

THE LIFE AND WORK

OF

ALAN LEO

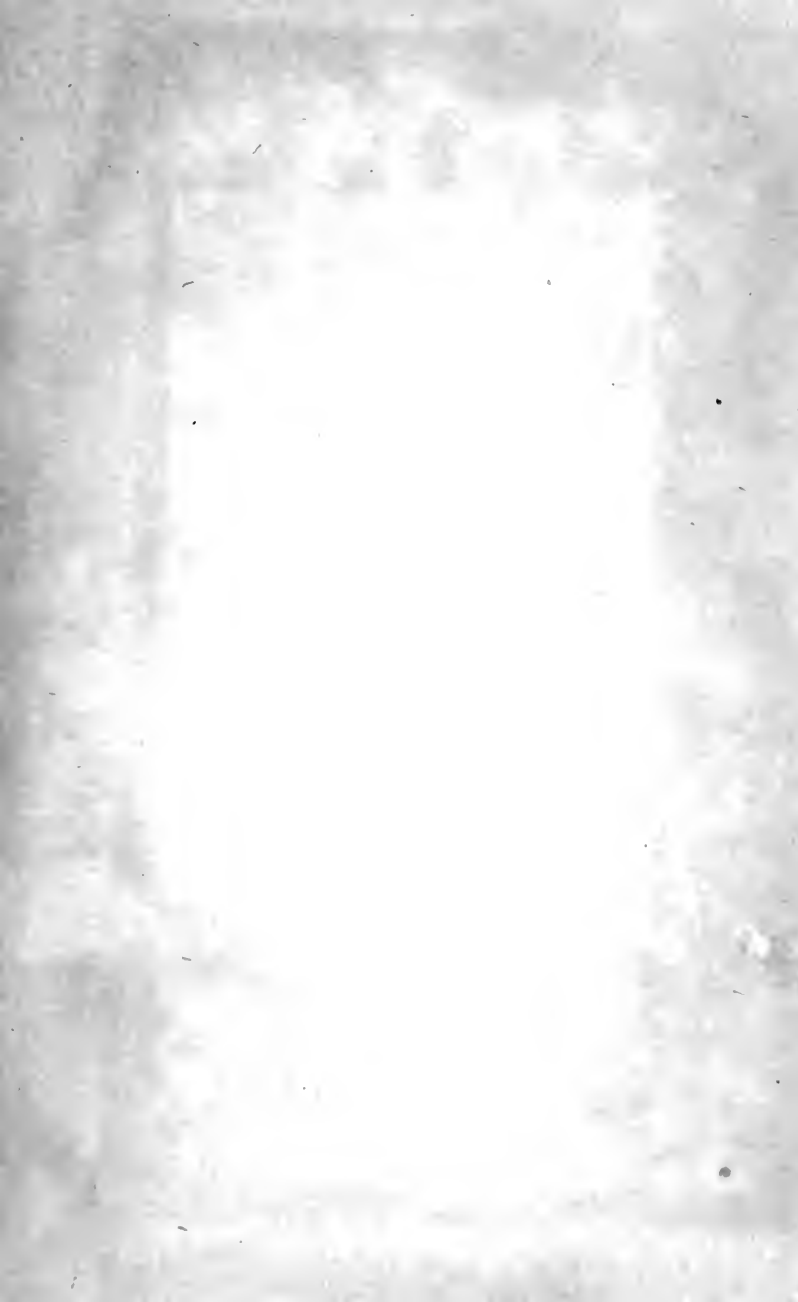
BY

BESSIE LEO

AND OTHERS.



THE LIBRARY  
OF  
THE UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA  
LOS ANGELES





THE LIFE AND WORK OF ALAN LEO



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2008 with funding from  
Microsoft Corporation



Alau Leo



# THE LIFE AND WORK

OF

## ALAN LEO

THEOSOPHIST—ASTROLOGER—MASON

BY

BESSIE LEO AND OTHERS

WITH A FOREWORD BY

ANNIE BESANT

*“From the unreal lead us to the Real,  
From darkness lead us to Light,  
From death lead us to Immortality.”*

LONDON:

“MODERN ASTROLOGY” OFFICE,  
40, IMPERIAL BUILDINGS, LUDGATE CIRCUS, E.C. 4.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED BY:

L. N. FOWLER & CO., 7, IMPERIAL ARCADE, E.C.

1919.



1997  
L545

## CONTENTS.

---

	PAGE
FOREWORD: AN APPRECIATION ... ..	7
ALAN LEO'S FAITH ... ..	11
CHAP. I. PARENTAGE AND EARLY LIFE ...	13
" II. EARLY DAYS IN ASTROLOGY ...	24
" III. MARRIAGE AND HOME LIFE ...	57
" IV. THE PASSING OF ALAN LEO ...	74
" V. SOME REMINISCENCES ...	92
" VI. REMINISCENCES AND APPRECIATIONS ...	124
" VII. THE HOROSCOPE OF ALAN LEO ...	174
ALAN LEO: RESTORER OF INNER TEACHINGS OF ASTROLOGY ... ..	204
BOOKS BY ALAN LEO ... ..	206

759212



## FOREWORD

### AN APPRECIATION

It was my good fortune to know Alan Leo for very many years, to me he was first of all a devoted student of the Divine Wisdom, that Wisdom which has come down to us through a succession of Sages, forming in all a golden thread interwoven in the cord of human evolution, an unbroken thread on which are strung the religions of the world living and dead. To that Divine Wisdom, reproclaimed in our own days under its old Greek name Theosophia, Theosophy, he was ever absolutely loyal, unwaveringly brave in its defence, ever eager to learn, willing to teach. It was the Lamp of his life, guiding him through many hard and thorny ways ; he threw its light on problems that seemed insoluble and they were

solved; no trouble could dim its glow, no attack could shake his faith for he had tried it and proved it, and he knew that in which he had believed by the personal knowledge of his own experience.

Then I knew him as a singularly able well-balanced and intuitive Astrologer; his love for this ancient and much maligned science was only second to his love for Theosophy, and indeed they were so interwoven in his thought, they so permeated his life, that one can scarcely speak of first and second. Indeed Astrology is a Department of the Divine Wisdom, as known in Chaldea and all ancient lands. He was one of the foremost in raising Astrology from fortune-telling to a scientific forecasting of conditions, a delineation of tendencies in a character, a map of the personal nature, and a wide outlook on coming evolution. He ever bore in mind not only the circumstances through which the individual would pass, but the re-action of the individual on the circumstances, remoulding and reshaping them; and he remembered that previous remouldings and reshapings by the

spiritualised organism during its present life would introduce far-reaching changes into the life map drawn from the horoscope at birth. He appreciated fully the bearing on the happenings of the future of the pregnant hint "The wise man rules his stars," and the sequential effect of his previous rulings on those future happenings. He realised that as the power of the Spirit, the Inner Ruler Immortal, passed in ever increasing measure out of latency in potency, so did the future become more and more inscrutable by means of ordinary rules, since the emergent new forces brought about their necessary results in fashions well nigh incalculable by most Astrologers.

Outside these great studies which formed his life, Alan Leo was singularly patient, tolerant and forbearing, unchanging in his loyalty to his friends, and ever the faithful servant of Duty. Of his utter devotion to the Great Beings who are the Guardians of Humanity and the Teachers of the individual Souls who aspire to learn that they may become the helpers of the men and women

around them this is not the place to speak. The silent devotion in the Temple found its best expression in a life of toil and sacrifice for human service and his work will ever be his best memorial.

ANNIE BESANT.



## ALAN LEO'S FAITH

“I AM convinced that the problem of the inequalities of the human race can only be successfully solved by a knowledge of Astrology.

“I believe that the Principle which gives life dwells in us and without us comes from the Supreme Intelligence through the Rays of the Sun, and I am convinced that this life is affected or modified every four minutes in time by the diurnal revolution of the Earth, also by the annual motion of the Earth round the Sun, affecting the Changes of Season and men's individual natures.

“I believe the Soul of Humanity is immortal or perpetual; and I am convinced that each individual soul or mind is symbolised by the Moon in its ebb and flow, and various phases, also by its relation to the Planetary Spheres of Influence; and as the Moon affects

the tides so does it affect lunacy and influence the sanity of individuals.

“ I believe every human being belongs to a Father Star in heaven or Star Angel as did Jesus Christ according to our Scripture ; and I am convinced that every man derives his will power from a Planetary Sphere of Influence which he uses, or abuses, by which he can overcome evil tendencies and control his animal nature, hence Astrology teaches that Character is Destiny, also that the Wise man rules his Stars while the fool obeys them.

“ I know that, although many attempts have been made, Astrology has never been successfully refuted or disproved, and to-day its ancient teachings are being rediscovered through its remarkable symbology and illuminative symbols.”

# THE LIFE AND WORK OF ALAN LEO

---

## CHAPTER I

### PARENTAGE AND EARLY LIFE

It is perhaps a curious circumstance that a man so interested in science and occultism should have had as a father a soldier, and yet such was the case with Alan Leo, for his father was in the army, serving his country in India, for several years on active service. He went through the Indian Mutiny and was rather severely wounded in the leg, so that it became stiff, which led to his discharge and return to England.

By birth Alan Leo's father was a Scotsman and his regiment was the Scottish Highlanders. After his discharge he returned to England and helped at the Dispensary of one of the large London hospitals. Being of a religious

turn of mind, he used to attend a Methodist Chapel not far from the hospital, and he met there a woman who was of the sect called the Plymouth Brethren. A friendship sprang up between the two ; and after he had promised to join the ranks of the Plymouth Brethren, marriage took place. They lived together for some years, but could not agree on religious matters, so the union was not altogether happy.

Alan was born nearly seven years after his parent's marriage, and according to his mother's account was small for his age. As their income was a very limited one, his mother had not much time to nurse him ; and, so she told me, he would play by himself in his cot or his high chair for hours, rarely cried, and was most patient and quiet.

She described him as being a very solemn child ! When quite a tiny tot he loved pictures, and would sit for hours absorbed in a rag picture book ; a solemn, brown-eyed baby, who had to find his own amusements because two more children followed him quickly, a girl and a boy, born in rapid succession. Alan

was a young domestic drudge and always had a baby to look after, nurse, and amuse; and with a white apron folded about his small person he would often be made to wash up cups and saucers and lay the cloth; this at the early age of five or six. He more than once told me that his childhood was not a happy one; he never played as other boys did, but always had to work, and never had time for games, his only periods of joy being visits to his grandparents who lived in a pretty cottage at Wells. He described with gratitude the tenderness of the old couple to him, for Mr and Mrs Beresford loved their eldest grandchild and tried to make his visits happy ones. The old china tea cups, beautiful silver tea-pot, and thin bread and butter, served at 5 o'clock, remained in his memory. Especially did he remember the old-world garden and the flowers; but usually after a month's visit his mother would arrive on the scene, say she could not spare him any longer, and take him back to hard work.

The astrologer will note here that the ruler of his sixth house on the cusp of the ascendant

made him a worker, serving others from his earliest childhood ; he was keyed to work and service as others are keyed to pleasure and amusement.

“I was made to take life seriously,” he said to me, “and Sunday was just a dreadful day in our home.” His mother only permitted religious meetings and Foxe’s Book of Martyrs. Sunday amusement, laughter, and play, were strictly taboo!

Needless to say young Alan’s soul rebelled at this cramped atmosphere ; for with so many planets in the fiery sign Leo, the house of the Sun, and rising at birth, his was especially a joyous soul, with harmony as his keynote.

There is no doubt, however, that his mother was a very good woman, she lived as she said for Christ, but she was of the sad puritan type that considers mirth, fun, and joyousness detrimental to the soul’s welfare ! She herself, a rigid puritan, always rose at 5 a.m., summer and winter, and spent two hours in prayer ! But she lacked personal love ; she thought more of saving the souls of her

children, as she put it, than of blessing them with a happy home life and a mother's affection; they must always be at work, so she said, or the enemy Satan would draw near!

She and her husband did not get on well together; she wanted to dominate him, and this led to frequent disputes, until one day a final rupture took place between them.

About this time, when Alan was between nine and ten, his mother and the family went to Edinburgh, to some relatives of her husband's, while Alan's father went abroad, and no one knew exactly his whereabouts, though for some years he was sufficiently in touch with his wife and family to send money for their maintenance.

In Edinburgh Alan received his education, going to a good boys' school, and as he was quick and clever he profited much from the school curriculum. At this time he used to question his mother about religion. "Why, mother, did God make people at all if He punishes them by everlasting torment? I

could not be happy in heaven if I knew other poor people were burning in Hell! Could you?" and many other questions of a like nature, very disturbing to anyone who held her narrow religious views.

"You are a very wicked boy to question God's purpose. You should read the Bible more, and pray for faith," was her only reply.

At last matters grew very strained between them and Alan refused to believe the doctrines of the Plymouth Brethren, and would not accompany his mother to her particular place of worship.

Just about that time the family returned to London, and then Alan sought for and found a situation as a grocer's assistant, and as he slept at the business he saw very little of his home or family. But he was very proud to be able to help his mother at fifteen years of age and he said that he gave her all he earned—a rare piece of unselfishness for so young a boy; but as his mother was now practically alone and unsupported, he felt this to be his duty. She earned by high class needlework a living for herself and the other two children.



After a time Alan felt he must "have a rise in life," as he put it, so he next found employment in a sewing machine factory, and had a considerable increase in salary. After working there two years, he was given the sale of the machines, and had to travel with them. So he now saw still less of family or home, and life began in earnest for him.

He said once that he used to stand in the country at night and look up at the stars and wonder if they were worlds.

"Why am I here?" he would ask himself. "What does everything mean?"

He never doubted the existence of a Great Being, as he put it: "The God of Nature," a Merciful Being.

He used to study in a quiet way the people he came across. "I was always interested in character," he said. "It had a fascination for me that nothing else had, but I was ever asking the cause of things."

He read some books on Astronomy, for the Heavens always held for him a mighty fascination; but he rarely went to church or chapel, choosing to spend his spare time with

nature, saying that he felt nearer to God among the trees.

At about the age of twenty-one, his employer died and Alan went to live in Manchester, where a brother of his late employer had two grocer's shops, and he was offered the position of Manager of the larger of the two, with an excellent salary. It was in that city about three or four years afterwards that he heard of Astrology for the first time.

He had by that time become Manager of both businesses, but his overwork brought on an illness, and as he had no faith in doctors, his landlady recommended him to a skilled herbalist, who had treated many people she knew very successfully.

When Alan called on this man, he found quite a large number of people waiting, and heard that they considered him very clever! When his turn arrived to see the "doctor," as he was called, there lay on his table a number of books, some of which were open, and they contained numbers of figures. "How old are you?" enquired the doctor. "Give me the place, time, and date of your birth."

Then he drew what Alan thought was a map with figures on it; and after a little while said: "You are suffering from kidney trouble, but will be quite well in about three weeks," and then wrote him out a herbal prescription, and told him to call that day week and report.

Alan was quite cured, and at his third visit summoned up courage to ask what his date and time of birth had to do with the illness and prescription. "Well," replied the old man, "as I see by your map you can be trusted, I will tell you. I study Astrology," and then he went on to give a short *résumé* of what this meant, and how he found out by this means the real disease of each of his patients and treated them accordingly.

Spellbound Alan listened and so keen was his interest and so absorbed his attention that Dr Richardson saw he was inclined to believe in this method of investigating and treating disease, and therefore asked him to come to tea on the following Sunday, when he would show him how to cast a horoscope.

"Was it not curious," said Alan, "that

directly I heard the word 'Astrology' I knew it, and knew that all I heard was true."

The old man and the young one grew fast friends, and in a short time Dr Richardson declared that Alan knew more about it than he did! For about two years, Alan was busily engaged in quietly studying astrology from real life; and in the intervals of business he got the birth times of men, women, and children, cast their horoscopes, read their characters, and then questioned them as to whether this or that event had happened. Cripples, idiots, those born blind, and so on were his special study. One day Dr Richardson said he always believed he had lived before, and asked Alan if he held this belief. "Yes, I feel sure we have," said Alan, "and I think Astrology is God's Law!" And so time passed on, with practical business days but the nights devoted to Star lore. For the time was rapidly approaching when he would be drawn again among his own people of the past, Occultists he had known and worked with in former lives.

He was now nearing his twenty-eighth year,

when his employer died, and once again Alan had to seek fresh employment, so he decided to return to London, take a few months' rest, and look about for a new post. So back to London he came to receive the knowledge once again that had been his in former lives.

BESSIE LEO.

## CHAPTER II

### EARLY DAYS IN ASTROLOGY

I HAVE been asked by Mrs Leo to contribute some information about the career of my deceased friend Alan Leo, for the Biography which is now being written. I am pleased to add my quota, as no one knew more about the earlier part of his astrological career which made his name publicly known than myself; for his astrological life may truly be said, like my own, to have begun with the founding of the *Astrological Magazine*. The facts which related thereto are these :

About 1887 or 1888, a monthly magazine called *The Astrologer* was published, edited by Mr P. Powley. Prior to this a weekly called *The Tribune* had a few pages devoted to Astrology, and tests from readers and subscribers were invited. Up to that time, although I was always interested in the

occult and the mystical, I had not come across Astrology; I therefore responded to the invitation, sent up data and asked certain questions of the Editor (Mr R. H. Penny or, to use his *nom de plume*, "Neptune"). In due time the reply to my queries came, and were a revelation to me then. I thought there was something in it worth investigation, so I sent a fee and had my horoscope cast, and in reply to a query of mine as to a suitable book for a beginner to study, I was advised to obtain A. J. Pearce's *Text Book of Astrology*; I procured this book but, not being a mathematician, I made very little progress. I therefore wrote again and told the Editor it was too involved for me, and enquired whether he could recommend a simpler work. In due course I had a letter from the new Editor (the Editorial chair having changed occupants in the *interim*), who advised me to start with Raphael's *Guide to Astrology*, and very kindly said that if he could assist me in making headway, smoothing the course of astrological study he would be very pleased to do so, and signed himself "Sepharial."

This was the beginning of a long friendship, and I can honestly say that what astrological knowledge or skill I have possessed has been very greatly due to that able and eminent Astrologer. Mr Powley's *Astrologer* then came into my hands. I occasionally asked questions and wrote letters to the periodical, and in one I stated that a student living in the south of London would be pleased to correspond with or meet other astrological students for mutual improvement. I had several replies, one from William Frederick Allan (who afterwards by legal process adopted the name of "Alan Leo"), Mr J. C. Green (of Kew) since deceased, Mr C. Baddely, Mr Smarry and another whose name I cannot recollect. I arranged for a meeting at my house at Brixton. All my correspondents came, and for some time we had a meeting there every Friday. In addition, Alan, Mr J. C. Green and myself used to meet each Wednesday midday at a restaurant in the city. In one of my letters to Sepharial I told him that we held a meeting every week, and if he ever came to London (he was then



residing in Birmingham), we should be glad to welcome him. In due course he came to London, and made an appointment to call at my house. He came and I had the pleasure of making his personal acquaintance and of introducing him to Alan Leo, J. C. Green and others. Alan at that time was in rather low water financially; I helped him, and very soon afterwards he obtained a position as traveller with a firm of confectioners (previously to that he had been engaged with a firm of sewing machine manufacturers). In the course of his various travels, he visited Sepharial at Birmingham and H. S. Green at Bournemouth; and later in the South of England he met the lady who eventually became his wife. From many confidential chats I had with him I gathered that he was related to the eminent firm of Allan the ship-owners and shipbuilders, either on the Clyde or the Wear. He had many changes of occupation before I knew him; in one (a provision store) he was his own master.

Alan commenced the study of Astrology about the same time as I did, and I think he

then lived either in Nottingham or in that district, for he was rather intimate with a Dr Richardson who lived in Nottingham. In Alan's opinion this man was a good Astrologer; he was a very strong advocate of Raphael's "Excitement" (Transits) Theory. Dr Richardson used Astrology in his herbal practice, and from what Alan said was very clever in his profession and had a very large clientele. As time went on Mr Powley's *Astrologer* began to wane, the sales dropped off, and publication became irregular. I believe during its decline the betting and horse-racing element was introduced. Alan and I could see that the venture would not last long. About this time another astrological publication from the same neighbourhood made its appearance (called *The Attractor*). On several occasions Mr Powley wrote me, and the contents of his letters bore out what we both surmised. I thought the matter over very seriously, and wrote Alan to come and see me, as I had a proposition to place before him. He came and I suggested that it was evident the *Astrologer* would not last much

longer, and we might start a new magazine devoted *solely* to "Astrology," with no horse-racing introduced. Alan thought the idea a good one, and after many discussions we decided to put the matter before our astrological friends at the next meeting at my house. We accordingly did so, and asked if they would be disposed to take a part financially and astrologically in the suggested undertaking. They were unanimous in considering the idea of a new magazine a good one, but not one of them was disposed to put any money into the venture, very truly saying that no magazine on Astrology had had a very long life. Our contention was that the lines on which the existing and former periodicals had been run were faulty, that they were either too heavy in tone or too pedantic, and that they lacked interest and variety; but our friends could not come round to our way of thinking and support the notion. We all thought it best to carefully consider the matter further, and to come to a decision at our next meeting.

