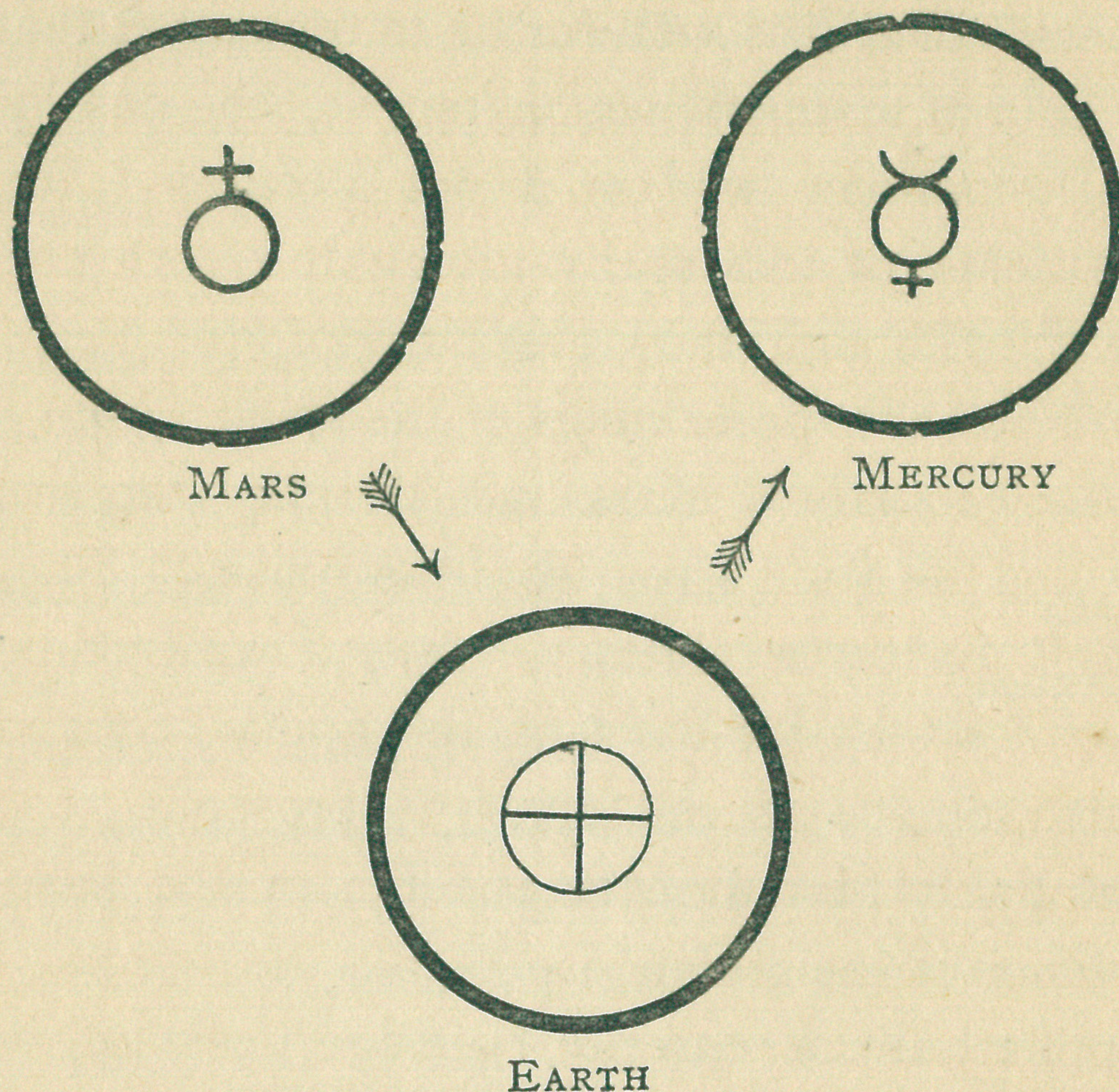


MARS: THE WAR LORD



Those in search of further details about the Chain of Globes are referred to the *Secret Doctrine*: (i 177 *et seq.*, ii 802, etc.).

Mars, therefore, represents universal energy, or the animal consciousness pure and simple. But the human consciousness is Self-consciousness; and without the influence of Mercury there could be no self-consciousness. The close association of Mercury with Mars shows that in man thought arises before desire; therefore self-consciousness is an attribute of Mind, not of the Emotional Soul. The emotional or animal soul is always material, and to rise over it and subdue it we must transmute and control our material instincts and

selfishness. But it is well for us to remember that without the animal instincts, which tend to the passions and the evil emotions, we could not progress; for their impulse helps us to rise by giving the very necessary incentive. Though they are born of the flesh, their destiny is to serve as *vehicles* of the spirit, (*John iii 6*).

