

# CONTENTS

## PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION

PAGE

## INTRODUCTION

False definition of Magic—It is not to be defined at hazard—Explanation of the Blazing Star—Existence of the absolute—Absolute nature of magical science—Errors of Dupuis—Profanation of the science—Prediction of Count Joseph de Maistre—Extent and import of the science—The Divine Justice—Power of the adept—The devil and science—Existence of demons—False idea of the devil—Conception of the Manicheans—Crimes of sorcerers—The Astral Light—The so-called Imagination of Nature—Of what is to be understood hereby—The effects hereof—Definition of magnetism—Agreement between reason and faith—Jachin and Boaz—Principle of the hierarchy—Religion of Kabalists—Images of God—Theory of the light—Mysteries of sexual love—Antagonism of forces—The mythical Pope Joan—The Kabalah as an explanation and reconciliation of all—Why the Church condemns Magic—Dogmatic Magic an explanation of the philosophy of history—Culpable curiosity regarding Magic—Plan of the present work—The author's submission to the established order

1

#### BOOK I

## THE DERIVATIONS OF MAGIC

#### CHAPTER I

## FABULOUS SOURCES

The Book of Enoch concerning the Fall of the Angels—Meaning of the Legend—The Book of the Penitence of Adam—The Personality of Enoch—The Apocalypse of St. Methodius—Children of Seth and of Cain—Rationale of occultism—Error of Rousseau—Traditions of Jewry
—The glory of Christianity—The Sepher Yetzirah, Zohar and Apocalypse
—Opening of the Zohar

39

## CHAPTER II

## MAGIC OF THE MAGI

The true and false Zoroaster—Doctrines of the true Zoroaster—Transcendental fire-philosophy—Electrical secrets of Numa—A transcript from XXIII



# The History of Magic

<i>J J</i> 0	
Zoroaster on demons and sacrifices—Important revelations on magnetism—Initiation in Assyria—Wonders performed by the Assyrians—Du Potet in accord with Zoroaster—Danger incurred by the unwary—Power of man over animals—Downfall of the priesthood in Assyria—Magical death of Sardanapalus	53
CHAPTER III	
MAGIC IN INDIA	
The Indians as descendants of Cain—India the mother of idolatry—Doctrine of the Gymnosophists—Indian origin of Gnosticism—Some wise fables of India—Black Magic of the Oupnek'hat—Citation from J. M. Ragon—Indian Grand Secrets—The English and Indian insurrections	64
CHAPTER IV	
HERMETIC MAGIC	
The Emerald Table—Other writings of Hermes—Magical interpretation of the geography of Ancient Egypt—Ministry of Joseph—Sacred alphabet—The Isiac Tablet of Cardinal Bembo—The Tarot explained by the Sepher Yetzirah—The Tarot of Charles VII—Magical science of Moses	73
CHAPTER V	
MAGIC IN GREECE	
Fable of the Golden Fleece—Medea and Jason—The five magical epics—Aeschylus a profaner of the Mysteries—The Orpheus of legend—Orphic Mysteries—Göetia—The sorcerers of Thessaly—Medea and Circe	82
CHAPTER VI	
MATHEMATICAL MAGIC OF PYTHAGORAS	
Pythagoras an heir of the traditions of Numa—Identity of Pythagoras—His doctrine concerning God—A fine utterance against anarchy—Golden Verses—Symbols of Pythagoras—His chastity—His divination—His explanation of miracles—Secret of the interpretation of dreams—The belief of Pythagoras	92
CHAPTER VII	
THE HOLY KABALAH	
Origin of the Kabalah—The horror of idolatry in Kabalism—Kabalistic definition of God—Principles of the Kabalah—The Divine Names—Four forms of Tetragrammaton—The word which accomplishes all transmutations—The Keys of Solomon—The chain of spirits—Whether human spirits return—The world of spirits according to the Zohar—Of spirits which manifest—Fluidic larvæ—The Great Magical Agent—Obscure origin of larvæ	101