We all met the following week, the subject was again discussed, and on being put to

the vote, Alan and I were in the minority. We then parted. I walked to the station with Alan, and said that if he was prepared to put down a certain sum, which I named, I would do likewise, and that the Magazine should be run on business lines for twelve months, and that if during that period it was a success we would jointly continue it; and I arranged with him to come and see me the following week; he did so and the matter was definitely decided.

A "radical election" figure was taken, and the testimonies for success were exceptionally good. Fortunately I have a copy of the map and I append the elements of the figure taken 21st November, 1889:

	x	xi	xii	i	ii	iii	
	m7	m28	f 15	v 1.23	≈ 19	r6	
⊙	D	♄	♃	♅	♁	♂	♆
m29.20	m7.2	m20.2	m8.2	≈ 6.19	v 8.50	m 3.26	
		♃	♅				
		≈ 24.36	v 3.16R				

We were some time in deciding upon a title, but finally resolved to name our proposed monthly *The Astrologer's Magazine*, and to charge 4d. per copy, the size adopted being

that of the *Strand* Magazine. I think it well to mention these things in detail, although many would consider them trivial, but Alan was very thorough in all business matters, and like myself went for success. The next important question was *when* we should publish it. We accordingly spent a good time in looking through the 1890 Ephemeris to find a promising date, and found there would not be a good day (astrologically) before July. I forget the exact date, but I believe it was about July 20, and we decided that on this date the first number should go to the public. Between the date of our radical election and July, 1890, we had ample time to mature our plans and thoroughly weigh up the *pros* and *cons*.

As time for publishing drew near we wrote to Mr Powley, told him what we were about to do, and asked him if he would insert a notice in the *Astrologer* as to the forthcoming publication. He said he would and he kept his word, and wished us better luck than he had had. Long before the publication we asked the opinion of our astrological friends on certain matters and either Alan or I told

Sepharial what we had decided to do: he wished our venture success, and I think he said he was bringing out a monthly, or had something to do with one that was coming out, but that there was plenty of room for two publications. Anyway he anticipated our periodical by a month, *Fate and Fortune*, his magazine, making its first appearance in June, 1890.

We foresaw uphill work in consequence of this competition, but we would not alter the date of our publishing, nor did we. As an inducement for people who knew little or nothing about Astrology to look into the subject, we decided to give horoscopes free of charge with a short delineation to annual subscribers who remitted their subscriptions direct to us; and with this object in view we arranged to insert a loose coupon in every number issued, and it is only fair to say that we were the pioneers of free horoscopes. Before we finally decided on this, I told Alan that as I was working at figures all day I could not do calculations at night as well, but that if he would calculate the maps I would delineate

them. He was quite agreeable to this, and with a view to simplifying the calculations he proposed a very unique set of arithmetical tables that facilitated the computations enormously. At that time he was not so fluent with his pen as he became afterwards, so he asked me to write simple lessons in Astrology for the benefit of novices, and to undertake the correspondence, whilst he took in hand all the business arrangements. We decided that the first volume should comprise twelve monthly parts of twenty-four pages each, and that each issue should have a lesson in Astrology, a notable horoscope, extracts from the works of the old Astrologers such as Lilly, Coley, Salmon, and others, articles on various astrological subjects, hints to students, and answers to correspondents, so as to make the magazine interesting both to the advanced student and the tyro. Alan's ideals were always lofty; he always wanted the best. His idea was to have a very attractive cover, but when the estimate of the cost of the one he would have liked came before us, the price was too high so he reluctantly abandoned the idea for the

time and suggested that I should design some kind of border having the signs of the Zodiac and the planets thereon. I made two or three sketches, and we adopted one, which he had photo-lithoed, the cost being comparatively low.

Before the day of publication we received several annual subscriptions through the announcement in the *Astrologer*. When I mention that Alan was travelling from Monday until midday Friday, the considerable amount of astrological work that he had to compress into Saturday and Sunday can be understood. On my part I was engaged in the city until 6 p.m. and on Sundays an organ appointment kept me busy part of the day, so that both of us had plenty to do and we were never idle.

At first the coupons came in slowly. He did the calculations on Friday evenings, and as fast as he erected the maps I delineated them. As time went on and they poured in more quickly, he devoted the greater part of Saturday and Sunday to the horoscopes and posted the lot to me on Sunday night ; I then



wrote out the judgments and somehow got them off during the week. I think I am not far out in saying that we sent out about 1500 the first year. When the correspondence and editorial work became heavy he did many of the delineations, but I can honestly say that the calculation of nearly every map was done by him, and all the delineations were made from the identical map as he had calculated it; there were no forms with blanks to fill in, but actual calculations and interpretations, and we had numerous testimonies to our accuracy. Our first number was a fair specimen of those that followed; it comprised a short foreword as to why we asked for the support of our readers, and a description of the lines on which future numbers would be run. We had three horoscopes in the first issue; (1) The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, from a rare book by the Rev. John Butler, Chaplain to His Grace the Duke of Ormond, published in 1668; (2) The horoscope of the then Prince of Wales (the late King Edward); (3) The natal figure of H. M. Stanley, the Explorer; also a Horary figure

from Lilly's *Christian Astrology*, 1647, with Lilly's delineation, one of the finest examples of Horary Astrology extant; the first of the *Lessons in Astrology for Beginners*, "Our Note Book" (in which were pointed out many anomalies that we had discussed at our meetings), and astrological anecdotes from reliable sources.

We received many letters commenting upon the first number, the majority very favourable, but with a few grumblers, including one or two who called us very choice names for daring to publish the nativity of the Saviour. Alan expected adverse criticism, and was not disappointed, but the "pats on the back" amply compensated for the adverse remarks. Sepharial in *Fate and Fortune* gave us a notice and incidentally told us to "ginger up." We took it as friendly banter, and later on the *Daily News* of 27th August, 1890, gave us nearly a column under the heading of "Cheap Astrology," written by one who, as usual, knew nothing practical about the subject. Of course it was adverse but it did us good, it increased our circulation, and brought us in touch with a

section of the public we might not otherwise have reached.

About the end of 1889 during one of Alan's business journeys he called upon Mr John Thomas, better known as "Charubel," with whom we had both become acquainted by correspondence some months before. Charubel had published a monthly called *The Occultist*, and we were subscribers to it. After seeing him Alan told me he was undoubtedly a genuine "Seer" and highly gifted; he thought Charubel far above other such men he had previously met. An occult fraternity of which Charubel was the founder was then in existence, and in due course we became active members of it. One result of Charubel's seership was *The symbols of the degrees of the Zodiac*. Alan brought some of this along in MSS. for critical examination, and we tested it in connection with horoscopes where we knew the birth times were exact. The result was satisfactory, and Alan thought we should be benefiting Astrology if we could get the symbols for the whole 360 degrees and publish them in our Magazine.

I quite agreed with him, and he made a special point of calling upon Charubel again and arranging the matter to our mutual satisfaction. The first portion of this was published in our pages of December, 1890, and it continued for about three years and was generally appreciated.

It was about this time that Alan made the personal acquaintance of that clever Astrologer Mr H. S. Green, and the friendship then begun continued until Alan's death. Mr Green was also a member of Charubel's occult fraternity, and this brought us into closer contact. He began to contribute to our pages about June, 1891, and from that time every issue had something of astrological interest from his pen; he brought much original thought forward, and we and our readers greatly appreciated the many articles that he wrote.

I believe that Alan either called upon or corresponded with "Raphael" shortly before our first number was issued, and it was gratifying to know that he thought well of our project; he gave us some good notices in his

Almanac, and this was another help towards increasing our circulation.

We were also in touch with Sepharial, and were both sorry when he told Alan in September, 1890, that *Fate and Fortune* would be discontinued because the poor support accorded to it did not warrant its further publication, and that as his time was valuable he could not continue the work. His intention had been to publish the results of his many years' researches in its pages, together with his system of Rectification by the Epoch, which he had virtually discovered, and he was greatly disappointed that the exposition could not be continued in his own magazine. Alan was a very keen business man and thought it would be advantageous to secure the services of Sepharial if it were possible. He made a point of seeing him and we were delighted to know that Sepharial would contribute the result of his researches to the pages of the *Astrologer's Magazine*. The first instalment appeared in November, 1890, and apart from "The Horoscope," which was the title of his exposition, he

contributed an enormous amount of original matter that caused much discussion in which 99 times out of 100 he came out "on top."

As most Astrologers at that time knew, Sepharial did much useful work in connection with the British Section of the Theosophical Society (he was one of the leading members). He invited Alan and me to 19, Avenue Road, St John's Wood, which was then the headquarters of the Society. I might remark that we both had already subscribed to *Theosophical Siftings*, and other books published by the Society. On a certain evening we went, the first of many visits, and were introduced to Madame H. P. Blavatsky, and in time we met Col. H. S. Olcott and Mr W. Q. Judge there, the then heads of the movement. We joined the T.S. and later on were two of the founders of a Branch that was formed at Brixton, S.W., which was called the "Philalethian," and was I think opened by Mr G. R. S. Mead. Alan remarked in his humorous way, "doesn't Mead like long words." I never forgot the

name or the occasion in consequence of Alan's remark.

It was about this period that Alan had more spare time. He was such a splendid salesman that he sold in a week more goods than his firm could execute in a month. He told me it was useless going on his journeys solely for that reason, and used to lament to me how lax the business arrangements were. His customers wrote him very stinging letters as to non-delivery of goods ordered through him, and it caused him to have fits of depression (shewn in his horoscope by the position of Saturn). I used to rouse him up, but he never really overcame the business mismanagement of the firm. In his own researches he made a speciality of the planet Uranus, which was not to be wondered at as the planet was very strong in his own horoscope (in the tenth house), and his first contribution to our pages was on the influence of Uranus.

Alan always had a persuasive way with him, and he secured the services of "Casael," whose speciality was Horary Astrology, and a Mr Carter, who specialised on Astro-

Meteorology; the latter was I believe a pupil of Casael's. As will be seen Alan secured the services of most of the leading Astrologers, with the exception of Mr A. J. Pearce (the modern Zadkiel), and for a time George Wilde, who was then beginning to make a name. Mr Wilde used to write for Powley's *Astrologer*, I think under the *nom de plume* of *Mars and the Goat* ( $\delta$  in  $\var�$ ); he made no response to Alan's overtures at first, but contributed a little to our pages later. Mr Pearce's methods were so different from our own that we thought it useless to invite his co-operation.

It may be interesting to note how Alan came to adopt the name of "Alan Leo." He always understood that he was born at 6 a.m., which horoscope had the beginning of Virgo rising! The map he gave me had this ascendant, but I did not consider it his correct one, and he spent much time over it, applying "Sepharial's" Epoch Test among others, and after rectifying by past events in his career he considered the map with the end of Leo rising his true horoscope. He used his



surname, omitting one L, coupled with the ascending sign Leo; thus, Alan Leo. He was always desirous of writing books; he rarely read much, but was a deep thinker. I was always fortunate in getting old astrological books; I think I have read nearly all the works from 1600 onwards, and I used to suggest that he should read them, but he read very few, and those only superficially. Except Mme. Blavatsky's *Isis Unveiled* and *The Secret Doctrine*, which he studied seriously, and Raphael's *Guides*, he never interested himself much in any books at this early period; his book was practical life.

The question of Astrological Societies always appealed to him; we had many discussions on that subject, he was always in favour of them, and I was not entirely against them. I gave it as my opinion that there would always be jealousy and conflicting interests, and further I doubted whether any of them would have a lengthy existence. He asked me to write a short article thereon, as we had many letters from students and others favourable to the idea. I did as he requested,

and I think it appeared in our issue of December, 1890; but although nothing practical came of the notion at the time yet he formed more than one society years afterwards, as the astrological world knows, with I believe varying degrees of support and success.

He was always keen on lecturing, and his first efforts in that direction were announced in our issue of January or February, 1891, when he stated that he would be visiting Leamington, Liverpool, Burnley, Manchester, Bristol, and Gloucester, in February, and would give free lectures on Astrology. He arranged and delivered these lectures on his journeys in response to invitations from students in those towns, and the result encouraged him. This was the start of his career as a lecturer on Astrology.

I should mention that we had many correspondents in America, Professors Henry, Hazelrigg, and Charles Hatfield amongst others. These three were all clever Astrologers; they supplied Alan with much information and data concerning Uranus,

and some of them contributed to our pages.

Alan's ambition was to visit America, India, and Australia ; and in course of time many of his desires were realised. Before I knew Alan I was in touch with a Rosicrucian whose *nom de plume* was "Eleusis," who spoke highly of Hindu Astrology ; and through him I became acquainted with the savant N. Chidambaram Iyer, B.A. This clever man had translated from the original Sanscrit into English the astrological works of Varaha Mihira, and he mentioned the fact to me. I bought copies and, soon after I made Alan's acquaintance, I brought the books under his notice. Our Hindu friend wanted them known in England, and as they were not obtainable here when we founded the Magazine, Alan suggested that it might be desirable to become agents for the works, *viz.*, *The Brihat Jataka*, *Brihat Samhita*, and *Jinendramala*. We became agents and sold a great many copies through the medium of the Magazine, while our Hindu friend did us good service in return and obtained many subscribers for us. Another

Indian Astrologer, J. J. Chitnis, came in touch with us, and later contributed a Hindu horoscope to our pages by the Jinendramala method. Sepharial went to India later and he sent along much interesting matter on that subject, which eventually appeared in our pages.

In June, 1891, Alan prepared a balance sheet showing our financial position, as the question of continuing the magazine had to be decided. The result exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and therefore we decided to continue; for so successful had we been financially that we were both able to draw out the cash we had originally put into the venture. We had a good stock of our back numbers and decided to have some bound in volumes; as time went on we sold all these and they commanded a ready sale. As a souvenir, and to celebrate the year's result, he had six volumes specially bound; he retained one, I another, and Sepharial the third. I believe he presented the others to some of those who had helped us. I think Mr H. S. Green was one. A notice of the continued publication

of the Magazine was inserted in the June, 1891, issue, and as a further inducement to annual subscribers we offered to give either a free horoscope or one year's directions, at their option. Applications for one or the other, and in some cases for both, poured in, and for months he was again busy with the calculations, and I with the judging. He suggested that I should write for the second volume a further series of lessons on "Directions," using Sepharial's method; and I carried out his wishes.

During the previous twelve months Mr H. S. Green had been investigating an entirely new method of Directing. Alan, who frequently saw him, was at once interested, and as I was specially concerned in the directional part of Astrology, he brought the system to me for investigation, although neither of us had any doubt as to the *bona fides* of anything H. S. Green attached his name to. I was much surprised with the validity and originality of the method. We were delighted to accept it, and its exposition as the system of Prenatal Directions commenced in the first number of

the second volume. Alan also thought it would interest students if horoscopes of notable Astrologers, such as Lilly, Gadbury, Raphael I, Zadkiel I, Sibly, and Culpepper, were given, and they appeared in the Magazine during that year. We had experienced trouble in business matters with our publishing agent, and this did not commend itself to Alan; he therefore made arrangements with another firm for the current year, although in the end this was not much better.

We were the pioneers in giving prizes for the best delineations of horoscopes, and the results of those sent in showed many promising students. We also had much useful and entertaining matter submitted to us, and it was often difficult to make a wise decision. We always had sufficient in hand to fill several numbers.

We also had many cordial invitations from all sorts and conditions of subscribers in every rank of life, but with one or two exceptions we refrained from accepting them. One lady in Yorkshire was especially pressing. She had sent us many subscribers from time to time,

and at last Alan decided to call upon her when he was near there. He eventually did so, and found her a very talented lady, extremely fond of the occult, and he spent a very intellectual day with her. She insisted on his visiting her again and wished me to join him and spend some days there. He put the matter to me, and in the end we both went for a week-end. We travelled all night, and on the Saturday morning we were welcomed into a charming old Yorkshire "haunted house."

I have a very special recollection of our visit because our hostess invited a number of the residents to meet us on the Sunday, and it was on that occasion that I heard Alan lecture for the first time. There were about twenty-five visitors, and Alan spoke for about an hour; many questions were put and he satisfactorily answered them. I was asked to speak but, as I am no orator, I had to refuse, although I gave way when a gentleman specially asked me to say a few words on a certain subject.

I may remark here that some months

previously our hostess had asked if we could erect the horoscope of a ship, and give a delineation. Alan discussed it with me. He was in favour of declining to undertake it, but I thought that if we could get correct data and he would erect the figure I would do the other part, and be responsible for it. The particulars were duly sent, and the figure and judgment despatched, and we heard nothing further about it until the meeting in Yorkshire. The gentleman said he had sought the aid of our hostess to obtain the horoscope of the ship which he owned, and asked if I had delineated it, and would I stand by my judgment. I stood up and said that if the data supplied were correct, whatever I had stated in my remarks on the subject I would adhere to, and that in my opinion the same astrological rules should apply to a ship as to a child; that it was the first horoscope of a ship we had been asked to deal with and I had to apply the rules to the ship as if it were a birth; and that I should be very glad to hear from him whether the submitted delineation was borne out by facts. Every one was on the *qui vive*



as to what was forthcoming. He said he was astounded to receive the delineation and asked if I had been in that part of England before. I said no, and that it was my first visit. He then said that apart from one or two minor matters the delineation was a true one, the career of the vessel was as described, and the ship was wrecked about the time stated. We were heartily congratulated later, and were naturally pleased, but not more so than our hostess. It was a pity a copy of the ship's horoscope was not kept as it would have been very interesting to publish. We left the following morning and corresponded frequently with our hostess until her demise.

Things went along in the same way, heaps of work and no spare time, and in the natural course of things Volume II was completed and Volume III started. Alan had been giving attention to "Infant Mortality," and decided to write a series of articles on the subject. I suggested he should collect many more reliable cases than we had then, as in my opinion it was a very difficult branch of Astrology to write upon definitely. He

acquiesced, as he generally did, and decided to defer his intentions for a year.

At this time we were experiencing much antagonism from the Editor of *Zadkiel's Almanac*; he had always been against us both, apparently because we had been successful with our monthly although we did not support the system he professed to use. For a long time we ignored him, but at last he became very personal and I told Alan I should not stand it any longer. Alan was always "slow to anger," but after we had received many letters from our readers calling attention to the unfair criticism, he at last thought we ought to take some public notice of the antagonism. I might remark here that Zadkiel had brought out a monthly called *The Future*, in February, 1892, and we were of the opinion that he was envious of the success of our Magazine; professional jealousy we thought. Anyway Alan asked me to write a short article, but not to make it "too hot," and chaffed me about the Scorpion's sting and Mars square Saturn in my horoscope, (my ascendant being Scorpio).

I reminded him that according to report, the Scorpion never used his sting until he was attacked. I wrote an article; Alan said it was too pungent, although what I said was undoubtedly true. I therefore re-wrote it; he still said he thought it ought to be modified, and accordingly I wrote a third one under the title "False prophets and teachers," and as he approved of this it was inserted in the first number of Volume III. This produced more venom from our opponent, to which we were bound to reply. He then went for Raphael, Mr H. S. Green and others, and so it went on for several months, but not until the *Future* ceased to be published did his public antagonism cease.

I believe it was about this time that Alan became acquainted with the lady whom he married later, and who was in my opinion a most worthy helpmeet for him. Alan became more keen on Theosophy after his marriage, whereas I was losing interest in it; my experience of the majority of the members of the T.S. with whom I had come in contact did not favourably appeal to me, and after

due consideration I ceased from going to their meetings.

The third volume was quite as successful as its predecessors, and we decided to make Volume IV a speciality. I suggested as my novelty "Photo horoscopes" with delineations; and as we had been frequently asked to publish our nativities we decided they should appear. Amongst many others, Alan's, Sepharial's, H. S. Green's, and my own were given. Alan made a speciality of "Infantile Mortality," and wrote many articles which appeared in that volume.

It was during that year that so many calls were made on my time, which I was compelled to attend to, that I could not see my way clear to give the time and attention to the *Astrologer's Magazine*, that I had done hitherto; and after careful consideration, I decided to sever my connection with it at the end of the fourth volume, and terminate the joint editorship I held with him. It was hard to sever the harmonious partnership that had kept us together for so long, but there was no way out of it for me, and we parted in the most amicable

manner. He asked me to contribute to its pages when I could find time which of course I agreed to do, and in fact I did a little which was inserted in the fifth volume. We parted with many expressions of mutual regret.

The five years of our editorship were one of the happiest periods of my life, and I know his experience was the same. His ideals were always lofty: "his heart would run away with his head," and in consequence unprincipled people preyed upon him; they would "tell him the tale," and he assisted these parasites. It was a weak point of his; I often used to warn him about it, but there it was; our temperaments are not all alike, and I detested seeing a good man imposed upon. I used occasionally to see him after our partnership was dissolved, and when I was in "low water" some years ago he extended a helping hand to me, as I had done to him in the early days of our acquaintance.

From July, 1894, his wife can continue his life story. It was with extreme regret that I saw the announcement of his death in a daily paper. The world has lost a good man who

acted up to his ideals. I have been obliged to chronicle more about myself than I could wish, but as our astrological careers ran concurrently for the five years, there was no help for it, if a truthful account was to be given of his astrological life during that period; for we were so closely associated that we were more like brothers than partners.

In closing I do not think I can do better than quote an extract from Longfellow's "Psalm of Life," which peculiarly applies to my departed colleague and friend.

"Lives of great men all remind us,  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time.

"Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait."

