

A JOURNAL FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

# Christian

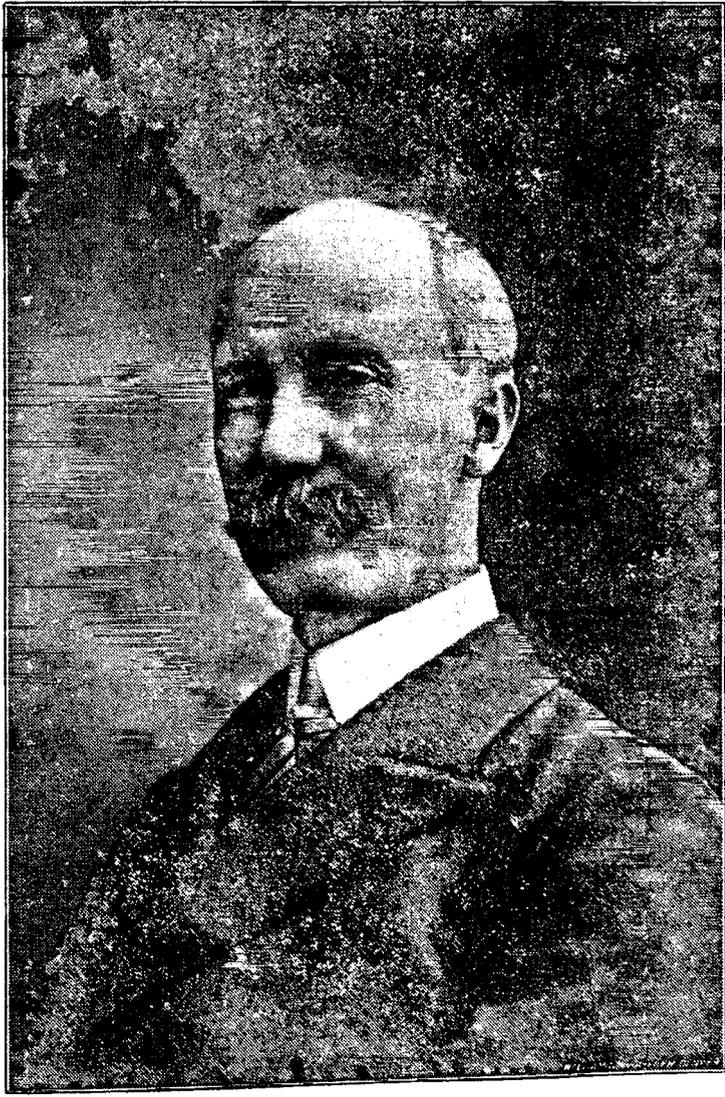


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Regeneration of the Body by the Resurrection of the Mind



THOMAS J. SHELTON

## ITEMS AND IDEAS.

\*\*\* Hush!

\*\*\* Listen to me.

\*\*\* I tell you a secret.

\*\*\* It will lighten your burden.

\*\*\* The mind wants something to grasp.

\*\*\* There must be some kind of an open door.

\*\*\* This is it: Cast all your troubles and tribulations on me.

\*\*\* It is scientific and you need not fear for me. I can stand it.

\*\*\* Give me all your diseases and sorrows, your poverty and your misery.

\*\*\* Unload on Shelton and let him take all your cancers, consumption, rheumatism and every other thing that you don't want.

\*\*\* A few years ago I would not have dared to make such a proposition to you, but I can make it now without fear of causes or consequences.

\*\*\* Take all your poverty and cast it at me. It will help you to unload. You can say Shelton has all my poverty and I go on my way free.

\*\*\* Oh, you who are suffering pain of body and are racked with mental tortures. Give it to me. Turn it all over to me and rise into the place of peace!

\*\*\* Do this, my beloved, and then treat me for everything you want yourself. First give me everything that burdens your mind and body, and then turn around and give me everything you desire.

