

*The Great Schism of the
“Church of Christ” into
Latin and Greek, fastened
like a hideous cancer in 865,
sliding down the slippery road
to the quagmire of Infallibility.*



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¹ Frontispiece by Jehan Georges Vibert (1874).

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A letter of protest to “Lucifer” by a Catholic disciple.

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[In a letter entitled “A Protest,” the writer signing himself “Discipula,”¹ takes issue with a statement in T.B. Harbottle’s Pamphlet No. 6 of the T.P.S. Series, and defends the Roman Catholic Church, as a faithful member thereof. She objects to the sentence:

In neither section of Christianity, indeed, is there any recognition of the necessity of that self-conquest, which is the basis of the Theosophical system of ethics. Both . . . believe in a divine grace which, descending into the heart of man, takes as it were the battle out of his hands and relieves him from responsibility and possibility of failure.

The “Discipula” declares that:

. . . as a member of the Roman Catholic Church, which is the ‘Mother and Mistress’ of all Christian Churches and from which they are all derived, in a greater or less degree, I can speak with certainty . . .

She then tries to show that the Church inculcates sound precepts of ethics.

This evoked from Madame Blavatsky the following forthright statement:]



Editorial response by H.P. Blavatsky.

The claim of the Roman Catholic Church that she is “the Mother and Mistress” of all Christian Churches, is one of the many arrogant assumptions made by Papism, which are neither warranted by history nor by fact.

We denounce the claim, that the Roman Catholic Church is “the Mother and Mistress” of all Christian Churches, as one of the many arrogant assumptions made by Papism, and which are neither *warranted by history nor by fact*. For, while history shows it to be quite the reverse of truth, facts are there to *withstand* “Peter to the face” once more. If Greek Ecclesiastical History is to be set [340] aside, there are Dean

¹ [female disciple]

Stanley's Lectures to prove the facts;¹ and the Dean, as an *historian*, was surely an unprejudiced authority. Now what do both history and the Dean say?

The Catholic Church began her debut as a colony of Greek Christians, and Hellenised Jews.²

That the Christian Church began her existence as a colony of *Greek Christians*, and of Grecianised, Hellenic Jews. The first and earliest Church Fathers, such as Clement of Rome, Irenæus, Hippolytus, etc., etc., *wrote in the Greek language*. The first Popes *were Greeks*, not Italians, the very name "Pope" being a Greek not a Latin name, "*Papa*" meaning father. Every Greek priest is called to this day "*papa*," and every Russian priest "pope." The first quarrels which led to the separation of the Church, into the Latin and the Greek or Eastern, did not take place earlier than the IXth century, namely, in 865, under the Patriarch Photius; while the final separation occurred only in the XIth century, when the Latin Church proclaimed herself with her usual arrogance the one universal Apostolic Church and all others Schismatics and Heretics! Let our esteemed correspondent read History, and see what happened at Constantinople, on May 16th, 1054. She will then learn that on that day a crowd of Roman delegates, led by Humberto, broke into the cathedral of St. Sophia, and laid down upon the altar their *bull of ANATHEMA*³ *against those who would not follow them in their various innovations and schemes*.

Assumption of authority is no proof of it.

The great schism of the "Church of Christ" into Latin and Greek fastened like a hideous cancer in 865, sliding down the slippery road to the quagmire of Infallibility.

It was finally wrapped up in the XIth century when the renegades (furnished with an aureole of fanciful virtues), glorified themselves as the One Universal Apostolic Church, and anathematised all other Christians as Schismatics and Heretics!

Thus it would seem that it was Latinism which broke off from the Greek Oriental Church and not the latter from Rome. *Ergo*, it is the Roman Church which has to be regarded not only as guilty of a schism but of *rank heresy* in the eyes of every *impartial* Christian acquainted with history. Hence, also, it is the Greek Oriental Church which is the "Mother and Mistress" of all other Christian Churches — if any can claim the title. Assumption of authority is no proof of it. As to the *rules of life* taught by Jesus, if [341] the Roman Church had ever accepted them, surely she would never have invented the infamy called the Inquisition; nor would she have slaughtered, in her religious fury and in the name of her God, nearly 50,000,000 of human creatures ("heretics") since she came to power. As to her *rules* and ethics, she may *pretend* to

¹ [The source which H.P. Blavatsky refers to is: Dean Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, *Lectures on the History of the Eastern Church*. With an Introduction on the Study of Ecclesiastical History. London, 1861. 8vo. Also 1862, 1869, and 1883. — Boris de Zirkoff.]

² [Consult "Paul an Initiate and founder of Christianity" and "Peter not an Initiate and the enemy of Paul," in our Buddhas and Initiates Series. — ED. PHIL.]

³ [Consult "Papal dispensation for murder and mayhem" in our Black versus White Magic Series, and "Blavatsky on a Heavy Curse," in our Blavatsky Speaks Series. — ED. PHIL.]

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ASSUMPTION OF AUTHORITY IS NO PROOF OF IT

teach people to “forgive their enemies from their hearts,” but she takes good care never to do so herself. Nor can Christian endurance or “renunciation of self” ever reach the grandeur in practice of the Buddhist and Hindu devotee. This is [a] matter of history too. Meanwhile, “God the Father” if this person could be conveniently consulted, would surely prefer a little less “lip-love” for himself, and a little more heartfelt sympathy for Humanity in general, and its suffering hosts in particular. “Little Sisters” and Big “Christian Brothers” do frequently more mischief than good, especially the “Nursing Sisters,” as some recent cases can show.



Suggested reading for students.



From our Black versus White Magic Series.

