



# NEWSLETTER

**NOW WEEKLY!** With art by Vera !  
from the Astrology Center of America / AstroAmerica.com

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## A New Biography of William Lilly

**T**HIS past week I was contacted by the author of a new biography of **William Lilly**. She sent a pdf of the galley and asked if I would write a pre-publication blurb. I glanced at the first chapter, I politely declined. The publisher is **Watkins**, in London, the book is scheduled for next February. Watkins books are erratically distributed here in the States, if it appears I will give you the author's name and tell you why I declined. My name had been suggested by **Frank Clifford**. I suspect the author did not know why he had **made the suggestion**.

But the next day I thought I had been hasty, so had a look at the conclusion and then scanned backwards (a left-handed trait) to the beginning. While I did not reconsider, I did noticed something of interest.

The **English Civil War** ran from 1642 to 1660, during the height of William Lilly's career as an astrologer. Interestingly, from Charles I's execution on January 30, 1649, to

the Restoration under his son, James II in early 1660, was almost one entire Jupiter cycle (Libra to Virgo).

The Civil War was simultaneous with the rapid growth of astrological almanacs in the early 1640's, including Lilly's, who began his in 1644. And I had a wicked thought:

Suppose the Roundheads were being egged on by astrologers as to when and where to revolt and overthrow the Royalists. Who were then helped by some of the same astrologers? It is known that Lilly advised both sides, but what if, at bottom, **it was astrology itself that gave rise the rebellion?**

How to find out? I think it would be simple: Astrologically elected battles would have obvious astrological fingerprints. We need only set the charts of the major battles, along with those of the principle antagonists. If astrology was used, it would be as obvious as the US chart for March 4, 1789.

Such a claim would be audacious. If an author started at the beginning of the war and went sequentially through the years, the result, regardless of the outcome, would be a page-turner and a UK best seller. Way better than the *piss prophet* book I declined.

*continued, pg. 9*

### ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

13	01:08	☽	♈	
08	00:28	☽	△	☉
	16:23	☉	□	♃
	22:33	☽	△	♃ Void
09	00:29	☉	△	♃
	01:25	☽	♃	
10	11:30	☽	♂	♀
11	00:19	☽	♂	♀ Void
	03:13	♀		☉
	03:25	☽	♃	
	03:50	♀	♃	♀
	07:49	♂		♀
12	11:25	☉	20	03 Full Moon
	22:07	♀		♃
13	01:57	☽	♂	♃ Void
	03:07	☽	♃	
	04:45	♀	♃	
	08:22	♀	△	♂
14	19:23	☽	△	♀ Void

Extracted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. [Buy](#).

## ASTRO A to Z MED

**Avarice**, continued from last week: It must be borne in mind that a desire for money is not always an indication of true acquisitiveness. It may be needed simply as a means to an end, such as the pursuit of pleasure, and may be spent as soon as acquired—or even beforehand! In instances of this nature it is probable that the Cancer-Saturn combination may be absent, and there may be very different horoscopic traits, for example, much Fire and a prominent 5th house. In the natus of **Horatio Bottomley**, who spent freely and died destitute, both Lights are in Aries.

The truly acquisitive man hoards for the sake of gratifying the possessive instinct, which is the abuse of the instinct to "provide for a rainy day." Reasonable thrift is the result of good Moon-Saturn configurations. Case no. 3 at the end of the book may be taken as an example. Here the Sun is in Cancer in exact sextile to Saturn in Virgo, itself an economical and careful sign.

— **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**, by C.E. O. Carter. [Buy](#).

## Vivian Robson's STAR OF THE WEEK

CANOPUS *alpha Argus* 15 ♄ 08

**Notes:** A white star in one of the oars of the ship Argo. Named in honour of Canopus, the chief pilot of the fleet of Menelaus, who was killed in Egypt by the bite of a serpent on his return from the destruction of Troy.

**Influence:** According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Saturn and Jupiter. It gives piety, conservatism, a wide and comprehensive knowledge, voyages and educational work, and changes evil to good. **If culminating:** Great glory, fame and wealth, dignity and authority by the help of an old clergyman or influential person. **With Sun:** Domestic affliction, trouble with father or parents, financial loss, danger of accidents, burns and fevers, unfavourable end to life. **With Moon:** Success in martial matters as a soldier, metal worker, etc. **With Mercury:** Rash, headstrong, stubborn, kind-hearted, speaker or writer on unpopular subjects incurring criticism . . .

— From **Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson [Buy](#)



Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990



## IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

### Who's that knocking at my door?

**Y**OUR home is represented by the 4th House, whose cusp is its doorway & point of entry, its threshold. Leading up to your home is the 3rd House, representing the near neighborhood or locality adjacent to your house; and because any visitor must necessarily be in that near neighborhood-3rd in order to reach your home, any planet in the 3rd House is representative of the visitor who is "knocking at your door".

There are three ways in which the planet may be there, the first being at birth: a natal planet. It describes the visitors through life who will make a lasting impression on you — and if it rules the 7th House one of them will set his or her cap for you in the future, object matrimony & whether the proposal is accepted or not. Such a natal planet registers when aspected by progression or by a strong transit, bringing that visitor to your door. With a planet in the 3rd House at birth, you are sure to remember the first who called when you were old enough to notice.

The second way in which the planet may be there is by progression, to describe visitors who may come during the length of time it is in the 3rd, which is approximately three or four years for the Moon; much longer for the others. As they aspect natal planets they bring visitors, and are themselves susceptible to being roused by strong transits into developing their visitor-possibility into visitor-probability.

— **Here and There in Astrology**, 1961. **Buy.**

# A Grammer of Astrology

**A**STROLOGY is not aspects scattered in a chart. Nor is it planets in signs or planets in houses, taken in isolation. Astrology is not mechanical, it cannot be reduced to a simple industrial age machine.

Which means it cannot be read out of a book, though authors do try. Astrology is the study of interrelated parts and the rather fluid dynamics that result. When you actually learn to read a chart, and have in front of you the chart of someone known to you, even if only slightly, you will be amazed at his sheer creativity in adapting to the energies available to him. Conversely, when you are confronted by a horary chart, with an answer locked up somewhere inside it, you will know what a true puzzle is.