# Contents

## BOOK II

## FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DOGMAS

## CHAPTER I

#### PRIMITIVE SYMBOLISM OF HISTORY

Allegory of the Earthly Paradise—The Edenic Pantacle—The Cherub—Folly of a great mind—Mysteries of Genesis—Children of Cain—Magical secrets of the Tower of Babel—Belphegor—The mediæval Sabbath—Decadence of the hierarchy—Philosophy of chance—Doctrine of Plato—An oracle of Apollo—Rationalism of Aristotle—The Cubic Stone—Summary of Neoplatonism	115
CHAPTER II	

# MYSTICISM

Inviolability of magical science—Profane and mystic schools—The Bacchantes—Materialistic reformers and anarchic mystics—Imbecile visionaries—Their horror of sages—Tolerance of the true Church—False miracles—Rites of Black Magic—Barbarous words and unknown signs—Cause of visions—A theory of hallucinations . . . . .

## CHAPTER III

### INITIATIONS AND ORDEALS

The Great Work—The four aspects of the Sphinx and the Shield of Achilles
—Allegories of Hercules and Œdipus—The Secret Doctrine of Plato—
Of Plato as Kabalist—Difference between Plato and St. John—Platonic theosophy—Fatal experiences—Homœpathy practised by the Greeks—The cavern of Trophonius—Science of Egyptian priests—Lactantius and the antipodes—The Greek hell—Ministry of suffering—The Table of Cebes and the poem of Dante—Doctrines of the Phædron—The burial of the dead—Necromancy

## CHAPTER IV

## THE MAGIC OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Magnificence of the true Cultus—Orthodox traditions—Dissent of the profane—Their calumnies against initiates—An allegory concerning Bacchus—Tyresias and Calchas—The priesthood according to Homer—Oracles of sibyls—Origin of geomancy and cartomancy . . . . . . . . . . . .

XXV

133



# The History of Magic

## CHAPTER V

#### MYSTERIES OF VIRGINITY

	PAGE
Of Hellenism at Rome—Institution of Vestals—Traditional virtue of virgin	
blood-Symbolism of Sacred Fire-Religious aspect of the history of	
Lucretia—Honour among Roman women—Mysteries of the Bona Dea	
-Numa as a hierophant-Ingenious notions of Voltaire on divination	
-Prophetic instinct of the masses-Erroneous opinions of Fontenelle	
and Kircher on oracles—Religious Calendar of Numa	152

### CHAPTER VI

#### SUPERSTITIONS

Their origin and persistence—Beautiful thought of the Roman pontiff, St. Gregory—Observation of numbers and of days—Abstinence of the magi—Opinions of Porphyry—Greek and Roman superstitions—Mythological data on the secret properties of animals—A passage from Euripides—Reasons of Pythagorean abstinence—Singular excerpt from Homer—Presages, dreams, enchantments and fascinations—Magical whirlpools—Modern phenomena—Olympius and Plotinus

158

## CHAPTER VII

## MAGICAL MONUMENTS

The Seven Wonders of the world and the seven magical planets—The Pyramids—Thebes and its seven gates—The pantacle of the sun—The pantacle of the moon—The pantacle of the conjugal Venus—The pantacles of Mercury, Jupiter and Mars—The Temple of Solomon—Philosophical summary of ancient wisdom

166

## BOOK III

## DIVINE SYNTHESIS AND REALISATION OF MAGIA BY THE CHRISTIAN REVELATION

## CHAPTER I

### CHRIST ACCUSED OF MAGIC BY THE JEWS

The beginning of the Gospel according to St. John and its profound meaning —Ezekiel a Kabalist—Special character of Christianity—Accusations of the Jews against the Saviour—The Sepher Toldos Jeshu—A beautiful legend from the apocryphal gospels—The Johannites—Burning of magical books at Ephesus—Cessation of oracles—The great Pan is dead—Transfiguration of natural prodigy into miracle and of divination into prophecy

