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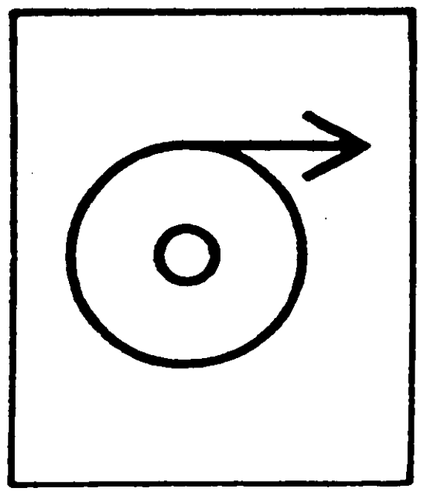

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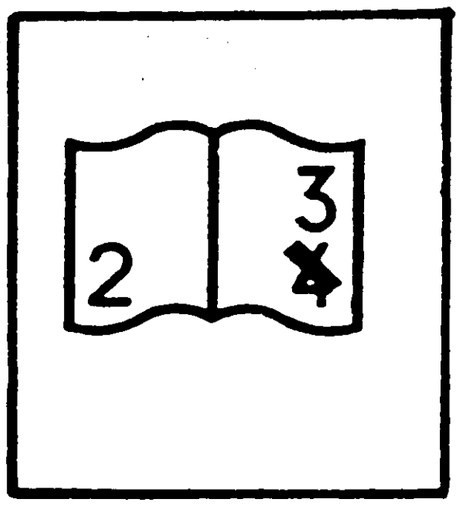

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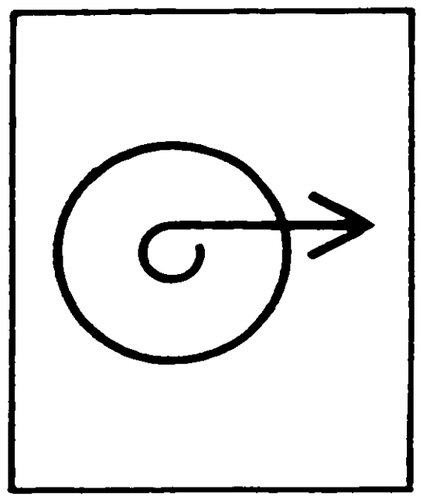

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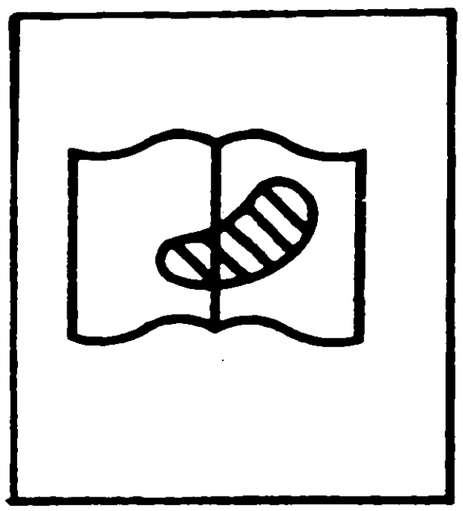

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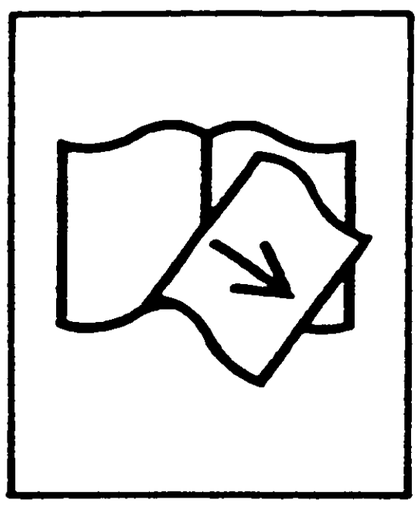