F. W. LACEY ("Aphorel").

## CHAPTER III

### MARRIAGE AND HOME LIFE

My first meeting in this life with Alan Leo was as follows :

I had become a very ardent Theosophist in November, 1890, through Mr Sinnett's work *Esoteric Buddhism* being given me. While reading it, reminiscences from the past re-asserted themselves, and I recognised instinctively that it was not new knowledge, but the old old wisdom in another form. So one day I joined the Theosophical Society, became a Theosophist, and have remained one ever since.

In the Spring of 1890, Mrs Annie Besant came to lecture at Southampton on Reincarnation and Man as the Maker of his own Destiny, and I learned that day that there was a Lodge of Theosophists working at Bournemouth, so accordingly I went there the

following week and attended their Lodge meeting. After it was over, one of the members—a Mr Whitting—asked me if I believed in Astrology.

“I don’t know that I do,” I replied. “I have had my horoscope cast several times, but a great deal of what the professors said was not true!”

“I know a man,” said Mr Whitting, “who is simply a wonderful Astrologer; what he tells you is most accurate, and he is also a Theosophist.”

I enquired his fee and how I could reach him.

“He does not take money for Astrology but if you subscribe to his journal—*The Astrologer’s Magazine*—he will cast your map and delineate it free of charge.”

“What is his name?” I asked, and Mr Whitting said “Alan Leo.”

A curious thrill went through me as I heard that name, and I described him.

“Then you know him?” said Mr Whitting.

“No,” I replied, “But I am a little psychic and his face came in a mental picture for a



moment. Now," I said, "as I want to test Astrology for myself will you do me a favour? Here is 6s. 6d., the money for a year's subscription to his Magazine, and here is my name, A. B., female, time, place, and date of birth. You write it and say nothing! Promise me!"

Mr Whitting promised, giving my address at Southampton, and about three weeks later my horoscope and delineation in Alan Leo's writing arrived. It was so very true, so very accurate in every detail, a pen picture of myself, and the advice given so admirable, that being an impulsive soul, I immediately sat down and wrote to Alan Leo. I enquired whether he ever came to Southampton, and asked him if he did so to call and see my father and myself. I added that I was now eager to learn Astrology, and wished to know whether he gave lessons, and I ended with a keen appreciation of the truth of his remarks.

I learnt many years later from my husband that Mr Lacey, the friend he was working with, who was also his partner in the Magazine and the delineations, had had a controversy with him over my horoscope, and Mr Lacey

ended by saying: "You do this one, Alan; it's a somewhat difficult one to decipher," and so Alan did it. Looking across at Mr Lacey, he said jestingly: "This girl would suit me exactly as a wife. Look, her Sun and my Moon are exactly in the same degrees, and all our major planets trine each other."

In the course of time a letter came back in reply to mine, and said that Mr Alan Leo was a traveller for a London firm and visited Southampton every six weeks, and that he would call on me. So one evening in February at 8 o'clock, a Monday night so far as I remember, a ring came at the bell. My father, a very old man turned ninety, had just gone to bed, and I heard a voice say, "Tell your mistress it is Alan Leo," and then Alan Leo himself entered.

He shook hands with me very warmly, and his eyes seemed to read me through and through. He told me afterwards he remembered me, the old tie had reasserted itself, it was a reminiscence; and later I understood how we had been together before in other lives.

I asked him to sit down, explained my father's absence, and then we began to talk: Theosophy and Astrology on his part, Phrenology and Palmistry on mine, for the two latter were my own studies; and time flew, for each of us was keen on these subjects, and when Mr Leo rose to return to his hotel, it was nearly twelve o'clock.

"I am going to Bournemouth to-morrow," he said as I let him out, "to a Lodge, I am a Theosophist."

"So am I," I replied, "I shall be there as well."

"Then we shall meet again very soon." he said, and added as he shook hands and looked full at me, "You are a true Libran, and a daughter of Venus," and then he turned and went.

I did not sleep much that night. It was all too wonderful. How I admired Mr Leo's mind! It was his wonderful mental gifts and his wonderful knowledge that held my imagination, more than the outer man himself. My planets in Aries were caught by his mental capacity, while his heart, the Sun in Leo,

remembered the friend of other lives. He often said in later years jokingly: "I knew you, Bessie Leo, directly we met, but you did not know me," and that was literally true!

We met next day at the Lodge and Mr Leo spoke on Astrology, and afterwards to my great delight promised to teach me. I was always keen on mental studies, and I went home overjoyed at the prospect.

The next day I returned to Southampton, but we corresponded regularly, and we met every week as Theosophists at the Bourne-mouth Lodge. I had my first lesson on the Signs and Symbols of the Planets written on the sand of the sea-shore. I need not say I listened breathless, absorbed and enthralled by the wonders that were opening out before me.

In this way we became very good friends, and we both understood that we could not be anything more because I was engaged to be married, with my father's sanction and approval, to a gentleman who, although a Christian, had entered into the covenant of

Israel for my sake. Our wedding was planned for the following April, and we intended to spend our honeymoon in the United States, which we accordingly did.

This marriage was a very unhappy one, because it was based on incompatibility. I had always had peculiar ideas in connection with the sex relation, and said that I would never marry unless I could live a platonic life. My first partner declared that he had the same ideals, but I discovered that this was only a bait to get me and a possible fortune, for at that time my father was a very wealthy man. I discovered later, when the knot was tied that my first husband wanted to live the usual married life, but I refused to consent to this. Finally I consulted the family Doctor, who advised me to sue for nullity of marriage on the ground that his physical condition rendered the marriage relation impossible. This was done as much for my husband's sake as my own; and within six months I had taken my maiden name again and returned to my Father's house, the same as I left it except for a year's bitter experience, which, as all

Theosophists know, was karma worked out. My father under the circumstances could not refuse to receive me and I took up my old occupation of Palmist, Phrenologist and Physiognomist.

During all this time I had corresponded as a friend with Mr Leo, who was fully conversant with the case. He gave me the best dates for beginning proceedings and choosing counsel, and also said that according to my horoscope the best thing we could do was to part. I am thankful to say that my husband at last wished it as much as I did myself, and so it was amicably carried out.

Mr Leo was now getting into a very big way of work in regard to Astrology, including both lectures and pupils, and he sent me some lessons by post and a few horoscopes to delineate, which I did, and he seemed to be very pleased with the result. We now met very frequently for I had joined the inner school of Theosophy and so had he, and as there were fortnightly meetings in London on Sunday mornings, we met there continually and would afterwards lunch to-

gether, and discuss Theosophy and Astrology for many hours.

A year later Mr Leo asked me to become his wife, but I replied "I have had one unhappy experience and I don't like the idea of another."

He quietly remarked, "According to Astrology, my Moon and your Sun are in the same degree of Aries, and all my planets in Leo trine yours in Aries, therefore, this time you will not make any mistake." He added "Do you remember the question you asked when we first met?"

I said "Yes. I asked you if you were married, and you replied that if you could get a woman to live with you platonically you would marry, but not otherwise!"

"I shall not deceive you, Bessie; this is my desire. I realise that I have a work to do for the world for which celibacy is essential, but I love you with all my heart and soul, and I know you could help me in the work. Think it over. You do not love me yet, as I do you, that I am well aware, but I am quite sure you will, and ours will be an ideal union."

I said, "There is one drawback, my father will never consent. You are a Christian, or at least a Theosophist, and he is a Jew, and very orthodox, and he will certainly cut me out of his will and never leave me a penny, besides which it will upset him terribly, perhaps endanger his life, at his great age."

Alan replied that he would never change his faith for anyone, but he added. "I am really an Astrologer and the Great Solar Logos and the star angels are my religion. You will not need your father's money. I shall always be able to keep you very comfortably indeed, and that is a point I am very strong upon. If you decide to marry me, I will not let you work any more for money. You must give up your professional work, for I hold that a woman should be sheltered, protected, and guarded within the home, and that she should leave the fight for maintenance and work to the man; then she has more power to develop her spiritual nature and can help him to unfold his. If we both work in the world we shall meet in the evening, both positive, both perhaps rather



tired and irritable, and our finer vibrations will be disturbed, and so cause disharmony. You can help me very much in the quiet of the home if you will, for I have many books to write and much work to do. You will find plenty of scope in the Theosophical Lodge that you want to form, and also in speaking and writing; your work for Theosophy is a labour of love, I know. We will unite Theosophy and Astrology, and do our best together to become helpers of the world."

I saw a flash in the brown eyes that turned to mine, a look that caught my very soul, as it were, and I said, "Perhaps I cannot love as deeply as you, you have four planets in Leo, but indeed I do love you, and I don't want to think it over any more. The only thing is we must keep it secret for a time for my father is getting towards 90, and a shock might kill him. You will agree to this?"

"Most certainly," he replied. "You must do what you think is right, and wherever your higher nature or conscience leads you I shall never be the one to dissuade you from acting as you think best."

That was ever the case with Alan, one of the most unselfish souls that ever breathed God's air. And so we married quite privately in a registry office, and after a time engaged a small flat at Hampstead, and when I came to Town ostensibly to lecture, we spent the week or ten days together. It was always a great pain to me to separate from my husband and return to my father; but I was his only child and I felt it was my duty to look after him, and so I equally divided my time, half with the old man, and half with my husband.

Of course, we were now very much together at different meetings, and different places, and one day, I was confronted with the news from my father that he had heard I was seen going about with a gentleman frequently, and turning quickly he said, "Tell me the truth, are you married?"

I could not lie to him, though a fortune depended upon it, and I would not deceive him. I said "Yes. I am."

He replied quickly, "Show me your marriage lines."

I produced them, and he scrutinised them. He curtly remarked, "You have pleased yourself, now I will please myself. I won't leave you any of my money, and you can go back to your husband." With that I packed up my belongings and returned to my husband.

Henceforth I had not to part from my beloved, and that was a great joy. I had left a good housekeeper, who was devoted to me, with my father, and I heard almost daily how things were going. One day a telegram came, and announced his sudden illness, and requested my presence *alone*. I quickly went, and nursed him through a severe bout of bronchitis, and this somewhat softened his heart towards me, for the following Christmas he invited us both to come and stay with him. From that time onward all went well; but the strangest part of it was that my father grew deeply attached to my husband, and declared that he was one of the best and noblest men he had ever met, and that although he was not a Jew he was a better man than most Jews he had known.

A few years later my father died at Surbiton

after a long illness ; he lived to the remarkable age of 102, and my life was spent in devotion expressed as service, looking after my father, my home, and my husband ; writing books ; holding Theosophical Lodges and classes for study ; and a little later joining Masonry with my husband.

Together we formed a Theosophical Lodge called " The Hermes Lodge," in which Astrology was a prominent feature : altogether we formed four Theosophical Lodges. My husband was fortunate in knowing several occult teachers : Colonel Olcott, Mr Leadbeater, Mr Sinnett, and greatest of all Mrs Annie Besant, the latter being a great inspiration to us both. My husband had her portrait, life size, beside him in his office as he worked, saying she was at once his greatest inspiration and living ideal.

I can honestly say that for a period of fifteen years, I had rarely an unoccupied moment, for at this period my husband was very busy getting out his great books for the world, as well as managing a big business in connection with Astrology. We both lived for the work,

and for each other, and we were really happy, so happy that life was bliss. Much work could be done by each of us, for the rest and relaxation at the week-end was so peaceful and our companionship and union so perfect that it ever gave us the strength to go forward. We were ideal companions and soul mates, and although my husband had at first some difficulty in adapting himself to this change in his way of life, still his wonderful will and the determination to live a purely platonic life carried him through triumphantly. For his ideal was purity, physical, mental, and moral. His chief mantram was always, "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God." In all the twenty-seven years of our acquaintance I never knew him to say an impure thing, or do an impure action, while his love, faithfulness, joy, and unselfishness were remarkable traits in his character.

He was curiously developed in feeling as well as in intellect. Both mind and heart were large and comprehensive, and his tolerance for everybody was remarkable. I who lived nearest to him place it on record, that he was one of

the best of men, great in character, in life, and in intellect. We often used to say that the one who survived would write the life history of the other; and alas! it has fallen to my lot to undertake this.

Mr Alan Leo passed away on August 30, 1917, at Bude in Cornwall of apoplexy after only one hour's illness, imperatively called to the other side for work of a more spiritual nature. He told me only two or three days before he died, when he was in good health, that he was speaking to over 2,000 people on Astrology at night. It is possible that he now speaks to 20,000, for people have written since to me that they have dreamt of him teaching them Astrology and Theosophy on the astral plane.

On an average he wrote a book once every three months, for he had a most prolific mind and was a very hard and rapid worker, rising as early as 6 o'clock in the morning and working till 9 o'clock at night, with intervals only for meals. If he ever slacked at all it was to give me pleasure, take me motoring, or for my health or amusement,

and this also benefited him. He was devoted heart and soul to Astrology and Theosophy, and I gladly and proudly record these two loves of his life, namely his work and his wife. Since he passed over I have come into touch with him, while both in and out of the body, and I have done my poor best to keep his work going, although mine is a broken body with failing health. Would that I could do more, but as he gave his life for the work, I also give mine to carry it on; and I trust the day may not be far distant when I shall rejoin him, leaving below a band of very earnest students to carry on the work of editing *Modern Astrology*, of continuing all the other activities that he started, the Institute of Astrology, and the Astrological Lodge, and of republishing his thirty books for the world's enlightenment. May the blessing of the Masters rest on them always, are my concluding words.

BESSIE LEO.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE PASSING OF ALAN LEO<sup>1</sup>

My husband, Mr Alan Leo, Editor of *Modern Astrology*, passed away very suddenly at Bude, Cornwall, on the morning of August 30th at 10 a.m. of apoplexy.

We were taking a summer holiday in a small furnished cottage and my husband spent four or five hours daily in writing up a new system of Astrology without predictions. He was then in excellent health and enjoyed the quiet and bracing air of Cornwall after the recent worry and trouble of the law case, and it was only on the morning of August 27th at 11 a.m. he complained of feeling very shivery and cold, remarking, "I feel I have taken a chill." He then drank hot lemonade which induced perspiration, said he felt somewhat

Reprinted from *Modern Astrology*, October, 1917.



better and went on with his letters. He ate his usual mid-day meal about half past one, but about 2.30 complained about feeling very sick and bad, vomited his dinner and seemed very indisposed altogether. I got him a very hot bath and persuaded him to go to bed about 5 o'clock; when I retired at 8.30 he seemed much better, told me he had slept well and felt about normal. He had a fairly good night and only woke once, but at 6 o'clock he said he felt very sick and threw up a great deal of bile; he said to me "I have very bad Directions on, and have taken a chill on my liver." Later on he drank some tea, the sickness not returning; about 11 a.m. he got up and came downstairs.

We induced him to lie down on the sofa and made a nice fire as the day was cold. He did not take any solid food but drank some weak tea with hot milk and ate a few biscuits. Towards 2 p.m. he wrote four or five letters and said he felt better for rousing himself up. He saw a letter of mine addressed to Mr Green begging him to take a figure for Mr Leo's illness as I felt very anxious, and he jokingly

said " My wife is trying to find out how long I shall live ! "

I enquired if he still felt sick and he said " No, not now, but I have a great tightness in the chest and a feeling as if there was an iron band round my throat. " I saw the glands were very much swollen outside his neck, and as he seemed to be in pain I persuaded him to go to bed and he retired at 6 o'clock with a cheery ' good night. ' I put extra blankets on the bed and gave him hot drinks and he perspired very thoroughly. I gave him hot milk and water every four hours and a hot water bottle to his chest as he seemed in a great deal of pain and complained that it hurt him to breathe. I got up at 5 o'clock and aroused Mrs Hart, our housekeeper, who is very devoted to us both, and she got up at once and gave him hot tea, afterwards lighting a fire in the bedroom. I wanted to get a doctor at once as I knew he had a " tempera- ture, " but he begged me to wait until later. He very much objected to doctors and physic so to please him I waited, but as his tempera- ture increased and he seemed to get worse I

sent a letter by my housekeeper to the leading doctor in Bude asking him to call and see him at once. My husband took his own temperature himself and saw it was 100°. When Dr King arrived he examined him thoroughly and said to me—"Don't be anxious Mrs Leo, your husband will be quite all right in two or three days; he has got a bad chill, and it has settled on the liver. I will send you at once some fever medicine and a pill,—give him the medicine every four hours and the pill to-night, late, a dose of salts in the morning, and he will soon be all right."

Mrs Hart fetched the medicine at once as the doctor took her round to the surgery in his car. As the night came on Mr Leo seemed to grow very flushed and hot and complained that he could not lie on either side but only on his back; so I felt he would rest more comfortably in the bed alone, and was going to sit up by his side all night, but as my health is not very good Mrs Hart persuaded me to rest on the bed in the next room, leaving the door open so that I could hear every sound. She herself had a mattress

on the floor and promised to come to me each time he awoke. He slept very well for nearly three hours and Mrs Hart remarked that the fever was going down and she thought he was better. I went in to look at him and was thankful to find him sleeping; he only roused twice, once to take milk and once medicine, so Mrs Hart told me. She took the first half of the night and I went in about 5 o'clock; he was then awake and I gave him a drink of hot milk and water, washed him and made him comfortable. After this was done, he said to me (it was then 7 a.m.), "Bessie, leave me quite quiet here for a little while, I want to pull myself round." I went downstairs and I had only been there about five minutes (the room was under his bedroom) when I heard a curious cry and rushed up to find him sitting up in bed in a terrible fit.

Mrs Hart was making bread and milk for his breakfast and as I was supporting him and trying to bring him round, I could not ring for some minutes. He was quite wrong mentally and in convulsions, and when Mrs Hart came upstairs he was most violently sick

for over five minutes and both of us had to hold him up. He kept saying: "What is it, what is it, where am I?"—and his eyes were quite fixed. I said: "Alan, rouse your will and try to pull yourself together," and then said to Mrs Hart, "fly for a doctor." She was gone nearly an hour, but I succeeded in getting Mr Leo back to consciousness and the convulsions seemed to have passed over. When the doctor arrived about 8.30, Mr Leo made apologies for calling him up so early. The doctor sounded his heart and remarked to me "That's all right." My husband turned to him and said, "Am I going to die doctor, I don't mind if I am, I'm not afraid of death," and the doctor said, "No certainly not, Mr Leo, you will be quite all right by and bye."

My husband then said, "I believe I have been off my head for quite a quarter of an hour," and the doctor answered, "Well you're quite all right now anyway."

Outside the door I said to the doctor, "If you want another opinion, get it at once, money is no consideration, his life is a very

valuable one to the world." But he said "Don't worry, Mrs Leo, your husband is not going to die ; there is no necessity for another opinion. I will come in later." A few minutes after Mrs Hart came into the room and Mr Leo was again sick and said, "Oh my poor head, it is going round ; the eclipse on my Moon has done this," he then became convulsed. There were only two pillows on the bed, so to support him Mrs Hart knelt on the bed and held him up in her arms while I supported his head on the other side ; another convulsion seized him, his face turned almost black and he was quite unconscious. "Quick ! —the smelling salts, and brandy," said Mrs Hart. His weight overpowered her and she was forced to lay him down. I saw he was passing out, and rushed round for the doctor, hoping to get oxygen administered ; that was 9.55 a.m. on Thursday morning ; (Mrs Hart said his heart stopped at 10 a.m.). I told the doctor's wife that my husband was unconscious and I was sure would be dead before the doctor returned. When I came back I was met outside the door by Mrs Hart and

the doctor and I remarked, "It's all over," and passed into the room.

I then questioned the doctor very earnestly as to the cause of his death and told him that my husband had an objection to taking any drug. I asked if it was the medicine that had caused it or failure of the heart's action. He said "No Mrs Leo, your husband died of a seizure and no one could know it was going to happen, it has been as great a shock to me as to you, I am very sorry, but believe me nothing could be done. He was only really ill for one hour."

It was a terrible hour that Mrs Hart and myself lived through but I know and she is beginning to understand that only my husband's body died that day, that his soul lives and works on in the astral world in the same great field of labour that was his on earth. He was called to higher work and is more alive than ever, not less; his body clothed in a finer vesture than the physical.

He died as he had lived, brave, noble and true, trusting that his band of devoted workers

would carry on his work as he wished it carried on.

OM, MANI PADME, OM! the dewdrop slips  
Into the shining sea!

BESSIE LEO.

### THE HORARY FIGURE

The foregoing is Mrs Leo's account of the last days at Bude, and it may be interesting to add that in reply to a written request from Mrs Leo Mr H. S. Green calculated a horary map for 29/8/1917, 3.10 p.m. Summer Time,  $50^{\circ} 43'N.$ ,  $7^m 32^s W$ : (Bournemouth, where Mr Green was staying). The following are the positions:—

x	xi	xii	i	ii	iii			
♄6	♃2	♃22	♄7	♃14	♃28			
☉	☽	♀	♁	♃	♃	♃	♃	♃
♃5½	♃24	♄2	♄8½	♃21	♃10	♃8	♃217	♃6

“Will Mr Leo's illness be serious?” Mrs Leo asks the question. The reply given was that while the illness was serious, the worst need not be feared, and that it should pass off in a few days. Stomach and liver affected.

In the light of subsequent events there is here a failure to predict the death, but it is



curious that the judgment agreed exactly with the doctor's diagnosis, of which Mr Green knew nothing. The ascendant Sagittarius stands for Mrs Leo, and the seventh house for the person enquired about. Jupiter is in the seventh in good aspect to Venus culminating, to Saturn, and to Neptune, both in the eighth house. Mercury, Mr Leo's significator, receives none but good aspects.

