

Who is the Adept?

Francis Bacon 16th c. philosopher OR Roger Bacon, 13th c. magician ?



Francis Bacon - English philosopher, statesman, scientist, jurist & author.

“Bacon was one of the first to strike the key-note of materialism, not only by his inductive method (renovated from ill-digested Aristotle), but by the general tenor of his writings. He inverts the order of mental Evolution when saying that "the first Creation of God was the light of the sense; the last was the light of the reason; and his Sabbath work ever since is the illumination of the Spirit." It is just the reverse. The light of Spirit is the eternal Sabbath of the mystic or occultist, and he pays little attention to that of mere sense.”

Secret Doctrine i 408

“The Aristotle-Baconian method may have its advantages, but it has **undeniably already demonstrated its defects.**”

Secret Doctrine ii 153

“The immorality or virtue of a theosophical leader no more affects the truth of theosophical ideas, than **the mendaciousness and dishonesty of Francis, Lord Bacon**, do the intellectual value of the contents of his *opus magnum*.”

HPB, Our Third Volume (article)

“Lord Bacon used to fall down senseless at the beginning of every **lunar eclipse** and returned to consciousness but when it was over.”

HPB, “Whence the Name “Lunatic”?” (article)

Roger Bacon - “Doctor Mirabilis,” English philosopher, Franciscan friar, educational reformer & major medieval proponent of experimental science.



“Thus finally Science, in the person of its highest representatives, in order to make itself clearer to the profane, adopts the phraseology of such **old adepts as Roger Bacon**, and returns to the "protyle.”

Secret Doctrine i 553

“The **Knowledge** of Roger Bacon did not come to this wonderful old magician† by inspiration, but because he studied ancient works on magic and alchemy, having a key to the real meaning of words.”

Secret Doctrine i 581-2

† “... **Roger Bacon belonged by right, if not by fact, to that Brotherhood** which includes all those who study the occult sciences. Living in the thirteenth century, almost a contemporary, therefore, of Albertus Magnus and Thomas Aquinas, his discoveries—such as gunpowder and optical glasses, and his mechanical achievements—were considered by everyone as so many miracles. He was accused of having made a compact with the Evil One.” (HPB denies this.)

Secret Doctrine i † fn 581-2

“Is it the Van Helmonts, the Khunraths, the **Paracelsuses and Agrippas, from Roger Bacon down to St. Germain**, who were all blind enthusiasts, hysteriatics or cheats, or is it the handful of modern sceptics—the "leaders of thought"—who are struck with the cecity of negation?”

Secret Doctrine i 611