To practice (natal) astrology you need two things:

A clear, simple set of keywords for signs, houses, planets, elements, quadruplicities, exaltations, detriments, etc., and,

Some vague, initially mechanical, means of putting various keywords into relationships with each other.

You will know you have created your own personal technique when pieces of the chart in front of you emerge to **exactly describe the person as you know him to be**. The first time this happens you will be astonished. You will come to expect it.

Here are some keywords to get you started. You may already know more, you will certainly learn of more:

### SIGNS

**Aries:** *Active, initiative.*

**Taurus:** *Slow, solid.*

**Gemini:** *Quick, adaptable.*

**Cancer:** *Sensitive.*

**Leo:** *Proud, regal.*

**Virgo:** *Detailed, fussy.*

**Libra:** *Other-centered, indecisive.*

**Scorpio:** *Intense.*

**Sagittarius:** *Enthusiastic.*

**Capricorn:** *Hard working.*

**Aquarius:** *Impersonal.*

**Pisces:** *Unfocused.*

Most of you will object to one or another of the above, which is important. It means you are already thinking for yourselves, which is the whole point.

### PLANETS

**Sun:** *Life, vital spark.*

**Moon:** *Gut feelings, physical body.*

**Mercury:** *Wits, communication.*

**Venus:** *Harmony, adaptability.*

**Mars:** *Self-assertion, raw energy.*

**Jupiter:** *Expansion.*

**Saturn:** *Contraction.*

**Uranus:** *What is unexpected.*

**Neptune:** *Deceit, fog.*

**Pluto:** *What is repulsive.*

I myself do not work with any other bodies, and, again, that you have other ideas shows that you already have knowledge and experience that you can use.

Uranus-Neptune-Pluto have come to play marginal roles in my work, but only because my use of the traditional planets has expanded so greatly.

There are many sub-divisions of signs. Here are a few:

### BY ELEMENT

**Fire signs** (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius) are full of energy and life. Aries is fire per se, Leo is a hearth that keeps you warm, Sagittarius are sparks seeking to start a blaze, etc.

**Earth signs** (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn) are solid and have weight and mass. Taurus is weight for its own sake. Virgo are the details that, because they are of the earth, cannot be ignored or denied. Capricorn is the sheer toil necessary to move mass.

**Air signs** (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius) are ideas which flit about in the air, rarely of any consequence on their own. Gemini is ideas and thoughts for their own sake. Libra is the radar that bounces from them back to you. Aquarius are collective thoughts and ideas.

**Water signs** (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces) are feelings and emotions. Water is by far the fastest of the three elements and also the most adaptable. Cancer is active and personal, Scorpio is dark, intense and secretive, while Pisces is foggy and unfocused.

### BY ENERGY

This category is traditionally known as Quadruplicity. I have renamed it "energy" as energy is a much better fit:

**Cardinal signs** (Aries, Cancer, Libra, Capricorn) are infused with energy. They are outwardly focused. Aries does things, it does not care what they might be. Cancer wears its heart on its sleeve, it is sensitive to the world around it. Capricorn actively toils.

Fixed signs (Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, Aquarius) *resist* energy. They seek to remain immobile. Because of this, I have termed

(continued, pg. 4)

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This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's  
**A Student's Text-Book of Astrology.**

**Part 76:**  
**Health and Accidents**

*Parts of the body and diseases, continued:—*  
**JUPITER.** Rules blood, semen, liver, arteries, pleura, absorptive system, right ear. *Ailments* blood disorders, accumulations of fluid, liver disorders, pleurisy, boils, abscesses, quinsy, apoplexy, and ailments arising from surfeit & indiscretions in diet.

**SATURN.** Rules bones, joints, teeth, spleen, secretive system, left ear. *Ailments* colds, chills, dull aches, rheumatism, chronic & lingering diseases. If in 6th gives danger through fasting or ascetic habits, and of chronic diseases. If in 12th, liable to gout.

**URANUS.** Rules nerves, membranes of the brain & spinal cord. *Ailments* obscure & incurable diseases, cramp, ruptures, sudden & spasmodic ailments, nervous breakdowns, paralysis.

**NEPTUNE.** Rules brain & telepathic organs. *Ailments* obscure & incurable diseases, obsession & psychic ailments, vague & irrational fears & the "phobias", worry, ailments arising through drug taking, excessive smoking or tea & coffee drinking.

The exact nature of an illness is shown by the combined influence of the planet & sign. Thus, Saturn is weakening and obstructive and Aquarius rules the blood, so that Saturn in Aquarius tends to anemia or bad circulation. Similarly Jupiter in Aquarius causes blood impurities arising through excess, and so on. These effects take place when the planet afflicts the luminaries in or from these signs, or is afflicted in the 6th.

In judging of health:—  
1. Note the rising sign, its afflictions, and the ruler. The sign will give the ailments to which the native is subject considered in connection with the afflicting planet, and also the organs most likely to be affected.

— **A Student's Text-Book of Astrology**, by Vivian Robson. **Buy.**

**On the King's Business**

from the end of **Christian Astrology, Book 1**  
by William Lilly

**A**S the Ascendant represents the person of the Querent, and the second his Estate, the third his Kindred, the fourth his Father, the fifth his Children, the sixth his Servant or Sickness, the seventh his Wife, the eighth the manner of his Death, the ninth his Religion or journeys, the tenth his Estimation or honour, the eleventh his Friends, the twelfth his secret Enemies.

Let the Question be of or concerning a Churchman, Minister, or the Brother of the Wife or Sweetheart, the ninth House shall represent each of these, but the tenth House shall be Significator of his Substance, the eleventh House of his Brethren, and so in order: and so in all manner of Questions the House signifying the party quested shall be his Ascendant or first House the next his second House, and so continuing round about the whole Heavens or twelve Houses.

