

# Bruce Wilson Alchemy Journal

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# Symbols in Alchemy

Aug, 2020

## Planets

- ♄ Saturn (Pb)
- ♃ Jupiter (Sn)
- ♂ Mars (Fe)
- ☉ Sun (Au)
- ♀ Venus (Cu)
- ☿ Mercury (Hg)
- ♁ Luna (Ag)

## Elements

- △ Air
- △ Fire
- ▽ Water
- ▽ Earth

## Metals Principles

- ♁ Mercury (Mercurius, <sup>my mind, I</sup> ~~Mercurius~~)
- ♁ Salt (body, matter)
- ♁ Sulphur (spirit, mark)

## Processes: Time of year important

- T♈ Aries Calcination
- ♉ Taurus Conjunction
- ♊ Gemini Fixation
- ♋ Cancer Dissolution
- ♌ Leo Digestion
- ♍ Virgo Distillation
- ♎ Libra Sublimation

## Units:

- ♁ hour
- ♁ Uram
- ♁ ounce
- ♁ half-ounce

## Making Gold:

- Blackening (Crow, Raven, Toad)
- Whitening (White Swan, Eagle, Skeleton)
- Greening (Green Lion)
- Iridescentia (Peacock)
- White stone (Unicorn)
- Reddening (Pelican feeding young with own blood, Cockerel)
- Final Transformation (Phoenix reborn)

## Mundane Elements

- ♁ Sb
- ♁ Mg
- ♁ S
- ♁ As
- ♁ Pt
- ♁ # Zn
- ♁ Bi
- ♁ Iron
- ♁ Vitriol (SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>)
- ♁ aqua-fortis (HNO<sub>3</sub>)
- ♁ aqua-Regia (HCl + HNO<sub>3</sub>)

- ♏ Scorpio Separation
- ♏ Sagittarius Incineration
- ♏ Capricorn Fermentation
- ♏ Aquarius Multiplication
- ♏ Pices Projection
- ♏ Precipitation

## Chemical Compounds

white copper - Hg-Cu mix?

Acem - alloy imitation Au, Ag

Misy - Fe + CuSO<sub>4</sub>

Alum -  $KAl(SO_4)_2 \cdot 12H_2O$

Cadmia -

physic -

Mina - weight of Egypt obole

lime - CaO, Russian Limestone (CaCO<sub>3</sub>)

alkinet - Red dye from European lout

Woad - Blue dye from yellow

Kermes - Red dye from beetle

## The Legacy of The Atom

Democritus (et al) proposed the smallest unit of

matter = "atom." 600 BC. - 500 BC. In 1905 Ludwig

Boltzmann committed suicide because he could not

convince anyone that atoms made up all matter.

This was 60 years after atomic theory was accepted

by everyone.

# Timeline of Modern Science

4/1/2020



- 1536 <sup>Pope</sup> Petrus Ramus (d.L. Ramus) Publishes thesis "Everything Aristotle said was false (Inconsistent)"  
started the movement against Aristotle as ultimate Authority.
- 1573: Roger Bacon "Law of Refraction" First Natural Law <sup>year?</sup>
- 1601 Kepler's Law of Planetary Motion (1) elliptical (2) equal area in equal time
- 1619 Galileo's period - (with final Ellipse) all unprovable. + telescope via heliocentric
- 1632 Galileo Dialog concerning the Great World System
- 1638 Galileo Two new sciences (motion physics) 1637 Descartes Algebra + Geometry
- 1661 Boyle skeptical chymist
- 1662 Boyle's Law of Gases
- 1663 Boyle starts Philosophical Transactions + Royal Society <sup>Bar chart!</sup>
- 1629 Snellius finds Roger Bacon's Law of Refraction
- 1643 Torricelli mercury Barometer
- 1669 Steno stratigraphic Column
- 1673 Huygens Pendulum Clock + oscillating systems
- 1675 Leuwenhoek's microscope
- 1675 Leibniz Calculus + Mathematical "Laws"
- 1676 Romer tries to measure the speed of Light
- 1687 Newton 3 Laws ① inertia ② Force ③ opposing Force ( $F = \frac{Gm_1m_2}{r^2}$ )
- 1717 Stahl - Phlogiston Theory (attempt to leave alchemy)
- 1735 Linnaeus - Binomial nomenclature for plants + animals
- 1743 Black - latent heat Gorgivon Kiesel - Leyden Jar
- 1750 Black - latent heat
- 1751 Franklin - lightning = electricity
- 1755 Kant - Universal Natural History, new cosmology
- 1763 Bayes theorem - statistical test for Probability of event



- 1767 Dalton-Steuart's Law of Supply and Demand
- 1776 Smith's Economics
- 1778 Lavoisier & Priestly discover Oxygen, Lavoisier ends  
Phlogiston theory; Law of Conservation of Mass
- 1787 Charles Law of Gases  $\frac{V}{T} = \text{constant}$
- 1794 Proust Law of Definite Proportions
- 1802 Lamarck Teleological Evolution
- 1800 Volta - electrochemical cells
- 1805 Dalton - Atomic theory
- 1820 Oersted - electric currents attract magnets
- 1824 Ohm - Electrical measurements
- 1827 Avogadro - concept of the Mole

# The Salts of Albertus Magnus

Apr 2020



Sol commune	$\text{NaCl}$
Sol Alkali	$\text{NaOH}$
Sol Nitrum	$\text{NaN}_3$
Sol Borax	$\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7$
Roman Alum	$\text{KAl}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Yemen Alum	scum
Tarter	$\text{KH}_2\text{Tartrate}$ , from wine deposits
Ironmentum	Iron black (Fe-oxides) or Carbon black
Green Copper Verdigris	$\text{CuCO}_3$
Copperas (Green vitriol)	$\text{FeSO}_4$
Cinnabar	$\text{HgS}$
minium	Red lead $\text{Pb}_3\text{O}_4$
Cerusa	white lead $\text{PbCO}_3$
hens eggs	Protein
egg shell	$\text{CaCO}_3$
Vinogor	acetic acid
urine	urea, $(\text{NH}_2)_2\text{CO}$
Cadmium	$\text{ZnCO}_3$
Morchastin	
Magnetic	$\text{MgO}$



# Development of Scientific Theory

Aug 2020



- Before 500 BC myths and oral tradition
- 500 BC - 500 AD Reason rules, empirical observations suspect
- 000 Arabic Alchemy brings Experimentation to the front  
Arising issues against Aristotle Reason, was  
Religion and sought Absolute Truth.
- 1270 Europe Roger Bacon's Opus Magnus (1265) identifies  
Heteroias (1) Authority (2) Custom (3) opinions of the  
unskilled many (4) concealing Ignorance behind Pretense  
2 sources of Knowledge: Reason + Experiment  
Experiment wins by verification of direct Experiment  
Leaves Aristotle in check because he could not  
use his ideas well
- 1580 Skepticism of Renee, Sanchez: "Nothing is known"  
beyond of cyclical reasoning and unclear logic
- 1600 Francis Bacon New method" (Novum Organum)  
Poor version of Observation  $\rightarrow$  law  $\rightarrow$  Axiom
- 1637 Tycho  $\rightarrow$  Kepler  $\rightarrow$  Galileo's second work on  
method
- 1661 Boyle - law + theory ("do it yourself", "Publish what you see")
- 1687 Newton Derives stable laws of Physics (mostly)
- 1763 Bayes statistical treatment of data
- 1800 all fundamental chemical laws known  
LAW: General statements of what we observe, no  
counterexamples known.
- During the 1900s many attempts were made to  
define the scientific method. most dealt with  
deductive vs Inductive reasonings, as though Reason



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is there still a good way to give "truth"? P/Lo still  
 a/ll!

1934

Karl Popper defines a version of the scientific method critical of Rationalism, depending on Observation  
 observe → question → data → Model → hypothesis  
 Experiment ←

importantly, he saw all experiments should attempt to falsify the model (called the null hypothesis, the hypothesis you would believe if not for the one you are trying to prove). any hypothesis which withstands all attempts to prove it wrong survives to become part of a theory. pure skepticism = good science

1962

Thomas Kuhn proposes scientific revolution theory  
 New insight to any science comes from a new generation using a new idea. Since there are so many models a scientist must accept to operate, it becomes difficult to choose exactly what to test in an experiment to falsify everything but supporting an hypothesis. Most experiments only test 1 hypothesis, or maybe 2 or 3, out of the hundreds on which the hypothesis stands.

- \* Laws are observations
- \* Theories are long-lived Models



# Roots of Knowledge timeline

Aug 2020



H Egyptian creation myths

Thales

Empedocles

Plato Timaeus

Diogenes

Aristotle concourses

Alexander the Great

Pliny the Elder

Galen 4 humors ?? Gnosticism

Alchemy in Alexandria

Library of Alexandria

Arabic Golden Age

Jabir / Avicenna / Albertus Magnus / Roger Bacon / Philosophers of the

Golden Age of Alchemy (Renaissance Gnosticism / chymistry)

1661 Boyle + invisible College / Royal Society / Phlogiston theory

1778 Lavoisier + measurements

1528 Paracelsus destroyed Humors

1539 Vesalius said anatomy didn't mean

1628 Tom Henry did anatomy properly

Diogenes - was he correct? Where is he now?

Who are the Modern Diogenes?

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Arabic → European transfer

Spanish (Moorish) universities in 1200-1300

Byzantium → Italy transfer of Renaissance (de Medicis) 1500  
1600



## Hermeticism

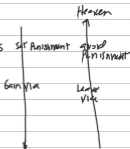
**Optimistic Gnosis:** World is Good, and by Contemplating it we can arrive at a Gnosis of God, where we become equal and can understand the All

**Pessimistic Gnosis:** all the World is evil, There is no good in it, and we have been corrupted by our passage through the planetary spheres. Gnosis comes from freeing ourselves from the world. When we pass up earthly by freeing ourselves from each worldly vice can we pass beyond each Planet, then we will be like God.

God / Divine sphere

Demigod / ~~divine~~ <sup>planetary</sup> maker

Saturn	Pb	♄	Avarice
Jupiter	Sn	♃	Gulthood
Mars	Fe	♂	Anger
Sun	Al	☉	Pride
Venus	Cu	♀	Lust
Mercury	Hg	☿	Envy/Lies
Moon	Ag	☾	Sloth
Earth		♁	



## Corpus Hermeticus

I Proemium "Egyptian" Genesis Story

XIII Secret Discourse or Mountain "Egyptian" Resurrection

XI Mind to Heavens "Egyptian" Reflection of the Universe & the Mind

XII Ascent to Isis "Egyptian" Philosophy of Man + Nature

Asclepius (The Perfect World) "Egyptian" Religion



## Egyptian Religion (via Hermes)

1 God above all

1 person who created all in disobedience  
 36 Decans (13°) Rule 2<sup>1/2</sup>h intervals, associated  
 with constellations (the sphere of the stars)

7 Governors, the 7 Planets

God creates man, then man creates Gods (stars) and animates them via spells, enchantments, offerings and service, invocation, rituals.

Talismans, <sup>(jewels)</sup> objects imbued with powers from certain Gods to moderate the negative effects from other Decans.

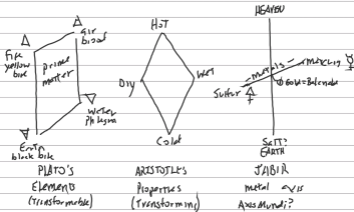
## Dating of Hermes (from F. Yates)

no evidence before 200 A.D.

