

## NOTES ABOUT THIS TRANSLATION

1. The words written in a [small typesize and enclosed in brackets] indicate my clarifying comments and sometimes Dee's original Latin word.
2. All the parentheses (and the words they contain) are Dee's parentheses.
3. The words which Dee wrote in Greek have been highlighted with italics or in some cases with regular type.
4. The placement of marginalia follows Dee's original text (including the numerals and quotation mark that Dee used for emphasis)
5. Previous translations have ignored Dee's many capitalizations. As they are expressions of emphasis, I have forrowed Dee's styling.
6. I have used Arabic numerals instead of Roman numerals make it easier to keep track of the 24 Theorems However, the use of the word "Theorems" for Theorems 1-4, and "Theor", for Theorems 5-24, follows Dee original styling (because its a clue)

Have included the 3 large decorative letters ( $Q, V$, and $P$ ), which begin each of the three sections of the book because they are so graphic (and because they are clues). However, the "first letters" of each of the translated Theorems (also clues) are not necessarily the "first letters" of each of Dee's original Latin Theo rems, so I did not capitalize them.
. Dee used rather long sentences and paragraphs. For easier reading I have made shorter sentences, more frequent paragraphs, and have left space between the paragraphs.
9. Even though this English version is easier for most people to read, many "letter" and "word" clues in the text and illustrations are "lost in translation." Be sure to study the primary source, Dee's original Latin text, for these subtle clues.
10. To simplify, I have deleted the headers, the printer's pagination letters (at bottom of recto pages), and the "carry-over" words (at the very end of each page). I have kept Dee's page numbers and also added the corresponding "verso" page numbers ("opposite side"), so the pages can be referred to more easily.

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This translation was done by Jim Egan, with assistance from Scott Barker.
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O 2010 Jim Egan

It is based on original 1564 Latin text, but in addition these three previous translations were consulted: Anonymous, (1691), Ferguson collection MS 21, Glasgow University Library, Glasgow
J. W. Hamilton-Jones (1947), Red Wheel/Weiser, York Beach, ME (1975 and 2000),
C.H. Josten, (1964), AMBIX Vol. XII, No. 2 \& 3, London

## TO THE MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

OF THE REKNOWNED KING
MAXIMILIAN
John Dee of London
Wishes a Very Fruitful Reign


The two causes which were able to encourage a Man of my Circumstances to present so small a gift to so great a KING have now impelled me to do so.

This gift is so extremely rare and of great goodness that the warm feelings I have for your Majesty should not be held in contempt, even though it is so small in size.

Your wondrous virtues have raised and procured an eternal Benevolence towards you. Your virtues are so great that even those who have not witnessed them in person believe, without a doubt, the extraordinary, yet quite true, reports of others.

Yet even those who have witnessed them in person and have carefully and keenly contemplated them, are still at a loss for words to fully describe the extent of these virtues.

As an eyewitness myself, I understand this very clearly, as I was in Posonium in your Kingdom of Hungaria last September [Dee attended his coronation as King of Hungary].

Allow me to speak about the Rarity of this Gift (small indeed in size) in as few words as possible. Using the full effort of my mind, I have concluded that the course of a Human life must be considered as two distinct parts (and most people live long enough to experience the second part).

After Infancy and Puberty, the Adolescent is faced with a mind challenging choice: What type of life path to follow. After hesitating for a while, they must finally Decide between Two possible paths.

Some, (who have fallen in love with truth and virtue), for the rest of their lives, will devote all their energy to Philosophy. Others (ensnared by worldly allurements or burning with a desire for riches) work anxiously in many ways, in order to lead a luxurious life of profit and pleasure.

You can readily find a thousand examples of this type. Yet of the other type (that is, those who sincerely apply themselves to Philosophy), you can hardly find one who has even begun to examine the true foundations of Nature.

Even of those scholars who have entirely devoted 2. themselves to the study of wisdom, the Republic of Letters can hardly bring forth one of a Thousand who have searched deeply into the Causes of Celestial powers and Actions as well as the Beginnings, the middle States, and the Endings of Things.

What should we then say of someone who, having 3. surmounted all these challenges, further aspires to the investigation and understanding of Supercelestial virtues and Metaphysical influences?

Where on the whole Orb of the Earth (and in these our sorry times) can such a Magnanimous and probably UNIQUE HERO be found?

Following our one-in-a-thousand Proportion (which was not rashly conceived), WE OUGHT TO EXPECT THAT THIS UNIQUE AND MOST FORTUITOUS SPECIMEN IS ONE-IN-A-MILLION AMONG PHILOSOPHERS, OR ONE-IN-A THOUSAND MILLION MEN OF THE COMMON SORT.

To demonstrate this RARITY, we present this HIEROGLYPHIC figure of a letter (called) Pythagorean. If your Excellency studies it with great attention, still greater Mysteries will present themselves (for your consideration), shown, in this way, from our COSMOPOLITICAL Theories.


Now, in what degree of this Three-level (Philosophical) Rarity I wish this my gift of mine to be, and to be esteemed, you (most Merciful KING), who excels and abounds in knowledge of the greatest Arts and most Secret Things, may easily conjecture.

But even if I place it in the lowest and first degree of 1. Philosophizing, I think I shall not be acting in an arrogant manner. Raising our Heads higher above the ground, I can confidently Promise Your Highness even richer fruits than this Degree of EXCELLENCE.

My gift is endowed with a rareness because it is woven 2. together with a manner of writing, right up to the last thread, which up to this day, as far as I have heard or gathered from the written Monuments of our forefathers, no work has ever been composed.

Even though I call it Hieroglyphic, he who has exam- 3. ined it closely will confess that a sort of mathematical light and strength is exists in it, which is even rarer in such rare things.

Or is it not a Rare thing, I ask, that the Common As- 4. tronomical Symbols of the planets (instead of being Dead, or Dumb, or, up until now, Barbaric marks) are now imbued with Immortal Life, able to express their special meaning Eloquently to those of every Language or Nationality.

Another great rareness has also been added, that is, 5. the external bodies [of the Astronomical Symbols] have now been brought back and restored to their Mystical Symmetries (by the best hieroglyphical arguments). It's as if, in an age long past, they were depicted like this or as if our forefathers had wished than in the future they would be made this way.

The new and successful way we have depicted the 6. signs of the twelve divisions of the ecliptic is as rare as it is completely novel.

And indeed, the Rarest thing is that all this is embod- 7. ied in One Unique Hieroglyphic Symbol, that is, MERCURY (fortified by a Sharp Point).

Truly, Mercury is properly called the rebuilder and restorer of our whole Astronomy. He is the Messenger of our IEOVAE [Jehovah], sent so that we might be founders of $a$ NEW discipline of this Sacred Art of Writing, or with this aid, renew one that was extinct and had been wholly wiped out of mankind's memory.

We have done this in a way that all these Hieroglyphical Interpretations show themselves most gently and of their own accord. Nothing is forced and nothing inappropriate, as it were, can be seen throughout this whole Little Book.
8.

We seal those things we have just discussed (and things far greater yet to come) with our HERMETIC SEAL of LONDON declaring that there is not one superfluous point included and (even more significantly) that there is not one point missing. Everyone, especially those who profess to be serious investigators of philosophy and wisdom will be forced to authenticate the great Rarity of this work (for the everlasting memory of mankind).

Grammarians will have to Admit to this rarity when 1. they see that there are specific reasons for the shapes of Letters, their Positions or Places in the Order of the Alphabet, how they are Bound together, their Numerical Value, and many other things (that must be considered with regards to the Primary Alphabets of the Three Languages).

Furthermore, it is a Rare Grammarian who can Defend the idea that Grammar is ONE Science WHICH can be learned from ONE Man.

We admonish them, as friends, that, the first Mystical letters of Hebrew, Greek, and Latin were issued by God alone and handed down to Mortals.

Furthermore, (despite what may be the custom of human arrogance to boast) the shapes of all those letters derive from points, straight lines, and circumferences of circles (by wonderful and most wise artfulness). The eternal wisdom of our Heavenly Father has taught us that the whole sense of the Mosaic Law [Laws of Moses] is to be considered, even to the fulfillment of every Jot and Tittle. The ultimate consideration and Analysis of these Laws is the IOD and Chireck (from which all the Hebrew letters and vowels arise).

ALTHOUGH THE ONENESS OF THE POINT OF A CHIRECK REMAINS MOTIONLESS AT THE APEX, it is still not contrary of us to embrace a trinity of consubstantial monads, which appear to the ONENESS OF THE IOD ITSELF; THAT TRINITY BEING FORMED FROM ONE STRAIGHT LINE AND TWO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CIRCUMFERENCE.

The analysis reveals quite clearly that The First Humans could never have devised a work as Amazing as the Hebrew Letters and Nekudoth [vowel accent marks] without the Presence and Inspiration of Divine Power.

Even if these are the least of subjects, which are considered by Vulgar Grammarians, when the Wise properly consider how, and by what wonderful artfulness, they lend themselves to the generation of all the Letters and the Nekudoth, they will learn very many wondrous things (by perfect Spiritual Enlightenment).

Matthew,
Chapter 5 and tittle]

Such a Man we have previously shown to be the Most Rare on Earth [that is, the one-in-a-thousand million Adept], when we wrote a Narrative about him. It appears to be that there are so many great Mysteries (of the Art of Grammar and things drawn forth about such Mysteries with the aid of the Art of Grammar) which have solid Foundations in the Sacred Scriptures of GOD ALMIGHTY, that even in a large Book I could not furnish all the explanations; nor indeed does that seem to be required Here.