17

XXVI



# Contents

## CHAPTER II

## THE WITNESS OF MAGIC TO CHRISTIANITY

Absolute existence of religion—Essential distinction between science and faith—Puerile objections—Christianity proved by charity—Condemnation of Magic by the Christian priesthood—Simon the Magician—His history—His doctrine—His conference with SS. Peter and Paul—His downfall—His sect continued by Menander	176
CHAPTER III	
THE DEVIL	
The question considered in the light of faith and science—Satan and Lucifer—Wisdom of the Church—The devil according to the initiates of occult science—Of possessions in the gospel—Opinions of Torreblanca—Astral perversities—The Sabbatic goat—The false Lucifer	187
CHAPTER IV	
THE LAST PAGANS	
The eternal miracle of God—Civilising influence of Christianity—Apollonius of Tyana—His allegorical legend—Julian the apostate—His evocations—Jamblichus and Maximus of Tyre—Birth of Secret Societies for the forbidden practices of Magic	193
CHAPTER V	
LEGENDS	
The legend of St. Cyprian and St. Justin—Magical prayer of St. Cyprian— The Golden Legend—Apuleius and the Golden Ass—The fable of Psyche—Curious subtlety of St. Augustine—Philosophy of the Fathers of the Church	200
CHAPTER VI	
SOME KABALISTIC PAINTINGS AND SACRED EMBLEMS	
Gnosticism and the primitive Church—Emblems of the catacombs—True and false Gnostics—Profanation of the Gnosis—Impure and sacrilegious Rites—Eucharistic sacrilege—The Arch-heretic Marcos—Women and the priesthood—Montanus and his female prophets—Tertullian—The dualism of Manes—Danger of evocations—Divagations of Kabalism—Loss of the Kabalistic Keys	208

XXV11



# The History of Magic

## CHAPTER VII

DUITA	CUDITEDS	AF 1	rur	ALEXANDRIAN	CCHOOL

Ammonius Saccas—Plotinus—Porphyry—Hypatia—Incautious admissions	PAGE
of Synesius—Writings of this initiate—More especially his tract on	
Dreams—The commentary of Jerome Cardan thereon—Attribution of	
the works of St. Dionysius to Synesius—Their orthodoxy and their	
value	215

## BOOK IV

### MAGIC AND CIVILISATION

## CHAPTER I

### MAGIC AMONG BARBARIANS

Rome conquered by the Cross—History of Philinnium and Machates—The	
Bride of Corinth—Philosophical considerations thereon—Germanic and	
Druidic theology—College of the Druids at Autun—Druidic transmi-	
gration of souls—Some Druidic practices	223

## CHAPTER II

#### INFLUENCE OF WOMEN

Female influence in early France—Velleda slandered by Chateaubriand—	
Berthe au grand pied-The fairy Mélusine-Saint Clotilda-The	
sorceress Frédégonde-The story of Klodswinthe-Frédégonde and	
Clovis—Further concerning her history	

## CHAPTER III

## THE SALIC LAWS AGAINST SORCERERS

Laws attributed to Pharamond-Explanation of a Talmudic passage	
Rabbi Jechiel—Belief in the immortality of the soul among the J	ews
-An ecclesiastical council on sorcery-The rise of Mohammed-	
religious history of Charles Martel—The Reign of Pépin the Sho	rt
The Kabalist Zedekias—His fables concerning elementary spirits—	-An
epidemic of visions	

## CHAPTER IV

## LEGENDS OF THE REIGN OF CHARLEMAGNE

Charlemagne a prince of faërie—Charlemagne and Roland—The enchanted sword and magic horn—The *Enchiridion* of Leo III—The tradition therein—The pantacles—The Sabbath—The Free Judges—Their

232

238



# Contents

	-1
foundation and purpose—Power of this Tribunal—The fate of Frederick of Brunswick—Code of the Free Judges—Laws of Charlemagne—Knight errantry—The cultus of the Blessed Virgin	246
CHAPTER V	
MAGICIANS	
The pope and empire—The penalty of excommunication—Further concerning Rabbi Jechiel—The automaton of Albertus Magnus—Albertus and St. Thomas Aquinas—The legend of the automaton interpreted—Scholasticism and Aristotelian philosophy—The philosophical stone and the quintessence	256
CHAPTER VI	
SOME FAMOUS PROSECUTIONS	
The great religious orders and their power—The Knights Templar—Their origin—Their secret design—The Christian sect of Johannites—Their profanation of the history of Christ—Pontiffs of the Johannite sect—The Johannites and the Templars—Further concerning Templar secret doctrine—Development of the chivalry—Their projects discovered—Their suppression—The case of Joan of Arc—The history of Gilles de Laval	264
CHAPTER VII	
SUPERSTITIONS RELATING TO THE DEVIL	
Apparitions of Satan—Possessions—A philosophy of superstitions—The crime of Black Magic—Pathological states—The soul of the world—Modern phenomena—Fourier and M. de Mirville—Baron de Guldenstubbé	281
BOOK V	
THE ADEPTS AND THE PRIESTHOOD	
CHAPTER I	
PRIESTS AND POPES ACCUSED OF MAGIC	
Inviolable sanctity of the priesthood—Accusations of false adepts—Ground-less charges against Pope Sylvester II—Scandalous story of Polonus reproduced by Platina—The legend of Pope Joan—Its derivation from ancient Tarot cards representing Isis crowned with a tiara—Further concerning Sylvester II—Opinion of Gabriel Naudé—The Grimoire attributed to Pope Honorius III—The anti-pope Honorius II as its possible author—An excursus on the content and character of the work	291
XX1X	



