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Here is the complete list of the 20 Free E-Books contained in the “How Your Thoughts Create Your Reality” Email Series Brought to you by www.positivepeople.info - www.haltipper.info

James Allen – As a Man Thinketh
William Walker Atkinson - Practical Mental Influence
William Walker Atkinson – Thought Force
William Walker Atkinson – Thought Vibration
Genevieve Behrend – Your Invisible Power
Emile Coue – Self Mastery through Auto Suggestion
Charles Haanel - The Master Key System
Henry Thomas Hamblin -The Power of Thought
Henry Thomas Hamblin – Within You Is The power
Napoleon Hill – Think and Grow Rich
Ernest Holmes – Creative Mind
Ernest Holmes - The Science of Mind
Christian D. Larson - Your Forces and How to Use Them
Prentice Mulford - Thoughts Are Things
Thomas Troward - The Creative Process In the Individual
Thomas Troward - The Edinburgh Lectures
Thomas Troward - The Hidden_Power
Thomas Troward - The Dore Lectures
Thomas Troward - The Law and The Word
Wallace Wattles – The Science of Getting Rich

About The Authors:

James Allen (1864-1912) *An unrewarded genius*



James Allen is a literary mystery man. His inspirational writings have influenced millions for good. Yet today he remains almost unknown..... None of his nineteen books give a clue to his life other than to mention his place of residence - Ilfracombe, England. His name cannot be found in a major reference work. Not even the Library of Congress or the British Museum has much to say about him. Who was this man who believed in the power of thought to bring fame, fortune and happiness? Or did he, as Henry David Thoreau says, hear a different drummer?..... James Allen never gained fame or fortune. That much is true. His was a quiet, unrewarded genius. He seldom made enough money from his writings to cover expenses.

Allen was born in Leicester, Central England, November 28, 1864. The family business failed within a few years, and in 1879 his father left for America in an effort to recoup his losses. The elder Allen had hoped to settle in the United States, but was robbed and murdered before he could send for his family. The financial crisis that resulted forced James to leave school at fifteen. He eventually became a private secretary, a position that would be called administrative assistant today. He worked in this capacity for several British manufacturers until 1902, when he decided to devote all his time to writing. Unfortunately, Allen's literary career was short, lasting only nine years, until his death in 1912. During that period he wrote nineteen books, a rich outpouring of ideas that have lived on to inspire later generations.

Soon after finishing his first book, *From Poverty To Power*, Allen moved to Ilfracombe, on England's southwest coast. The little resort town with its seafront Victorian hotels and its rolling hills and winding lanes offered him the quiet atmosphere he needed to pursue his philosophical studies.

As A Man Thinketh was Allen's second book. Despite its subsequent popularity he was dissatisfied with it. Even though it was his most concise and eloquent work, the book that best embodied his thought, he somehow failed to recognize its value. His wife Lily had to persuade him to publish it. James Allen strove to live the ideal life described by Russia's great novelist and mystic Count Leo Tolstoy - the life of voluntary poverty, manual labor and ascetic self discipline. Like Tolstoy, Allen sought to improve himself, be happy, and master all of the virtues. His search for felicity for man on earth was typically Tolstoyan. His day in Ilfracombe began with a predawn walk up to the Cairn, a stony spot on the hillside overlooking his home and the sea. He would remain there for an hour in meditation. Then he would return to the house and spend the morning writing. The afternoons were devoted to gardening, a pastime he enjoyed. His evenings were spent in conversation with those who were interested in his work.

A friend described Allen as a frail-looking little man, Christ-like, with a mass of flowing black hair..... I think of him especially in the black velvet suit he always wore in the evenings, the friend wrote. He would talk quietly to a small group of us then - English, French, Austrian and Indian - of meditation, of philosophy, of Tolstoy or Buddha, and of killing nothing, not even a mouse in the garden. He overawed us all a little because of his appearance, his gentle conversation, and especially because he went out to commune with God on the hills before dawn.

James Allen's philosophy became possible when liberal Protestantism discarded the stern dogma that man is sinful by nature. It substituted for that dogma an optimistic belief in man's innate goodness and divine rationality. This reversal of doctrine was, as William James said, the greatest revolution of the 19th Century. It was part of a move toward a reconciliation of science and religion following Darwin's publication *The Origin of Species*. Charles Darwin himself hinted at the change in belief in *The Descent of Man*. In that book he wrote, the highest possible stage in moral culture is when we recognize that we ought to control our thoughts. Allen's work embodies the influence of Protestant liberalism on the one hand and of Buddhist thought on the other. For example, the Buddha teaches, All that we are is the result of what we have thought. Allen's Biblical text says, As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. Allen insists upon the power of the individual to form his own character and to create his own happiness. Thought and character are one, he says, and as character, can only manifest and discover itself through environment and circumstance, the outer conditions of a person's life will always be found to be harmoniously related to his inner state. This does not mean that a man's circumstances at any given time are an indication of his entire character, but that those circumstances are so intimately connected with some vital thought element within him that, for the time being, they are indispensable to his development.

Allen starts us thinking - even when we would rather be doing something else. He tells us how thought leads to action. He shows us how to turn our dreams into realities..... His is a philosophy that has brought success to millions. It is the philosophy of Norman Vincent Peale's *The Power of Positive Thinking* and of Joshua Liebman's *Peace of Mind*. We become spiritually rich, Allen writes, when we discover the adventure within; when we are conscious of the oneness of all life; when we know the power of meditation; when we experience kinship with nature.

