



Christian

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Thomas J. Shelton
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Regeneration of the Body by the Resurrection of the Mind

P

ATIENCE

"But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:4.



Let not your hearts be troubled.
You believe in God, believe also in Yourself.
In my Father's House are Many Mansions.
I go to prepare a place for you.
That where I AM you may be also.
Spirit is speaking of Mental Mansions.
Mortal mind lives in a mudhouse.
The mind of the Spirit is Life and Peace.
It is the Dwelling Place of the Most High.
It is the home of the Soul.
It comes through the resurrection of the mind.
It is a sure and certain unfoldment.
It is perfection of mind and body.
Perfection does not come in a day.
Have patience!
You will be a long time alive.



LET SOMETHING GOOD BE SAID.

When over the fair fame of friend or foe
The shadow of disgrace shall fall; instead
Of words of blame, or proof of thus and so.
Let something good be said.

Forget not that no fellow being yet
May fall so low but love may lift his head,
Even the cheek of shame with tears is wet.
If something good be said.

No generous heart may vainly turn aside
In ways of sympathy; no soul so dead
But may awaken strong and glorified.
If something good be said.

And so I charge ye, by the thorny crown,
And by the cross on which the Saviour
bled,
And by your souls' hope of fair renown.
Let something good be said!

—James Whitcomb Riley in the Reader for
October.

ITEMS AND IDEAS.

*** I wish to emphasize healing.

*** This is the important part of the
work.

*** It is more than taking treatments
for success

*** It is joining a financial fellowship,
and partnership.

*** It is getting into a mental move-
ment, a vibration.

*** It is the seeking for health, happi-
ness and prosperity.

*** In giving these treatments I feel the
vibrations, the movement.

*** All over the land this movement is
making for our advancement and upbuild-
ing.

*** My wife and I want to give you the
very best that is in us for your health, hap-
piness and success.

*** We can't do it if you are stingy
and close in money matters, unresponsive
and doubtful of mind, and unloving and
sceptical in spirit.

*** You are not that way, and I want
to congratulate you on being free, gener-
ous, responsive, and full of the Spirit of
Love, for all these things come back to you.

*** Don't come knocking with a tiny
touch, as if you were afraid of your own
shadow. Ask for what you really desire.
And ask boldly, fearlessly. It belongs to
you, and you have a right to your own.

*** Never tie any strings to your peti-
tion. Don't ask mincingly, pleadingly, as
if you were a beggar or a tramp at the
back door of God. You are the whole thing,
and you must act accordingly. Call for
great things. Ask for abundance.

*** I don't want you unless you want
me. I am not soliciting patronage. My
own is coming to me and getting full re-
turns. If you are in this fellowship you
will know it. If you are not, don't try to
force yourself into it. Let the spontaneous
vibrations of the Spirit lead you to your
own place.

*** "You will see by the above address,
that we are in our new home. We like it
very much. Thank you, although we are
not settled yet."

Hurrah for the homes! I like to get re-
ports of this kind. It shows that the Word
spoken in CHRISTIAN is bearing fruit.

*** It is not safe to send currency in
the common mail. It used to be all right.
But my mail is now so well known that the
thieves mark it. Many people do send cur-
rency right along. You must be your own
judge. Postal order will only cost you a
penny or two, and you can register for eight
cents. The Circle of Christians hasn't any
money to scatter among thieves.

*** I still give two copies of my book.
for every dollar received for treatments.
That is, if you mention the matter and ask
for the books. I want you to ask for them,
for yourself and your friends. I want you
to ask now before it is everlastingly too
late. This is part of our generosity. Just
as long the books last, you can have full
value for your dollar in books, and the heal-
ing will go right along just the same.

*** The first page of last CHRISTIAN was
Freedom, and you gave it a rousing recep-
tion. I am afraid that you will not give
Patience the same kind of a reception. Mor-
tal mind is impatient. It is restless and full
of the fidgets. You had better receive Pa-
tience with the full hand of fellowship.
Give her the glad hand! She is a hand-
maid of freedom, and has much to do with
your unfoldment. Patience brings perfec-
tion.

*** It is well to let your subscription be-
gin with the back numbers as far as I can
supply them. At present we can not go any
farther back than July, and maybe not that
far back by the time you get this paper.
There are really no "back numbers" of
CHRISTIAN. People are still calling for
May number, but the edition is exhausted
long ago. It is well to introduce three or
four copies of CHRISTIAN at a time to your
friends. And use the book freely while it
lasts.

*** "My first year in the Circle is draw-
ing to a close. I hope to go on indefinitely,
and CHRISTIAN grows more spiritual, more
powerful, more exalted every month. Very
much of my time and thought is given to
the work of bettering my sense of life and
truth."

This is a fair sample of the way that
Christians are climbing up and finding
health, happiness and prosperity. A year
in the Circle of Christians makes a great
difference. Ten years will make more.

*** "I am still with you, in fact, I shall
never retire or abandon the Circle. We are
all "Masons," a magnetic circle or band
enfolds us, and it is glorious to contemplate."

Yes, we are all Masons, and it is genu-
ine Masonry, for it includes the women and
the children. The Light comes to you from
within and you enter by your own vibra-
tions. No one can let you in or put you
out. The secrets are your own, direct from
headquarters. I know that you know, and
you know that I know that you know!

*** "You say in last CHRISTIAN of a base
ball player and wife, "They are both enthu-
siastic Christians." How in the name of all
that is good and bad, can you make out
that base ball players are Christians?
Christ nor any of his apostles ever played
base ball or even advocated it."

That is all you know about Christianity.
Base ball is a kind of out-door theatre, and
is healthful, clean, and good. The profes-
sional base ball player is working for wages

and the work is as legitimate as the stage,
the pulpit, the bank, the boat, the butcher,
the baker, or the candlestick maker.