The afflictions are the Sun in Virgo in square to Jupiter in the seventh (Mr Leo's ascendant), and the Moon, ruler of the eighth in opposition to Mars in the eighth; the Moon always being co-significator in a horary question.

Looking back after it is all over it is easy to say that more weight should have been given to the opposition of the Moon to Mars from the second to the eighth houses; but notice that this aspect is *separating* and that Saturn, ruler of the second house (Mr Leo's eighth) is uniformly well aspected, including sextiles to Jupiter in Mr Leo's ascendant and to Mercury, his significator.

Mars in Cancer and the Sun in Virgo, as

well as its square to Jupiter, indicate stomach and liver.

Mr Leo actually died of effusion of blood on the brain, the bursting of a blood-vessel in the head being the cause of the fit previously described, and of the head sensations. Some years ago Mr Green had pointed out to Mr Leo that if the Ptolemaic theory of the hyleg were strictly applied the Moon would be hyleg in his case and not the Sun; and that while the trine of the Moon to the Sun and Mercury gave him abundance of physical vitality and nervous energy, its square to Mars, lord of the fourth house, was dangerous and would play a part when the end came. The Moon was in Aries in the horoscope, governing the head, the part affected. The rupture of the blood-vessel was brought about by the strain caused by the vomiting; and if the latter had been stopped the death would not have occurred just when it did but would have been postponed, being in a sense unnecessary.

From an occult point of view, no death ever occurs without a deva, or angel, intervening to sever the link between soul and body.

In this case the "death angel" took advantage of what might otherwise have been a comparatively trifling illness to bring about the end of life. The patient was wanted elsewhere to do work for which he had fitted himself and which was awaiting him, but his interest in the astrological work he has left on the physical plane continues unabated.

### TIME OF PASSING

Mr Alan Leo breathed his last at Bude, Cornwall, about 10 a.m., Summer Time, 30/8/1917, when the following were the positions:

x	xi	xii	i	ii	iii			
♄ 17	♂ 22	♃ 21	♁ 13	♂ 9	♄ 10			
☉	☽	♀	♃	♂	♃	♄	♁	
♃ 6½	♄ 6	♁ 2	♁ 9½	♄ 22	♂ 10	♂ 8	♄ 21½	♁ 6

Mercury and Venus are rising in Libra in good aspect with the Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune, and free from oppositions or squares; but Venus as well as being in her own sign, Libra, was also ruler of the eighth or death house; and his last few minutes of life were quiet and peaceful. So far as the cusps are concerned, the signs of the zodiac are the same as in his Progressed Horoscope,

under which map he may therefore be said to have passed out.

Here, as in the horary map, Virgo and Cancer are seen to be afflicted, but the head signs are entirely free from affliction, unless Venus rising in Libra—the ascendant ruling the head—can be called an affliction because Venus rules the death house.

Mars is culminating; the Moon in the fourth is in opposition to Saturn and Neptune; but there are a number of very fortunate aspects, and if this map indicates the influences under which he began his career in the astral world he should achieve a considerable measure of success. The exact signification of such a map as this, however, is still to some extent uncertain. The fact that in some cases it can be definitely correlated with the horoscope of birth shows that it is not accidental or without significance; but, as most readers know, the occult teaching is that beyond the solids, liquids, and gases of the physical world, lie other states of matter loosely called ethers, which form the etheric double of the dense body but which also belong to the physical

world. Death as ordinarily understood is the cessation of life in the dense physical body only; but after this has taken place and the link between the etheric double and the dense physical has been broken, the real man is still clothed in the double and still belongs to the physical world. Not until he has disengaged himself from the double is he free to begin his activities in the astral or psychic world, and this may take a period of minutes, hours, or even days in some cases. This disengagement will probably be the real horoscope for astral life; but because it cannot be detected by ordinary vision it is impossible to register the time of its occurrence. It is known that Mr Leo quickly became active psychically but the precise time is unknown.

#### AN ACCOMPLISHED IDEAL<sup>1</sup>

Mr Alan Leo left his body and passed to the astral world under the directions of his progressed horoscope. This, and the death figure as well, reveals to a student of occultism great truths.

Reprinted from *Modern Astrology*, November, 1917.

Examining this we seem to see the power of the ego ruling his vehicles, transmuting coarser matter in the fire of life's experiences, changing baser metals into gold, revealing in death as in life that *Character is Destiny*. Regard the death figure itself, notice the sign Libra ascends, the sign of balance and equilibrium; the Sun in the virgin sign Virgo, the sign of great Purity. Mr Leo's chief ideal was purity which he made a living power in his life, notice the Moon was in the sign Aquarius the Man. You will see Sun, Moon and Ascendant were all in humane signs; the Virgin, the Man and the Scales, a notable death figure for an occultist. You will also see Venus conjunction Mercury were rising at death in the sign Libra, trine to Jupiter in Gemini on the cusp of the ninth house, the house of the Guru, thus he would get in touch with his Master very quickly. The trine of the Moon in Aquarius in the fourth house to these planets shows the purity of the etheric body, the Moon ruling the etheric, and the quick regaining of consciousness.

An occultist well known to many, told Mr

Leo in India that his individual ray was Venus so he passed out in his own vibrations of that hour. The Moon in the sign Aquarius is typical of the life just closed, denoting the profound student of human nature and helper of humanity, and it defines his future work on Uranian lines, the Moon being significant of the personality, in the new astrological age which will come at the close of this century. The foregoing is extremely significant, for the death figure of an occultist is the great key to his next birth map and Uranus, Mercury and Venus will prove potent influences in his next nativity.

Mr Leo passed out in what occultists term the bright fortnight of the Moon in which all uplifting spiritual influences are potent, while the forces which hinder and delay evolution are strongest in the dark fortnight.

Mr Leo was a practical occultist, maintaining a constant struggle against his lower nature, becoming the wise man who ruled his stars; for he knew as a skilful astrologer that the chief flaw of his birth map was Moon in Aries square Mars and Venus opposition Mars,

so he devoted himself to the one ideal of purity in thought, word and deed, and for twenty-five years he was engaged in putting his ideal into practice and his progressed horoscope and death figure are significant of that embodied purity which he succeeded in bringing into the physical and making an accomplished fact. All his lower vehicles became obedient to the master hand that controlled them, and his favourite text toward which his life conformed was "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

Mr Green writes "It is also a remarkable fact that the sign Libra was rising at the prenatal epoch, so that here there are three maps, the epoch, the progressed horoscope, and the death figure all showing the same sign rising. The sign under which he began his descent into incarnation is also that under which he left it and entered upon astral plane activities, and some readers at any rate will understand that a self-rounded personality like his, capable of useful work and influencing so many people, will be likely to return in the not very distant future and continue its labours. Moreover







this sign Libra was on the cusp of the third house at birth and matters ruled by this house, writings and short journeys connected with them carried on in conjunction with his wife and with others, (Libra), dominated the latter half of his life.”

BESSIE LEO.

## CHAPTER V

### SOME REMINISCENCES—I

I FIRST made Mr Alan Leo's acquaintance in the early autumn of the year 1890. It came about in this way. I had been in correspondence with Mr F. W. Lacey on astrological subjects about two years before, as well as with the late Mr John Thomas, well-known to many under the pen-name of "Charubel." The correspondence lapsed for a time under the pressure of other activities, but was renewed in the above year when I was living in the south of England. Charubel then informed me that Mr Lacey in conjunction with a friend, had started a new astrological magazine and that they would be glad to receive articles by me. On looking back I see that my first contribution appeared in November, 1890, in *The Astrologer's Magazine*, and that Charubel's "Degrees of the Zodiac

Symbolised" commenced in the following issue.

Mr Lacey's co-editor proved to be Mr Alan Leo, up to that date entirely unknown to me, even by name, and he called upon me on Mr Lacey's suggestion. Mr Leo was at that time travelling frequently through various parts of England, and this gave him the opportunity of calling upon those whom he knew to be interested in Astrology and of forming a rapidly increasing circle of friends.

An additional link between us was that, besides our both belonging to the Theosophical Society, some of those who were thus brought into touch with each other had previously been in correspondence with Charubel, who was a man of considerable natural psychic gifts and who had formed a small society of persons interested in occult and psychic subjects, most of them living at considerable distances from each other. Mr Leo had belonged to this society, some of his experiences in connection with it being referred to in his "Editor's Observatory" in *Modern Astrology* a year or two before he died. Each

member was given a name, Mr Leo's being "Agorel," and I remember that he said he wished the word had ended with the termination *-iel* as did the names of one or two other persons whom we knew, because it sounded more musical in that form, but he had no power to alter it. Such names were said to have definite meanings, expressing the character and inner nature of the person, so that any alteration would have made it inapplicable; they were given to members by Charubel, which was Mr John Thomas's own occult name, always used by him in connection with his books and magazine articles, but Mr Leo never used the name Agorel. These names did not belong to any known language, ancient or modern, although some of them had the appearance of being a blend of Greek and Hebrew; they were obtained by the exercise of psychic faculty in the same way as were the symbols and meanings attached to each degree of the zodiac, which were first published in *The Astrologer's Magazine* and afterwards in book form.

Each name was associated with a number,

a colour or combination of colours, and with a geometrical diagram, all of which symbolised the character and to some extent the fortune of the man. Mr Leo's number was said to be 6, and he showed me the diagram given to him but I cannot now recall it sufficiently accurately to describe it or the colours associated with it. Mr Thomas's number was 8, but I do not think I ever knew what diagram was connected with it; the "Ch" in his name Charubel was pronounced as one letter, like the guttural German, not like the English or Sanskrit. Every letter had a meaning, after the fashion of some ancient languages, and the meanings of all these names, diagrams, and other symbols were explained by Charubel to the members, and various essays and articles containing information psychically obtained by him were circulated. So far as I know, nothing of this was printed by Mr Leo except the *Degrees of the Zodiac Symbolised*, which is perhaps to be regretted because a fair amount of it was of astrological interest. One series of essays purported to give the inner nature of the influence of each planet, and another

to describe the character of the decanates of each sign much after the fashion in which the degrees had been described; both these were left unfinished, that on the decanates was hardly more than begun and differed widely from both the western and the Indian classification of these divisions of the zodiac. Whether any of this manuscript is still in existence I do not know.

Charubel affirmed that he received much help and instruction from certain advanced beings whom he termed his Masters and who visited him astrally. On one occasion he described one of them as visiting him spontaneously, fully materialised, and wearing on his breast the diagram of the cross within the circle. About twenty years after this, and after Charubel's death, a former member of the society who had long before allowed his membership to lapse, happened quite on the spur of the moment to attend a public lecture in London on "Auras" with clairvoyant delineations, and greatly to his surprise a description was given him of a man wearing the cross within the circle on his breast, the



whole answering fairly well to Charubel's account; this raised the question whether these Masters might perhaps have been members of the Yucatan Brotherhood.

Some ten years later still, and after Mr Leo in his turn had died, there came from quite a different psychic source the statement that he and Charubel had met on the astral plane, and that the latter had predicted that Mr Leo was evolving towards the status of a king and would actually be born a king in the course of a few more incarnations. Any such statement as this must be taken for what it may be supposed to be worth, since it is impossible for any ordinary person either to prove or disprove it; but in view of the fact that his horoscope of birth showed the Sun, Jupiter, Mercury, Saturn, and the ascendant all in the sign Leo, often called by astrologers the royal sign, it is easy to understand that anyone familiar with Astrology and disposed to predict the very distant future might come to such a conclusion as this. During his lifetime Charubel had often been accustomed to interpret horoscopes in a curious psychic

fashion of his own ; with the ordinary map of birth before him he would give an account of the colours he saw associated with each of the twelve houses, the influences they might be expected to exert, and the events that might follow in the future ; but his methods were quite original with himself and in some cases seemed to have only an indirect bearing upon the ordinary rules of Astrology. At an early stage of our acquaintance Mr Leo showed me such a psychic delineation of his horoscope written by Charubel, but so far as I know no copy of it remains. I have since seen one or two others given to various people ; and in each case, although he commented upon the houses and planets, the map really served mainly as a starting point for the exercise of his psychic faculty, and working in this way it can easily be understood that he reached conclusions that would have surprised and puzzled anyone who followed the ordinary rules given in the books ; yet many of his predictions relating to what at the time lay in the future were found afterwards to come true.

It may be added that Charubel died

November 11, 1908, thus predeceasing Mr Leo by ten years. His portrait and horoscope were published in Mr Leo's book *The Art of Synthesis*, 1912 edition.

After Mr Leo's first visit to me many others followed at intervals of two or three months for a succession of years until about the time of his marriage in September, 1895, after which his work confined him more definitely to London, and his journeys into the country were at longer intervals. Up to about that time the work that he had to do outside Astrology had been done entirely by himself, but in order to secure more leisure for editorial demands and astrological calculations he introduced a method of delegating the other work to subordinates employed by him in different parts of the country and responsible only to him. He called them his "curates" jocularly; they did the work and reported to him, and he visited them when necessary; it seemed at first a rather risky way of managing business matters but in practice it proved a complete success and was continued

until he finally severed his connection with business a few years later and devoted himself entirely to Astrology.

During these journeys about the country he called upon many astrologers and attended theosophical lodges wherever he had an opportunity, delivering lectures and having astrological talks with all who were interested. In the earlier years when his visits were at comparatively short intervals he would give lectures in series; one introductory lecture on the general principles of Astrology at his first visit, and other lectures on the various details of signs, planets, houses, and so on at subsequent visits; so that in this way he became well known in many theosophical and astrological centres, and did useful work in both connections.

Some of these experiences he narrated to me on his successive visits, and in this way I heard about many astrologers and theosophists who were personally strangers to me, as well as about some of the outside public with whom he came in touch as a result of calculating their horoscopes or answering horary questions

for them. Without betraying confidences or saying anything that would lead to the identification of persons, he would tell of curious incidents that had happened and of unusual circumstances in which his advice had been asked and given. The family lawyer, the physician, the clergyman, all have strange secrets entrusted to their keeping, but it seems as if the astrologer who is known and trusted by his clients has confidences reposed in him and hears of personal experiences that would astonish the world if they could be repeated. Of course none of these was ever published by Mr Leo or ever can be now that he has passed away and has left no diary or records of any kind ; but if ever anyone should arise who is at the same time a practical astrologer and a capable short story writer, he will not need to draw much upon his imagination or to travel far outside everyday life for incidents as peculiar as any that have ever been recorded.

At this date none of his books had been written and his name was not widely known as it is now, but he had what was probably a

wider circle of personal friends and acquaintances than any other then living astrologer, because of his many journeys into all parts of the country. In *The Astrologer's Magazine* for January, 1891, for instance, there appeared a notice that "Alan Leo, one of the Editors of this Magazine, purposes visiting various towns in the North and West of England for the purpose of giving lectures on Astrology." This not only made new friends but also sustained and increased the interest of many whose enthusiasm might otherwise have cooled.

In the first volume of the Magazine there also appeared a series of articles by various contributors on the ever interesting subject of the influence of the planet Neptune, in the course of which some little difference of opinion was expressed. More is known now about this somewhat mysterious planet than was the case then, although there are still decided divergencies in the views of various writers. The subject is worth mentioning here because in October, 1890, the issue that contained Mr Leo's first article on the planet

Uranus, another article on Neptune, summarising the views of several correspondents, appeared which, amongst other things, gave the alleged influence of this planet when in the eighth or death house, its position in Mr Leo's own horoscope. It was there asserted that Neptune indicates :

“In the eighth a most peculiar death, caused by illnesses of short duration, watery in their character, which somewhat baffle the skill of the medical men to cope with, and the end being sudden.”

If the word “watery” may be taken as applying to all liquids, including the blood, this prognostication is certainly correct so far as it goes in its application to Mr Leo's own death, which was due to effusion of blood on the brain, following a chill (Neptune quincunx Saturn and the ascendant); he was only ill three days, and up to within two hours of his death the doctor in attendance expected him to recover.

All yearly subscribers to the Magazine were entitled to a free horoscope and a brief delineation, and an announcement to that

effect appeared in the first number. This was another successful means of attracting readers, and I often heard him describe what an enormous mass of calculation and correspondence it entailed every week, frequently keeping him out of bed until the early hours of the morning. It is a wonder that anyone who had business to attend to outside Astrology and the task of editing should be willing to undertake so much additional work of a kind which, I think, no editor does free nowadays; but the Moon in the fiery active sign Aries in trine to Mercury in the fiery and persistent sign Leo provided him with an inexhaustible fund of mental vitality and energy. Thanks to this fiery ingredient in his character he was a very quick worker, and although as Mr Lacey correctly says he was not very fluent with his pen at the beginning of his enterprise as author and publisher, it was different in later years when he had acquired greater familiarity with the work and had warmed to his task; for by that time he would write a long article or a chapter for a book in from a quarter to a third of the time that I—with



four planets in the earthy sign Virgo and nothing in Leo—would take. But he had abundance of patience and tolerance for others whose ways differed from his own, so that although he and I were so unlike in many respects we never had the least difficulty or unpleasantness in working together; and when we co-operated over some task, as we often did, he would generally do his share of the work first and leave me to finish my part in my own way and at my own time.

Once at the very end of his life this failed. After the prosecution at the Mansion House on July 16, 1917, when he was fined for fortune telling, it became evident that his whole system of reading horoscopes would have to be revised, because what he regarded as nothing more than truthful and legitimate advice to clients the law insisted upon treating as fortune telling. Therefore he decided to recast the whole system and make it run more along the lines of character reading and less as the assertion of an inevitable destiny; referring to events as for the most part a natural outcome of the type of character,

which most of them actually are. This entailed a tremendous amount of rewriting of reference books and sheets giving the meaning of signs, houses, planets, aspects, directions, and their combinations, in order that mere bald predictions of events might be omitted and their dependence upon character more emphasised. Hundreds of pages had to be rewritten, and the work would have taken most writers weeks at the least, perhaps months to accomplish. In order to get through it as quickly as possible, so that no delay might occur in the application of the new system, he took the whole of it with him when he went to Bude in Cornwall for a holiday in August, and at once began his task of rewriting—a holiday task!

Seeing that he was in danger of over working himself, and realising that he needed rest badly after the worry and anxiety of the law case, Mrs Leo said to him :

“ Why do you not send some of that to Mr Green to do ? You are over working yourself ; you will break down. Send it to him.”

“ No,” replied Alan, “ he would take too

long. This has to be done quickly and I must do it myself."

So he worked on diligently at it, but the angel of death stepped in and cut short the work, for when what he had written came to be examined after his death on August 30 it was found that he had finished rather less than one-half of it, and I had to do the rest at my leisure and in my own way after all!

To return, however, to the subject of free horoscopes for annual subscribers to the Magazine, these had effects in more ways than one and led to some important developments not originally intended. In the first place the number of applicants increased steadily year by year, those who had been provided with a horoscope one year being supplied with annual directions in subsequent years. This increase became so marked and caused so much additional work that eventually a small charge had to be made although there had been originally no intention to make the work professional, but it was practically unavoidable; and from this, which was a mere side issue at first, grew the professional side

of his work, which made greater and greater demands upon him as the years went by. He would willingly have put the whole of this on one side, and had every intention of doing so in the latter years of his life; more than once he fixed a definite date a year or two in advance, after which he said he would not consent to do any more professional work, but each time he was unable to adhere to this decision; he had, so to speak, raised a demon that he could not easily lay; it was difficult to resist the appeals of the many persons who looked to him for advice, and there were office expenses that could not be met out of the sale of the books and the Magazine alone, so that in the end he never succeeded in escaping from the toils of Astrology as a profession.

But the free horoscopes had another issue, for one of them led ultimately to his marriage. He used to call upon me, as I have said, every time he came to Bournemouth, and on fine days we used to go for walks along the cliffs, talking on subjects of mutual interest, and in the evening we both attended the meetings of the Theosophical Lodge, one or

two members of the Lodge being slightly interested in Astrology. I myself introduced Astrology and the Magazine to a gentleman at Bournemouth, who in his turn spoke of the subject to a lady visitor from Southampton and suggested that she should apply for one of these free horoscopes. This was done; in the course of time an interview with the editor took place, and marriage followed about three years later; but this part of the story has been told by Mrs Leo much more fully than I could describe it.

The offer of a free horoscope therefore, which was originally only intended to attract subscribers, had these two far-reaching effects not contemplated at the start.

Articles on Mundane Astrology, or that division of the subject which is concerned with the influence of Sun, Moon, and planets not upon isolated individuals but upon countries and nations as wholes, began to appear in the Magazine from its third number, and I was responsible for them for about the first twelve months. At the end of that time Alan Leo took them over from me because pressure

of other work left me insufficient time for calculating the maps and writing them up, and he continued the work for two or three years, at the end of which time I resumed them again, somewhat to his relief I think, for he was never so much attracted to this side of Astrology as I was. Neither of us signed any of these articles, and because of this it is difficult to decide now exactly when the changes took place; with the exception of Mr Lacey, I fancy no one but ourselves knew that any change had occurred. I continued this department of the Magazine until towards the end of the nineties, when that clever writer Mr Heinrich Däath, began to relieve me of part of the work, and his contributions alternated with mine for a considerable time. He wrote a very clear and definite prediction of the end of the Boer War and the coming of peace, based upon the map for the vernal equinox in 1902 and published in the Magazine for March of that year, two months before peace was signed. Yet Alan occasionally took a hand here, and he wrote upon the subject of the December Solstice of 1905, a

prediction of the formation of a new party in the House of Commons more directly representative of the lower classes of the people, which was fulfilled by the presence of a Labour Party in the new Parliament that followed the general election of January, 1906. No such Party had existed in previous Parliaments, and the prediction was based upon the conjunction of Mars, lord of the ascendant, with Saturn, ruling the tenth and eleventh houses, in the twelfth house.