Nor should you, $O$ Glorious King of the Romans, be surprised that I mention in passing that Alphabetic Lettering contains such great Mysteries. For HE, who is the SOLE Author of all Mysteries, has compared HIMSELF to the first letter and the last Letter (which is to be understood not only in the Greek language, but also in Hebrew and Latin, as can be demonstrated in various ways in this Art). Oh how great, then, must be Mysteries of the Intermediate Letters? It is not surprising that such Mysteries are found in Letters, for all things visible and INVISIBLE, manifest or hidden (by either Nature or Art), emanating from God himself, are to be most diligently explored in our investigations, so we may proclaim and celebrate his GOODNESS, WISDOM, and POWER.

Thus Saint Paul taught that MANKIND would have no good excuse [for not proclaiming the Wisdom of God] even if it had no written testament other than his Creatures, which were made from GOD'S own finger during the CREATION. I would not be so demanding as to require these things of all Grammarians.
But to those who labor to find out the hidden Mysteries of things, witness that (by our MONAD) we have demonstrated a RARE Example [Exemplum] of this Kind.

Let us dismiss those Philosophers of Letters and Language and bring in my fellow MATHEMATICIANS honest Witnesses of the Rareness of this our Gift.

Will not the ARITHMETICIANS (and I don't say LOGICIAN) - who treats Numbers as Abstract Bodies, far 1. from being perceived by the senses; who subjects them to various Mental Processes and hides them in the depths of Intellectual Reasoning - will he not be astonished to see, in this our Work, that his numbers are shown to be Concrete and Corporeal, and that their Souls and Lives as Forms are separated from them, so that they may be of service to us?

Will he not be surprised to see such wonderful Off- 2. spring of the MONAD, to which no Other Unit or Numbers need to be added, and which do not need to be Multiplied by any numbers they do not already contain?

Or by first contemplating Carefully Prepared operations of Division and Equation (as this Art prescribes)?

Will he not be filled with the greatest admiration by this most subtle, yet General Evaluating Rule: that the 3. strength and intrinsic VALUE of the ONE THING, purported by others to be Chaos, is primarily explained (beyond any Arithmetical Doubt) by the Number TEN?

The GEOMETER (my King) will begin to feel embarrassed, and feel that the very Principles of his Art are insufficiently established (which is quite strange) when he understands what here is Secretly whispered and Intimated: By the SQUARE Mystery of this Hieroglyphic MONAD something CIRCULAR, and wholly Equal, is being conveyed.

Also that the TOILS of Archimedes may be compensated by a most excellent Reward, even though he never solved this Problem. In matters this Great, it is Enough to have had the Intention.

And won't the MUSICIAN be rightfully astonished when here he will be able to perceive inexplicable, celestial HARMONIES without any motion or sound?

And won't the ASTRONOMER regret all his sleepless vigils and cold labors he has suffered under the Open Sky, when here, without any Discomfort from the Air, Under his own roof, with windows and Doors Shut on all sides, at any given Time, he is able to observe the movements of the heavenly bodies? And, indeed, without any Mechanical Instruments made from Wood or Brass?

And won't the OPTICIAN condemn the Senselessness of his Ingenious work, laboring in all sorts of ways to make a Mirror according to a Line (appropriately curved in a circle) of a Parabolic Section of a Cone, which will attack any Matter (able to be burned by fire) with the incredible Heat from the Rays of the Sun. Yet here a Line is presented, resulting from a Three-Cornered Section of the Tetrahedron, from which, when Made Full-Circle, a Mirror may be found that (even when the Sun is being blocked by Clouds) can reduce any kind of Stones or Metal into Impalpable Powders by the force of (truly the very strongest) Heat.

And will not be, who has devoted all the Time of his life to making exacting measurements with WEIGHTS, judge just how well his Labors and costs have been invested, when here, the Magistery of our MONAD will teach him, most assuredly by actual Experience, that the Element of Earth can float above that of Water?

Likewise, there are those who have diligently presented their findings regarding PLENUM, occupied by matter, and VOID, empty of matter, ( a subject that has been controversial since Philosophy was in its Infancy). They have seen that the Surfaces of Elements, which are in close proximity are coordinated, connected, and Joined Together by a Law (decreed by God Almighty) and Bond (practically Unable to be Loosened) of Nature. They can most assuredly demonstrate to people that Fire, Air, and Water can be pulled or pushed, upwards or downwards, This Way or That Way (or in any direction they desire) in miraculous ways by various Inventions (which are useful to the Republic, as demonstrated by the Whole Art of Hydraulics and Heron's Feats of Magic [Thaumopoetica], as we nowadays like to call them.)

But no one of that Profession can claim to have made a Machine, which could raise the Element of Earth Upwards,
" through Water, and into Fire. However, the Theorems in our
" MONAD demonstrate that this is possible.
O most wise King, may you Store these things in the most Secret Treasures of your Mind and Memory.

I now come to the Hebrew KABBALIST who will now see that Gematria [certain letters represent certain numbers] Notariacon [first letters of a phrase combine to spell a new word, like an acronym] and Tzyruph [certain letters, jumbled, form different words] (the names of the 3 principal Keys to this Art) are used here, outside the confines of the Language, which is called Holy. Also, he will now see that the Symbols and Characters of that Mystical Tradition (which was received from God) entirely corroborated here (from the obvious, which is sometimes visible and sometimes invisible) then he will call this Art SACRED as well. Furthermore, (compelled by Truth, if he should understand) he will acknowledge, the same Most Benevolent GOD is not only the God of the Jews, but of all Peoples, Nations, and Languages,
regardless of boundaries, and that no Mortal may Excuse himself for his Ignorance of this our Holy Language.

In my Aphorisms delivered to the Parisians, I called this language the KABBALAH OF THE REAL, on the Kabbalah of Being. I call the other Kabbalah, the vulgar one, which utilizes well-known Letters, which are Written by Man The GRAMMATICAL Kabbalah or the Kabbalah of Saying.

The KABBALAH OF THE REAL, born to us by the Law of Creation, (as Saint Paul intimates) is more Divine, as it allows for the Discovery of New Arts and faithfully Explains even The most Difficult to understand Arts. Following our Example, others may see how it applies to other Arts.

I know well (O KING) that you will not be horrified if I offer this MAGIC Parable in your Royal Presence. Our Hieroglyphic MONAS possesses, at its Innermost Center, a Terrestrial Body. The MONAS explains, without Words, how that Terrestrial Body is ACTUATED. When ACTUATED, the Terrestrial Body is UNITED (in a perpetual Marriage) to a Generative Influence, which is Lunar and Solar. Previous to this, in Heaven or elsewhere, the Lunar and Solar influences were QUITE SEPARATED from the Terrestrial Body.

When (by God's will) this Marriage has been made (which I interpreted for the Parisians as Tes games aîan, that is, the Earthly Marriage, the terrestrial image joining with influences from above), the Monad can no longer be nourished or watered on its Native Earth until the FOURTH great, and truly Metaphysical Revolution has been Completed. When this Advance has been made, he who nourished the MONAD will First Go Away into a METAMORPHOSIS, and afterwards, will very rarely be seen by the eyes of Mortals.

This, $O$ Great King, is the true INVISIBILITY of the MAGI, which has been sung about over and over again (and without Sin), and which (as all Future Magi will discover) has been granted to the Therems of our MONAD.

The most expert PHYSICIANS will most easily learn from these same Theorems about Hippocrates' Mystical intent. For he will know WHAT IS TO BE ADDED OR TAKEN AWAY. He will Gladly acknowledge that this Same Art of Medicine is contained in the short Compendium of our MONAS.

The SCRYER ["BERYLLISTICVS" or crystal-ball gazer] may see most accurately in a Crystal Lamin [thin plate used in scrying] all SUBLUNARY things that are of Earth or Water. And in a Carbuncle or Ruby he can explore the Region of Air and Fire.

And if the $21^{\text {st }}$ Theorem of our Hieroglyphic MONAD can satisfy a REFINER OF GOLD ["Voarchadvмico"] and give him ENLIGHTENMENT ["Voarh beth advmoth"] as a subjet of speculation, he will admit that he need not travel to India or America for the sake of Philosophizing.

And finally, (using whatever ALCHEMY ["ARIoton"] can provide or promise, gleaned from 20 Years of hard work in The Hermetic Art), we have written on the subject of the ADEPT in a treatise to the Parisians, with its own particular MONAD (illustrated with Conclusive Mystical Evidence). Nevertheless, we assure your Royal Majesty that with ALL THIS VERY evidence, so carefully presented, in this our Spiritual Hieroglyphic MONAD, that no other Similar Example could express it to mankind any better way.

It must doubly turn into itself. Namely: to Assimilate the Dignified Work and to Imitate its Worthiness. You may now Agree, O King Maximilian, (famous for the Honor of his Three-fold Crown) that I have said enough (Indeed, I fear, more than enough if Vulgar men were listening) of the Rarity of this our Theoretical Gift, whose Quality is defined by its own limits.

It is enough ( $O$ to the singular Glory of all Kings) that While we have carefully demonstrated that this Gift is so rare, let No Aesopian bird (not even the most Envious Mischievous Tongue) mutter [disapprovingly] about it.

