PREFACE

The purpose of this book is to endeavour to show in a clear and simple manner the useful and practical truth that underlies the so-called occult study of reading character and disposition by the "period of birth," and the meaning of the number of each day and the influence of such things on human life. It will, I hope, be seen in reading these pages how perfect is the mechanism of the Universe, by which certain characteristics, and even details as to health, may be traced by a study of such things.

Many books have been published that pretend to deal with these questions, and although some of these books may be most excellent in their way, I have found that, as a rule, they have been too complicated in their method or too involved in their theories to be of practical use to the everyday man or woman who has not had the occult training necessary to understand complicated expositions on such subjects.

I have been encouraged to send this work on its way by the great success which has attended the publication of other works from my pen on the Study of the Hand, and the commendation I have received for the "faculty of expressing myself clearly, and in simple language," making the studies of practical use and help to a wider range of people than books of this class usually reach.

In the present book I have drawn largely from my own experiences in this study of character, and I may safely state that there is not a rule I have given concerning character, tendencies, or health, which has not been thoroughly verified by me in my own work, which has extended in a professional way over a period of more than forty years.

Considering that during this period I was consulted on an average by from fifteen to twenty persons a day, I think I may safely claim to have had a wider field in which to gather the knowledge necessary for this book than, perhaps, any other writer on this subject.

I have seen so many wrecked and broken lives, where, had the people possessed even a slight knowledge of their own
dispositions, they might have been saved, that I have felt it a
duty to publish in a cheap and simple form the indications of
character and tendencies which may be easily learned by a
study of these "periods of birth," as set forth in the following
pages.

I believe that any aid that may help towards the observation
of character is not only useful but even essential if one wishes to
keep abreast and succeed in this age of ever-increasing competition.

Those people who have some means at their command to
learn their own characters and the dispositions of others must
certainly be thrice armed in the battle of life, and consequently
more successful than the people who know nothing of such
things. Therefore I have no hesitation in saying that with this
book in one's possession, one has a means towards winning
success and also happiness.

With even a slight knowledge of what I designate in these
pages as Life's Natural Affinities, the road to the divorce courts
would not be so crowded as it is at present, parents would more
easily understand their children and children their parents,
and a great deal of suffering and friction might be avoided.

In conclusion, I trust I am not presuming too much when I
venture to hope that this unpretentious volume may be the
means of helping a large proportion of my fellow-beings to
realise that in the study of the mysteries of life we are giving
praise and glory to the Creator of Life, who in His infinite
wisdom created all things to be used by man for the highest
development of his kind.

"Cheiro."