The fourth volume of the Magazine contained a series of horoscopes illustrated by photographs, and Alan's horoscope and photograph appeared in September, 1893. A comparison of this with the portraits included in *The Art of Synthesis* in 1912 and in *Modern Astrology*, December, 1917, will show the differences that the years made in his personal appearance. The earlier one shows distinctly the impress of Saturn rising, the serious expression, the face less rounded and not so full as it afterwards became, and the small beard almost of a Saturnian Capricorn type which he wore then and gave up about the

time of his marriage. The latest portrait is a much better representative of the sign Leo with the Sun in conjunction with Jupiter, for here the face is distinctly of the round type as are most Leo faces, and there is a smiling good-humoured expression that fully suggests Jupiter, but Saturn not at all.

In the earlier years of our acquaintance there were times when the seriousness of Saturn showed itself markedly in his demeanour, and Mr Lacey was not wrong in saying as he did in the delineation of the horoscope that Alan was somewhat reticent and even melancholy at times. But in after years he changed greatly in this respect; a happy marriage, many congenial friends, a busy life, and an occupation in which he took a real pleasure, made him a very happy man, smiling and light-hearted.

One of his most prominent characteristics was his extreme cheerfulness, accompanied by an exuberant vitality. When visiting him at his office on a dull winter day he has told me that to him the room appeared as if flooded with sunlight, so much so that he found it



difficult to realise that the Sun was not actually shining. Astrologers will readily link this with the presence of five planets in fiery signs, four of them in Leo, the sign belonging to the Sun, as well as with the conjunction of the Sun, his ruler, with Jupiter in Leo. The limitations signified by Saturn exactly on the ascendant had evidently been overcome to a very large extent.

At times of course he had cause for anxiety—what man or woman has not? After the death of Mrs Leo's father in 1908, a lawsuit connected with a will brought them both into the law courts; and when I called upon him before the case came on I found him a little anxious and seriously debating whether it would not be wiser to offer to compromise with the opposite party and so avoid the annoyance and uncertainty of the law. I advised him not to do this but to fight it out, assuring him that he would win, as he actually did. Again the Mansion House prosecution in 1917 worried him, as it necessarily would have done anyone, and he felt the severe if only temporary check that

had been administered to him. But making allowance for these slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, he was one of the most cheerful and hopeful of men during the latter years of his life; and this fact gained him many friends and kept them for him, not only in England but on the continent and in India, where he went twice.

In August, 1895, *The Astrologer's Magazine* was considerably increased in size and was renamed *Modern Astrology*, with Alan Leo as its sole editor. This change was a great improvement and was done at the instigation of Mrs Leo, who acted then as she often has done on a sound intuition. A period of ever increasing success followed; success in Astrology, in theosophy, in masonry, in publishing not only the Magazine but a long series of small and large books, and in lecturing. He founded three separate Astrological Societies, the third of which was a complete success and is still in active existence with Miss F. A. Higgs as its President.

The question of founding such a Society

was mooted in a very early number of the Magazine, but no actual step was taken until 1896 when a meeting was held on January 14 at noon at Alan's offices in Bouverie Street, off Fleet Street. I attended this meeting, and in addition to Mr and Mrs Leo, Mr W. A. Bishop-Culpeper and some half a dozen others were present. It was the day of the New Moon, which fell in Capricorn in sextile to Uranus and Saturn in Scorpio, and had been chosen as likely to be a fortunate day. The proceedings were very harmonious, and by the time the meeting ended the Society had been definitely started, the officers for the first year appointed, and a preliminary list of rules arranged.

Meetings of the Society were held at intervals during the year, none of which I could attend because I lived so far from London. The first annual meeting was held at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, on February 5, 1897, and was largely attended, for a considerable number of members had joined during the year. The reports of past business were read and arrangements were

made for the future, a multitude of suggestions being made for increasing the usefulness of the Society, some of them practical, others not. Amongst other topics that of a badge to be worn by all members occupied a considerable time in discussion, many designs were suggested, and a good deal of difference of opinion was displayed; eventually a badge was agreed upon, consisting of the symbol of the planet Mercury within a circle, but so far as I know the matter began and ended there and no one ever wore one or possessed one!

Afterwards addresses were delivered by Mr Bishop-Culpeper, Mr Alan Leo, Mr Robert King, and by myself. How many years this Society remained in existence I do not remember now, but eventually it came to an end in spite of its very promising beginning and early career. Alan's own opinion expressed to me himself was that in the first place it was strangled to death by too many rules and regulations, and in the second place that although it possessed a fair number of members there were too few who were willing to do any practical work for the good of the

Society. They were willing to attend meetings and be entertained by lectures, but that was all; the actual work fell upon a very few.

A second Society was afterwards started which did not live long. I only joined in its proceedings by correspondence and I have no record of what took place.

The third Society was a success, it is still flourishing and is likely to continue to do so, but I must leave to someone more intimately acquainted with its activities the task of writing its history. His activities as publisher in London also were outside my department, for although I helped with some of the books and occasionally read proof sheets, I had nothing to do with the actual publishing; and the same is true of the theosophical centres and the masonic lodges that he and Mrs Leo together were instrumental in forming. I heard of all these things and occasionally talked them over with him when he visited me or when I stayed with him in London, as happened occasionally, but none of them concerned me directly.

He was a man of great energy, activity, and resource. If at the very beginning of his career as a student of astrology a prophetic vision had been granted him, or if some astrologer had predicted adequately the many undertakings, at that time wholly unfamiliar to him, that he would carry through successfully, the books he would write and publish, the multitude of personal friends he would make, and the thousands all over the world to whom his name would become familiar, it would have seemed so improbable that he would certainly have refused to believe it.

A glance at his horoscope will show anyone acquainted with Astrology how admirably it represents him. The five planets in fiery signs, the trines from the Moon in Aries to Jupiter, Sun and Mercury in Leo, and sextiles from all these to Uranus in the mid-heaven, form a very strong and fortunate combination. Here are energy and activity from Aries, staying power, strength of will, and capacity for organisation from Leo, originality and the attraction to the occult side of things from

Uranus, the highest planet in his horoscope; while the trines and sextiles show the harmonious way in which these factors are combined.

He had abundance of vitality and his physical health was strong. In all the twenty-seven years of our acquaintance the only time when I knew him to be incapacitated by illness was in 1899, when he had a severe attack of rheumatism which lasted some little time and compelled him to hobble about awkwardly during his convalescence. His liability to this complaint is obviously shown by the rising position of Saturn at birth in bad aspect to the Moon.

As most readers will know, the theory of the hyleg as it is called by astrologers, or that part of the horoscope upon which life depends and the severe affliction of which causes death, has been a good deal debated by different writers. Most, if not all, seem however to agree that the Sun, the Moon, and the rising degree are the three most important parts of the horoscope from this point of view; and in this particular case each one of the three gives

some testimony of the way in which his death came.

Many years before I had pointed out to him that a strict application of the Ptolemaic theory of the hyleg would make the Moon in Aries in the ninth house hyleg in his case; that while its trine to the planets in Leo gave him abundance of mental and physical vitality, the squares to Venus and Mars were dangerous; and that he was unlikely to outlive the direction of the opposition of the Sun to the Moon. The result justified this prognostication, for the cause of death was effusion of blood on the brain, and while Aries governs the head its square to Mars, ruler of the fourth house—the end of life—and the dispositor of the Moon, shows the danger.

The Sun, however, also gives testimony from the point of view of those who argue that because all vital energy is ultimately derived from the Sun, health and life both depend upon that great luminary. In this case Jupiter, lord of the eighth house, death, and signifying the blood and the veins, is in conjunction with the Sun in the twelfth



house; and by way of proving that this is not a mere reading of the positions after the fact, a prophesying after the event, it may be mentioned that a delineation of Mr Leo's horoscope is still in existence, written early in his career as a student of Astrology in which this combination of the Sun with Jupiter was specifically mentioned as likely to give rise to the disease of which he afterwards died.

Finally the rising degree, the third point, contains Saturn, and because the ascendant signifies the head, and Saturn rules the sixth house, disease, here is another testimony pointing to this part of the body as a possible source of weakness.

In addition to his own great capacity for practical work was his ability to get the best work out of others. The driving power of the fiery signs, and the plodding tenacity of Saturn rising, were associated with the strength of will and independence of the Sun and Uranus and the organising power of Jupiter. He seemed naturally adapted to be the nucleus round which others were attracted,

and many people were associated with him who did their best work directly or indirectly in connection with him, and who were pleased that he should act as a centre for their united activities. Without his presence to act as such a centre some of them—myself among the number—would certainly not have accomplished so much work as they did. Amongst the many workers in the astrological field there were some who were better educated and more learned than he as well as more ambitious, but they lacked his capacity for managing others, for adapting himself to others and his tactfulness and good humour in making allowances for the varying temperaments and views of others. Because of this, although other astrologers have done useful work, no one has accomplished quite what he did, and now that he has gone no one is able to fill quite the same place; so that it is an interesting subject for speculation what direction the wave of astrological activity will take during the next generation.

In this respect, in his ability to influence, mould, manage, and organise a considerable

number of people, he seems to bear some resemblance to Col. H. S. Olcott, although on a smaller scale. Each was strong-willed, an untiring worker, cheerful and generous; and each made his influence felt very widely and practically in the world, and was a nucleus round which many congregated. Finally both were Sun in Leo men, Col. Olcott having Sun conjunction Venus in that sign and Mr Leo Sun conjunction Jupiter therein.

H. S. GREEN.

## CHAPTER VI

### REMINISCENCES AND APPRECIATIONS

IT has been thought advisable for the sake of completeness to include in this chapter several pages of reminiscences that have appeared in various issues of *Modern Astrology*, though chiefly in the Memorial Number of December, 1917, but only such articles have been chosen as throw some additional light on the personality or work of Alan Leo. It is for this reason that the little article by Mrs Leo is reprinted for it deals with a side of his character that is barely noticed elsewhere.

#### MY FIRST LESSON

“Those who know do not speak: those who speak do not know.”

When in May, 1899, I first heard Alan Leo speak on Astrology I began to study it, and,

as always happens unfortunately, soon began to be looked on by my friends as deeply learned in the subject; whereas, of course, actually I was still just inexperienced enough to be unaware how incompetent I was to form a judgment at all. However, I acted in good faith, and perhaps that kept me from doing any real harm.

It was not long before a neighbour came to me in great trouble, and straitly charged me not to conceal my opinion but to tell her *what I thought*. She had had a dream in which she saw a dead body being carried out of the house. Did I think it meant one of the children, and if so was it Cecil or Phyllis?

Well, I examined the horoscopes and came to the conclusion that of the two it was more likely to be Phyllis: it happened that I had been studying the nativity of my own sister (who died when I was 6) and I saw a similar position in this child's horoscope. That seemed to me to settle it. And accordingly, as gently as I could, I told the distressed mother what I thought, giving her my reasons, though reminding her at the same time that

I was only a beginner and couldn't be sure my view was right. Here are the two maps :

	x	xi	xii	i	ii	iii			
<i>Cecil</i>	≈ 27	× 29	8 16	≈ 2	≈ 18	Ω 5			
<i>Phyllis</i>	∩ 28	≈ 21	γ 0	8 30	Π 22	≈ 10			
	⊙	♃	♄	♅	♆	♁			
C.	≈ 20½	∩ 27½	Ω 3½ <sup>r</sup>	Π 15	γ 12	Π 22½	♁ 19	♁ 11 <sup>r</sup>	Π 14½
P.	≈ 24	≈ 3	≈ 8	∩ 10	≈ 8	≈ 15	♁ 7	♁ 0	Π 25

Soon after I happened to meet Mr Leo and put the point to him. He told me to send him the two maps, and he would look at them. I did so, and he wrote me the following letter :

9, LINCROFT GARDENS, N.W.

March 14, 1901

DEAR MR BARLEY,

It looks as if Phyllis would be the first to go, but I should have to work out the directions to be sure, and this I am not inclined to do. I have already enough Karma upon my shoulders without incurring any more. Astrology has taught me one thing, and that is CAUTION. I am far too busy a man to go into all these details, and besides unless specially asked I never predict death. There is quite enough sorrow in the world, without inflicting more upon people. Take my advice and let people dream their dreams, but you shake your head and don't offer to tell them what the stars say until you can rank yourself amongst the prophets, the best of us at the game are only poor students, and in the past we were

fools that rushed in where Angels would have feared to tread. We have since realised that we know nothing. For your own guidance I would suggest death to take place when the asc. arrived at the opposition of the planet Saturn. Be careful how you calculate the aspect, and when you have done it keep the result to yourself, but treat the dream as a warning, and tell the parents to take extra care of the child. I hope you will understand my position.

Yours faithfully,

ALAN LEO

I have always treasured that letter as containing the gentlest and kindest rebuke I have ever seen in written language. (He did not understand quite all the circumstances, and supposed the statement to have been *volunteered* by me, I fancy.) Note that he confirms the judgment, so far as it went.

The words "in the past" I take to refer to the past of Astrology [*i.e.*, the Middle Ages] and not to the past of his own career or of his contemporaries.

"My position" in the last sentence of the letter has no formal significance: he did not use it in the sense that he might have said more had he chosen, of that I am quite sure;

I became familiar with his modes of expression, later on, and know that all he meant was that he hoped I would not take it amiss that he had felt obliged to give me what might seem like a snub.

. . . . .

All who were good and great loved and honoured him. My conceit of his person was never increased towards him by his place or honours; but I have and do reverence him for the greatness that was only proper to himself, in that he seemed to me ever, by his work, one of the greatest of men, and most worthy of admiration, that hath been in many ages. In his adversity I ever prayed God would give him strength, for greatness he could not want. Neither could I condole a word or syllable for him, as knowing no accident can happen to virtue, but rather help to make it manifest.

If the source of these quotations be recognised, their aptness will be granted by those in a position to pronounce an opinion.

ALFRED H. BARLEY.



## ALAN LEO IN HOME LIFE

Life in the home is quite different from life in the editorial office, class room or lecture hall, and calls forth a different phase of the character and disposition. Few of the many thousands Mr Leo influenced by means of his books, journal, and pen, knew him *socially*. He was far too busy a man to entertain, and indeed needed the rest and quiet of home life to recuperate after a strenuous day spent in a city office; but it is possible that readers of *Modern Astrology* will be interested to hear how its founder spent his leisure hours.

Had he any hobby apart from Astrology? Yes he certainly had, and it was Music. Like most persons with a strong Saturn in the horoscope, sound had a peculiar fascination for him, and the harmony and melody of music were a great source of recreation for him. Some years ago he purchased a piano-pianola and through autumn, winter and spring would spend sometimes two hours listening to the melodies of Beethoven, Chopin,

Wagner, Mozart, and others : he generally played himself.

Occasionally he enjoyed a good short story or a game of draughts, but directly the weather was good his garden was his great delight. He revelled in nature and always declared he came near the "heart of things" amidst the stillness and peace of the country. He loved the evening shadows and walked amongst the trees and flowers musing and meditating.

Alan Leo was a great home lover and a real server in home life (♀ ♃), quite as capable as a woman in the domestic sphere, and when there occurred one of those domestic upheavals which occasionally happen in these days of servant-scarcity, he cheerfully and successfully filled the gap. In home as in public life, he was always radiant and joyous : (☉ ♅ ♃). He was never ill, sad, or depressed, but would whistle and sing about the house as gaily as a child. Depression and sadness would vanish in his presence, the atmosphere of the house was positively charged with his solar life, and it was indeed a happy home, the harmony being well-nigh perfect. By habit punctual

and methodical, in temperament he was a great lover of beauty and elegance, and I never knew him grumble or find fault in all the twenty-five years of our married life. He certainly had a quick temper, but it only lasted a few minutes, for he had great self-control and a most forgiving disposition.

Unselfishness was his key-note. He had the greatest possible consideration for other people and never gave any trouble through want of thought. This endeared him to all his personal attendants and to the one or two personal friends who occasionally visited us. While reserved and dignified with strangers, in his private life he was playful, contented, and joyous as a boy. Truly a very happy man.

He was simple in his tastes, a vegetarian, non-smoker, and teetotaller for nearly twenty years. He used to advise me when I was troubled or depressed to follow his plan,—go away to a quiet place alone and think of the Great Star Angels and the Divine Love brooding over the world. “I can always

remove any disharmony of vibration in myself this way," he said, "and then nothing is a trouble any more." But my husband lived in his higher mind and could call down forces not many could wield. He believed implicitly in the "Great Law," God's Law, and used to quote from Ella Wheeler Wilcox's poem—"Whatever is, is best."

On the day he had the summons to the Mansion House, I said, "How now, Alan—do you still affirm, 'Whatever is, is best'?" He unhesitatingly replied, "Yes! It's all EXPERIENCE, and therefore must be for the best: I have surely some lesson to learn."

Such was Alan Leo, as I knew him—the most devoted of husbands, the staunchest of comrades, the most reliable of friends. For twenty-five years he was the sunshine of my life and home, he never once failed me in any event in life, and made me completely and entirely happy. Ours was an astrological marriage, my Sun being on his Moon in the same degree of Aries. With four planets in Leo, his heart was quite as active if not more

so than his head, and indeed (to quote from the *Psychic Gazette*), "He was the friend of all, the enemy of none."

BESSIE LEO.

### HOW HE WORKED

To me, though the personal side of Alan Leo was a very endearing one, the other non-personal side was the real man, and as it was that side of him with which I was brought more into contact I feel that is the side it is fittest I should write about.

His WORK was the main-spring of all his actions. Frequently when in the presence of people not directly connected with the work, he would keep up a light kind of airy banter, immediately dropping it as soon as they had gone with the air of—"Now then, let's get to business." For with him the work was everything, and all the rest was mere bubbles on the water; though I sometimes suspected that he had a deeper motive underlying the apparently easy chit-chat.

I think that for myself I learned more from his little casually dropped phrases than from

the study of many books. Curious little "pearls" would often drop from his lips, which proved extraordinarily useful and illuminating in times of difficulty. For instance, if a hail of bombs were dropping around, I am certain that his quiet and half-amused remark would be "Well, it's all experience!" If one smiled a doubtful smile, he would quietly repeat, "Well, so it is; we learn from our experience, nothing teaches us so much as that." Judged from that standpoint, he must have gained great knowledge! "Take it all as just a vibration," he would say when I had told him a rueful tale of the difficulties and worries one meets with in trying to work with and for people. And truly, when one thinks of annoyances and troubles as "just a vibration," they at once lose their sting.

#### HELPERS WANTED

I knew Alan Leo first in this life in 1907, and very shortly after I first saw him, I was fired with the idea of the greatness of his work, and I felt I wanted to help in that work, though then I was totally ignorant of Astrology

and literally did not know the difference between Aries and Taurus, nor even how to make the symbols. What I did know was that I wanted to work for this man or for his cause, I didn't mind which, and on the second occasion of seeing him, I took my courage in both hands and went up to him and asked him if he could give me "something to do." He smiled and said, "We'll find you something some day," and there, so far as I could see, the incident ended. However, some twelve months afterwards he asked me one day if I would come to his office and give him a little help.

"Yes, certainly," I said; "What work is it?"

"Oh never mind that," said he, "people who want to do work mustn't pick and choose what work they'll do."

And when I got to the office I found it was only a job of sorting some papers, and though I did it I don't know that the work was ever used—I fancy not. However, shortly after he told me to my great surprise that he wanted me to be Hon. Sec. of the Astrological

Society. . . . I find that I am including a good deal about myself, but I am doing it only for the purpose of giving a little insight into the methods of the man. His purpose, as I now see, was to find a worker willing to do anything that was asked, without "jibbing" at being given an apparently insignificant job.

### THE CAUSE EVERYTHING

And so it came about that I had the privilege of working in close touch with Alan Leo and of realising what he stood for. He worked never for his own glorification or for his own good, but he was a perfect example of one who realises that the great thing is that *the Cause* shall go forward; the agent matters nothing. His life work was to cleanse the Augean stables of Astrology, and only those who worked in close touch with him know what an accumulation of filth there was in those stables, and what slime he waded through to accomplish his purpose—the purpose from which he never swerved or turned aside. One could only look on in



helpless wonderment at the tremendous burden he carried on his shoulders—the heavy Karma of Astrology,—and hope to be of some small assistance in the sharing of that burden.

I have said that his theme was the work is everything, the doer of it nothing. That is the thought with which I would like to finish, because to Alan Leo this was the great maxim. “Don’t think of Alan Leo,” he often said; “think of the work that is given to him to do.” And, for the purpose of trying to lead people from the personal to the impersonal, he was gradually withdrawing his own personal influence, so gradually however that only the few realised it.

“I want,” he said to me once, “to get the name of Alan Leo quite out of the work. I do so greatly wish that people could realise that Astrology is the most impersonal of all philosophies or sciences; we *must* make people realise this, and this is where we differ from the religions of the world. They all teach devotion to a personal god or a personal founder or teacher; but we want to make people understand that the personal is

transient and unreal, the impersonal is eternal and real—and that is Astrology.”

