



# NEWSLETTER

NOW WEEKLY!

With art by Vera !

from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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ARCHIVE

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## James Herschel Holden, translator

**J**AMES Herschel Holden is the Research Director at the American Federation of Astrologers. Many years ago he made translations of a number of old astrological texts, which, for many years, he circulated privately among his friends.

The ongoing "back to the basics" movement of the 1990's & 2000's, has encouraged the AFA to publish many of them. You will now find all of Mr. Holden's translations on a [single page](#) at AstroAmerica.com. Including:



**Astrological Compendium—**

*Rhetorius*

**The Judgements of Nativities- Abu 'Ali Al-Khayyat**

**Introduction to the Tetrabiblos**, by *Porphyry*, *and*, **Astrological Definitions**, by *Serapio of Alexandria*

**Five Medieval Astrologers**

(*Albumasar, Pseudo-Ptolemy, Hermes Trismegistus, Bethen, Almansor*)

**The Introduction to the Science of the Judgements of the Stars - Sahl Ibn Bishr**

**Six Astrological Treatises - Masha'allah**

**Confidential Recollections Revealed- Gustav-Lambert Brahy**

**A History of Horoscopic Astrology**, written by Holden himself

Note also his excellent translations of **Morin**, Books **13,14,15,19, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25**, which you will find on the **Morin** page. A new translation of **Firmicus** has been promised. I am eager to see it.



**T**HEIR special natal peculiarities must always be borne in mind and, in particular, their relation to the house they are passing through. For example, if Jupiter is natively in affliction with the ruler of the 10th, his transit through that house will do no good, or but little. If he is no aspect at all with the ruler, his action will be but moderate. If he is in strong good aspect, then his benefits will be notable, especially if he is angular & well configured at birth. If he is natively weak, then, being Jupiter, he may be well-intentioned, but, being weak, he is but a well-intentioned beggar who can bestow little assistance, wherever he goes.

But normally Jupiter brings the affairs of the houses through which he passes to the fore & imports into them something of his own nature & the matters of the houses he rules; he promotes what he touches.

Saturn can be helpful but he introduces a serious & even a perditive note & often brings heavy responsibilities. — **Some Principles of Horoscopic Delineation**, by Charles Carter, 1934

### ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

Notes

22	00:27	☉ □ ♁	
23	13:21	☉ □ ♃	
	15:33	☽ □ ♀	Void
	16:05	☽ ♁ ☉	
	18:11	☽ ✎	
24	16:24	♀ □ ♃	
	18:33	♀ △ ♀	
25	10:32	♀ ☿	
	16:36	♀ □ ♁	
	18:51	☉ ☿ ♀	
	23:34	☽ ✎ ♀	Void
26	02:22	☽ ☿	
	10:13	☽ ☿ ♀	
	11:09	♀ □ ♃	
	11:31	☼ 04 ☿ 46	Lunar Eclipse
	20:27	☽ ♁ ☉	
	22:57	♀ ♁ ♀	
27	07:14	♀ ☿ ♀	
28	09:57	☽ △ ♃	Void
	12:07	♀ ☿ ☉	
	12:53	☽ ☼	

Extracted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. Get yours!



## STAR OF THE WEEK

★★★★★

**ALHENA** gamma Geminorum 9 ☿ 15

**Notes:** A brilliant white star in the left foot of the Southern Twin, often called the Bright Foot of Gemini. From Al Han'ah, a Brand or Mark burnt in. According to Bullinger it means "hurt, wounded or affected," and it has been called "the wound in the tendon of Achilles."

**Influence:** According to Ptolemy, it is of the nature of Mercury & Venus, but Alvidas gives Moon & Venus. It bestows eminence in art but gives liability to accidents affecting the feet.

**With Sun:** Pride, love of ease, luxury & pleasure. There may be martial honours but danger of losing them.

**With Moon:** Good health, honour, riches, pleasure & society, domestic benefits.

**With Mercury:** Popularity, benefits from opposite sex, musical & artistic ability but little fame, domestic harmony, business adversely affected . . . — from **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990

## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### The Will to Live

**N**O matter how afflicted the natal chart may be, and the more so if there is a malefic in the First House threatening the native both personally & physically, seen here by Uranus in the First House squaring both Jupiter who rules the Ascendant and Mars the natural ruler of the will-to-live-Ascendant, there still can be saving grace if certain offsetting factors appear also. What upsets can be offset by **appeasement** that recognizes the evidence and goes along with it in an unavoidable but common sense way; that is to say that what can't be cured entirely can be borne acceptably.

