

The Aquarian Theosophist

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Blog: <http://aquariantheosophist.com>

Free by email from the Editors: tcc@clara.co.uk

Archive: <http://www.teosofia.com/AT.html>



New e-group for study and research

**A New E-Group Is Being Planned
by www.esoteric-philosophy.com**

An On-Going Online Research

The blog www.esoteric-philosophy.com and the website www.filosofiaesoterica.com are making preparations to create a new e-group in English language.

The future Yahoo E-group - whose name has not been chosen yet - will be an independent effort in the theosophical movement. Three of its main goals are:

- 1) To promote the study of the original teachings of modern theosophy;
- 2) To stimulate an individual search for eternal wisdom, which must be made by self-devised efforts;
- 3) To help students understand and fulfill their duties as planetary citizens, especially at the occult or essential levels of reality. This must be made through a realization of the Higher Self and a profound conviction of Universal Brotherhood.

The e-group will investigate and discuss topics such as:

- a) The actual difference between theosophy and pseudo-theosophy, or the doctrine of the heart and the doctrine of the eye;
- b) Effective mechanisms - as suggested by classical theosophical literature - for a healthier transition towards the wiser civilizations which wait for us in the future;
- c) The history and the future of theosophical movement, including its dharma and duty as examined from the viewpoint of the original programme set by the true Founders, through H.P. Blavatsky;

- d) A realistic assessment of the theosophical movement's vitality today; and an impersonal search for ways to increase it with a long term perspective, in different countries and languages.

Every student of Theosophy or Esoteric Philosophy is invited to make his or her subscription to the new e-group. It is enough to write to the Editors of www.esoteric-philosophy.com at e-mail lutbr@terra.com.br

The intention of the organizers is also to build an online mechanism to gather students of theosophy, wherever and however situated, who are inclined to cooperate on the basis of a broad similarity of aim, purpose and teaching.

Students for whom English is a second language are especially invited, as with their participation the experience of the e-group will be more widely international. Questions, commentaries and suggestions are welcome any time.

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Children's Memories of a Past Life

15/6/10 by Professor Erlendur Haraldsson

Talk on "Empirical Enquiry into Cases of Children who Claim to Remember a Past Life"

Professor Haraldsson will present some cases from Lebanon, Sri Lanka, India and Iceland, describe how they were investigated, their characteristics, and give an overview of the major findings in this area of research. He has investigated numerous cases of children who claim to remember a previous life, particularly in Sri Lanka, India and Lebanon. His investigations have centred on the question of whether statements made by these children can be verified and if some person can be found that fits the description made by the children, as well as examining psychological, religious and cultural explanations for this phenomenon.

Erlendur Haraldsson is Professor Emeritus of Psychology at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik. He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Freiburg in Germany **and did further studies at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville**.¹ He has published over two hundred papers, mostly on anomalistic experiences, conducted national surveys, field studies and experiments related to such phenomena, and also on psychological testing and interrogative suggestibility. He is the author of five books, two of which have appeared in many languages ("At the hour of death" and "Miracles are my visiting cards"). For further details see his homepage:

<http://www.hi.is/~erlendur/>

For further information, contact Tamas Borbely (email: t.borbely@gold.ac.uk) or visit

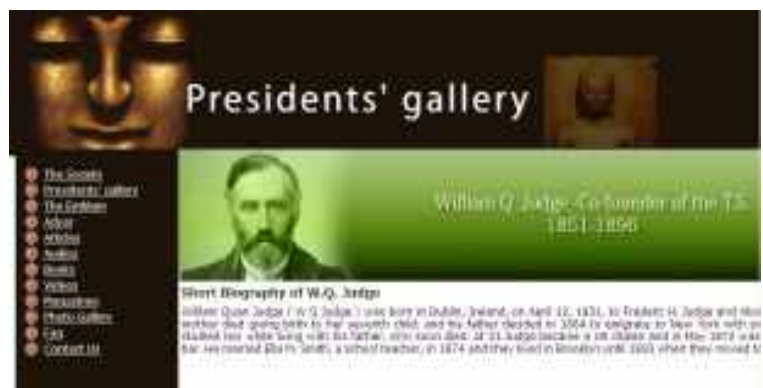
<http://www.gold.ac.uk/apru/speakers/>

Prof Haraldsson will be giving the SPR's Myers Memorial Lecture on 17 June at Kensington Central Library. His title that evening is "Frederic Myers and the Perfect Case".
<http://www.spr.ac.uk/main/civCRM/event/info?reset=1&id=17>

