



Christian

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Regeneration of the Body by the Resurrection of the Mind.

EYE TO EYE TALKS.

*** ??????????

*** Question marks???

*** Will be rampant, as Burnell would say,

*** In the twelve numbers of next year's CHRISTIAN.

*** It will be a year of general review of what has gone before.

*** At the close of this year you will have had twenty-four lessons in Christian Healing.

*** These lessons cover the whole scope of Christianity, and it is now time for the "examinations."

*** CHRISTIAN will be devoted next year to questions and answers, extracts from letters, and a general review of metaphysics.

*** In other words, we will go over the ground and see where we stand, and how far we have come in our search for the Truth, or in slang, where are we "at"?

*** You may fire your questions at Mr. Burnell or myself, as you like, and if we can't answer them, we will ask our wives, and of course they always know.

*** I have been led to this by the Spirit, for each month there has been a stack of letters on my desk from which I wanted to make quotations, but didn't have the space.

*** My wife has been watching the mail and feeling the pulse of the people, and she declares that the little extracts and comments do more good than all the long lessons.

*** But you know that Burnell and I are preachers, and preachers are apt to be long winded. They get loaded and must fire off the whole load, whether anybody listens or not. Next year you will have a chance to talk back from the pews.

*** "I have been to hear Burnell every Sunday, and I wish his Sunday Sermons could be published in a book."

So do I. How many others feel the same way? When there is a demand for the book, it will be forthcoming.

*** "What you say in CHRISTIAN about this secret Swami business just suits me. I don't want to know any secrets that all of God's children can't know."

You couldn't! That is, you could not know things that are not open to all of God's children. "Ye shall all know me, from the least to the greatest, saith the Lord." No man nor set of men can get a corner on God.

*** "When I think back to the time I first came to you for treatments, I am astonished that I am lifted up, as I have been, from such chaos."

Yes, yes. When we look backward and see from whence we came, we realize how rapidly we have been unfolding the Truth, and how far we would fall if we let go.

*** "The Spoken Word of Regeneration and Resurrection which CHRISTIAN sets forth sounds and resounds in our very being. May we unfold in this light of the Spirit, and shine. Give us courage to work out the problems of life and reach the success we so much need."

For a splendid review of my lesson on the Resurrection, send five cents for the September number of *The Anvil*, 26 Upson St., Bristol, Ct.

*** "Taking a six months' average, my husband has a trifle more than doubled his average earnings since you started to treat him. But we want still more and more. I hope you won't think that I am chasing money too hard."

Keep on chasing money, but don't let money chase you. I think the vibrations are getting hold of your husband, and if he keeps on doubling, he will be equal to Ku roki chasing Kuropatkin.

*** "Is the doctrine that everything is good a safe teaching for the unthinking mind?"

This question has been in my pigeon hole for several months. Well, the doctrine that everything is mixed, has not been very safe for the unthinking mind. Therefore, a change may improve matters. It certainly can't make things any worse than they are under the good and evil attitude of mind. The unthinking mind is ever ready to taste the fruit.

*** "No Christian will sit in judgment on his fellow men. Your claim of friendship for Mary Magdalene and Judas Iscariot is sufficient to put the indelible stamp of Christian upon you. The words, works and thoughts of such men are living monuments to their Christian character."

You are right, my friend, for Christianity is a movement of the Spirit. The moralist and the religionist are governed by the standards of suggestion. The Christian is governed by principle. There is a vast difference between a Christian and a religionist.

*** "Your picture is a tonic, and both Mrs. Burnell and I admire it and think it proves your truth and demonstration."

So writes Mr. Burnell after receiving the photograph from which the picture in CHRISTIAN was made. They ought to know. The last time they saw my face was in Chicago in 1892. Twelve years is a long time with the mortal. Of course the man in that picture is not anything more than a partial transformation of the mortal. I have only been getting rid of things, sweeping out the dust. It is as if I had swept the room and garnished it, but had not yet put in the new furniture. There are no whisky bottles, cigar stubs, tobacco pipes, or anything of the kind left in the room. This is one reason why the features of the face have undergone such a change to those who have not seen me since the housecleaning. Give the credit to that wife of mine!

*** "When one is healed, should they keep right on taking treatments?"

Yes, if one is able to stand alone, they should keep in touch with the other Christians until we all come into unity of strength and Power of the Spirit. It is not the question of curing your sore toe, but in putting you into fellowship with the great movement for the uplifting and freedom of the individual. Don't step out of the procession, and sit down on a stump, simply because you have got what you wanted for your own personal self. I saw a snake in that stump, and you are liable to get bit!

*** "That boy on the front page of August CHRISTIAN is a fine looking fellow. I see he parts his hair in the latest style. Find a dollar for CHRISTIAN another year. You may give my wife a month of treatments for strength. If you remember, she is the girl who beat the undertakers out of a job, through your treatments about a year ago."

This is the woman who was refused admission to the Chicago hospitals, because she was too far gone to stand an operation. It was the case of tumor reported about this time last year. The husband took her home to die, but sent for Shelton as a last resort. The tumor came away and she has been gaining in health and happiness.

*** "Yesterday I was reading 'I AM Sermons,' when Dr. A. came in. 'Hello, what are you reading?' I said: 'A ten-dollar book which cost me fifty cents.' He looked over each a few minutes, then handed me a dollar, saying: 'Please order a set for me.' He and his wife are members of the Christian Church. I confess, some portions of 'I AM Sermons,' so far as I have gone, are a little too strong for me, but I will read them steadily until I understand."

This is a new reader just come from the free list to the paid list. He will make a good Christian, after having lived in the orthodox church for fifty years. He feels like a bird just out of the cage, not yet accustomed to Freedom. But he will soon get his wings and his bearings.

*** "I wish that your wife would write for CHRISTIAN."

Why, what a question. You had as well wish that my husband would write for CHRISTIAN. Didn't you know that I AM both husband and wife? The very best letters that go out from this Healing Room are written by Mrs. Shelton. And some of the very best items and editorials are from her mind. It is a practical partnership. Our work is interchangeable. She can edit, read proof and get out CHRISTIAN, and can take up and answer all of the letters. Now, you don't know which is which, do you? You don't have to know. There is only One, and I AM the One!