It is comforting to know in these times of stress that we can overcome the worst if not all that threatens us, and that is what the astrologer always seeks to find.

Any square from Mars will injure; always in the Sign he is in & always in either Aries or Scorpio if he is read there by mutual reception. Nonetheless, he is also the fighting spirit in us to avert injury by taking the offensive when under fire, enabling us to put up a fight that in some measure at least will grant us recovery of well-being after any onslaught.

Mars is the stronger here, being elevated over Uranus & thus having the upper hand in the square. In Virgo the main problem will be health with much surgery to undergo (Mars/Moon in any aspect) and crisis shown by the Moon in a critical degree while the Sun in the 6th House of sickness is conjunct Caput Algol which signifies that the constitution is ill-starred. Even though the 6th is ruled by the benefic Venus we can see she is also besieged (between two malefics). —

**From Outer Space to Planet Earth**, 1982

## Resonance, part 2:

# Astrology as a Bell

**A** MONTH ago (May 25), I introduced the idea that astrology was like a bell. The planets resonated each other, and the earth resonates each of us. There is more that can be done with this.

When we are born, which is to say, are separated from our mothers and begin independent existence, we have the resonance of the moment of separation. Just as if we had broken off a piece of a bell. This immediately divides forecasting into two major sections:

First, how the vibration changes over time. **How it ages**. This is in three parts, plus a fourth.

The three parts have to do with the Earth's inherent movement, because physical movement defines what is being resonated.

The Earth's rotation on its axis, the 24 hour day, which are **PRIMARIES**.

The Moon's orbit around the earth, which are lunar **SECONDARIES**.

The Earth's orbit around the Sun, which are **SOLAR ARCS**.

Charles Carter, in **Symbolic Directions In Modern Astrology**, has noted a fourth: Solar arc direction of individual aspects. Additionally, we can also determine how the initial vibration ages by using Vimshottari & Yogini Dasas, of Vedic astrology.

How the initial vibration has aged over time shows susceptibility to transits – the actual physical movements of the planets – because only when a “sore spot” is turned towards transiting energy can a transit have any physical effect. But the only way to know this is to have an accurately timed chart. This is pretty much what has always been said of progressions & directions. We now have a theory that tells us why it is so.

Because **Primary Directions** form in the first 24 hours after birth, there should be a one-to-one alignment between Primaries and **Astro\*Carto\*Graphy**. In other words, Primaries can tell us where to go & when to go, as well as when to get out of town in a hurry.

I had a visitor a couple of days ago who reminded me this might be what **Edward Johndro** and **Charles Jayne** were getting at in some of their writing. Johndro's books are currently out of print (**Earth in Heavens; Stars, How & Where They Influence**), which makes me think I am going to get copies with a view to reprinting them. This might also be what Sepharial & Chris McCrae were getting

at in their books on **Geodetic Equivalents**.

We can classify astrological charts as to how cleanly the object in question has been separated from the earth at the moment of its birth. Mammals separate cleanly and quickly from their mothers. Their charts are therefore quite distinct. Or would be, except that I am at a loss to think of a way in which dogs & cats exploit the energies of the twelve houses. It seems that animals relate only to their first houses. They are all about “ME”.

But this does explain electionals. No electional chart can produce an effect different from the vibratory energies of the individual who has set the chart and is acting upon it. Same with horary: When the sum of your vibrations has reached a point where a question is thrown out, your vibration and the overall background vibration must, in some fashion, be related.

In medicine. Why do you want to mess around with crippling surgeries & crude & dangerous drugs, when disease is the result of mal-adjusted vibration? Vibratory medicine is, of course, well known in some circles, but the critical importance of astrology is only beginning to **be realized**. Why is it that you are not to operate on the part of the body ruled by the sign through which the Moon is passing at the moment? Because the Moon sets up a Very Loud vibration in whatever sign she happens to be in & if a doctor happens to be messing around in a part of the body ruled by that sign, he can easily overwhelm that part of the body as a result.

So, what is death? Natural death ensues when, through sheer age, the initial vibratory impulse has become so weak that it can no longer support the continued life in the body itself. Whereupon life departs, but the body, with its unique vibration, continues. If the soft tissues are preserved after death, by embalming, by placing remains in a crypt, even by freezing, then they continue to resonate. If the corpse is still in existence when the individual reincarnates, then because there is a close synastric relationship from one life to the next, sooner or later a “channel” will open from past life to present life & the person will relive his previous death experience. Which I suspect is where Jesus Freaks came from: Died in fear of the Lord. Embalming in America dates from the Civil War. Many of you are back already.