*** Help us make the subscription list
up to date. If you don't want CHRISTIAN,
say so, and let me take your name off the
list. The word "Stop" with your name and
address is all that is sufficient. You need
not go into explanations. If you know of
persons who are receiving CHRISTIAN with-
out paying any attention to it, let me know
and I will mark them off the list. If you
are behind, pay up, or drop me a postal card.
Only one more issue until the close of this
year, and the next year must begin with an
up to date list.

*** "Enclosed find two dollars. I owe
it and more, to our Institution, (Ha! Ha!)
where everyone thinks for himself with T.
J. as instructor along that line—See! I am
over 66 years young."

It is seldom that a man as young as you
are ever contributes money to such an in-
stitution as the Circle of Christians. The
moss is generally growing on his back and
he is content to repeat over the creeds of
dead men. Yes, this is an institution, where
each individual is the whole institution for
himself. The teacher is the Spirit of Truth.

*** "More than thirty years ago I heard
you preach when you were a young rooster,
just hatched out of the nest at the Uni-
versity. Came to preach to us at L— with
your regulation long-tailed coat hanging to
you. My! Didn't you strut and scratch the
ground those days!"

Don't mention it! Why should you rake
up such harrowing scenes? I remember
trying to save all of you sinners at L—, but
here is one that was left unsaved, or he
would not be throwing it up to me. Maybe
I'll catch you yet, you old tough, and bring
you to the way of repentance.

*** If you do not wish the books for
your dollar, you can call for a subscription
for yourself or your friends. If you send
ten dollars for treatments you are entitled
to ten subscriptions to CHRISTIAN. I don't
know how long this offer will keep up, so
you had better strike me while I am in a
generous mood. I could easily demand and
get ten dollars a month straight for the
treatments. This would cut off some people
who are not able, at present, to pay that
much money. So the Spirit of Truth divides
the matter up in a scale reaching from one
dollar to ten dollars per month.

*** "I want to say, for my heart is very
full, I have never criticised your journal—
it has so filled a heretofore waste spot in
me, that I have had nothing to say. But
allow me to say now, that the cover, the
outside pages, are beyond any money price.
The first is a powerful treatment, and
should be framed and hung in the sleeping
room of every Christian."

This comes from a villa in Italy, and from
a long time reader and friend of CHRISTIAN.
The first and last pages of CHRISTIAN are
becoming, more and more, condensations of
the thought in each number. They are good
treatments for mind and body.

*** "The few numbers of CHRISTIAN thus
far received have interested me keenly. It
is not only instructive, but at the same time
there is a sparkle in your words. Truth
told in such a way that it actually glistens
with a sense of humor. Merriment of the

soul, which after all is the attitude of a true Christian."

This is the way one of the new Christians talks. You see what a good thing you people are doing by sowing the seed, that is, sowing CHRISTIAN? This writer was put on the list by one of the Christians, and she comes right back with her own dollar and puts another person on the list. Keep it going.

*** "You are surely growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Such upliftment and inspiration as the September and October numbers of CHRISTIAN were! That title page was just the fullness of God and it was such a help to me the whole month. I can not tell you how many times I read it over."

Yes, we are all growing in grace and into the knowledge of the Lord Christ. That means that we are growing into the knowledge of ourselves. Christ is not something set apart, or something to worship. Christ is our own divinity, the Spirit of Truth working within us.

*** "I am 40, and have lived alone for the last ten years. Am getting tired of it. I notice that you are running a department store, so I expect you to send me a good wife."

I like that department store idea, and I will send you a good wife by giving you the treatments that will make you a center of attraction. A man who is forty and has not found a wife needs a regular blowing up. But I will not blow you up, for maybe some girl turned you down earlier in life. If so, the sore spot ought to be healed by this time, and you must look out for another girl.

*** "Some time ago I sent you a dollar to treat a sore on my leg; it healed, and I, like a little fool, did not stay in the Circle of Christians."

Well, you didn't have to stay in the Circle of Christians. I never use any black magic, or malicious animal magnetism, or other means to hold my people. A Christian Scientist wrote in here the other day, in great distress, because she was being persecuted by that sect on account of her reading of CHRISTIAN. I told her that when she got to be a regular naturalized Christian she would pay no more attention to such childishness.

*** "But aren't you scared to treat for husbands in these homes you are helping make? Just s'posin' your treatment would take effect in my new home. I guess then I'd wish I had made it larger."

This woman is one of the sweetest Christians ever enrolled in the Circle and she has just finished the prettiest home cottage that you ever saw. She is in need of a husband. Now you rubber necks! I will not give you her address. That would be giving her a husband through suggestion. Besides, there is only one man in a thousand that would suit her, so 999 of you would be disappointed. She lives in—the United States.

*** "I asked you, the 18th of August, to give treatments to my friend. In one week from that time the family reported him as being better. He has been improving right along, and is now about the streets the most of his time. Of course, the M. D. gets the credit for his recovery, but we don't care for that, do we?"

No, we don't care for that, or anything like it. Christianity is for the healing of

the mind and body, and no matter what the means used, or who gets the credit. The man is on the streets and getting well, so that is glory enough for a Christian. These little petty jealousies belong to sects and parties, but Christians are not bound by such littleness. Majestic vibrations!

*** "Help me to drop my burdens, to live in the now, to feel that I have time enough to listen to Spirit."

That is just exactly what you will have to do, and the sooner you do it, the better for you. "Cast your care on Him who careth for you," is scientific. God is certainly free from burdens, and as soon as you turn to the God of you, the Spirit within, your burdens are cast into the bottomless pit. Joy is the very essence of the universe. The principle of life is pleasure. Get rid of the clock and the almanac, and know that you are Here, and can't get away. You say that is easy to preach and hard to practice. It is just as easy to practice as it is to preach it.

*** "Ought we to ask God to bless our food before we partake of same? Is it right to pray in public? Ought we to partake of the Lord's supper?"