Allen's message is one of hope even in the midst of confusion. Yes, he says, humanity surges with uncontrolled passion, is tumultuous with ungoverned grief, is blown about by anxiety and doubt. Only the wise man, only he whose thoughts are controlled and purified, makes the winds and the storms of the soul obey him. Tempest-tossed souls, Allen continues, wherever you may be, under whatsoever conditions you may life, know this - in the ocean of life the isles of blessedness are smiling and the sunny shore of your ideal awaits your coming. And thus Allen teaches two essential truths: today we are where our thoughts have taken us, and we are the architects - for better or worse - of our futures. The works of James Allen are eminently practical. He never wrote theories, or for the sake of writing, or to add another to the existing books. According to his wife, Allen wrote when he had a message, and it became a message only when he had lived it in his own life, and knew that it was good. Thus he wrote facts, which he had proven by practice.

WILLIAM WALKER ATKINSON (1862-1932) ***Prolific New Thought Writer***



William Walker Atkinson was a very important and influential figure in the early days of the New Thought Movement. Little is known about his early years, except that he was born in Baltimore, Maryland on December 5, 1862, to William and Emma Atkinson, both of whom were born in Maryland also. He married Margaret Foster Black of Beverley, New Jersey on October 1889 and they had two children. He pursued a business career from 1882 onwards and in 1894 he was admitted as an attorney to the Bars of Pennsylvania.

Whilst he gained much material success in his profession as a lawyer, the stress and over-strain eventually took its toll, and during this time he experienced a complete physical and mental breakdown, and financial disaster. He looked for healing and in the late 1880's he found it with New Thought.

From mental and physical wreck and financial ruin, he wrought through its principles, perfect health, mental vigor and material prosperity. Some time after his healing, Atkinson began to write some articles on the Truths which he had discovered which was then known as Mental Science, and in 1889 an article by him entitled "A Mental Science Catechism," appeared in Charles Fillmore's new periodical, *Modern Thought*. By the early 1890's Chicago had become a major centre for New Thought, mainly through the work of Emma Curtis Hopkins, and Atkinson decided to move there and he became an active promoter of the movement as an editor and author. In 1900 he worked as an associate editor of *Suggestion*, a New Thought journal, and wrote his first book, *Thought-Force in Business and Everyday Life*, being a series of lessons in personal magnetism, psychic influence, thought-force, concentration, will-power & practical Mental Science.

He then met Sydney Flower, a well-known New Thought publisher and businessman and teamed up with him. In December, 1901 he assumed editorship of Flower's popular *New Thought* magazine, a post which he held up until 1905. During these years he built for himself an enduring place in the hearts of its readers. Article after article of wonderful strength and vital force flowed from his pen. Meanwhile he also founded his own Psychic Club and the so called "Atkinson School of Mental Science." Both were located in the same building as Flower's Psychic Research Company and New Thought Publishing Company. While performing his *New Thought* editor job,

Atkinson became interested in Hinduism, and met up with one Baba Bharata, a pupil of the late Yogi Ramacharaka, who had become acquainted with Atkinson's writings. They both shared similar ideas, and the men collaborated, and with Bharata providing the material and Atkinson the writing talent, they wrote a series of books which they attributed to Yogi Ramacharaka as a measure of their respect. Atkinson started writing these books under the name Yogi Ramacharaka in 1903. He wrote about 13 books under this pseudonym. They were published by the Yogi Publication Society in Chicago and reached more people than his New Thought works did. In fact, all his books on yoga are still reprinted today. The very fact that after all these years their books are well known around the world and sell better with every passing year is a credit, too, to the two men who wrote them.

Atkinson wrote a great many books on New Thought as well, which became very popular and influential among New Thought devotees and practitioners and achieved wide circulation. In 1903, he was admitted to the Bars of Illinois, which means he did not leave that part of his life aside. If we assume that he also practised himself what he preached, then that must have helped him quite a lot to strengthen his nervous system. Beginning 1916 he started writing articles for Elizabeth Towne's magazine *The Nautilus*, and from 1916 to 1919 he edited the journal *Advanced Thought*, and was for a time honorary president of the International New Thought Alliance.

He wrote nearly a hundred books with many other pseudonyms: Theodore Sheldon, Theron Q. Dumont, Swami Panchadasi, The Three Initiates, Magus Incognitus and probably others not identified at present. He wrote books together with Eduard E. Beals and Laurion, William De Laurence. He wrote a series named *The Arcane Teachings*, published at Arcane Books Co., with 6 volumes, without signature. Among these books we can identify and comproof his authority in *Arcane Formula or Mental Alchemy; The Cosmic Laws; and Vril, or, Vital Magnetism*. William Walker Atkinson died on November 22, 1932, in California -- one of the truly greats of The New Thought Movement.

Genevieve Behrend ***Thomas Troward's only personal student***



Genevieve Behrend was the only personal student of Thomas Troward (1847-1916) the master of Mental Science. From 1912 to 1914, Genevieve Behrend's life focused solely on the wisdom and philosophy of Troward who's influential and compelling ideas provided much of the groundwork to the spiritual philosophy known today as New Thought. As the awareness of "mental science" was taking shape, Troward imparted his personal insight to only one pupil who could perpetuate this knowledge and share it with the world.

After her studies with Troward, Behrend began her mission in New York City where she established and ran The School of the Builders until 1925. She then established another school in Los Angeles before touring other major cities throughout North America for the next 35 years as a celebrated lecturer, teacher, and practitioner of "Mental Science".

Millions heard and enjoyed her, not only on the public platform but over the radio. Her students numbered tens of thousands all over the English-speaking world. Paris, France was her native city, but she was half Scotch. The book, *Your Invisible Power*, was her first. However it remains the most popular of all her books and has been, since its first edition, one of the world's best sellers on Mental Science. It has exhausted scores of editions. Behrend presents the Troward philosophy at its best because of the way her incomparably direct, and dynamic personality relates the life-changing concepts on a personal level. *Your Invisible Power* remains Behrend's most powerful and popular work. This book can teach you how to use the power of visualization and other processes taught by Thomas Troward to transform your life. *Your Invisible Power* is a powerful, yet simple and easy guide.