These two planets Mars and Mercury represent the Senses, and the Mind apart from the senses. They form with the Earth a Trinity, the downward-pointing triangle, of which the earth is the apex. Symbolically the Earth, or the ascendant of a horoscope, represents the brain, and Mars the cerebellum or the base of the brain, which is the storehouse of all the animal forces, and supplies all the *material* both for ideas and actions.

Mercury represents the cerebrum, the front and upper part of the brain, which finishes and polishes the materials brought by Mars. It is the

♀ Reason mingling of the joint influences of Mars and Mercury which causes a constant interweaving of mind and sense, and the earth, or the physical body, is the battleground between the two, the place of struggle; but Mars is always the

♂ Sense combatant, the one on the offensive. His mission is War, Strife, and Struggle, ever prompting the forward movement of man; for without the martial influence there would be no real progress, or evolution. Mars, as representative of *mortal* man, the old Adam or natural man, is therefore the Rising Star of

the Material World, and we begin our story of man's adventures from the time when he was forced out of the Garden of Eden, the celestial circle of the Zodiac, to labour for his bread.

We are now familiar with the fact that all the symbols of the planets are derived from the primary symbol of the Circle, which is divided into the **SYMBOLS** half circle, and the Cross. The symbol of Mars is that of the Sun *rising* upon the eastern horizon. Not the risen Sun, but the rising Sun, which forms the symbol of the Circle under the Cross ♂ and denotes Spirit in its first strivings with matter, the rays of the Spirit or mind working in the brain of the animal-man.¹ This rising Sun illumines the brain with more or less brilliancy, according to the nature of the sign rising; and the quality and condition of the brain, and the general disposition are shown by the ascendant at birth.

In its normal state, for average humanity in all nations at the present time, the *rising* influence of the planet Mars governs science, or the acquisition ♂ **Rising** of knowledge in all the various branches in the concrete and material world; and those who respond to an organised or harmonious

¹ Men have two spirits in them—an animal spirit and a human spirit. The human spirit has a two-fold aspect, a human and a divine one.

Martial influence are practical and level-headed students of natural science, physical science, mechanical science, and all the branches of science that are inductive rather than deductive. And it may be safely accepted that a well-controlled Martial influence gains knowledge through science; while Art, which is under the influence of Mercury combined with Mars, is skill in using it.

In warfare the influence of Mars is very clearly demonstrated in the artillery service, and in engineers, sappers, trench makers, and in the quick ♂ in War handling of weapons, as well as in the making of them. On every side it favours youth more than maturity or old age, for the Martial influence quickens the uprising of the sap in youth and springtime, and is active in stimulating the "Vril" or Ojas in all living things, and that is why it has power over them, and governs the generative organs through passion and the demonstration of affection.

In the early stages or workings of the Martial influence, irrespective of the material or vehicle through which it is working, it is more or less a blind unconscious force, destined to act forcefully, impulsively and as unconstrained energy. It is devoid of all that curious feeling that we call conscience, and has, in itself, no idea of either right or wrong. It is a latent energy in every evolving soul, with enormous possibilities of demonstration and expression along forceful and impulsive lines;

and when we understand its nature we are less severe upon the mistakes of youth, for its influence is keyed, so to speak, to rush after pleasure, to satisfy desire, and gratify the senses. When it is wild and *wholly* dominates the person, who succumbs to its influence without using reason or control, we know that we are looking upon the actions of what we term a Young Soul.

Martial influence, in the early stage of its manifestation through the human creature, is always aggressive, combative, and assertive ; for animal-man

Early Stages only becomes self-conscious through the assertion of its separate self through body and brain in the declaration "*I am.*" And if we remember that all definite first hand knowledge which is really *ours* is gained through the senses, we shall understand that very few have reached that stage where reliance upon the senses is no longer the only avenue to knowledge of the world.

The pure types of Mars are the perceptive and observant types. They are always brainy and we may know them readily, although there are

Pure Types two very distinct types of Martial men and women,—the generous, valiant and courageous ; and the cruel, quarrelsome and tyrannical. It is largely a question of mood or temperament ; or, to speak astrologically, whether Mars is ruler, rising and well placed, or is weak, and unfavourably aspected. All true Mars men, however, are apt with hand and tongue,

being open in speech, and fond of assertion, and more often positive than not. We cannot at all times credit Mars people with pure motives untinged with selfishness although from apparently good motives Mars men and women will take grave risks and run many dangers. The vibrations of Mars *alone*, free from any other influence or sub-influence, will certainly produce heroes, and also *saints*; but only when the Mars man has through long experience tempered the iron of strength and courage into the fine steel of endurance and self-sacrifice.

