

grass of the fields 7 years. The elders of Israel were 70. The blood was to be sprinkled before the altar 7 times. Naaman was to be dipped 7 times in Jordan: Apuleius speaks of dipping the head 7 times in the sea for purification. In all solemn rites of purgation, dedication, and consecration, the oil or water was 7 times sprinkled.— Out of Mary Magdalene were cast 7 devils. The Apostles chose 7 deacons. Enoch, who was translated, was the 7th after Adam, and Jesus Christ the 77th in a direct line. Within this number are connected all the mysteries of Apocalypse revealed to the 7 churches of Asia: there appeared 7 golden candlesticks, and 7 stars in the hand of him that was in the midst, 7 lamps being the 7 Spirits of God, the book with 7 seals, the lamb with 7 horns and 7 eyes, 7 angels with 7 seals, 7 Kings, 7 thunders, 7 thousand men slain, the dragon with 7 heads and 7 crowns, the beast with 7 heads, 7 angels bringing 7 plagues and phials of wrath. There are also numbered 7 heavens, 7 planets, 7 stars, 7 wise men, 7 champions of Christendom, 7 notes of music, 7 primary colours. Perfection is likened to gold 7 times purified in the fire. Anciently a child was not named before 7 days, not being accounted fully to have life before that periodical day. At thrice 7 years the faculties are developed, manhood commences, man becomes legally competent to all civil acts; at four times 7 a man is in full possession of his strength; at five times 7 he is fit for the business of the world; at six times 7 he becomes grave and wise, or never; at seven times 7 he is in his apogee, and from that day decays; at eight times 7 he is in his first climacteric, or year of danger; and ten times 7, or three score years and ten, has, by the royal Prophet, been pronounced the natural period of human life. The 7th thousand year is believed by many to be the Sab-

batical thousand or Millenium. On the 7th day God rested from His labours, after creating the heavens and the earth.—*Early Days.*

MICHAEL FARADAY.

Michael Faraday, England's most eminent chemist, was born in 1794, the son of a poor blacksmith. He was early apprenticed to one Ribeau, a bookbinder, in Blanford street, and worked at the craft until he was twenty-two years of age. While an apprentice, his master called the attention of one of his customers, (Mr. Dance, of Manchester,) to an electrical machine and other things which the young man had made; and Mr. Dance, who was one of the members of the Royal Institution, took him to hear the four last lectures which Sir Humphrey Davy gave as a professor. Faraday attended, and seating himself in the gallery, took notes of the lectures, and at a future time sent his manuscript to Davy, with a short and modest account of himself, and a request, if it were possible, for scientific employment in the labors of the laboratory. Davy, struck with the clearness and accuracy of the memoranda, and confiding in the talents and perseverance of the writer, offered him, upon the occurrence of a vacancy in the laboratory, in the beginning of 1813, the post of assistant, which he accepted. At the end of the year he accompanied Davy and his lady over the continent, as secretary and assistant, and in 1815 returned to his duties in the laboratory, and ultimately became Fullerian Professor. Mr. Faraday's researches and discoveries have raised him to the highest rank among European philosophers, while his high faculty of expounding to a general audience the result of recondite investigations, makes him one of the most attractive lecturers of the age.— He has selected the most difficult and