William Q Judge – co-founder of the TS

The independently minded Adyar website "Theosophy RK" has included W.Q.Judge's biography among its pages, with the following caption:

**William Q. Judge – co-founder of the TS
1851 – 1896**



<http://theosophyrk.net/WilliamQJudge.html>

Such a categorical statement of the actuality of Judge's role confirms that within every organisation there are those who love truth.

That this strong line is taken is perhaps explainable by the following declaration on their home page:

In order to maintain an environment where no dogmatism, of any kind will take place, the General Council of the Society, in 1924 passed the resolution Freedom of Thought.

<http://theosophyrk.net>

Long may the spirit of open enquiry and fearless search for the true (if unpopular) facts remain in the hearts of all, in what ever organisation.

¹ This is the University at which Dr Ian Stevenson set up the department to study past life memories.

Philosophy Club is five years young- already?

By Vera Buescher

Little did Laura Leshchiner know five years ago how successful her vision would be when she invited fellow Villagers who were interested in exploring philosophical ideas and spiritual development to gather in an informal setting.

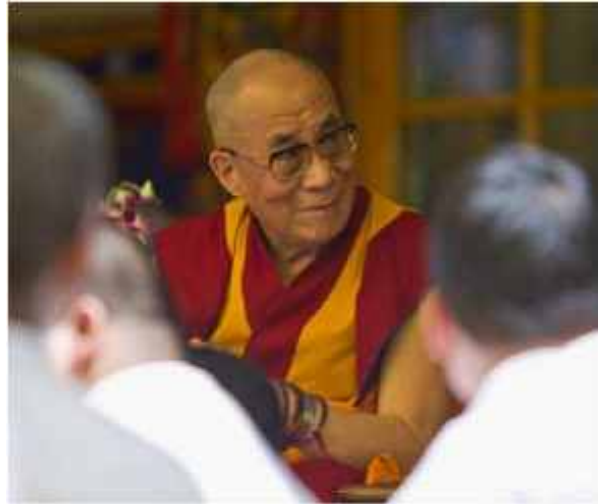
The Philosophy Club has gathered month after month over the past five years to discuss a variety of subjects, most of them devoted to the Great Teachings, Great Philosophers and Sages of all times, and to fundamental values such as Love, Creativity, Goodness, Wisdom, etc.

While Laura organizes volunteers to make the presentations, she maintains that it's the presenters and participants who make each session worthwhile. She holds Club Vice President Robert Miller in high regard for being an excellent presenter, as well as Shirley Kuramoto and Patricia Grisham for being invaluable partners in managing organizational matters for the Club. There have been nearly 50 Villager articles about Philosophy Club topics discussing the works of Plato, Socrates and Confucius; and posing interesting questions for reflection such as the law of Karma and Science and Buddhism.

One article calls attention to the wisdom of the Dalai Lama regarding the power of good thoughts because our thinking truly shapes our destiny and thereby influences other people in our lives, whether close to us or far away. The chaotic world situation led Laura to focus an article on Marcus Aurelius and Stoicism.

Regarding spiritual development: we were urged to ask ourselves: Can we do better? "Yes," Laura wrote. "We can gradually, step-by-step change our own way of living and thinking. Humanity exists in a psychological atmosphere

that is real, as is real earth's physical atmosphere, and every individual contributes to it. Being selfish, fearful, self-important, or uncontrolled, we emphasize those negative energies. By a deliberate effort to aspire toward the divine within us and see the divine in others, we automatically produce a strong impact on this psychological atmosphere, raising the whole by strengthening the positive elements in it.