Ancient origin supported by Early Church Fathers:  
 Lactantius thought Hermes was contemporary with Moses or before, was Egyptian, and was a non-Christian prophet who predicted Christianity

Augustine thought Hermes was real, later than Moses, was Egyptian, was a Pagan who was clever but deluded by worldly philosophy

Alchemyl, Starkey's exposition of Ryley letter to the King, SEPT 1581 



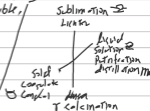
= phibogher's stone  
 when the stone is cast  
 into metal, then heated,  
 it will combine to make Gold

To turn Pb into Au,  
 find the "antidote" position

The stone is created by turning Pb into Au, then it  
 does its real job of extending life & giving the alchemist  
 a more viable → contemplation and possible,

Making the stone requires the alchemist to  
 make himself ready for the change

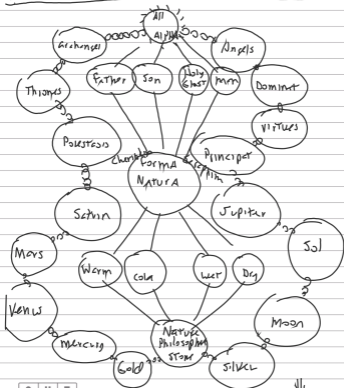
How is matter material →



# Arabic Alchemy

Jabir Ibn Hayyan (Geber)  
Abu Ishaq Sina (Avicenna)  
Abu Ishaq al-Razi (al-Razi)

make alchemy, 4-5 particles  
notes later



# Notes on the Golden Chain of Hermes, 1720

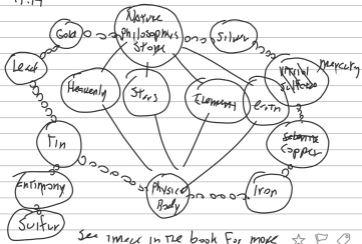
by Dr Anton Josef Kirchwieser

Vermischte Alchemie

## Symbols used

- $\Delta$  <sup>fire</sup> <sub>fire</sub>  $\nabla$  <sup>water</sup> <sub>water</sub>  $\nabla$  <sup>earth</sup> <sub>earth</sub>
- $\oplus$  chaos  $\oplus$  acid +  $\ominus$  salt =  $\oplus$  prime matter / materia Primum
- $\oplus$  Living matter, Ruling element  $\oplus$  Spirit? Water / From atmosphere
- $\oplus$  vegetable matter  $\oplus$  mineral matter  $\oplus$  ?-unfermenter  $\frac{V}{P}$
- $\oplus$  Philosophers stone, fermented + "specimen with  $\oplus$ " gold
- $\oplus$  mundi: Dew, hail, Rain, Snow, all from the atmosphere
- $\oplus$  nitric acid, can fabricate all things, knowled to the whole world.  $\nabla$  subject to it,  $\Delta$  cannot be without it.
- $\oplus$  "Noble sperm of the world" which has been fixed, from vapor and fire converted to fixed earth  $\rightarrow$  Philosophers stone

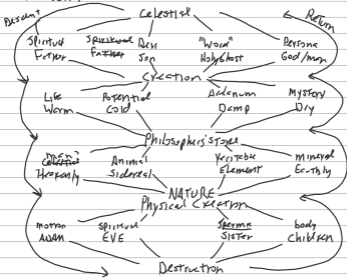
↑ p. 14



See image in the book for more

# Golden Chain of Homer 1723

The Golden Chain is an expression of Axis Mundi with the Celestial/Divine at the top, then the Creation/Formation, then the Philosophers Stone, then the Physical world, then the end times and Destruction



Chapter 1: Nature comprehends visible + invisible creatures of the universe. = universal  $\Delta$  or enigma Mund.

Filling the whole of the universe = universal Agent using unerring instinct, manifests as spirit  $\Delta$  and light

Chapter 2: 3 states of  $\Delta$  1) original state is Color

## Golden Chain of Hermes 1723

1) Invisible, immaterial, occupies no space. tranquil and of no use to us.

2) motion or agitated state, separated out of chaos. cold. when gently moved = heat, as in friction or fermentation

3) Burning, manifests as light & heat as long as it is Agitated. Lightning, Thunder, Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Comets  
All matter is ~~water~~, though it can manifest as air, water, earth, vapor, humidity.

4 Elements: burning  $\Delta$ , Vapor or humidity + cold  $\Delta$  = atmosphere,  $\Delta$  becomes  $\nabla$  when condensed, and  $\nabla$  fix when "impacted" (fixed?) becomes  $\nabla$ . originally it was all  $\Delta$  fire.

so,  $\Delta \rightarrow \nabla \xrightarrow[\text{humidity}]{\text{light}}$  This is a creation story!

Something about  $\Delta$  = Universal  $\Omega$  (Rain)

When  $\nabla - \Delta$  = Putrid. air animates Earth

God ordains universal  $\Omega$  by means of humidity should work all things because humidity mixes with everything, to soften, penetrate, destroy, and regenerate all things.

$\nabla$  is the Body, the tool, but  $\Delta$  or  $\Omega$  is the operator,

The universal agent,  $\Omega$  and the Power of God.

universal  $\Delta$  fills all space between heavenly bodies,

universal  $\Delta$  ceases - subtle reaction to make Nitric  $\odot$

(nitric acid water), actually cold, inwardly  $\Delta$ . = second

Principle of  $\Delta$  (The First being  $\nabla$  or  $\Omega$ ). This subtle

$\odot$  approaches alkaline Planets to become Nitric  $\odot$

(ccur). Thus solar rays of light are  $\odot$ , which

becomes  $\odot$  in earth, but  $\ominus$  (salt) in the oceans.

This brings  $\Delta$  or life to the atmosphere  $\ominus$  to oceans,



## Golden Chain of Horner, 1723

### Elasticity to $\nabla$ .

The Firmament or "Clouds & Fogs", ascending like transpiration from the earth, sublimates upwards by "central heat of the Earth"

- Chapter III: 1) is simple humidity 2)  $\nabla$  contains  $\Omega$   
 3)  $\xrightarrow{\text{acid, animal}}$   $\Omega$  4) divided into 4 Elements  $\Delta \Delta \nabla \nabla$   
 $\xrightarrow{\text{alkali, corpus}}$  5) by art, assisted by Nature,  $\rightarrow$   $\Omega$  quarters of

God has given to all things an Agent and Patient in order to cause a Reaction; this we see by humidity, and Evaporation of numberless subjects. This Evaporation when from above is called Influence, but when from Things below it is Effluvium.

God has given to all Things their particular Sperm, which depend on Universal Sperm, as Ruler and Creator,  $\Omega$ .

### Chapter IV

After God divides (Licht & dark, Nicht & vdy) and Corporates the Anim<sup>9</sup>  $\Omega$  mundi (spirit of the world?) the simple chaos into 4 Elements or Predominating leading Principles, he said "increase and multiply". The Heavens and the Air, both animated by Universal  $\Delta$  are The Father, The Male, The Agent.  $\nabla$  and  $\nabla$  are The Mother, Female, Passive principle, General  $\rightarrow$  Preserve  $\rightarrow$  destroy,  $\rightarrow$  regenerate. 4 Elements fabricate the Universal Sperm or regenerate Chaos as God ordained them. You cannot go from one extreme to the other without a medium, this  $\nabla$  cannot become  $\nabla$  without  $\Delta$ , and  $\nabla$  cannot become  $\Delta$

Golden chain of Hermes, 1723

without  $\nabla$ , if you unite  $\Delta$  with  $\nabla$  you cannot, unite 1<sup>st</sup>  $\nabla$  with  $\Delta$  will unite, then add  $\nabla$ , this can you unite  $\Delta + \nabla$  or vice versa turn  $\nabla$  into  $\Delta$

$\Delta$  is most subtil,  $\Delta$  next most subtle,  $\nabla$  = degree more corporeal still, than  $\nabla$

- take  $\nabla + \nabla$ , let stand diluted until coagulate + form  $\nabla$  settle. stir 3-4 times daily.  $\nabla$  will dissolve subtle  $\nabla$ , which is its  $\Theta$  (salt) = virgin  $\nabla$ . when  $\Theta$  is extracted from common  $\nabla$ , no more can be extracted. Distill this  $\Theta$  into spiritive  $\nabla$  until all the  $\Theta$  has come over with the  $\nabla$ .

This  $\nabla$  has the power to dissolve again the next subtil  $\nabla$ , and repeat. the end result is  $\oplus$  universal sperm

Chapter V

Form is  $\nabla$  and matter is  $\Delta$

Form is  $\Delta$  and matter is  $\nabla$

by fermentation  $\Delta$  become  $\Delta$  (heat),  $\Delta$  become  $\nabla$ , and  $\nabla$  become  $\nabla$ . But when  $\Delta$  is fixed by  $\text{c}, \text{t}$  or Nature it becomes  $\nabla$  (volcanic sulfur?), and when  $\nabla$  is volatilized by  $\nabla$  it brooms  $\Delta$  and  $\Delta$  (fluid?)  
hot heat? Gas Products?

this is because elements can be converted into another (Plato)

condensation similar to "Inspiration"

things finish later.

Other things to work on:

Secrets of Alchemy by Lery Principle

Alchem, Ancept + Method by N. Stanley Redgrave

# Geoffroy's Table, From Pierre Mauger 1764

- ↪ acid spirits
- ⊖ marine acid ( $\text{HCl}$ )
- ⊖ Nitrous acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ )
- ⊖ vitriolic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ )
- ⊕ Fixed alkali ( $\text{MOH}$ )
- ⊕ Volatile alkali ( $\text{NH}_3$ )
- ▽ absorbent Earths
- MS metallic Substances
- ♀ mercury ( $\text{Hg}$ )
- ♁ Regulus of Antimony
- Gold
- ☾ Silver

levity.com/alchemy/animal.html  
The Process vs Adam McLeen



Grey Wolfe / Antimony, when molten, Alloys with Cu, Sn, Pb, in this way it behaves like Hg &.  
Later Sb (antimony) was popular as a cure for ills.

Whitening / a new integration of the polarities.  
White stone (unicorn), this is a spiritually higher whiteness, an inner whiteness rather than an outer whiteness of Calcination (oxidation).  
might be shown as Queen dressed in white robes.  
The Alchemist brings the feminine into harmony with his soul to achieve a more perfect spirituality, often this sexual aspect is stressed, this coupling brings perfection. It is not using sex as a basis for working magic. This is an inner process, male and female copulating in a flask, not next to it, representing physical substances.  
Alchemists saw metals, plants, minerals as masculine & feminine. Hg was hermaphroditic capable of sustaining either role in a reaction.  
White stone is a unicorn in that unicorns can be touched or tamed by a pure woman.

Reddening / Red stone formed, or solution reddened, pictured as Pelican Feeding its young with blood from its own heart. (Self sacrifice, akin to Christ's sacrifice for all). The Red Tincture is enabled by the masculine forces in the flask



star

flag

tag

## The Process, cont. Allyn McLean

of The Red King. In our inner life these are the forces of Raw Energy, a knight brandishing the sword, Power & Force, Will & direction. The symbols of The mass, bread & wine, relate by spirituality of the souls of partakers. Stags with white antlers also symbolize The Red Stone tip-over.