In all such matters you must follow your own Spirit. I do not ask a blessing at the table. I never pray in public. I do not eat what is called the Lord's supper, but all of my suppers are the suppers of the Lord. I live and move and have my being in Spirit. I do not believe that Christianity ever contemplated forcing on men public worship of any kind. Jesus Christ spoke the deepest of all truths, when he said: "God is Spirit, and they that worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." If you are Spirit then you must worship God within yourself. You can't find him outside.

*** "I have a friend and neighbor who is an uneducated man, but full of wisdom and wonderful healing power. When I questioned him about his 'magic' power, he only answered, 'It is in me, but Shelton's vibrations bring it out.' How is it done? Will your vibrations bring this to anyone of us who come into them?"

All men have not the same gift. The gift of healing is from the Spirit and is only one of the spiritual gifts. Many persons ruin their own health by trying to heal others. When my healing vibrations come to you they are for your own healing. If the Spirit calls you to heal others you will not have to depend upon me to bring out the vibrations. Be sure that you have the gift of healing and then go ahead.

*** "The threat in October CHRISTIAN to mark off your list all the 1904 people, unless they pay up, makes me hustle to send the money for this year's subscription right away quick. CHRISTIAN grows more and more vital. It is like a clarion call to my sluggish mentality."

And she made a mistake in reading the tag, for she was not behind on her subscription. Say, I wish you people would either pay up or get off the list. Just as soon as I call for people to pay up, here comes the ones who have been paying all the time. I don't dare say "money" to the regular Christians, or it will come flying at me. But how can I jog the others up without you seeing it? I will just mark 'em off when they are

a year or so behind, and then if they want CHRISTIAN, they will miss it.

*** "I took your precious October CHRISTIAN out of the office yesterday, but did not have time to open it until now, and your vibrations are so strong that I am impelled to tell you so at this moment. Your front page is a whole sermon in itself. My spontaneous thought, as my eyes ran over it, were: God bless T. J. Shelton! The touch of CHRISTIAN sends a thrill of Joy all through me. Yes, you do send majestic vibrations."

Why not? I have been signing I AM T. J. Shelton to my letters for a dozen years. And I ought to be able by this time to manifest the truth. There must be majestic vibrations, or else the I AM in front of my name is a false sign. It has been gradually asserting itself by the vibrations of life and truth, and it is getting stronger and stronger every day. CHRISTIAN must be made a live wire from the Sun Center.

*** A well known Boston metaphysician called here this summer, and asked me for personal treatments. He wanted a mental rest as well as a physical, to prepare himself for his fall and winter work. It was a very wise move on his part. But when he came to pay me he said he was ashamed to give me a dollar, so gave me ten. He said that he charged a dollar for each treatment, and he believed that the people got more benefit by paying the higher price. He has been my personal friend for several years, and said his first doubt of my ability to heal was on account of my low prices. He and Mrs. Shelton entered into an argument to convince me that I was wrong. In other words, they tried to make me believe that God was mistaken. The Spirit of Truth is trying to meet people on their own ground. I notice as the dollar people begin to rise in the world, they increase their payments.

*** "I send you herewith a couple of dollars. You have done me a deucedly lot of good. My health is better beyond any question. My finances seem to loom up a little also. Your last CHRISTIAN was a great help to me. I was in the dumps when it came. I read it through and was restored."

That is the way a lawyer talks. So you see that CHRISTIAN does not draw the lines anywhere, and I am treating many drug doctors for success. People will take drugs, and so when the drug doctors come to me, I whoop up their business, and especially their collections. You would be surprised at the number of physicians who are coming to me for their own health. They don't take their own medicine, but they take mine. Lawyers come for instruction and help in their business; even preachers are on my list of patients. All these kind of men do good in the world. The preachers would be a power if they would practice Christianity.

*** "Your paper does me so much good that I snatch it open without looking at the outside. I have let go all other publications but yours, as it is the only real clean one I know. You needn't tell your readers that you are climbing. We can see that. Were you to stop, we should soon know it, even if we are away back in the rear. I have not arrived at the place where I am not dependent on a personal letter, like our friend in this number. I want the letter, even if only a few lines. They are an inspiration to me."

This good woman happened to see 6-05 on her wrapper, and she hastened to send the dollar and the postage. I wish people who are back a year or two would get a little nervous over their subscription. But when I call for people to pay up, it is generally those who are already paid up who respond. Many of my readers are one hundred years in advance. While others are a year or two behind. I am going to make this subscription list an up to date affair. If you haven't the money, send me a card and I will call you up to date.

*** "I wish I could tell you how much good your letters do me. When I read in your last, 'You are a life member of the Circle of Christians,' I just sat down to a good, old-fashioned cry."

Well, sometimes a good old-fashioned cry washes away the dust of doubt. You get up and go on your way stronger for having shed the tears. The comparison may not be very elegant, but this little woman always makes me think of a Colorado burro. You know after you have piled on the back of a burro all that you can possibly pile on, you then put on some more. She has carried a load, which very few women or men are able to carry. To drop from affluence to poverty, is a pretty big drop. But to get up and bear your burden, with sweetness of Spirit, is greater heroism than ever was shown on the field of battle. This little woman has done all of this and much more. And so she had a good old-fashioned cry because she found that she couldn't get outside of the Circle of Christians. How can you get out? There is no fence around it.

*** "What do you mean by the center of the sun? Is not what we term sun just as material as anything we perceive by the senses?"

There is much nonsense about the use of this word material. Matter is the clothing of Spirit, but the clothing is in direct conjunction with the Spirit. A dead tree isn't much, for it has no Spirit in it. A living tree has Spirit in it, and therefore we say it is alive. When I speak of the sun center, I am talking about the literal sun in the sky. Of course we have never seen the sun that is within the sun. From this center all life flows. We are getting our being in a kind of second hand way from the sun. Illumination of the mind will bring us into direct conjunction with the sun, and so we will live without having to masticate stored up sunshine in the shape of vegetables. Don't you see that this thing of eating, digesting and assimilating food is a round-about way of living? It is neither easy nor elegant. It is a cumbersome kind of life. Life should come through the mind directly from the sun center. Mortal man is a kind of vegetable.