Behrend says, "We all possess more power and greater possibilities than we realize, and visualizing is one of the greatest of these powers. It brings other possibilities to our observation. When we pause to think for a moment, we realize that for a cosmos to exist at all, it must be the outcome of a cosmic mind."

Emile Coue

Auto Suggestion – Psychologist



Émile Coué de Châtaigneraie (February 26, 1857 – July 2, 1926) was a French psychologist and pharmacist who introduced a method of psychotherapy and self-improvement based on optimistic autosuggestion. The application of his mantra-like conscious autosuggestion, "Every day, in every way, I'm getting better and better" (French: *Tous les jours à tous points de vue je vais de mieux en mieux*) is called **Couéism** or the **Coué method**.

The Coué method centers on a routine repetition of this particular expression according to a specified ritual, in a given physical state, and in the absence of any sort of allied mental imagery, at the beginning and at the end of each day. Unlike a common held belief that a strong conscious will constitutes the best path to success, Coué maintained that curing some of our troubles requires a change in our unconscious thought, which can only be achieved by using our imagination. Although stressing that he was not primarily a healer but one who taught others to heal themselves, Coué claimed to have effected organic changes through autosuggestion.

Charles F. Haanel (1866-1949) ***Author of The Master Key System***



Charles F. Haanel was a noted American author and businessman who belonged to the American Scientific League, The Author's League of America, The American Society of Psychical Research, the St. Louis Humane Society and the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce.

Born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Charles F. Haanel began his business career in St. Louis. He resigned his position in order to start his own company and eventually founded one of the largest conglomerates of his time. He wrote several books which were published in St. Louis by Psychology Publishing and by his Master Key Institute in New York. Mr. Haanel put into books the ideas and methods he used to gain his success. Besides the "Master Key System," which he wrote in 1912, he also wrote "Mental Chemistry" and "The New Psychology"

By 1933 The Master Key System had sold over 200,000 copies and then seemingly disappeared. The Master Key System is one of the finest studies in self-improvement, mindstuff, and higher consciousness ever written. Covering everything from how to get wealthy to how to get healthy, Mr. Haanel leaves no stone unturned. With precision, he elucidates on each topic with logic and rigor that not only leaves you feeling good, but also thinking good.

The book was banned by the Church in 1933 and has been hidden away for seventy years! Rumor has it that while he was attending Harvard University, Bill Gates discovered and read *The Master Key System* by Charles F. Haanel. It was this book that inspired Bill Gates to drop out of the University and pursue his dream of "a computer on every desktop." You probably know the results. . . It is Silicon Valley's secret that almost every entrepreneur who made a fortune in recent years did so by studying the words Mr. Haanel penned over eighty years ago! Almost every millionaire and billionaire in the Valley read *The Master Key System* by Charles F. Haanel. Since this book was no longer in print until recently, copies of *The Master Key System* became a hot commodity in the Valley.

The Master Key System is a system that teaches the ultimate principles, causes, effects, and laws that underlie all attainment and success. When you want to attain something, *The Master Key System* will show you how to get it. The results you will attain from using this system are so startling as to appear incredible. For this reason, more and more people are becoming students of *The Master Key System* than ever before

In 24 parts, *The Master Key* sets out the fundamental principles of life and creative living, as Haanel came to understand and apply them. Basic to his teaching is the correct development and use of mental power -- the key to truly creative power and action, harmony and health, love and happiness, and abundant possibilities. Each part is meant to be studied like a correspondence course lesson, but this is also a book that can be opened at random for whatever gem of advice your eyes happen to fall upon.

This age-old wisdom was written by someone who could perceive and tap into Universal Mind but who seems to have no particular allegiance to any specific system of knowledge. Haanel's numbered common-sense messages still have a freshness 89 years after they were first assembled.

Mr. Haanel died in 1949 and is buried in Bellafontaine Cemetery, St. Louis. Walter B. Stevens described Mr. Haanel as "a man of mature judgement, capable of taking a calm survey of life and correctly valuing its opportunities, its possibilities, its demands and obligations."

Henry Thomas Hamblin (1873-1958) ***Founder of The Science of Thought Review***



Henry Thomas Hamblin was born at Walworth, London in 1873. Born into a poor family, he was determined to emerge from the rut which everyone was destined to fall into without being able to afford proper school and training. After a difficult start working in various jobs and being in debt he decided to become an Optician. Despite lack of money and poor prospects, his determination won him through and he qualified. Known then as the famous Optician, Theodore Hamblin was founder of the well known shop in Wigmore street. He was first and foremost a successful business man. But far from making him happy, his success gave him a growing sense of depression. It was as if something lay inside him that had not yet found a voice.

All through his life Hamblin had experienced visionary experiences where he came in contact with a Divine Presence : " ... It is not possible to describe such an experience," he wrote. " All care, anxiety and fear vanished, and I felt that I was cradled in Divine Love.... The deep peace of the Eternal flowed through me like a river; yet at the same time it was as though I was being carried along on a stream of Divine Bliss..." Yet, in the heat of his success, not only did these visions stop, but he became haunted by night terrors. Night after night he would waken to the feeling that he was in hell. And the sense of wrong in him deepened, until finally he was forced to give up his business and retire to the country.

The nightmares stopped immediately. But the sudden and unexpected death of his ten-year-old-son was to effect him more than his nocturnal experiences. He realised that none of his world success had made him happy. This time he knew he had to give that unexpressed part of him a voice. Although he had been brought up in a very religious family, he hadn't found any of the answers he wanted in the church. He realized that, rather than following, any creed or dogma which didn't work for him anyway, he had to look within himself.