The most Modest and Wisest Philosophers will agree that this work is far from deserving the Indignity of False Accusations. For They will not disdain to provide, with me, Praise and Honor, to that Phoenix. From the Wings of its Lone Mercy, we have plucked, with both Fear and Love, all those extremely Rare Theoretical Feathers against our Nakedness brought on by Adam. May we much more Cheerfully resist all the sharp coldness of Ignorance, and hide the Shame of our Errors from the Philosopher's eyes, while striving for the honest TRUTH.

And although we have not, in Any Way, relied here on any human Authority, if something said or written by an Ancient Philosopher can be opportunely illustrated by our Light, then we have not refused to deliver this advantage to our Descendants.

In our Hieroglyphic Demonstrations we descend into certain Mysteries of Hermes, Ostanes, Pythagoras, Democitus and Anaxagoras, but not simply for the purpose of seeking confirmation of our own tenets in them.

This great Rarity is so well joined with such Excellent Quality that Nothing, WE PROTEST, has been placed by us in this little book, either openly or covertly, that is not Honest, Sincere, in accord with Human Dignity, and extremely Useful in the pursuit of perfect Piety and true Religion.

Such steep, difficult to reach Mysteries can only RIGHTLY [ORTHOTOMEIN] be judged by someone who sees their whole Amplitude.

For no one would betray his Childishness, Maliciousness, and Arrogance faster than he who would dare to Condemn as Impious, or Reject as frivolous, any of the things which we have Commended to Your Wisdom.

And in this regard, nobody could produce a witness that was Sharper in judgment, More Experienced in Practices, more powerful in authority, or more Faithful in Sincerity than the Greatest, Omnipotent King of Kings has made King MAXIMILIAN. Therefore, Your August Majesty will stand as a witness for me above all others.

The fact that our work has been Approved and Ratified [by your Majesty] will not only stop the mouths of many Wicked Grammaticasters but it will excite the minds of many Philosophers who are dejected, or Lying around Idly, by the Alleged Uncertainty of such great Mysteries. On account of the Rarity of such Things, they might be fearful of the Arrogant Judgments of the Ignorant - those who are wont to condemn Good Studies and Bad Studies alike (blindly and indiscriminately, as their usual names have a Resemblance), resulting in the most deplorable destruction (sometimes) of the Best of books.

It can clearly be seen that both Itypes of philosophers, the uncertain and the fearfull have, at various times, done great harm to the Christian Republic.

Their minds undoubtedly had the capacity to undertake such great matters, but they were completely terrified, for reasons previously mentioned; Or perhaps because Ignorant Judges had Rudely and Arrogantly condemned their whole study of such noble and divine Mysteries, they made only mediocre Progress.

But this is not the place to compare all the Honest Sciences with their false rivals, which are indeed Shadowy, Hateful, Troublesome, Harmful to Human Society.

Solely because of the way the vulgar grasp and follow [thesefalse sciences], must, we say, be exploded and condemned, not only by the Judgment of the Vulgar, but by that of every wise man. And we urge that this be done diligently.

And those who do not even know these BODIES exist, or WHERE or what they may be, and of which [their false studies] are but weak shadows; How do they have the audacity; How can they justifiably condemn the non-Vulgar studies of the non-Vulgar man. LET JUSTICE BE DONE. Let each get his own due.

The Vulgar, who Pretend to have Knowledge ["sciolis," sciolists], who not only eagerly pursue the Shadows of the Great Arts, but also defile them and lie about them in a most wicked way. We might attribute this to Foolishness, Delusion, and Lack of Respect.

To bring Violence against Virtuous and Firmly Grounded Studies of those who have strong moral character and Distinguished integrity (simply because of the petty, False Accusations of the Vulgar) not only brings their Names and their studies into disrepute, but also puts their Lives in danger. This (O King) seems to me not only inhuman, but Unjust and almost Sinful.

All bodies have EDGES in COMMON with their Shadows (something which Mathematicians know quite well). Similarly the WISE realize that true Bodies [of work] have Diction [word choices), in Speaking and Writing, which are in common with their shadows. While the Wiser Philosophers enjoy the Solid Teachings and pleasant benefits of the BODIES, the Ignorant, Foolhardy and Presumptuous Apes Grasp at mere SHADOWS, which are empty and Worthless.

And so indeed we see This happen. All honest and legitimate Understanding and Comprehension of Shadows must be conceded to those dealing with true Bodies, but to the vulgar, who hold things which arel not Solid and Sincere (merely vague shadows), such things will be snatched from their hands.

RIGHTFULLY [ORtHotomenn, it is necessary ( $O$ King) to make a clear distinction between SHADOW and BODY in order to distinguish the Limits, Strengths, and Uses

Luke,
Chapter 8
[Luke, Chapter
8, Verse 18 reads,
"Take heed then
how you hear;
has, will more be
has, will more be
given, and from
him who has
not, even what
he thinks that he
he thinks that he
has, will be taken has, will be taken
away."] of each of them.

This Divine Duty, among many others, is performed with the Royal and Imperial sword of JUSTICE.

However, with a certain Artfulness, the Wise will gladly allow the figures of SHADOWS to exist in the sinuous curves of true Bodies, lest the choicest lettuces be offered to asses rudely rushing into the Hesperian Gardens, though thistles would be good enough for them. [What Dee seems to be saying is: Shadows can be quite valuable (like lettuce) and should not simply handed over to the vulgar (asses) when the vulgar would be content with much less (thistles)]

Forgive me (O King) if (by Christ's authority) I convict the World of Injustice. "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and righteousness and of judgment."

Josten points out that this is a reference to John 16:8. "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and righteousness and of judgment." (New King James Version of the Bible, 1982) iudicio." Jerome's Latin Vulgate (405 AD) reads "et cum venerit ille arguet mundum de peccato et de iustitia et legcho, to reprove accuse or convict) (convict) is the same verb Dee uses.) (In the original Greek, the verb is egcho, to reprove, accuse, or convict.)

Nor do I wish that this work, which I have particularly commemorated to Your Wisdom, here and in these our times, to Appear to be mere opinion or as Superfluous. But enough of these things.

Thus, I most humbly Offer to Your Serene Majesty this my offspring, the HIEROGLYPHIC MONAD, (Conceived in London, yet Born in Antwerp). I earnestly desire, with all my strength, that you do not disdain to become its Second Father. Not only now, but later in life, when it will be older and even more Valuable because of your Trust, may it always be at hand and of service to you. I wish that henceforth you will consider it your own, O Most Merciful KING. During the entire period of its birth, your pleasing face seemed to be present before my eyes. In this respect, you have made my Labors fruitful and helped me bring this work to Light.

My Mind has been pregnant with it continuously for the past 7 years, yet because of the magnetic virtue you exert, even from such a great distance, it took me only 12 days to bring it forth, most peacefully, into the world.

May the Most Holy TRINITY grant that this be a happy and auspicious event in the life of your August Highness as well as to my most passionate searchings for honest truth. This Most Holy Trinity, (founded before all time, in the Omnipotence of the Ineffable MONAD), ["Ineffable MONAD" refers to the ONE whose name is not spoken, as in the Jewish tradition of not speaking the name of GOD.] which lives and reigns forever, and to whom alone all Praise, Honor, Power, and Glory always be given and sung by every Creature. AMEN.
$\frac{\text { Antwerp. }}{\text { In the year 1564, January } 29 .}$

## To the Printer

## GULIELMO SILVIO:

My exceptionally good Friend.

> JOHN DEE OF LONDON
> $S . \quad D . \quad P$.
[Offers his Wishes for much Health]


You See, my Good Friend Willem, how especially I esteem the most noble Virtues of the Illustrious King MAXIMILIAN, to whom I impart, from the Shrine of my Heart, my Rarest and most distinguished Secrets. I communicate these secrets so that Others in the Circle of the World can also enjoy them, thanks to your care and diligence. (This is done in honor of the King for his extraordinary and Regal Virtues. Thus, others may learn by his example, as he not only wisely attends to the Royal Governance of Kingdoms, but is still fully learned about the Wondrous Mysteries of Philosophers and Wise Men.)

There are, therefore, two things, which I earnestly ask of you. The first is that you carefully copy (as best you can) the Various Letters, Points, Lines, Diagrams, Shapes, Numbers, and other things.

This, the Same Body to which I have given birth, perfect in every part, (BY GOD'S WILL) will not be Mutilated or Deformed due to Printer's Negligence, as it is brought forth into the Light.

[^0]In this way it will not be unworthy of a King, nor indeed unworthy of the studies and labors of the Philosophers who will frequently be examining it deep into its innermost parts.

I believe I have taken sufficient caution against that misfortune by selecting you as the Typographical Parent of this new Born child. I am certain you will take great Care to send it forth, in all ways, shining clearly, and with all of its Members Well-Composed.

The SECOND thing that I ask of you is indeed not a light matter. Make certain not to hand these Books indiscriminately to just any man. It is not that I begrudge them this, or anything better, but I suspect that bad things will result. These poor men may not be able to find their way through the Labyrinth (as they torture their minds in incredible ways while neglecting to take care of their everyday affairs).

Also, these men might persuade others to follow the same path (which will likewise be impassable). Even worse, impostors, who are but ghosts of men, may maliciously lie about its certainty, pretending that they had explored it fully. Finally, these men may boldly deny the existence of such MIGHTY WORKS OF GOD.