*** "While reading the other day, I ran across this passage, 'Many are called, but few are chosen.' Would you please give your explanation of that passage?"

It is absolutely impossible to choose until the mind responds to the call. Truth is forever calling, but he does not choose you as one with the truth, until you respond to the call. Mathematics, as a science, exists and will forever exist, but some people can't count. Many are called, but few are chosen.

Music is a science. It is an eternal and everlasting science, but some people can't play or even hum a tune. Many are called, but few are chosen. Life and immortality has been calling to men. And yet there is not an immortal man made visible on the earth. They have been too busy thinking about other things. The priests have told them that immortality is something to be gained on the other side of the grave. Having nothing else to do except to wait for the grave, they have been making graves by killing each other. All this time the Spirit has been calling men to life and Life everlasting! Just now we have begun to see a little glimmer of Light, and are following it to immortality.

*** "I have just finished reading October CHRISTIAN. And I will keep on reading it. I get so much good out of it every time I read it. Well, my dear boy, a wonderful thing has happened. You know about my little girl that you have been treating. She is now in a state of perfect health. It happened some two months ago, all at once, apparently, but like Thomas of old, I had my doubts about it being permanent, so I waited. She is now as strong and wiry as she used to be, and I thank God for the good the Spirit has done her through you. The doctor told me I would have to put her under the surgeon's knife. I told him not while she was a child of mine. He said, you will have to come to it, there is no other hope. I can give him the merry ha ha now. But there he was, honest in thinking as he did, and I give credit for it."

If the father rejoices any more over the redemption of his girl than I do, his heart is certainly full of joy. The little scamp wrote me herself, and took an interest in me. I would have lost faith if it had not been for her faith. And she was nothing but a little tot. I got so interested in her that I was afraid my sympathy would affect the treatments. I was about to say that she pulled me through, and I think there is much truth in it. There is a deep science of the Spirit in what the New Testament says about your faith making you whole.

*** "Here I am again writing to you. Shake hands! So! You know there was something in your August and September numbers of CHRISTIAN which appealed so to me, which I liked so immensely, that I have to write you a few lines. It is what you said about getting a home of our own, leading an independent life. Why, dear friend, you have no idea how intensely I have wished for just that. And now, since years, I have feared that this would never come to me, because this wish was so great, and I saw all around me that we never get what we most dearly want to possess. Now, you gave me new courage, new ideas. I am so ready to leave emotion and romancing behind me and enter the rational period. You said this all so beautifully."

The above is an extract from a letter all the way from Germany. The writer has been in the Circle of Christians for many years. Yes, the vibrations started for a home of your own and an independent life met with a hearty response. It means more than a temporary home in a temporary body. It means a resurrection from the dead, and Life Eternal. The real home of the soul in an indestructible body. "This mortal shall put on immortality and this corruptible shall put on incorruption. Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory."

This is not an idle thought floating in the Scriptures, but a scientific statement. A real home, and an absolutely independent life, demands a body as indestructible as the Spirit which inhabits it.

*** "My house is only about ten minutes' walk from the church, and my land adjoins the church lot. The neighbors say that it's too bad that people living so near the church don't attend, while those living miles away attend regularly. Now, I would rather that the neighbors should think well of me than ill. But—you know how it is. To sit listening to those old hymns, a hundred years old or more, and the sermons! Deliver me! I would a thousand times rather take a copy of CHRISTIAN and hie myself away into the depths of my forest by myself, where nothing but birds and chipmunks disturb me. It seems that in nearly every corner I have to bump up against this confounded conventionality. You must do like everybody else does or you are marked. It is either my neighbors' good opinion, or they'll look askance at me. What would you do in my place?"

I would do as I pleased. I know just how you are situated, and it seems almost impossible for a man to live without acting a hypocrite. Where people do not want to go to church, or attend so-called religious services, they should be free to follow their own minds. But there is where the Institution has a grip on you. If people were left absolutely free to make their own choice, the churches would be empty and the theatres would be full. I have been all along the road. For more than twenty years I whipped my congregation into line when they lagged, and praised them when they were regular in their attendance. I used to wonder how people who couldn't get to church would ever get to heaven. You bet no preacher bores me nowadays.

*** "I enclose twelve dollars for three months in advance, for myself and wife. I read in CHRISTIAN a hint that you may be compelled to increase the price for treatments. Good! We are a wealthy bunch, but it is up to you. You are the pace, peace and money maker. There is no watered stock in the Circle of Christians. You have the real thing and no competitors, so mark up the price. I borrowed the first dollar you received two years ago from me. It was the best investment I have ever made. I have been a busy, healthy and prosperous man ever since. O, the joy of it! You will have to set a very hot pace that I won't try very hard to keep up with you. In fact, I don't see how you are going to get me behind thee Satan."

If the devil catches the hindmost, he will never get you. There is no need for me to raise the price, for my terms have always been from one to ten dollars per month. Some people seem to think, because the Circle of Christians was made a dollar a month, that I have changed my terms. Not a bit of it! I do not need to raise the price, but to increase the vibrations. I like to leave everybody free, to pay the nominal price of one dollar or more, as they feel like it. This gives room for voluntary vibrations of financial fellowship. The above is from a Brooklyn business man. And he has the temerity to call me Satan! It don't make any difference what you call me, so that you call me early and often. His wife also signed the letter, and you can read between the lines, and see the glow of good fellowship.

*** "The first column and a half of your September sermon was the biggest thing I have ever read. It showed me the way to freedom. I am now Attraction. I am winning everybody and everything. And the glory is only beginning. I do not need anyone's help, but I feel so good about this attractiveness, that I will send you a dollar or more every month as a small appreciation for what you've done for me in 'putting me next.' And it will help some other fellow who is as I was."