And again: “Religion is that which is taught by leaders, and you will find in all religions that the followers look up to and quote their leaders as authorities; that is right and natural for that type; but the astrologers ought to be those who gain knowledge *through themselves*—reach it down from the plane of knowledge where all knowledge exists for those who can take it; they should have no need for authorities and teachers. We must work to teach our people that while the knowledge must increase, the teacher must decrease.”

My hope is that those who are left to carry on his work may ever keep that ideal in view.

ANNIE L. BARLEY.

#### A STIMULATOR AND A HARMONISER

It is now over twenty-two years since I first met our late Editor. One of my brothers had shown me a small astrological magazine, and its contents had captured me at once, for they seemed strangely familiar and fascinating.

I begged my brother to ask the Editor whether he would hold a students' class for the study of Astrology; and with characteristic generosity he sent word that he would hold a class at his office in Bouverie Street one evening in each week. The class numbered only ten people, among them being Mrs Leo, Mr Robert King, my sister and brother and myself; and in this class we each week considered the quite elementary reading of a horoscope.

An Astrological Society was at length started, was dissolved, re-started, again dissolved, and again re-started, but I persisted in remaining a member; and the debt I owe for these many opportunities of gaining astrological knowledge I have never yet discharged. There are some debts that one feels one can never wipe out; one can merely give out the knowledge one has obtained, and so "keep the ball rolling."

So the years passed, and when in the early part of 1912 Mr and Mrs Leo ran across me in South Devon, he asked me to take up the work of Secretary of the Astrological

Correspondence Lessons which he was then preparing. I accepted, though with considerable diffidence, for I have always felt unable to refuse help where Astrology was concerned, and of late years have made it a *rule* not to refuse.

In the work of these past five years I have been immeasurably the gainer. No one ever worked with Mr Leo who was not the gainer from a spiritual standpoint. His method was to develop the initiative of his co-workers, and to this end he often gave us work that seemed quite beyond us—in order, I could see, to draw out the powers and faculties latent within us. This often meant much trouble to himself; but he seldom or never blamed, shouldered the responsibility if things went awry, and righted them when wrong.

There was an atmosphere about our “Chief,” an indefinable something that stimulated us and harmonised us, and it is this which we miss as much as anything now that he has left us. When I first heard of his passing, the cry of Isis for the death of Osiris seemed wrung from me—“The Lord

of all the World is dead!"—but that darkness has passed, and now, in its place, there is the consciousness that in our sleeping hours he will still teach and stimulate us, and that he is engaged in work that will help the astrological movement even more than the work he was engaged in at the time of his promotion.

When, as is my custom, I used to enter the office at 8.45 a.m. he was always to be seen at his desk, busily writing, for the after-hours of the day brought clients, dictation and business generally, and this was the one time when he could work undisturbed. He had no idle moments.

There comes to my mind a dream that he told me he had had during the early days of July while the Mansion-House case was pending. In his dream he found himself walking by the sea-shore, carrying something in his hand, and looking at it he became conscious that it was lifeless, and so said to himself "It's no use carrying a *dead* thing," and threw it far into the sea. He watched it splash into the water and disappear, but from the place of its disappearance there came up

a water bird, whose head shone with vivid peacock-blue colouring; and it swam to the land and walked about, shaking itself free of water and growing larger and more brilliant as he watched it.

And it seems to me that it is up to us now, as the best tribute we can offer to our beloved Chief, to make this vision a reality, and to endeavour by every means in our power to co-operate with him in his working on other planes, to rid Astrology of its material touch and place it on the highest spiritual basis possible, sure always of his inspiration and his aid.

FLORENCE A. HIGGS,  
*Secretary of the Lessons Department.*

#### AN ALL-ROUND HELPER

I find it rather difficult to know where to commence to pay my little tribute to the the memory of Mr Leo, for it was not so much in any one thing that I personally felt his help, but in many—or in fact in everything. The magnetism and life which flowed from him, and which one could feel when he

returned to office after being away at any time, was such that it permeated the whole rather than touched any particular part of one's character. I shall always be thankful to him for the immense help he has always been to me at all times, for helping others out of difficulties was not recognised as troublesome by him, for he was ever willing to throw out the best that was in him, and I can certainly testify to his being of great spiritual help to many hundreds of people, in all departments of life.

His physical presence is no longer with us, but whether we can consciously feel it or not, his influence is always around those who are seeking guidance along astrological lines, for that was his special work, and he carried it out as no other man could do, for he lived the life that earned him the right to receive the spiritual knowledge that he had, and which he so generously gave out. He helped all who came into contact with him, to live their lives the better for having met him, for he appealed always to the best in a person and not to the worst, teaching us always to build "good

stuff" into our characters rather than to bewail our past errors—to rise again after falling, as all must fall from time to time. He always said it was encouraging to know that all our kindly thoughts and unselfish actions were stored in the bank of consciousness to be given back to us in another life as Character, and that it was up to us to make our banking account as good as possible in order that we could be found worthy to help others even as we had been helped.

My association with Mr Leo will always be one of the brightest memories to look back upon, and although he has passed beyond the physical I still thank him most sincerely for the beauties of life to which he opened my eyes.

M. ROBBINS, *member of Staff of*  
*"Modern Astrology" Office.*

#### AN APPRECIATION

One of the wisest and most intuitional astrologers of all time, and, I believe, a highly advanced Soul, he lived to make the great



science of Astrology practical for all sorts and conditions of men. To this end, having proved it, he taught that Character is Destiny. It seems to me that his peculiar gift and legacy to us is an extraordinary study of human nature. It is written in simple words, with a wealth of homely illustration which makes it clear to the unlearned, but every kind of temperament, from the most rudimentary to the most complex, is described in it. He did not use the language of philosophy, and I never heard him call himself a psychologist, but no one has better understood our mortal combination of Emotion, Reason and Will, or set it out so plainly before us. He saw each characteristic,—whole, yet in its smallest detail, and he knew how it would work out in life. He was eminently sane in his occultism. He realised material conditions as keenly as he realised the finer and freer spaces beyond them. He has left us a keen appreciation of the value of this earthly life, and of its proper demands and requirements, while to those who can follow him he has shown something

of the great powers which order the world. His unique and notable studies of human diversity lead to unity: through the many to the one. No one need any longer blunder through his days in that utter ignorance of his inner self which has spoiled the greater number of lives. Power of judgment, that blending of all the influences of a horoscope in which he reached the height of genius, cannot be conveyed or taught or bequeathed, but the experiment and experience of the daily round and the common task is clarified and dignified for everyone of us. Those of his disciples who knew him best, and loved and honoured him most, regret that he passed from us just when he had promised to show us more of the wider reaches of spiritual progress. But when we have learned to live generously, actively, and open-eyed, as he lived himself, with unshakable faith, universal tolerance, and never failing hopefulness, the next step upwards will assuredly be made plain to us, and he would have preferred that we should find it of ourselves.—*E. E. D.*

## ASTROLOGER AND THEOSOPHIST

There are thousands of people all over the world who will have heard of the death of Mr Leo with very deep regret, for his influence was felt and his help appreciated in every country, far beyond the limits of the Theosophical Society. Comparatively few within our Society in England remember, or have ever realised, that Mr Leo, though he was best known to the world as an Astrologer, was always, before all, a Theosophist. He could not think of Theosophy as complete without the great science of Astrology, but equally he could not imagine Astrology, one of the great Ways to God, without Theosophy; and to an extent that is far too little known, he brought, through Astrology, many hundreds everywhere to a knowledge of Theosophy, to whom otherwise probably it never would have made appeal. Those who take the trouble even to glance at his books and the magazine for which he was so long responsible cannot for one moment doubt this.

His work was largely for the future, and when Astrology comes into its kingdom, as inevitably it will do, that work will be appreciated and appraised at its true value. Let those who come after him never forget that his labour and struggles have made their work in the West possible; and that however much theories and methods may vary, as they must do, all are to a great extent built upon the principles that he has laid down.

Those who knew Mr Leo chiefly as the author or transmitter of judgments on horoscopes, knew very little of the man; and it is matter for regret that a larger number of us were not able to realise this. There has been, and still is, much prejudice against Astrology among those who, of all others, one would expect would keep at least an open mind. His friends and equals who really reached him, found in Mr Leo deep insight, a very wide tolerance, and above all a constructive mind, which to some of us is almost the greatest—and perhaps the rarest.

His last days here were shadowed by the prosecution at the Mansion House in July, just

before he left for a brief holiday in Cornwall. But such events must, in one form or another, be the lot of every pioneer, and are merely bubbles on the surface of the great stream which is surely carrying the world to a fuller liberty and wisdom. The pity of it is that we often do not realise, until it is too late, that such a fight as Mr Leo waged so steadfastly is a part of the one titanic fight which all of us are waging against the old cramping materialistic views of man, the Universe, and God. No one who sat through the hearing at the Police Court could have failed keenly and vividly to be conscious of this.

Towards the conclusion of his comments upon this prosecution, in the September issue of *Modern Astrology* which must have been almost the last words that he wrote, Mr Leo says that in the response that so many of his friends made in this crisis, he realised his "ideal of friendship." If that be so, it indeed is worth more than all that can be put into the balance on the other side and so he felt it to be.

Mr Leo joined the Theosophical Society in

May, 1890, and Mrs Leo less than two years later. His membership therefore dates back for more than twenty-seven years, and when it is added that during the whole of that time he has never been known to falter or waver in his allegiance to it or in loyalty to its leaders, that surely makes a record of which any one of us, old or young, might be very very proud.

The Theosophical Society here has lost a strong support, and many within it and outside it have lost a friend.

S. MAUD SHARPE in *The Vahan*.

#### ASTROLOGER AND MASON

Illus. Bro. Alan Leo was one of the chosen few with which our Very Illus. Grand President Annie Besant formed the English Obedience. He was a member of the 30°, and although Freemasonry, as such, was not his study, perhaps no one has done greater or more lasting service in the furtherance of its ideals. His life work, Astrology, has for an object the classification and amalgamation of the Human Family into that future Cosmos the Brother-

hood of Man, and it was his shewing that each type should be judged according to the standard of its type and placed in the Cosmic Scheme accordingly, that constituted his particular contribution to Speculative Co-Freemasonry.

His personal example was as attractive as his precept. He was a peculiarly selfless man and the unique place of affection and esteem he occupied in the hearts of his brethren was a worthy testimony to the truth of his grand theorems. Astrology to him was something to be *lived*, as Freemasonry, and his brethren were not dull to perceive his merit and accord him the *unsought* place thereof. It is this selflessness that was his great asset as also his distinction from the traditional astrologer. Bro. Leo differed from the latter in that he sought not to shine himself, but to create a vehicle that would propagate the light of Astrology enduringly throughout the ages. He early perceived that to uphold the sacred Light and die was to do but little more than his predecessors, to provide but a further fitful existence for Astrology, and that to establish

Astrology in the world a *Society* was the need as indeed the only way of securing permanence for Astrology. A Body whose object is constant, despite the change in its personnel throughout the ages, would secure permanent incarnation for his Ideal.

How nobly, how heroically and with what measure of success he has striven to create this permanent vehicle only those who have been privileged to take part in his work can perhaps know. Probably he only hoped to create the nucleus of such a body. Despite the scorn of a sceptical public opinion, and the repeated prosecutions for vagrancy, he has succeeded in establishing that outer vehicle, the Astrological Society, whose dimensions are sufficiently large to command alike respect and attention, and that Tutorial Institution, as yet in its infancy, known as the Astrological Institute. For a Thought Vehicle—a Thought Form, to range the spheres of thought, remains his first creation, *Modern Astrology*,—a monthly magazine designed “thoroughly to purify and re-establish the ancient science of Astrology which, through



planetary symbology, seeks to explain the ONE universal spirit in its varied manifestations.” His passing is for many of us a sad loss personally. It would be a surprising revelation to disclose how many of our number in this and kindred societies turned to him in their troubles and anxieties for astrological aid. His reputation and renown as an astrologer, both alike always of the worthiest character, are world-wide, for there is not a continent in which the sage and inspiring message of *Modern Astrology* does not circulate. But for us we shall ever love to remember him in that endearing personality he has now laid aside, a genial, benevolent and intelligent brotherliness, the mask of a strong, pure and advanced soul—a skilled Master Builder.

Illus.: Bro.: Alan Leo was initiated into Freemasonry in the Human Duty Lodge, of which he was a member from its foundation. He subsequently assisted in the formation of the Hermes Lodge in 1905, of which Lodge he was a P.M. He received the 18° in 1907 and the 30° in 1908.

P.M. HERMES LODGE in *The Co-Mason*.

## HIS DISTINCTIVE WORK

Wherein . . . it may be asked, did the work of Alan Leo differ from that of his contemporaries and predecessors? In this, that he gave a *purpose* to Astrology—gave, did I say? rather should I have said reaffirmed the purpose of Astrology. For the ancients had a saying, one which he was never tired of quoting—"The Wise Man rules his stars, the Fool obeys them"; and he pointed out the deeper meaning of the phrase by recasting it thus—"The Wise Man rules himself in harmony with the stars." For him the stars were beings, not things, and their influence was not physical only but mental and spiritual also. He held that the purpose of Astrology was that by a study of these influences we should learn so to blend and harmonise them in ourselves that life after life we might gradually become "perfect even as our Father in Heaven (*i.e.* our Father Star) is perfect." His courses of lectures before the Astrological Society on Mars, on Saturn, and on Jupiter, recently published in book form, convey in a

simple form some notion of his conception of the nature of planetary influences and of Astrology as a divine science. His life was a testimony to his faith. He was the friend of all and the enemy of none. And he was the helper of very many, among whom is gratefully numbered the writer.

“MERCURIUS” in the  
*International Psychic Gazette.*

### THE DIVINE USE OF ASTROLOGY

Alan Leo was an extremely able astrologer, and his volumes large and small dealing with the art of which he was a master are classics never likely to be excelled. But Alan Leo was more than an astrologer. He was a powerful intellectual and moral force, and his death at a comparatively early age leaves a gap which it will be impossible to fill.

I approached his work with considerable prejudice, which a closer acquaintance with his writings swept away. It is not too much to assert that what Camille Flammarion is to

astronomy Alan Leo was to the astrological world. He wielded a graphic, luminous and at times most eloquent pen. He had a mission and he threw himself into the work of that mission with tireless vigour and enthusiasm. I owe it to his writings that he helped me to a clearer understanding of things as I now conceive them to be. The keynote of his teaching was just this—that Character is Destiny. What we sow that we shall reap. So says the Old Book, and if we only realised those pregnant awful words the world would be a different place from what it is to-day. Huxley says somewhere that God keeps His ledgers with punctilious accuracy. Not a jot or a tittle is wanting in the great account, and we shall have to answer and repay to the uttermost farthing.

This then (as has been well said) is the Divine use of Astrology, a science so ancient and so noble, yet so shamefully degraded of late years. A man's horoscope shows a man not as his fellows see him but as he is. It is the exact reflection of the individual himself. He may hoodwink his neighbour and deceive

his most intimate friend ; but he cannot get away from that stern and awful test. Mere lip-service will not do, the mouthing of a creed will not suffice, formal attendance at service is a sham, snivelling on a death-bed goes for nought. "What a man soweth that shall he also reap." We come into the world bearing a burden of responsibility. You can call it original sin if you like. Anything that holds a true mirror before your face, is a good thing. And such a thing is the ancient science of the stars.

Thanks to the labours of such men as Alan Leo Astrology is being better known and tens of thousands have to thank him for the light he has thrown upon the theme and indirectly upon their own misgivings and perplexities. His mortal part is in the grave ; a wiser generation will give him the honour that is his due.

ARTHUR MEE in the *Llanelly Star*.

## AN APPRECIATION

## THE MAN

Alan Leo was essentially a thinker, a delver into the mines of Truth, an indefatigable searcher after higher knowledge, a scientific experimentalist, who sought with untiring vigour to mount the peaks of human knowledge, so as to convey to the world that specific form of teaching that would best assist younger minds to expand, grow and advance along the glorious upward and onward pathway of endless progression.

One cannot take up and peruse any single product of his pen without being impressed with the high moral tone of his thought and singleness of purpose to raise the intellectual and moral status of the Ancient Science of Astrology to the high level which it truly deserves and will one day command. To him as he aptly expressed it, "Astrology is the soul of Astronomy," as "Psychology is the soul of Physiology"; and, the whole, when combined, constitutes a general Science of Life.

To-day, any "man of the world" knows that it calls for considerable moral courage and intellectual stamina as well as the inspiration of a great ideal to labour in a cause so universally misrepresented and misinterpreted, and to produce a series of works that would command the attention and approval of the "intellectuals" of the age, and convey to them some clearer idea that the much-abused Astrology is, after all, a Mine of Truth deserving of the most thorough exploration and development; because it is essentially based upon a rock foundation of natural law, which all their ignorant prejudice, mis-placed criticism and narrow thought can neither alter nor destroy.

Indifferent alike to praise or blame and undeterred by difficulty and adverse conditions, he laboured hard and long and largely ALONE, except for the loving companionship of a devoted wife, with a fixed determination and an unquenchable enthusiasm to do his utmost to attain the admirable objective of "purifying Astrology"; and that he has succeeded to a large degree there is no shadow

of doubt as the coming generations of more advanced thinkers will cordially agree.

Out of the mire and mud of a decrepit and suffocating materialistic philosophy he revealed a beautiful Truth, a rich and wonderful science of symbolism, wherein the planetary orbs are depicted as gigantic centres of dynamic energy and guiding intelligence, by and through which in subtle and invisible ways, the one Universal Spirit finds clear and direct channels for the ordering of all things to perfect ends and sublime fulfilments.

#### HIS VIEW OF GOD'S PLAN

Somewhere, in his writings, Alan Leo has said that, "God has a Plan, and Astrology reveals the workings of that Plan." In this beautiful conviction he lived and worked; and so he taught that our Astrology of to-day, which Emerson describes as, "astronomy brought down to the earth and applied to the affairs of man," is but a part of a larger Astrology of to-morrow, and that the scope of a true astrological science is as broad as the universe, and its methods, exoteric or esoteric,



as so many means for interpreting the operations of the great spiritual law of harmonious evolution, in order that we may learn to bring ourselves more and more into tune with the diviner symphonies of heaven's orchestra, and thereby manifest in our lives a fuller measure of joyous activity, beauty and harmony, intelligence and goodness, as is ever being revealed throughout Nature's dominions.

#### ESOTERIC AND EXOTERIC ASPECTS

As a thinker, Alan Leo was singularly original in his views. While a practical astrologer using his art in a scientific way to improve the material conditions of all who sought such assistance, yet, strangely enough, he practically stood alone among professional artists as one who never lost sight of the spiritual aspect of Astrology. Indeed, his various books furnish abundant testimony of his endeavours to give a superior philosophical and religious interpretation to the mundane branches of the astral science, so that this exoteric aspect may be rightly placed as secondary to the esoteric, using the former as

a bridge whereby the materially-minded may be drawn into a contemplation and love for spiritual Truth, and so assisting the higher elements in the nature of man to gain an ever-increasing ascendancy.

He had the vision of the *true* prophet combined with the deep, interior understanding of the *real* teacher; and, while ministering to the earthly needs of his many friends and students, he always endeavoured to teach simple lessons in wisdom and wonderful lessons in truth, so as to stimulate their intellectual development and promote their spiritual unfoldment along normal and progressive lines.

#### AN ACTUAL EXAMPLE

On one occasion, a hard, worldly type of woman desiring to gain an unjust advantage over another, called upon him for counsel and assistance to realise her selfish desire. She was prepared to remunerate him handsomely, but she did not know Alan Leo. Of clear discernment, he quickly penetrated to the heart of the affair, and said, "Madam, you

are contemplating an immoral act, and I cannot help you; but I warn you that one day you will bitterly regret if you follow your evil course. My advice to you is to go home, and in the privacy of your room, fall upon your knees and PRAY earnestly that God may forgive you and grant you the strength to walk in paths of righteousness." The woman dumbfounded at his discovery of her hidden secret, and impressed by his demeanour did as she was told. Sometime after she called again and thanked him with deep gratitude for having turned her thoughts and life toward better ends. This is a typical instance among many which go to show his deeply religious nature.

HIS WATCHWORD: "CHARACTER IS DESTINY"

A general survey of Alan Leo's writings leaves one with the impression that he viewed earth-life as a training-ground, a university of experience for the education, strengthening and unfoldment of the spiritual part of man; in short, *a process of character-building*. With unerring vision he not only perceived and

expressed in his writings what scientists of to-day are just beginning to realise, namely, that: "*lack of adaptation is the cause of most human suffering*"; but, also, that Astrology provides a means for placing individuals in their natural spheres of action, and so ensures a more harmonious development of their natures and a right adjustment of themselves with their environment as part and parcel of the Economy of Nature. So he expounded his profound knowledge of Astrology accordingly. All his writings are simple, clear and easy to understand, and not only bear witness to the beauty of his ideals, but also testify to his burning zeal loyally to fulfil the unique mission of his life, evidence of which we have in the magnitude of his productions.