Based on their Presumptions, they will first rashly attack these Mysteries, then, in their Despair, they will furiously make false accusations about my Integrity.

## SACRED SYMBOL OF ONENESS

## JOHN DEE OF LONDON

Mathematically, Magically, Cabalistically, and Anagogically
Explained To
MAXIMILLIAN
Most Wise
KING
of The Romans, Bohemia, and Hungary

## THEOREM 1

The very First and most Simple Representation, of not only existing things, but also things hidden in the Folds of Nature, and also in the exhibition of the Bringing Forth of Light, is made by means of a straight Line and a Circle.

## THEOREM 2

However, a Circle cannot be skillfully crafted without the Line. Likewise, the Line cannot be crafted without the Point.

Thus, Things come into being by way of the Point and a Monad. And things related to the circumference (regardless of how big they may be) cannot exist without the Service of the Central Point.

## THEOREM 3

Thus, the Central Conspicuous Point of the Hieroglyphic MONAD refers to the EARTH, around which both the Sun, as well as the MOON, and the rest of the Planets complete their Courses.

And in this gift, since the Sun possesses the greatest dignity (because of its excellence) we represent It by a Complete Circle with a Visible Center.

MONAS HIEROGLYPHI. CA.

## THEOREM 4

The Semicircle of the Moon is shown here to be Above the Circle of the Sun. Nonetheless, the Moon obeys the SUN as her Master and King.

The Moon seems to rejoice in the Sun's Shape and proximity so much that she emulates him in the Size of her Radius (at least, as it appears to the common man). Finally she longs to be imbued by the SOLAR RAYS so much that she becomes Transformed into him. Then she disappears from the Sky altogether. After a few Days she reappears as a horned-shaped figure, exactly as we have depicted her.

## THEOR. 5

And most certainly, one Day was Made out of Evening and Morning by the joining of the Lunar Half-Circle to its Solar complement.

Thus, it was on this first Day that the LIGHT of the Philosophers was made.

## THEOR. 6

Here we see the SUN and the MOON resting on a Rectilinear Cross. By virtue of Hieroglyphic interpretation, this Cross is able to signify both the TERNARY and the QUATERNARY.

The TERNARY, as two straight lines and the one Copulative Point they have in Common.

The Quaternary, from 4 straight Lines forming 4 right Angles.


Each line might (for this purpose) be twice repeated. (Thus in this most secret way the Cross also shows itself to be OCTONARY. I doubt whether our Predecessors, the Magi, ever perceived it this way, but it should be especially noted. )

The magical TERNARY of the First of our Forefathers, and Wise Men consisted of BODY, SPIRIT, \& SOUL. Thus we have here manifested the Most Excellent SEPTENARY: [made from] two Straight Lines with their Common Point [a Ternary of things], AND 4 Straight Lines separated by One Point [a Quaternary of things].

## THEOR. 7

An experimenter will learn that when homogenous Parts of the Elements have been removed from their natural Habitations, they will Return to them along Straight lines.

Thus, it is not Absurd to show the Mystery of the FOUR ELEMENTS by 4 straight lines emanating from a single Point in Different Directions (where they are each resolved into single Elements).

You will particularly note, Geometers teach that a LINE IS PRODUCED BY THE FLOWING OF A POINT. In the same way, our Lines signifying the Elements are like DROPS (like physical points) that continuously Fall (as if FLOWING) in our Mechanical Magic.

## THEOR. 8

Furthermore, the Cabalistic Expansion of the QUATERNARY, using the customary Style of Enumeration (as we say, One, two, three, four) sums to the DENARY [TEN].

As Pythagoras himself used to say, 1, 2, 3, \& 4 add up to ten. It is not without reason that the Oldest Latin Philosophers decided to signify the number TEN by using the Rectilinear CROSS made from 4 Straight lines (as it is the Twenty-First letter of the Roman Alphabet).

Its place might further be defined as being established when the TERNARY carries its power through the SEPTENARY.

## THEOR. 9

All this agrees well with the SUN and MOON of our MONAD. By the Magic of the same 4 Elements, a Most Exact SEPARATION [SEPARATIO] has been made. Furthermore, the circumference lines of the circles, in the SOLAR compliment, form a CONJUNCTION [CONJUNCTIO] (for all lines of a given length will describe the same-sized circle, as per the laws of Geometry).

Thus, it is not possible to hide how much the DENARIAN symmetry of the Cross in our MONAD usefully serves the SUN and MOON.

THEOR. 10
The (Sharp, Pointed) symbol of the Zodiacal Division of Aries, used by Astronomers $\curvearrowright$ is quite well known to everyone.

It is also well known that this is the place in the heavens where the Fiery Triplicity Begins. Thus, we shall add the Astronomical sign of the Aries (in the Practice of this MONAD) to signify that the aid of fire is required.

We cam summarize this hieroglyphical consideration of our MONAD in our hierglyphical statement:


## the Elements of the Sun and Moon of this Monad, IN WHICH THE DENARIAN SYMMETRY IS STRONG, WANT TO

 BE SEPARATED, AND THIS IS DONE WITH THE AID OF FIRE.
## THEOR. 11

The Mystical Sign of Aries, consisting of two Half-Circles joined together at a common Point, is most fittingly signified by the Equinoctial Nycthemera [the place of the sun on the Spring Equinox, the first day of Aries].

The Time of Twenty-four Hours, divided in Equinoctial mode, denotes our most Secret Proportions. I say this in respect to the Earth.

> [Equinoctial mode means using with hours of equal length,
> not hours of unequal length, a system used before 1200 AD .]

## THEOR. 12

The most Ancient Wise Magi have handed down to us the Hieroglyphic Symbols of the five Planets. Indeed, they are composed of the characters of the MOON and the SUN, and from the hieroglyphic symbols of the Elements and of Aries. As shown here, it is not difficult to explain their shapes Hieroglyphically from the foundations we have previously laid down.

First, we shall speak, in Paraphrase, of those planets, which have Lunar Characteristics, then of the ones with Solar characteristics.


## When our LUNAR

Nature first revolved around the Earth by the science of the Elements, it was mystically called SATURN. Later [during its second revolution], for the same reason, it was called JUPITER and retained that more secret shape. [rotated clockwise, see chart above].

And, in a more obscure way, they [the oldest wise men] represented the Moon, in the third revolution, with the elements applied. They used to call it MERCURY. You can see how LUNARY it looks [the Lunar Mercury Symbol]. Some of the Wise Men preferred to envision Mercury as being made in the FOURTH Revolution. This will not Contradict our Secret analogy.

Only the Purest Magical Spirit can manage the Work of the albification [tês leuxanseos] in the place of the Moon. By his Spiritual virtue, he may, when ALONE with us in the Middle of a Natural day, speak to us hieroglyphically, without words. He will introduce those 4 Geogamic [Earthly] figures and IMPRESS them into the very Pure and Simple Earth prepared by us. Or, instead, that other symbol [the Lunar Mercury Planets Symbol, on the far right].


## THEOR. 13

Don't the Hieroglyphs of the SUN and of ARIES combine to make the Mystical Symbol of MARS? Doesn't the Magistry of the elements (partially) intervene? And, I ask, don't the SUN and the Fully expressed Elements make the sign of VENUS?

Therefore, these two Planets have consideration for the SOLAR circumference [periroran] and to the work of revivification [Anazoopyreseos] by fire.

progression Appears another Mercury, who Uterine Brother of the first. This is clearly plete Lunar and Solar Magic of the Elements, as the Hieroglyphic Messenger tells us most expressly, if only we fix our eyes upon him and lend him an attentive ear. He is (GOD WILLING) that most Famous Mercury of the Philosophers, the MICROCOSM and ADAM

Yet some Great Experts put the SUN itself in his place and degree. In our present age, we are not able to demonstrate this unless we let this Golden Work [Khrysoxarallino] be governed by the SOUL that has been Separated from the BODY by the Art of Fire. This work is difficult and dangerous because of the Fires and Sulphorous fumes.


But, surely that marvelous SOUL will show forth, binding VENUS [LUCIFERUM] and even MARS [PYROENTA] to the disc of the MOON (or at least that of MERCURY) with unbreakable bonds.

In the third place (as some will have it) is the SUN of the PHILOSOPHERS (to Complete our SEPTENARY Number). You can see the exactitude and the clarity with which the ANATOMY of our HIEROGLYPHIC MONAD corresponds with the ARCANA of these two Theorems.

## THEOR. 14

Now it is clearly confirmed that this whole Magistry depends upon the SUN and the MOON. Of this, even the ThriceGreat Hermes admonished us, asserting its Father is the SUN and its Mother the MOON.

And we know it is to be nourished in LEMNIAN EARTH. Without a doubt, LUNAR and SOLAR rays exert a singular INFLEUNCE upon it.

## THEOR. 15

We suggest that the Philosophers should consider the Labors of the SUN and the MOON around the Earth. While the SUN's Radiance is exalted in Aries, the MOON Receives a new Dignity of Light in the Next Sign (namely Taurus) and is EXALTED above its own innate powers. The ancients explained the Proximity of these LUMINARIES (more notably than others) by the mystical Symbol of TAURUS.

That Taurus is the EXALTATION of the MOON is common knowledge, which has been handed down from the first age of the Man (among the Maxims of the Astronomers). This Mystery can only be Understood by those who have become complete Masters of the Mysteries. For a similar reason, they have said that TAURUS is in the HOUSE of VENUS [VEneris esse Domvm], of Chaste and Prolific Conjugal LOVE.