- A CASE OF MESMERIC ATTACK
- A STRANGE STORY BY BULWER-LYTTON
- AKHUND ABDUL GHAFUR OF SWAT
- ANCIENT MAGIC IN MODERN SCIENCE
- ANIMATED STATUES, TROPHIES OF THE BLACK ART
- AURAS OF MEDIUMS AND ADEPTS
- BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE MAGIC THERE IS BUT A COBWEB THREAD
- BLACK MAGIC IS IN FULL SWAY AMIDST MANKIND
- BLACK VERSUS WHITE MAGIC, THE TWO OPPOSING POWERS
- BLAVATSKY ON THE AUTHOR OF PHALLICISM
- BLAVATSKY ON THE FABRICATORS OF MAGIC MIRRORS AND THEIR MOTIVES
- BLAVATSKY ON THE MALIGNANT FEVER OF UNSOUND SCEPTICISM
- BUDDHISM, CHRISTIANITY, AND PHALLICISM
- BUDDHIST FEMINISM IN CEYLON
- CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IS A RELIC OF JEWISH BARBARITY
- CHRISTIAN LECTURES ON BUDDHISM
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE PURPORTS TO POPULARISE THE TREATMENT OF DISEASE
- CHRISTIANITY HAS RETARDED THE WOMAN'S PROGRESS
- CONFESSIONS OF CYPRIANUS, THE PENITENT SORCERER OF ANTIOCH
- DOES YOUR MIND ELATE WITH SELF-ADORATION
- EGYPTIAN MAGIC, GOOD AND BAD
- EVIL IS AN ILLUSION CAUSED BY THE CIRCLE OF NECESSITY
- EVIL IS THE INFERNAL END OF THE POLARITY OF SPIRIT-MATTER
- EXACT SCIENCE VERSUS ARCHAIC PHILOSOPHY
- FRIGHTENING CRYING CHILDREN INTO SILENCE
- HOW CAN A BLACK MAGICIAN BE KNOWN

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SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS**

- HUGO'S LA FIN DE SATAN (1911)
- HYLO-IDEALISM IS A FIG LEAF FOR CRASS MATERIALISM
- INSIGHTS TO THE HIGH IDEALISM AND QUAIN T WIT OF ÉLIPHAS LEVI
- INSIGHTS TO THE OCCULT ARTS
- INSTEAD OF BLACK AND WHITE MAGIC, READ SELFISH AND UNSELFISH MOTIVE
- MAGIC IS THE OCCULT KNOWLEDGE OF NATURAL LAW
- MEDIUMSHIP AND ADEPTSHIP ARE POLES APART
- NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO CONTROL THE MIND OF ANOTHER
- OCCULTISM AND KABBALAH ARE ONLY MASKS TO HIDE THE SACRED TRUTH FROM THE PROFANE
- ON ASTRAL INTOXICATION
- ON MALEVOLENT BEWITCHMENTS AND VENOMOUS MAGIC
- ORMUZD AND AHRIMAN ARE EVER OPPOSING POWERS, YET INSEPARABLE AND INTERDEPENDENT
- PAPAL DISPENSATION FOR MURDER AND MAYHEM
- PHALLICISM AND PHALLIC WORSHIP
- PRESENTIMENTS OF WHAT LIES IN THE BOSOM OF FUTURE
- PSYCHOLOGICAL AND CONJURING TRICKS
- REFLECTIONS OF AN ARDENT APOSTLE
- RELIGIOUS CONVERSION MEANS ABSOLUTE PERVERSION
- SELFISHNESS IS THE CAUSE OF ALL SIN AND SUFFERING
- SELFISHNESS IS THE HALLMARK OF FAKIRS, HERMITS, AND YOGINS
- SIN BY CRUEL ACQUIESCENCE IN AN UNWORTHY FASHION
- SOUL-DESTROYING SOPHISTRY IS FAKE WISDOM
- SPIRIT AND MATTER ARE DUAL ASPECTS OF ONE CAUSE
- SPIRITUAL PROGRESS IS NOT AIDED BY WATCHING THE ASTRAL LIGHT
- TERAPHIM ARE THE ELEMENTAL SPIRITS OF ANCIENT DIVINATION
- THE ARABIAN NIGHTS ARE ECHOES FROM OF LEMURIA AND ATLANTIS
- THE ASTRAL LIGHT REFLECTS IMAGES OF EVERY THOUGHT AND ACTION
- THE ENSOULED VIOLIN
- THE IDYLL OF THE WHITE LOTUS
- THE ORIGIN OF GOOD AND EVIL
- THE ORIGINAL SIN IS A JEWISH INVENTION
- THE PERNICIOUS SOPHISTRY OF HYPOCRISY

**BLACK VERSUS WHITE MAGIC SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS**

- THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE IS TRIUNE UNITY
- THE PITFALLS OF OCCULT ARTS AND METAPHYSICAL HEALING
- THE POWER OF THE MAGICIAN IS INVERSELY RELATED TO HIS WORLDLY INTERESTS
- THE PROCESS OF PRECIPITATING HANDWRITTEN LETTERS EXPLAINED
- THE SILENT BROTHER
- THE SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS OF ANTHROPOMORPHISM
- THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY'S POSITION ON HYPNOTISM
- THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOMORPHISM IS THE PARENT OF MATERIALISM
- THEOLOGICAL MALICE IS THE ROOT CAUSE OF SATANIC MAGIC
- TRAINED IMAGINATION CAN PRODUCE OCCULT PHENOMENA
- TRUE MAGIC IS THE GNOSIS OF PYTHAGORAS
- WARNING TO PHENOMENA SEEKERS
- WHEN THEOLOGICAL ETHICS SPEAK NO LONGER IN MAN
- WHY WOMEN SHOULD AVOID THE CHURCH LIKE A PLAGUE
- YOGA IS A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