#### A CAREER OF USEFULNESS

When the "day of reckoning" comes round and the final act is enacted on the stage of our earthly career, the curtain drops and we "pass on"; and, hereafter, WE ARE KNOWN ONLY FOR WHAT WE HAVE DONE. If our lives have been barren of fruitage, and we have

given out little or nothing to the world, then in the degree that we have fallen short of our normal possibilities we fail to reap the harvest of well-doing and the approval of just minds. Did not the Master say that "he who has but one talent and uses it, shall be exalted above him who has five or more talents but buries them." So far as we know Alan Leo never claimed possession of any particular talent beyond the average endowment of intelligence, but what ability he possessed he put to use; and the world now judges him for what he has done. We find that he has bequeathed unto us and posterity a rich and rare legacy of garnered knowledge that will enlighten and benefit many persons in the world to-day and generations yet unborn. Truly the world is enriched for his living.

#### HIS WORK

(1) The writing of several large astrological text-books containing over 2,000 large quarto pages, standard works on the Natal Branch of the science is, in itself, a great practical achievement; and when one stops to consider

that this involved a colossal amount of empirical research, one can understand that Alan Leo must have worked like a "trojan" year in and year out to produce such extensive results.

His first book, entitled *Astrology for All* is intended for enquirers. It is a simply written and large volume containing delineations for every person born within the last seventy years, and is as fascinating to read as any novel. The second volume *Casting the Horoscope*, is primarily a work for students and contains a wealth of mathematical information. His third book, *How to Judge a Nativity*, is a veritable storehouse of information regarding the various effects of planetary influences in the different departments of our mundane lives, and enables us to "size up" the tendencies of our material existence from the cradle to the grave. Then, Vol. IV., *The Art of Synthesis*, is an advanced exposition of the third book and conveys a further mass of instruction; while the fifth, *The Progressed Horoscope*, is essentially an easy guide to read the future by scientific

rules and interpretations, and so to ascertain in advance the precise nature of the operating influences in any month and year. Vol. VI., *The Key to Your Own Nativity*, embodies a series of broad delineations in tabular form covering all the main departments of human affairs, so that the average person can dispense with the services of the professional and become his or her own astrologer. Vol. VII., the last, entitled *Esoteric Astrology*, is a very original work and constitutes a modern study of Human Nature from an esoteric or spiritual point of view. It is a valuable work to those seeking to live the higher life.

(2) Then we have over a score of small manuals mostly written by him or under his supervision which, in themselves, form quite a miniature library on the various phases of Astrology. The more important of these lesser productions are *Everybody's Astrology*, *How to Cast the Horoscope*, *Medical Astrology*, *Weather Predicting* and *Mundane Astrology*. His last three small books were, *Mars the War Lord*, *Saturn the Reaper*, and *Jupiter the*

*Preserver*; and they open up new regions of occult thought.

(3) In addition, Alan Leo founded, edited and published a high-class monthly magazine entitled *Modern Astrology*. This journal is still running and is ably edited by his widow with the assistance of experienced students, but it lacks the personal "touch" and charm of its original creator. The magazine presents a monthly feast of new thought from fresh minds, and is steadily gaining ground among a young body of students; so there is every likelihood that the good work begun by its founder will continue to grow apace.

(4) There comes into the lives of all of us, a time when we feel the need of someone in whom we can trust and confide our doubts and fears. We want to be sure, however, that the one to whom we speak or write will *understand* us. It is a great relief to be understood. Alan Leo was a man of wide experience. His knowledge of human nature was so vast and profound that many say that their burden of anxiety was lifted and their



problem solved by simply going into his office for a little private talk. He was so sociable that in five minutes you felt as though you had known him all your life. So he impressed the writer. We also know that thousands of people have written letters to him from all parts of the globe and received great help from his replies. Distance was no barrier to his good influence, and a host of persons bless the day that he was born. There is no doubt that the record of his private practice in Astrology could reveal some wonderful stories of sage advice and philanthropic help.

(5) Finally, Alan Leo established an Astrological Institute, the only one of its kind, for the proper promulgation and teaching of Astrology and allied truths. This institution is under the control of sympathetic minds and is found to meet the needs of persons requiring oral instruction from qualified teachers and the inspiration of personal contact with fellow students. Its object is the same as that described on the title page of the monthly magazine, "To purify and

re-establish the ancient science of Astrology." The Institute appears to have a promising future, owing to the general re-awakening of interest in all phases of astrological thought; therefore, its field of usefulness will naturally extend as time passes.

Supplementary to this there is an independent Astrological Society and an Astrological Lodge affiliated with the Theosophical Society, numbering altogether a fine growing body of seekers after Truth; and there is also the "Hermes" Masonic Lodge, an occult brotherhood with whose specific activities the writer is not familiar. The existence of these centres for the study and promulgation of astrological teachings is largely due to the combined efforts of Mrs and Mr Alan Leo supported by loyal co-workers.

In addition, there is a very fine and complete series of correspondence lessons for those who are debarred by reason of distance from attending lectures and classes, and this correspondence instruction may be obtained by all desiring to advance in these fascinating and helpful studies.

## THE LESSON

With this brief presentment of Alan Leo's efforts on behalf of the science he loved so well, and of Truth in general, let us hasten to discern and profit by the lesson of his life. Each and everyone is endowed with a talent for usefulness in some active sphere of labour. To fulfil the mission of our lives we should endeavour to ascertain our true place and then aspire and work in peace and harmony to advance not only our own interests, but to render what service we may in contributing our "little or big best" to the happiness and welfare of others. It may be that we shall never be called upon to accomplish great things in the eyes of the world, nor are we rewarded by things done, whether small or great, but according to our motives. The King on his throne is not compensated any more because he passes a law that shall benefit untold numbers of his people than the poor woman who gives of her "little" to stave off the wolf of hunger from another poor soul in adversity. Purity of motive alone

decides the higher rewards of living, and we are not expected to do more than we are capable of doing well. Let us, therefore, absorb the moral of well-doing, so ably expounded in precept and example by Alan Leo, "to live to serve our fellow-beings"; ever remembering the words of the Master, "he who would be the greatest among you shall be the servant unto the least of these my children."

#### THE LAST CALL

It is impossible to conceive that so lofty, so noble and so unconquerable a soul as Alan Leo is dead, annihilated for ever. Truly, Nature is our Mother and has prepared for us a future which conquers death and reveals it to be an avenue to a higher and more radiant life; and those who struggle bravely to do all they can to brighten the lot of their fellow-travellers on life's highway, will not be neglected at the time of the great change, nor blotted out; but given a glad and wonderful surprise, a glorious welcome from a myriad of Bright Ones who watch just beyond the

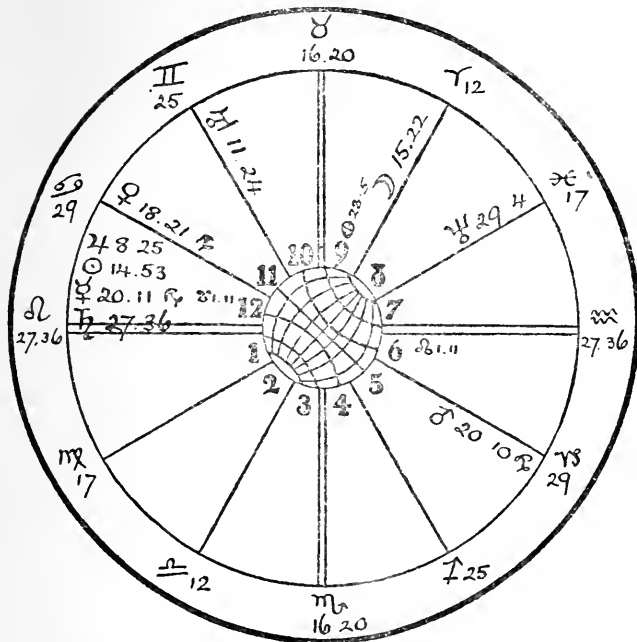
border-line the evolution of our babyhood in the flesh ; and when we pass hence, we simply enter a higher class in life's endless scale to gain the larger knowledge, the wider experience, and the happier realizations among those who have lived and loved us and gone before ; and this is one of the golden Truths that our beloved elder brother taught us to remember and revere.

CHARLES MOORE.

## CHAPTER VII

### THE HOROSCOPE OF ALAN LEO

IN attempting a delineation of the horoscope of Alan Leo one is faced by a difficulty that, perhaps unfortunately, is not commonly encountered. In the great majority of cases a man is born under certain planetary positions to which, at the end of life, he still responds very much as he did in youth; in other words he makes little or no serious effort to change and improve his character, and consequently his birth map fits him almost as well at the end of his life as at the beginning. On the other hand, however, there are a few individuals who set themselves definitely to improve their character by picking out their weaknesses and strengthening them, cultivating virtues that are poorly developed, and eliminating vices that impede their progress. It is clear that such men must outgrow their birth horoscopes very



Dec.	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	Cardinal 3.
♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	Fixed 4
♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	Mutable 2
♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	Fire 5
♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	Earth 1
♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	Air 1
♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	Water 2
♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	House ☉
♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	Exaltation ♄
♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	♏	♐	♑	♒	♓	♈	♉	♊	♋	♌	♍	♎	Detriment ♆

THE HOROSCOPE OF ALAN LEO

7/8/60, 5.49 a.m., Westminster

considerably, and, although actual physical events of a Karmic nature may not be influenced, the planetary positions must be interpreted in a different way at the close of life when considerable progress has been made.

It must not be understood by this that the horoscope becomes incorrect, for this is not so. The process really consists in reaching higher and higher octaves of the radical influences, and transmuting and purifying them so that the same forces are directed into higher channels instead of being allowed to run riot, as is too frequently the case.

Alan Leo was most emphatically of this class, and herein lies the difficulty, for at an early age he recognised the weaknesses of his nativity and set himself earnestly to overcome them, with such success that by the time he was well known in the world he had mastered himself and therefore had altered the pitch of the natal vibrations, responding to an increasingly high octave as the years went by. It must be remembered, therefore, that we are dealing with a man who used his horoscope for the purpose of Self-development,



treating it much as a sculptor treats a block of marble, gradually removing the excrescences, smoothing down the rough surface, and drawing nearer with each stroke to the realisation of the ideal of beauty that he has set before himself to reproduce.

Alan Leo was born at Westminster on August 7, 1860, and Mr Lacey has mentioned that the time originally given was 6 a.m. The result of rectification was to change the ascendant from the beginning of Virgo to the end of Leo, and the accompanying map, set for approximately 5.49 a.m., is that which was considered by Mr Leo himself to be his true horoscope.

The sign Leo is rising, strongly tenanted by the Sun, Mercury, Jupiter, and Saturn, the last named planet being in the exact degree and minute ascending, and such a combination was bound to place Leo in a position of paramount importance in the life. This sign is essentially royal, as benefits the house of the Sun, and bestows generosity, nobility, frankness, and power. All who knew Alan Leo recognised his inherent greatness and bigness,

essentially Leonian characteristics. The large-hearted tolerance, generosity, and above all intense vitality that he invariably displayed are all traceable to this influence, and no astrologer could fail to recognise the strong Leo influence on meeting him. My own first impression of Alan Leo was that he seemed as it were to shine and I can well understand that he was often cheerfully unaware of anything depressing or dull in the weather, and would say that he felt as if the Sun were shining the whole time. His motto "whatever is, is best" is typically that of an evolved native of Leo who possesses the unbounded optimism of that sign and the utter faith that it alone bestows.

In early life the influence of Saturn on the Ascendant was more pronounced and may be traced in the fits of depression recorded by Mr Lacey. There is also an early photograph which gives a distinctly Saturnian impression, but later in life this influence seems to have given way to that of the Sun and Jupiter, both in appearance and in character.

The polarity of Sun in Leo and Moon in

Aries is a particularly favourable one as it denotes a blend of heart and head and bestows a strong mentality of a philosophical and religious order, increased in this case by the presence of the Moon in the ninth house and the position of Jupiter in conjunction with the Sun. This polarity also indicates an harmonious blend of Individuality and Personality, and allows the Prâna, or life force of the Sun, to flow through the Etheric Double without irregularity or hindrance, thus ensuring good general health and recuperative power.

The basis of the character is fixed-fire, which corresponds to, and therefore emphasises the importance of, the sign Leo. The effect here is to strengthen the qualities of fidelity and loyalty given by the rising sign and the position of Saturn on the Ascendant, and to increase the will power and capacity for steadily working along a consciously chosen line without being turned aside by any of the objects of desire. In a weaker map this would have manifested as stubbornness, and the strength of Leo would have spelled pride, but one who has touched the true Saturnian influence is no longer

under the sway of these lower manifestations. Instead of pride the rising Saturn gave true humility and a love of service for its own sake rather than for the "fruits of action," while Jupiter gathered up the influences purified by Saturn and permeated the whole nature with the boundless optimism born of knowledge that poured out as the benevolence that seeks the good of all without thought of self.

Idealism was particularly strong with the Sun, Mercury and Jupiter in Leo, Moon in Aries, Venus in Cancer, and Neptune in Pisces; but with it was considerable practical ability, denoted by Mercury conjunction Saturn, and Mars in Capricorn. Leo, also, though idealistic, is a sign that bestows considerable organising ability, which would be brought into play in this case by the ambition of the rising planets, and sustained by the conscientiousness of Saturn on the Ascendant.

The map is much more spiritual than intellectual, and the lower brain mind was undoubtedly ruled by the higher mind since the preponderance of planets in the fiery signs was so great. With such a strong Leo

knowledge was sought in order that help might be given to the world; the desire for knowledge purely for its own sake and in order to satisfy curiosity is given by the airy signs, more especially Gemini, and in this map they are weak. Leo possesses an intense feeling for others which is absent in the airy signs, and it is easy to understand Mr Lacey's remark that Alan Leo studied few books other than the Book of Life.

His inclination to Astrology, and ability in its study and teaching were due to the influence of Uranus culminating in Gemini and entirely unafflicted. Possibly this also accounts for the speed at which he worked, for Leo, in common with the other fixed signs, is usually somewhat slow and deliberate, and takes its own time in planning and in executing any work it sets itself to do.

The weakness of the map lies in the Cardinal Cross and the mutual afflictions of the Moon, Venus, and Mars. Had these influences been allowed full play the consequences would have been serious and the passions would have been a source of considerable danger. There must

have been a tremendous inner struggle to subdue this phase of the character, and only a man of great strength could have succeeded as did Alan Leo. Even late in life he did not entirely lose the temptation to anger, but it never escaped the iron control of his will and was crushed almost at birth. I have been told that once, when he was discussing the question of control of the emotions, a lady said, "Oh, but, Mr Leo, you have Mars opposition Venus!" "Yes," he answered, "but I have also Saturn on the Ascendant," and this it was that so immensely helped him in his self-imposed task.

We may now turn to a consideration of some of the more important aspects of the life, bearing in mind what has been said in previous chapters.

*Mental Qualities.*—Something has been said above as to the mental qualities but only in a general way and as bearing on character. For a more particular examination we need to study Mercury and its aspects, and the Moon as representative of the lower concrete mind.

Mercury is rising in Leo in conjunction with the Sun and Saturn and in trine to the Moon. This position usually gives a love of knowledge and a quick intellect, with the ability to speak and write, all of which are emphasised by the aspect to the Moon in Aries in the ninth house. The fiery signs are concerned much more with intuition and inspiration than with intellect as such, and we should therefore expect the mind to gather its knowledge from within and not depend greatly upon books or teaching. Furthermore, both Aries, containing the Moon, and Leo, containing Mercury, are idealistic, and one with these positions would necessarily construct high ideals. That Alan Leo was no mere dreamer, however, is shown by the conjunction of Mercury and Saturn, which served to crystallise the ideals and precipitate them on to the physical plane, giving a strong tendency to work and even suffer in order to bring about their ultimate realisation. The nature of these "dreams" is shown by the strong ninth house influence. The Moon is in the ninth house and in the Leo decanate

of Aries. This gives by decanate influence a conjunction with Jupiter, thereby expanding the mental powers and strengthening the religious sense. Mercury is in the twelfth house, that of occultism, and in Leo, the normal sign of the fifth house, which is itself in this case occupied by Sagittarius. Again, the Sun is just above the horizon in conjunction with Jupiter and in the Sagittarius decanate of Leo, so that altogether there was a very strong religious bent to the mind.

It will be noticed that Mercury was retrograde at birth. This probably hampered the native in early life and prevented opportunities for intellectual development, but by progression Mercury became direct again at the age of 13, when, no doubt, many of the hindrances were removed. Of course much of the early hindrance of intellectual development may be traced to the conjunction of Mercury with Saturn, which showed as service in the home, but latterly this influence gave an icy coldness to the mind, enabling it to form impartial and considered judgments of men and things, and considerable steadiness and caution—



all very necessary qualities for a successful astrologer.

The attraction to Astrology came from the elevated position of Uranus in the intellectual sign Gemini in sextile to the Sun and Moon, to which the position of Saturn on the Ascendant no doubt contributed; and to this also may be traced the originality of treatment that characterised all his writings.

*Constitution and Health.*—The question of length of life, as distinct from that of health, depends upon the hyleg, which in this case is the Moon. The aspects to this planet are mixed. It is itself in Aries, a strong sign; it is in trine to the Sun and Jupiter, both excellent signs of a long life; and it is in sextile to Uranus, which is indifferent. The adverse aspects consist of the sesquiquadrate of Saturn and the squares of Venus and Mars, the latter planet being ruler of the fourth house and dispositor of the Moon.

It is doubtful whether death at so early an age would have been predicted from these positions in view of the strength of the rising sign and the trine of the Sun and Jupiter to

the hyleg, but the whole question of the duration of life is in such an unsatisfactory state that considerable uncertainty exists even as to the selection of hyleg, and any precise prediction as to length of life should always be accepted with caution. In matters of health it is customary to consider the Sun, Moon, and Ascendant, the Sun being held to denote the constitution, the Moon the functional changes, and the Ascendant the body. The rising sign in this map is a particularly strong one and gives great vitality, which is much increased by the fact that the Sun, ruler of Leo, is also rising in this sign in conjunction with Jupiter and in trine with the Moon—perhaps the best possible positions and aspects for bestowing a strong constitution and excellent general health. Natives of Leo, or those in whose horoscopes Leo is strong, often suffer from disorders of the heart, but here there are practically no afflictions and therefore such trouble was not greatly to be feared.

Mr Green records that Mr Leo suffered occasionally from rheumatism, and this was no doubt due to the rising Saturn, ruler of the

sixth house. The presence of this planet on the Ascendant usually denotes liability to colds and chills together with the danger of injury by falls, and here these indications are strengthened by its sesquiquadrate to the Moon. Throughout his life Alan Leo was peculiarly susceptible to chills, in fact remarkably so for one of his enormous vitality, but with the exception of one severe fall in infancy the indication of danger from accidents shown in the map was not borne out by events.

The weakest points as regards health, and, indeed, all other matters, were the afflictions from the cardinal signs which collectively rule the head, stomach, liver, kidneys, and skin.

To these afflictions may be traced the cause of death and the illness preceding it, but this matter has been dealt with by Mr Green, and therefore needs no further comment.

*Parents and Early Life.*—Mrs Leo tells us that Alan Leo's father was a Scotch soldier and his mother a woman of narrow religious convictions. By western astrologers the fourth house is held to represent the father and the tenth the mother, while Ptolemy adds that

“in conformity with nature, the Sun and Saturn are allotted to the person of the father ; and the Moon and Venus to that of the mother.”

In this map the martial sign Scorpio occupies the cusp of the fourth house and Saturn is in Leo in conjunction with the martial fixed star Regulus, thus clearly indicating the father's profession. It is further said that he served in India, and this is denoted here by the position of Mars, lord of the fourth, in the sign Capricorn, which rules that country. The father's association with dispensing is shown by Scorpio, a sign that is usually prominent in the horoscopes of those who follow occupations connected with chemicals.

The case of the mother is somewhat more complicated. She is represented primarily by Venus, ruler of the tenth house, in Cancer and by the Moon in Aries, but judging by the account given of her it would appear that Mars in Capricorn also enters rather largely into the matter. This affliction of her significator accounts for her fanatical and extremely narrow views, for with all due respect to

Capricornians, they are usually rather narrow in their outlook on life. No doubt she meant well, for Venus is quite favourably placed in Cancer, but the afflictions were too strong to allow of its influence being properly manifested.

The friction between the parents is shown by the opposition of Venus and Mars, which became exact by direction when Alan Leo was about 10 years of age.

*Occupation.*—The nature of the principal occupation of the life is shown by Uranus in Gemini in the tenth house, entirely free from affliction. This planet bestows ability for many branches of occultism, above all Astrology, and is usually prominent in Theosophical affairs. Its sign position in this case denoted that much of its effect would be produced through writing and teaching, and its sextile to the Moon in the ninth house denoted the strong philosophical and religious character that pervaded all Alan Leo's writings. With so strong a devotional character he could never have been satisfied with the unemotional and purely mathematical presentation of Astrology that was current in his day, and

a glance at his horoscope is sufficient to prove his sincerity when he said, "If you squeeze Theosophy out you squeeze *me* out."

A further position denoting literary activity is the conjunction of the Sun and Mercury, and as that planet is the nearest to the Sun it becomes a co-significator of the occupation. In addition, Venus, the planet that signifies the Higher Mind and therefore bears rule over Astrology, is lady of the tenth and third houses, thus blending religion and Astrology with the profession by way of writing and teaching.