If a question be made of a King, the tenth is his first house, the eleventh his second, and so orderly: but in Nativities, the Ascendant ever signifies the party born, whether King or Beggar: These things preceding being well understood, you may proceed to judgement; not that it is necessary you have all that is wrote, in your memory exactly, but that you be able to know when you are in an error, when not; when to judge a question, when not: I should also have showed how to take the *Part of Fortune*, but that I will do in the first Example, the use of the *Part of Fortune* being diverse, but hardly understood rightly by any Author I ever met with: However note, if a King propound an *Astrological Question*, the Ascendant is for him, as well as for any meaner party; and all the houses in order, as for any vulgar person: For Kings are earth, and no more than men; and the time is coming, &c. when.

— **Christian Astrology Books 1 and 2**, by William Lilly. **Buy.**

**Disposition and Manners**

from **Al Biruni**

**Saturn:** Fearful, timid, anxious, suspicious, miserly, a malevolent plotter, sullen and proud, melancholy, truth-telling, grave, trusty, unwilling to believe good of anyone, engrossed in his own affairs and consequently indicates discord, and either ignorance or intelligence, but the ignorance is concealed.

**Jupiter:** Good disposition, inspiring, intelligent, patient, high-minded, devout, chaste, administering justice, truth-telling, learned, generous, noble, cautious in friendship, egoistic, friend of good government, eager for education, an honourable trusty and responsible custodian, religious.

**Mars:** Confused opinions, ignorant, rash, evil conduct, licentious, bold, quarrelsome, unsteady, untrustworthy, violent, shameless, unchaste but quickly repentant, a deceiver, cheerful, bright, friendly and pleasant-faced.

**Sun:** Intelligent and knowledgeable, patient, chaste, but sensual, eager for knowledge, power and victory, seeking a good name for helping others, friendly, hot-tempered but quickly recovering repose.

**Venus:** Good disposition, handsome face, good-natured inclined to love and sensuality, friendliness, generosity, tenderness to children and friends, pride, joy, patience.

**Mercury:** Sharp intelligence and understanding, affability, gentleness, open countenance, elegance, far-sightedness, changeable, deeply interested in business, eager for pleasure, keeps secrets, seeking friendship of people, longing for power, reputation and approval, preserves true friends and withdraws from bad ones, keeps away from trickery, strife, malevolence, bad-heartedness and discord.

**Moon:** Simple, adaptable, a king among kings, a servant among servants, good-hearted, forgetful, loquacious, timid, reveals secrets, a lover of elegance, respected by people, cheerful, a lover of women, too anxious, not intellectually strong, much thought and talk.

— **The Book of Instruction in Elements of the Art of Astrology**, by Al Biruni. **Buy.**



### A Grammar, continued:—

their elements to be stagnant or stale: Taurus is stagnant earth, Leo is stagnant fire, Scorpio is stagnant water, Aquarius is stagnant air. All fixed signs resist change. When forced by circumstance to adapt, all will quickly seek to stabilize as near to their previous condition as possible.

**Mutable signs** (Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, Pisces) seek energy. They are therefore adaptable, having little identity of their own.

### MALE AND FEMALE

Starting with Aries, number the signs from 1-12. Odd numbered signs, Aries, Gemini, Leo, Libra, Sagittarius, Aquarius, are **male**.

Even numbered signs, Taurus, Cancer, Virgo, Scorpio, Capricorn, Pisces, are **female**.

Male signs are outgoing and dominant. Female signs are retiring and modest.

**W**E already have quite a lot to work with. Aries, for example, is *fiery, cardinal* and *male*. It will do what it wants, how it wants, and when it wants. It will be a law unto itself.

Pisces, on the other hand, is *wet, mutable* and *female*. It is sensitive, adaptable and cautious. It will never initiate or take the lead. It can easily be misled, since it has little identity of its own. Given that it is a water sign, we would say, *Pisces, go with your gut!* except that Pisces does not know where its gut may be and would just as easily mistake yours for its own, for example.

Similar summaries can be made for each of the signs:

**Aries:** *Cardinal, fire, male.*

**Taurus:** *Fixed, earth, female.*

**Gemini:** *Mutable, air, male.*

**Cancer:** *Cardinal, water, female.*

**Leo:** *Fixed, fire, male.*

**Virgo:** *Mutable, earth, female.*

**Libra:** *Cardinal, air, male.*

**Scorpio:** *Fixed, water, female.*

**Sagittarius:** *Mutable, fire, male.*

**Capricorn:** *Cardinal, earth, female.*

**Aquarius:** *Fixed, air, male.*

**Pisces:** *Mutable, water, female.*

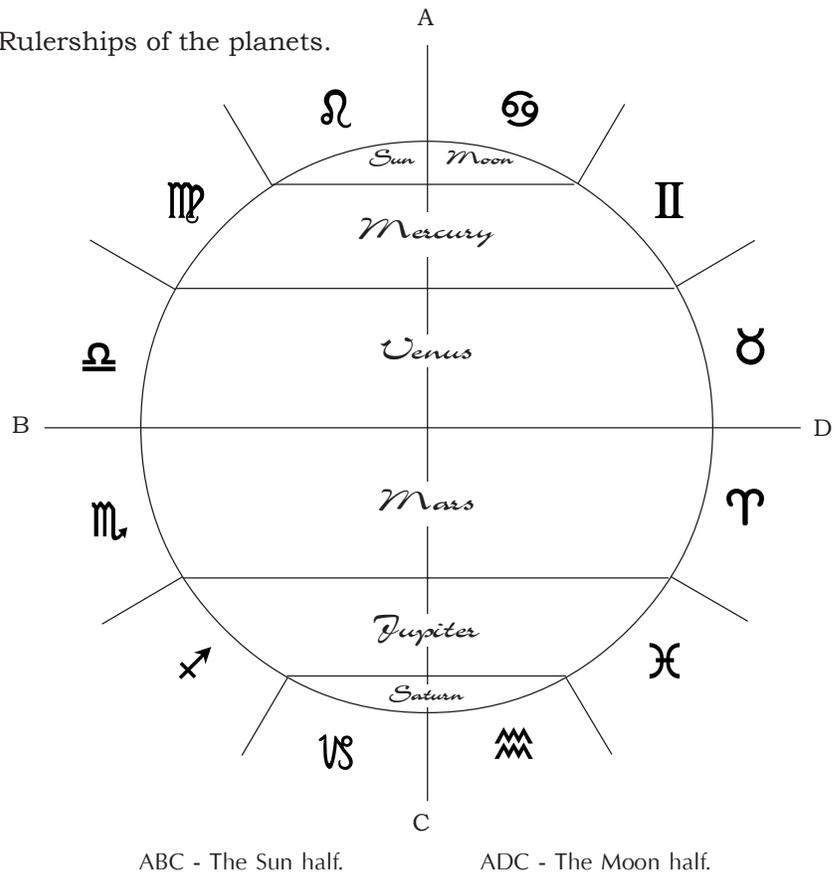
More: Mutable, earth, female (Virgo) is a nag. Cardinal, earth, female (Capricorn), is one who toils without credit, as women often do. Are these fair summations? So far as the signs are concerned, yes. Applied to people, no. With people you must always tie summations to the appropriate house. Only then can you make a judgement.