The Dalai Lama

Our motives and attitudes at least equal in influence the consequences of our actions: We become what we think, feel, and do. By our choices we constantly shape ourselves and at the same time contribute to the destiny of mankind." There were many more thought-provoking articles on this topic.

Laura does not wish to be in the spotlight, but it is important to remember that she was born in Russia. She was 51 when their family came to America and none of them spoke English.

Her quest to learn our language unexpectedly led her to become a translator of philosophical books from English to Russian. Between 1996 and 2009 she worked tirelessly, devoting every spare moment to **translating the writings of William Judge**, one of the founders of Theosophy in America, who died in 1896 at the too-young age of 44.

Her donated efforts produced a remarkable gift to the Russian people - an opportunity for them to learn about Judge's teachings, which had such meaning for Laura and other followers of Theosophy.

Shown here is Laura with her three remarkable publications - the two large handsome volumes (about 500 pages each) have matching covers, published in true journalistic style. The artwork on the cover and inside the equally impressive, smaller publication (180 pages) was donated by an accomplished artist who valued Laura's translations. All three books are now on the internet here and in Russia. Laura is shy about talking about these achievements, but in reality her unselfish gifts are enriching the lives of thousands of Russian-speaking people around the world.



Laura Leshchiner with the new Russian translation of W.Q.Judge's articles and "Point out the Way"

Laura says that the Philosophy Club looks forward to celebrating its 5th anniversary here in the Villages. They encourage all Villagers to join in their discussions that focus on Truth, Goodness, Cooperation and Compassion. In recent months they featured video programs and next year they are planning DVD programs on "Living Matrix" about the new science of healing and from Bleep Scientists "Down the Rabbit Hole." There is no other pre-requisite to attend these informal gatherings except a positive attitude and open-mindedness. Everyone is welcome to present their favorite topics, share their ideas and expand their knowledge. Watch the Villager to learn more about the monthly programs.

(The translation contains 52 of Judge's articles and "**Point out the Way**" compilation and commentary on H.P.Blavatsky and W.Q.Judge's philosophy, especially useful for study groups. Eds.)

Portraits of W.Q.Judge & HPB

The editors were sent this image showing WQJ's and HPB's portraits hanging next to each other in the a TS Library. This is perhaps at Adyar – do any readers know?

The site is at the "Theosophy Forward":

http://www.theosophyforward.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=187:desire-made-pure&catid=39:theosophy&Itemid=58



Also in the picture are Col Olcott, on the left with a large white beard, and next to WQJ are A.P.Sinnett and possibly Anne Besant.

**"NOTHING IS FALSE; NOTHING IS TRUE;
ALL THINGS THAT EXIST ARE BUT MASKS OF TRUTH;
ACCEPT NO THING; REJECT NO THING;
LEARN THROUGH STUDY OF ALL,
BUT ABOVE ALL
LEARN FROM THE LEARNER."**

The Poetry in Crosbie

by a Canadian correspondent

A Poet is someone who holds an idea for us until we make it our own.

The Masters or Great Teachers of Wisdom, know this and present the ancient truths in every age and around the globe. These ideas can be assimilated and made our own.

Humanity, unable to assimilate the wisdom all at once, takes only what they can understand and through the course of time dogmatizes those ideas and creates fast and hard forms around them. These forms become more important than the Ideas that caused them and the truth is lost again to us, for a while.

H.P. Blavatsky, William Q Judge and the work of Robert Crosbie have made visible once again the Ideas that have been here all along, yet covered over and invisible to most.

Robert Crosbie does not put form in the way of this Wisdom and like the poet, he is holding an idea for us, a lamp in the darkness, so that we too can begin to see the View.

"Meditation as used by us, is what is called in Sanscrit Dhyana, i.e., want of motion, and one-pointedness. The main point is to free the mind from the power of the senses, and to raise a current of thought to the exclusion of all others. Realization comes from dwelling on the thing to be realized."