Once again, he made contact with the 'Presence'. And realised it held the key to the peace he was searching for. All the time his search was leading him nearer to discovering the way his thoughts affected his performance and outlook.

It was around the early 1920's that he began to write. The words seemed to flow from him. He found writing clarified his thoughts. One of his first books written in this new phase of his career was *Within You Is The Power*, which was to sell over 200,000 copies. Hamblin believed that there is a source of abundance within which, when contacted, could change a person's entire life. As long as people blamed their circumstances they were stuck in the 'victim role', but if they moved in harmony with their inner source their life could be full of abundance and harmony.

Soon after this Hamblin was to set up a magazine based on the principle of Applied Right Thinking, *The Science of Thought Review*. Again he wasn't discouraged by the fact that he had no experience of editing or publishing. His experience had taught him that if the mind worked in harmony with the Divine, then everything you needed flowed towards you. Anyone with any business sense at all, knew that to set up a magazine with a first print run of 10,000 copies would be a risky thing to do. But Hamblin was to take many risks and he wanted to put what he believed into practise.

Because in the 1920's *The Science of Thought Review* was the only one of its kind in existence, its readership soon caught on and became worldwide. Among his friends and contemporaries that were to contribute to the magazine were Joel Goldsmith, Henry Victor Morgan, Graham Ikin, Clare Cameron and Derek Neville, all of them prolific and successful writers and mystics.

Henry Thomas Hamblin worked right up to the end of his life in 1958 and left a legacy that is still continuing today, its voice as much needed today as it ever was. Hamblin believed that truth is essentially timeless.

"There is only one Life and this is Good. That there is only one Power in the Universe, and this is Good. That there is only one Purpose in the Universe, and this, too, is Good. That there is one great Law governing all, and this is Love. That there is no evil in the Cosmic Scheme and the Divine Purpose is infinitely kind and just. That man is the Author of his own troubles; that they are created in his own mind both conscious and subconscious; that the attitude of the mind and soul acts as a transformer changing the Good Force into seeming evil.

That abounding health, sufficiency of supply, achievement, accomplishment and joy indescribable are the normal state for man.

That this happy condition is possible to all who will change their habit of thought, alter their attitude of soul, and thus by coming into harmony with Cosmic Law, direct the Life Forces into their right channel.

That the imaginative mind is creative in that it guides and directs Life's Forces. If the imagination is directed upwards, it will bring into manifestation health, sufficiency, achievement, success and joy. It is therefore possible to transform the life through the renewing of the mind.

The object of our teaching is to start men and women on the road which leads them to accomplish this great task. Through it many are learning how to overcome themselves and to rebuild their lives from the center to the circumference. They are learning how to become healthy, happy, successful and useful - how to direct the Forces of Life to produce abundant Good instead of disharmony and suffering." Henry Thomas Hamblin

The Hamblin Trust is a registered charity dedicated to enriching people's lives through positive thinking. It exists to perpetuate the spiritual message and vision of Henry Thomas Hamblin, a vision held by all the great ones throughout the ages. Hamblin's essential message was that if we learn to live in the Divine Consciousness, then our whole outer lives will change to reflect that Consciousness. Hamblin published a number of books and a spiritual course which has been made available to thousands throughout the world.

Napoleon Hill (1883-1970) ***Founder of The Science Of Success***



"Whatever your mind can conceive and believe it can achieve." - Napoleon Hill

American born Napoleon Hill is considered to have influenced more people into success than any other person in history. He has been perhaps the most influential man in the area of personal success technique development, primarily through his classic book *Think and Grow Rich* which has helped million of the people and has been important in the life of many successful people such as W. Clement Stone and Og Mandino. Napoleon Hill was born into poverty in 1883 in a one-room cabin on the Pound River in Wise County, Virginia.

At the age of 10 his mother died, and two years later his father remarried. He became a very rebellious boy, but grew up to be an incredible man. He began his writing career at age 13 as a "mountain reporter" for small town newspapers and went on to become America's most beloved motivational author.

Fighting against all class of great disadvantages and pressures, he dedicated more than 25 years of his life to define the reasons by which so many people fail to achieve true financial success and happiness in their life. During this time he achieved great success as an attorney and journalist. His early career as a reporter helped finance his way through law school. He was given an assignment to write a series of success stories of famous men, and his big break came when he was asked to interview steel-magnate Andrew Carnegie. Mr. Carnegie commissioned Hill to interview over 500 millionaires to find a success formula that could be used by the average person. These included Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Henry Ford, Elmer Gates, Charles M. Schwab, Theodore Roosevelt, William Wrigley Jr, John Wanamaker, William Jennings Bryan, George Eastman, Woodrow Wilson, William H. Taft, John D. Rockefeller, F. W. Woolworth, Jennings Randolph, among others.

He became an advisor to Andrew Carnegie, and with Carnegie's help he formulated a philosophy of success, drawing on the thoughts and experience of a multitude of rags to riches tycoons. It took Hill over 20 years to produce his book, a classic in the Personal Development field called *Think and Grow Rich*. This book has sold over 7 million copies and has helped thousands achieve success. The secret to success is very simple but you'll have to read the book to find out what it is!

Napoleon Hill passed away in November 1970 after a long and successful career writing, teaching, and lecturing about the principles of success. His work stands as a monument to individual achievement and is the cornerstone of modern motivation. His book, *Think and Grow Rich*, is the all time best-seller in the field. In recent years The Napoleon Hill Foundation has published his bestselling writings worldwide, giving him immense influence around the globe. Here are some interesting observations by one of the greatest gurus on achieving success, Napoleon Hill: "Before us lie two paths -- honesty and dishonesty. The shortsighted embark on the dishonest path; the wise on the honest. For the wise know the truth; in helping others we help ourselves; and in hurting others we hurt ourselves. Character overshadows money, and trust rises above fame. Honesty is still the best policy.