That is exactly what we are here for. A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of my people Israel. When a man gets the light, he wants to keep it going to other people. We all need each other. The Circle of Christians is for the advancement of individuals and the way to advance is to get into the procession and carry your own torch. I say to you in all seriousness and without one particle of egotism, that the Circle of Christians is the greatest movement on the planet. It is a movement of the Individual for the Individual. It is a movement for life and life more abundant. It is a movement for all eternity, and is not for the establishment of a mortal Institution. It is for victory over disease and death. It is the putting out of our lives the two autocrats—the undertaker and the almanac. It is not my movement, and it is not your movement, but we are moving in it. It is a movement of the Spirit of Truth, or the manifestation of Christianity. The writer of the above, who is a business man of St. Louis, is simply one of hundreds who are awakening to the fact that they are It. It makes a man feel so good to know that he is not dependent on anything or anybody. He enters into his own kingdom and controls his own environment. Glory to the whole bunch!

*** "Do you think it narrow of the Christian Scientists to proscribe any other reading matter, except C. S. literature? Or is their claim of concentration a good one? I have a friend who started in Christian Science when I started with you. She is doing fine. Is well again and has the position she has been trying for for four years. But she maintains that she believes that she would not have demonstrated over conditions had she pursued any other course. Now your teachings to me are the real thing, and I couldn't confine myself to C. S. literature alone. It may be interesting to know that I have been excommunicated from the Methodist church for playing euchre occasionally. Isn't that my privilege? And will it hinder my progress any?"

All sects are narrow. Christian Science is one of the youngest of the sects and about the narrowest. It is nip and tuck with Dowie and Mrs. Eddy as to narrowness. Of course your friend has demonstrated, because she is walking by faith in an individual. But she would have made a larger and broader demonstration if she had walked by faith in herself. But it may be that she needed this crutch. As to card playing, the safe way is to let one work out their own salvation in freedom. In this house we used to play cards nearly every evening, but we naturally grew out of it, and haven't played a game of any kind in about three years. The mind just naturally grew into something better. If anyone should say we must not play cards I would

go right down town and buy half a dozen decks. Genuine demonstration and permanent progress must come through liberty. Individual freedom and personal choice must govern. It was all right for the Methodist church to fire you. Every institution has its rules, and you must make your own choice as to whether you are to be an individual under self-government, or an individual under the institution. Remember in making your choice, that you can never get beyond the institution until you get out of it.

*** "I am seventy years and one month old to-day. I have been a so-called Baptist preacher 45 years. I have been a practicing physician 24 years, and I am now a mere wreck of mortality. I have lost all faith in every creed and organization. I have failed to find in any of them what I expected, and as to medicine, I regard it as nothing but a deception. I mean what I say. I have tried my own and other noted specialists' to no good purpose, and if ever I get well, it will come from unseen forces, or God power."

Don't you see how the Institutions set a trap for a man when he is a child, and then spring the trap in his early manhood? I have had more trouble getting rid of my father and grandfather's theology than I have had in gaining the truth. There was no room for the truth in my mind, for it was packed full of foolishness. This good man has had a double dose. He has had his Baptist theology mixed with medicine. A man is made a leader in this kind of thought, and he hates to get down from his high horse, even after he finds the horse is a hobby horse. He finds that the horse will not carry him anywhere, and yet he rocks backward and forward in great pomp trying to make people think he is moving. It is the same with all of these professions. The warrior sits up upon his wooden horse and makes a great display. But he knows, if he knows anything, that he is not going anywhere, and didn't come from anywhere, and that he is a fool. When he gets to know and is ready to confess that he is a fool, he is ready for wisdom. Here is a man who is three score years and ten, and confesses himself a fool. And that he has been cheated out of his birthright. The Institution slipped up on him when he was a baby in his mother's arms. They taught him the untruth and fastened it in his mind. It made him a wreck. It always wrecks. It is just the opposite of Christianity. Christianity promises everything to the man here in this life and in himself. It is the kingdom of God within you and this controls your environment. But what has been was for the purpose of education and unfoldment. It has planted the picture of the Truth in the mind. It has sown the seeds of truth in the world and we are now ready to see the harvest. The ground had to be prepared for the seed. There had to be a plowing and harrowing. The whole truth could not be received at once. It is a slow unfoldment and the Spirit has been patient and long suffering. The treasures of the past are not to be thrown away because of the trash and rubbish of the Institution. But mind you, my Beloved, this is the time

of the Resurrection and those things must past away. All things must be made new, and be forever renewed, for Life is an everlasting Life. This means that Life is forever new.

*** Thomas Cook, editor of *The Spirit of Truth*, Hot Springs, Ark., quotes very freely from CHRISTIAN, and then makes the following comment:

"To our own certain knowledge T. J. Shelton has not earned a single dollar for the past ten, and perhaps twenty or more years, by raising food or by making clothing, to feed the hungry and clothe the naked; but has helped to filch pelf from those who earn it, by upholding an unjust, an unholy, and ungodly cash system; and the \$30,000 he boasts of putting in a hole in the ground in search of pelf, never was rightfully or naturally his—he had never earned a cent of it."