### SIGNS AND PLANETS

Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn each have special relationship to six specific signs, which are:

The two they rule, one male, one female.

### Rulerships of the planets.



The one in which they are exalted.

The two in which they fall, which are always opposite to the ones they rule.

The one in which they are in detriment, which is always opposite the exalted sign.

In their masculine sign, planets are outgoing. In female signs they are passive:

**Mercury** in male Gemini explores and adapts and will tell fibs, or appear to. In female Virgo, Mercury is insular and fussy and detail oriented and would never lie.

**Venus** in male Libra actively seeks out relationships, while in Taurus is largely passive.

**Mars** in male Aries is aggressive and seeks a fight. In female Scorpio it snarls and will bite if provoked.

**Jupiter** in male Sagittarius seeks out life and good times. In female Pisces it is sensitive.

**Saturn** in male Aquarius is broad-minded and tolerant. In female Capricorn it is strict and conservative.

The Sun and Moon, ruling only one sign each, have special relationships to only four signs.

As I mentioned last week, if you remember the Sun rules Leo, while the Moon rules Cancer, and that the planets, ordered by decreasing speed, rule the signs on either side, you will always know what rules what, but (above) here is a diagram to help you, from **Al Biruni**. To get them by fall, reverse the order

of the planets. Put Saturn where Sun-Moon is, put Jupiter where Mercury is, swap Venus and Mars.

There is some order to exaltations and detriments but I cannot remember what, so have memorized the following:

**Sun:** Exalted in Aries, detriment in Libra.

**Moon:** Exalted in Taurus, detriment in Scorpio.

**Mercury:** Exalted in Aquarius, detriment in Leo.

**Venus:** Exalted in Pisces, detriment in Virgo.

**Mars:** Exalted in Capricorn, detriment in Cancer.

**Jupiter:** Exalted in Cancer, detriment in Capricorn.

**Saturn:** Exalted in Libra, detriment in Aries.

In practice I think of exalted planets as proud show-offs. They tend to have egos. I came to this conclusion slowly, as I have both Mercury and Saturn exalted. I wanted to make something better of them, but mysteriously could not.

I have found little difference between planets in fall and detriment. Both are dysfunctional. **They are not weak.** Venus in Scorpio, for example, is intense and entirely unladylike. Mars in Cancer can be defensive and nasty.

### PLANETARY RELATIONSHIPS

Rulerships tell us how planets relate to each other, as friends or enemies.

**SUN and Moon, for example**, ruling Leo and Cancer, are opposite to Capricorn and Aquarius, ruled by Saturn. We may therefore say that Saturn is the enemy of the Sun and Moon. This analogy is not casual. The Sun and Moon, the lights, are the centerpoints of our lives, around which all other planets revolve, literally or figurative. Saturn, at the other extreme, is the most distant and the most dark. When we find Saturn conjunct the Sun or Moon, it is as if Omega (Saturn) has united with Alpha (Sun/Moon), we have darkness and light combined. When we find Saturn opposed to Sun or Moon, the whole world may oppose the native.

**Mercury is opposite, or enemies with, Jupiter**, ruling opposite signs. This is a contest between the small and the big, between the quick and the ponderous, between the trivial and the grand.

Uniquely, Mercury and Jupiter rule the four mutable, or energy-seeking, signs (Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, Pisces). When you find the four mutables on the angles (ascendant, IC, descendant, MC), look carefully at Mercury and Jupiter, their positions in the chart, the aspects or other relationship between them, as they can dominate a mutable chart to an extraordinary degree.

Venus and Mars are opposite, or enemies, ruling the signs Taurus and Scorpio, and Libra and Aries. These are uniquely male (Mars) and female (Venus), but they only relate to sexuality to the extent the houses they rule or are in, permit.

There are many other relationships, among them, bestial and human, silent and voiced, fertile and infertile, etc. Al Biruni is a good source, as is the (more expensive) **Cornell**. Do you need to know all of this? **Yes you do.**

Regrettably, most astrologers stop here, presuming they get this far, because up to now all we have is a fancy system, a car without a motor, a house without an occupant, a body without a soul. The otherwise excellent **DeVore** fails utterly, saying of Rulers, *This rather over-worked and at times loosely applied term is principally concerned with a schematic arrangement of the signs, whereby certain planets are deemed to have special potency, etc.* The missing pieces are the

## HOUSES

**H**OUSES are where we cram everything we know about planets and signs. For while you have all the various planets in your chart and while they

are all active and will make a fuss, and while you have all twelve houses, except in rare cases you do not have all twelve signs of the zodiac. Signs that have no planet in them (my instinct wants me to restrict planets to the seven classical ones) and which are not angular, have little or no presence in your chart, or in your life.

On the other hand, **every house counts**. The houses with planets in them are front and center. Those without planets, while in the background, are still very much there, as can be demonstrated. I will use myself as an example, in part as I write to deadline, which is not very many hours off.

I, like many, have no planets in my 7th house, of partnerships, and I, like many, often lacked a partner and I, like many, was unhappy about that. Why? Because the ruler of the 7th, Jupiter, was opposed by Saturn. Saturn's opposition made Jupiter aware of the lack. Had there been no stressful aspects to the ruler of the 7th (conjunct, square, opposed), I would not have noticed.

