

Editorial Department:
19, Avenue Road,
Regent's Park, N. W.

Telegraphic Address:
"Blavatsky",
London.

The Theosophical Review

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July 19th 1899

Dear Mr. Ervast,

When a man is to work in the world, a diploma of a recognised University makes him more useful. Theosophy needs well instructed men, with trained brains. Before people were admitted to the Mysteries in the old days, they had to be thoroughly well-educated in the learning of their time. People do not begin with the Mysteries.

A degree is only valuable when it comes from a recognised school of learning. The "University" of Paris is not such a school. It does not place any value on its diplomas.

The Theosophical Review
It teaches neither esoteric learning
nor sound occultism, & is accepted at
alike by the public & the Theosophists.

Occult teaching will never be
a matter of universities & schools.
Such a school as our E.S. only
prepares the student for the real
teaching, which is given on the
astral plane to the prepared pupil.
Esoteric teaching of the preparatory
kind only can be given on the
physical plane, & that is given.

Ever your friend

Annie Besant