\*\*\* I will not be responsible for currency in the common mail. If you want me, comply with my terms as given on the last page of CHRISTIAN. Read that page before writing your letter. It will help your mental unfoldment to learn how to get a postoffice order, an express office order, or to register your letter. You do not have to register a money order. We Christians can't afford to give money to thieves.

\*\*\* Do you know what all this newspaper talk about Mrs. Eddy means? It means that no man, woman or religion can stand the investigations of the public press unless they can deliver the goods. The world has come to the place where they are demanding an answer from God. It shows the mental courage of the present time. For centuries we have been praying without receiving any kind of an answer. The reporters, the newspaper writers, in fact all men of advanced intelligence have quit praying and begun to listen. They declare that it is time for the other side to speak. It is time for Jesus Christ to make himself known if he is alive. Every prophet from now on will have to prove his words in his own person. Credentials written in books will not answer. Your certificate will have to be written in your own flesh and blood and bones. Your authority to speak will have to be written in you. It is a good sign. It is a preparation for the coming of the truth for the heavens are not hollow. There is somebody up there.

\*\*\* This will make the thought waves warm between this Center and you. Such an unloading of the old and loading with the new and fresh and glorious. Don't be afraid that I will catch your diseases and troubles. I'm an expert dodger now and will only get the good.

\*\*\* In sending for treatments don't be afraid to ask for two copies of my book for every dollar. If you don't want the books ask for subscription to CHRISTIAN one year for every dollar. If you put your friends on the list notify them so they will not think the paper is being forced upon them. I am not under obligation to give you anything but the treatments for your money, but let me do as I please about it.

\*\*\* That summer suit picture was too sanctimonious. This month I give you a picture that really resembles me. It has not been "touched up" and the wrinkles show around the eyes. Add a pink complexion and you will get my likeness. As many of you know I was born a twin, June 13, 1849. My twin brother lived four days, but I sometimes think he has lived right along in me. The time to chloroform me will be in 1909. If I escape I will give you an up-to-date picture on first page of CHRISTIAN, with hair on top of my head.

\*\*\* Heretofore, we have been afraid to say anything for fear of punishment. The Almighty had everything his own way and the Almighty was simply another name for the Institution. As we had never seen God, the Institution made a great power in the skies and began to caution us about that power as soon as we could receive instructions. Just as soon as we entered the psychical or mental plane we were told that God must be feared, and that He was seeing us at all times, night and day, therefore, we had better look out. The little girl started off to kindergarten and her kitten followed her. She had been told that an all-seeing Eye was always watching her and that eye was God. So she turned to her kitten and said: "It is bad enough for God to be watching me all the time without you tagging after me." The human mind has arrived at the place where this little kindergarten girl is, and demands that God shall speak and make himself known if he is anywhere in the skies. We don't want to be watched in every movement we make unless there is some sense in it. The old religions may have been founded by prophets who spoke from God. If so, the same God will have to do some more talking. What has been said is dead.

\*\*\* "How is it you don't put it in the paper if you cure anybody? The \_\_\_\_\_ magazine is doing some splendid cures by all accounts."

Hadn't you better be cured than read about somebody else being cured? The mental magazines are outdoing the patent medicine men in the way of testimonials. I could print a bushel every month. You can get testimonials for anything under the sun. The boy put the hair tonic label on the liver regulator and the liver label on the hair tonic, but the testimonials came in just the same!

\*\*\* "Persevere."

This word was the whole of a letter from Cincinnati. So far the writer takes the blue ribbon for short letters.

\*\*\* "Enclosed is my twelve dollars for next year. Send me twenty-four copies of 'I AM Sermons.' Is that right? I want them for Christmas presents to friends."

That's right. Your twelve dollars entitles you to credit in the Circle of Christians for twelve months and two dozen books.

\*\*\* "Another month of treatment please, and if you choose let H— P— have the trading stamp."

She means the subscription! Now wouldn't that jar you? Well, I never thought of it in that way, but it is a good idea. My wife will go a mile out of her way to trade where they give trading stamps. It is the way of woman.