W. Q. J. says, "To meditate on the Higher Self is difficult; seek then, the Bridge, the Masters.

The patient dwelling of the mind on a single thought results in the gaining of wisdom, and it is thus that the true Occultist is developed. Aspiration toward the Higher Self should form part of the daily meditation; the rising toward the higher planes of our being, which cannot be found unless they are sought.

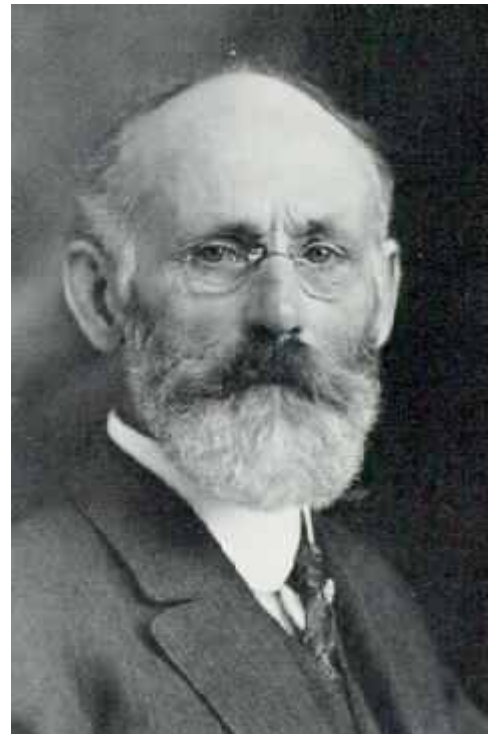
Earnest and reverent desire for Master's guidance and enlightenment will begin the attunement of the nature to the harmony to which it must one day respond.

Concentration on a single point in the Teaching is a road to the philosophy; self-examination, a road to knowledge of oneself.

To put oneself in the place of another, to realize his difficulties, and thus be able to help him, is that faculty—which when extended makes it possible for the Adept to understand the nature of the stone or other form of consciousness." ***Meditation is a good beneficent practice leading to a great end. It is also a great destroyer of the personal idea.***

Generally speaking, a "ray" comes from a "light"; the ray is not the light itself, but a projection of it, and yet is the light, because without the light there would be no ray. The color of the light is clear and uniform; the ray is changed in color by the substances through which it passes. When the "ray" is "indrawn," it is of the same color as the light and is the light; in fact, was the light all the time, for the appearance of the different colors in it was not from the light, but from that through which it passes.

Unity; one in essence. There is nothing but the Self. "



**Robert Crosbie, founder of the ULT,
who died on 25th June 1919**

Why did we pick this passage for ULT Day?

It is because when reflecting on it, and hopefully for a time after that strengthens with repetition, that we will remember that we are the Self, the Light, that shines through all the conditions and forms.

We will realize more and more, that all the forms and conditions are for the Experience of the soul and by resting or holding fast against the knowledge of Self, each experience will carry with it a better realization of the truth. This truth will reflect itself in the form. The form will evolve to better serve the Self.

Theosophy indicates to us that life is continuous, that there is no real death. This gives us hope. No being is ever content for long in any form and all forms are dust in comparison with the great potential of Self.

On this journey of continuous life, Theosophy the Eternal Truth, (my gosh these words have been so misused, it is difficult to use them anymore) gives us Three Great Ideas, to examine and hold to. These ideas do not require us to believe in them, nor does Their existence depend on us thinking about them. These Ideas are Facts, supreme and eternal.

Every talk Robert Crosbie gave embraced the three fundamental ideas and his application breaths fresh life into these ancient truths. We would also serve Humanity if we but follow his example. The challenge is to daily contemplate and apply, the words will follow as the heart and mind grow closer.

From "Theosophy in Daily Life"

"Many people think that religion means a preparation for death or the states of the future. Religion really means a preparation for and a knowledge of life—a living of our life as it should be lived. That which prepares for death is life, and ever living.