Phoenix From flames / Resurrection from the Ashes of fire. Allusions of Christ, Rising from the Tomb. Alchemists also meditated on The Process and experienced an inner rebirth, The Philosophical (interior) Stone.

Philosophers Stone / This Stone, inside the Alchemist, forms a solid foundation on which to stand (this is a gnostic idea); Solid ground so fear does not assail, firm footing to create, adventure, Risk.

Oroboros / Snake eating its Tail, at the start we are unformed (mass = confused) at the mercury of the polarities of our soul, Psychic energies, Joy and despair, melancholy, light = Dark, and inertia. The snake represents this duality; The Dragon at the beginning is <sup>again</sup> at the end, closing the circle.

Alchemists pursued an inner Transformation while at the bench performing alchemical transformations.

Roger Bacon 1220-1292

"Doctor Mirabilis"

At his time almost all philosophy was conducted by appeal to Authority, that Authority being Aristotle. Also Thomas Aquinas, St Augustine, Bacon became a Franciscan friar to get by after money at Oxford College dried up. Things looked up when his friends became Pope and he got permission to publish without Church oversight. Bacon wrote that Authority should not constrain investigation; collect facts first, then via deduction to get the meaning behind facts. (This is an Aristotelian idea, but never practical). So why did alchemy last 400 more years? Bacon was largely ignored by contemporaries, who looked instead to Albertus Magnus, Bonaventura, Thomas Aquinas, accepted the latter as a wise, subtle professor of secret knowledge. ~~The~~ The Church was highly influential, and ruled via authoritarian Aristotelianism.

Bacon was later restricted by the Church. Worked on optics, based on newly-arrived Arabic texts.

Francis Bacon (1561-1626) Rich, M.P. Lord Chancellor under King James once charged for bribery, had to pay £40,000 (Government. Probably needed the cash, help charges). Novum Organum (New Organon, 1620) argued for revolution in teaching, use induction + experiments to check.

Deduction: start with Theorem, see where it can lead you.

Induction: start with Facts/observations, conclude only what facts tell you, without dogmas influencing conclusions. Be skeptical.

Artephius (1150)

(Liber ~~Sci~~ Sapientiae (Key of Wisdom)  
 Liber Secretis (Secret Book)

multiple versions known. Those attributed by "Artephius" are marginal glosses (notes) from earlier copies. The most original set forth by Alphonsus Rex. look in theatrum chemicum (TC) and Bibliotheca Chemia Curiosa (BCC) for copies in Latin.

Very Aristotelian, and author is aware of Job's "Desires".

Arabic → European Transfer of Texts:

Moors in Spain meet N. African Berbers, Egypt → Berbers → Spain, Berbers (Moors) in Spanish University translated into Latin.

A second transfer in Renaissance times, Byzantium → Italy transfer, Greek → Latin → Italian under Cosimo Medici

NOTE: Babou of N. Africa did not go to Spain. Fighting Berber.

# Symbology of Alchemy

From Sean Martin - Alchemy & Alchemists 2001 p30 +  
 Alchemy in Europe after 1200 AD

Mercury - Hermes Trismegistus - Guiding Principle  
 of Alchemy, identified with Mother Nature  
 Personification of Successful Work

Lady Alchemist = Guiding Principles of Alchemy  
 Old King / young Prince - old King is matter to be  
 worked upon, old state of consciousness that must be  
 shattered during negredo (blackening). young Prince  
 is new matter emerging or struggling to emerge.

Sol + Luna - Sol = Sulfur, King, Sun, masculine  
 Luna = quicksilver (or just silver) queen, moon,  
 feminine  
 Per them in a flask = copulation /  
 conjunction giving the Philosopher's Stone.

Green Lion - Red Lion - beginning and end of the work.  
 Iron compound → Gold compound. Green Lion sometimes  
 represented as a lion (in Rhyty).  $FeSO_4$  = Green.

The Egg - Retort or Alembic where Prime Matter is  
 placed. yolk = Gold waiting to be released, egg = Soul

Dragon + Oroboros - Guards the stone. Dragon must be  
 overcome. Oroboros signifies the cyclical nature of the work  
 where the alchemist gets the starting material - THE  
 end unless he conquers the Dragon.

Tree - the world; tree of knowledge of Good & Evil. Agrippa.



Symbology in Alchemy, Cont.  
 Best illustrated Alchemical Texts:

Avicenna, Rosarium Philosophicum, Petrus Bonus,  
Speculum Veritatis, Splendor Solis,  
Atlantis Fustens, Philosophica Reformata  
 (some of them are emblem books)

Stages of the Work:

nigredo (Blackening) - Death's head, Raven,  
 albedo (Whitening) - King's drowning, Pelican feeding  
 own heart to feed young,  
 Citrines (Yellowing) Suffer sowing fields.  
 Rubedo (Reddening) King & Queen wedding,  
 Stormy Lion, Golden Coins, Rose Garden, Oracles

Alchemical Maxims

"As above, so below"

"Dissolve and Congelate"

"Fixing the volatile, Volatilizing the Fixed"

"you will find the Hidden Soul" in Latin V. F. T. R. E. D. L

"Go to the woman who washes the sheets in the River  
 and do as she does"

"Play, work, Read, Med, and sleep" Magus Liber

The Language of Birds: Hiding a secret openly, initiated  
 will understand, to all else it is gibberish (after Geber)  
 First by Ficino in 1400's After 1500's The Conference of Birds  
 shows spiritual path, look for Riddles, Poems, so  
 look for birds that don't make sense

## Symbolism in Alchemy, Cont. p 36+

**Numerology** - All alchemists seem fascinated by numbers. Pythagoras' Legacy. All numbers have mystic qualities (Gnostic?) 1 2 3 4 7 9 are most significant units of creation, descent of LIGHT/Wake, 3-fold nature of God, four Elements, 7 days of creation, + 9, Magic to Jews:

"one became two, two became three, three becoming the fourth that represents the One." Ancient beliefs that multiply from one created the world was the Alchemical goal of the one thing that represents the unity of all creation, the Philosopher's Stone,

**Philosopher's stone, Holy Grail** - During the middle ages the Stone was equated with the Holy Grail or Christ Himself. Even the Arthurian Legend described the Grail as a "stone beyond price," which prolonged life even when viewed. Alchemy and many legends came to Europe through the universities of Spain and the Arabic texts of the Moors. And by contact with the Sufi groups during the Crusades, both traditions are aware of the Divine feminine (Virgin Mary cults at the same time). Grail legends, Arthurian Corpus, cult of the Virgin, Songs of the Troubadours all share similarities and inform European Alchemy.

**Early Alchemy** - what we have are either Prose lists of Recipes, or Imperfect allegories. Book of Genesis revered by them.

**Metaphysical Roots** - early metallurgy & smelting were probably the cornerstones of alchemy. All in Nature was alive and had Soul. Including metals which grow in the womb of the Earth. Smelting → Priesthood (Pre-Abrahamic). Smelting were seen as speeding up Nature's intent to perfect metals, thought to have emerged at Alexander the Great's time. (Aristotle + Priesthood?)

# Symbolism in Alchemy cont p44

**Bolus of Mendes** - 300-250 BC Follower of Democritus  
 "on Nature and Initiatory things" "Nature rejoices in Nature. Nature conquers Nature, Nature masters Nature"  
 wrote on Magic, astrology, chemistry, magic, Leucosyllaxis.  
 Antipathy + sympathy between elements, like Empedocles  
 Dyeing + Medicine.

**Maria the Jewess** - 0-100 AD invented some lab equipment (Bain Marie) and alembic, stressed color of the compounds in the work

**Zosimos of Panopolis** - 300 AD Agriculture, history, warfare, philosophy, medicine, chemistry. wrote Encyclopedic Cherokmeta with his sister Theosebeia. Wrote in 24 letters of Greek + 4 letters from Coptic = 28 = length of lunar month. Goal was spiritual transformation of the alchemist. Probably a "Pneumatics" Gnostic.

**Gnosticism**: (Pessimistic) World is evil, follow gnostic path to a knowledge of the Divine. could not be taught by priests, is an internal emotional intuitive experience to find one's own true nature. Zosimos says the Great Work is to take our Adam into the Divine. Alchemy is the same, but with materials. Both live forever.

Both Alchemy and Gnosticism were heavily in the King's Library of Alexandria. Supported by Ptolemy. Ransacked by Christians in 387, destroyed by Muslims in 681. Arabic scholars benefited when they got the remaining texts.  
 (oxyrhynchus) Dump up 1mg mission (remnant of a letter library)

## Jymbology in Alchemy cont

**Khalid ibn Yazid 660-704** son of the Calif  
 Withdrew from court intrigue to study, Taught by  
 Morienus, a student of Stephonios of Alexandria (Greek Alch)  
Book of Amulets, The Great and Small Books of the Scroll,  
The Book of the Testament of the Arts, Paradise of Wisdom  
 Invited scholars to Democritus to translate Greek Texts,  
 including Nestorian Christians (who were made Heretical  
 by the Council of Ephesus (431). Greek Fathers revered  
 above all.

**Jabir ibn Hayyan (Geber) 721 - 815** Sufi from Babylon  
 Sufis were Islamic mystics (Ascetic, Play, ecstasy)  
 wrote extensively on astronomy, philosophy, logic, medicine,  
 warfare, automata, magic squares, mirrors. Commentaries  
 on Euclid, Ptolemy, Apollonius of Tyana. His writings do  
 not show mystic ideas. Invented H<sub>2</sub>-S metallic acid,  
 4 degrees of heat in a furnace, obsessed with numerology.  
 adhered to Astrological Timings.

Arabic → Latin Translations Universities of Toledo, Barcelona,  
 Seville, Pamplona, open to all, Robert of Chester;  
 Morienus (11th) The Book of the Composition of Alchemy  
 then over the next 100 years the bulk of Arabic writings  
 were translated to Latin. (Al Khwarizmi <sup>was</sup> translated. Who?  
 Bishop of Toledo formed a translation <sup>College</sup> University.  
 Gerard of Cremona translated 76 texts: Avicenna,  
 Aristotle, Ptolemy, Jabir. who  
 Jabir became Geber (soft-6) Published for 300 years  
 after he died. Jabir (Real one) was obsessed with  
 balance and numbers; Geber was not,

Wikipedia: Toledo School of Translators



Review

Gnosis of Light 1918 translation by F. Lamplugh  
 From the notes on the translation? This comes from the  
 Codex Bezae Cantabrigiae donated to Bodleian Library Oxford  
 in 1769. Collected by Bruce in Upper Egypt. This  
 translation: Greek → Coptic → French → English.  
 The title is unveiled Apocalyphe and ~~is~~ Schmidt  
 claims it is from 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD and represents  
 Hellenistic Gnosis (more than Christian Gnosis does)  
 "Gnosis is immediate knowledge of God's mysteries  
 Revealed from direct intercourse with the Deity  
 (Reitzenstein), this is direct unveiled vision of God,  
 not dogmatic theory, but incommunicable Gnosis,  
 Rebirth, a pathos, gotten in greater community,  
 under a mentor, or through personal symbols &  
 Sacraments."

