THE ALTERNATE SEX: OR, THE FEMALE INTELLECT IN MAN, AND THE MASCULINE IN WOMAN

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The Alternate Sex: Or, the Female Intellect in Man, and the Masculine in Woman by Charles Godfrey Leland

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CHARLES GODFREY LELAND

THE ALTERNATE SEX: OR, THE FEMALE INTELLECT IN MAN, AND THE MASCULINE IN WOMAN

Trieste

THE ALTERNATE SEX

"What I was is passed by, What I am away doth fly : What I shall be none do see, Yet in That my beauties be."

THE ALTERNATE SEX

OR

THE FEMALE INTELLECT IN MAN, AND THE MASCULINE IN WOMAN

BY

CHARLES GODFREY LELAND F.R.L.S., A.M. HARVARD MENDER OF THE AMERICAN PHILOMOPHICAL SOCIETY, ETC.

AUTHOR OF "KULOSKAP, THE MASTER, AND OTHER ALGONQUIN POEMS AND LEGENDS," "HAVE YOU A STRONG WILL?" "THE BREITMANN BALLADS," ETC.



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TO THE READER

This work was completed only a few months before Mr. Leland's death, and on this account it is presented to the public without the benefit of the author's revision and correction.

Mrs. Joseph Pennell, the niece of the late Mr. Leland, has kindly seen the book through the press.

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PHILIP WELLBY

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PREFACE

I HAVE endeavoured in this book to set forth the following views :

That Men and Women are, in strict accordance with the opinion of the most recent physiologists, radically different as regards both body and mind, although social or domestic life has given them much in common.

That in proportion to the female organs remaining in man, and the male in woman, there exists also in each just so much of their peculiar mental characteristics.

That this female mind in man, having free access to the images stored in the cells of memory, calls them forth in dreams and reveries, the same being true as regards the masculine mind in woman.

That this casts much light on the true nature of the Imagination, and all creative action of the mind, involving originality, as is explained in detail in the text.

That what has of late years occupied much thought as the Subliminal Self, the Inner Me, the Hidden Soul, Unconscious Cerebration, and the like, may all be reduced to or fully explained by the Alternate Sex in us.

[*]

PREFACE

That there is no line of demarcation between the organic and inorganic world; that, as shown by Schrön, there is life in crystals, and no step in which mentality, though in lower forms, does not manifest itself.

That Forces have developed themselves from a primary force, and that there are some of which we are as yet ignorant.

That the law of Growth is that of accretion, or of attraction and repulsion, beginning with any chance group of molecules, guided by certain forces, as seen in advanced organisms.

That Sensivity is a Force developed at first by polarization of atoms, increased by attraction and repulsion, was influenced by katabolism and anabolism, till Sensation (whose true being must be found in the origin of motion), step by step, advanced to Consciousness, and thence to mentality.

That all effort to rise intellectually above ordinary experience, or to what is generally known as the Supernatural, should be limited to Prayer to God, and exertion and culture of our Will.

There are no proofs of the existence of God save on purely material grounds, and from the conclusions of Science, which all point to it. Yet this proof can never be absolutely *perfected*, because as Man advances in it he is ever raising a higher ideal of Divinity unto himself.

The immortality of the soul depends on the same conditions as the proof of the existence of God.



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