Formal religions do not even answer the question, why is death—nor any of the other burning questions in daily life. Why do we have suffering and sorrow? Why are we here? What was the origin of man? Why so many different conditions among mankind; why are some born to sorrow, and others to joy; why some in lowly places, some in high; why some with great faculties and others with very few and poor ones?

Justice demands an answer which is not furnished by religion, with its "Creator" — for if man is the creature of a creator he can not help himself and is absolutely irresponsible".

Any being, if "perfect," would maintain justice; yet there are injustices among men. The caprice or whim of a creator does not explain the difficulty. Any being, however great or high, must of necessity be limited, finite, and imperfect—something outside us,

something which does not contain the universe but is contained by it.

We have to go behind any idea of a Being, to the source of all being—to a basis common to the highest and to the lowest being. That basis and source is not to be found by looking outward at all, but is the very power to perceive, wherever there is life. Spirit, Life, Consciousness are the same in every being—undivided, however many and varied the perceptions.

Evolution is not a compelling force from without, but the impelling force of Spirit from within, urging on to better and better expression.

All advancement is from within.

All the knowledge that we gain, all the experience that we obtain, is obtained and held within.

Each one, then, is the Seer; all the rest are seen. So, the knowledge that we have to obtain is not information from without, not the thoughts of other men, but an understanding of our own essential nature, which represents every element in the great universe, from the basis of all life to every outward expression, and every possibility of further expression— just as each drop of water contains in itself everything existing in the great ocean from which it came. Nor does Law exist outside of us. Law is always inherent in Spirit; it is the action."

To state these three ideas simply we say "God, Law and Being". This Truth cannot be fully expressed by words, but we can come to realize it through action. ***Through the action of Universal Brotherhood, Compassion and Altruism.***

They surpass the many forms that Humanity has made for them, and their synthesis opens up within us higher states of consciousness and being, ***if we but take the time to weave them through our life.*** Students of many days or lives continue with this work of impressing Life, Law and Evolution on every thought, word and deed, knowing that there is at any moment the danger of forgetting the Self and becoming deluded again by the personality. With the example of the Masters of Wisdom before us though, we know with continuous life and with continuous effort that it is possible to strengthen and express our truer realization of Self.

CORRESPONDENCE

Smart Trees

Diana Bersford-Kroeger has published a new book called "The Global Forest".

How do trees show their smart?

"They are absolute geniuses at chemistry. The trees produce allelochemicals, which actually scrub the ground around the tree of all kinds of growth that the tree doesn't want to have there. And trees do mothering - they prepare the ground for their own children to grow...As well as that, trees produce aerosols, and the aerosols have all kinds of amazing qualities. Consider a child with a deficit disorder - take that child into a pine forest on a warm day, and a compound called alphaspinene that's extruded into the air will actually help to stabilize the child's breathing mechanism. It is an antibiotic that also has a mild narcotic action on the brain, allowing the child to function better, to be smarter."

"we cannot hear infrasound from trees, but it is there, this long low rumbling that's an indicator to birds as they fly by - just think of a bird flying above a forest that can come in and land on a very specific kind of tree."

"The pattern of intelligence in a tree is almost identical in chemistry to the pattern of intelligence in a human being. Trees are made of this extraordinary skin called cambium, which I consider to be the brain of the tree, and we don't know the function if it - we don't even know how the water gets to the top of the tree 25 storeys up. We have no idea how the genome of the tree dictates to the tree that weather is coming and it's going to be bad so that the nuts understand they are not to germinate."

I look forward to reading her latest book in full.

Fraternally,

L

<http://www.recreatingeden.com/index.php?pid=8&season=05&episode=60>

Your old laptop is needed!

The newly built Haiti Lodge, located at Jacmel near Port-au-Prince, has asked if you have an old laptop that is not needed?

They are setting up a internet-based learning facility at the Lodge and require new PC hardware to replace the ones lost in the earthquake.

