

DIVINING FOR WATER AND MINERALS, ETC.

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PART I.

It is very nearly certain that the art of the Divining Rod goes back to remote antiquity. It is mentioned in early books by such authors as Agricola and Basile Valentin, but it is not till we come to its condemnation by Luther, that we have any documentary evidence. In the East, and especially in China and Ancient Egypt, the rod and its uses were probably known long before the above authors were ever heard of. This, however, must be only supposition.

Towards the end of the sixteenth century was born a man named Jean de Chastelet, Baron de Beausoleil. This man, who later married a woman of Touraine, became famous as a prospector of metals by means of the Divining Rod. His wife was also an adept. They were commissioned by the Emperor of Germany and the record of his findings, which make most interesting reading, prove that he was very successful. From this time onward there are authentic records of work done. To-day nearly all European countries—including Great Britain—have a Society of Diviners, or Dowsers, which records the work of its members.

Although there are a number of records and we have hundreds of verified cases of successful divining, there is still no absolute or universal explanation as to how it is done, which would satisfy a body of scientists. Like electricity it cannot be definitely explained. Some say it is physical and others psychical. My own belief is that it is a faculty of the brain which is able to pick up some unknown waves from water, minerals, plants, or human beings, etc., and tell us what they are. The rod acts as an aerial. It may be noted here that the rod may be of wood, metal, or whalebone; or, as a number of dowsers—myself included—can dispense with a rod entirely, and work with the bare hands.

Everyone, probably, knows the method of working. Each hand holds one end of a forked rod so that it lies parallel to the ground and the apex pointing ahead. When water or other substance is passed over the rod rises or dips sharply apparently without any movement of the hands. As a matter of fact there is a reflex action of the muscles which is entirely involuntary through a message direct from the brain.

Now for the different uses to which divining can be used. Here I may say that in every use I shall mention there has been definite proof that dowsing has been done successfully.

1. Water. This is too well known to need any further comment. I myself found water in Arabia in an area where geologists of three nations had declared it impossible and geophysical work had failed. Moreover, bores had been put down nearby with no result.

2. Minerals. There are many authentic cases of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc and other minerals being located. Here again I have done this work.

3. Oil. This has been located by several dowzers.

4. Bodies of human beings. Many authentic cases are known to the police in England of this being done.

5. Agricultural uses, such as the suitability of soils for certain crops; the ability to locate disease in trees and differentiate hardy plants from sickly ones, etc.

The above are the more common uses. I now turn to another side of divining which some may consider in the realm of fancy. This is to divine off maps without visiting the area in person. As an example, referring to my remarks re water, I actually located the areas where I would find water before a board of mining engineers in London on a blue print, and told them correctly which wells marked on that map were dry and which contained water before I left England. I hasten to add that I am by no means unique in this work. The explanation is simpler than it appears. One must remember that there are faculties of the brain which are unknown as yet. I contend that the same faculty can pick up the waves from water, etc., anywhere in the world in perhaps the same way as a wireless set can tune in to a station on the other side of the globe (without having seen it). The map is purely a guide to enable one to locate with the rod or pendulum where the waves to the brain emanate from, and of course the more accurate the map, the more accurate will be the findings. As a reverse to this I may state I was given a false map as a test sent by unknown people through the President of the British Society of Dowzers. I returned it as a fake by return of post. My rod failed to pick up any indications.

Again, there is one more side of dowsing I am interested in and which is, as yet, in embryo and undeveloped. This is the tracing of human beings. I believe this will be possible. For instance, if a man is lost, the diviner should be able to find him.

Lastly, I may mention that doctors and scientists are going into the tracing of disease and the location of it in the human body by means of the rod. A great deal has been done in this line, especially in France and Germany. I predict that the day will come soon when its aid will be fully recognised, but of course in conjunction with a qualified medical man.