As that Great OSTANES concealed in his most Secret Mysteries, "For Nature delights in Nature [ê physis,te physei têrpetai]."

But the SUN, having suffered some Eclipses of its light, re- 2. ceives MARTIAN Strength and is said to be Triumphant in its EXALTATION in the same HOUSE [DOMO] (namely, in Our Aries). These Secret Mysteries are clearly and perfectly shown in our MONAS.

Depicted here is the Hieroglyphical Sign of Taurus and also that of MARS, which we explained in Theorems 12 and 13 has
 a straight line going from the SUN to ARIES.

From the present Theorem, another Cabalistic anatomy of our MONAD presents itself, of which this is a true and skillful description: KNOWLEDGE OF THE ELEMENTS,WHICH ARE IN THE MIDDLE BETWEEN THE EXALTATION OF THE MOON AND THE SUN.

## NOTE

In my Opinion, there are two things that should be particularly noted here. First, that the Hieroglyphic Symbol of Taurus also represents to us the Dipthong of the Greeks, which is always the singular Genitive Ending of the first Declension. Secondly, by way of Simple Transposition, the letter ALPHA is demonstrated in two ways: either with the Circle and Half Circle Tangent or (as shown here) intersecting.

THEOR. 16
We must now briefly Philosophize on our assertions about this noble CROSS. Though our CROSS has been made, as we have said, from two straight lines of equal length, they do not divide each other into equal lengths.

In the Mystical distribution of our Cross, we wanted equal parts and unequal parts. However, hidden in the power of these Two lines divided this way is also the virtue of an Equilateral CROSS (because the two lines are of equal Length).

Generally speaking, a certain JUSTICE of NATURE demands that when a CROSS is made from two lines of equal Length, they should be divided Crosswise equally. In accordance with this Justice, we shall propose the following ideas about the Equilateral Cross (which is just like the twenty-first letter of the Latin Alphabet.)

On this Rectiliniar, Rectangular and Equilateral CROSS, when any Straight dividing line goes through the point of intersection separating , Oppositely placed angles, the parts on each side of the dividing line are , similar and equal. The resulting parts are the same shape as the letter that , the Latins accepted as their FIFTH vowel, and was commonly used among the most Ancient Latin Philosophers to denote QUINARIUM [the number 5].

And I think that it was not done by them Irrationally, as it Conforms to the Middle of our DENARIUM [the number 10]. Each of these two parts (from this Hypothetical division of the Cross) represents the number FIVE [Roman Numeral V], one of which is upright, and the Other is upside-down.

This reminds us of a Multiplication, which is the Squaring of Square Roots (which here falls wonderfully on a CIRCULAR NUMBER, the number FIVE). Most certainly this produces TWENTY-FIVE (and it [the letter V ] is both the twentieth letter and the fifth vowel).

We shall now consider another orientation of the equilateral CROSS which is similar to our MONADIC CROSS. If a similar Division of the Cross into two halves is made, (as above), the twin symbols of another Letter of the Latin Alphabet is revealed. One of them is upright, and the other is upside-down and backwards. This letter (from the ancient custom of the Latins) has been used to represent FIFTY.

It seems to me that this sign was established first, because the sign for FIVE was essentially derived from the sign for TEN of Our Cross, and from a Place where that Cross, the Greatest of all Mysteries, is the most Consummate Hieroglyphical Sign. Thus, EMBRACING the Strength of TEN and the virtue of FIVE, it rejoices, and brings forth the NUMBER FIFTY.

## O, MY GOD, HOW GREAT ARE THESE MYSTERIES?

Furthermore, the Name of that Letter, EL [letter L], seems to respect the Denarian virtue of the Cross as it has been placed in the Middle Position between the first Letter of the Alphabet and the letter which makes the Denarian Cross, being Tenth in sequence from either letter [ L is halfway between A and X ].

And since we have shown that there are two such integral parts of the CROSS (considering now their numerical meaning) it's apparent that the CENTARIUM is produced [the number 100].

## 16 verso

But if, by the Law of Squares they [the two letter L's or the two 50's] are multiplied by each other, our result is Two-Thousand-Five-Hundred.

If this SQUARE NUMBER [2500] is divided by the previously mentioned Square of the first Circular Number [5 times 5, or 25] it will bring us back to the CENTENARIUM $[2500 \div 25=100]$. Thus, the CROSS, explaining itself by its DENARIAN Strength, will be perceived as referring to CENTURIO [the number 100].

Therefore we are now taught (besides other things worthy of being noted) by these Theories of the CROSS to enumerate and proceed in this manner: One, Ten, Hundred. We are carried upwards by the DENARIAN Symmetry of the CROSS. Nevertheless, as the Character of the CROSS is unique, it also represents One.

## THEOR. 17

As it is apparent from Theorem 6, there are FOUR right angles in our CROSS. The preceding Theorem teaches how to attribute to each of them a QUINARIAN significance, the right angles being still arranged the same way, but having a different Position [ X as opposed to + ].

The same theorem shows how the Hieroglyphic Symbols of the Number FIFTY are made [Roman numberal L].

Also it is quite evident that, vulgarly, the CROSS signifies the number TEN. This is also the twenty-first letter in the sequence of the Latin Alphabet (whence it came to pass that the Wise Men called Mecubalists [ones versed in Jewish tradition] used to signify twenty-one by the same letter).

Finally, the Cross may be considered in a most simple way, as it is seen to be One Symbol, whatever other virtue and whatever degree of strength it has.

From all this it may be concluded, by the best Cabalistic Description that our CROSS is able to signify, to the Mystics, in a Wonderfully Abbreviated way, TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY TWO [number 252]. As FOUR times FIVE; FOUR times FIFTY; TEN, TWENTY-ONE, AND ONE makes TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY TWO.

There are two other logical ways that we can draw forth this Number from our premises. For the sake of brevity, we recommend these reasons be rooted out by Beginning Kabbalists. The various artificial productions of this Magistral Number are also worthy of the Consideration of Philosophers.

I shall not conceal from you here another Memorable Secret Mystery. We have Seen that our Cross has allowed itself to be Divided into two other letters. As previously we dealt with their Numerical virtue in a certain way, now we shall compare their VERBAL FORCE with the CROSS, because then a LIGHT [LUX] will appear. We shall understand with the highest admiration the Final and Magisterial WORD (through the Harmony and Agreement of the TERNARY in the Unity of the Word).

## THEOR. 18

From our twelfth and thirteenth Theorems it may be gathered that Celestial Astronomy is like a parent and master to INFERIOR [Astronomy].


Therefore, our Cabalistic eyes being lifted towards Heaven (illustrated by the Theories of these Aforementioned Mysteries) we shall behold an ANATOMY exactly corresponding to that of our MONAD, showing itself to us in the LIGHT AND LIFE OF NATURE.

For it reveals, by its own WILL, the Secret Mysteries of this Physical ANALYSIS

As we were contemplating both the Theoretical and the Heavenly motions of that Celestial MESSENGER [Mercury], we were taught that the figure of an EGG might be applied to these COORDINATIONS

For it is well-known to Astronomers that he makes an OVAL-shaped Circuit on his course through the Aether.

And since a word to the wise is sufficient, behold our Interpretations of this Celestial Advisor (shown hieroglyphically), which completely agree with what we have previously said. HENCE, let the Pitiful Alchemists be admonished to acknowlege their various Errors.

What is the WATER of the White of EGGS?
What is the OIL from the YOLKS?
And what is the SHELL of the EGG?
May these Ignorant Impostors, in their Desperation, come to understand these things and many more things like them: HERE WE HAVE PRACTICALLY ALL OF NATURE'S SYMMETRY.

Once upon a time, a SCARAB [dung-beetle] shattered an EAGLE'S EGG because of the INJUSTICE, the violence and cruelty, which that BIRD had inflicted on Men and Timid Beasts. Some took refuge in the Scarab's Cave (seeking help), but still they did not have their freedom.

The Scarab determined that he alone, in any way possible, must avenge that INJUSTICE. He had a spirited mind, was prepared with a firm determination, and lacked neither Strength nor Ingenuity. The Scarab made several efforts to persecute the EAGLE Using the most Subtle Art of DUNG.

At last, he caused the EGG (which had been deposited in the Lap of Jupiter) to FALL DOWN TO EARTH and be BROKEN INTO PIECES.

Using this and other methods, the Scarab would have obliterated all of Eagle-kind from Earth, had not Jupiter (on the Alert for such an evil) ordered that no SCARABS shall fly about at the time of year when EAGLES care for their EGGS.

I would counsel those who are bothered by the Cruelty of the BIRD to learn a most Useful art from those Sunbeetles (who live by lying hidden for certain courses of time).

Even if they themselves do not act, it is still most acceptable if, from the EVIDENCE and Signs, Revenge can be taken on the Enemy.

If those men, to whose minds it first came to telling fables concerning the highest Mysteries of Nature, were present, they would confess ( O KING ) that I am not trying to play Aesop, But Oedipus.

I know for sure that there are some who, if they had the EAGLE'S EGG DISSOLVED, by the SCARAB'S ARTFILLNESS, would first COMBINE [TEmperamentum] its SHELL with the entire, pure white of the EGG. Then they would smear that compound with all the liquid of the YOLK, in a skillful way, rolling, and rolling some more, just as the Scarabs conglomerate their Balls.