*** Our mother and her family have moved into a new home in another part of the city. Baby will follow the flag, and be with her grandmother most of the time. This leaves us alone in our glory. There is no place like home, and every woman wants to potter around her own place.

*** My book "The Law of Vibrations" is out of print. I am sorry for you people who have missed it, for it will never be republished. I now offer my book, "I AM Sermons," and six months' subscription to CHRISTIAN for every dollar sent for healing. Mind you that the treatments are worth ten times more than the books or subscriptions, but, to satisfy the curious, I give dollar for dollar in material things for every dollar sent for healing.

*** "I have been receiving letters from you for many years, but the best letter I ever received from you or anyone else in my life was the one from you to-day. It filled my soul with Joy, and the whole house with the vibration of Health and Happiness. It lifted a load from my heart. I am now ready to go forward and take care of my little children."

The above is from a widow whose heart was ready to break, and whose spirit was downcast. That letter was from Me, all right, but my wife wrote it. You see, there is only one name in this partnership.

*** CHRISTIAN needs ten thousand dollars in the bank before Christmas for next year's work. I will not tell what Spirit is going to do for you next year. It would spoil the surprise. The ten thousand dollars will come. It is coming every day in many ways. (1) Many are paying up back dues; some as far back as 1902. (2) Others are paying up for this year and next. (3) While many of the Christians are paying their ten dollars for the Circle, next year. So you see the ten thousand dollars will come from the regulars. It will all be needed for the work Christians are doing.

*** "I thank you for your letter of the 3d, which certainly 'helped some,' but I must confess I don't understand at least one statement you make, to the effect that the God in me likes to be flattered and praised and believed in. Had you declared that the man in me likes all these things I could understand and endorse your statement fully, but to me it seems certain that what of God there may be present in me would necessarily be supremely indifferent to as small and unimportant a matter as His being flattered or praised, or even believed in."

There you go! Suppose you take all of the God from the man, how much would you have left? Why keep up this everlasting effort to separate yourself from yourself? You just try praising the God of you and see how he will respond. He despises flattery, but you give him an honest pat on the back and see how he likes it. God is love, and love likes to be loved. Quit your foolishness! Just as long as you look at that envelope and call it yourself, you will be full of rotten specks. "I AM the Lord thy God and beside me there is none else." There is only God! That means you!

*** "In my struggle for Success, I was persuaded to invest some \$3 in the scheme of the Philosophers of the Living Fire. I declare it a humbug. I am a Mason for the last fifteen years."

Any man who will bite at such bait deserves to be hooked. At the bottom of their application blank, the Fill-us-o-phers of Fox-fire say: "Enclose a lock of your hair and a fee of \$3.00." When anybody calls for a lock of your hair, put them down as a fraud. And you ought to know that real Masons never offer their degrees for sale at any price, much less three dollars a degree. I don't care what men do. They may rob a bank or hold up a train, and it is none of my business. But they shall not rob my bank nor hold up my train. The Christians are passengers of CHRISTIAN. When in doubt, write me.

*** "Say, that picture is O. K., but you should by all means go into that Spiritually Electrified Room of yours that you tell us so much about, and let those 'Vibrations' manifest themselves on your pate so that your hair will show up better in front. Again you say that when you think about being in the saddle forty years ago, that you have to use glasses in order to read your copy. Why don't you turn your 'Vibrations' loose on your eyes? 'He saved others; himself he can not save,' was one of the most apt criticisms that was ever pronounced upon a professional 'Healer.'"

It is not safe to criticise a healer while he is hanging to a cross. The men who made that sneering remark to a seemingly helpless man are dead and rotten and forgotten long ago. While the Healer who hung on the cross still goes maching on and on and on, as a Healer. The grave was not big enough to hold him. The tommyrot of the religionists during all these centuries could not cover up his work. So, my dear boy, don't you be alarmed about my bald head, and my specs. I am going to get a new head, new eyes, new hair and an entirely new envelope. But the same Man will be in the new envelope that is now writing to you with specs on his nose. Once more, let me say to you that it is not safe to criticise a man who is hanging to a cross!

*** "Your blessed wife sounds the keynote when she says: 'print the questions that are asked, and then answer them.' Don't you see that you are the schoolmaster, and have the largest school in the world?"

Yes, yes, it seems that CHRISTIAN is the Centre of a movement which is destined to cover the planet. All we can do is to watch it grow. Spirit does not need our instruction or help, except as we are called into action. The Circle of Christians is not an organization anymore than the growing of a tree is an institution. It is a spiritual movement for the freedom of the individual. It is Christianity. Here is a sample: "I made his acquaintance and talked Christianity to him. He is a man of good common sense. He is not a church-runner, and therefore, I think he will make a good Christian." Good! You see we Christians are getting into an understanding of Christianity—the Light of the Individual!

*** The statement concerning the Circle of Christians, which you will find on the last page, is the best I know how to write. I left it out for several months, and tried to rewrite it. It tells the purpose of this periodical and the work of the Christians, in such a concise and pointed way that there is no room for improvement. This movement is growing steadily every day. The Circle touches every civilized community on the face of the earth. There are members in Alaska, India, Palestine, Germany, France, England, and even among the Japs. It is independent and individualistic. Christians have no creed, no church, no allegiance to anybody or anything outside of the Kingdom of their own individuality. And yet, they are held together by the Free Spirit, and draw to each other by the law of attraction. "And the disciples were first called Christians." And the disciples will be last called Christians. This was the first name for the students of Christ, and it will be their last name—Christians.