You old fossil! To my certain knowledge you have been whining about your poverty and exploiting it for many long years. You have brains enough to earn a good living for yourself and your aged wife, but instead of doing it, you have let silly thoughts of Socialism filter through your brain and leave you in poverty. Instead of earning money by your thought force, you have stuck your own type, and made your aged wife scratch around and work like a slave for the necessities of life. You could have had a splendid business and have been in possession of the comforts of life, if you had acted the man! You kept calling yourself a nobody, and people took you at your own valuation. You have only one prong of the paradox of truth, and so it is a lie. It takes both prongs to make the truth. I have not only earned every dollar that has been paid to me, but many thousands besides. For a quarter of a century I worked like you have been working—glorifying poverty. My eyes were opened, and I found out that the world needed thought, with the right kind of vibration behind it. This would be a pretty world with only those who raise food or make clothes! Bless your old fossilized heart, if it had not been for mind, they would not know how to raise food or make clothing. Flour mills and spinning looms are products of mind. The men of vision prepare the way for blind ones like Thomas Cook. Stay there and stick type and let your wife scratch around in the garden, but I do hope in your next incarnation you will have sense enough to let your light shine. You couldn't even stick type if some man of vision had not invented it. The press on which your little paper is printed came into the world through men of vision. The man who makes two ideas grow where only one grew is a benefactor of mankind. Man kind has come to the place where they appreciate these men of vision and pile money around them. The man who holds a patent for a labor-saving invention is soon a millionaire. It is all right. You claim to be inspired by the Spirit of Jesus, and despise money! Why, Tommy Cook, Jesus is King of the Jews and who ever heard of a Jew despising money! Thrift! The power to accumulate does not carry with it the spirit of hoarding. It is common sense.

THE CENTER OF THE SUN.

Men used to think the earth was the universe.

It had four corners, and the jumping off place was around its edges.

The sun, moon and stars were made for the earth and the inhabitants of the earth were the only people in existence.

God lived and moved and had his being for the earth, and its inhabitants. He amused himself by giving them blessings and curses as it happened to be his fancy. I say God, but there were many gods and devils, and other supernatural beings to prey on mankind. In fact, man was a helpless creature in the hands of the elements, mental and material. The elemental devils got in their work on humanity and once in a while, in special cases, the good angels helped humanity. But as a general thing man was left to the mercy of fate.

You say he made his own mental world by peopling it with devils and goblins, fairies and angels. No doubt of it. He is still keeping up the practice. His thoughts run in the same old groove. While he doesn't exactly believe in devils, he has a substitute in the form of fear and many kinds of diseases. He is also inclined to think that the earth is the center of the universe.

What is the truth?

This is a very small planet and is kept alive by the sun. All the life that is on this planet, including man, came from the sun. The sun is the father of life, and earth is the hatchery. The moon plays an important part in the hatching process. If, then, man is the son of the sun, he is not a product of the earth. His heredity is in the sun. No matter how much influence he may receive from the earth and the moon. He is the legitimate heir of the sun. He inherits from his father. The male and female principle is in the sun. Light is the father and mother principle of being. The sun worshippers did not worship an idol. They were worshiping light, and there isn't anything in this universe greater than light. The original Elohistic worship was sun worship. Jehovah was but a voice of the sun. Elohim was the Father of Lights.

So no matter how small our planet is, we are large in our origin. This is not the only planet where intelligences come forth from the sun. The universe is filled with these mansions called planets. Each solar system has its own central sun and its group of planets. This should call for a Center of centers. There must be a Sun within the sun. There must also be a Sun which is the Center of centers. This gives you a pivotal point to the universe.

The Spirit of Truth, speaking in Paul, said something like this:

"Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see; to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen."

This is what he said of Jesus Christ. It gives you a very different view from the religious idea of Jesus. Jesus Christ is another name for Jehovah. Spirit says emphatically that no man hath seen him, nor can see him, and that he dwelleth in light which is unapproachable. That is the Christ of the Christians, and not a mere human be-

ing who was crucified on the cross. The man of flesh was but a symbol, a messenger of the Spirit of Truth. Religionists have been worshiping the symbol and losing sight of the Spirit. They have been worshipping a man and received the fruit of their worship. They have not risen above the mark of their worship. Jesus, speaking by the Spirit, said that he could do nothing himself. He told us all, and keeps on telling us, that the Spirit of Truth is the only God. This is the Spirit that dwells in the unapproachable light. He comes to us through vibrations. He is made known to us by the Word. When Christianity is separated from paganism, it will be revealed to us as sun worship, the worship of the Light.

Just take up the concordance of the Bible, and see how much is said about light. The word runs through the whole book. Christians are called children of the light. They are taught that God is the Father of Lights, in whom there is no variableness or shadow that is cast by turning. He is the Center of the centers. While our sun does move, the Central Sun is immovable.

A good friend writes:

"I can not refrain from writing you a few lines on your editorial in October CHRISTIAN. When writing you last week my mind was not free enough to appreciate that editorial, after first reading, sufficiently. Soon after my letter had gone out, possibly when it reached you, cheerfulness and hope returned, and I took up the 'What Is Truth' for the second time finishing it Saturday night. But not until I got into the last paragraph did its full meaning dawn upon me. Then I saw that your leading thought must have been 'I and my Father are one.' Like the full chord of a finale in a grand symphony 'Expansion and not concentration' died away; the melody of which sounding in my consciousness ever since. Beautiful and true is it that the King of glory is the one making mud pies on the front steps. I have learned a good deal from that editorial, and only wish I could fix the thoughts derived from it as my head and arms and legs are with me. Your letter of the 7th arrived this morning and was a new joy to me, and I trust that your good wishes will come true in time. What you say about the center of the sun is not my perception of the source of life. I want my life, love, intelligence and power from God, that is, from the spirit filling all the universe, and not from a part of the universe that the sun may be controlling. I thought it over on to-night's walk and can not see it your way. Jesus, too, never referred to the center of the sun."

The Spirit of Truth in Jesus did refer to the center of the sun. In fact, he did not say much about anything else. His whole talk was on that subject. Do you suppose that he called the mortal man, Jesus, the light of the world? If he did he was a lunatic. He was speaking by the Spirit, when he said "I AM the light of the world." He was speaking by the Spirit (another name for Light) when he said "I AM the way, the truth, and the life." The whole of the four Gospels are filled with this talk about Light. Instead of accepting the words of the Spirit in the light of truth, men have called Jesus, the man, all these wonderful things. A man subject to death, a man who could grow weary, and even faint from fatigue, calling himself the Light of the world! It is silly! He was a prophet speaking as the Voice of the sun.