To close I would like to give the story of one Jaques Aymar who lived in the last half of the seventeenth century. In 1692, on July 5th to be exact, two people were murdered in Lyons. The police were baffled as there seemed no clue. Jaques Aymar, a Diviner, was called in on the advice of a friend of the murdered people. Aymar used his rod and working from the bodies of the victims he set out. Near Lyons he tracked the murderers to a place where they had had dealings with two children. When interrogated the children confessed to having served wine to three men. Aymar's stock went up and he was given an escort of five archers. Then followed a chase across

France. All along the road at every inn they stayed at Aymar collected evidence with his rod. The pursuit ended near Vienna in a prison. Aymar identified two vagrants and they were handed over to the escort. The sergeant had a brain wave. He took the two men back along the exact route they had come. They were identified all along the line and finally confessed and suffered the extreme penalty of the law. That made Aymar famous. To-day his name is unknown and such methods would be ridiculed by Scotland Yard. Why?

PART II.

2. Minerals.

3. Oil.

The work done on these two subjects is not very great. At present very few proved results are available from deep bores. The chief reason for this is the prohibitive cost of boring which very few firms are agreeable to undertake at their own expense. There are, however, a number of cases where outcrops and shallow deposits of ore have been located in Kenya chiefly, and in the Argentine.

The interesting thing is that every ore has its own serial number for identification. This means that on either side of the ore body are zones which when passed over, and slightly beyond, the divining rod will dip a certain number of times before becoming inert. By the number of times the rod dips is the ore identified, each ore having its own number.

I personally have also found that each ore has a special orientation with the North Pole. For instance, if I place a piece of silver on the ground and work over it with the rod facing in different directions of the compass, at one point only will the rod dip exactly over the piece of silver, all the others will form some sort of pattern usually in the shape of an ellipse. This shows that every ore has its cardinal point on the compass. I think probably they vary slightly with each individual. As may be imagined, when a deposit is some hundreds of feet below the surface the margin of error is liable to be very large if the diviner does not orient himself carefully.

Another curious fact is that in lode formation the radiations from an ore travel parallel with the angle of dip and do not come directly perpendicularly to the surface. This follows the same rule as electricity.

A great many people use samples. I personally always use them, since this will eliminate a great deal of difficult concentration. Moreover in the case of complex minerals the use of a sample taken locally obviates many errors in false location. I had to follow out this practice in work in Newfoundland when I was working for deposits containing zinc, lead and copper as well as other minerals.

As far as I am aware no really big deposits of oil have been proved to have been found with the divining rod. Here the obvious reason again is expense. Like other dowsers possibly, I have certain areas

scattered over the world where I am prepared to swear oil can be found, but of course no one believes it! Usually the question is settled by the geologist who decides possibly from surface indications that oil cannot be found five thousand feet below. Its annoying but it is usually final.

4. Bodies. Many instances have been known of these being located. The British Society of Dowzers have many proved instances of success. The usual procedure is for some object of the missing person to be given to the Diviner which serves as a sample. Using this with the rod the diviner is invariably "drawn" to the place where the body is located. The majority of cases which have been successful is in cases of drowning. The diviner has often to go out in a boat into the middle of a river and when exactly over the body the rod will dip and show the position.

I had one experience of locating a man. It was of a man who had deserted his wife and the wife appealed to the President of the Society, who sent me a tie belonging to the absentee to work on. I located the man in Cromer or near by. His wife who lived in Bristol was extremely indignant and saw no reason why he should be there. In vain I pointed out that there was every likelihood, but I am sorry to say I was over-ruled and in the absence of proof nothing more was done.

5. Agriculture.

I personally have done very little beyond proving for my own satisfaction that I can locate disease in a tree. Also I have proved that plants which show an affinity to the patch of soil they are planted in usually thrive. I was once asked to give an opinion of some young gooseberry bushes just planted. I stated that a certain number of them would not thrive since they appeared to be in unsuitable soil according to my rod findings. Time proved this to be correct.

There is one retired officer in Kenya who has, I believe, planted out a large area of fruit using his rod to get the best and most suitable sites and it has turned out a very great success.