*** The pastor of a fashionable church, on a fashionable street in the city of Chicago, writes this honest letter. I don't think he would care a straw if I used his name, but I will not do it:

"Dear Shelton—When a man wants to say 'thank you,' and don't do it—it hurts. I have just been reading September CHRISTIAN. It is a stimulus I like. I am, perhaps, following the 'knocking of the Spirit' when I write you this letter. What I really want to do is to express my gratitude for what your paper brings. Your words have served to set me thinking more deeply and disgusted me more often, than anybody's. When I see alongside some great statements—such cracks as 'That picture on the first page—was an abomination,' etc., I say—'Spite of everything, the great I AM is still just one of the boys,' and then I take courage to keep pegging away in the school of life myself. Through the years I have been following you in your hurdle, through CHRISTIAN, you have grown more and more interesting to me, and now I really like you, at a distance, and, after all, you may, perhaps, be nearer to me now than I think. Let us hope."

*** "You have greatly developed the faculties of Ideality and Spirituality since your picture appeared in CHRISTIAN in 1900. The real I is manifesting itself more and more."

Thank you! I have been heartily ashamed of the Not I and am glad to know that he is fading away. A gentleman called at my house the other night, and he was surprised at seeing the change. You may know that his surprise was honest, for he is an officer in my former church, and thought I was going to the devil, never to return. He said that I was ten years younger than when he last saw me, which was four years ago. Don't think that I am trying to give you a jolly. I am not what I am going to be. You see the Woman has had to put in all of her time taking out things that ought not to be there, and has only begun to fill in the new picture. She is an artist and will complete her work.

*** "CHRISTIAN came this morning, full of life, Spirit and Truth realized. I wish I could tell you what a difference there is in receiving your paper and some of the others. I feel sure that you actually realize every word you say."

There is a difference, for CHRISTIAN is written by the Spirit, and full realization of every word is in the mind of the Spirit. This does not mean that I have actually realized in the objective, and passed out of the mortal into the immortal state of consciousness. But it does mean that I see and feel these things while I write, or rather, dictate CHRISTIAN. It is inspired! Now, I am not comparing myself to Christ, but comparing the Christ to the Christ, the same yesterday, to-day and forever.

*** "I must tell you how much real soul-searching good your books have done, and are still doing me. And your treatments are helping my body so much. I feel free, indeed, and happy all the day. And no man can take my joy from me! Your language is so simple, and yet your sentences contain nuggets of the rarest gold—gems of the sublimest thought—and that to me is the sign of the greatest learning—simplicity. How deep and how high are the mighty truths I find in your writing."

This high tribute comes from a well-balanced Christian. She is a woman of wide reading. I shall write better books now that I have come into my own kingdom. Words of one syllable are always used in sublime sentences. "Let us have peace!" "Be still and know that I AM God." You may think of many more, by glancing over the pages of the world's literature.

*** "Since January, CHRISTIAN has been superlatively good, I think. I have all my numbers and read them over whenever I can. Why is it that the writing to you always seems to benefit me?"

Your writing puts you in conjunction with my thought. That is, with this Centre, and we are daily sending out the vibrations of Truth. It is our work. It is the first thing we think of in the morning, and the last thing at night. So when you come into conjunction with this Centre, you touch a live wire. For instance, here is a quotation from another:

"I must tell you about my daughter. The doctor said that if he could pull her through, it would take three or four months to get her well. The night before I sent to you, we expected her to die. After I had the letter in the mail, she commenced to get well. She slept like a log the next night. She eats like a trooper now, and is well to-day."

This helps to explain the quotation from the other letter. In writing the letter, the father touched this Centre, and his mind acted directly on the mind of the young girl. You remember that Jesus sent the vibrations to the servant through his loving master. It was the love vibrations of the master which acted as a medium of communication from Christ to the sick man. This father was the mental medium for the daughter. I could tell you some strange stories about this unity of being. The words that I speak unto you are Spirit and Life. It is the Universal Word of Truth. I sit here doing nothing else all the day long, and the thoughts and prayers of all the Christians are flowing towards this Centre. It is a movement of the Spirit and is marvelous in our eyes.

*** "Is there any age limit in the illumination? I am twenty-three, but Walt Whitman, and Carpenter, and Burnell, and Shelton's vibrations are all real and living powers and inspiration; read them all with what I think is good insight, but ill-health comes in and makes me hustle. I think I have been all through the experience, or whatever you call it, in your book 'Vibrations.' But perhaps am mistaken."

The above quotation is from a wide awake young business man. Leave the clock and the almanac out of your mind. There is no age in Spirit, and it makes no difference whether you are twenty-three or 123. You don't want to look backward or forward, but abide in the present. If you turn backward with time in its flight, you are losing the present moments. If you go forward in anticipation of some possible future, you are idling away your real time, which is the present. "From everlasting to everlasting, thou art God." This consciousness will enable you to abide in the vibrations of eternity, while giving your attention to the practical affairs of every day life.

*** "You do not state in the copy of the CHRISTIAN which I have before me, that it is necessary for one requesting treatment to define the trouble, and I do not believe you care to know what is the specific ailment, as in treating you surely do not hold the thought of the disease, but of the perfection desired; therefore, unless you write to me and ask for particulars, I shall simply ask for treatment for perfect health, as above."

This is a pointed statement of the Truth. In giving treatments, I do not give treatments. In speaking the Word, I do not speak. I recognize the perfect man and the perfect woman, and send out the vibrations for the Awakening. This perfect man does not know anything about disease, so when he is aroused and awakened, the diseased condition disappears. He is also a Success. In treating for Success, I see SUCCESS! Poverty, sickness, sorrow, misery, are unknown to the real man. The Word of Truth deals with the real man. It is hard to put these things into human speech.

*** A New York business man writes as follows:

"Will you please stop thinking about your old mine and think about me long enough to send me some new work and make some collections for me. Work has slacked up and many things have been held up, but I have not worried, but have taken the first long vacation I have had since you began to treat me eight years ago; I have enjoyed the vacation, and now I would like to wade into work up to my neck again, so please attend to it."

Such letters as the above are a rebuke to me. Not that I ever neglect anybody, but because I have to tell everything. If I could break myself of the habit of telling everything, nobody would be led to the thought of neglect when I went away. I wouldn't say anything about going away. But, lord, I can't keep any thing, and so this fellow got the idea that he was being neglected on account of my little prospect hole in the mountain. Well, the hole is closed up for the winter, and I only fool with it a little in the summer. But, say, my beloved, how about your neglect of me during your long vacation!