The fact cannot, however, be concealed that Mars people mainly act through the desire-nature of the senses, and when unrestrained, and uncontrolled by **Unrestrained** the higher nature, or by the intelligence of Mercury, they can exhibit some seriously harmful traits. Martial men and women are in some cases cowardly, dishonest and revengeful, and when uncultured are boastful, and very anxious to convince others of their cleverness, which is often very superficial. When unrestrained Mars causes impatience, restlessness, and intolerance of others' views or rights.

In the infantile stages of the Martial soul, animal-man owes a debt to the nation into which he is born, since it is usually composed of older souls than **Nations** himself, and as he progresses with that nation he gradually takes a part in the national consciousness. When we study the influence

of Mars in the national consciousness, we apply the same rules to the nation as we do to the individual; for nations are young, matured, and old. That is, they are born in time as are individuals, and pass through infancy, youth, maturity, decay, and death just as individuals do. And thus we may judge of the age and condition of all nations from their people, their governments, and their Presidents or Ruling Monarchs.

In the infancy of a nation we find all the unconscious simplicity of impulse and desire, and in the youth of a nation its forcefulness, competition and assertiveness; and when the Martial influence of a nation is running into isolated and selfish channels, we find its stronger characters engaged in law-suits, divorces, quarrels, and impositions. When bodies of men collectively work for selfish ends we find the nations reaching a critical stage, troubled by strikes, seditions, conspiracies, and other evidences of unrest and dissatisfaction, a state of things which usually terminates in warfare or grave national crises.

We may here mention the fact that ALL the Western Nations come more or less under the influence of the planet Mars; and many years ago in the pages of "Modern Astrology" we predicted that if ever a war broke out in Europe it would arise out of the Balkans,—a statement based upon the belief that the young nations of the Balkans would, if not properly controlled, allow their unrest to

become the opportunity for international difficulties, misunderstandings, and excuses for open warfare on the part of those who were anxious to test their might and force at *the most favourable moment when other nations were unprepared*. From this hint the reader may gather something of the basis of an astrologer's predictions, which sometimes seem to be founded upon very slight indications.

At the present time we are witnessing between the Western Nations *a struggle for supremacy*, and Mars, the War Lord, is active on all sides.

Cycle of
Mars

The trouble actually began in the Balkans, through the assassination of the Archduke Franz-Ferdinand on June 28th, 1914. The extreme limit of the Martial influence is found in murder, which in every land is ranked as a crime. This murder of national import, having world-wide consequences, coincided with the Saturnine subdivision of the Martial cycle; the cycle of Mars beginning in the spring of 1909, and being followed by the yearly sub-cycles of the Sun, Venus, Mercury, Moon, and Saturn,—the present year 1915 closing the sub-cycle under Jupiter. The full cycle of Mars, however, is not completed until the year 1944.

This assassination exasperated the Austrian Government, and was the cause of the ultimatum issued by

Count Berchtold, the Austro-Hungarian
The Spark Minister for Foreign Affairs, to Serbia.
Apparently he was the tool in the hands of

the war party, and there is now very little doubt that the Austro-Hungarian Clerical and Military Party—acting possibly under German inspiration—seized upon this opportunity to make it an excuse for a declaration of war. The unfortunate Austrian Emperor, Francis Joseph, declared that a whole nation (the Serbians) ought not to be held responsible for the act of a few fanatics, but there is sufficient evidence that Berlin was *determined* to make the most of the opportunity; and it is therefore owing to the Austrian and German Military Party that the present conflagration has been precipitated.¹

That the horoscope of the Austrian Emperor threatened the peace of Europe, we always believed, owing to the *setting* of the planet Mars in the sign The Tinder Aries. And in the Royal Number of "Modern Astrology," issued in the month

¹ Readers disposed to question this statement are referred to the Government publication *Great Britain and the European Crisis*, known as the British "Blue Book," in which is given an account of the events which led to the war, and a verbatim transcript of the official documents (English, German, French and Austrian) concerned; the book is published by Wymans, Fetter Lane, E.C., price 1*d.* Also *Diplomatic Correspondence concerning the War*, published by the French Government, (translation), same firm and price.

The German point of view is given in the "White Book" issued by the German Government, a type-facsimile reprint of "the only authorised translation" of which, (Druck und Verlag., Liebheit & Thiesen, Berlin), may be found in *Why we are at War* (Oxford, Clarendon Press, 2*s.* 6*d.*), the revised Third Edition of which contains also the Russian Orange Book and extracts from the Belgian Grey Book, as well as from the Blue Book aforesaid.

of July 1910, on page 294 we said very definitely that "THE FATE OF THE EUROPEAN NATIONS HANGS BY THE THREAD OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA'S NATIVITY." While he could keep the peace by his own personal influence, there can be no question that he attempted to do so; but when enfeebled by age and misfortune, and distressed by the fatalities around him he could no longer keep the balance, his supporters then, acted on their own initiative—and forced the war.