"Understand this law and you will then know, beyond room for the slightest doubt, that you are constantly punishing yourself for every wrong you commit and rewarding yourself for every act of constructive conduct in which you indulge."
"Cherish your visions and your dreams as they are the children of your soul, the blueprints of your ultimate achievements."

"Effort only fully releases its reward after a person refuses to quit."

"Every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed on an equal or greater benefit."

"Hold a picture of yourself long and steadily enough in your mind's eye, and you will be drawn toward it."

"If you do not conquer self, you will be conquered by self."

"One must marry one's feelings to one's beliefs and ideas. That is probably the only way to achieve a measure of harmony in one's life."

"The ladder of success is never crowded at the top."

"The majority of men meet with failure because of their lack of persistence in creating new plans to take the place of those which fail."

"Until you have learned to be tolerant with those who do not always agree with you; until you have cultivated the habit of saying some kind word of those whom you do not admire; until you have formed the habit of looking for the good instead of the bad there is in others, you will be neither successful nor happy."

"War grows out of the desire of the individual to gain advantage at the expense of his fellow man."

"When defeat comes, accept it as a signal that your plans are not sound, rebuild those plans, and set sail once more toward your coveted goal."

"You must get involved to have an impact. No one is impressed with the won-lost record of the referee."

"I have proved, times too numerous to enumerate, to my own satisfaction at least, that every human brain is both a broadcasting and a receiving station for vibrations of thought frequency.

"If this theory should turn out to be a fact, and methods of reasonable control should be established, imagine the part it would play in the gathering, classifying and organizing of knowledge. The possibility, much less the probability, of such a reality, staggers the mind of man!"

"The sixth sense is that portion of the subconscious mind which has been referred to as the creative imagination. It has also been referred to as the 'receiving set' through which ideas, plans and thoughts flash into the mind. The flashes are sometimes called hunches or inspirations.

"The sixth sense defies description! It cannot be described to a person who has not mastered the other principles of this philosophy, because such a person has no knowledge and no experience with which the sixth sense may be compared. Understanding the sixth sense comes only by meditation through mind development from within.

"After you have mastered the principles described in this book, you will be prepared to accept as truth a statement which may, otherwise, be incredible to you, namely: *"Through the aid of the sixth sense, you will be warned of impending dangers in time to avoid them and notified of opportunities in time to embrace them.*" There comes to your aid and to do your bidding, with the development of the sixth sense, a 'guardian angel' who will open to you at all times the door to the temple of wisdom." ~ Napoleon Hill

Ernest Holmes (1887 - 1960)

Founder of the Religious Science Movement



Ernest Holmes founded the International Religious Science movement, wrote "The Science of Mind" and numerous other books on metaphysics, and originated the international periodical Science of Mind magazine, which has been in continuous publication since 1927. Holmes' Science of Mind teaching, recognized today as one of the leading viewpoints in modern metaphysics, is a spiritual philosophy that has brought to people around the world a working cosmology - a sense of their relationship to God and their place in the Universe – and a positive, supportive approach to daily living.

Ernest Holmes was born in 1887 on a small Maine farm, the youngest of nine sons. As a teenager, he attended Bethel preparatory school, but he spent most of his time out-of-doors, asking himself "What is God? Who am I? Why am I here?" He mentally tangled with all the local preachers and doubted the answers he got in church. At the age of 18 he left school and formal education and set out on his lifelong course of independent thinking. He went to Boston, worked in a grocery store, and pursued his studies relentlessly. A year later, he discovered the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson. "Reading Emerson is like drinking water to me," he said later. His metaphysical studies intensified, his quest for truth leading him to literature, art, science, philosophy, and religion, and in particular the Christian Science teachings of Mary Baker Eddy.

After Ernest Holmes became acquainted with the writings of Emerson and Mary Baker Eddy, he soon was exploring the writings of Christian D. Larson, Ralph Waldo Trine, Horatio Dresser and Phineas Quimby. Holmes was particularly impressed with the New Thought writings of Larson and eventually abandoned the Christian Science textbook for Larson's works.

In 1914, at the age of 25, Ernest moved to Venice, California. Pursuing his studies, he discovered the writings of Thomas Troward, which fed the flame ignited by his earlier studies of metaphysics. Almost casually, he began speaking on Troward's writings to small but ever growing groups.

Without ceremony, his lifetime ministry had begun. Later, as his audiences grew, he was ordained as a minister of the Divine Science Church.

Ernest published his first book, "Creative Mind," in 1919, followed shortly after by another volume entitled "Creative Mind and Success." He continued his studies, and lectured to growing crowds in California and Eastern cities. Meanwhile, he was writing "The Science of Mind," which was to become the "textbook" of the Religious Science philosophy.

First Published in 1922, it was originally copyrighted by his wife in 1926, revised in 1938, and is now in its 45th printing, and has been translated into French, German, and Japanese. At the time the book was published, his many enthusiastic students urged him to set up an incorporated organization. He refused at first, but eventually agreed, and the Institute of

Religious Science and the School of Philosophy was incorporated in 1927. On October 23, 1927, in Los Angeles, he was married to widowed Hazel Durkee Foster. They were to be inseparable companions for thirty years. In 1953, the Institute became the Church of Religious Science. In 1967, it acquired its present-day title, United Church of Religious Science, with member churches throughout the world. On May 21, 1957, he lost his chosen life-companion. Ernest Holmes made his transition to the next experience on April 7, 1960, in Los Angeles. He left no children. But he left all humankind an enduring legacy: the way of life he called Religious Science.