*** "The other day Jean was told by a colored girl that she must be careful and not fall and break her neck—for then, the girl added, 'What would you do?'—'I should write to Shelton to mend it,' Jean said at once."

Jean is a very small girl, and her neck is small, but I had rather keep it in place than try to mend it after it was broken. So, I will just throw around her the safe-guard of truth-vibrations.

*** If you are on the free list, you did not get September CHRISTIAN. The free list is only sent out when we happen to have money to pay for it out of funds credited to the Free List. If you say "Credit to Free List," it means that we give credit to that fund. But if you prefer it, and want to send the name of a friend, we will put that friend on the paid list, and give them one year's credit for your dollar. All of the Free List will get this number of CHRISTIAN, and if you want the paper regularly, you had better send your dollar and get over on the other side of the fence. Then, we can find room for some other name to take your place on the Free List.

*** Where there is a will there is a way. Joy is the stuff out of which wills are made. "For the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame." My wife's brother is a very small boy. He is twelve, but looks to be under ten. He wanted to go to the World's Fair. He was told, by his mother, that he could go if he paid his own way. The Joy was before the boy. He is a born merchant, and said if he had anything to sell he could make it. There was in the household, as a kind of heirloom, a receipt for a furniture polish. The receipt originally cost two dollars, and had proved invaluable. It was copied on the typewriter, and he prepared four ounce bottles of the polish. He sold the bottles for 25 cents apiece; returned, and if they liked the polish, sold the receipt for another quarter. The only time he had during school-days was after school hours. He brought his quarters home and put them in a china mug. This mug was kept up here in the Healing Room, and so I became interested in the boy and the mug. I gave him bracing treatments, so that he would go from house to house in the vibrations of Success. That boy stuck to it for 150 days! He not only bought his own ticket, but he stopped at the same hotel with Mrs. Shelton, and paid for his own room, board and other expenses. He saw the whole thing, not forgetting the Pike, and brought home souvenirs. He had more than ten dollars left toward his winter clothing. Having moved to another part of the city, he is keeping up his canvass. The receipt is well worth two dollars, and I would print it in CHRISTIAN, but this would be to rob the boy. The polish is all right, and the boy is all right. I will vouch for both, so if you want the receipt, send 25 cents in silver or stamps to Glen Bell, 554 Logan Ave., Denver, Colo.

Christian Healing
By THOMAS J. SHELTON

X—THE LAW OF LIBERTY.

Is there a law of liberty?

There certainly is, if there is such a thing as liberty.

There is liberty, for God can not imprison God. The walls of a God-prison would be made of God. So you see, there can be no such thing as bondage. Bondage is a delusion. Liberty is the truth. There isn't anything but liberty. This is why you hear a seer saying to the Christians:

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

Looking into the perfect law of liberty.

There is only one way of looking into the perfect law of liberty. It is found in the mind of the Spirit. If you can look into the Divine Mind, you will see the perfect law of liberty, and the law of perfect liberty. This is the only place where you can find true liberty. Freedom is of the Spirit. Let us take another bite from the New Testament before we proceed any further with our looking.

Saith Saint Paul:

"Having therefore such a hope, we use great boldness of speech, and are not as Moses, who put a veil upon his face, that the children of Israel should not look steadfastly on the end of that which was passing away; but their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remaineth, it not being revealed to them that it is done away in Christ. But unto this day, whensoever Moses is read, a veil lieth upon their heart. But whensoever it shall turn to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now, the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit."

The old covenant mentioned in this quotation is another name for the Old Testament. The religionists of the institutional Church are still reading the Old Testament, while trying to interpret the New Testament. They have the old veil over their faces. The law of Moses was not the perfect law of liberty. It was a temporary arrangement for the education of the ignorant. The men and women to whom it was given had been in Egyptian bondage for more than four hundred years. Therefore, in giving this law, Moses put a veil over his face, so that people would not see the full revelation. They must be made to believe that this law of the Old Testament is everlasting. It has been condensed into what are called the ten commandments. This so-called enlightened age is still quoting the ten commandments as binding on the people who are under the New Testament. It is as far from the truth as a veil is from the face behind it. The veil is not the face, and the face is not the veil. The whole of so-called Christendom is nominally governed by the ten commandments. All our laws are founded on these ten state-

ments, and yet, they are not the perfect law of liberty. This is the reason why they are not enforced and never will be. It is utterly impossible to enforce such statements anywhere. They were never obeyed by the Israelites. Every student knows that the ten commandments were a failure. Here they are condensed:

I. Thou shalt have no other gods.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of thy God in vain.

IV. Thou shalt observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

V. Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is thy neighbor's.

So reads the boasted law of our civilization. This is the stuff that is taught sweet and innocent children in the Sunday schools. Their little minds are called to view theft, murder, and even adultery. To prohibit sin is to publish it. So we are publishing the sin by our boasted Ten Commandments. Here in the New Testament are the unvarnished words, saying that this law of commandments is a veil over the face of truth. Regularly every Sunday we fasten this veil over the faces of little children. Your whole civilization is on a par with this law of ignorance.

There is not one word about love. It is all selfish animalism from the first words to the last. It was a law with a penalty. Not only a penalty, but the penalty of death. It was to be enforced with the sword. Let us see how quickly the perfect law of liberty melts this monument to mortal mind:

"But the Pharisees, when they heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, gathered themselves together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, trying him. Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? And he said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments the whole law hangeth and the prophets."

