

## CORRESPONDENCE.

ASTROLOGY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, OR THE LOST WORD  
REGAINED.

BOSTON, MASS., January 5, 1894.

EDITOR OF THE MASONIC REVIEW:

The above heading is the title of a book written and published in Boston, in 1892, by Karl Anderson, S. P. R., Professor of Chaldian, Arabian and Egyptian Astrology. Its second chapter is headed, "Disclosures of the Search Light"; and in the said chapter the author gives a new reason for the original union between Masonry and Templarism, and he introduced the subject, as follows:

"Freemasonry, corrupted by Roman Catholicism, has lost its ancient landmarks and been carried into captivity, and were it not for its oaths of allegiance would be sunk in ignorance. There can be no more than three degrees to Masonry. All else are spurious, and purposely invented by Catholicism to create dissension and dissatisfaction. The three first and only true degrees of Masonry are universal, and when under Hebraic rites include all there is in the entire thirty-three degrees of so-called Masonry. Masonry that debars any one on account of his religion, is not Masonry. Masonry that enjoins an obligation to support the Virgin Mary, is a fraud and no Masonry. Masonry not instituted by the ancient people is worthless and of no account. The sun, moon and stars are the three lights; but a *sign* has no ruling, and yet the thirty-three degrees of and sign were added to make up modern Freemasonry. Ancient Masonry is found all over the habitable globe; modern Masonry in but a small portion of it. Ancient Masonry will last while the world endures; modern Masonry will die in derision as the disbelief in the Virgin Mary and Roman Catholicism fades out; and it is rapidly dying in all places where science and knowledge prevail. A religion builded upon a dream is not one to last, and Catholicism has for its authority: 'And the angel appeared to Joseph in a *dream*'; how much more to the point the ancient religion when giving testimony: Thus saith the Lord, he who declares himself to be one and indivisible, who will allow no other gods to be worshiped, he who alone is the Savior."

The author next quotes from the following chapters and verses in Isaiah, viz.: Chap. xliii, 10, 13; also xlv, 6, 8; also xlv, 18, 21, 23; also xlvi, 9, 10; and last xlvii, 4. As most Masons have access to

the part in the Bible written by Isaiah, they can easily find the said passages in Isaiah. Let them, therefore, read the said passages in Isaiah and judge for themselves.

Our author continues as follows :

“So-called Christianity has no right to Masonry, and Masonry is only true without it. Catholic Knights Templars, Knights of St. John and Knights of Malta, to save themselves from utter destruction by Richard Cœur de Leon merged themselves into Masonic bodies, and then advancing the number of degrees, withheld themselves from the poorer brotherhood and became bodies militant and aristocratic, subservient to Catholicism and the worship of the Virgin Mary ; and as the heads of the Catholic Church are well aware that Masonry is the only really true belief, and that all their story of the Virgin Mother and her Infant Son is only a perversion of the ancient wisdom. So they must always be an enemy to truth, and they well know that *once a Mason always a Mason*. True Masonry makes no distinction in creeds or religion, in color or race, but a belief in one God, the Great Architect of the Universe.”

About eight years ago I read Dalcho's Orations, published in Dublin in 1808, and that very highly, distinguished Rev. Bro. informs us as follows :

“It is well known [said he] that 27,000 Masons accompanied the Christian princes in the crusades. \* \* \* While in Palestine they discovered several important Masonic manuscripts among the descendants of the ancient Jews, which enriched our archives with authentic written records, and on which some of the degrees were founded.”

According to Dalcho, as far as I remember, the *Masonization* of the Templars and the *Templerization* of the Masons took place originally during the time of the crusades. Bro. Dalcho gave no reason for the merging of the said Templars and Masons, and he probably did not know of any reason for the said union of those bodies.

Another story assigns the union of Christian Knighthood with the Masonic fraternity to the reign of David 1st of Scotland, and also to Robert Bruce, who established the Masonic “Royal Order of Scotland.” Again. I have read somewhere, that after Pope Clement 5th abolished the Order of Knight Templars, that a number of Knight Templars located in Scotland, united with the Freemasons in order to perpetuate the mysteries of Knight Templarism.

Now, with regard to Mr. Karl Anderson, the author of the book, I know nothing. I know not whether he is a Mason, or whence he obtained his information. I have read some where that Richard the 1st of England despised the Knight Templars, but that Richard's

contempt or hatred of the Templars, caused the union of Templarism with Masonry is entirely new to me. The friend, however, who lent me the book, told me that if any one would tell Mr. Karl Anderson the date and minute he was born, Mr. Anderson would not only tell him his history of the past, but would also reveal to him what would happen to him in the future, and if such is the case, Mr. Anderson may have derived his knowledge of the history and mystery of Masonry with the aid of his telescope, or in other words, by means of his astrologic science. But, be that as it may, I tried to find out what the *lost word*, which he claims to have regained, and what it amounted to. But I confess that I am all in a puzzle about it; the author's method of reasoning is beyond my comprehension. Why! "splitting hairs" is a mere trifle when compared with Mr. Anderson's splitting of words; but as far as I can make out, that by turning certain words into figures, he makes out that 25,920, means "is perfect," which forms part of a verse in the Bible, viz.: "The law of the Lord is *perfect*." And he goes on to say :

"This result I have obtained after much study and trial, for it is necessary in this divine science ever to remember the Egyptian Isis standing upon the turtle or serpent, and its motto, 'Make haste slowly', and move step by step, degree after degree, and reveal no secrets of higher orders to those not advanced, or incapable of receiving them, or making a break of the circle."

The above paragraph will furnish the reader with but a faint idea of our author's mode of reasoning. But, while frankly admitting my incapacity to comprehend Mr. Anderson's mode of reasoning, I hope, however, that a more learned brother Mason than myself, will be induced to read the said book, and will explain what is entirely inexplicable to me.

Respectfully and Fraternaly yours,

JACOB NORTON.