# The History of Magic

# CHAPTER II

#### APPEARANCE OF THE BOHEMIAN NOMADS

	PAGE
Their entrance into Europe early in the fifteenth century—Their name of	
Bohemians or Egyptians—An account of their encampment near Paris,	
drawn from an ancient chronicle—A citation from George Borrow—	
Researches of M. Vaillant—The Gipsies and the Tarot—A conclusion	
on this subject—Communistic Experiment in 1840	306

#### CHAPTER III

## LEGEND AND HISTORY OF RAYMUND LULLY

Story of the	Doctor Illa	ıminatı	s on its	mythi	cal side	Ra	ymor	ıd Lu	lly a	and
the Lady	Ambrosia	a—His	immor	tality a	nd libe	eration	the	refron	ı—7	$\Gamma$ he
historical	personag	e—Lull	y as ar	ı alche	mist—'	The F	Rose	Noble	es	His
philosopl	nical testa	ment—	College	s for th	ie stud	y of l	angua	ages f	oun	ded
by his eff	orts—The	Great .	Art—H	e appe	ars at t	he Co	uncil	of Vi	enn	a
Lully a c	lisciple of	the Ka	balists-	–But t	he trac	dition'	in hi	is han	ıds I	had
become (	Christian .									

## 319

## CHAPTER IV

## ON CERTAIN ALCHEMISTS

Nicholas Flamel and the book of Abraham the Jew-Mysterious figures of the work-A tradition concerning Flamel-Bernard Trevisan-Basil Valentine-John Trithemius-Cornelius Agrippa-The pantacle of Trithemius-William Postel-Illustrations of his teaching-The story of Mother Jeanne-The renewal of Postel-An opinion of Father Desbillons-Paracelsus-His doctrines of occult medicine-Mysteries of blood-Narrative of Tavernier-The Philosophia sagax of Paracelsus 331

## CHAPTER V

## SOME FAMOUS SORCERERS AND MAGICIANS

The Divine Comedy of Dante and its Kabalistic analysis-The Romance of the Rose—Luther and an its Rabanstic analysis—The Romanie of the Rose—Luther and anarchical theology—His disputes with the devil—His sacrilegious marriage—Sorcerers during the reign of Henry III—Visions of Jacques Clément—Mystic symbolism of the rose—Union of the rose and the cross—The Rosicrucians—Henry Khunrath—His Amphitheatrum Sapientiæ Ælernæ—Its pantacles—Oswaldus Crollius—Alchemists of the early seventeenth century—A Rosicrucian manifesto

## CHAPTER VI

### SOME MAGICAL PROSECUTIONS

Introductory remarks-Real crime of sorcerers-Some deplorable condemnations-The case of Louis Gaufridi-The case of Urbain Grandier-