Love is the perfect law of liberty. There is not one word of love in the Ten Commandments or any other law of force. Jesus reads love into the Ten Commandments, but it was found in his heart and not in the Commandments. He sums up the whole of statutory law anywhere and everywhere, in the one word Love God and your neighbor. This means everything is found in the one word Love. Love is not a law of force. It can never be enforced in any shape, form or fashion. There isn't power enough in the universe to enforce love. All the armies and navies in the world, if combined, could not force one single vibration of love. It is the one thing that is free. It is the law of perfect liberty. This is what this world has not found out yet, with all its boasted

wisdom. They are standing at the foot of the trembling mountain of fire where Moses gave the law to a race of slaves. The Lord Christ has not been received or even glanced at by the mortal mind. How could they understand Jesus Christ? In one word, the Spirit sweeps from the shelves all of our laws, rules and regulations and demands that we love God, and love for our fellows will follow as a natural consequence. Then this same Spirit of Truth comes and defines this God whom we are to love. We are to love Love. It is utterly impossible for us to refuse to love Love, or for us to in any way reject the Spirit of Truth. Christ has not been rejected. No man will reject the truth. He has not been seen. The veil still remains over the face. The glory of the Lord is hidden by this veil of the mortal mind. We are still shaking our fists at the people and shouting, Thou shalt not. To the little children, in their sweet innocence, we are saying, Thou shalt not. It is a negative world. All this time the Spirit of Truth has been waiting for us. And we have been talking about killing, stealing, lying and adultery. Not only have been talking about all of these things, but we have been going right along committing these sins. As long as these sins stand before us as realities, we are sunk into this mind. Love does away with the whole of sin, and the imperfect law against sin. The law of bondage is wiped out of existence, and the perfect law of liberty takes its place.

Nothing is ever done right by force of arms.

This is an absolute statement. It upsets all the history of mortal mind. I can now see that the abolition of slavery in the United States was a great mistake. It was a blunder. I need not tell you that I was a soldier in the Civil war. I was a thoughtless boy and had been taught that slavery was a great evil. My father was an Abolitionist, and so I came to accept of his belief without thought. After years of waiting and watching I now see that the whole thing was wrong. It was an injury to the slaves, and to the slaveholders. It did not accomplish its purpose. Slavery is of the mind and the setting of the physical body free, while the mind is still in bondage, is like giving a razor into the hands of an infant. Is liberty a dream? Yes, unless there is a resurrection of the mind. Nothing is ever gained by force of arms. We went down into the South, and, by fire and sword and bullet and bayonet, we killed thousands and tens of thousands of white men. There was hate and bitterness engendered, which is still floating in the psychic atmosphere over the heads of unborn children. The harvest for our sowing of blood and death is a war between capital and labor which will last for centuries. The negro is much worse off than he was before the war. One by one the states of the South are removing even the semblance of his legal citizenship. If he had been made free by the unfoldment of time and love, he would have been free indeed. It is going around the same old mortal mulberry tree.

Did not the Colonies accomplish something by force of arms in the War of the Revolution? No! They made matters much worse by resorting to arms. I am glad that no one can hang me for these statements. Just think of what we would have had, if love had settled everything. If there had been any spiritual mind in King George and his advisers, and the Colonies had been treated with justice, where would we now be? Take down your map and look it over carefully. England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, India, Egypt, Canada, the United States and Australia all under one flag. All in one great English Empire. Would that have been all? Certainly not; for the whole of America, North, South and Central, including Mexico, would have been in this English Empire. This whole continent would have been under one flag and speaking the same language. Do you say we have a much better government? Do you throw up your hands in holy horror at the idea of a king? Let me see, there was Victoria, who acted as president under the name of queen, for more than three score years. During the more than sixty years that this dear, sweet woman was president of England, we were teetering with King Party. It is a regular seesaw, with a very long plank across a rickety fence. One party sits on one end of a plank, and the other on the other end, and the dear people form the fence. By the time we have said, The King is dead, we are looking around ready to say, Long live the King. The King sometimes lives as long as eight years, but generally dies at the end of the four years term. But the power behind the throne, called the Party Pull, never dies. It has more lives than all the cats in Christendom. Some people think it is better to live under this ruler, called the Party Pull, than it is to live under a king-president like Victoria. I think not.

The War of the Revolution, like all other wars, was a failure. There never has been a successful war and there never will be. War is hell, and hell is not a success. The so-called wars of Jehovah are explained in the passages I have quoted from the New Testament. Jehovah simply let mortal mind have its way. He put a veil over his face when he gave them a law of force. He was laughing behind the veil. It is a great joke. This thing of trying to get things with a club. There is no possible chance of ever getting anything worth having by force of arms. What is this little map of the planet? English speaking people strutting around here in the United States boasting about being Sons and Daughters of the Revolution. Then when you get out on the bosom of the deep, there is nothing that looks any better than an English flag. When you travel down among the dark-skinned people of the earth, your heart beats with joy when you meet an English face. Blood is thicker than water and more powerful than maps. So, you see, there can be nothing accomplished by fighting over it. You stir up bad blood and go and do things that it takes hundreds and hundreds of years to undo. Why, bless your heart, the president of the United States has more

power vested in him this minute than the king of England. Just think of the immense power in the hands of the president. I need not enumerate it. It is patent to everybody. It is growing greater all the time. In our system there is no way to stop it. He has a whole army of men under his direct appointment. But I am not here to discuss any form of government.

"Our citizenship is in heaven."

This is what the New Testament says of Christians. Heaven is the mind of the Spirit. Our citizenship is in the mind of the Spirit. This is far removed from the mortal mind and its transient life. Christians are cosmopolitan. They are citizens of the cosmos. They go even further than being merely inhabitants of this planet. They are citizens of the universe. For this reason they will not have me arrested for treason when I tell you that all the wars of this world have been failures. It is simply the periodicity of mortality. The ruins of one empire are used by the builders of another of the same kind. If we use the same kind of material every time, we will have the same results. That which is built by the sword will perish in the same way. Then there can be no liberty in this kind of life. You are running against a law here and a ruler there. Love has no rules, no laws, for it is a law unto itself. Love centers in the individual. It is a government by the individual and for the individual. Love is not found in the institution. It could not live there, for it is love. The institution is mortal and love is immortal. The institution is for time and love is for eternity. The institution is the result of mortal mind, while love is unchangeable being. Therefore, when the perfect law of liberty comes it abides forever. The veil is taken from the face. The full light shines on you and you walk in it. This is not an Utopian dream. It would have been realized long ago in our civilization had we not been reading the Ten Commandments. Just as long as we live under the law which prohibits stealing, lying and adultery, we will go on stealing, lying, and committing adultery. The law of liberty brings love, and love never steals, lies, or commits adultery. How could it? What sense is there in making a law against these things? Love is a law unto itself. It is the law of truthfulness, honesty and purity. Against such principles there is no sense in writing commandments.