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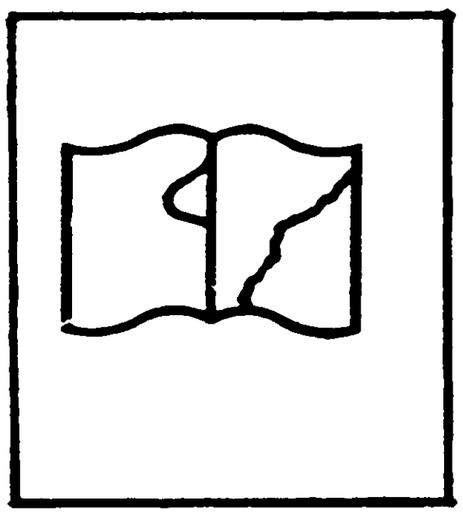

Damaged text - wrong binding

Repetition of image

156. C. 14.
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Hermetis Trismegisti
Sponsalia celeberima:

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

The famous celebrated Nuptials
of the thrice Great Hermes.
Allegoricaly describing the Mystical
Union and Comunion of Christ with
every Regenerate Soul: Composed
By C:R: a German of the Order of the Rosie
Cros about 255 years past, and from the Latin
Manuscript, faithfully Translated into English
by Peter Smart Master of Arts 1714.

Suspensa Rostra nihil opus est
~~Vino venalibili non opus est Rostra~~

In the Margin are brief notes of this late D.r Rudd which Explains some hard words & sentences in the following Treatise

Hermes Nuptials &c.

The First Day.

On an Evening before Easter Day, I sate at a Table, and having, (as my custome was) in my humble Prayer sufficiently conversed with

Meditatio. my Creator, and considered many great Mysteries, (wherein the Father of Lights his Majesty had shown me not a few) and being now ready to prepare in my Heart, together with my dear Paschal Lamb, a small unleavened, undefiled Cake; all on a sudden ariseth so horrible a Tempest, that I imagined

imaginod no other but that through its mighty-
force, the Hill whereon my little house was-
founded would flye in pieces. But in as much-
as this, and the like from the Devil (who had
done me many a spite) was nothing to-
me; I tooke courage and persisted in my-
Meditation, till some body (after an unusuall
manner touched me on the Back; whereupon
I was so hugely terrified, that I durst hardly
looke about me: yet I showed my-selfe as-
chearfull as (in the like Occurrences) —
humane frailty would permit; Now the-
same thing still twitching me severall times-
by the Coat: I looked back and behold-

Proscarissa-
Lady Cham-
berlain or
Controller

it was a fair and glorious Lady, whose-
Garments were all Skye-colour, and curiously-
(like Heaven) bespangled with golden stars,
In her right hand she bare a Trumpet of-
Beaten Gold, whereon a name was engraven-
(which I could well read in) but am as yet
forbidden to reveale it: In her left hand-
she had a great Bundle of Letters of all-
Languages, which she (as I afterwards —
understood) was to carry into all countries.
She had also large and beautifull wings, full
of Eyes throughout, wherewith she could —
mount aloft, and flye swifter then any Eagle
I might perhaps been able to take further
notice.—

notice of her, but because she staid so small —
a time with me; and terror and amazement
still possessed me; I was fain to be content. —
For as soon as I turned about, she turned —
her Letters over and over, and at length —
drew out a small one; which with great —
Reverence she laid down upon y^e^ Table, —
and without giving one word departed —
from me: but in her mounting upward —
she gave so mighty a blast on her gallant
Trumpet that the whole hill ecchoed thereof
and for a full quarter of an hour after, —
I could hardly hear my own words.
In so unlooked for an adventure I was —
at a —

Epistola.

Sigillum —

at a loss, how either to advise or assist my poor
selfe, and therefore fell upon my knees and —
besought my Creator to permit nothing con =
trary to my Eternal Happyness to befall me; —
whereupon with fear and trembling, I went —
to the Letter, which was now so heavy as had —
it been more Gold, it could hardly have been —
so weighty. Now as I was diligently viewing
it, I found a little Seal, whereupon a curious
Cross with this Inscription In hoc Signo ✝
Vinces, was ingraven. /
Now as soon as I espied this Sign I was —
the more comforted as not being ignorant
that such a Seal was little acceptable, &
much

much loss usefull to the Devil. whereupon I tenderly opened this Letter, and within it in an Azure Field in Golden Letters, found the following Verses written.