Another good Christian, who is not able

to take all of the medicine of Christianity, as given in CHRISTIAN, writes:

"Your comment upon the quotation, you were pleased to make from my letter, was, in many respects, legitimate. Its impetuous rush and sparkle naturally claimed one's attention from commencement to close. And yet I feel that you quite lost sight of my 'contention,' and inferentially assumed my position as discrediting any advance into unknown territory and effectually dethroning the imagination. Allow me to say I am no stranger to the imaginative faculty. I was a builder of 'castles' from early childhood. I kept on building them, and when they fell I reared others upon their ruins. But with the years, I am more inclined to view things from the standpoint of fact, rather than fancy, and to realize we are in a world of realities and not in a cloud of dreams. Not that my sympathies are withheld from any effort in the line of advancement, for the lark never watched with greater eagerness for the first flashes of the morning than have I for the announcement of any evidence of progress looking to the betterment of the race. No matter whether the advance be material or mental. 'New Thought' theories I have been willing to examine. New publications on new lines were ever welcome visitors. And the fact that I have read CHRISTIAN from its first issue, I doubt not, you will deem a compliment to that Sheltonian brain—that dynamo whose electric flashes now encircle the earth. Yes, I saw CHRISTIAN start on its course. A direct line? Far from it. I noted more 'curves,' 'angles,' 'sinuosities,' 'bends' and 'curves' than contained by the mighty Mississippi on its way to the sea. Still, the scenery was the reverse from monotonous, and not lacking in startling effects. If you will permit me to become reminiscent, I will dwell for a moment on some of the marked points of the journey. The most prominent one now in memory was Shelton's new birth into 'individuality.' All 'entangling alliances' with the other cults had been severed, and Christian Scientists, Mental Scientists and Scientists Divine, if fused into a composite mass, an asinine element would be found largely predominating. I was greatly amused, yet in no small measure pleased, as I approved individuality, having great admiration for the eagle who always 'flocked by himself.' But soon there was a sudden bend in the stream, and CHRISTIAN gave out to the world that most startling announcement (though I may not quote the exact words), namely: that Mary Baker Eddy, apostle of Christian Science, and Helen Wilmans, founder of Mental Science, had so far progressed in angelhood, they would 'never, never die,' but be metamorphosed into 'electrical bodies.' Never destined to 'mingle with the elements,' but to endure without change or dissolution through the eternities! I rarely employ slang, but in the language of a friend who recently wrote me concerning his wife's death, the announcement just mentioned really did 'jolt' me.

"Let us reflect a moment. How will these electrical bodies appear two thousand years hence? Generations shall have arisen and passed like the seasons. Kings and presidents appear and disappear. Armed hosts shall have met in deadly conflict on both land and sea and passed forever 'into the silence,' and still Helen and Mary must live through the centuries, ever young, ever beautiful, yet a little lonesome, one would think, even if not weary of the world. I am making a very short step when I return to the 'imagination,' the subject matter of this letter. The ideal, when it lights the way into new territory where great possibilities await practical development, possesses a value no one can dispute, but when its creations can never ultimate in anything of essential benefit, it is like unto the white floating cloud of the upper air that soon dis-

integrates, dissolves and disappears. If Jules Verne's imaginary trip under the sea had suggested the present submarine battleship, the dream becomes in degree a reality. But had it proved a dream only, without inciting to action the inventive mind of some contemporary genius, our illustrious President would not have tarried for hours ten fathoms 'neath the wave and then come to the surface, not to 'blow,' but to receive the congratulations of the 'eighty millions.' Columbus was not properly a dreamer. His imagination was closely allied to intuition. He was not illogical. His reason convinced him there was land beyond the seas, and the poet in beautiful verse has voiced the ever abiding sentiment of the renowned voyager in the command, 'Sail on, Sail on and on.' Even in extremity, when the hearts had yielded to dark despair, and the 'very winds had lost their way,' the command still rang above the tumult of the waves, 'Sail on and on.'

"We must not ignore material science. Here is the applied force of gravity, old as tradition, utilized in every land known to civilization, where water falls. From crags and cliffs in mountain fastness, this natural force, costless as the wind currents that traverse the globe, turning the wheels in factories and on speeding trains, lighting cities and subterranean levels, this material force, so common in the affairs of life, still yields its energy at man's behest, and will maintain its faithful service so long as the deep and heavy base at Niagara shall continue earth's contribution to the orchestra of the stars, or the swift rushing streams from Nevada's highest range shall sing the 'songs of the Sierras.'

"But there are forces other than that of gravity equally positive and practical. And to the consideration of these forces all true scientists are directing their best thoughts. These lofty intellects are seekers of truth, and truth is not a fancy, though at first it may be seen only in dim outline. Where is there an earnest, thoughtful soul not moved with gratitude in contemplating such lives as that of Humboldt, Darwin, Sir Wm. Crooks, Edison and Marconi. I feel warranted in naming in this connection one more resplendent intellect now looming above the horizon of 'East Aurora,' and who with pocket camera is snap-shotting the world as he sees it, throwing his fellow mortals upon the screen, in the midst of life's activities, where they appear in every-day garb, and not posing in Sunday attire. You tell me the 'way to find truth is by letting truth find us.' Are you sure, my friend, that this affirmation is well founded? While there may be exceptional cases, is it not a fact that, as a rule, truth, like the marriageable daughter, must be sought, wooed and won? I think it is a safe averment that truth will never come to any mortal unless there is a 'light in the window' and someone to meet her at the gate. My contention is for the real, the absolute. A fancy that will crystallize into a fact we should not ignore. An ideal that merges into the real let us be ready to welcome. A dream that foreshadows a 'coming event' commends recognition. But 'airy nothings' without a 'local habitation,' without form or substance, an absolute nonentity, has no just claim to the world's attention."