# Contents

Contents	
The nuns of Louvier and some other processes—Interpretation of certain phenomena—Story of an apparition	360
CHAPTER VII	
THE MAGICAL ORIGIN OF FREEMASONRY	
Its appearance in Europe—Its allegorical and real end—The Legend of Hiram—Its meaning—Mission of the Rites of Masonry—Its profanations	382
BOOK VI	
MAGIC AND THE REVOLUTION	
CHAPTER I	
REMARKABLE AUTHORS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTUR	RY
Important discoveries in China—The Y-Kim of Fo-hi—Legend of its origin —Connection with the Zohar—An example of absolute philosophy— Opinion of Leibnitz—Emmanuel Swedenborg—His system and its Kabalistic derivation—The discovery of Mesmer—Its theory and its great importance—A comparison between Voltaire and Mesmer	391
CHAPTER II	
THAUMATURGIC PERSONALITIES OF THE EIGHTEENTI CENTURY	I
The Comte de Saint-Germain—Unpublished particulars of his life—The report of Madame de Genlis—The Order of Saint Jakin—A pretended initiation—Further concerning the Rosicrucians—An appreciation of Saint-Germain—His alleged identity with the mysterious Althotas—The alchemist Lascaris—Count Cagliostro—An agent of the Templars—A successor of Mesmer—Explanation of his seal and Kabalistic name—His secret of physical regeneration—His trial by the Inquisition—He is said to be still alive	400
CHAPTER III	
PROPHECIES OF CAZOTTE	
The school of Martinists—The supper of Cazotte—The romance of <i>Le Diable Amoureux</i> —Its interpretation according to the Kabalah—Lilith and Nehamah—Initiation of Cazotte—The Mystic Mountain—Cazotte and the Revolutionary Tribunal	416



# The History of Magic

## CHAPTER IV

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION	
The reveries of Rousseau and their fatal consequences—The tomb of Jacques de Molay—The Lodge in Rue Platrière—The doom of Louis XVI—A genius of massacre—Mademoiselle de Sombreuil—Madame Elizabeth—The Church of the Jacobins—Vengeance of the Templars—Further concerning the Apocalypse of St. Methodius—The prophecies of Abbé	PAGE
Joachim	422
CHAPTER V	
PHENOMENA OF MEDIOMANIA	
An obscure sect of Johannite mystics—Visions of Loiseaut—Dom Gerle and Catherine Théot—A visit from Robespierre—The prophecy of Catherine—Her fate and that of Dom Gerle—The Saviours of Louis XVII—Martin de Gallardon—Eugène Vintras—Naündorff	427
CHAPTER VI	
THE GERMAN ILLUMINATI	
The adept Steinert—An account of Eckartshausen—Schroepfer and Lavater—The spirit Gablidone—His prophecies—Stabs and Napoleon—Carl Sand and Kotzebue—The Mopses and their mysteries—The magical drama of Faust	435
CHAPTER VII	
EMPIRE AND RESTORATION	
Predictions relative to Napoleon—Mademoiselle Lenormand—Etteilla and cartomancy—Madame Bouche and the Czar Alexander—Madame de Krudener—Further concerning the Saviours of Louis XVII—Visions of Martin de Gallardon	443
BOOK VII	

## MAGIC IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

## CHAPTER I

## MAGNETIC MYSTICS AND MATERIALISTS

Infectious follies of Fourier - The dogma of hell - An evocation in the	
Church of Notre Dame-Lesser prophets and divinities-Ganneau,	
Auguste Comte and Wronski—Sale of the Absolute	453
XXXII	



## Contents

CHAPTER II
HALLUCINATIONS

# 

## CHAPTER V

## SOME PRIVATE RECOLLECTIONS OF THE WRITER

The author is presented by	y the	magic	ian	Alpho	nse E	squi	iros to	the	divin	ity
Ganneau—Eccentric	doctr	ines o	f the	: Мар	ah	not	her L	ouis	XVII	<u> </u>
A fatal result of this	visit	:—Sec	ret o	ause (	of the	Re	voluti	on of	1848	3
The wife of Ganneau								_	_	

## CHAPTER VI

## THE OCCULT SCIENCES

A	synthesis in	summary-	Re	capitu	ılation	of	princ	iples-	—The	sear	ch a	fter	
	the absolute		•	•		•		•		•	•		500

## CHAPTER VII

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The enigma of the sphinx and its solution—Paradoxical questions and their answers—Knowledge and faith—The communion of faith—The XXXIII C

cartomancist Edmond .

PAGE

477

495



# The History of Magic

temporal power of the pope—The science of moral equilibrium—Consequences of its recognition—A citation from the Blessed Vincent de Lerins—Another from Comte Joseph de Maistre—An axiom of St. Thomas Aquinas—The liberation of Magic—Purpose of this work											de St.	503	
APPEND	IX	•		•	•							•	526
INDEX													520

xxxiv