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## On Vibrations & Healing

An extract from **Astrological Practice of Physick**, by Joseph Blagrave, 1671. Read and weep at what has been lost:

*How to make the Sympathetical Powder with the way to apply the same, for the curing of wounds, and sundry distempers: Especially such which any way concern the blood or vital spirits.*

**T**AKE of Roman vitriol\* six or eight ounces, beat it very small in a mortar, then sieve it through a fine sieve, do it when the Sun enters Leo, which is about the twelfth of July\*\*, then spread it finely upon an earthen glazed pan, set it daily in the heat of the Sun during forty days, and keep it warm at night, and be careful it takes no wet or cold, afterwards you must continually keep it dry, with this powder alone kept dry and warm, great cures may be done. I shall instance one Example, A Brother of mine living in Southcote near Reading in the time of the late war had a Mastiff Dog shot into the neck and head, with a brace of bullets. The dog being very much swelled, lay pining away and was in appearance near to death. A Gent. who came by accident having some of this powder in his pocket was desirous to make some trial thereof upon this Dog, whereupon with a linen cloth we took some of the corruption, which was about his neck, and immediately applied a small quantity of the powder to it keeping it very warm, whereupon presently the Dog revived, stood up and wagged his tail; then presently for further trial, we laid the powder with the corruption to the air, and then the Dog fell down as dead again, shivering, and then immediately we closed it up again, and ever afterwards kept it warm, and the Dog in a short time recovered. — **Astrological Practice of Physick**, 1671.

\*Copper sulfate. \*\*OS, or Julian.

## Here is another of Blagrave's external cures.

**A**BOUT nine years ago, there lived a woman in Newbery, in the County of Berks, she was daily troubled with fits, which at the first, would begin with a kind of trembling about the heart, and from thence by degrees set at the arteries to work throughout her whole body, after which, for some hours she would be as seemingly dead, and could wag neither arm or leg; for cure whereof, I let her blood in the heart vein, and having my powders made in readiness, according to what is before expressed; I mixed some of her blood with the powder, and while it was warm made it up into a little bag, which I caused her to wear about her neck, by virtue of which, not omitting diet-drink suitable to her condition; she was in about a month's space recovered; notwithstanding, she was near twelve months in this condition before she came to me: The cure being perfected, her husband, according to our agreement paid me for the cure, but it so chanced, that within some small time after, she carelessly lost this from her neck, whereupon, her fits began to mind her again, and more and more increased, insomuch, that she was almost so bad as at the first, for as I said before, except the patient be for some time perfectly well, at least a month, the grief will be apt to return, especially, when the principal matter of cure is lost or neglected, for its not sufficient in any distemper whatsoever only to cure, except for a time there be a perfect settlement, for we daily find, that relapses are very dangerous and apt to befall many who think themselves well recovered. This woman's husband came to me again, and told me, that his Wife was so bad as ever (being much discontented) he not knowing the reason; I asked him, whether she had not lost the little bag from her neck which I gave her to wear. He told me he thought she had: the truth is, through carelessness she had lost it, whereupon, I once more let her blood, and did as is before expressed, desiring her to take care of it, which she did; after which, she became well again, and her fits left her, and so has continued well ever since, as I am informed. This cure being effected about eight or nine years ago.

## WHY WHERE WHAT WHO WHEN ELECTIONAL ASTROLOGY

### Part 65: Blood, part 2:

## Phlebotomy, Blood-letting, Transfusions

[To let blood — ]

**A**ND for melancholy people, from Last Quarter to New Moon, and in Libra or Aquarius. With young men & women the Moon should be passing from New to First Quarter; for middle-aged people, from First Quarter to Full; for elderly people, from Full to Last Quarter; and for old people, from Last Quarter to New Moon.

### For Stopping Haemorrhage

**L**ET the Moon be in Taurus, Virgo or Capricorn. — **Electional Astrology**, 1937

**Dave says**, From my reading, especially **Blagrave**, I find that blood was to be let primarily as a means of rapidly cooling the body, for reasons other than for fever, which was treated by other means. When once we grasp that the world is a mass of different vibrations, Blagrave's medicine becomes even more wonderful, as he describes the use of complimentary vibrations for the purpose of healing. Which can be done as well outside the body as within it, a concept which is unknown to modern medicine.