On that way of life, he said this in 1958:

"We have launched a Movement which, in the next 100 years, will be the great new religious impulsion of modern times, far exceeding, in its capacity to envelop the world, anything that has happened since Mohammedanism started.

"We have to have the same faith in what we teach and practice that the scientist has, or the gardener has, and when that great simplicity shall have plumbed and penetrated this density of ours, this human stolidness and stupidity, this debauchery of the intellect and the soul, something new and wonderful will happen. It is the only thing that will keep the world from destroying itself...."

(Abstracted from the booklet Path of Discovery, prepared by Scott Awbrey, Los Angeles United Church of Religious Science, 1987.)

Christian D. Larson ***Influential early New Thought leader***



Christian D. Larson was an outstanding and highly influential early New Thought leader and teacher as well as a prolific writer of New Thought books who believed that people have tremendous latent powers, which could be harnessed for success with the proper attitude. Christian Daa Larson, of Norwegian extraction, was born in Iowa in 1874. He attended Iowa State College and a theological school (Unitarian) in Meadville, Pa. In his early twenties he became interested in the Mental Science teachings of Helen Wilmans, Henry Wood, Charles Brodie Patterson, etc.

Little is known about his personal life and what originally led him to take up his intensive study of Mental Science, but its logical teachings clearly suited young Larson's analytical mind and provided a point to him where theology and science could meet and combine to provide a practical and systematic philosophy of life. Larson located in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1898. In January, 1901, he organized the New Thought Temple, at his residence, 947 West 17th St. In September of that year Mr. Larson began to publish *Eternal Progress*, for several years one of the leading New Thought periodicals, carrying it to a circulation of over a quarter of a million. While acting as editor of *Eternal Progress*, he began his prolific book writing career. Forty of his books have been published. Among the best known are: *Poise and Power*, *The Great Within*, *The Hidden Secret*, *Mastery of Self*, *Mastery of Fate*, *The Ideal Made Real*, *Thinking for Results*, *Your Forces and How to Use Them*, *How to Stay Well*, and *The Pathway of Roses*.

A one time honorary president of the International New Thought Alliance, along with such stalwarts as W.W. Atkinson, Horatio Dresser, Charles Brodie Patterson, and Annie Rix Miltz, he was one who exercised considerable influence over Religious Science founder, Ernest Holmes, in his early career. Holmes had been studying the Christian Science textbook, *Science & Health*, but was particularly impressed with the New Thought writings of Larson. According to Fenwicke he abandoned the Christian Science textbook for Larson's works. Ernest and his brother Fenwicke took a correspondence course with Larson, and in his biography of his brother, *Ernest Holmes: His Life and Times*,

Fenwicke Holmes elaborates on the influence of Larson's thought on that of his brother. Here he ranks Ralph Waldo Trine's *In Tune with the Infinite* with Larson's *The Ideal Made Real* as influential on Holmes:

"As early as 1928, the name of Christian D. Larson began to appear in *Science of Mind* magazine and to be a part of the major teaching courses. It was the very same Christian D. Larson whose book *The Ideal Made Real*, nineteen years earlier, had introduced Ernest to the New Philosophy, inspired him to go forward in learning and practicing the art of mental treatment and encouraged him to expand beyond physical healing to the "control of conditions." Now Christian D. Larson was on the permanent staff of the Institute of Religious Science in Los Angeles of which Ernest was the founder." The Optimist Creed was authored in 1912 by Christian D. Larson, appearing in his book *Your Forces and How to Use Them*. It was adopted as Optimist International's creed in 1922.

Many have found inspiration in The Optimist Creed. In hospitals, the creed has been used to help patients recover from illness. In locker rooms, coaches have used it to motivate their players.

The following version, without the title "The Optimist Creed," is quoted from *Science of Mind* 1 (June 1998):

Promise Yourself

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something worthwhile in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful expression at all times and give a smile to every living creature you meet.

To give so much time to improving yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

To think well of yourself and to proclaim this fact to the world, not in loud word, but in great deeds.

To live in the faith that the whole world is on your side, so long as you are true to the best that is in you.

A somewhat different and shortened version of this is the one adopted by Optimist International, which publishes it on the Webs.

When Ernest Holmes' two-year-old magazine changed its name to *Science of Mind* in 1929, Ned L. Chapin became editor, and Christian D. Larson was associate editor and a frequent contributor. In short, Christian D. Larson was an important New Thought leader in his own right and in influencing the founder of one of the major branches of New Thought, Religious Science, which also is known as Science of Mind. New Thought has influenced many, such as Norman Vincent Peale and numerous other inspirational, self-help writers far beyond the bounds of New Thought in its organizational forms.

"Follow the light of the spirit in all things and depend upon God in all things, choose the living Christ as the pattern in all things and depend upon God in all things Do not seek the truth; seek the spirit of truth The spirit leads into all truth. To know the truth is to know the way. To be guided by the spirit into all truth is to walk in the light of the spirit all the way and the way of light leads into the kingdom of eternal life. Follow the words of the Christ until the spirit is found; then follow the spirit into the greater life of the Christ. Keep the eye single upon that light that is revealed through the spiritual vision of the soul. Where that light is shining there is the gate; beyond is the way that leads unto life, and all who are in the spirit shall find it even now"

-- Christian D. Larson, THE PATHWAY OF ROSES

Prentice Mulford (1834-1891)

New Thought Pioneer



Although Prentice Mulford was one of the earliest pioneers of the New Thought teaching, he is still comparatively little known or read, chiefly on account of the high price of the six volumes known as "The White Cross Library," in which form are published his essays in America.