It was said by the ancients that when Mercury was in conjunction with two or more planets and receiving the application of the Moon the native would more than once change his occupation. The present map bears out the truth of that statement, for here we have the Moon applying to the trine of Mercury, which is in conjunction with the Sun and Saturn, and Mr Leo was successively grocer, sewing-machine agent, and astrologer. We have seen how the last-named profession was indicated in the horoscope and it only remains now to show that the other two are equally

strongly denoted. Provision dealing in general is under the rule of Jupiter, while fancy confectionery is ruled by Venus, the signs of the zodiac relating to such affairs being Taurus and Cancer, with Virgo as the general significator of food. Here we have the Sun, natural ruler of the profession, in conjunction with Jupiter; Taurus is on the mid-heaven; and Venus, its ruler, is in Cancer.

Sewing machines are probably ruled by Venus and Mars, with perhaps a little of the Uranian influence, while commercial travellers come under the Moon and Mercury. In this map the Sun is in conjunction with Mercury; Venus is ruler of the third house, that of short journeys, in strong aspect with the Moon, its dispositor, and Mars.

Thus it will be seen that both occupations are strongly indicated, and, curiously enough, by the same significators, namely the planets on the Cardinal Cross. The early part of life seems to have been lived almost entirely under these afflictions and it was not until the age of 24 or 25 was reached that the primary direction Midheaven conjunction Uranus

became exact and changed the whole course of the life, bringing the study of Astrology and Occultism that formed the real work of the incarnation. Even from the point of view of material prosperity alone it is well that this happened, for no permanent success could have been achieved under the Cardinal afflictions, whereas by passing directly under the influence of Uranus the unhappy conditions were thrown aside and the remainder of the life was centred in the most fortunately placed and aspected planet in the horoscope.

As regards the height to which he attained and the fame and popularity that came to him in later years many indications may be found in the map. With the single exception of Mars all the planets are above the earth, and six of them are rising; both indications of fame and increasing honour and reputation. The strong Leo influences emphasised this, for fixed signs bestow lasting and enduring fame which often comes comparatively late in life. The influence of each quadruplicity on reputation is summarised by Shakespeare in the well-known lines "Some are born great,



some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them," the three classes representing the natives of Fixed, Cardinal, and Mutable Signs respectively. Another indication of honour, and one that might be overlooked, is the position of the mighty fixed star Regulus on the Ascendant which has always been held to confer great and lasting renown.

In addition to reputation there are signs in the horoscope that point to considerable popularity. The trine of the Sun and Moon is an excellent aspect for one who is brought before the public and the position of the Moon in the western half of the map, that of others rather than of self, is an added testimony. The fact that Saturn, lord of the seventh house, is on the Ascendant, indicates that people came to the native and that he did not have to go to them. Indeed it is very doubtful whether one with such positions would desire popularity, for Saturn on the Ascendant and the ruling planet in the twelfth house usually favour seclusion.

*Friendships.*—Although Alan Leo was un-

doubtedly very popular his horoscope was not a particularly fortunate one for friendships, especially with women. Venus is in Cancer in the eleventh house, retrograde, and is badly afflicted by the Moon, its dispositor, and by Mars, while Mercury, lord of the eleventh is also retrograde and in conjunction with Saturn. In early life, when the Cardinal Cross was more active, his friends were not good ones, and were largely thrust upon him. It was not until he came more directly under the influence of the fixed signs that he was able to escape from his unfavourable environment. It is likely that his friends were then older than himself as Mercury is with Saturn. The retrogradation of the significators of friendship is an indication that few lasting ties would be formed, and I believe that this was actually the case.

*Financial Affairs.*—The financial prospects in any nativity must be considered apart from reputation as unfortunately fame and money do not necessarily go hand in hand. In this case also Mercury is significator, being ruler of the second house, and its retrogradation and conjunction with Saturn gave financial

difficulties in early life. However with a horoscope such as this there was no fear of poverty, for the conjunction of the Sun and Jupiter is one of the best possible aspects for material comfort, particularly as the Sun happens in this case to be the ruling planet. Mercury is in trine to the Moon in Aries, indicating that money would be obtained through the native's own exertions, and this operated, as might be expected, through ninth house matters. The Moon is a very important significator in financial affairs, especially in a male horoscope, and the planets with which it is in aspect denote the sources of income, or on the other hand, of loss, if the aspect be a bad one. Here the favourable aspects of the Moon consist of a trine with Mercury and a sextile with Uranus denoting gain by writing and by Astrology as a profession. The unfavourable aspects are the squares of Mars and Venus, which threaten heavy expenditure and losses through friends. At an early age Alan Leo gave all his earnings to his mother, and it will be noticed that Venus, the mother's significator is in Cancer, the sign of the home, and that

Mars is ruler of the fourth house. In this case the sesquiquadrate of the Moon to Saturn was a contributing factor denoting amongst other things the sacrifice of money through the sense of duty.

Those who are interested in the Part of Fortune will notice that it is in the ninth house and in trine with Saturn, both rather significant positions.

*Marriage.*—The natural signifiers of matrimonial affairs in a male nativity are the Moon and Venus, and it depends on their positions and aspects whether marriage takes place or not. In this map Venus is in the fruitful sign Cancer in the eleventh house aspected by Mars and in no aspect with Saturn or Uranus, while the Sun is in conjunction with Jupiter, the ruler of a large part of the seventh house, and in trine with the Moon. All these positions promise marriage, but the Moon, which is not so well aspected, is decreasing in light, occidental, and in sesquiquadrate with Saturn, so that some delay was to be expected, and it is not surprising that marriage did not take place until the age of 34.

In a man's horoscope the planets to which the Moon applies denote the several attachments that he forms. I do not know whether Mr Leo was ever previously engaged, but the Moon is applying to Venus, Mars, and Mercury, all retrograde, and this indicates early disappointments in love affairs, or broken attachments.

The next application of the Moon is to the trine of Saturn, part ruler of the seventh house, and this together with the sign on the seventh, may be taken to represent the marriage partner.

Aquarius is usually considered to be ruled by Saturn, but in the map of an advanced Ego it is likely that Uranus participates in this rulership. If this is so we should expect a partner interested in Occultism, as is the case, and one in whose horoscope Saturn is prominent, since it is to this planet that the Moon applies. A glance at Mrs Leo's nativity shows that Saturn is elevated above all the other bodies, and those who know her recognise a marked Saturnian influence, so that in this respect also the facts are in accordance with the conclusions drawn from the map.

The happiness of the marriage is strongly indicated by Moon trine Jupiter, trine Sun, sextile Uranus, and Sun conjunction Jupiter and sextile Uranus. This is borne out by a comparison of the two horoscopes. Mrs Leo's map is well known, but the positions are appended in order that such comparison may more readily be made as it is rare to find two maps so much in sympathy.

x	xi	xii	i	ii	iii
♄ 21.59	♁ 26	♃ 25	♈ 16.49	♊ 13	♋ 15
☉	☽	♀	♀	♁	♃
♈ 15.41	♈ 7.1	♈ 27.21	♈ 24.46	♈ 2.1	♈ 18.30
		♃	♃		
		♈ 26.53	♈ 23.12		

The most noticeable feature is that Mr Leo's Moon and Mrs Leo's Sun are in exactly the same degree of Aries, being only 19' apart, which alone constitutes a tremendous attraction, and this is still further strengthened by the trine of his planets in Leo to hers in Aries. The afflictions of the Moon in his case seem to have worked out through environment, and the separation from some unsatisfactory associates.

It has often been said that Alan Leo owed much of his fame and success to his wife, and the truth of this statement is shown by the maps, but it is equally true to say that she also gained by the association. It will be noticed that her Jupiter falls almost exactly on the cusp of his tenth house, and her planets in Aries in his ninth, thus increasing his success and stimulating his religious and literary activities, but his planets in Leo fall in her tenth house and in that way reciprocate the influence. From the mundane point of view, also, the blending of these maps is good, for in Mr Leo's case six planets are in the eastern half of the map, and in Mrs Leo's seven planets are in the western.

Perhaps the point of greatest interest to the astrological student, however, is the presence in each case of platonic ideals of marriage. I have already commented upon the strong idealism shown in Mr Leo's horoscope, and it is easy to trace a similar tendency in that of Mrs Leo. In Mr Leo's map four planets are in Leo, the sign ruling the normal fifth house and children, and they

are in trine with the Moon in Aries, giving idealism, and in sextile with Uranus, giving unconventional ideas and the will to put them into practice. In Mrs Leo's map Saturn, part ruler of the fifth house, is the most elevated planet, and is in square with the Sun, Venus and Mercury, while Uranus, also part ruler of the fifth, is in the eighth, signifying the absence of children, and the idealistic sign Aquarius is on the cusp of the fifth, thus denoting that idealism and will were the governing factors in the matter. In the combined map Mrs Leo's Saturn falls on the cusp of Mr Leo's eleventh house (fifth from seventh), and his seventh house is her fifth.

Many pages might be filled by continuing the comparison of these maps, but space forbids, and the task must be left to the student. It may, however, be as well to mention one small point that might otherwise be overlooked. The criticism under which the Part of Fortune has been almost buried has more successfully obscured the twenty or thirty other "Parts" that were in use among



the ancients, but those students who, in common with the writer, have observed many interesting "coincidences" among these forgotten relics, will be interested to observe that the "Part of Marriage" falls in Mr Leo's map in  $\gamma 6.51$ , and in Mrs Leo's in  $\alpha 8.52$ , thus forming an opposition and acting as an additional line of attraction.

We have now briefly covered the whole ground of the horoscope and touched, however inadequately, upon all the main points of interest, and in closing we would again remind the reader of the remarks in the opening paragraphs.

Unfortunately it is impossible to ascertain from the horoscope alone the evolutionary position of the native, and it must be admitted that in the case of a less developed Ego the Cardinal afflictions would have manifested much more strongly. Here they appear to have been indrawn. In early life their influence was distinctly traceable, but latterly they affected mind and feelings rather than actions, perhaps because they occupied only

the succedent and cadent houses and did not touch the angles.

At the age of about 30 the life energies seem to have centred in the fixed signs, and the Sun was then ruler of the map, but towards the close of life the solar forces passed on to Uranus and that planet seems to have assumed the position of ruler. There was therefore an evolution from the Cardinal Signs to the Fixed, and since Uranus is in a Mutable sign and Neptune is also in a Mutable sign in the eighth house one is led to suggest that at death the Ego passed under the influence of the Mutable Cross and centred his energies in the two occult planets Uranus and Neptune.

With Saturn on the Ascendant and the Cardinal afflictions, the lessons to be learnt were purity, truth, humility, unselfishness, and the control of the passions, and those who knew Alan Leo will know how well he succeeded. The Cardinal afflictions were fought, and the will-power gained and the energies controlled were gathered up in Uranus; while the large-heartedness of Leo and the humility of Saturn were expanded

and finally absorbed into the perfect compassion and self-sacrifice of Neptune in Pisces. Thus while early in life there were many activities in the map, the solar forces were synthesised in Uranus and the lunar in Neptune, so that at the end all the energies were gathered up into two living centres, which, with the Libra of the death map, blend into the trinity of Will, Wisdom and Activity.

It is said that the purpose of each incarnation is to evolve the quality opposite to that denoted by the rising sign, and, if so, the purpose of Alan Leo's life was to control the animal forces of Leo, and to transmute them into the Will of Aquarius, the Man. The task was a difficult one, but he fought his way doggedly to victory, never wavering in his devotion to the ideal of purity, and of him it might truly be written :

' His life was gentle, and the elements  
So mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world, "This was a man!"'

VIVIAN E. ROBSON.



ALAN LEO

RESTORER OF INNER TEACHINGS OF ASTROLOGY

---

THE Lords of Air and Fire still dwell  
In their ivory palace fair ;  
And the Lords of Earth and Water rise  
To give them greeting there :  
But the Seven Spirits around the Throne  
No temple find where their name is known,  
Of their beauty are few aware.

Almost forgot is the ancient lore  
Of the city built on high,  
With its jewelled walls, and angel guards,  
And its gates in the vaulted sky.  
A beautiful faith is almost destroyed,  
The inner life of the world seems void ;  
Men cannot its light descry.

There came through the royal Eastern Gate (Ω)  
A soul who was born to lead ;  
Where visions throng, and where faith is strong,  
Insatiable hopes succeed ;  
The Ancient Wisdom became more clear ;  
Magnetic, that centre drew others near,  
All eager his work to speed.

But back through the Upper Portal now  
That fiery soul has passed ;  
From the worldly strife, to a keener life,  
To a Wisdom more grand and vast.  
“Come, thou art wanted !” the call rang clear  
Through the denser air of our lower sphere,—  
He went, but his work will last.

“Think not of me, but ever of this—  
That the Truth may be known once more ;  
Let each give all that he has to give,  
That the Light through him may pour,”  
So he spoke while yet we could see his face,  
Now each must fill his appointed place  
Till we meet on the Western shore.

E. L. FOYSTER.

## BOOKS BY ALAN LEO.

PRACTICAL ASTROLOGY. *Price 5s. ; post free 5s. 5d.*

This work was Alan Leo's first contribution to the literature of Astrology and is still unequalled as a book for beginners who wish to know not only how to cast and judge a horoscope, but also something of the inner meaning and philosophy of Astrology.

### ASTROLOGICAL TEXT-BOOKS.

VOL. I. ASTROLOGY FOR ALL.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

As its title implies, this book may be read and understood by all, as no knowledge of mathematics is required. It contains as complete an account as can be given in any one book of the influence on life and character of the rising sign, the Sun's position, the Moon's position, and the polarities of the Sun and Moon combined. In addition there are short delineations of the effect of each of the planets in the signs, and tables are given which show at a glance the approximate positions of the planets, and the exact place of the Moon for any day between 1850 and 1911.

## VOL. II. CASTING THE HOROSCOPE.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

To the student who is making a serious study of Astrology this book is indispensable. It is a complete guide to the mathematical part of the subject, both practical and theoretical, and contains invaluable information as to standard time and other matters of vital importance to the astrologer that could otherwise be obtained only with the greatest difficulty. By its aid alone a horoscope can easily be cast for any place on the globe and for any date and time between 1850 and 1913, for it includes a condensed ephemeris for this period.

## VOL. III. HOW TO JUDGE A NATIVITY.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

A complete text-book of the analytical methods of judgment. Detailed information is given as to the effect of the planets in the signs and houses. In common with all Alan Leo's books it is original, and not merely a copy of older authors, and it contains a wealth of information unobtainable elsewhere.

## VOL. IV. THE ART OF SYNTHESIS.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

This volume is devoted to a study of the methods of blending the separate influences in a horoscope and is the only work of its kind in existence. A separate chapter is allotted to each planet and much information is included of an esoteric and philosophical nature.

VOL. V. THE PROGRESSED HOROSCOPE.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

A complete text-book of Primary and Secondary Directing. Not only are the full rules set out, with examples, but detailed information is given as to the effect of every possible direction.

VOL. VI. THE KEY TO YOUR OWN NATIVITY.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

A book essentially for beginners. It contains a series of numbered paragraphs covering all possible positions of the planets in a horoscope, and given a map of the heavens at birth a lengthy delineation can at once be obtained with no more trouble than is involved in turning over the pages.

VOL. VII. ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY.

*Price 12s. 6d. ; post free 13s.*

A sequel to *The Art of Synthesis*. It deals with Astrology from an entirely novel standpoint, and treats of the occult meaning of the horoscope.

(A copious Reference Index has been compiled for this series of Text-books and forms an invaluable aid to their study.)



POCKET MANUALS.

*Price 2s. each ; post free 2s. 2d.*

No. 1. EVERYBODY'S ASTROLOGY.

Covers the same field as *Astrology for All* but in a more condensed and abridged form.

No. 2. WHAT IS A HOROSCOPE AND HOW IS IT CAST?

Contains simple instructions for casting the horoscope and elementary rules of judgment.

No. 4. THE HOROSCOPE IN DETAIL. (In collaboration with H. S. Green.)

Detailed rules for casting and judging a nativity.

No. 7. HORARY ASTROLOGY.

An original work on the subject, and not, as is often the case, a mere copy of an ancient author.

No. 15. SYMBOLISM AND ASTROLOGY.

An elementary exposition of the meaning of astrological symbols, and an introduction to *Esoteric Astrology*.

(The other volumes in this series were brought out under the supervision of Alan Leo, but were not written by him.)

210 LIFE AND WORK OF ALAN LEO

ASTROLOGY EXPLAINED. *Price 6d.*

A simple statement of what Astrology really is.

THE ASTROLOGER AND HIS WORK. *Price 6d.*

A booklet that should be read by all who wish to make use of an astrologer. It indicates the information that should be given, and includes one or two stories of Astrology in real life.

A NEW FACTOR IN EDUCATION: ASTROLOGY. *Price 6d.*

Contains much information useful for educational purposes, and gives the characteristics of children born under the various signs and positions of the Sun, etc.

THE WORK OF THE "HERMES" LODGE. *Price 6d.*

Deals with Astrology in its relation to Co-Masonry.

MARS: THE WAR LORD. *Price 2s.; post free 2s. 2d.*

A detailed study of the influence of the planet Mars.

SATURN: THE REAPER. *Price 2s.; post free 2s. 2d.*

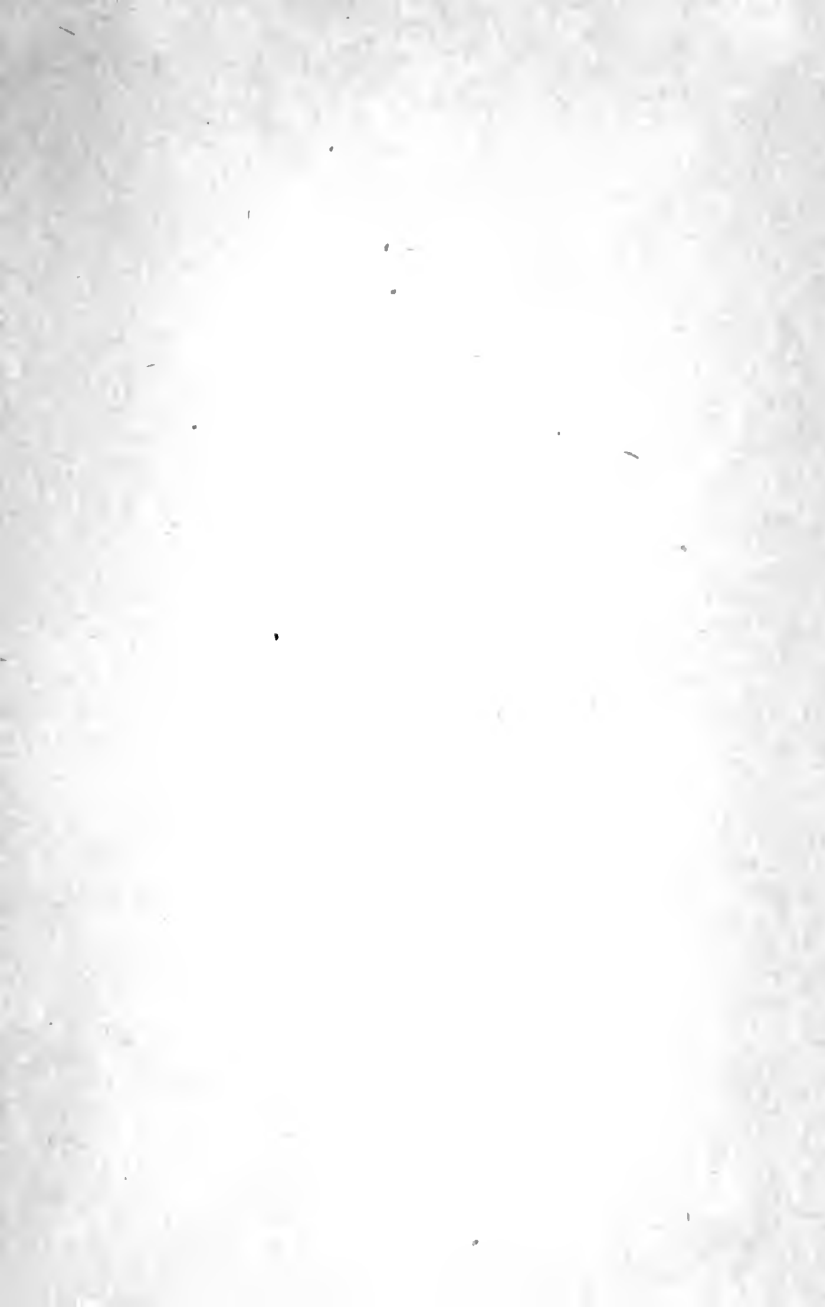
A companion to *Mars: the War Lord*.

JUPITER: THE PRESERVER. *Price 2s.; post free 2s. 2d.*

Alan Leo's last book. A companion to *Mars: the War Lord* and *Saturn: the Reaper*.

LONDON :  
WOMEN'S PRINTING SOCIETY, LTD.,  
BRICK STREET, PICCADILLY, W. 1.





UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY

Los Angeles

This book is DUE on the last date stamped below.

NON-RENEWABLE

ELL-1000 St.  
JUL 15 1999

DUE 2 WKS FROM DATE RECEIVED

AUG '99

BF      Leo -  
1997    The life and  
L5L5    work of Alan  
         Leo



AA 000 505 155 2

BF  
1997  
L5L5