Claims Gnosticism existed before the Christian era  
 (but without evidence), existed as Gnosis, not faith.  
 This is knowledge meant to change a man, not  
 just influence him. Gnosis is a rebirth in which you  
 become like God and then get given the revelation to  
 make you a God. Then you will know everything  
 in an intuitive, vital way. This is like a Light.  
 Afterward (huh?) you will study in a new way which  
 seems madness to others, derive meaning. Descriptions  
 are confronted with texts which do not yield ideas  
 to reason or intellect, this is ritual in words that  
 initiate the intuition into self knowledge, texts are  
 meant to puzzle insider and outsider alike.

# The Hermetica by Timothy Frecke & Peter Gandy

Sounds like the Gnostics totally buy the story of an ancient Hermes → Pythagoras → Plato → Aristotle as one of the pathways of knowledge. They also admit that our Hermetica was written 100-200 AD in Greek and Coptic.

## CORPUS HERMETICUM NOTES, by Verse

### Preamble

- 1: I desire Gnosis
- 4: LIGHT & DARK divided, DARKNESS = Earth, water, fire, air
- 5: THE WORD (Logos) separates fire/air from Earth & Water
- 6: MIND = Father-God, elements = DARKNESS (Recessant, Gross), Word = Son of God, Pimander
- 7: Divine Realm extends beyond all
- 8: Elements come from Word (Son of God). solved problem of evil
- 9: God-the-Mind creates 7 planet spheres (boundaries) to enclose the sensible universe.
- 10: Word joins with Mind (Reveals Divine)
- 11: Word joins with Reason (Demigod who turns spheres)
- 12: Mind-father creates Man co-equal to himself, loves him.
- 13: Man wanted = things to control, was given permission to descend to Realm of Fire, Generation, the spheres.
- 14: Man has authority over the Earth. He experiences envy (and Presumably the other vices), Man & Nature are lovers
- 15: Man is twofold: Body & Eternal, Body subject to Fate absent Harmony, male-female from his Soul

# Corpus Hermeticum Pimander's CONT

- 16 THE 7 are also found in math (vices)
- 17 spirit in Nature comes from ether (following Aristotle)  
 Nature creates bodies, Man (from Light) <sup>Light</sup> changed into  
<sup>Light</sup> soul & <sup>Light</sup> mind
- 18 God isolates all male-female to separate into male and female <sup>multiply!</sup>
- 19 all things multiplied. To know thyself is to reach God; he who looks astray expends his life on his body & stays in darkness (asceticism / definitely pessimistic gnosis)
- 20 "So what great fruit do the heathen dying people obtain?"  
 Because Mortality
- 21 Since you come from Light, when you understand the Light you shall return to it. (not really an answer)
- 22 To man who will patiently and in purity the Mind of God comes a Gnosis. Then before they die they give up sensations.
- 23 But the others, the Mind-less, the wicked, and instead of Mind are Gnosis they get a Demon & Awakening fire to torment, which brings greater wickedness. The spiritless conquer, insatiably striving in the Dark.
- 24 Go for the Good, the soul sheds body and appetites,
- 25 speeds upward, Giving up 1) Energy of Growth & Honors, 2) Xenia of Evils, 3) Guilt of Desires, 4) Arrogance, 5) Deny Richness & Audacity, 6) Striving for Wealth by evil means, 7) answering falsehood.
- 26 8) where those that are sinning hymns to the Father. They surrender themselves to the Powers in God. And are one with God
- 27 Pimander was forced to preach to men; some listen, some jest. Then he sings a hymn to Father.

## Corpus Hermeticum cont.

### Asclepius

Note: The Asclepius in The Nag Hammadi Codex VI is unlike the standard Asclepius. This is the standard, taken from J-HERMETICA by Brian P. Copenhaver. Author notes that Ptolemy Democritus of Memphis (300 BCE) wrote first on chemistry (Gold, silver, dyes, gems). This is from the later end of 4<sup>th</sup> century.

- 2 Every human soul is immortal, but lost in the same way.
  - a) In the Creator before creation, Earth, Water, Air fall down from Heaven, only Fire ascends. What descends is full of promises, what ascends leads (descend + ascend). Form is the recipient and knower of all SheTeferin.
- 3 Elements then are 4. One matter, one God, one soul. God governs Heaven a soul and all things. God uses matter as a receptacle for all forms, by means of the four elements.
- 4 all depend on Heaven. Before they are divided into forms forms follow kinds (larger group). So the kind of Gods will produce from itself the form of Gods. Human kind bears the form of humans. Beasts etc. also Demons. There is another kind with no soul but with senses (plants) which finds joy in good recruitment. Each soul where there are forms, and the <sup>kinds</sup> forms are immortal. While all kinds are immortal, not all forms are immortal. A human is mortal, but humanity immortal.
- 5 Demons (Jinn or Genies) who drop down into a form are considered Godlike. Jin's friendship to humans persists. A human who joins himself to the Gods through Devil Reference almost attains divinity. Join the Demons and attain their condition.



# Corpus Hermeticus, Asclepius, CONT Sept 2020

Humans are a wonder, we can change our forms,  
 We despise inwardly the Earthly part, trusting the Divine part.

[This is a very optimistic cross <sup>for Man</sup> combined with a  
 pessimistic world], the spirit that lives in everything  
 fills all skeletons. The soul feeds on earthly things.

The body feeds on water & earth. In human consciousness  
 is understanding. This comes from the ether,  
 only humans possess consciousness.

7 Man is 2 parts: Divine & Earthly. The Earthly is 4 parts:  
 body, divinity of pure mind, thoughts of pure mind, and  
 peace with itself.

8 God made a god after himself, a sensible to men. God  
 then made mankind to admire the second God. Then he  
 made bodies for mankind. Man is equipped to handle  
 and worship, and take care of earthly things.  
 [This is almost wholly christian theology]

9 It is a constant assiduous service to cherish the God  
 of Heaven. This Delights the Gods. The duty sends down  
 choirs of Messengers (Ezekiel prophets) to mankind. Some  
 humans look up and are inspired, but most are weighed  
 down by their bodies. Mankind is a living thing.

10 Master of Eternity = First God; World. Second God,  
 Mankind = third God.

11 Things the body owns are clients to the Divine inside. Man  
 has a duty: worship God, order the physical world, as a  
 reward we expect - & release from worldly custody, and  
 join the Divine

12 For the unfaithful, wandering into another body (Reincarnation)

# Corpus Hermeticum, Asclepius, cont.

Some find this incredible, fictitious, laughable.

- 12 It took God and matter, and attending the matter is the spirit. (spiritual creation or plan, followed by physical creation)
- 15 Matter's quality is to be created, according to the spirit,
- 16 (problem of evil) God provides against evil by giving mankind consciousness, learning and understanding. (Not an answer)
- 17 Heavens is the "bottom" of the sphere, because it cannot be seen
- 18 Matter nourishes bodies, spirit nourishes souls. But consciousness for men alone, and not all men, (make men similar to God),
- 19 Many kinds of stars, some intelligible, some sensible. The head of all stars is the sensible God, each can illuminate his own work. Sup. is God of Heaven, and provides life for all things. The Sun is the God of Light. The 36 sideral gods (very Egyptian) and led by Panarchon or Omnipotent. The head of the planets is Fortuna (astrology reference). All gods use air to make things. And all are linked through the Moada, so all are one.
- 20 The whole name of God includes matter & spirit & air & everything. God is full of both sexes & ever present within his own will.
- 21 All things contain both genders. (Talks about sex being perfect.)
- 22 Not many receive people. Evil remains in those who lack wisdom & knowledge, so on. God made gods, then men, and took the corrupt part of matter & from the divine. So the vices of matter remained coupled with bodies, along with bodily needs (food). Hence & it sinks into the soul. Then God men consciousness, so as to rise above mortality & ascend to deity
- 23 of the no-rudder we say nothing. (very optimistic Gnosis) As man is glorified, he glories in God. He advances toward God, and makes

# Hermetic, Asclepius, cont 20/2020

God strong, we deserve admiration. The statues & hieroglyphs of the gods also are 2-fold: made of matter, contain the spirit.

- 24 Status represents gods. Egypt represents heaven. But one day Egyptians will no longer respect the gods, and gods will abandon Egypt. Foreigners will occupy the land, and instead of shrines & temples we will have only tombs & corpses.
- 25 (more prophecy of the spiritual fall of Egypt) only bad angels will remain to bring people into war, rioting, trickery
- 26 and the old age of the world will be like this.
- 27 Gods now are in a great city on the side of a Libyan mountain. Acute to the disintegration of the body learn out with work.
- 28 The soul withholds & passes into the jurisdiction of the chief demon (Jin) who weighs & judges its merit. If faithful, it stays in places suitable, if not (dirty with vice) the soul tumbles down to be buffeted by air, fire, water & earth. The unbelievers will be forced to believe by real suffering & punishments.
- 29 God protects the righteous. The good are those who have by goodness experienced divinity already, they are enlightened by fidelity, reverence, wisdom & worship and respect of God.
- 30 Time on earth is told by the seasons. Time in heaven is told by the stars movement (as per, 36 sidereal years). The earth is time; heaven is eternal.
- 31 God is stable & eternal. Eternity is stable. Amen
- 32 and the beginning of all things are in God & Eternity. Total consciousness is holy, uncorrupted, everlasting. The Divine Consciousness reaches down as far as man.

## Corpus Hermetica Asclepius, cont.

Understanding is different from consciousness. Eg understanding grows & changes.

- 33 No such thing as Void, The world's completely full, there is no "Beyond the world"
- 34 it is also full of "Place"
- 35 kinds & forms as in
- 36 the world conceals its forms and ideas continuously.
- 37 mankind is wonderful.
- 38 Earthly Gods (statues) extraordinarily mixtures of plants, stones & spirits (offerings), hymns, Picnic, sweet soups. statues do not act simply. Statues render aid as if through being kinship, looking after some thing individually, fulfilling some thing through lots & diversions, and planning ahead to give help
- 39 fates are bound to each other by links. So she can be the first God, or the second, or the ordering of things in heaven or in E. The fate & necessity are both needed.
- 40 fate, necessity, & order govern the world by God's assent. Fate comes first. Necessity follows. order preseques the structure of the world.
- 41 the Participants Learn the sanctifying, Pray & sing a few hymns.

Pseudo-Democritus (150-200/41) Describes many formats and procedures, seems almost Plat-Proto-scientific by giving objectives, technical vocabulary, close observation. Almost told from the craftsmen perspective.

# Medicine - from wikipedia

## Aristotelian Medicine / Platonian Medicine

Myth Asclepius, Son of Apollo, People Treated at the temple. Patients enter dream-like state in which they received guidance from deity or surgery. Dreams were important, diagnosis. Maybe use opium.

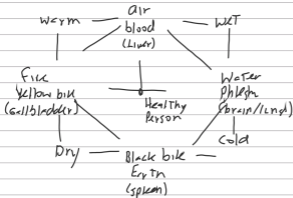
Ancient Greek physicians - Disease was supernatural origin, Gods or demons dissatisfied. The patient was to blame.

The Role of The Physician was to Reconcile the Gods with the Patient or Exorcise the Demon with Prayer, Sacrificial rituals

Hippocratic corpus + Humorism. 60 early Greek medical works Use the four humors (oil, really something like 17 humors).

The humors got linked quickly to the four elements, through that by Hippocrates or Galen. Helena is linked.

Galen (129-200AD) popularized the four humor theory.



# The Secrets of Alchemy by Lawrence Principe

The author is working to reproduce the Alchemists' chemistry in the Lab.