Prentice Mulford was born in Sag Harbor, Long Island, USA in 1834. He was described as the strangest of men. He envisioned the airplane and radio and prophesized mental telepathy and practiced it. At 22 Prentice sailed to California. In Jamestown, California he was a gold miner, cook, school teacher, lecturer and observer of human nature, but made his fortune not from gold but by his interesting and imaginative articles and books. He was a fixture in San Francisco literary circles with the likes of Twain, Harte, and the Bohemian set in the 1860's.

He wrote dozens of humorous short stories for the Overland Monthly, Golden Era, Californian, and other local journals. He referred to himself as "Dogberry". In 1865 he became interested in mental and spiritual phenomena and lived in an old whaleboat cruising San Francisco Bay. After returning from a trip abroad, Prentice Mulford lived for the next 17 years as a hermit in the swamps of Passaic, New Jersey. It was there he wrote some of his finest works on mental/spiritual laws including his "The White Cross Library" dealing in the topic Thought Currents and How to Use Them.

His essays embody a particular philosophy, and represent a peculiar phase of insight into the mystery which surrounds man. The essays were the work, as the insight was the gift, of a man who owed nothing to books, perhaps not much to what is ordinarily meant by observation, and everything or nearly everything to reflection nourished by contact with nature. To many his thoughts may seem but dreams; to others they are priceless truths. That he was a wise teacher and no dogmatist is apparent from his own words "In the spiritual life every person is his or her own discoverer, and you need not grieve if your discoveries are not believed in by others. It is your business to push on, find more and increase your own individual happiness."

To him, at any rate, is due the credit of having been a pioneer in the thought that is now influencing people throughout the world, and his influence is very apparent in the writings of all the teachers of the same school that have followed him. At age 57, Mulford decided to return to Sag Harbor and write about Long Island after the Gold Rush but he passed away peacefully, without any apparent illness or pain, alone in his boat en route. After 30 years in an unmarked grave, Mulford's body was taken to Oakland Cemetery in Sag Harbor where a large stone was placed on his grave with these words, "Thoughts are Things".

Thomas Troward (1847-1916) ***Early Teacher of Mental Science***



Thomas Troward was Her Majesty's Assistant Commissioner and later Divisional Judge of the North Indian Punjab from 1869 until his retirement in 1896. It is this later period for which he is best remembered and most celebrated; in it he was at last able to devote himself to his great interest in metaphysical and esoteric studies. The most notable results were a few small volumes that have had a profound effect on the development of spiritual metaphysics, in particular that of the New Thought Movement, of which the teaching known as Science of Mind is Troward's most direct legacy.

He was a much influential figure in the development of Ernest Holmes' Religious Science/Science of Mind organization due to the impact his philosophy had on Holmes, and Troward's teachings are regularly taught in Science of Mind classes.

Thomas Troward was born in Punjab, India, in 1847 of British parents, Albany and Frederica Troward. His father was a full colonel in the Indian Army. He was brought back to England to attend school and in 1865, at the age of 18, he graduated from college with gold medal honors in literature. He then decided to study Law, although at heart he always considered himself an artist and a painter.

At age 22, in 1869, he returned to India and took the difficult Indian Civil Service Examination. One of the subjects was metaphysics and Troward surprised everyone with his answers because of their originality. He became an assistant commissioner and was quickly promoted to Divisional Judge in the Punjab, where he served for the next 25 years. In India, he married his first wife. Together, they had three children. He married a second time after his first wife died and had three more children. His second wife, Sarah Ann, helped in the publishing of his works after his death. In the forward to a publication entitled, *Troward's Comments On The Psalms*, Annie Troward writes: "When he retired from the Bengal Civil Service in 1896, he decided to devote himself to three objects -- the study of the Bible, writing his books, and painting pictures... He believed that the solution to all our problems was there (in the Bible) for those who read and meditated with minds at one with its Inspirer."

Troward's favorite hobby was painting. He had won several prizes for art in India. After he retired from Civil Service, he returned to England in 1902, at the age of 55, intending to devote himself to his painting, as well as writing. He had already thoroughly digested all of the sacred books of the oriental religions and they had certainly influenced his spiritual ideas. It is said that at one time a vision came to him about the development of a system of philosophy that gave peace of mind and the practical results of physical health and happiness to the individual.

People described him as a kind and understanding man, simple and natural in manner, but personally boring as a speaker. He was considered a very precise and proper Englishman. His two daughters were born of his second wife and he was fond of playing practical jokes with his family. While in India, he learned the language of the country. He studied all of the bibles of the world, including the Koran, Hindu scriptures and books of Raja Yoga. His studies in original Hebrew provided the foundation for his book, *Bible Mystery and Bible Meaning*. Shortly after returning to England,

Troward began to write for the New Thought *Expressions* publication. He had already developed, in some detail, his philosophy of Mental Science when he was accidentally introduced to the "Higher Thought Center" of London through a Mrs. Alice Callow, who happened to meet him in a London tea room. This group immediately recognized him as an extremely articulate and learned individual. He was invited to give a series of lectures and in 1904 delivered his famous Edinburgh lectures at Queens Gate in Edinburgh, Scotland. These lectures were given to a very small but appreciative group of persons. However, it is said that even this captive, willing audience hardly understood what he was saying. Still, Troward's genius did not go unrecognized. The philosopher William James characterized Troward's *Edinburgh Lectures on Mental Science* as "far and away the ablest statement of philosophy I have met, beautiful in its sustained clearness of thought and style, a really classic statement."