Thus, a great METAMORPHOSIS OF THE EGG would occur. Indeed, the WHITE, (by those multiple, as it were, Spiral Revolutions), would certainly disappear as it involutes with the LIQUID OF THE YOLK.

By this Artifice, such a Hieroglyphical sign will not displease the Stewards of NATURE. We read that such an Artifice was much celebrated in prior centuries, by the most venerable and most Ancient Philosophers, as most certain and most useful.


Later, Anaxogoras made
his most excellent Medicine from this Teaching, as seen in his little book, The nature of whirling around fast. [peri ton ekstrophon physikon]

He who sincerely applies his mind to these Mysteries will clearly see that nothing here is outside of the virtue of the Hieroglyphical MONAD.

## THEOR. 19

The Pyronomic Analysis [analysis by fire] of all Corporeal things demonstrates effectively that the SUN and MOON infuse their Corporeal strengths, into all Inferior Elemental Bodies in a much stronger manner than do all the other Planets.

The MOON pours out Watery Moisture [Aqueous Humor]. The SUN pours out Fiery Liquid [Igneum Liquorem]. Thus the TERRESTRIAL CORPULENCE [of the fat of the Earth] of all mortal things is sustained.

## THEOR. 20

Previously we demonstrated, by good Hieroglyphical reasoning, that the ELEMENTS are signified by Straight Lines. Here, we shall provide an Accurate Observation about the POINT which is at the CENTER of our CROSS. As in our Examination of the TERNARY, that [point] can in no way be Regarded as Absent from [that central] location in our BINARY. Some (Unskilled in Divine Mathematics) might Contend that it was Absent. If it was absent, then our BINARY world not Remain, but a QUATERNARY would emerge. Taking away that point, would create a Discontinuity of the uniformity of the Lines.

Yet our Adversary had Supposed with us that a Binary would Remain. By this argument, the BINARY and the QUATERNARY would be one the same, a thing which is Manifestly impossible [ton adunation]. That POINT must Necessarily be there, as, along with the BINARY, it Constitutes our TERNARY. Nothing else can be SUBSTITUTED in its place.

Nonetheless, it is not of the Essence [Hypostatic Property] of the BINARY, nor in any other way a Part of it. That it is not a Part can be clearly explained this way: All Parts of a Line are Lines. Yet the hypothesis affirms that this is a POINT.

Therefore, it is not any part of the BINARY, never mind its being of the Essence of the Binary. Thus it should be particularly NOTED that it even though it is contained in the LINEAR Lengths of the BINARY, it has a ESSENCE of its own.

And since, in this way it is seen to be COMMON TO BOTH, it can be thought of as RETAINING A SECRET IMAGE OF THE BINARY.

Thus, we clearly DEMONSTRATE: THE QUATERNARY RESTS IN THE TERNARY.

I beseech you, my God, to forgive me, if I have Sinned against your Majesty by Revealing so great a Secret in Public Writings. But, I Hope Only Those who are Worthy will Understand.

Let us now proceed to that QUATERNARY, which we have assigned to our CROSS. Let us discuss whether that POINT contained THEREIN can be absent.

Mathematics surely teaches us that it can be removed.
IF THERE IS A SEPARATION, not only does our QUATERNARY RESULT, but it becomes much more DISTINCT and made CLEARER for everyone to see.

NO PART OF THE SYMMETRY OF ITS SUBSTANCE HAS GONE AWAY. THIS SUPERFLUOUS AND CONFUSING POINT IS THUS UNCOVERED, BUT CONDEMNED.

O Almighty and Divine Majesty, WE MORTALS ARE FORCED TO ADMIT WHAT GREAT WISDOM AND INFINITY OF UNSPEAKABLE MYSTERIES ARE CONTAINED IN THY TITTLES AND JOTS, AS REPRESENTED IN THE ORDERLY ARRANGEMENT OF THY LAW.

CAN THE GREATEST SECRETS AND ARCANA OF THE EARTH BE EXPLAINED AND FAITHFULLY DEMONSTRATED, BY VARIOUS EVIDENCE, SOLELY BY THAT ONE POINT WHICH I (BY THY LIGHT) HAVE LOCATED AND EXAMINED?

This POINT, seen clearly in the divine TERNARY, is by no means SUPERFLUOUS there. But, when the POINT is in the REALM OF THE FOUR ELEMENTS, it is considered FECULENT [containing feces or dregs], indeed CORRUPTIBLE and FULL OF DARKNESS. O Three, Four Times Blessed are Those Who are able to ATTAIN that (as it were, COPULATIVE) POINT of the TERNARY, and who can leave its GLOOM and SUPERFLUOUSNESS to the Prince of Darkness.

Thus we shall reach a CLARITY [as white as] SNOW and the distin", guished WHITE GARMENTS.

O MAXIMILIAN (with you or some future member of your Austrian Family as The Teacher of these Mysteries), Whom God, to the Honor of His Tremendous Name, will make the Greatest in times to come (while I am Sleeping in Christ) in that abominable, even intolerable Darkness (of the Point, which is SUPERFLUOUS ON EARTH). But, lest I Myself should offer Superfluous words (that are not in their due place), I will presently bring myself within the Limits of my purpose.

Now, since I have finished my Discourse to those whose eyes are Seated in their Hearts, I must turn my Speech to those whose Hearts still extend from their eyes. The figure of the CROSS, illustrated here, is able to represent the things we have previously spoken about.

First, in figure A, the POINT is NECESSARY in the Two LINES of Equal Length (intersected equally or unequally).

Then, in figure B, (where there is a certain Emptiness where the superfluous Point has been removed) you can distinctly see FOUR straight Lines which, without suffering any change, have been SEPARATED from the POINT they previously had in " common. This is the way in which Our MONAD, progressing by way of the " Binary and TERNARY, is restored to its OWN Oneness in a Purified QUATER-
" NARY by the Proportion of Equality (for every Whole is Equal to all its parts).

During this process, our MONAD does not admit any External ${ }^{\text {"e }}$ Units or Numbers. It is perfectly self-sufficient, being complete in all its "e numbers.
"e
It is diffused in Magical ways into the grand Abundance [of Numbers]. Eventually, by the uncommon, Skillful Work of a Master and by the "e greatest Profit of the Monad itself, in Dignity and Strength), it is Restored "e to its First and Own MATTER. Meanwhile, the Impurities which have no "e Respect for its genuine and hereditary Proportion, have, by all means and "e diligence, been cut off and cast away forever.

## THEOR. 21

Earlier you have seen the Philosophical Translation of the MONAD made when that which Lies Inwardly Enclosed in the Recesses of our MONAD was brought to Light. Its First Parts or, as it were, Outer Parts changed Places and Became Enclosed in the Midddle place.
[Dee seems to be referring to how the planetary symbols formed the central
Monas symbol in the "Anatomy of the Monad" diagram of Theorem 13]
Now we will show you another transposition of the Mystical MONAD. When our Hieroglyphical Characters of the SUPERIOR PLANETS earlier showed themselves to us, they were Upright.

When they are changed in another way, these Planets will be in the Order which Plato ascribes to them. Saturn, Jupiter, and Mars come together where the Point of Aries is. Then descending, the Cross serves [to help form the symbols of] Venus and Mercury. Finally, there follows the Sun itself and, at the bottom, the MOON. But these matters should be dealt with in another place.


However, I did not wish to conceal these Philosophical Treasures of our MONAD, so I have decided to give one reason we considered it meaningful to change the Position of the MONAD in this manner. Concerning this Position, you shall See and Hear greater things, to be explained in a few words.

Some define Life by MOTION, and there are Six well-known kinds of movement [up, down, left, right, front, back, as per Plato in the Timaeus].

The adjoining CROSS denotes that the Distinguished Artifice of the Elements is required here. Moreover, we have frequently said in our Theorems, the HALF-CIRCLE is the hieroglyph of the MOON, and the Whole-Circle signifies the SUN.

But now, there are two Half-circles, which are SEPARATE (though Connected by a common POINT). If they are appropriately joined (as indeed they may be by art) they are able to represent the Circular fullness of the SUN. Taking all these considerations together, we might Hieroglyphically Summarize with this maxim:

ThE MOON, EXISTING AND ALIVE, WITH THE TREATMENT OF THE MAGISTRY OF THE ELEMENTS, HAS THE POWER TO REPRESENT THE FULLNESS OF THE SUN, WHEN ITS TWO HALF-CIRCLES ARE JOINED TOGETHER BY ART

We show that completed CIRCLE (which we just mentioned) noted here letter E [in the illustration]. First, let us remember that this SOLAR GRADE did not, by NATURE, lie in our way, but has been MADE UP ARTIFICIALLY.

Indeed, in its first appearance it preseated itself to us in its Nature (as can be easily seen in B) with its Parts Loose, Flowing, and unconnected, not yet Compacted SOLIDLY into a Solar Appearance.
[in B, the outer tips are unconnected, but in E they are connected]
Let us next remember that the Radius of these Half-Circles is not equal to the Radius of D and C (which were produced for us naturally and are Well-Known to all), but are much smaller. Thus it is clear that B is not of such great magnitude as D and C .

And E confirms this for us very well, as by the operation of [closing] the Circle, B was advanced to the shape of E . Thus, before our eyes appears nothing more than the sign of VENUS.

