS WITHIN US.

Every Rosicrucian student will remember the words once spoken to him admonishing him to

seek first those things which are within himself, and that if he found not those things which are within himself, he would never find them without him.

Make it a rule therefore, to Seek FIRST the Kingdom of God—to Seek it NOW—AT HAND,— and to Seek it WITHIN YOURSELF.

This is the only way in which each of us will succeed in "Knowing Ourselves," and it is the only way of approach to that Kingdom wherein we shall find rest and a complete understanding of the mysteries, for that Kingdom is the Kingdom of Light and Wisdom, where that which is now hidden shall be revealed.

We may not become famous as professional occultists, nor decipherers of curious Cabala which have amused some, interested many, confused the majority and profited the few, but WE SHALL BECOME what is of far greater importance—BETTER MEN AND BETTER WOMEN, and after all, that is the only thing really worth striving for.

In connection with the Permanent Mantram, remember also the words,

"IN MYSELF I AM NOTHING, IN THEE, I AM I."

And note that in all prayers, we address, not the God of our Solar System,—i. e. the Logos, nor the Supreme Being,—but—THE ABSOLUTE, described at the Opening as our Ceremonial Labors, as—

"ETERNAL AND INFINITE."

The "I" referred to, is of course, the EGO, but imperishable as we know it to be, we know also that it is the individualized EMANATION OF THE ABSOLUTE, and that it exists, and can exist only as SUCH SUBSTANCE OF THE ABSOLUTE. Outside this incomprehensible Power therefore, we have NO REAL EXISTENCE, what seems so to the materialist, is only illusion, and it is only as we become conscious of our identity with the Source of All, conscious of our At-One-Ment with our Divine Source, that we REALLY become the "I" or can truly say "I AM."

This is amplified by the words following, familiar to all Initiates:

"I, MADE OF NOTHING, LIVE THOU IN ME, AND BRING ME OUT OF THE REGION OF SELF, INTO THE ETERNAL LIGHT."

In other words, the "I"—the EGO, made of no Physical Substance as Matter is academically understood, must emerge from the region of SELF by the consciousness of the presence within of the ABSOLUTE, and being thus conscious, it enters the Light

What Light

The Light of Cosmic Consciousness, which is the only true Spiritual Development worth seeking or having; and to be attained only by the elimination of Self and the Attainment of At-One-Ment with the Absolute,—the Over-Soul, the Divine Mind and thus we can truly exist only in the deep fulness of the Divine Mind, the—

LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

College Notes.



On July 14, 1920, at 4.00 a. m., Frater Galway, (George H. Mallory) passed to the higher life after an illness of several months. The cause was angina pectoris. Frater Mallory was born in Albany, January 13, 1855, was a lawyer by profession, and was Recognized in Metropolitan College May 24th, 1918. May peace and a rich illumination be his in the inner worlds.



The thanks of the College are extended to Fr. Firmus and Sr. Thetis, for the gift of a beautiful silver Ciborium for the altar use. It was used for the first time at the last Convocation. We trust the donors will receive a full measure of the beneficent karma their generosity merits.

Owing to pressure of business in his legal practice, Frater Lactantius has been obliged to resign his office as Financial Secretary, and this office has been assumed by Fr. Discus, Theodore Frankin Schlieder. Fr. Schlieder's business address is 91 Wall Street, c/o Federal Sugar Refining Co. All dues should be sent to this address or paid to him at any of the regular Convocations. Fr. Lactantius' resignation is accepted with genuine regret, for his labors for the College have been most efficient, and the appointment of Fr. Discus to succeed him will command the unanimous approval of all members of the College upon such a fortunate selection.

ROSICRUCIAN FUNDAMENTALS will be ready for delivery at the forthcoming Convocation, and all copies not subscribed for at the advance sale price of \$2.50, will, after this Convocation, be sold for \$3 each.

THE ROSICRUCIAN MANUAL, published in the first half of the year, should be in the hands of EVERY MEMBER OF THE FRATERNITY. If YOU have not secured YOUR copy at this time, please order it at once. An edition sufficient to supply the present membership was published, and it is indeterminate when a further edition will be forthcoming. Do not lose your opportunity.



Directory.

The One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Stated Convocation of Metropolitan College

S.:R.:I.:A.:., will be held in the Adytum, 310 Lenox Avenue

Between 125th. and 126th. Streets, opposite 125th Street station, Lenox Ave. Subway.

Friday Evening, September 24, 1920, at 8.00 P. M. precisely

Work:

Organization of Classes and Regular Quarterly Business Meeting.

Neophytes' Class Instructor, V. Wor. Fr. Reficio IX°

Subject: "COSMOLOGY," Rosicrucian Fundamentals, Chapter I.

Elementary Hermetic Class.....Instructor, V.: W.: Fr. Firmus, IX°

Senior Hermetic Class.....Instructor, Rt. Wor. Fr. Paracelsus IX°

Advanced Class.....Instructor, Fr. K.

Subject: "CREMATION."

The THEOLOGICAL and ASTROLOGICAL CLASSES will resume work on dates to be announced later. Applications for membership in the Astrological Classes both Elementary and Advanced may be made at the forthcoming Convocation.

Declaratio Obsequii.

Metropolitan College acknowledges allegiance to the Magi and Officers of the High Council of the Societas Rosicruciana In America and Affiliated Councils, as the Sovereign Source of the Rosicrucian Art in the United States of America. The House of the S.:S.: of this Obedience is at present situate in the the City of New York.