



COURSE OF THE SOCIAL MOVEMENT.

(1827. — Notebook 34, side 10.)

When entering an unknown country, it is customary to orient yourself and find landmarks. This is the procedure to follow in order to read this summary fruitfully. The subjects that it deals with are a world as new as America was for its first conquerors: animals, plants, everything was new in their eyes. It will be the same with the springs and levers of Association. To learn how to navigate this unknown country, you must imitate the traveler who from the top of the mountains contemplates the whole country, the ranges, the forests, the valleys, the rivers, etc.

Let us consider the entire social movement in the same way; let us consider from a high point this new region and its distribution, and if we want to know the rank occupied there by existing societies, Civilization, Barbarism, Patriarchy, Savagery, let us first speculate on the vital career or approximate duration of the race human, on the series of levels that it presents to pass through.

(See the table on the fourth page.)

We see in this table what rank the two Civilizations hold, the earlier one, which exists now, and the later one, which will be reborn towards the end of the human career, after a lapse of approximately 70,000 years spent in harmony and happiness. At the end of this time, the material decline of the planet, its fall into obsolescence, will bring the filthy and destructive products that the 22nd creation will have given, great changes in the temperature and in the productions of the globe. The springs of societal harmony will be worn out; this beautiful order will dissolve and Humanity will travel in the opposite direction through the 7 periods that begin the scale and will be reborn to form the later phase of subversion; but we will go through them more quickly. Humanity will sustain itself for a very long time in period 27 (chrysalis state), and will only fall at the end, in the 4 societies — Civilization, Barbary, Patriarchy, Savagery — later. We will know historically the evils of these 4 societies, and we will protect ourselves from them for as long as possible, as an old man seeks to protect himself from the diseases that besiege old age.

According to this table, the ages of misfortune, the 4 levels S, P, B, C, which we can call the world in reverse, hold a very secondary rank in the social career. These periods only appear for 4/16, because they will not last more than 2,000 years in the decline of the world, and if they lasted 4,000 years or more in the infancy of the world, it is the effect of a scientific thoughtlessness of the ancients, who should have discovered in the heyday of Athens the exits from Civilization and the entry routes, either into Guarantism, 6th period, or Simple Association, 7th period.

Civilization is on the scale of movement only a transition serving to create large-scale industry, the arts, sciences, in order to rise to Association, which requires great luxury.

The human species, quite happy during the 4th period, Eden, which lasted barely 3 centuries, soon fell into the periods of Savagery, Patriarchy and Barbarism, from which great industry was born, the daughter of slavery. From there we rose to Civilization, which generated the sciences and arts. We could then move on to the higher periods 6, 7, 8, if we had researched the theory. As for the moderns, they do not want to do any research on this subject. It is not surprising that they discover nothing, because the inventions which lead to 6th and 7th periods require first of all a certain dose of inventive spirit independent of prejudices, plus a labor of methodical and well-directed research. We have never done any research on the means of leaving Civilization. The human spirit swelled with pride; man believed himself to be at the pinnacle of perfection, because he was a little less backward than the Barbarians and one step higher than them. The voice of religion and common sense, which have soundly judged order, were stifled. Religion tells us that it is nothing but falsehood and vanity: Jesus Christ only sees a race of vipers, and that is truly the name that suits the Civilized. As for the people, they only see in Civilization a world in reverse, and we can say of this judgment: *Vox populi, vox Dei*.

In this glance at the whole movement, we have operated like the traveler who, from a high peak, recognizes the mass of a new country. We concluded that we must direct our steps towards the 3 levels 6, 7 and 8. These are the 3 periods where we can achieve the exit from Civilization. As for the 9th, one can only rise there after having spent four or five centuries in the 8th.

To organize this 8th period, you only need just a little time. Once the test is made, it will establish itself with the speed of lightning, through the sole lure of riches and pleasures.

The 7th would be slower to establish generally. This operation would take at least twelve to fifteen years. As for the 6th (Guarantism), it would take more than a century to establish it in full and by degree, because we cannot organize all the branches simultaneously.

It is therefore on the 8th only that we must speculate, because everyone is in a hurry to enjoy, everyone prefers immense and sudden happiness to mediocre and delayed happiness.

Before studying the springs and the mechanism of this period, we must orient ourselves, not get lost, imitate the traveler who, when descending from the mountain, does not lose sight of the landmarks that he has noticed. These points, which I must have carefully observed in twenty-seven years of calculations, are the primordial attributions of God. By constantly subordinating ourselves to the views of the Creator of the passions, we will be assured of not going astray, we will in fact have his support, because we will walk in the paths that he himself follows.

It remains for us to give, in order to encourage study, a parallel of the terrain that we are going to leave with that into which we are going to enter. The difference is the same as between the Desert and the Promised Land. Is it not consoling to think that this civilized, barbaric, savage regime, to which we had believed humanity condemned forever, is on the contrary only an age of transition, the duration of which lasted two thousand five hundred years too long, due to the irreligion of the ancients, who, not having believed in the universality of Providence, thought that it was up to human reason to make laws, social codes, and that God was neither endowed with universal providence nor invested with the integral direction of the movement? If they had taken this principle of universality of Providence as their compass, they would have concluded that God could not have failed to provide for all our collective needs, the main one of which is that of a code guaranteeing equity, and that reason, instead of placing itself in the first rank and encroaching on the prerogatives of the supreme legislator of the movement, must modestly descend to the second rank, seeking the code that God must have composed for our industrial and social relations.

Thus we inevitably go astray when we do not adopt as our study compass the five primordial properties of God:

- Integral direction of movement;
- Economy of sources of action;
- Distributive justice;
- Universality of providence;
- Unity of action.

VITAL AND SOCIAL CAREER OF THE HUMAN RACE.

Ascending vibration.

Childhood.

- 1st period. Eden, or confused series.
2. Savagery.
3. Patriarchy.
4. Barbarism.
5. Civilization.
6. Guarantism.
7. Draft series. Simple associations.

Youth.

8. Simple combined series.
- 9 to 16. Ascending compound series.

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APOGEE; PIVOTAL PERIOD.

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Descending vibration.

Decline.

- 17 to 24. Descending compound series.
25. Simple combined series.

Old age.

26. Draft series.
27. Guarantism.
28. Civilization.
29. Barbarism.
30. Patriarchy.
31. Savagery.
32. Confused series.

End of the animal and plant world, after an approximate duration of 80,000 years.

[See this complete table in the *Theory of the Four Movements.*]