But all our laws and regulations are founded on the Ten Commandments. We go right ahead making new laws every year. Legislatures and Congresses are turning out laws by the hour and all of these laws are founded on the Ten Commandments and the Ten Commandments are founded in untruth. Therefore, they have no foundation at all. Paul says that as long as you read them, the veil of darkness remains before your mind. He declares that the coming of the Spirit is the only power that can remove this veil. And yet, here we have been praying and preaching the New Testament for two thousand years. All this time we have been living under the Old Testament. All our institutions are founded in the untruths of the Old Testament.

If I stir up your prejudices and make you take sides in the controversy, you will lose the force of this lesson. Don't go to defending the results of the Revolution or the Civil war or any other war. Do not deny or affirm, but listen to the Word of Truth. Ask your own supraconscious self whether what I am saying is the truth or not. In this way, you are not taking sides. To take sides is to bring on a mental war. This will not bring you an understanding of the Truth. A Christian can be a citizen of any government. Let him be prejudiced in favor of any one government and so far he ceases to be a Christian. A Christian is one in whom the Christ dwells. In other words, the Christ is the mind of the Spirit, and when this is active in you there is no other mind operative. You see, then, that a Christian and a Christ are one and the same in principle. There would be no wars and no governments if all men were Christs. This you will conceive at once. The Spirit of Truth in Jesus was the Christ. He had no other mind operative in him during his ministry of the earth. There were the sufferings of the mortal, but the mind was the mind of the Christ. He would not harm anyone. There was not one touch of his power that he would use for his own benefit if it would hurt anyone else. There was that perfect law of liberty working in the mind of Jesus so that all of his power and authority were used for good. He was never once deceived by the old lie that you can do evil that good may come of it. He knew that good never came out of wrong. Therefore, he suffered men to do as they pleased with him and use him in any way they saw fit. In him was exemplified that spirit spoken of by the prophet, Isaiah: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of Jehovah, as the waters cover the sea." This is the universal law of Jehovah. The action of Jesus in letting men crucify and humiliate him shows why the same Spirit, called Jehovah in the Old Testament, let the people do many wrong things in his name. He was not the god of war, but of peace. He let men take his name in vain and go to war. They crucified afresh the Spirit of Truth every day. This is the only way that the law of liberty can act and still be the law of liberty. You must be free to do wrong before you can ever learn the way of right. The law of liberty gives you freedom to go to the dogs. You can just do all of these foolish and wicked things. It would not do to curtail your freedom, for that would be a greater crime than any crime that you could commit. If the Spirit of Truth could commit a crime it would make God an eternal criminal. Your sins and mistakes are but blunders of your mortal mind and will perish with that mind. God must always remain true to the truth, for he abides forever. When you come into this perfect law of liberty, you will understand why God lets you blunder.

Love is the perfect law of liberty and Love is God.

Christian Healing

By GEORGE EDWIN BURNELL

X—HAPPINESS AND HEALTH.

It seems very obvious that joy is a sound and feasible program of life. But the conviction of ignorance has been driven home to the human mind that it became certain to many leaders of men and women that the problem of life must be arranged upon some other basis than "eat, drink and be merry."

It will doubtless prove valuable to sift this very unacceptable change in the natural plan. In the first place we had best scrutinize the viewpoint of the advocates of the panacea of grief. Do not venture to imagine that the great, nay, chief of values, has been taught to belong to sorrow.

The admission of ignorance closes your authority to assert or claim any right of view. Ignorance condemns your viewpoint. No matter how happy a world you may actually live in, your ignorance exiles you both from that glad land and from the right to defend the one you think you live in.

This is the more emphatic when we grant the creative nature of ignorance. And the sting of the problem is all the sharper if we perceive the strong way in which men and women get tied up and sympathetically attached and bound in these false worlds their ignorance has about them. Hence, the demand came up for some detaching power. And grief was chosen.

The power of disappointment and grief and pain to detach the mind from its delusions was found to be moderately successful. Sorrow succeeded very well with the creations of ignorance, but failed utterly in reducing ignorance itself. It was very efficient in subduing and destroying people, and in folding their hands in bondage, and in making them gratefully obedient. But it had no value to put spirit into their bodies and minds. Still as long as this world was a condemned affair, it was felt that sorrow was a most powerful ally in making it unattractive and in depopulating it. But the love of the world persisted, and grief was multiplied by sympathies, and charged again the doomed world.

In as much as no sorrow existed originally, it became necessary to create some for the purpose of making the pseudo-false world disagreeable, and to set the hearts of the race upon some other world.

And they had to have a good deal of this grief, because the natural world had a very nasty way of insinuating its delights. No matter how crushing a grief assailed a man or woman, he was sure to rally. So they found it necessary to furnish a constant and abundant supply of this "wet blanket" sadness, for the spirit of the people must be kept down at any price. They never lost sight of the rule that depression and obedience go together. They never doubted the doctrine of Jesus that spirit takes no orders, but "whence it cometh and whither it goeth no man knoweth." And to have people full of such an irresponsible and incorrigible

metal as spirit puts into them would subvert the entire business of church and state and society. Hence the chief affair of human and subjective tyrants is to keep up the supply of misery.

As soon as it became certain that woe could not destroy the creations of ignorance fast enough nor thoroughly enough to offer any possible hope that grief and its sure complement—death—would ever deliver the race to the actual world as it is in truth. Nothing but intelligence could restore the real cosmos, should one dream he had lost it through ignorance. As soon as depression failed in its assumed mission of detaching mankind from the false idea of life, its use was entirely changed. Instead of using grief for what it was intended they found it very valuable for reducing the spirit of humanity to obedience, and thus made them subscribe to and support with the blood, and minds, the institutions of society.

In this way mankind lost gradually and apparently quite honorably (that is, of his own will and even request) his inalienable constitution of freedom.