Contact the Editors at tcc@clara.co.uk or the Lodge directly on haititheosophie@yahoo.fr to arrange shipment.

Judge Seminar

From: Nicholas - bodhichitta@roadrunner.com
to: tcc@clara.co.uk Friday, May 14, 2010

The Adyar Krotana ES center in Ojai, California invited some friends of Judge to give a 4-day seminar. It was well attended, with nary a bad vibration.

Dara Eklund, Judy Saltzman, Nicholas Weeks

Four-Day Program

William Q. Judge -- A Devoted Life

Apr 27-30

William Quan Judge, an Irish immigrant, attorney, occultist, teacher, and mystic, has been called "the greatest of exiles." Despite having a difficult life with poor health and financial hardship, his tireless efforts on behalf of the Ageless Wisdom, or Theosophy, left a vast spiritual legacy. One of the original founders of the Theosophical Society, Judge's books and many articles, in addition to his commentaries on The Bhagavad Gita and Patanjali's Yoga Aphorisms, have been of substantial assistance to those treading the spiritual path. This program will explore the life and work of this fascinating man. Series \$35, Single session \$10

Dara Eklund, MLS, a life-long student of Theosophy, is compiler of Echoes of the Orient: The Writings of William Quan Judge. A reference

librarian for over 40 years, Dara assisted Boris de Zirkoff in his research for the 15-volume Collected Writings of HP Blavatsky and prepared its index.

Judy D. Saltzman, PhD, Professor Emerita in philosophy from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo and former Fulbright scholar, is author of several articles on Hinduism and New Age religion. She is a frequent speaker and contributor to religious and philosophical texts.

Nicholas Weeks, a student of Theosophy and of Buddhism for almost four decades, helped proofread several volumes of HP Blavatsky's 15-volume Collected Writings. He assisted in the production of the new Mahayana translation series from Kalavinka Press and also with Echoes of the Orient: The Writings of William Quan Judge.

Fare Thee Well,

Nicholas

TS & Dalai Lama's first English language book

Hi

You've probably seen this. If correct the text says that the TS (Quest Books) published the first book by the Dalai Lama in English, The Wisdom Eye. I guess that's a feather in the Theosophical cap. Just thought you might be interested.

Hope to see you tonight. D

"When we all sat down, we revisited the TS's longstanding relationship with him. Betty presented him with a copy of Opening the Wisdom Eye, the first English language book by the Dalai Lama which was published by our own Quest Books."

<http://www.theosophical.org/events/news/DalaiLama.html>

An Audience with His Holiness

By Tim Boyd



On May 17, Betty Bland, president of the TSA, her husband David, my wife Lily and I, TSA vice-president, drove from the Olcott headquarters to the University of Northern Iowa to meet with His Holiness the Dalai Lama. We were scheduled to have a private meeting with him the following day at the UNI auditorium at 1 p.m. The audience was to take place between two public presentations His Holiness was giving to a crowd of 7000 in a sold-out auditorium.

[Read More](#)

"Looking back to this trip in 1956, I realize that my visit to the Theosophical Society in Chennai (then Madras) left a powerful impression.

There I was first directly exposed to people, and to a movement, that attempted to bring together the wisdom of the world's spiritual traditions as well as science.

I felt among the members a sense of tremendous openness to the world's great religions and a genuine embracing of pluralism.

When I returned to Tibet in 1957, after more than three months in what was a most amazing country for a young Tibetan monk, I was a changed man. I could no longer live in the comfort of an exclusivist standpoint that takes Buddhism to be the only true religion.

When tragic political circumstances in 1959 forced me into exile in India to live as a refugee, I was paradoxically offered the freedom to deepen my personal journey of understanding and engagement with the world's faith traditions."

Extract from "Toward a True Kinship of Faiths" by Dalai Lama XIV, Published May 2010.

People power can work

A friend sent this news to the AQ on Greenpeace's victory in their campaign to persuade Nestle to adopt more responsible sources of raw materials – items which will directly affect its bottom line.