I quote this long letter because it covers the ground of many others. The gentleman has said, in a pointed and condensed way, what many of you have been saying, and others have been thinking. CHRISTIAN is really an impersonal journal. I shall quote from time to time without giving any names. To use a name would be to shut off private criticism, and make it a public controversy.

Don't you trouble yourself about that prophecy. It was the strongest thing ever

uttered in CHRISTIAN. Nothing mightier has ever appeared in these columns. It was a center shot at me as well as others. Spirit put so-called Christian Science and Mental Science into a logical statement. That prophecy can be thrown into the form of a syllogism with its major and minor propositions and conclusion. Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. Wilmans were calling their systems of thought "science." Now you know, "science" is not only the truth, but truth that has been worked out—demonstrated. Mathematics is a science, music is a science, chemistry is a science. Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. Wilmans were calling their systems of thought Christian Science and Mental Science. My prophecy put the whole thing in the light of logic. If they were teaching science it was demonstrable in their own persons. Either they would become immortal and verify the truth of their statements, or they were not teaching science. My own head was trying to encompass Eddyism and Wilmansism as "science." That prophecy was a club in the hands of Spirit, and knocked the whole thing out of my mind. I was made to put the statement in CHRISTIAN in all its bald and open logic. It was a startling affirmation without any kind of an explanation. It reduced Christian Science and Mental Science, so called, to two old women. It must either be two immortals or two old women talking. It must either be two old hens cackling over an old nest egg that never was hatched and never can be hatched, or else something new had come into the world. That old nest egg is from the moon, and reformers have been cackling over it in nearly every century. Christianity is a science, and of course is capable of demonstration. There is no such thing in the universe as undemonstrable science. Sweep everything out of your mind that is called "science," unless the one who speaks it can demonstrate the truth in their own persons. I repeat that Mary Baker Eddy and Helen Wilmans will become immortal here and now, if they are teaching the truth. Time is good to the truth. It is fatal to error. So, my beloved friend, don't you get scared when I nail my theses on the doors of other people.

All honor to the men who have found things and done things. But there is a tendency to make "saints" in science as well as in religion. I like the modern men who are working for money. Marconi, Edison, and men of that kind who are making their inventions of commercial value. That is getting hold of something substantial. The writing of theories about things is an amusement, and has been of some benefit to the unfolding mind of humanity. Darwin in his last words, however, said that his life had been a failure. Life is always a failure if it ends in death. The men of vision came to us from the sun, teaching the immortality of man.

Christianity is the science of the Sun.

The whole history of the world shows that the moon has corrupted and degenerated humanity. China, the weakest empire on this earth, worships the dragon and the moon. Mahomet was a prophet of the moon. The crescent, the new moon, is the symbol of Islamism. The prophets of Israel were all the time combating the moon prophets. In the last book of the New Testament you will

find a synopsis of human thought. The sun symbolizes the truth. The dragon and the moon are symbols of error. The woman clothed with the sun is the real woman. And the scarlet woman riding on the beast represents the moon vibrations. Take a sweep over the whole history of humanity and you will find that the sun stands for the light of truth, and the earth and the moon for shadows.

My friend says that we must not ignore material science. That is another one of the misleading words. There is no such thing as material science. Science is the truth, and truth is not material. Science is always and forever spiritual. Take architecture. Would you call that material science? Certainly not. The science of building is founded upon the science of numbers. Spirit in man is the builder from the pyramids to the Panama canal. The builder uses material, but the material is not the builder. All science is the science of seeing. The organ of vision may be material, but the vision is spiritual. Spirit is the seer. How do you perceive matter, if not by Spirit? How can you recognize the fact that matter exists if not through vision? And remember that you do not see, except by the Spirit. Science, then, is seeing. The architect is the man who can see how to build. The painter is the man who knows how to paint. He can see the picture. Then he uses material for the purpose of putting that picture before the eyes of others. That is true of every branch of science, for science is seeing.

What right have you to call the sun material, and what do you know about matter? The sun is not material. If it is, where is Spirit? Fire is not material. You hear people talk about physical fire. It is nonsense! You had as well talk about material Spirit. How can matter consume matter? Fire consumes matter because fire is Spirit.

"Our God is a consuming fire."

That is true. But our God is not matter. The prophets of the sun never make a mistake in reference to the essence of divinity. They never call God by any name that would signify that he was material, that he was matter. And yet, they call him a consuming fire. They call God Love, Life, and Light. These are all other names for the same thing, Fire. In other words, the name of the sun and the suns and the systems of suns. For Fire is the substance Spirit, and all things live and move and have their being in this Fire. The light that shines on this page is not material. Get out of your mind the notion that you must go somewhere to find God. The ineffable light of divinity shone around Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration above the brightness of the sun. Paul, on his way to Damascus, saw the Great Light above the brightness of the sun. But the sunlight is the same kind of light. The difference is in the degree. When you walk out into the daylight know that you are walking in God. Quit putting off the realization for some future time. Let your heart rejoice in the everlasting presence of the light, for in it the worlds move, and you have your own being. The science of Spirit is the science of seeing things all around you. You are now at this moment in the Divine Presence, and can never be absent.


 V

IBRATIONS

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 Healing for mind, body and purse.
 Mental, physical and financial freedom.
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 Health to enjoy it.
 Success to keep it.
 Money for all of your obligations.
 It is a mental movement for individual independence.
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 I make no promises to heal.
 It is not an affair of bargain and sale.
 I only promise to give the daily treatments.
 Mental co-operation on your part is essential.
 Terms from one to ten dollars per month.
 This leaves you free to judge of your own ability.
 One dollar is the nominal fee.
 If you are close with me, it will react on you.
 Let us be generous with each other.
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 The treatments are healing all kinds of sickness including
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 Come of your own accord!

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