\*\*\* "For the five dollars enclosed give my son special treatments for one month; and then enroll him in the Circle of Christian at one dollar a month."

This gives the young man a good thirty days' send off, and prepares him for the regular treatments in the Circle. But please send for books and subscriptions if you can possibly use them to good advantage.

\*\*\* "I send five dollars for special treatments and you may send CHRISTIAN to the five names enclosed on separate slip."

Good for you! I will give extra treatments to one who is so thoughtful of others. Now see that each name you send me gets a postal card from you saying the subscriptions are given with your compliments.

\*\*\* "I enclose postoffice order for six dollars for the continuance of the family treatments."

That is the way to do it. I had rather have the whole family in Circle of Christians than to have ten times the money in a haphazard way. There is power in fellowship.

\*\*\* "The last time I wrote you I was in bed sick. You wrote me that I would get well, and be glad that I was alive. That was in June, and now I am almost well, and am so happy and thankful for it."

I remember that in June you had given up life and was ready for death. My word of prophecy brought you peace and health. I will never let one of you Christians go if I can help it. The world needs you.

\*\*\* "The other day I began re-reading 'I AM Sermons' and find I grow up to it year by year."

I had the same experience. One day a copy happened to be left on my desk and I picked it up, saying in fun, that I would see what the crank had to say. I finished it from beginning to end and found that it is still ahead of me, but I am catching up as fast as my mental legs can carry me.

\*\*\* "Here are seven dollars and seven Christians for you to credit and enroll in the Circle of Christians."

The names and addresses were carefully written out and ready for transfer to the list. That is what I call genuine missionary work. When you go at it that way there will soon be a world full of Christians independent of sect or party. Hurrah for the independent Christians!

\*\*\* "Some time ago I asked for special vibrations that I might effect a sale of some property for which I was the agent. I made the sale."

Of course, that is what the special treatments are for. I AM dealing in real estate, buying and selling, practicing medicine, law, and even whoop up the politicians once in a while. I even treat all kinds of animals and have had big success with race horses, not betting on them, but treating them for health and speed.

\*\*\* "I am doing my work. Don't you think I am getting along finely? I never was so receptive to your treatments as I have been since my friend wrote you for me."

So writes the blessed woman who burned all copies of CHRISTIAN by the orders of a sect scientist, and then came back to me when bedfast and nearly dead. I'm not crowing—but rejoicing that she is up and at work. Even the ashes of CHRISTIAN will sometimes work wonders.

\*\*\* "I have been working nearly every day on my father's farm, and hope I will soon be entirely cured, for I have been spending lots of money, think this is the cheapest and best treatment for me, for which I return thanks."

Yes, yes, my dear boy, this is the cheapest treatment in the world, and yet it is the Pearl of great price. If I had all the money I have saved for you Christians I would be a billionaire. Not a day passes that I do not save someone from spending money foolishly. I have it all, for we are One. What I am doing for you I am doing for myself.

\*\*\* "I am down and out just now. In fact, I have always been down and out. It seems that everything and everybody tries to hold me down and out. I have about given up trying to do anything, but to stay down and out."

That kind of a letter from a strong, healthy man shows the need and positive call for the services of a mental doctor. Such thinking would break the back of a giant. I AM telling this man to reverse the order, and declare that all things are working for his good, and that he is going to win out. There is no opposition to the Truth.

\*\*\* "Handing you herewith a dollar for another month's treatment, permit an explanation at some length which may serve to make us better acquainted. With so many "fakes" in existence under various names and titles, one is naturally skeptical of the real thing until he is convinced of its identity. In your recent title page of CHRISTIAN, the watch charm serves as a passport with me. My absolute confidence in the power and adaptability of spirit required no vouching for; a Knight Templar emblem with me stands for an honest deal."