His writing is a combination of intuitive oriental mysticism filtered into a Western pedantic writing style. It is said that reading Troward is difficult. Actually, if we read Troward slowly and deliberately we will discover that he is very clear and concise. The secret of understanding Troward is to understand his major premises, then how he logically argues from those premises. This is typical of the Western legal mind. Troward was a major influence on the works of Ernest Holmes, Frederick Bailes, Joseph Murphy and Emmett Fox, and has been quoted by numerous other writers.

It must be remembered in reading Troward that he was a product of his time. His books use scientific jargon that was present around 1900. He was raised in the Church of England and had read the Bible daily from boyhood. Therefore, his books, especially *Bible Mystery and Bible Meaning* have a clear Christian bent. On May 16, 1916, at the age of 69, Thomas Troward passed from this plane. He will be recognized in history as a contributing influence to Religious Science, the New Thought Movement in the United States and Great Britain, and also, to some extent, to the more liberal ideas of the Church of England.

Wallace D. Wattles (1860-1911) ***Pioneer Success Writer***



Wallace Delois Wattles wrote a number of books including *Health Through New Thought and Fasting*, *The Science of Getting Rich*, *The Science of Being Great*, *The Science of Being Well*, and a novel, *Hellfire Harrison*, but it is for his prosperity classic, *The Science of Getting Rich* that he is best known.

Little is known about Wattles' life. He was born in the USA shortly after the civil war, and experienced much failure in his earlier years. Later in his life he took to studying the various religious beliefs and philosophies of the world including those of Descartes, Spinoza, Leibnitz, Schopenhauer, Hegel, Swedenborg, Emerson, and others. It was through his tireless study and experimentation that he discovered the truth of New Thought principles and put them into practice in

his own life. He began to write books outlining these principles.

He practiced the technique of creative visualisation and as his daughter Florence relates, "He wrote almost constantly. It was then that he formed his mental picture. He saw himself as a successful writer, a personality of power, an advancing man, and he began to work toward the realization of this vision. He lived every page ... His life was truly the powerful life." [Elizabeth Towne](#), in her magazine *Nautilus*, published the articles of Wallace D. Wattles in almost every issue in the early 1900's and until his untimely death in 1911. Here are excerpts from a letter written to Mrs. Towne by his daughter, Florence, shortly after his death.

She writes: dear Mrs. Towne, Your letter of the 14th received . . . perhaps a little later I can write the romantic story of my Father's life and make it really worthwhile. You knew, didn't you, that he lost a good position in the Methodist Church because of his "heresy"?

He met George D. Herron at a convention of reformers in Chicago in 1896 and caught Herron's social vision. I shall never forget the morning he came home. It was Christmas. Mother had put her last dollar into a cuff box and we had placed it beneath an evergreen branch which served for our Christmas tree and which we had illuminated with tallow candles and strung with popcorn. Finally Father came. With that beautiful smile he praised the tree, said the cuff box was just what he had been wanting – and took us all in his arms to tell us of the wonderful social message of Jesus, the message which he later embodied in "A New Christ."

From that day until his death he worked unceasingly to realize the glorious vision of human brotherhood. For years his life was cursed by poverty and the fear of poverty. He was always scheming and planning to get for his family those things which make the abundant life possible.

In the first chapter of "How to be a Genius" he says: "Man's greatest happiness is found in the bestowal of benefits on those he loves." The supreme faith of the man never left him; never for a moment did he lose confidence in the power of the master Intelligence to right every wrong and to give to every man and woman his or her share of the good things of life. When we came to Elwood (Indiana) three years ago, Father began a Sunday night lectureship in Indianapolis. This was our only source of income. Later he began to write for *Nautilus* and to word out his own philosophy. He wrote almost constantly. Then it was that he formed his mental picture. He saw himself as a successful writer, a personality of power, an advancing man, and he began to work toward the realization of this vision.

He lived every page of "How to be a Genius." In the last three years he made lots of money, and had good health, except for his extreme frailty. I have written this hurriedly, but I think it will give you an idea of the life struggle of a great man - his

failure and success. His life was truly THE POWERFUL LIFE, and surely we can say, at least in Elwood, "The name of him who loved his fellow men led all the rest." With all good wishes, I am, Very sincerely, FLORENCE A. WATTLES

Wattles' best known book, *The Science of Getting Rich* is a down-to-earth, clear-cut and practical guide. A mental and spiritual approach on how to become rich. No bones about it, when you follow the thoughts presented in this book, you too will become rich, without the feelings of guilt. As a matter of fact, the author writes that the poverty-stricken (and even the middle class) should be the ones to feel guilty by not living up to their true potential as Thinking Beings.

Wattles says his book is "Intended for the men and women whose most pressing need is for money; who wish to get rich first, and philosophise afterward. It is pragmatic, not philosophical; a practical manual, not a lot of theory. It is for those who have, so far, found neither the time, the means, nor the opportunity to go deeply into the study of metaphysics, but who want prosperous results and who are willing to take the conclusions of science as a basis for action.

"Whatever may be said in praise of poverty, the fact remains that it is not possible to live a really complete or successful life unless one is rich. You cannot rise to your greatest possible height in talent or soul development unless you have plenty of money. For to unfold your soul and to develop talent you must have many things to use, and you cannot have these things unless you have money with which to buy them."

Wattles died not long after the 1910 publication of *The Science of Getting Rich*, but his books, along with those of another well-known prosperity writer of that time, [Orison Swett Marden](#), have had a remarkable effect on people, and much of the success and self development literature of the past 100 years by the likes of Napoleon Hill, Robert Schuller, Anthony Robbins, etc., owes a great debt to these two writers. Dr. Judith Powell, a recognized Wallace Wattles expert, has updated Wattles' works including: *The Science Of Becoming Excellent and The Science Of Well Being*. Together with *The Science of Getting Rich*, this trilogy covers health, wealth and happiness.