Therefore, we have already made it plain by those Hieroglyphic Syllogisms: We may not hope for the true $D$ to be [produced] out of $B$.
[a syllogism is an argument with two premises and a conclusion]
Nor was there, at first, a true C in the nature of B , and therefore no TRUE, live MOON. Thus, concerning LIFE and Motion, you might be doubting that [a relationship] really exists between them in Nature.

However, as we have already made clear to the wise, ALL THINGS that we have said (about B) in metaphorical phrasing are ad minus ANALOGIES. Also, that which we briefly touched upon regarding C and D applies ANALOGICALLY quite fittingly to $B$ and its ELEMENTS.

Furthermore, what we have said about the Nature of Aries must apply to B, because it carries Aries (though inverted) on its head. That Mystical Sign of the Elements is also joined to B. From this Anatomy of the singular body of the MONAD (thus dissected by art) we see that a new TERNARY has come forth.

Thus we can have no doubt that the MEMBERS, thus Formed, embrace each other closely in a mutual SYMPATHY. They allow, as if by their own accord, a MOST ABSOLUTE MONADIC UNION whose MEMBERS have a strong MAGNETIC virtue.

Finally, we are pleased to note (for the sake of the recreation of the mind) that $B$ most readily presents us with as many RUSTIC letters as it has pointed ends on its Head or, as it were, on
 its Forehead.

The three clearly illustrated here, are very ROUGH and in want of neatness, yet fluid and rolling. While, in a different way, there are six, (which Summed together make three times three). As you see, they are made from one or more Half-Circles.

Yet in the hands of Experts on the writing of letters [grammarians or literati], there is a stronger, more Enduring Reason for the SHAPING OF THOSE LETTERS. Here I have had before my eyes an infinity of Mysteries, but I wanted to interrupt the Theorizing with this Sport.

Yet, (After restoring our MONAD to its former Mystical Position, Skillfully Compositing its several Members) I understand that I will promote the Efforts of some if I At Least advise them and exhort them to NOW accurately learn WHAT the FIRST TRIPLICITY, the FIRE of ARIES, is. WHAT that Equinoctial is. WHAT caused the SUN to be EXALTED and capable of being RAISED ABOVE ITS ORDINARY GRADE.

And to RUN OVER, IN SECOND AND WISER MEDITATIONS the many things we have previously stated. As we hasten on to other things, we thought it fit to point out to others on the road (on which they should press on) not in only in a friendly way, but also most faithfully, though keeping silent (as we have said) on the CONSPICUOUS infinity of other Mysteries.

## THEOR. 22

It's clear that the Mysteries of our MONAD have not yet been exhausted. Now I will show Your Serene Royal Highness more secret Vessels of the HOLY ART (indeed, entirely Kabbalistic ones) carefully chosen from the workshop of the MONAD, and which provide revelations only to Initiates. Therefore, with All of the Connections of our MONAD Wisely DISSOLVED, let us add letters to the various parts (for the sake of distinction), just as you see Marked here.

We point out that $\alpha$ [the lowercase Greek letter alpha] is a certain Artificial Vessel made from A and B, with M (the RADIUS common to both, only now made Evident). As you can see, it differs from the First letter of the Greek Alphabet by only a slight Transposition [Metathesis] of its parts.

We are the first to teach that its True and Mystical Proportion consists of a Straight Line, a Circle and a Half-Circle. Although it can also be made from just a Circle and Half-Circle, as we have shown previously. [in the NOTE at the end of Theorem 15]


Nevertheless, all these ways fall within one and the same Mystical design.
But $\lambda \& \delta$ are, at least Primarily, like images of other implements (indeed, $\lambda$ is VITREOUS [made of glass], but, $\delta$ is an Earthen one [made of clay, earthware, stone, etc] [ $\lambda$ and $\delta$ are the lowercase Greek letters lamda and delta, which, in uppercase, are $\Lambda$ and $\Delta$ ].

And secondly, $\lambda$ and $\delta$ may remind us of a certain Pestle and Mortar, which have to be made from a material (truly) that with them we can Pulverize into fine Powders, Artificial Pearls without drilled perforations, Plates of crystal or Beryl, Chrysolites and precious Rubies, also Carbuncles and other Most Rare Artificial Stones.

Lastly, that which you see marked $\omega$ is a small vessel which is Full of Mysteries. The vessel differs from the very last letter of the Greek Alphabet (now restored to its originally established Mystagogic [pertaining to mysteries] meaning) by a slight, but obvious, transposition of its parts, which are two half-circles.

It is not Necessary to further discuss the shape of these common Vessels nor the Materials (from which they should be made). Yet it should be noted that $\alpha$ [lower case Greek letter alpha] is waiting for an opportunity to perform its role, by a short, but very Secret ARTIFICIAL air-vent.

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it will draw forth a Primordial Specimen most useful to Beginners of this WORK until a more skillful Way of Preparing SUBTLE [substances] becomes known to them. But any external Air or Wind would do much damage in $\lambda$, the glass [vessel], (in the performance of its principal function).
$\omega$, however, is a MAN of ALL HOURS.
[lowercase Greek omega]

## Corollary [Porisma]

Who cannot detect the scent of those sweet and healthful Fruits of The Holy Art [Tes ieras Texnes] that arises (I declare) from the Mystery of just these two letters? We shall bring some of these [fruits] (from our HESPERIAN GARDEN) a little closer, to be seen as if in a mirror.

Yet we still will not be bringing forth anything but our MONAD. For the Straight Line appearing in Alpha is homologous to the part marked by the Letter M in the most recent Anatomy of the Cross. From this the rest of the chart becomes accesible.

| - | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered}\text { Existing } \\ \text { before the } \\ \text { Elements. }\end{gathered}\right.$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered}\text { Mortal } \\ \text { Adam } \\ \text { Male and } \\ \text { Female. }\end{gathered}\right.$ | Mortifi- cation. | Wrapped in Shadow. | Born in a Stable. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $7^{\pi}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered}\text { Ordering } \\ \text { of the } \\ \text { Elements. }\end{gathered}\right.$ | Consum- mation of the Elemental Geneology. | Cross. | Cross. | Sacrificed on the Cross |
|  | Existing after the Elements. | ADAM <br> IMMOR- <br> TALIS. | Vivification. | Manifestation. | King of Kings Everywhere |
| $\begin{array}{c\|c\|c\|c\|c} \text { Conceived } & \text { Powerful } & \begin{array}{c} \text { The } \\ \text { by his Own } \\ \text { Creation of } \\ \text { Matter. } \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text { Earthly } \\ \text { Marriage. } \end{array} & \text { Beginning. } \\ \text { Seed. } & & \end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Suffering and Burial. | $\left\lvert\, \begin{gathered}\text { YHWH } \\ \text { Virtue of } \\ \text { the Denary. }\end{gathered}\right.$ | Purification <br> of the <br> Elements. |  |  |  |
| Rising again by his own Virtue. | Glorious and Triumphant $\qquad$ | Transfor- <br> mation. Divine <br> Marriage. End. |  |  |  |

With these few [words in the chart], I know I am providing not only starting points [arormas], but Conclusive Proofs [Apodixes] to those in whom inwardly there blazes a fiery Vigor and a heavenly Origin. May they readily lend an ear to the great Democritus, announcing to those who wish a remedy for their spirit and who, by all means, crave a deliverance from their hard labors, that this Doctrine is not Mythical [Mythakon], but Mystical [Mystikon] and Secret.
[to tes psykes...iama kai pantos moxthou lutêrion kataskseuasai boulomenois]

As also [they should listen] to he who has asserted that it is the method established by the speech of the maker of the world, that the religious man, born of God, by right-working, may learn by these words, which are theological and mystical.
[lôgo demiourgou (demiurge) xosmou (cosmos) metho denetai: ina o theophron xai o thegenes anthropos, dia tês rutheias ergasias: xai theologixon, xai mustixon logos mathe]

## THEOR. 23

We now present the proportions, accurately notated, observed by us in the Hieroglyphical Construction of the MONAD, to be observed by those wishing to bear it on Rings and Seals, or to use it in other ways.

In the Name of JESUS CHRIST who was for us affixed to the CROSS (the pen only of Whose Spirit, writing these things swiftly through me, I Desire and I Hope to be), we shall now endeavor to obtain all these Measurements from our ELEMENTS of our CROSS.

We do this because (in accordance with the SUBJECT MATTER of our INTENDED ARGUMENT) everything that takes the Beginning of its Generation under the Celestial MOON is either composed of the FOUR Elements or is itself on Elementary ESSENCE. And that [is possible] in various ways that are not Commonly Known.

And since these Elements are not in Equal Proportion or strength in any Created thing, yet (as the Wise know) can in certain things be reduced to Equality by Art, we have made our CROSS from equal and unequal parts.

Thus, in another regard, we may call them the Same and the Different, or the One and the Many, while (as we pointed out above) Secretly admitting the qualities Peculiar to the equilateral CROSS.

But, if we were to clearly point out the causes or divulge all the reasons (which we hold fast) for the PROPORTIONS shown here, more than the ones we have explained (to the wise) throughout the whole book, we would be passing beyond our limits, which were not prescribed without intent.

Choose any Point in a plane, for example A. Draw a line through it at sufficient length on both sides. Make this C,A,K. At Point A, on the line KC, erect a Perpendicular.

Extend it to a sufficient Length (in Infinitum, as the Geometers say, and rightly so, to avoid inconveniences). Let this line be DAE. Now, choose a Point anywhere on line AK and let it be B.

