

## A Bible Story

ONCE, while in church in Scotland, a chorus girl took out a deck of cards and started to shuffle them. When the sermon was over a Scotch constable came to her with the words, "You are under arrest."

"What for?" she queried.

"For displaying a deck of cards in a church," was the reply.

"But I am not doing any harm, old boy, with these cards," answered the girl.

"Stolidly the Scotch police told her, 'Tell that to the Judge!'"

The constable told the Judge what had happened in church and the Judge said to the chorine: "This is a serious charge. What have you to say for yourself?"

The girl looked at the Judge, cocked her head on one side, powdered her nose, and replied: "Your honor, I did no harm, and if you will permit me, I will explain the thing fully to your satisfaction."

"All right," said His Honor, wiping his glasses. "Let's go."

"Your Honor, I did not have a Bible or a Prayer book with me, but I did have this deck of cards and I'll show you that I meant no disrespect in handling them in church. When I come upon the Ace of Spades it always reminds me of the Creator of the Universe. The Two-Spot reminds me of that beautiful story in the Bible relating to David and Jonathan in which they displayed such great friendship. The Three-Spot tells me of the Bible story that I learned of the three patriarchs—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The Four-Spot reminds me of the Fifth Commandment to "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the earth which the Lord has given thee." The Six-Spot tells me that God created the Heaven and the Earth and all that is therein in six days. The Seven-Spot tells me that he made this day sacred for rest. The Eight-Spot reminds me of the story in the Bible of Noah and his wife and children who were saved in the flood that destroyed the earth. The Nine-Spot tells of the nine holy days that the Israelites are commanded to keep. The Ten-Spot tells me of the giving of the Ten Commandments by the Lord to Moses at Mt. Sinai. The King in a deck of cards tells me that there is only one King who rules the universe. The Queen in the deck reminds me of the story of the time that the Queen of Sheba visited King Solomon to test his wisdom. She brought 100 boys and girls all dressed alike. She asked Solomon to tell her which were the boys and which were the girls. He ordered his servants to bring basins of water. The girls rolled upon their sleeves above the elbows, while the boys washed their hands to the wrists."

"Very good," said the Judge. "You have explained every card in the deck with the exception of the Knave."

"Your Honor," replied the American girl, "the Knave was the Constable who arrested me. Furthermore, Your Honor," continued the girl, "I want to tell you that in this deck of cards there are 365 spots telling us of the number of days in the year. There are fifty-two cards in a deck which equals the number of weeks in a year. There are thirteen cards in each suit which are equal to the four seasons of the year, 13 weeks to a season. There are twelve picture cards in a deck which equal the months in the year. So, you see, Your Honor, that in a deck of cards there is a Bible, a Prayer-book, and a Calendar."—*Burton's Follies.*

## Parzival by Frater Achad (Continued from page 19)

must of necessity conform to all truth, on all planes.

For there are certain Numerical Emanations, called the Ten Sephiroth, and 'here are certain Vibrations of numerical nature connected with Words.

It is not my intention to write a treatise on the Holy Qabalah (those who wish to study this interesting subject may do so in "Q. B. L. or The Bride's Reception") or to describe fully the "Tree of Life," nor the methods of drawing numerical meanings from words. The accompanying plate shows the structure of "The Tree of Life."

The Qabalistic teaching is that Malkuth—The Kingdom—The Animal Soul—THE FALLEN DAUGHTER must be RAISED through the Office of the SON—Tiphereth—The Sun—Harmony and Beauty, to the Throne of the MOTHER—Binah—Understanding—THE CUP, when she is again united to the FATHER—Chokmah—Wisdom—Will—THE SPEAR, thus absorbing all into THE CROWN—Kether—The Pure Light of the DOVE which descends upon their Union.

This is the Mystery of Redemption and of the Great Work, the Uniting of the Microcosm and the Macrocosm—Man with God.

The main Formula of the Great Work, that of the Rose and Cross, is symbolised in the Great Order as 5°=6°. This refers to the Microcosm and the Macrocosm as the Pentagram or Fivefold Star of Unconquered Will and the Hexagram or Six-fold Star. The Work is to discover their equivalence, and to unite them.

The first stage of this Union occurs in TIPHERETH, and is accompanied with the feeling of Ecstasy. This Sephira is that of the SUN, and is necessarily connected with the Solar Numbers of which 6, 66, and 666 are the Scale. This is the Sphere of the Crowned King—The Son who unites in himself both Glory and Suffering.

But since there has been, what we may term, a change of Office in the Great Hierarchy in this New Aeon, we find that the Number 418 which is the numeration of "ABRAHADABRA" the Word of the Aeon is also particularly attributed to this Sphere, since it represents perfectly the formula of 5°=6°. (See Sepher Sephiroth, Equinox Vol. I. No. VIII.)

Again 777 is a number representing alike "The Flaming Sword" and the Unity of all things including the World of Shells. In Greek Qabalah it corresponds to the word STAUROS—The Cross.

It is worthy of notice, and most careful consideration, therefore, that with slight adjustment of spelling, the Names of the principal characters in the Drama have an extraordinary significance.

TITUREL, Founder of the Grail Order, adds to 666.

MONSALVAT, the Mountain of Salvation, adds to 666.

GAMURET, the Father of Parzival, adds to 666.

AMFORTAS, with his Cross of Suffering, adds to 777.

KLINGSOR, who represents Choronzon (333), adds to 333.

GURNEMANZ, Conductor of the New King, adds to 418.

PARZIVAL, The Pure Fool, adds to 418.

KUNDRY and GUNDRYGGIA, alike add to 290.

In the above the Hebrew equivalents of the letters and the old spellings of the names are used. With small study of the Qabalistic System and the Grades of the Order based on the Tree of Life, the significance of the above will become more and more apparent to the Student. An extended treatise might be written on the subject, but that is not the intention of the author at this time.

Now, there are several spellings of the name Parzival; the one which I have adopted being that of Wolfram von Eschenbach, from whom Wagner derived the Drama. The usual spelling—Parsifal—is interesting since it adds to 388, which, with the addition of 500 (Final Mem. The Water of the Great Sea of Understanding), becomes 888. By Greek Numeration 888 is the number of Jesus the Christ.

But there is another spelling, much more significant, and probably the oldest of them all. PARCHVAL, the numeration of which is 326.

It will have been noticed that the most important Points of the Drama are connected with THE CUP—Understanding—Binah the THIRD Sephira; THE SPEAR—Will—Wisdom—Chokmah the SECOND Sephira, and THE HEART—The Castle of the Grail—Tiphereth the SIXTH Sephira. If we examine these Spheres on the Tree of Life we find they form a Descending Triad representing the Bowl of The Chalice of Ecstasy, the points of which are 326.

Now 326 is the Numeration of IH-ShVH—The Hebrew Jeheshuah—Jesus—The God-Man or Redeemer. This Word also symbolises the descent of "Shin" the letter of the Holy Spirit into the Four Lettered Word IHVH—Jehovah—The Ineffable Name and the Mormula of the Four Elements. Thus PARCHVAL symbolises the whole process perfectly; the Descent of Spirit into Matter and also the Redemption.

It also shows the transition to the New Aeon, there being a connection between this old spelling and that of Parzival the formula of the present time. For the

(Continued on page 42)