This Day, this Day, this, this
The Royal Nuptials is.
Art thou thereto by Birth inclin'd,
And unto joy of God design'd,
Then maist thou to this Mountain tend
Whereon these stately Temples stand,
And there see all from end to end
Keep watch, and ward,
Thy self regard;
Unless with diligence thou bathe
The Nuptials

The Nuptials can't thee harmless save:
He'l dammage have that here delays;
Let him beware; too light that weigh.
Underneath stood, Sponsus and Sponsa.

De Nuptijs. As soon as I had read this Letter, I was presently like to have fainted away, all my hair stood an end, and a cold sweat trickled down my whole body. For although I well perceived, that this was the appointed Wedding, whereof seaven years before I was acquainted in a bodily Vision, and which now so long time I had with great earnestness attended, and which lastly by the account and calculation of the Planets I had

had most diligently observed I found so to be—
yet could I never foresee that it must happen—
under so grievous and perilous conditions.

Requisita in hospitibus secundum 7 pondera. } For whereas I before imagined that to be a—
welcome and acceptable Guest, I needed only
be ready to appear at the Wedding; I was now
directed to Divine Providence; of which untill—
this time I was never certain. I also found by
1. Electio incerta. } my selfe; the more I examined my selfe, that
2. Inscitia. Ignorantia Cæcitas mentis. } in my head there was nothing but grosse mis=
understanding and blindnesse in mysterious—
things, so that I was not able to comprehend—
even those things which lay under my ~~feet~~
feet, and which I dayly conversed with, much
3. lesse—

4. lesse that I should be borne to the searching—
Natura secreta } out, and understanding of the secrets of—
nature; since in my opinion Nature might
5. every where finde a more vertuous Disciple, to—
whome to intrust her precious, though ——
6. temporary and changeable Treasures. I found
also that my dayly behaviour and outward—
affectio good Conversation and Brotherly Love towards
my Neighbour was not duely purged and cleansed;
Moreover the tickling of the flesh manifested it—
selfe, whose affection was bent only to pomp &
bravery, and worldly Pride, and not to the—
good of mankinde; and I was always contriving
how by this art I might in a short time ——
abundantly

abundantly increase my profit & advantage-
rear up stately Palaces, make my selfe
an everlasting Name in the world, and
other the like Carnal designs. But the
obscure words concerning the Three Temples
did particularly afflict me which I was not
able to make out by any after speculation,
and perhaps should not yet had they not
been wonderfully revealed to me:
Thus sticking betwixt Hope and fear examining
my selfe again and again and finding only
my owne Frailty and Impotency not being
in any wise able to succour my selfe, and
exceedingly amazed at this forementioned

Precos.

threatning;

threatning; at length I betooke my selfe
to my usuall and most secure course;
after I had finished my earnest and most
prevent prayer, I laid me down in my
bed, that so perchance my good Angel by
by the Divine permission might appear
and (as it had sometimes formerly happened
instruct me in this doubtfull affair,
which to the praise of God my own good
and my Neighbours faithfull and hearty
warning and amendment did now like-
wise fall out. For I was yet scarce
fallen asleep; when me thought I togither
with a numberless multitude of men
lay-

Visio per somnium } Turris Cæ=citas. }

lay fettered with great chains in a darks-
dungeon, wherein without the least glimps of
light we swarmed like Bees one over another
and thus rendred each others affliction more
grievous. But although neither I nor any-
of the rest could see one jot; yet I continualy
perceiving } heard one hearing himself above the other,
by hearing }
when his chains or Fetters were become-
ever so little lighter, though none of us had
much reason to shove up the other, since we
were all Captive Wretches. Now as I with
the rest had continued a good while in this
affliction, and each was still reproaching
the other with his blindness and captivity;
at

at length we heard many Trumpets sounding
together, and Kettle Drums beating so artifici
=ally thereto, that it even revived, and rejoyced
us in our Calamity. During this noise the-
Illustratio/ cover of the Dungeon was from above
lifted up, and a little light let down
unto us. Then first might truely have-
been discerned the bustle we kept, for
all meer pelle melle, and he who perhaps
had too much heaved up himself was
forced down again under the others feet. In
briefe; each one strove to be uppermost, neither
did I my selfe linger, but with my weighty fetters
slipt up from under the rest, and then heaved
my selfe