- Chapters:
- 1 Origins: Greco-Egyptian Chemists
  - 2 Development: Arabic al-Kimiya
  - 3 Activity: Medieval Latin Alchemists
  - 4 Revivals: Renaissance? 15<sup>th</sup> - Modern
  - 5 Golden Age: Early Modern period 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century
  - 6 Unveiling the Secrets - The real chemistry
  - 7 Wider worlds of Chemistry John Read's

Recommends Sushruta Alchemy: Prelude to Chemistry (1936)  
 E.M. Holmyer's Alchemy & Frank Sherwood Taylor (1957)  
The Alchemists (1949). The best is the best.

This book has extensive endnotes directing readers to deep treatments of the topic.

India & China also had (have) alchemists: these are all routes to longevity, especially ~~immortality~~ or simply immortality. The linkages between Eastern & Western alchemists is uncertain, though (Aristotle) and Arabian alchemy are possible. (I think Aristotle is the link.) They

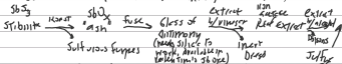
the typical method of study is to decode the language & symbols. But Lawrence Principe chooses to unveil the symbols & alchemy in his Lab (Ch 6). I will start with Ch 6. Regardless, study of Alchemy is a lesson in diversity & times, seen through the eyes of others.

## 6 Unveiling the Secrets

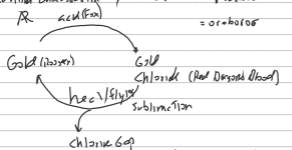
Early Modern chemistry embraced chemistry, medicine, theology, philosophy, literature & the Arts. It's necessary to look at several in parallel to make out what was happening.

"Powerful King"

Dear Valentinus, a native of Trier, Rhineland, Benedictine monk, started alchemy to make medicines, labeled a "hermetic Philosopher" & alchemist. Several authors wrote under his name. One is almost certainly Johann Thölke (1525-1624) a salt maker in central Germany who published the first 5 Valentinus books. 1624 The triumphal Chariot of Antimony is his most famous - the book conducted in conjunction withimony 120 in → pharmaceuticals.



This follows a Profection Principle of Scheele's to Antimony. Repeat the helpful parts (this looks familiar because plants can be treated this way, but not elements). The iron in the product was almost for iron control, the iron from his lab utensils. Valentinus discussed the cyclical part of the process: (3rd Key)



The sublimation step does not happen using pure chemicals. only when ~~nitric acid is present (set ammoniac)~~ ~~the sublimation/~~ ~~at composition for reaction occur.~~  $Cl_2$  is present does

## The Secrets of Alchemy, Principle, Cont.

The Alch<sup>y</sup> sublim<sup>e</sup> rather than decompos<sup>e</sup>. The Alch<sup>y</sup> holds the decompos<sup>e</sup> than reaction back enough to allow Alch<sup>y</sup> to sublim<sup>e</sup>. The high-flung language is used to reveal what the Alchemist observed, not to hide.

iii Basil Valentine's Twelve Keys, it is likely he did the first 3 He did himself, and described accurately.

The middle keys are likely the author's reproduction of what you should see, but he did not see them. The last third he quoted from other texts.

1650  
 George Starkey (American, moved to Europe) was also Eireneus Philalethes ("peaceful lover of truth"). He joined Robert Boyle onto Alchemy. We have several of his lab notebooks. Died in the Great bubonic Plague of London, 1665. Newton read the Philalethes manuscripts, which are some of the most ext<sup>r</sup>. v<sup>o</sup>. w<sup>o</sup>rt alchemical literature.

Valentines (2 keys was the "hyer way", Philalethes is the "Dry way", "mercantilist"). This starts with Hg, then adds 'heat' to counter the coldness of the Hg to give a new metal.

Some use gold, some use quicklime (CaO), salts, or like Starkey, antimony. He used a form of elemental antimony which he used to form a star on the surface. We have a letter from Starkey to Boyle told in plain chemical language, and the same experiment described as alchem<sup>y</sup>.

example, "Foxy Digon" (iron), "our Magnet" (antimony), "Torrid Vulcan" (fire), "husk" (filter), (separate from alk), etc.

Boyle messaged with it for 40 years. Newton had a copy of the pl<sup>y</sup>. text letter. Why so much interest with "Philosophical mercury?". The Dry way alchemists held it was the starting  
 + Gold



star



flag



tag



the secret of Alchemy, Principle cont.

material for the Work. it would react with Gold and display the expected color sequence: black, white, yellow, red, to produce the Elixir of life. These alchemists were looking for the seed of Gold, from which Gold would grow. This seed of Gold cannot act on other metals while locked into the body of Gold; it must be liberated to become active.

Mercury dissolves Gold gently, not violently like Ar does. This keeps the power of Gold's seed intact, mercury nourishes this seed, allows it to strengthen & multiply, and can then transmute other metals. (this is Par-Jobir thinking, Prophecy)

Principle makes point that these alchemists did not believe the metals were alive (contrasts Plato → Gnostics). It was for them an apt analogy. horticulture was familiar to all, so used. so what about these alchemists, despite Par-Jobir's starts w/ starkness notebooks. made "animae philosophicae Mercurii, which looked like the starting material. mixed a cold - buttermilk mix, → soaked flesh, heated for weeks. mix swelled slightly, then got covered with white excrements. then one night it changed, became grey amorphous mass, which turned into a glittering tree (tree of silver) (tree of Hermes). This ground - tree works with the idea of a "seed" of Gold.

Philadelphus called this the "mercury which grows in the form of a tree." (Principle never says what it was)

Why were so many convinced the Philosophers Stone existed? it fit into prevailing theories of Matter (from Aristotle & Jobir), and especially from Plato's Prime Matter aristotle's properties. And they had eyewitness testimony in the literature. Boyle saw 2

# The secrets of Alchemy, Principle, cont.

Projective transformations and believe them enough to  
 agree before Parliament to have the King's 1434 B-n re-invented.  
 [But scientists are the most easily fooled] End of ch. 6

## The Scientific Revolution #1 = Petrus Ramus (1536)

### Cosmology

Copernicus (1543)

Tycho Brahe (1604)

Kepler (1610)

(Galileo) (1632)

Newton (1687)

### Chemistry

Perriculus, Tycho

Boyle (1661) (1662)

Boyle - P

Stech - Philization

crystal  
 physics  
 Lavoisier  
 (Optics)

### Medicine

Versalino (1543)

(artists)

Harvey (1628)

### Physics (mechanics Philosophy)

Newton (1687)

Snellius (1621)

Morris Hellyer, Ed

The Scientific Revolution: The Essential Readings 2007  
2007 with  
 Floris Cohen

The Scientific Revolution: A History of the Idea 1974 Chicago



star



flag



tag

find: 1510 "Skyward chimney" 1510 8 p 271 1926 ✓  
Boyle's "Establishment of the chemical philosophy" 1510 15 1952 ✓



Per se also

seemed to be a classic transmissionalist in some of his  
texts, but his = reputation for medicinal chemistry, is real  
on his four Artis of Medicina (Philosophy, Astrology, Alchemy,  
Virtual) his thinking looks entirely Alchemical/Aristotelian.  
see analysis 1510 2020

answered in 1510 in 2014

Thomas Kuhn "Robert Boyle and Structural Chemistry in the  
17<sup>th</sup> century" 1510 43 April 1952

Aristotle (the generation & corruption) says that all combinations  
(compounds) of matter are non-permitted & arbitrary. Modern theory  
is more than copulaculum. Boyle's copulaculum contains no  
independent to a proper atomic theory. Boyle had trouble  
deciding if something was a compound or an element.

After Boyle there was a decline in chemistry for ~20 yrs, until  
Lavoisier. The distance between Boyle and Lavoisier, with his  
non-mechanical (and now occult) explanation of gravity  
why is there 100 yrs between Boyle & Lavoisier? (1) Philosophy.  
make things when it was destroyed, not many experiments, (2) Newton's  
gravity had no explanation it was occult. But he also made  
an experiment in space, playing to us. (3) Metaphysics, and Messier say  
that Boyle was a break from Alchemy & Scholasticism, but the slow  
expansion & elaboration of Aristotelian and iatrochemical concepts.  
This makes Boyle an earlier precursor of Lavoisier, who failed only because  
the time was not yet ripe.

This paper will make the point that Boyle saw the universe as clearly  
as a clockwork mechanism, this idea brought much in Physics,  
but remained stuck for chemistry. His failed to exert more influence  
was specific shortcomings of his letter. His idea of elements & compounds



record pause stop

and the Myerson Reference. Emergence Edgar Schein 1920  
Early Atomic Theory: G.B. Steno, "The Atomicity of Matter" 15' 11' 77". 12.10.1928 ✓

were neither modern nor advanced enough to influence Chemistry.

Peripatetic Aristotelian interpretation = chemical road. or (alchemical)  
B B V P — Elements — 2, 4, 8, 16, 32

Boyle's atomism: Skeptic, Based on Magnetics, Electric & Chem. J. J. J. J.,  
in Experimental Chemistry Boyle differentiates the "Peripatetics" (Continued)  
Matter from chemistry (atoms). His corpuscular theory was different.  
Boyle has qualitative characteristics of matter (elements & compounds) coming  
from how corpuscular matter are arranged & how they move. This is  
dynamic and explains physical changes that atomism cannot. Atoms  
found properties in experiment Boyle (corpuscularism) would properties  
is the motions. Like a difficulty: they have not yet found the difference  
between 'physical & chemical properties' [This difference could not appear until  
later or developed a more modern theory. Then the types of properties which  
are to atomic theory can be treated separately, and the dynamic part  
of properties becomes thermochemistry] in classical atomism motion changed  
properties; in corpuscularism motion was the cause of properties. Later in Boyle's  
time philosophers were after the laws of motion. Galileo, Mersenne (others except  
Hooke & Newton) inspired Boyle. Boyle published an "Inquiry into the Nature of  
a Precursor to latent heat. He used motion to explain heat, electricity, magnetism.  
Boyle was into latent heat in 1687 "of Absolute Rest in Bodies"

For Boyle structure was more a relative position. Section "Boyle, Boyle &  
The Skeptical chemist and the Skeptical Historian" Shyma 3 1950 Boyle  
didn't wholly abandon transmutation (neither alchemy) & Botm  
could use corpuscularism to explain transmutation, ~~trans~~ in a letter  
to Glanville he said most transmut in Ibn al-Kharrizmi, but some was  
corpuscularism. It claims the transmutation of matter to be based in motion its  
motion, allows transmutation of anything into anything; plants: nourished by  
water alone, can distill into oils & chemical transmutation. usque transmutation

# Symbolism

To define the 'chemist' is the goal Boyle until 1682, the second part of scientific chemist relation this Refutation on transmission. This article was presented, mostly, by W. Newman, Robert Boyle, Titmussation and in History of chemistry before Lavoisier's "OSIRIS 2014, 29

H.V. Sheppard "A survey of Alchemical and Hermetic Symbolism" 1963 35-41

Most symbolism in Rel., etc. of Alchem. of Symbols, c. 18th work catalog from uncritically: Dictionnaire Alchimique, Petrus's Dictionnaire Myths Hermetique, Poisson's Dictionnaire Theraps et Symbol des Alchimistes, with Le Symbolisme Alchimistique. Poisson's has the most value. This