The sign on the 7th? Sagittarius. While I have a fascination with foreigners (Sag), and have had relations with foreign women, they were always brief and were better described by planets in my 9th house. These occurred, for the most part, while I was physically abroad. My two long-term relationships were with women born and bred in the USA.

My second house is occupied by Uranus. Supposedly this means boom and bust, an unexpected check for \$10,000 on Tuesday and an equally unexpected bankruptcy filing on Friday. In fact, aside from a rather small inheritance there have been no booms, while careful, un-Uranian management has spared me financial disasters.

Money to me is cyclic: Today I have some, tomorrow I don't. Which relates to Cancer, the sign on the cusp. It might be that Uranus gives enough "presence" to the house to make me aware of it. But it is certain that because Cancer's ruling planet, the Moon, is opposed by the Sun, I am acutely aware of changes in income.

*Rule:* Planets use signs to determine the nature of the houses. Which are inescapable. I will go house by house:

**T**HE first house is how you project yourself upon the world. Beginners believe this to be the function of the Sun's sign, but it is actually due to the sign on the ascendant. Planets in this house add their energy to it. You are both the sign, and the planet. Beethoven is a good example. He had Leo on the ascendant, which made him self-important and a law unto himself. But

Saturn was also there, which made him mean and nasty and friendless, which was how he was actually known among his peers. Ruling planet Sun was in Sagittarius in the 5th, which made him creative, which became his legacy, or how we remember him.

**The second house is money and possessions.** The sign on the cusp tells us how you approach it. Me, I have Cancer there. Cancer is personal, so *don't mess with my stuff!* Planets in the 2nd tell us how you treat your possessions, but the house and sign of the ruling planet tells us what *kind* of possessions, in other words, what you value or where it comes from. Moon ruling my second from the 3rd, of education, I believe, or used to believe, that **education has value**, but as the Moon is opposed by the Sun, I found this was not true.

Not only do planets rule houses from their proper house and sign, that rulership is subject to aspects. In the case of oppositions, you eventually learn that what you had first believed is not actually true, while, with squares, you discover that you must try and try again, the squares giving no rest. This, by the way, is the true use of aspects, which are to illuminate house rulerships.

**The third house is intelligence.** Yes, I know it's a great deal more than that. If you're smart, it's because of planets in this house. If you are known for being smart, it's usually — not quite always — because the ruler of the ascendant is here. How you use that intelligence depends on where the ruler of the sign on the cusp is located. If this house is empty and you were punished for being dumb, or rewarded for being smart, find the ruler and then look at the aspects to it.

The element on the cusp of the 3rd tells us how you learned. If a water sign (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces), you learned instinctively. (Which, by the way, is not intuition.) If a fire sign (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius), enthusiastically, if an air sign (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius), you forgot your lessons as fast as you learned them, if an earth sign (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn), you did your best work by rote, or restricted your studies to what was practical, however you understood the term.

**The fourth house is roots.** It's your home, it's land, it's your family, it's your father. A mutable sign (Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, Pisces) with a mutable planet in it (Mercury, Jupiter) can make for rootlessness, but be aware that a fixed sign on 4 (Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, Aquarius) with a ruler which is stressed can produce the same result, due to the ruler seeking its own comfort. Saturn in or ruling this house can make for a patriot, as well as

give an interest in mines. When the ruler of the 2nd turns up in the 4th, one owns property. When the ruler of the 8th turns up in the 4th, one profits by marriage. There are, in fact, many such aphorisms in the old texts.

**The fifth house are your children.** Yes, again, the 5th is much more than that, but children are the litmus test for all the others. It is therefore important if a fertile sign is on the cusp. Water signs are fertile (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces), as is Taurus (ruled by Venus). Virgo is somewhat fertile, the remaining signs are not. To get yourself bunches of children, you need a fertile sign on the cusp, a fertile ruler (Moon, Venus, Jupiter) in a fertile sign, with the “killing planets” (Mars, Saturn, sometimes the Sun) out of aspect and far removed. The more fertile, the sooner children arrive and the more there are, all other factors being considered. The less fertile, the fewer children and the later they arrive.

Note that great fertility tends to produce early marriage. My mother’s chart, from last week, had Pisces here, with ruling planet Jupiter in fairly fertile Virgo, itself ruled by Mercury in very fertile Cancer. She was married at 18, she bore nine. Normally when the planet ruling the 5th is in the 11th, children are restricted, or one is indifferent or distant from them. Which was my mother’s case. When the ruler of the 5th is in the 11th and is conjunct or square to other planets, one can be hostile to one’s own progeny.

**The sixth house is health.** Traditionally, when the chart ruler turns up in the 6th, one has a lifetime of poor health. Here, the element on the cusp tells us the kind of ailments you will suffer from: When Mars or a fire sign is on the 6th, for example, you will suffer from fevers. If water, you suffer from germs. Air, from viruses. If you have a planet in a water sign in the 6th, and it rules, say, the 7th, 10th or 4th, people native to those houses (partners, mother, father) may be the agents of infection, or you may inherit diseases.

**The sixth is also work and service.** While planets in the 6th give a focus on health matters, this can be overruled by the house(s) those planets actually rule. The famous astrologer, Mr. Robert Hand, for example, has Sagittarius on the cusp of the 6th, with his Sun in Sagittarius in it. The Sun rules Leo, which we find on his 3rd house, of intelligence. Sun in 6 making him a servant, Sagittarius making him eager, Leo on 3 giving him a focus on learning, the result was a life-long study of astrology, which Sagittarius demands, along with a pride in his ability, as shown by Leo on the cusp of 3. Why did he learn astrology from his father? You will note

Mercury in Sag conjunct the Sun, and then note Virgo, ruled by Mercury, on the 4th house cusp, of the father, thus explaining his situation. Mr. Hand’s time of birth, if it were not known, would make him one of the harder subjects to rectify, as he has Cancer rising, with ruling planet Moon in Scorpio in the 5th. He should have scads of children and perhaps he does (Scorpio on 5 can be secretive), but here we consider that his Moon is moving into a conjunction with Mars, which destroys children. Mr. Hand published his horoscope many years ago but this week I will not give the source.