It is deeply valuable to understand the machinery which was set in motion to supply this vast asset of misery, so useful for depressing men and women to the condition of enjoying subordination and licking the feet of their masters. So fertile is misery to abject discipline, that a Russian officer the other day shot dead a subordinate in command for a misdemeanor. Without very much that is depressing, no government or organization could exist. Trouble unites for common protection and aggression. Grief is the palladium of bondage.

It was only necessary to get a sure and reliable supply of condemnation to obtain enough low spiritedness for all the domineering and tyranny one could wish. In order to secure condemnation, they had to invent the principle of right and wrong. A figurative account of this affair is given in the story of the forbidden tree in the garden of Eden. Here was the origin of misery and curse.

At once the justice of the scheme of good and evil is accepted, condemnation in any quantities can be obtained, and depression is placed on tap.

It has been the business of religion to open up the sense of sin in its devotees, and to thrive in proportion as the conviction of evil was kept alive. The rate at which the mourners' bench is filled at a revival is the sign of its success. This new movement in spiritual healing has restored the sanity of body and mind of thousands who lost their spirit and nearly their life altogether at the mourners' bench. The religious machinery for manufacturing woe and condemnation and devitality is nothing less than expert; and diabolical, also, if one had in view the biological value of happiness.

It is so much the custom to exist under a weight of sorrow that human beings would feel unnatural and perhaps quite insane were the gloom and its heaviness suddenly lifted away. But the annihilation of wretchedness is certain to come sooner or later. The insight that destroys the value and reality of grief is abroad. The prophets of the joyful

science have delivered their message. The spirit that is inevitable health is demolishing the sense of sin and the very principle of right and wrong. The coward-maker, the conscience, has found its foe in the spirit that purges our hearts of fear, and gives us boldness to seize the very throne of God for our own occupancy.

The whole scheme of estranging mankind from nature and grafting upon them the inventions of an artificial life to bridge over into another world has the entire cosmos against it, to say nothing of the teachings of the illumined and the constitution of intelligence.

This pitting of man against nature has been ruinous. That this is the meaning in the minds of those who advocate ethical rules as well as those who go to the length of religious "otherworldliness" is clear from the words of Huxley (1893—Romanes Lecture on Evolution and Ethics): "Let us understand, once for all, that the ethical progress of society depends, not upon imitating the cosmic process, still less in running away from it, but in combating it." He further on admits that this is an "audacious proposal thus to pit the microcosm against the macrocosm;" and ends his plea with the hope "that such an enterprise may meet with a certain measure of success." Here is forlorn hope enough to subtract the spirit and subdue millions to the feet of obedience and fear and slavery.

Man was commanded by his own spirit to subdue and have dominion over everything, but not over mankind. He was never told or inspired by his own spirit to obey his fellows or anything else. Nothing but the depressing reduction of his spirit could have ever made him submit to the ordinations which the present civilization compels him to subscribe to or die.

But prophets of joy and the seers of civilization and what is to be after it has gone, write thus:

*"We are a menace to you, O civilization!
We have seen you—we allow you—
We bear with you for a time.
But, beware! For in a moment and when
the hour come, inevitably,
We shall arise and sweep you away!"*

That which shall arise and sweep away the machinery of condemnation and obedience is intelligence and its hero and champion is joy; wild, natural, uncontrollable sanity of gladness. Nothing shall stay its hand. Like a flood it shall bear its standard on and on to the complete emancipation of man, to the vision of the truth.

Joy is the true wisdom. It shall dethrone shame, and break up its sway over the human body. Joy shall demolish the secret condemnation that has been made to spy upon certain physical functions, which were most benignly contrived for mutual happiness. Man shall conquer back from society his flesh and mind, because his spirit has returned to him. He shall be a returning prodigal to mother nature and father spirit. He shall stamp out artificiality. The medicine of a natural life filled with immortal spirit convinces him no longer of sin and sickness and death, but of righteousness, health, and physical immortality.

The hour of this joy and freedom has struck. Our watchers upon the lovers of intelligence have called the day. "Never has a more pressing offer of spiritual freedom been made than to-day," says the great Belgian philosopher. "It is known what I require of philosophers—namely, to take up their position *beyond* good and evil, to be superior to the illusions of moral sentiment. This requirement follows from a principle which I formulate for the first time—namely, *that there is no such thing as a moral fact.*" Thus speaks the prophet of the "Joyful Science"—Nietzsche.

The ability of joy, which is the spirit of intelligence, is not only to destroy utterly the creations of ignorance, but also the ignorance itself root and branch. Besides, happiness has not the liability of being turned from its main business of saving us from our ignorance and its false creations to become an asset in fostering dominion and tyranny over mankind, either by their fellows, or the subjective gods, and angels. For there is no discipline or organization that can stand a panic of happiness, as is demonstrated by the Roman Saturnalia, the Yiddish Jubilee, and other similar festivals of freedom.

But the chief value of joy has not been appraised if we merely contemplate its ability to demolish artificial authority. It is far more deeply capacitated than to be exhausted in setting us free from the inventions of the self-conscious mind. For we have left the natural bondages which arise from the misinterpretations of nature and creation. Intelligence only can destroy natural ignorance and its superimposed creations. The great invention known as "world-sorrow" is totally unable to inspire in man such energy of mind and flesh as to trample upon the illusive tyranny of the elements and tame the wild areas of unself-conscious nature.

If it were a great conquest to be admitted into artificial authority over society, how much more profound and wide and advantage and enterprise to have mother nature grant us the freedom of her worlds and noble cosmic counsel-halls? To this enchanting end the illumined have announced the guiding authority of intelligence and the solid enthusiasm of the joy-spirit. This turns the flesh of desperate men and women into more than cosmic toughness and immortalizes every natural passion into unquenchable spirit.

The power of the subjective over the objective creation is very vast and enthusing, and is only equalled by the re-active power of the objective over the subjective. But the infinite authority of the spirit over both subjective and objective is a spectacle of human imperialism well worth illumined rejoicing. There are vast historical cosmic eras when the subjective with its ideals tames and obsesses the natural world. Again there are ages through which the universe throws down and treads into insignificance and imbecility and woeful slavery the mind and body of all vital beings. But there is never an instant when spirit may not lift up its authority and demand freedom, intelligence and joy.