Symbolism was studied by Jung & other Freudians in the interpretation of Dreams, etc. (See Article Bibliography)

Symbolism has difficulty when used as simile or metaphor - we do not always see what the comparison is. Alchemical symbols may be better called "signs," where a sign sign substitutes for the real thing. [The article follows Jungian idea of symbols being unconscious expressions, not purposefully created] Summary of Symbols Main ideas

## A) Literary

- 1) Sign and symbol synonymous: both alchemical
- 2) Figures of speech: metaphor, allusion, simile in literal or pictorial form (see Erber Myths Liber)

## B) Jungian System

- 1) Sign a) simple representation b) facsimile of - Thing, @ sign  
a) consciously formed
- 2) Symbol a) simple or composite form b) object accepted

# Symbols

- c) unconsciously formulated & archetypal d) Full Rational components of Freud's of speech
- 2) ALLELU System (R. Allen, De la Nature des symboles (1720))

is a complex

1) Symbols confined exclusively to religious ceremonies

2) Symbols (or Symptomata)

a) abstraction (Gold)

b) didactic ie conventional signs, pictorial, often enigmatical / teaching concealed wisdom a number of philosophers & scientific letters beliefs which were kept secret

Most signs of occult origin; Babylon 1620-1420 BC see G. Heym 'some Alchemical Process Books' Ambix 11

The Renaissance used classical mythology as - Primary Symbol Source  
the SYMBOLISM

J.R. Partington (+ others) 'Report of Discovery upon chemical and Alchemical symbols in Ambix 1111

The use of symbols to represent metals goes back to Babylonian times, 1620-1420 BC. Perhaps back to Sumerian times; already had to be secret/secret; 1221 is the drawn in the uninitiated; 60 symbols, including sun, moon, water, wind = Anaph Nippon, Copper, En. Association metals & planets is found in Foundation Deposits, 2000 BC in Egypt, Nubia & Sudan. Best known is Sargon II (712 BC.) Translated by Berthelot; probably of Babylonian origin.

Letur (200 AD.) Talks about the 'leader of Mithras' of Egypt speaks

1) lead = Saturn; 2) tin = Venus 3) copper = Mars 4) iron = Hercules

5) ~~iron~~ metal = silver = moon 6) gold = sun. Also Persian symbol of

Bundchen, limbs of Pinnaculum = different metals

"Empyreal"

# Symbols

neoplatonic alchemists believed the Row from Earth Plant  
 & noticed the earth a 'base' respective metals study.

Year	Saturn	Jupiter	Mars	Sun	Venus	Merc. & Moon	Moon
1500 BC	metal?	-	-	Gold	Lead	-	Silver
12th Century	+	-	-	Gold	Copper	-	Silver
150 AD	Lead	tin	Iron	Gold	Tin	Iron	Silver
200 AD	Lead	tin	Iron	Gold	Copper	Electrum	Silver
400 AD	Lead	Electrum	Iron	Gold	Copper	Tin	Silver
500 AD	Lead	Electrum	Iron	Gold	Copper	Tin	Silver
700 AD	Iron	Electrum	Iron	Gold	Tin	Lead	Silver
700 AD	Lead	Tin	Iron	Gold	Copper	Mercury	Silver
800 AD	Lead	Iron	Iron	-	-	Electrum	Silver
1150 AD	Lead	Silver	Iron	Gold	Tin	Brass	Crystal
Alabic	Lead	Tin	Iron	Gold	Copper	Mercury	Silver
1250 AD	Lead	Tin	Iron	Gold	Copper	Electrum	Silver
1400 AD	Lead	Tin	Iron	Gold	Copper	Mercury	Silver
1500 AD	Lead	Tin	Iron	Gold	Copper	Electrum	Silver

The symbols themselves were of Ancient origin: Sun (☉), Moon (☾), Mercury (☿), Venus (♀), Mars (♂), Jupiter (♃), Saturn (♄).  
 Main (☉), names being combinations of Ancient names  
 Saturn (♄) from Kronos 'Chronos', becoming ♄. Mars, from  
 Mars from 'Mars', ♂. Venus, ♀. Jupiter, ♃. Saturn, ♄.  
 F. Sherwood Taylor, "Symbols in Alchemical Writings"  
Annex 1, no. 1, (1937) Two forms of symbolism A) a shorthand  
 notation, well defined, and B) shorthand for very complex ideas  
 or processes. Alchemical alchemy only knew A), and very simple

B). The Crysopeia or Krysopeia is the most complex. In the MSSs of Greek alchemy symbols appear in lists of symbols similar to our lists. The Leveller Papyrus contains symbols for gold and silver, and may date back to Alkemy's original (370 BC?) Mercatorius 249 is the oldest list; Porphyry's 2327 the most complete, including some words not in use until 500 AD. and some modification symbols - signs come in 3 forms a) Planetary matrices, b) Altered representations of rings, c) The letters of the name or thing.

Mercatorius 299 Example:

Gold  $\phi$  X P  $\gamma$  101  $\phi$  to indicate metal + modification, etc

Gold filter  $\phi$  X P  $\omega$  100 PINHALL

Gold leaf  $\phi$  X P  $\omega$  100 \*  $\gamma$  THE TAIL  $\phi$  etc.

Coloured gold  $\phi$

Electrum (Gold/Silver)  $\phi$

Chrysocolla (Soluble Gold)  $\phi$

Melasma of Gold (Mixture of Gold)  $\phi$

Altered Signs (b)  $\phi$   $\omega$   $\gamma$   $\omega$   $\omega$   
 - all for Mercury. c) used letters, X for copper,  $\phi$  for sulfur, etc.  
 d) some don't include sense! number  $\omega$ ; Alchemica  $\phi$ ?

Most of these do not pass into later alchemies without some modifications. There is a specific manuscript where the symbols are largely Greek (c. 1400 AD), but some are totally different, (perhaps the author was reading only the Greek & / other?). Later European (Renaissance) Symbols show little Greek influence. Maybe a few symbols were retained - (is this because of alchemy's presence through Arabic?). Symbols also move into medicine.

A.F. Titaley, 'The Macrocosm and The Microcosm in Medieval Alchemy'



# Symbols

Ambrase 1, no. 1 (1407), Medieval & Renaissance Symbols are complex and obscure, Perhaps because they got symbols from the Arabs,

who got it from Gnostic & Neo-Platonic sources who did not get into Symbolism; also Arabs/Christians were banned from human representation. Symbols & allegories were fanciful, used to cloak ignorant, buried practical knowledge, buried theory. Some symbolism was from scientific ideas, so, was from the environment of 1200 A.D. The chief theory was of Microcosm & Macrocosm ('as above, so below')

[Cosmosion = man: Elements] The theory is complex, and Mike & a pictorial representation (Hildegard of Bingen, Chris Singer Studies in the History and Art of Science Vol. 1) does just before 1200 A.D. Plus at the end of the Document.

~~Plot 1-4~~ Sometimes the microcosm is the alchemists furnace or retort, the "Vase of Hermes" or "philosophical egg" (the egg is an old symbol in alchemy) in Pliny's Regis coming into the Latin, or the experiment, is common. See Gerard Heym, "Some Alchemical Picture Books" Ambrase 1, no. 1 Symbols & Pictures largely ignored in alchemical study. Symbols are present in all European writings. Picture books appeared 50 years after printing press. A picture & description text commonly used for tables & stocks. 3000 books in the next 200 years in Europe dominated, with only a few North India & Tibetan examples known. Before printing, these books were known, but most were crudely drawn. Examples Janitor Paraphras, Sylva de Solis, Cabala, Spiegel der Kunst und Natur from 1600's. A few are only the pictures. ATL Atlantic Fugens (1617) is 50 engraved plates with accompanying text. 'Michael Meier

# Symbols

In 1624 Luca Jemius Published 107 Figures + Text, Viridarium Chemicum by Daniel Stolcius de Stadenberg, also by Stolcius is Hortulus Hermeticus. 1st on an Emblem-book.

Next books by Stolcius are available. Better. We don't know what underlines the order of the Pictures, and some Pictures still bother the Reader. Reading these books is almost an unconscious Experience, pulling toward the mystical, abandoning Reason. Symbols were discarded in Europe with the industrial age (1750). It is the psychologists (Jung) who dug Symbols out & started using it again.  $\infty$

D. McKie Some Early Chemical Symbols Amby 1, no 1 (1937)  
 Oswald Croll (Basilica chymica <sup>1609</sup>); Robert Hooke (1622-1692, Diagrams)  
 used chemical symbols Evolut. Examples

air  $\Delta$  Allium  $\bigcirc$ ,  $\square$ , Ink  $\dagger$ , Magnet  $\odot$ , To Purify  $\odot$   
 See the wonderful chart in the article from Herri Lexicon Technicum 1704. The symbol for sulphur  $\bigcirc$  or nitre (N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) was used by John Dalton for "azote" or Nitrogen in 1808. New system of chemical philosophy. "Wheel fire"  $\oplus$  is the same as Ignis Roter or fire working, the wheel of the wheel; "bleached Ashes"  $\dagger$  on the lees of wine drawn burnt to ash & leaved of calcined Tarter. Combine the symbol for sublimation with mercury fixed Published mercurius sublimatus (mercurius sublimatus), combine precipitation with mercury to give Colony  $\dagger$

Notes From James Burke "Connections" TV Series, 1978 (US)  
 1978 Book, (Science History)

Series 1 Episode 1: Long bit on the northern Blackout, Nov 1960

Egypt, 3000 BC. Nile + soil by means a plow must be used to Replenish soil each year. Also Surveys to establish the boundaries. (It was come from the plenty. [this was driven ~10,000 BC Drought])  
 [this was the most recent glacial period, the 20k cycle], a plow invented maybe 10,000 BC, Earliest examples 3500-3000 BC in China, India, <sup>Central</sup> South America, Syria.  
 Pharaoh land is productive + the population grows, villages spring up, Baskets weaving + cloth. Results. Cooking becomes important. oil storage (a keeping food of byrta owns the pot of grain) starts synods, around 2700 BC stone building starts. irrigation + surveying. metals needed for war, so smelting ores + transferring metals become a thing. ~~Empire with metal coins.~~ Ptolemy in Egypt needed to know when flood starts and found the Tides in the Stars. This created the calendar Empire followed. Temple of Karnak in Thebes, center of Egyptian Religion, 80,000 workers. Technology of the Egyptians: wheels, irrigation, plow, writings, looms, glass metal, Taxes, Bureaucracy, Police, astronomy (simple version), calendar, religion, Bin + ink, cutting tools.

EPISODE 2: No one ever knew what a new change

would be: and, what might be brought about - 500 BC Money. The early Greek city states bartered for everything. There was no cash 700 BC in Lydia a river washed placer gold, made into Lelisia artifacts. Touchstone was invented to quickly assay gold. By 500 BC metal (gold) as cash used, and trade ~~was~~ flourish. By 300 BC Alexander, the Great had the most reliable money, Alexandria was the center of Trade and Scholarship.

