PREFATORY NOTE.

A.G.R.C. *A.R.C.G.*

THIS translation of the First Book of the "Lemegeton" (now for the first time made accessible to English adepts and students of the Mysteries) was done, after careful collation and edition, from numerous MSS. in Hebrew, Latin, French and English, by G. H. Fra. D.D.C.F., by the order of the Secret Chief of the Rosicrucian Order.[1] The G. H. Fra., having succumbed unhappily to the assaults of the Four Great Princes (acting notably under Martial influences), it seemed expedient that the work should be brought to its conclusion by another hand. The investigations of a competent Skryer into the house of our unhappy Fra., confirmed this divination; neither our Fra. nor his Hermetic Mul. were there seen; but only the terrible shapes of the evil Adepts S.V.A.[2] and

[1] Mr. A. E. Waite writes ("Real History of the Rosicrucians," p. 426): "I beg leave to warn my readers that all persons who proclaim themselves to be Rosicrucians are simply members of pseudo-fraternities, and that there is that difference between their assertion and the fact of the case in which the essence of a lie consists!"

It is within the Editor's personal knowledge that Mr. Waite was (and still is probably) a member of a society claiming to be the R.C. fraternity.

As Mr. Waite constantly hints in his writings that he is in touch with initiated centres, I think the syllogism, whose premisses are given above, is fair, if not quite formal.—ED.

[2] It was owing to our Fra. receiving this S.V.A. as his Superior, and giving up the Arcana of our Fraternity into so unhallowed a power, that We decided no longer to leave Our dignity and authority in the hands of one who could be thus easily imposed upon. (For by a childish and easy magical trick did S.V.A. persuade D.D.C.F. of that lie.)

H., whose original bodies having been sequestered by Justice, were no longer of use to them. On this we stayed no longer Our Hand; but withdrawing Ourselves, and consulting the Rota, and the Books M. and Q. did decide to ask Mr. Aleister Crowley,[1] a poet, and skilled student of Magical Lore, and an expert Kabbalist, to complete openly that which had been begun in secret.[2] This is that which is written: "His Bishoprick let another take." And again: "Oculi Tetragrammaton." This is also that which is said: "Nomen Secundum קרע שטז refertur ad *Gebhurah*; qui est *Rex* secundus, quo moriente *delabebantur Posteriora Matris*, unde *Bittul* atque Corruptio *Achurajim Patris et Matris* hoc indigitatur."

And so saying we wish you well.

Ex Deo Nascimur.
In Jesu Morimur.
Per S.S. Reviviscimus.

Given forth from our Mountain of A.,
this day of C.C. 1903 A.D.

[1] The task of editing the MSS. thus placed in my hands has proved practically a sinecure The original translator and editor had completed his work so efficiently that very little was left for me to do beyond undertaking the business transactions connected with it, reading the proofs, and deciphering, with transliteration from the Enochian characters, the "Angelic" version of Perdurabo, from the priceless MS. entrusted to me.—ED.

[2] He that is appointed to complete in secret that which had been begun openly is R.R., and to be heard of at the care of the Editor.

SCANS FROM ALEISTER CROWLEY'S

THE EQUINOX

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