

nation, the shape of a fantastic monster. A map of the district was published in which this was indicated, and the monster was dubbed *gerrymander*, a word made up from *Gerry* and *salamander*.¹ Usually such devices hardly survive the campaign that produces them,—but the gerrymander tickled the fancy of the American people, and the word is still in common use, both as a noun and as a verb. *Slantindicular*, a jocose amalgam of *slantin'* and *perpendicular*, has not fared quite so well."

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The interesting reflections on the uses, functions, and effects of slang, we have not the space to reproduce here. But the foregoing will be sufficient to whet the reader's appetite for a fuller study of this instructive book. μ.

HYMN TO THE SUN.²

BY SIR C. E. CARRINGTON.

[The interest of these lines lies in the evidence they afford that the Gayatri serves a modern Christian as a devotional exercise just as well as it served an Indian five thousand years ago. There is no religion which might not adopt it. It is truly the *Leitmotiv* of the universe, just as the swastika—of which the hidden significance was probably exactly the same—is the universal symbol. E. M. C.]

Thou mighty sun diffusing
Around a light divine,
I view thee, but am musing
On Him who bade thee shine!

Thou, over plain and mountain,
Shed'st thy pervasive beam;
Thy God, the living fountain,
Thou, but a borrowed stream.

Shine on, then, wide extending
His glory o'er the earth,
I view thee, lowly bending
To Him that gave thee birth.

Shine on, majestic pouring
Thy day-spring's golden sea;
I hail thee, still adoring
The God who bade thee be.

THE GAZA COIN.

The Gaza coin, published in *The Open Court* for March 1902, p. 160, which is here reproduced, bears a symbol which looks like a mutilated swastika; but Prof. Charles C. Torrey, of New Haven, Conn., kindly informs me that it denotes the letter M, and is the final abbreviation for Marna, the chief deity of Gaza. The word means "our Lord," like the Phœnician "Ba'al" and the Hebrew "Adonai."

¹ See an article on "The Machinery of Politics and Proportional Representation" by W. R. Ware, in *The American Law Review*, VI., 282-286 (with a facsimile of the original gerrymander, from a broadside, p. 284).

² Written in 1816. Evidently inspired by the Gayatri.