**T**HIS, as I have noted before, is the sheer terror of astrology, that it tells us what to look for, and then compels us to modify formal rules to match the actual facts.

**The seventh house is partnerships.** This house is very well covered in Robson’s **Astrology and Sex**, at least as far as planets physically in 7th itself. Ruler of the 7th in the first, one is known for his partner (Bill Clinton with Hillary, John Lennon with Paul McCartney and then Yoko Ono, etc.), ruler of 7th in the 4th, daddy’s approval is necessary, ruler of the 7th in the 10th, mum’s approval, in the 11th, confusion of friends with partners, ruler of the 7th in the 6th (the 12th from the 7th), the partner’s parents are hidden from the native, ruler of the 7th in the 12th (6th of the partner), the partner must work with the native (Gauquelin) or nurse him, etc.

**The eighth house are what others owe you.** It is the marriage contract that gives a husband rights over his wife’s body, for example. And the wife the right to question where her husband has been. It is the use of others’ money for your own ends, which is finance. When Capricorn is here, with a planet as well, you will get money from the government. Which is why you need to have previously memorized so many useless details about signs and planets in order to make sense of these things.

Because this house rules dynamic processes, it rules death and loss of virginity, which are one-time-only events that result in permanent change. This is the only house that has that power. **Alan Oken** said Pluto here made one immune to venereal disease, for example, which is to say, Pluto stops an unpleasant and potentially life-threatening transformation.

**The ninth house is religion, law and foreigners.** Which is to say the 9th is transformative in its own way. Planets in the 9th will bring these matters front and center, while the planet that rules the 9th, if it is not in it, will function in the background. Dane Rudhyar, who had his ruling planet (Sun) here, moved abroad early in life and became known as a philosopher, for

that was what he was. This is the house of intuition, which is solar (instinct is lunar), many people confuse the two. While the 3rd house will make you smart, when 3rd house planets are opposed by 9th house planets, especially when Sun, Moon or ruler of the ascendant are among them, the result is invariably phenomenal, the ability to generate raw knowledge whole cloth and on demand. As I will show next week with the chart of **Mark Labbett**, one of the more interesting cases I have found.

**The tenth house is how the world sees you.** Note this is different from how you project yourself, which is the ascendant. When people romanticized Beethoven and his music, for example, they invariably mistook his midheaven, Taurus, for his ascendant, which was silly. Lilly was specific: Mercury, Venus or Mars in the midheaven made for a profession (letters, arts or military, in order). Those without planets in the 10th, or with other planets there, had no profession. Which is not to say they had no jobs. Planets in the 10th, or ruling elsewhere from conspicuous places, can make one compulsively seek fame.

**The eleventh house are friends and associates.** Bill Clinton had his Sun and Mercury there, in Leo. He was a king — or ruler — among his friends. The sign on the cusp defines the kind of friend you are, planets in the 11th tell us how you relate to them, the ruler’s house and sign what you do with them.

**The empty twelfth house is what is hidden from the native, while an occupied 12th is what he hides from the rest of us.** This distinction needs to be kept in mind. Myself, my 12th is empty. I have no idea what’s in there. Frustrations arise when the Sun, Moon or ruler of the ascendant is in the 12th. If this makes the native unhappy, he should run away and join the circus, sign up for the army, become a government bureaucrat, get a job at Macy’s or some other big store, or become a monk or a nun. If one has exceptional talent, he can rise to become a President or abbot or Mother Superior, which is to say, The Leader of All Bureaucrats. I confess I find “12th house problems” to be unworthy of astrological attention. The solution is to become a cog in a machine. That’s why cogs and machines exist. I confess that I myself have spent many lives as a cog.

**H**OUSES tell us how specific energies apply to the specific individual in front of us. The addition of houses is how we can take the day’s planetary positions and custom tailor them to produce a Native American day worker, the ruler of an Asian country, a woman who inherited her father’s mortuary (in which she grew up),

and the author of this newsletter, **all born on the same day, month and year**. And not make apologies for any of them.

### HOW THE PARTS FIT

*First rule of thumb:* **Houses which have no planets in them are generally of no importance to the native**, but you must check their rulers, because if the ruler is stressed, so are the affairs of the house it rules, even if empty. You will often see this with empty 7th houses and natives tormented from a lack of relationships, for example. They lack relationships because the 7th is empty. They are tormented because its ruler is in square or opposition to some other planet. This can be applied to all houses, each in their own way.

*Second rule of thumb:* **The primary rulership in a chart is the planet which rules the ascending sign**. You must have a firm grasp of the planets, signs and houses, and the results must match how the individual actually presents himself to the world. If not, look and see if there is a planet conjunct or opposed to the ruling planet, and then look and see what house that planet rules, and if that explains the native. If not, throw out the time and start over.

As one or other of the 12 signs will, in fact, be on the ascendant, when you are puzzled you might go sign-by-sign, trying out all the possible ruling planets and their consequent ruling houses, before you stumble upon the correct one and the resulting chart snaps into focus. In this you can be aided by their physical appearance. Earth signs when ascending tend to produce solid looking bodies. Water signs when rising tend to produce wet, fleshy messes, but there are exceptions. Mark Labbett, for example, appears to have a solid earth ascendant, but in fact has fire rising.

**T**HE determination of the rising sign, based on the house and sign of its ruler, is an excellent exercise for the student. Regardless of the actual sign rising, the location, by house, of the ruling planet will be definitive.

Once you have found the ruling planet's house, you can drop the planet altogether, if you like, and simply impose the favored house directly upon the ascendant. Do this a few times and it will become easy.

When the ruler of the **first house** is in the first house, which is to say, when the first house imposes itself on itself, the native is caught up in being himself. The inherent qualities of the ascending sign and the planet which rules it come straight through, as there is nothing to impede them.

When the **second house** imposes itself on the first, the native (1st house) lives for money

(2nd), or whatever he most values. The signs in question, which will usually be consecutive, will tell you, as will the ruling planet in the 2nd. This was the key to Mr. Labbett. He's in it for the money.

