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978-1-108-04431-8 - Occult Sciences: The Philosophy of Magic, Prodigies and Apparent Miracles: Volume 2

Edited by Anthony Todd Thomson

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Occult Sciences

This examination of the connection between the belief in miracles and religious practices in ancient times was originally written by French politician and polymath Anne-Joseph-Eusèbe Bacconnière de Salverte (1771–1839) and published in 1829. In 1846, it was translated into English by a Scottish physician and writer, Anthony Todd Thomson (1778–1849), and published in two volumes. Thomson explains that Salverte's work was an important study of miracles and the power of priests, and he had 'performed a beneficial service in throwing open the gates of ancient sanctuaries.' However, Thomson also states that he differed from Salverte over the idea of the miraculous, and that he had expunged or heavily edited any passages relating to Christianity, even changing 'miracles' in the original subtitle to 'apparent miracles'. Volume 2 discusses the role of drugs and poison in magic, as well as the influence of weather on miraculous events.

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Occult Sciences

*The Philosophy of Magic,
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VOLUME 2

EUSÈBE SALVERTE

EDITED AND TRANSLATED BY
ANTHONY TODD THOMSON



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Frontmatter

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THE

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PRODIGIES AND APPARENT MIRACLES.

FROM THE FRENCH OF

EUSEBE SALVERTE.

WITH NOTES ILLUSTRATIVE, EXPLANATORY, AND CRITICAL

BY ANTHONY TODD THOMSON, M.D.

F.L.S., &c.

“Non igitur oportet nos magicis illusionibus uti, cum potestas philosophica doceat operari quod sufficit.”—ROO. BACON, *De secr. oper. art. et nat.* c. v.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

OF THE

SECOND VOLUME.

CHAPTER I.

Preparations of drugs and beverages; some soporific, others for producing temporary imbecility. Circé; Nepenthes. Delightful illusions; fearful illusions; involuntary revelations; invincible courage, produced by meats and potions.—The Old Man of the Mountains deceived his disciples by illusions: he probably fortified them against torture by stupifying drugs. The use of them becomes habitual, and conduces to bodily insensibility and imbecility 1—34

CHAPTER II.

Effect of perfumes on the moral nature of man—Action of liniments; the Magic Ointment frequently operated, by occasioning dreams, which the predisposition to credulity converted into realities—Such dreams may explain the whole history of Sorcery—The principal causes which multiplied the number

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Edited by Anthony Todd Thomson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

CONTENTS.

of Sorcerers, were the employment of mysterious secrets—The crimes which these pretended mysteries served to conceal, and the rigorous laws absurdly directed against the crime of sorcery 35—66

CHAPTER III.

Influence of the imagination, seconded by physical accessories: in producing an habitual belief in marvellous narrations, by music, by the habit of exalting the moral faculties, by unfounded terror, and by presentiments—Sympathetic emotions increase the effects of the imagination—Cures produced by the imagination—Flights of the imagination, effected by diseases, fastings, watchings, and mortifications—Moral and physical remedies successfully opposed to these flights of the imagination 67—98

CHAPTER IV.

Medicine formed a part of the Occult Science: it was not long exercised by the priests; diseases were supposed to be sent by malevolent Genii, or the irritated Gods; the cures were considered miracles, or works of magic—Credulity and the spirit of mystery attributed marvellous properties to inanimate substances; and Charlatanism assisted this species of deception—Counterfeit cures—Extraordinary abstinences—Nutritious substances taken in an almost imperceptible form—Apparent Resurrections 99—126

CHAPTER V.

Poisonous substances—Poisons, the effect of which can be graduated—Miraculous deaths—Poisons employed in ordeals—Diseases asserted to be caused by Divine vengeance—Diseases foretold 127—144

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04431-8 - Occult Sciences: The Philosophy of Magic, Prodigies and Apparent Miracles: Volume 2

Edited by Anthony Todd Thomson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

vii

CHAPTER VI.

Sterility of the soil—The belief in the means which the Thaumaturgists were supposed to possess for causing sterility arose particularly from the language of emblems—Sterility produced naturally—Cultures which injure one another—Substances which are prejudicial to vegetation—The atmosphere rendered pestilential—Deleterious powder and nitrate of arsenic employed as offensive weapons—Earthquakes and rumblings of the earth foreseen and predicted 145—158

CHAPTER VII.

Meteorology—The art of foreseeing rain, storms, and the direction of the winds; this is converted in the minds of the vulgar into the power of granting or refusing rain, and favourable winds—Magical ceremonies for conjuring a hail storm 159—169

CHAPTER VIII.

The art of drawing lightning from the clouds—Medals and traditions that indicate the existence of that art in antiquity—Disguised under the name of the worship of Jupiter Elicius and of Zeus Cataibates; it was known to Numa and many others among the Ancients—The imitators of thunder made use of it—It may be traced from Prometheus; it explains the fable of Salmonius: it was known to the Hebrews, and the construction of the Temple of Jerusalem is a proof of this—Zoroaster made use of it to light the sacred fire, and operate in the initiation of his followers: his experiments and miracles—If the Chaldeans possessed the secret, it was afterwards lost among them—There existed some traces of it in India in Ktesias' time—Wonders resembling those performed through this art, which however, may be otherwise explained. 170—201

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04431-8 - Occult Sciences: The Philosophy of Magic, Prodigies and Apparent Miracles: Volume 2

Edited by Anthony Todd Thomson

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER IX.

Phosphorescent substances—Sudden appearance of flames—Heat developed by the slacking of lime—Substances which are kindled by contact with air and water—Pyrophorus, phosphorus, naptha, and alcoholic liquids employed in different apparent miracles—The blood of Nessus was a phosphuret of sulphur; and also the poison that Medea employed against Creusa—Greek fire—This fire, re-discovered, after many attempts—In Persia and Hindostan an unextinguishable fire was used.
202—225

CHAPTER X.

Compositions similar to gunpowder—Mines worked by it under Herod; by the Christian priests under the Emperor Julian at Jerusalem; and in Syria under the Caliph Motassem; and by the priests of Delphi in order to repulse the Persians and Gauls—Antiquity of the invention of Gunpowder; its probable origin in Hindostan; it has been known from time immemorial in China—Tartar army repelled by artillery—Priests of India employed the same means to hurl thunder upon their enemies—The thunder of Jupiter compared to our fire-arms—Many assumed miracles explained by the use of these arms—Gunpowder was known in the latter empire, probably until the twelfth century.
226—242

CHAPTER XI.

The Thaumaturgists might have worked pretended miracles with the air-gun, the power of steam, and the magnet—The compass was probably known to the Phocians, as well as the Phœnician navigators—The Finns have a compass of their own;

Cambridge University Press

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

ix

and in China the compass has been used since the foundation of the empire—Other means of working pretended miracles—Galvanic phenomena—Action of vinegar upon lime—Amusements of physics—*Lachryma Batavica*, &c. 243—262

CHAPTER XII.

Conclusion—Principles followed in the course of the discussion—Reply to the objection that the scientific acquirements of the ancients are lost—Democritus alone, among them, occupied himself with observations on experimental philosophy—This philosopher perceived, in the operations of magic, the scientific application of the laws of Nature—Utility of studying the apparent miracles of the ancients in this point of view—The Thaumaturgists did not connect together their learned conceptions by any theory, which is a proof that they had received them from a prior period—The first Thaumaturgists cannot be accused of imposition; but it would be dangerous, in this day, to attempt to subjugate a people by apparent miracles; voluntary obedience to the laws is a certain consequence of the happiness which just legislation procures to men. 263—271

Illustrations 273—353

General Index 355—387