“Over 23,000 Australians recently contacted global food and beverage giant, Nestlé, asking them to stop using palm oil linked to rainforest destruction.”

Within weeks of the campaign starting Nestle announced it would stop using produce that was depleting the rainforests, such as palm oil from clear felled areas.

The expansion of palm oil and pulp plantations is driving the destruction of Indonesia's rainforests and peatlands, and pushing orang-utans to the brink of extinction.

The success of the campaign was partly due to the viral marketing of a video parodying an Nestle ad for KitKat. See it on:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VaJjPRwExO8&feature=player_embedded



<http://www.greenpeace.org/australia/news-and-events/news/deforestation/nestle-170510>

Other Nestlé boycotts continue

The Nestlé boycott was launched on July 4, 1977, in the United States against the Swiss based Nestlé corporation. It spread quickly throughout the United States, and expanded into Europe in the early 1980s.

It was prompted by concern about the company's marketing of breast milk substitutes (infant formula), particularly in less economically developed countries, which campaigners claim contributes to the unnecessary death and suffering of babies, largely among the poor. Read more at:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nestlé%27s_boycott

The Gates of Paradise

A Samurai named Nobushige came to

Hakuin, and asked:

“Is there really a paradise and hell?”

“Who are you?” inquired Hakuin.

“I am a samurai”, was the answer.

“You are a soldier!” exclaimed Hakuin.

“What kind of ruler would have you as a guard?”

Your face looks like those of a beggar!”

Nobushige became so angry that he

began to draw his sword, but Hakuin continued:

”So, you have a sword! Your weapon is probably much too dull to cut off my head.”

As Nobushige drew his sword, Hakuin

remarked:

”Here opens the gates of hell.”

At these words the samurai, perceiving the master's discipline, sheathed his sword and bowed.

“Here opens the gates of paradise,” said

Hakuin.



Print of Takeda Nobushige

WISDOM IN ACTION

“you, yourself desired it”

I am sure that much that you will meet at will be in the nature of jolts. That is why you went there, in reality. These things are not “happenstances”; they are real steps by which the necessary trials may come, and “you, yourself desired it.”

There is joy in that thought, because whatever you do now is part of your schooling, and the knowledge of that as a vital necessity and as desired, keeps the real man serene under it all; he is happy because things are now moving—there’s something doing, as the phrase goes; so if you watch carefully, you will note the insidious manner in which the personality is led to this, that and the other lunch-counter.”

Get the point of view of the One who is doing the leading and hold to it. You will remember a phrase of the Lord’s prayer—truly an occult one—“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the power and the glory”; only read it, “permit us not to fall, in temptation.”

Even Jesus Christ was tempted, and he fell not, through the power of the “Father” within. This is the real “try-out,” and if in being tried, you can pass on a word in season, it is better for those who listen and better for you; only, do not cast your pearls before those who having ears to hear, neither hear nor understand.

Let your words and acts bespeak the power and knowledge that is really yours. Then will you be a radiating center of light, unconsciously doing good wherever you go and whatever you do.

In the way of meditation, **DON’T GET PASSIVE**; danger lies that way.

Be active in all things. The giddiness will pass away in time; the change with all its disturbances, mental, and other wise, has doubtless acted upon the nerve-currents and circulatory system. The way to overcome disturbance, of course, is by mental and physical calmness; this should be maintained. Medical assistance should be used for the body at times, because the “mental attitude” brings about changes in the body—for the most part gradually—but which sometimes needs material aid in be coming co-ordinated; so do not despise medical aid should any need arise. Mr. Judge sought such aid when necessary, leaving to the physician the care of maladjustment.

What you say about cycles is all right, I think. Reincarnation is most certainly one of the workings of cyclic law, and beings are in opposition or in conjunction as the cycle determines tendency, or rather, fosters and permits relations of one or another kind.

As ever, R. C.

FROM THE FRIENDLY PHILOSOPHER BY R. CROSBIE

Next month
“one who doth forevermore endure”