If one has scarce spirit enough left after the crushing and overwhelming of experi-

ence to defy artificial authority, how may that one venture against the elemental forces and encroachments? "I am against thee saith the Lord" is the same as the central text of Goethe's Faust, "The spirit ever defies." The man of spirit is like the Irishman who does not care which side he is on so that he is "agin the government." Spirit is the very opposite of every principle of obedience. It is the soul of perversity. If it says it will do a thing, then it will not. If it says it will not, then it will, maybe. You can not find its way or install its program. Spirit is free. All freedom is spirit, and the essence of it is criminality. "O freedom! how many crimes have been committed in thy name!" So says the orator. Spirit is crime, because it is destructive of the maker of crimes; the origin of crime is the invention of right and wrong.

The only mental crime is insanity. Plato taught that all that was valuable in Greek culture and inspiration was the constitution of the insane and the criminal. There must be the violent ingredient. Without this violence all is but barren and vanity, if we would notice the Platonic view. All the great moral innovations have been through crimes which are only insanity. Ecstasy is madness; gloom is sane, if you would listen to experience.

But this is due to the inventions of men who would use misery to govern and improve the world. And all this in the face of the fact that the origin of the use of grief was the unreality of the world, and it was argued that sorrow must be used to wean us from idols of this unreal world. Now this sorrow is turned to domineering and improvement. In this it fails also.

To-day the word is joy, joy! to cut us from our vanities; joy to join us with realities; joy to heal us; joy to inspire us; joy to illumine us. Gloom is defied. Sadness is discharged from its long reign. Misery is in disgrace. The machinery of good and evil must be vacant still. All because it is plain that life is happiness. Depression is but vital subtraction. The ache of vital poverty is sorrow, and the great value of mourning is transformed into the value of bliss. Biology has proved the identity of life and joy. If instances of too much happiness doing harm or even killing come to mind, recall the long accustoming to pain, the age-long weight and hunger to which the race has been forced to submit.

All this is due to the conscious and unconscious submission to the principle of right and wrong. This seems such a harmless plan. It seems so well meaning towards the race. It seems such a crime to betray its utter valuelessness and misery-producing ability. It is fearful to call it the mother of curses and the desolation of the spirit of mankind. Yet there has come down to us but one message on this subject from the illumined. They have one and all enjoined the acceptance of this instrument of condemnation and death. They have prophesied that we should one bright day escape this mill, and arise by intelligence and spirit against this invention and destroy its entire sway from the mind and from the face of the

earth. This is most certain to happen, and may be truth to you if you will.

Surely there must be said a word to those who feel that their spirit has long been broken, and so maybe have taken some, even much, comfort from the song of the Jews:

*"A broken and contrite spirit,
O Lord, thou wilt not despise."*

Believe not, my hearty, your feelings. They tell you what is not so. Your spirit is not broken nor contrite, nor is the Lord one to despise spirit if it either were or were not broken or contrite. Who is there that dare call himself Lord and despise anything?

The Oriental notion of God was a bloodless and bloody prince, more likely to lift up one who was prostrate than to stand the manly and upright dignity of an uncringing free man.

Get over the idea that you must be down in order to meet joy, from the spirit of existence. If you do seem low spirited and weak, do not trust this seeming, but know that the weakest note of defiance is the very intonation that shall thunder down all obstacles. There is no despotism of mind or matter that can resist the spirit. Its authority is defiance and challenge, and knows no fear or favor.

Your sword of spirit is not broken. Have courage. Lift up your head. Never give up. Do not seek pity. Place no hope out to the sphinx. Sound no cry for help. Do not whine, but defy. Speak true words. My word is spirit.

Besides, this high-handed way does succeed with an immediate victory. The New Haven blacksmith who healed hundreds with defiant oaths is an instance. "Resist the devil and he will flee from thee" has value. "Resist not evil" is wise, too, and means that it is better to do away with the doctrine of good and evil than to be fighting with those who have fallen under the condemnation of this false and invented principle.

To those who feel broken in spirit, who even feel righteous in being poor in spirit, let me say again—your spirit is entire, your spirit is complete, your spirit is competent. No matter if you well remember when as a child your parents and environment took great and pious pains to humiliate you, to tame you, to stamp upon you the value and principle of obedience. Still we say to you your spirit has never been broken, and never can be broken. You are not so mean as you think and your calls for help have not been true to your very soul. Your cries have been in moments of deep delusion. You are yet armed with such spirit that the universe will tremble at the least stir of your returning defiance and self-confidence and joy and intelligence. How the conscience has warned us all against joy! Let us be happy now in sheer wickedness, in sheer spite, in sheer spirit.

At last sorrow flowers in self-conceit; a sort of self-righteous demand upon sympathy. Joy annihilates this pride. Laughter slays reverence, and ridicule destroys piety which walks the *via dolorosa*. Be sure that evil and bondage and grief and pain made their last will and testament when the value sense of the ridiculous entered the ranks of human life.

Circle of Christians

This Circle of Christians is composed of the Elect Few held together by the Free Spirit while seeking for Health, Happiness, and Prosperity.

Daily treatments are given to each member in the Silence of Spirit.

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Christians are seeking for a full unfoldment of Being. This can only be found in the Free Spirit of the Individual. There is a resurrection from the dead, a regeneration of the body, and life everlasting here and now.

In joining this circle you must come of your own free will and accord. You can leave it whenever you get ready without a word of explanation. Your name will be enrolled and called every day in the Healing Room while giving you mental treatments.

The Word of Truth will be spoken in the Silence for the Health of your body, the Happiness of your mind, and the Prosperity of your purse.

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You may pay your annual membership fee and receive daily attention for a year, without further correspondence; or you may make monthly reports just as you choose. This money is not intended as pay for healing; there are no dollar limitations to our love vibrations. The money is to pay for publishing the Truth.

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