(Study of Book Dumps in Alexandria) [Probation, etc.] Some books  
 presented. So this model of Papyrus/Jon Sea Int'l. Law: If you  
 arrived with a book you had to GET IT copied for the Library.  
 Ptolemy (120 AD) Published a star chart, used for navigation on the (not  
 oceanic) (1022 years lived), sailing: Early Sails were Square, and  
 could only run between the winds, so had to know the winds or  
 the coast to Mexico. 1st ocean Sails: you could not get back.  
 Too AD the ~~problem~~ ~~was~~ ~~it~~ ~~allowed~~ ~~the~~ ~~ships~~ ~~to~~ ~~sail~~ ~~into~~ ~~the~~  
~~toward~~ Arab Ports caused Goods to be transported in smaller  
 ships, which could use (by 920 AD) - triangular Sails, which  
 could sail against the wind. This meant ocean sailing was  
 possible. ("Latin Sails") No more waiting for the right wind (or  
 paying crew crew to do all the rowing). By 1200 AD the ships  
 were bigger, a steering became a problem. The Chinese were  
 using the stern-post Rudder, Mediterranean sailors used it.  
 In the 16<sup>th</sup> century voyages of Discovery Columbus needed those  
 Problems: star charts. Ships use triangular sails to  
 get into the trade winds, where the square sails were  
 deployed. 1200 AD, probably from China: the compass. 1300 AD  
 mounted on compass card, oceanic travel more possible,  
 sailing under ocean skies possible. By 1630 the magnetic  
 anomaly was a problem. William Gilbert (atomist, physician)  
 studied the compass in 1600 who concluded the error was magnetic  
 and where the poles are. He used magnetism to explain gravity.  
 Otto Guericke in Germany got excited about the magnetic experiment.  
 He experimented with a large ball of sulfur with a stick axis.  
 Rotating the ball under his fingers. He created a vacuum-filled  
 ball that two horses could not separate, when the vacuum was  
 Guericke



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# Connective season 1 Episode 2 James Baker.



broken the hemispheres fell apart. He had invented the vacuum Pump from a fire extinguisher in 1654. He also made a ball of sulfur on a stick, examining it for gravity. When spun on its axis & touched by two fingers, the ball broke glass & sparks crackle.  $\ominus \rightarrow$  weather, Scotland, ball rings got electrocuted by lightning strikes often. When lightning struck explosively by powder stores, Franklin invented lightning rods to get rid of atmospheric electricity. Lichtenberg in 1861 began to predict the paths of storms, thinking balloons could sense to expansion symptoms of high altitude, others made atmospheric observations. weather predictions became possible, they needed high altitude stations: Scotland, Ben Nevis, 1883, weather station, the observer at the helm found a sheaf in the clouds. (clouds also in UK) = "Glory" The other of the colors is opposite to the Rainbow. 1894 Wilson showed clouds are vital to create his own in the lab. His cloud chamber went on to provide an early view of Radioactive particles. It went on to study bird flight & lightning. He told Appleton why he got bad static on aircraft, who found the ionosphere. Wilson went was trying to find streams using Radio. The military asked him to make a detector, but he invented the Radar instead. The cloud chamber was important to Ernest Rutherford who understood why the streaks were there, leading to controlled radioactive transmutation

## EPISODE 3

X-rays have given us the most detailed view of the human body.  
1066 AD Battle of Hastings, Saxons v. Normans the Conqueror. William (Norman) won. Normans had stirrups on the saddle, which allowed lances to be used on horseback. His horses needed this new

## [ CONNECTIONS series | Episode 3 ]

If you're expensive to outfit an army, and costly to train. By 1250 the "nobles" who had enough to fight well ~~needed~~ needed heraldry to ID themselves. by 1300's the knight was the only war machine. until the Battle of Agincourt 1415 AD. Henry II won with bow & arrows, longbow could kill at 400 yds. but only 100 yrs later they could not field a company of archers.

At 700 AD the Plow was improved by adding a <sup>knife,</sup> mould & wheels to the simple Egyptian Plow. Farm was open out & populated so Rome groups formed to farm together, villages sprang up. End of 800's the horse collar made horse plowing possible, Population doubled. the horse shoe meant more work from horses, and crop rotation meant exportable food. People could have leisure time, and no one needed to be a soldier. Some even bathed. From 1130 + 1150 the Population tripled. Beer, rice, and wheat. Kids would live better than the parents.

1200's<sup>15</sup> Gun Powder: China → Arabs → Europeans (The Chinese invented it, but didn't use them in way we did. They had some chemical so little. The Chinese had Tao, the use of the universe, a philosophy of doing things the natural way, not exploitatively.) [Chinese had compass, printing, paper, porcelain, etc. but didn't exploit them until 1500.] [The Chinese didn't pick out one thing to improve; they used system-wide considerations only.] [Chinese philosophy - "Shen" the spirit of the universe could only be contemplated, not changed.] China invented 5000 yrs ago on a high sea, and that requires a bureaucracy and classes, and immobility - you stay as you were born (see East Branch stories), it was non-incentive society, no change.] Europeans took ballmaking → cannon-making, and war escalated. 1327 cannon-battered by changed landscape war - no one wanted to face a cannon.



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# Connections

Season 1 Episode 3



1516 Silver strikes in Yamaoka, followers were mined (1341 Silver mines found, and Capitalists financed the operations. 1556 mass bible published.

Water in mines was a problem, most efficient was a water wheel-driven suction pump, which could only work in 33' mines. Galileo with his pupil Torricelli on the problem, who realized what air pressure was. He used a small model using mercury to represent the water. Sent the info to Ricci in Rome, the church had declared following Aristotle that there was no such thing as a vacuum. Ricci sent it to Messena (ol. Mercur numbers) in Paris. The Messena was known as the postbox of Europe because he knew so many scientists. He sent it to Pascal in northern France. He performed the barometer experiment, and created a vacuum. Pascal agreed that air pressure had a thing, and studied it in the mountains.

1675 Paris, French astronomer Picard. He saw that the vacuum space of his barometer would glow sometimes. His reports started a century of static electricity study (with Franklin & Volta at the end). 1709 Gravity and attraction was attracted to electrostatic. 1725 Gray created static electricity "wipers" of thread. 1745 Leyden Jars, much experiments on. 1780 temple of electrical health. 1733 Galvani observed frogs legs moving & concluded that electricity was made by animals. Volta in 1800 made the electrical pile. Early Dittmarbell typewriter could communicate at a distance (poorly) (20 m.s) or electrolysis. In 1820 Oersted observed electric current move a compass needle, → electromagnets, → sound records, → Phonograph. → Telephone (1875 Bell) → Radio → Radar



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# CONNECTIONS Season 1 episode 4



EPISODE 4 Telephonic chronicle vs now. (demo of Early depth w/ system) Rome fell Apr 500 AD Taxes were too high. Only the Church held things together with its network of Monks in monasteries. Medieval Industrial Revolution based on water wheel, → Grinding → Triphammers → Saws. These Monks were self sufficient, so work was important. Monks in the Cistercian Abbey were the center of technology, 600 of them. (Charles the Bold Monks started up 605 → 1984), spread in 1111-1122, grew to 1200, Max out in 1400's. Sheep farming in 1200's gave the best wool in Europe.

2 Chinese bits: Loom (it was so fast it used up all the yarn) and spinning wheel (produced yarn fast enough). (Korea weavers, especially cottage industry) (Furrier weavers, mystery spins, knots (and the wool.) In 1200's there was a surplus of cloth, silk was the valuable commodity, 1275 Italian silk was the big producer. Genoa started experiments in shipments to markets. This spread the risk, which encouraged more trade.

1400 the climate cooled, crops failed, society weakened by 1480 the Plague, lasted 4 years, 25% death. Wealth concentrated & they started over, and survivors profited, and started wearing underwear. Bone collectors began to collect linen, which drove the paper-making industry. Paper became cheap. The cost of calligraphy was high (black ink), so printing became economical. Gutenberg's 1457 invented movable type, which produced lead characters for printing. Became popular 1500. [Picture Books very popular] [Encyclopaedia because of being under the fold]

Many refugees from Constantinople (1543) came to Venice, bringing their printed books (Greek books). Dictionaries & grammar books

Cistercian Monks





# Connections season 1 Episode 4



In Greek first, then lots of ancient Greek texts that expressed or survived Alexandria,  $\Rightarrow$  Renaissance. Michelangelo's mother had these books. (Especially alchemists) 20 million books in 1500. He influenced Italy.

Greek science became known. Hubs of Alexandria, put science into the hands of craftsmen, the craftsmen invented machines, anemotroics, hydrological towers. Chinese fashion became the first fashion, and more complex looms were needed, with <sup>not</sup> design combs. Jacquard (loom using cards (not paper), 1750 the entire process was automated - no more weaver, after 1800 this was improved again, and they had the supplies to run looms in England. By 1850's the cards were controlling Rieting machines, but ships to carry Irish Emigrants were built.

The National Census needed to account for England. 1880 card helped with the tally. Hollerith, Tabulator, He had a puncher, a tabulator, a sorter.  $\rightarrow$  computers.

Episode 5 Computers important  $\Leftarrow$  Astrology ok 1000 BC [Explained by Aristotle 400 BC] by 500 BC most constellations & stars had names, "The Pleiades" Handed down, + Sun, moon. 150 AD Ptolemy had a star table. By 700 AD folks thought they had a good sense of astrology. Earth-centered, under giant crystal sphere (after Aristotle). [Note: the scroll dump at Oxyrhynchus(?) had no Aristotle, no alchemists, no astrology; The Arabs kept them + prized them.] Astrology used by Arabs to figure direction of Mecca. [Star, planets, stars, time] [from system a known star.] Astrology was important in Baghdad, Arabs found Greek manuscripts in Baghdad (elsewhere Alexandria Libraries existed.) 1200 AD Arab translators came to Europe (maybe earlier in Salerno [Italy]) New Universities studied medicine & Astronomy.



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$\nearrow$  Oxyrhynchus paper

# Connections Season 1 Ep 245

The church was not so impressed with the new science (natural philosophy) [Here Aristotle strikes up: The church defended reason, the new Philosophers said of doubt]. [Here Burke puts into the mouths of the natural philosophers ideas of "Proth. T. tradition" exist for another 400 years.] From the church & not the Inquisition. Monk in 1198, first in a large abbey, they set out to the clock, a water clock (demonstrated), 1280 use no water, only weights & escapement. By 1430 the clock told time by how to hook, not just when minutes that they. Town clocks, products in want up. 1450-1460 spring-driven pocket small clocks. Most came from Nuremberg, Germany, in a mining district. They also produced instruments, like astronomical ones. and problems with the astronomical model was not right. 1603 telescope invented, 1609 Galileo had one. He saw the Jupiter system, confirming the Copernican model. (Simplified view of Galileo presented.) Galileo also invented the pendulum & its properties → clock eventually. Huygens 1661 pendulum clock, Huygens needed good clocks to find latitude. spiral steel spring worked well for consistent escapement. Huntsman saw glass furnaces were hot enough (melt pots, other steel which was good for clock springs). Remondin, London, could make very exact scales or sextants (1774) by using a screw to create the increments. By 1797 all instruments ready for Harrison Morsley could make very accurate instruments. Burrell had Morsley make other industrial instruments driven by water wheel, these industrial step by step construction made making things economic. Americans grabbed the factory system & made cannons & TC, to fight Britain. LeBlanc told Jefferson about Pattern construction. Eli Whitney, Hall & North. Created interchangeable parts! Weapons kept active after they broke. Guns → Sewing machines → Bicycle → Cars. Gilbert studied workers to design efficiency. (Cheaper by the dozen) → leads to some new units to a form of Equilib, everyone has the same stuff, identical components.