Lapis Præsidis } selfe upon a Stone which I laid hold of; howbeit, I
was ~~forced~~ severall times caught at by others, from
whome yet as well as I might with hands and
feet I still guarded my selfe: For we imagined
no other but that we should all be set at liberty
which yet fell out quite otherwise: For after the
Adepti. Nobles who looked upon us from above through the
hole, had a while recreated themselves with this
our struggling and lamenting, a certain hoary headed
Magistri Carceris. } Ancient man called to us to be quiet, and having
scarce obtained it began (as I still remember)
thus to say on —

If wretched Mankind would for bears
Themselves so to uphold;

Then sure on them much good confer,
My righteous Mother would:
But since the same will not ensue,
They must in Care and Sorrow rue
And still in prison lie.
Vide S.t Bernhard Serm. 3. de 7. fragmentis. } How beit my dear Mother will
Their Follies oversee.
Her choicest Goods permitting still
Too much in th' Light to be.
Though very rarely it may seem
That they may still keep some esteem,
Which also would pass for Forgery.
Wherefore in honour of the Feast
We this day solemnize;
That so —

That so her Grace may be increast,
A good Deed shall devise
For now a Cord shall be let down
And whosoere can hang thereon
I Shall freely be rebuke.

Prima Lectura 4.

Some by work.

She had scarce done speaking, when an Ancient Matron comanded her Servants to let down the Cord seven times into the Dungeon, and draw up whosoever could hang upon it. Good God! that I could sufficiently describe the hurry and disquiet that then arose amongst us; for every one strove to get to the Cord, and yet only hindred each other. But after seven minutes a sign was given by a little Bell, whereupon at the

Discovery of some part of the merit

Magistratus. Septies.

Secunda. Ignorance unapt for labour.

at the first Pull the Servants drew up four. At that time I could not come near the Cord by much, having (as is before mentioned) to my huge misfortune, betaken my self to a Stone at the wall of the Dungeon, and thereby was disabled to get to the cord which descended in the middle. The Cord was let down the second time; but divers because their chains were too heavy, and their hands too tender could not keep their hold on the cord, but with themselves beat down many another, who else perhaps might have held fast enough; nay many a one was forcibly pulled off by another who yet could not himself get at it; so mutually envious were we even in this our great misery.

But

But they of all others most moved my compassion

Ignorance. Industry great } whose weight was so heavy, that they tore their very

hands from their bodyes, and yet could not get up.

Thus it came to passe that at these five times very

few were drawn up. For as soon as the sign was

given, the Servants were so nimble at the draught

that the most part tumbled one upon another, and

the Lord at this time especially was drawn up very

empty. whereupon the greatest part, and even I my-

selfe, despaired of Redemption, and called upon God

that he would have pitty upon us, and (if possible)

deliver us out of this obscurity, who also then heard

sexta— some of us: for when the Lord came down the sixth

time; some of them hung themselves fast upon it;

and

and whilst in the drawing up the Lord swung from

one side to the other, it (perhaps by the will of God)

came to me, which I suddenly catching got upper-

most above all the rest, and so at length beyond

hope came out; whereat I exceedingly rejoyced,

so that I perceived not the wound, which in drawing

Vulnus ex tuba Cocita- his. } up I received on my head by a sharp stone;

till I with the rest who were released (as was

always before done) was fain to help, at the

Septima. Adepti are to be holes full whose not Dept. } seventh and last pull, at which time through

straining, the Blood ran down all over my

cloaths, which I never the lesse for joy regarded

not. Now when this last draught wherein

the most of all hung, was finished; the

Matron

Matron causeth the Cord to be laid away, and

Magistra & filius. willeth her aged Son (at which I much wonder)

to declare her Resolution to the rest of the

Prisoners who after he had a little bethought

himself he spake, thus unto them —

Ye Children dear

All present here,

What is but now compleat and done,

Was long before wrought on:

What are my Mother of great Grace

To each on both sides how hath shown

May never discontent misplace;

The joyfull time is drawing on,

When every one shall equall be,

None —

None Wealthy, none in penury.