**Third house** imposed on the first, the native is intelligent, he is busy, he travels a great deal, etc. He may or may not have siblings, but if he does, they are much to the fore.

**Fourth house** imposed on the first, the native is concerned with land, with property, with his father (for better or worse) and with how things turn out in the end, for the 4th is about final consequences.

**Fifth house** imposed on the first, the native can be an artist (Beethoven), he can be creative, he can be an entertainer, he can be involved with children, he can be a playboy, he can chase females for the sake of it (Casanova).

**Sixth house** imposed on the first, the native is subservient. An employee or even a slave. He may be a doctor, he may be a cook. His health may be poor.

**Seventh house** imposed on the first, these people come in pairs. You rarely see them without their partner *du jour*, such as John Lennon (Lennon/McCartney) or Bill Clinton (Bill'n'Hillary), but note well, if the partner is worthy in his own right, you will eventually see the partner without the native (Paul McCartney, Hillary, etc.)

**Eighth house** imposed on the first are daredevils or otherwise intrusive. One way or another they are unafraid to get in your face.

**Ninth house** imposed on the first are preachers and intellectuals, such as Dane Rudhyar. Often they will end up abroad for at least part of their life.

**Tenth house** imposed on the first wants to be famous, wants to be in the limelight, wants to be publicly known, one way or another.

**Eleventh house** imposed on the first have many associates. When the ruler of the first house is in the 11th or 12th, the native himself can all but disappear inside larger groups.

**Twelfth house** imposed on the first can feel isolated, but if they do, they should find a bureaucracy and become part of it, become a cog in the machine. This will give them support and fill their days.

**A**LL of these are done in the style of the ruling planet and a blend of the rising sign and the sign containing the ruling planet.

When the **Sun is the ruling planet**, it wants to shine by means of the house in which it rules. Beethoven with his Sun in the 5th, Rudhyar with his in the 9th. Remember that Leo, the rising sign, is fixed and thereby

unchanging.

When the **Moon is the ruling planet**, it feels and is aware of the world by means of the house and sign it is located in. Which will fluctuate, like the Moon itself. Challenge or threaten the Moon's sign or house and you will get a powerful response. Why do I not mention this with the other planets? Because the Moon, uniquely, is the planet the most likely to feel threatened, and Cancer, the sign it rules, takes things personally.

**Mercury when ruling a Gemini** ascendant will often be adaptable. It will make the best of its situation, whatever it may be, and may gather a reputation for being unreliable as a result. When ruling **Virgo** it will tend to be critical of the affairs of the house in which it is located.

**Venus when ruling a Libra** ascendant will try to make everything work out by means of the house in which it is placed. It will avoid arguments and confrontations, often going to absurd lengths to do so. We all wondered when Bill Clinton would lash out at Republicans, but with Libra rising and Venus in Libra in the first, Bill was constitutionally unable to reply in kind. It just wasn't the Venus-in-Libra way. When Venus rules a **Taurus ascendant**, it tends to make the affairs of its house immobile but pretty.

**Mars** when the ruling planet will be aggressive according to the house it occupies. *Caution:* Depending on the house, Mars may send another to do his job for him. Mars in the 7th, ruling the first, may have a rather nasty partner. When the ascendant is **Aries**, Mars' attacks are overt. When the ascendant is **Scorpio**, Mars is sneaky and intense. Why does this apply only to Mars? Because Mars, uniquely, is aggressive. The other planets are not. Remember that Uranus and Pluto are not part of this.

**Jupiter when ruling a Sagittarius** ascendant expands the house in which he is situated. If in the 11th (in Libra), the native is known for his many personal friends, for example. When ruling a **Pisces ascendant** there can be a universal response to Jupiter's house and sign. If ruling Pisces from, say, Scorpio in the 9th, there can be a universal, penetrating understanding of religion, for example.

Note that regardless of a Sag or Pisces ascendant, Jupiter as the ruler only rarely makes one rich, though when in a money house a lot of it can pass through one's hands. Remember the ability to keep and hold is not the same as sheer volume. If Pisces rises and Jupiter — or the Moon — are conjunct in an earth or water sign, massive weight can result.

**Saturn when ruling an Aquarian** ascen-

dant can make one irresponsible and impersonal, according to the house and sign in which Saturn is found. This is because Saturn treats Aquarius as a sort of experiment. It will set up the experiment, let it run and return only at the end, if at all, to judge matters. (Which, by the way, is Saturn's way with the Aquarian Age in which we now find ourselves.)

When **Saturn rules a Capricorn ascendant**, Saturn is in its active mode. The native is serious and sober according to Saturn's house and sign. This is most pronounced when Saturn is angular, as the angles, uniquely, represent oneself (1), one's partner (7), one's father (4), and one's mother (10), who are usually confined to the native's background, as, unlike

Mars, Saturn will hide whenever he can.

**O**NCE you have confirmed the ascendant, identified its ruling planet, and placed that planet by sign and house and seen these echoed by the native himself, you may find further confirmation by noting the houses of his Sun and Moon. The Sun's house is where his life centers, the Moon's house is where his emotions are, for better or worse.

One can generally describe one's attitude to life by noting the house, sign and aspects to the Moon. Squares indicate stress from the planets and houses where the planets may be found, while oppositions to the Moon, by house, are, literally, the people and

places that do not like him. Individuals who lack oppositions, such as George W. Bush, can have charmed lives indeed, as they are rarely ever told "no," and if they are, it does not stick.

If you are rectifying a chart from scratch, you can further confirm it by noting transiting Saturn's passage from angle to angle, as Saturn will invariably leave a mark.

Aspects, while easy to find, are subordinate. They are used to bring forth specific details, as necessary.

*Next week:* The Beast.

William Lilly, from pg. 1:—

**S**O if astrology was used to unseat the King, and then was used to restore the monarchy, then astrology “burned” both sides. A total of eighteen years of death and loss and destruction (a nodal cycle) resulting in a general, *visceral* revulsion to astrologers and astrology.