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# Connections Section 1 Episode 6



Episode 6 The Production line has given us liberty in our world experience. And we are all similarly dependent on energy. 100 yrs ago, (Kasei (min)) (either solar cycle or volcanic activity) (1200's) the freeze started moving south across Europe. To survive, printing, fireplace (chimney), and European classes, straws, tapestries on the wall, knits, pillows, verisimilitude, plasticity, more games, music, recalling, individual bedrooms, privacy, cleanliness, hot baths, rubber plumbings, utensils, tube-driven spits, and glass windows. Wood was being used a tremendous rate, so industries looked to America, (= Pilgrims + funded colonization), to help the economy some copper mining started ( $\rightarrow$  bronze), and coal started to replace wood used industrially. Distal built up so industry, iron cast iron and fuel coal, put, velocity  $\rightarrow$  iron boats, myofibrils, networker, small vacuum-operated steam pump to get the water out. Invented a reciprocating  $\rightarrow$  straight-line motion beam.  $\rightarrow$  cur. slow motion. James Watt improved it by pressurized stroke, not vacuum stroke like pressure, hot-cylinder engine, Watt used a condenser-boiling system to make the cylinders.  $\rightarrow$  Industrial Revolution.

Joseph Priestly invents  $\text{O}_2$  ("fixed air") used to make fire dried. Volta, who communicated with Priestly, looked into gases in air. found methane in marshes, inflammable air. "bad air" exploded, so ignition was used to defeat malaria for a while. Explosive gases in a cylinder (diameter) invented internal combustion engine (valve system, carburetor, piston, crankshaft). The carburetor was a version of the Bernoulli sprayer, spark ignition was the capstone cogstone of the engine. "Mercedes" was the name of the doctor's daughter who suggested the spark.

Episode 7 Like the 247 freighter, the Dutch Fluyt sailing frequency trade worldwide followed, so main cargo delivery pay, they needed small crews, using block & tackle to control the sails. Dutch East India Company, + British Comp.



# 1 Connections Season 1 Episode 7



Evolution. The British debt in slaves → America, tobacco → England, Guns → Africa.  
Lloyds & London was a consequence. Lloyds classified ships by hull structures and equipment. Hulls protected by Piracy Ter, coming from America. Until 1776 British efforts to make coal for produced water gas. Copper-bottomed ships came at the same time. Cotton mills were looking for better night lighting. Windsor wanted to crossify Britain. His experiment with nitre. But in 6 years most cities had gas. ( $H_2 + CO$ ). The excess tar was dumped (smelly) the emissions in air from high-temp condensation of coal to make coal + tar + gas.  
He took the tar, got ammonia + N-pins, Rubberized cloth (McIntosh cloth) rubber goods popular (later from South America). Quinine from the bark, became gin + tonic, New England were looking for a quinine tree that would grow in their. Working worked on Quinine synth. Made Violet dye instead. Mauve, 1862. Tincture chemicals became staining. British debt falling up, but Germany was better. 30%, etc. synthesizing azo dyes. By 1870's the Germans had a Rainbow of Dyes + Painkillers (aspirin). McKim combined hermesol (America) produces excess but not to Germany, who exported dye for money. Germany ran out of food + needed to grow own wheat, but no fertilizers around. Haber found a way to make ammonia using iron catalyst. The Haber-Bosch Process never got going in Paris. Calcium carbide invented  $CaC_2 + H_2O \rightarrow H_2C_2 + Ca(OH)_2$ , acetylene gas light popular. ( $\rightarrow$  welding).  $CaC_2$  + Frank used  $N_2$  to hot  $CaC_2$  to make fertilizer  $CaCN_2$  calcium cyanamide. Germany improve infrastructure (steel), ammonia, and Nationalistic competition to create wheat.  $H_2C_2$  later became plastic.  $H_2$  from the coal tar. Nylon.

Episode 8 It's Plastic World. Almost everything is made of plastic, including money. Credit has been a thing for 6000 years. 1300's Duke borrowed to fund sacred site, building many castles, one wanted to be emperor. The Medici's funded them. One bought fully-armored mercenaries, who lost to the Pike Square. Always points, turns instantly. Impenetrable to direct battle. Gun in 1503 changed



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# Connections Season 1 Episode 8

- like again, shooting into a pike shore very effective. Battle between Swedes  
 ranks of musketeers firing then stepping back to reload. in 200 yrs  
 they had bayonets to mimic pikes. obispo was frozen to lead. Madrin  
 wife by 1800 infanticide, 1797 Napoleon was running an army of more  
 than 1 million, Napoleon needed to feed a fleet army. (not enough food,  
 more type of money in foreign countries. [this is becoming more tech  
 than science] [ending, here] [might carry on with Brunowski's The Ascent  
 of Man about civilization (chronologically done)]

## Chinese Alchemy (from Holmyerd Alchemy Dover, 1922) .957

Chinese Alchemy was built on 5, not 4

Wood	Blue	East	Lead (Pb)	Jupiter
Fire	Red	South	Copper (Cu)	Mars
Earth	Yellow	Center	Gold (Au)	Saturn
Metal	White	West	Silver (Ag)	Venus
Water	Black	North	Iron (Fe)	Mercury

↳ ~~also~~ blue = 1 Pigeon (flesh) ↳ moon & sun about.

2	7	6	-15
9	5	1	-10
4	3	8	-13
15	15	15	15

where is tin?  
 yin - female, <sup>negative</sup> water, heavy, passive, earthly  
 yang - male, <sup>positive</sup> fire, light, active, ☉ sun

The use of 71 metals & a bird metals & Gold  
 was present in China 1st century B.C., Holmyerd posits that  
 the Hellenistic alchemist, Dioscorides, may perhaps  
 the idea was brought to Islam by Chinese travelers. Conversely,  
 Chinese Alchemy concerned itself with liquidity, which doesn't enter  
 Western alchemy until the Islam era, i.e. China - Arab Pigeon started  
 the 1330 AD Alchemy was 714 AD  
 in China.

How to explain the 100 yr gap between Boyle & Lavoisier?

Kuhn says Boyle did a poor job of doing int. I think, maybe, that  
 1. Took 2-3 Accidents (Cochon 1590) & got away from Alchemy, to which  
 the bad test of Alchemy, out of Boyle's "discovery" as it were. Need  
 to find supporter in Italy. See Wm Newman & Leuzinger  
 Principle "Some with the Historiography of Alchemy in Secrets  
of Nature: Astrology and Alchemy in Early Modern Europe Griffon &  
 Newman (Cambrd.) MJL Pts 2006 385-433, on p. 386

Terms invented by Paracelsus (via Holmy... / Alchemia)  
 Al-uhl (from al-kohl, black eye-paint)  
 Zinc

Alchemist (medicine, universal solvent)

Surgery (medical alchemy, uterine medicine)

Sylph (cuprous sulfate, crystals, like water-nymphs, Selenite) <sup>Fig</sup>

clean Milk of Aspid

Water → earth, air, fire

Paracelsus Jabir

metals ← mercury + sulfur

Paracelsus

evening → mercury, sulfur, salt

Flood (wind & gases)

Light, Dark, Water (20 minutes), air

↓  
Planets  
made by  
God

↓  
Matter

↓  
Earth, stones

↓  
Plants

↓  
wildlife

↓  
Domestic creatures

↓  
Superior  
Light/Water

Philosophy at the time of Boyle:

Atheism/Deism: The church

not I say is truth

Rationalism: Descartes, Leibniz, Spinoza

think you say through life

Empiricism: Tomp Hobbes, Bacon, Hume

observation - truth



# Early History of Chemistry

Lehrbuch der Chemie in der neuesten  
Zeit

(-Mendeleev's Periodic Table, Valency)

Edward Thorpe (1910 + 1921)

Ernst von Meyer (1881) (English 1884)

Tilden's Lecture to Lord Kelvin 1889: A Short History of the  
Progress of Quantitative Chemistry in our Own Times

Vitalism?

German Scientific Progress: synthetic organic chemistry was  
the result of intellectual power, not God or anti-vitalism

1. Geology. Oparin

How do Wilhelm Ostwald's ideas of Physical Chemistry fit  
General Chemistry?





Lawrence M. Principe & William R. Newman "Some Problems with the Historiography of Chemistry" in Secrets of Nature: Details and History in Early Modern Science eds William R. Newman & Anthony Grafton 2006 MIT Press

This is an important paper. It details how Alchemy was seen at different times. Principle: Alchemy from 100-1660 AD was the realm of Philosophy, though there was esoteric chemistry and broad practical perception of it. 18<sup>th</sup> century view: The Rejection - Alchemy is well-known. "Old Alchemy" vs "Enlightened Chemistry." Early 18<sup>th</sup> century Alchemy = "Gold Making" & travel Mid 18<sup>th</sup> century Alchemy is disreputable by all writers except in Germany. This is 1700's view still dominates Alchemy discussions by chemists. Very Black & White, no intersection. The Symbolism persisted in the occult and in Rosicrucianism.

By 1800 the only mention of Alchemy was associated with Magic & Sorcery; the occult; and astrology. The 1800's opened a 'spiritual' interpretation of Alchemy. This spiritual or esoteric school held that Alchemy was about the spiritual. It was a metaphor for the spiritual progress of the Alchemist. Alchemy was the art of innermost meditation and illumination (Gnosis). This brought a massive transformation of what Alchemy was thought to be, and in acceptability in society. Many historians still hold this "spiritual" view of Alchemy. By the 1850's the spiritual Alchemy, plus Hermetic arts (Astrology & Magic) was popular in Victorian England. e.g. Thomas South & Mary Anne Atwood. The spiritual interpretation existed thorough 1910, and is now the predominant form of Alchemy as practiced today. 1870's → Hermetic Societies formed, some still extant. A.E. Waite was a later expander. Avoid Alchemy at all costs!

## Principals & Summary: "Some Problems," CONT.

Carl Jung (1950s) was a great fan of Alchemy as a type of Occult Symbolology. Alchemy as psychology. Jung equated Dreams, occult, spiritualism to find commonalities that explain our inner experiential world on terms. Jung basically rejects alchemy as Protochemistry, as did the Spiritists (19th). Jung claimed that secrecy in alchemical alchemy, (see: Orsano, King's son, Copland's comp. etc.) were actually unconscious projections of the alchemist onto <sup>his</sup> matter by which he tried to explain the Stone = Christ. Jung's attempt is present in European alchemy, genuine alchemy, by definition, cannot be decoded. Can, in alchemical. to Jung, were busy interpreting the Personalist.

1940, Mircea Eliade - P. 191 - Alchemy. This was a key, an spiritual core, to a mechanism in science had become.

follows spirit and the Alchemist is busy protecting himself.

But Mircea Eliade Alchemy is the <sup>in part</sup> of science + the scientific - material. It is not real. Presentism is to take the work of the Alchemists, ignoring anything he does, to represent alchemy as an early stage of Chemistry.

All these views are incorrect. And must take each era of alchemy for what it was, and historians must not make any map of it. Then what is given us by the Alchemists.

[I keep Aristotle very much in mind when I read alchemy. Alchemy is a philosophy first and foremost, a philosophy of four transmutable elements combined in various ratios to give all matter. Alchemists considered themselves as to be Philosophers, and that shows to consider them from whatever distance of time has past. Alchemy is not a proto-science of any kind; it is the echo of our very temptings, but utterly wrong philosophy.]