Who ore receiveth great Comand

Hath work enough to fill his hands.

Who ore with much hath trusted been

'Tis well if he may save his Skin.

Wherefore your Lamentations cease,

What is to waite for some few dayes

As soon as he had finished these words, the

Cover was again put to and locked down, and

the Trumpets and Kettle drums began afresh,

yet could not the noise thereof be so loud,

But that the bitter Lamentation of the

Prisoners which arose in the Dungeon was

heard above all, which soon also causeth my

eyes —

humanity. / eyes to run over. presently after the antient Matron together with her Son sate down upon seats — before prepared, and comanded the Redeemed — Magistra- tronset erectos. } should be told. Now as soon as she understood the Number, and had written it down in a — Gold-yealow Tablet, she demanded every ones Name which were also written down by a little Secretarius. / Page; having viewed us all, she sighed, and — spoke to her son, so as I could well hear her — " Ah how heartily am I grieved for the poor — " men in the Dungeon! I would to God I durst " release them all, Whereunto her Son Replied, " It is mother thus ordained of God, against whome " we may not contend. In case we all of us — were —

" were Lords, and possessed all the goods upon Earth — " and were seated at Table, who would there then — " be to bring up the service? Whereupon his Mother held her peace, but soon after she said. Well " however let there be Feed from their fetters; — which was likewise presently done, and I — except a few was the last; yet could I not — Gratitudo Auctoris erecti. } refrain, but though I still looked upon the — rest, bowed my self before the antient Matron Piety. and thanked God that through her had graciously — ly and fatherly vouchsafed to bring me out of such Darkness into the light. After me the rest did likewise to the satisfaction of the Matron. Lastly to every one was given a piece of Gold

Numus Aureus ⊙

for a Remembrance, and to spend by the way, on the one side whereof was stamped the Rising Sun, on the other, (as I remember) these three Letters D; L; S. And therewith every one had License, and was sent to his own business with this annexed Intimation, That we to the Glory of God should benefit our Neighbours, & observe in silence what we had been entrusted with. Which we also promised to do, and so departed one from another. But in regard of the wounds which the Fetters had caused me, I could not well go forward but halted on both feet, which the Matron presently espying laughing at it and calling me again to her said thus to me,

Deus Lux Solis, vel Deo laus Semper

Mandatum Taciturnitatis.

My Son—

Discessus Autoris.

My Son let not this defect afflict thee, but call to mind thy Infirmities, and therewith thanke God who hath permitted thee even in this world, and in the state of thy Imperfection to come into so high a light, and keepe these wounds for my sake. Whereupon the Trumpets began again to sound which so affrighted me that I awoke, and then first perceived that it was only a Dreame, which yet was so strongly impressed upon my Imagination, that I was still perpetually troubled about it, and methought I was yet sensible of the wounds on my Feet. How be it, by all these things I well understood that God had vouchsafed that I should be—

Vulnus ex compedibus.

Expergefactio.

Solatium.

☌☽♃☿☿ } be present at this Mysterious and hidden Wedding.

Wherefore with Childlike confidence I returned thanks

Precatio. to his Divine Majesty, and besought him that he

would further preserve me in his fears that

he would dayly fill my heart with wisdome and

understanding, and at length graciously (without my

desert) conduct me to the desired end. Hereupon

Preparatio ad Iter. } I prepared my self for the way, put on my white

linnen Coat, girded my Loyns with a blood red

Rosy Crucean } Ribbon bound cross-ways over my Shoulders:

In my Hat I stuck four Red Roses, that I might the

sooner by this token be taken notice amongst the

☌☿☿. throng. For food I took Bread, Salt, and Water

which by the Counsell of an understanding person

I had

I had at certain times (but not without profit

on the like occurrences. But before I parted

from my Cottage; I first in this my dress and

wedding Garment, fell down upon my knees, &

besought God, that in case such a thing were,

Petum. he would vouchsafe me a good issue: And

thereupon in the presence of God I made a Vow

that if any thing through his Grace should be

revealed unto me; I would employ it neither

to my own honour, nor Authority in the

world, but to the spreading of his name, and

the service of my Neighbour, and with this

Vow and good hope I departed out of my

Cell with joy.