The prediction that "the planet Mars in his nativity is exactly on the ascendant of King George's nativity, making it no idle prophecy to say that the Emperor of Austria would be the direct cause of drawing England into the struggle," is quite clear; for the Austrian Emperor was forced to sign the declaration of war against Serbia, and thus began the World War into which England was finally drawn from motives of honour to defend the sanctity of treaties and protect a weaker nation.

This brings up the question of the influence of the horoscopes of Rulers, over the Nations they govern.¹ The

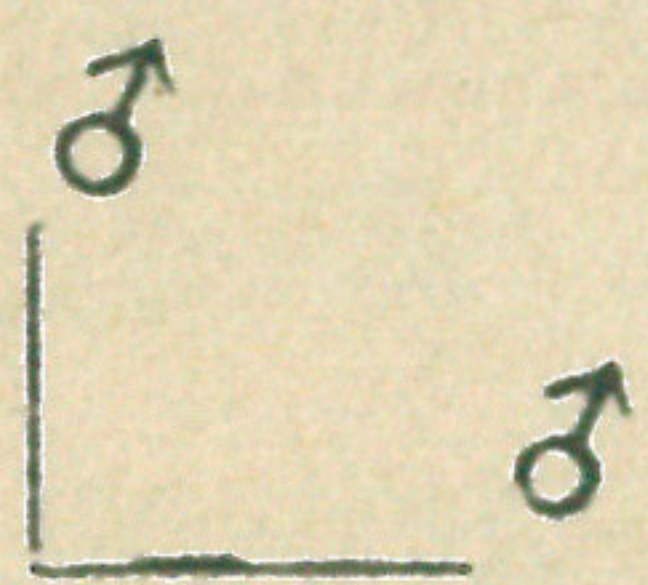
ROYAL HOROSCO- SCOPES

national significance of a Royal Horoscope is clear in the case of the Austrian Emperor; note that Mars is *setting* in his horoscope, that it is stationary on the cusp of the seventh house, the house of open enemies and

¹ The Horoscopes of the chief Monarchs will be found at end of book.

foreign affairs. Next note that Mars in the horoscopes of the Kaiser and the Emperor are within $5\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ of the same point, and, what is still more significant, Mars, the culminating planet in the Kaiser's horoscope is in trine or friendly aspect to Venus, the ruler of the Austrian Emperor's horoscope, while Venus, ruler of the latter, is also in trine or in friendly relationship with the Kaiser's ruler, the Moon, in *Scorpio, the house of Mars*. A COINCIDENCE? Yes! And a very singular one, considering all the facts.

Astrologically we know they were destined to play their parts as actors in the great world drama; and to



us it is not remarkable that in one case Mars, the War Lord, is setting, while in the other case it is culminating. What do we say of any ordinary individual who has the planet Mars angular at his nativity, and what has every astrologer said throughout the past all over the world? That he is decidedly warlike and enjoys combat, and becomes more or less a centre of strife wherever he may be.

The first startling and questionable act in this European war, was the breaking of the neutrality of Belgium by Germany. Fortunately we were able to procure through the nurse of the King of the Belgians King Albert's birth-time: the time given was a few minutes before 10 a.m. at Brussels,—to quote the nurse's exact words, "a little before 10 a.m., April 8th, 1875."

Is it merely a coincidence that the Kaiser's Mars

should be in exact square to King Albert's Mars? Is it merely a coincidence that Mercury, ruler of the Kaiser's third house, and therefore significator of his mind, should be in opposition to King Albert's ascendant?

To the Kaiser "the scrap of paper" by which Belgium's neutrality was guaranteed by Germany no less than by others, had no value; and, his ruler being in its fall in the sign Scorpio, he treacherously ignored it. Would he have done so had his ruler, the Moon, been placed in its exaltation instead of in its fall? We think not. Destiny is a strange thing where nations are concerned.

For England, war was not *inevitable*. She was drawn into the struggle for the sake of honour, and not out of a desire for self-aggrandisement or military glory; and it is more than a coincidence that owing to this world war Britain is now being Weighed in the Balance, and tested by the Martial fire.

This has aroused the national consciousness, and instead of being a mere collection of separate units with individual quarrels, which was what Germany expected, we have shown ourselves a single Being, a patriotic Nation, willing to sink individual differences and party strife for the sake of unity. From a Martial standpoint this is a healthy sign, for Mars is the unconscious quickener of