Thus, having first of all established AB (which is the common Measure of our work) project its triple [length] from A towards C. This line shall be AC.

Make AE Twice the Length of AB. Also, make AD Twice the Length of AB . Thus, the whole DE is Four Times the length of AB .

In this way, we have made our CROSS OF THE ELEMENTS from a QUATERNARY of lines: AB, AC, AD, and AE.

Let a straight line of length AD be cut out of the BK and call it BI. With a Centerpoint at I, and a Radius of IB, describe a Circle. The Circle cuts line $A K$ at $R$, so the diameter of the circle is BK.

Let a straight line of length $A B$ be drawn from point $R$ towards $K$, and let it be RK. Then, let a straight line of sufficient length be drawn extending out from both sides points K (at
 right angles to AK) which shall be line PKF.

Let a straight line of length AD be projected from point K toward F and let it be line KF. With a centerpoint at K and radius KF describe a half-circle FLP, whose diameter is FKP.

Finally, let a perpendicular to the straight line AC be drawn through point C. It should extend to sufficient length on either side and be called OCQ.

Then, on line CO and from point C , make a straight line of length AB , which shall be CM . With a center point at M and radius MC , describe a half-circle CHO whose diameter is CMO. Likewise, a line of length AB shall be made along CQ and from point C , and this line shall be CN . With a centerpoint N and radius NC , describe half-circle CGQ, whose diameter is CNQ.

We now affirm that all the required PROPORTIONS of our MONAD have been explained and described.

We should point out to the Mechanicum that the whole line CK consists of nine equal parts, each the length of our FUNDAMENTAL AB. Thus, he may go about performing this work in another way.

Also, all Diameters and Radii ought to be marked with (as the Mecanici say) invisible lines. Nor should any CENTERS remain visible, except for the Solar Center, which is seen here marked with the letter I. Furthermore, no more letters are to be added.

Now, for the sake of Ornament (there are no Mystical requirements considered by us now) the Mechanicus can add a certain Surface Width to the Solar Circumference (by drawing one concentric circle inside of it). (The distance between the two concentric circles should be approximately one fifth to one quarter of AB [the length of that "common Measure"] ).

The Moon is to be a fully horn-shaped, the way she appears in the Sky after her first Conjunction with the Sun. To do this, measure up from point K , towards point R , a fourth or fifth (as we have mentioned) of the length of line $A B$. Using this as a Center, and line $A B$, which is in fact the Radius of the Moon, draw a second partial-Circumference, which will contact and rest on both sides of the previously drawn Half-Circle.

A similar thing can be done at points M and N . Erect Perpendiculars at these points and measure upwards one sixth the length of AB , or even less. With these new points as centers and the previously used radii MC and NC, draw second half-circles, as it were, on the outside.
[A "Mechanicum" is a skilled workman without the knowledge of Mathematical demonstration Dee's definition from the Preface to Euclid]
["invisible" is a translation of Dee's Latin word obscuris, meaning dark, which poetically means "invisible," as objects become invisible in the darkness.]

Finally, on both sides of the Straight Lines of our Cross, drawn parallel lines at a distance of about one tenth to one eighth of that length $A B$.

Thus, our CROSS is made from FOUR, as it were, Linear Surfaces whose width is about one fifth to one quarter of length $A B$.

In this adjoining illustration, I have sketched in outline one way that this Ornamentation might be done. One may arrange all [these widths] however he sees fit, as long as no harm (not even the slightest) is done to our Mystical PROPORTIONS.


By such negligence,
the new Discipline of these true (and essential) Hieroglyphic Measurements may, in the course of time, be thrown into confusion or even perish.

It [this "new Discipline"] is by far more splendid and Grand than we have been able, or indeed, even wanted, to explain in this little book. TRUTH, the Daughter of Time, will teach this, GOD WILLING.

We will now Methodically place a few more things before your eyes, which may be obvious to anyone becoming practiced in the Symmetries of our MONAD. Let's begin with the QUATERNARY of Lines in the Cross.

Some are in the habit of declaring that these lines are, in essence,
FOUR. But, this QUATERNARY of lines, rightfully, is capable of a different Mystical partitioning and calculation.
[To summarize these "secondary" circles and half circles
(1) A circle is drawn inside the Solar Circle.
(2) A half-circle is drawn above the Lunar Crescent.
(3) Two half circles are drawn above the two horns of Aries.]

Thirdly, we will point out several examples of Numbers, which are used by God in NATURE, that we have skillfully derived from it [the Cross] or from other Theories throughout the book.
[Fourthly] We shall blend in others [other numbers], in apropriate places, which, if understood correctly, will bear not a little fruit. All this we shall do concisely.


## Our Canon of Transposition

However many Numbers are chosen to describe, make a Continuous multiplication from the First to the Last, starting from the
" First Monad and proceeding with the Natural sequence.
In other words, multiply the First times the second, then that Product by the Third, then that Product by the Fourth, continuing to your " last number.
"
The final product is the number of Possible Permutations in so many places [or how many ways in which the chosen number of digits can be re-
" arranged].
This same procedure of computation can be used anywhere and
" for so many diverse things. I highly Recommend this Operation to you (O KING) as the one most useful in every investigation of Nature and also in the Affairs of the Republic. I am in the habit of using it with the greatest of satisfaction in the Tziruph (or Thmura) of the Hebrews.
QUA-


I am Indeed not Ignorant that, from the Arithmetical Virtue and FORMAL NATURE of the QUATERNARY, very many other Numbers could be brought to light.

But HE who does not understand how their greatly concealed Nature is to be developed and illuminated would feel his intellect blunted, not sharpened by a greater multitude of them.

Therefore, the carefully considered diagrams which follow show how our Numbers Originate in the WEIGHING OF ELEMENTS, marking the MEASURES of TiME, and finally in the ordering of the STEPS of the Power and Virtues of Things.



Words cannot express the many things that can be drawn forth from these Diagrams (if they are deeply contemplated).

So we give here one Reason, above all others (which, together with this whole new art, we divulge from the first time) why the QUATERNARY, as well as the DENARY impose, for the common good, certain limits in Numeration.

We assert that the reasonis not as complete and exact as the It is neither in the power
 ing, which our Ancestors extolled one we will now make known. of NATURE, nor any ART to impel any MOVEMENT or progress UNLESS IT BE BY FOUR

Supercelestial Revolutions.
After this, the MONAD will be wholly and fully Physically Restored (then, indeed, it is a MOST UNITED MONAS, what the Magi proclaim as ONENESS).
(And thus is brought forth for us, He , whom, on account " of his eminence, we wish to denote in this way [as inverted].)

This is so because there is no OVERFLOWING CRE", ATIVE power in the Elemental world, nor the Celestial, nor the ", SUPERCELESTIAL, with which it has not been most completely
" enriched and endowed.
FOUR Famous Men who were Philosophizing together (in times past), through their labors, grasped its real Effect. For a long time, they were Astonished by the Great Wonder of the Thing. Then, at length, they devoted themselves entirely to Singing and preaching Praises of the Most Good and Great God. On account of this, they were granted great Abundance, as well as the Wisdom and Power to rule over other CREATURES.

THEOR. 24
In the Beginning of this Little Book, we started with a Point, a Straight Line, and a Circle.

Now, at the End, like a Circle Completing Itself, we have a POINT, LINE, and our ELEMENTS Flowing Out of our MONAD, which is Analogous to the Equinoctial when a Circuit is completed in 24 Hours.
2.

THUS, at last, in this our Twenty-Fourth Theorem, we shall Consummate and Conclude with the METAMORPHOSIS of ALL THE TRANSPOSITIONS OF PARTS OF A QUATERNARY (defined by the Number 24).
3.

HONOR and GLORY to Him, who Sitteth on the Throne (as John, Chief Protector of Divine Mysteries Testifies in the FOURTH, AND LAST verse of the FOURTH Chaper of Revelations).
4.

AROUND Whom were four Animals (each having SIX WINGS), DAY and NIGHT, without rest, declaring Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was, Who is, and Who will come.
5.

And WHOM, 24 ELDERS, in 24 Seats, placed in a CIRCLE, falling forwards prostrate (HAVING CAST OFF THEIR GOLDEN CROWNS) adore, saying:

Thou art Worthy, O Lord, to receive the GLORY and the HONOR and the POWER, FOR THOU HAST CREATED ALL THINGS.

Because of THY WILL, THEY ARE,
AND HAVE BEEN CREATED.
AMEN, SAYS
THE FOURTH LETTER,

## $\Delta$ :

To whom GOD gave the Will and Ability to record this Divine Mystery in a Written Memorial, and to complete these his Labors peacefully on January 25th,
having begun on the 13th day of the same

In the year 1564, Antwerp.


The Eye of the Vulgar will, here, be Obscured and most Distrustful

## ANTWERP:

Prepared by Gulielmus Silvio, royal typoGRAPHER: ON THE DAY BEFORE THE FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH OF APRIL, IN THE YEAR 1564



[^0]:    [The 1691 Anonymous author translates S.D.P as "Wisheth much Health.' The 3 letters. might be an abbreviation of Salutare (Health or Prosperity), Desidero (to Wish), and Praebo (to Offer, Make, or Grant)] [Often the initials S.V.B.E. were used as a salutation for "si vales bene est." I hope you are in good health. -Smith's English Latin Dictionary, "health" p.366]