The Second Day

Tripudium Creaturarum ob nuptias

I was hardly got out of my Cell into a Forrest, when methought that the whole Heaven and all the Elements had already trimmed themselves against this Wedding. For even the Birds in my opinion chanted more pleasantly then before; and the young Fawns skipped so merrily that they rejoyced my old Heart, and moved me to sing: wherefore with a loud voice I thus began:

With mirth thou pretty Bird rejoice,
Thy Maker's praise inhanced.
Lift up thy shrill and pleasant voice,
Thy

Thy God is high advanced.
Thy Food before he did provide
And gives it in a fitting tide
Therewith be thou sufficed.
Why shouldst thou now unpleasant be.
Thy wrath against God venting?
That tis a little Bird made thee
Thy silly head tormenting?
Because he made thee not a man
O peace, he hath well thought thereon
Therewith be thou sufficed.
What is't I'd have poor earthly worm,
By God (as 'twere) inditing,
That I should thus against Heaven storm
To

To force great Arks by fighting?

God will out braved be by none,

Who's good for nought, may hence be gone.

O man b'hereby sufficed.

That he no Cæsar hath thee fram'd,

To pine therefore his needless

His Name perhaps thou hadst defam'd

Whereof he was not heedless.

Most clear and bright Gods eyes do shine

He pierces to thy heart within,

And cannot be deceived.

This sang I now from the bottom of my Heart —

For Sylvam-/throughout the whole Forrest so that it resounded

from all parts, and the Hills repeated my last words

untill

Shot 2

Hermes Nuptials &c 17

untill at length I espied a curious green Heath

whether I betooke my selfe out of this forrest.

Upon this Heath stood 3 lovely tall Cedars,

3 Cedri
3. Templa
☉♃♀

which by reason of their breadth afforded an —

excellent and desired shade; whereat I greatly

rejoyced; for although I had not hitherto gone

far, yet my earnest longing made me very

faint; whereupon I hasted to the Trees to rest

a little under them, but as soon as I came —

somewhat nigher, I espied a Tablet fastned

to one of them, on which (as afterwards I read)

Tabella Mercurialis

in curious Letters the following words were written

Hospes salve: si quid tibi for=

sitan de Nuptijs Regijs auditum,

verba

auditum, Verba hæc perpende. Quatuor
Viarum optimam per nos tibi Sponsus
offert, per quas omnes, modo non in
devias delabaris, ad Regiam ejus —
1. aulam pervenire possis. Prima brevis
est, sed periculosa, et quæ te in varios
scopulos deducet, ex quibus vix te
2. expedire licebit. Altera longior,
quæ circumducet te, non abducet, —
plana est et facilis, si te Magnetis —
auxilio neque ad dextram, neque sinistrã
3. abduci patiaris. Tertia vere Regia est,
quæ per varias Regis nostri delicias, —
et Spectacula viam tibi reddet —
jucundam

4. sed quod vix millesimo hactenus obtigit
Per quartam nemini hominum licebit
ad Regiam pervenire, utpote quæ con=
sumens et non nisi corporibus incorrup=
tibilibus conveniens est. Eligc nunc —
ex tribus quam velis, et in ea constans
permane. Scito autem quamcunque
ingressus fueris, ab immutabili fato —
tibi ita destinatum, nec nisi cum maxi
=mo vitæ periculo regredi fas esse.
Hæc sunt quæ te sciviſse voluimus;
sed heus cave ignores, quanto cum —
periculo te huic viæ commiseris, nam —
si te vel minimi delicti contra Regis —
nostri —

nostri ~~delicias et spectacula~~ leges-

nosti obnoxium, quaeso dum adhuc

out of it 'through by wayes, or bo-at hor-ways —

detayned in th3 great Journey. Neither durst I —