Which, in fact, seemed to have happened. Lilly had to rescue **John Gadbury** from execution, even though the two men hated each other. After the monarchy had been restored the King’s men went looking for excuses to get Bill, whose Parliamentary sentiments were given in 1647 in the final lines of **Christian Astrology Book I** (*For Kings are earth, and no more than men; and the time is coming, &c. when.*). In 1666 the Monarchy nearly had him in a prophecy he had made 20 years earlier that seemed to forecast the **Fire of London**. Only some deft work (creative fibs) on Lilly’s part, as well as help behind the scenes spared him.

As it was, the free-wheeling, anything goes world of the 1640’s and ’50’s came to a crashing end in 1662 with the appointment of **Roger L’Estrange** as the national censor. L’Estrange was a good choice for the post. In 1644 he had been sentenced to death as a spy, but after four years was released. That kind of searing experience can make someone rather compliant to authority, which he subsequently was. He was most enthusiastic in his post, in which he continued to 1679.

So it would seem that after the monarchy had been restored, no one quite knew what to do with astrology or astrologers, but everyone was convinced they had had enough of us. And so, as if by magic, astrology fell out of favor in England at the same time it was falling out of favor on the continent, and for the same reason astrology has always fallen out of favor:

**Astrology reveals the truth.** That is all. If only one party uses it he may freely have his way, as we saw with Ronald Reagan and his charmed life. If everyone uses it, astrology effectively cancels out.

So why do we learn this craft? Why do I write these weekly newsletters, when I could just as easily sleep in?

Because astrology empowers YOU, the common rabble, to know the knaves and fools who rule us. Who will always rule us. There is no such thing as a “good government.” There never will be, no matter what they call it or how fancy — or simple — they make it. The American Founding Fathers had the start of a good idea when they said, Let the Press Rule Over All, but a better solution is

**Give astrology to the people**, so that the people will know. But we do not have a lot of time. The more powerful astrology becomes, the more enemies it will have. Know that in the past the enemies of astrology have always won. Will they win yet again?

Back to biographies of William Lilly. As I mentioned, a book that revealed his true position in English society would be a national best-seller. I thought of sending an email to the author’s editor at Watkins, but declined.

**H**ERE’S a start. I was looking at Wiki’s English Civil War page. The opening illustration showed the **Battle of Nasby**, which Wiki said was the turning point of the war. So I went to the Nasby page and learned the date of the battle was June 14, 1645. England used the Old Style/Julian calendar at that time, but OS/NS was unspecified. I presumed it was Old Style, added ten days and set a noontime chart for the 24th with a Sun at 3 Cancer and a Moon at 13 Cancer. A new moon. That was interesting.

Then I woke up and realized the battle was set on a *new moon* that fell three days after the *summer solstice*. And I remembered that more than a century later **Ebenezer Sibly** gave us the awful July 4 chart with house cusps based on the previous *summer solstice*, as seen in *London*. (Which, misunderstood by modern astrologers, has forever trapped us into a Declaration chart with either Gemini or Sagittarius rising, though actual historical records will support neither time.)

I dove back into Wiki’s article on Nasby. Who arranged the battle for that date? Much further down, I learned it was the brilliant but erratic George Digby. Who was he? Wiki gave a **helpful link**.

Now hot on the trail, I ripped through Wiki’s Digby article until, under **Character**, I read **Horace Walpole**’s opinion of the man:

He wrote against popery and embraced it; he was a zealous opposer of the court and a sacrifice for it; was conscientiously converted in the midst of his prosecution of Lord Strafford and was most unconscientiously a persecutor of Lord Clarendon. With great parts, he always hurt himself and his friends; with romantic bravery, he was always an unsuccessful commander. He spoke for the Test Act, though a Roman Catholic; **and addicted himself to astrology on the birthday of true philosophy.** (*emphasis: Dave*) (“True philosophy” is the Enlightenment, an evil. “Popery” is derogatory.) And I was astonished.

Does this prove my contention, that astrology guided the English Civil War?

**No, not at all**, but it is reason for further research. Instead I am asked to praise unimaginative, academic dreck. Look at the Nasby chart for yourself, look at the summer solstice three days previous (**next page**).

In the meanwhile I should reset and reprint Lilly’s own Autobiography. It’s time.

### Battle of Nasby

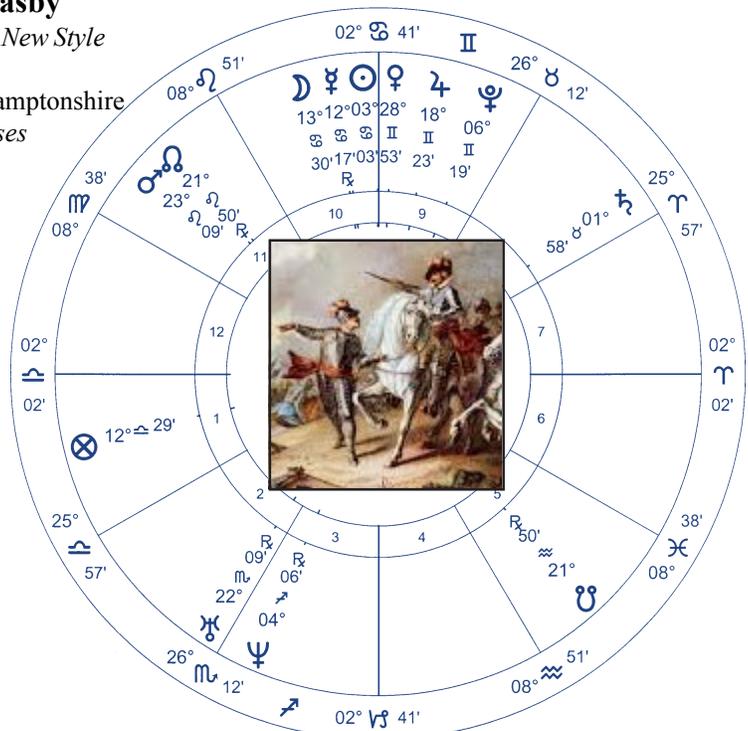
June 24, 1645 *New Style*

“Noon”

Nasby, Northamptonshire

*Placidus houses*

*Mean node*



# Summer Solstice 1645

June 21, 1645 *New Style*

7:01 am LMT

London

*Placidus houses*

*Mean node*

