

THE ROSICRUCIAN'S PRAYER.

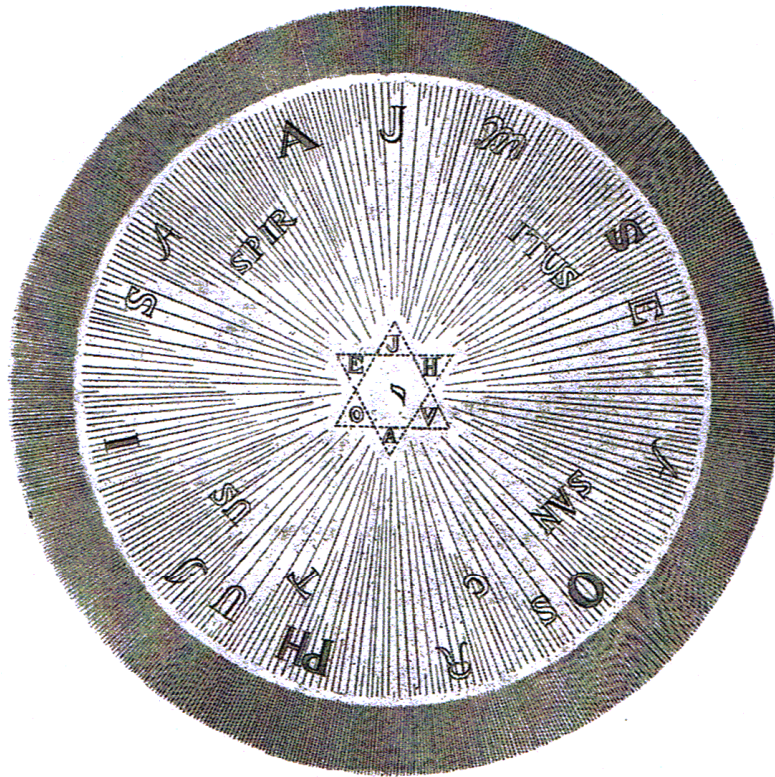
One of the most interesting Rosicrucian Works is undoubtedly a volume of symbolical Rosicrucian figures entitled, "Geheime Figuren der Rosenkreuzer aus dem 16en und 17en Jahrhundert." It is an exceedingly rare work, printed in Altona, in 1785, for the Brethren of the Golden and Rosy Cross. In 1888, Dr. Franz Hartmann published a partial reprint under the title, "Secret Symbols of the Rosicrucians of the 16th and 17th centuries." He claimed to have received the book in a mysterious manner from no one less than the great Paracelsus himself, and omitted to mention the existing German original of 1785. Let us hope that he did not know of its existence, even though that seems hardly likely, as even his miraculous copy would certainly have borne the date and place of issue of that only existing edition. But, then, Dr. Hartmann evidently liked the additional glamour thrown over the book by its alleged occult origin.

The book itself, however, does not stand in need of any such additional attractions. I do not know of any more absorbing work of deeply mystical and magical symbolism, and the little study I have been able to give to it has been amply rewarded by the wisdom it contains. A complete reprint of the German original was published a few years ago (1919) by Hermann Barsdorff's Verlag, in Berlin. Both it and Dr. Hartmann's edition are now out of print and difficult to obtain.

For the Mason there are untold treasures in this mine of Rosicrucian knowledge. In fact there is no doubt that the material contained in it formed part of the occult lore of the original Rosicrucian Brotherhood, and that he, who grasps the full meaning (or meanings) of the symbols and text, would thereby possess some of the most precious Rosicrucian secrets.

I hope at some later date to publish some of the symbols, with an attempt at interpretation, however incomplete. This time we reproduce "The Rosicrucian's Prayer," with its accompanying symbol. Note in the symbol the square, the five-pointed star, and the words, "Jesus, Maria, Sophia."

ROSICRUCIAN PRAYER



ETERNAL and Universal Fountain of Love, Wisdom, and Happiness; Nature is the Book in which Thy Character is written, and no one can read it, unless he has been in Thy School. Therefore our eyes are directed upon Thee, as the eyes of the servants are directed upon the hands of their masters and mistresses, from whom they receive their gifts. Oh, Thou, Lord of Kings, who should not praise Thee unceasingly and forever with his whole heart? For everything in the Universe comes from Thee, out of Thee, belongs to Thee, and must again return to Thee. Everything that exists will ultimately re-enter Thy Love or Thy Anger, Thy Light or Thy Fire, and everything, whether good or evil, must serve to Thy glorification. Thou alone art the Lord, for Thy Will is the Fountain of all powers that exist in the Universe; none can escape Thee. Thou art the helper of the poor, the modest and virtuous. Thou art the King of the world, Thy Residence is in Heaven and in the Sanctuary of the heart of the virtuous.

Universal God, One Life, One Light, One Power, Thou All in All, beyond expression and beyond conception! O Nature! Thou Something from Nothing, thou Symbol of Wisdom! In myself I am nothing, in Thee I am I. I live in Thee, I, made of nothing, live Thou in me, and bring me out of the region of self into the eternal Light. Amen.