I don't know about that seal standing for honesty. I have known a few rascals who were decked out in seals and signs. The only sure way is by the Spirit 'phone, the inner consciousness. I know that you know, and you know that I know that you know—and yet you can't express this knowledge by word or sign. The only Secret Brotherhood is where each one knows by telepathy without sound or sign.

\*\*\* "My baby is the sweetest thing on earth. Treat her every day. Her name is Mabel, Mabel Agusta. I didn't like the former name, but her father liked it, so I said: 'That is the name she must have,' so now enroll her in the Circle."

Everybody's baby is the sweetest thing on earth! This is her first-born, and she was one of our Christians and a schoolma'm. I have enrolled Mabel Augusta in the Circle. Why don't you mark off "Agusta" and let her use her surname for a middle name when she gets married? Mabel is one of the successful names. Kate heads the list and Blanche and Mary come next.

\*\*\* If you don't pay up your subscriptions to CHRISTIAN, especially those who are away behind, I will turn you out. Then where will you go? There is no place for you to go to, for the Circle of Christians includes the entire universe. If you get out of my Circle, you are outside of the circle, on the rim of the wheel, and it is said that the movement is so rapid, so swift, that you can't live in the vibrations. So you had better pay up right away quick. Look at the tag after your name on the wrapper, and if you don't understand the figures write for information.

\*\*\* "What do you think of horoscopes?"

I think they are as full of nonsense as the average patent medicine advertisement. I am ashamed of what I used to say about astrology in the earlier numbers of CHRISTIAN. The other day a lady sent me a typewritten horoscope which was written by a "professor" who advertises in New Thought magazines. She had given her age as seventy-four and yet she received for her cash a stereotyped horoscope saying, among other things, that she would have two children! Let the future alone. Your life is Now and Here. Your future has not been written and therefore can not be revealed. Guesses at it will only make you uneasy.

\*\*\* "Why will you use the word *damn* and so much slang in CHRISTIAN? I thought you promised Her whom your soul loves that you would *cut that out*. After such beautiful words of the Christ or Jesus of Galilee to end with slang! I've been in the Circle so long I can understand the *good*, but when I send the paper to some beautiful, refined soul seeking the light, I know those words shock the sensitive ear, and possibly the soul is made to turn away at first, when otherwise they might find an abundant entrance. I never dared write this before, but the Spirit says *dare*."

I'm as sensitive to criticism as a child. You may not believe it, but it is so. The writer of the above is a good Christian, and I like her. I understand just how she feels. But what are you going to do? The world is filled full of dead words, old, dried-up, respectable words, worm-eaten words that have no life left in their empty forms. I have been trying to write a book, and I crush the chapters and throw them into the wastebasket. I know what I want to say, but can't find living words in which to say it. November CHRISTIAN met with a livelier response than any number for six months. Everybody woke up and shouted. Slang is the language of the hour, and yet this good woman says "cut that out"—and *that's* slang!

\*\*\* "Some over a month ago I sent a dollar for treatment for success and enjoyment in my teaching. I can report that I never enjoyed a month's work so much in my life. Everything has gone beautifully, my discipline has been perfect, and besides the school board raised my salary the first month."

So you see I AM also teaching school. I sell and buy real estate, build houses, clerk in stores, work on railroads, practice medicine and law, sell dry goods and groceries, keep restaurants, keep house, scrub floors, wait on tables, carry hods, lay bricks, and do nearly any and everything that is to be done in this busy world. I AM also a gentleman and lady of leisure!

\*\*\* "A friend spoke to my husband about the wonderful cures you have made, and also about you curing his wife. So I thought I would like to take treatment if your charges were not too much. I am not able to pay a large amount, as I have paid so much money out to doctors."

That's the kind of advertising I like. When you receive a blessing from the treatments pass the news around, and also tell them that I do not want the earth. The high prices of mental healers are not scientific. My highest price for a month would not cover a week of their charges. They say it is to make them appreciate the treatments! A better way is to heal their diseases, and cure their troubles.

\*\*\* "I would like to get a copy of your first book, 'The Law of Vibrations,' if it is possible."

This book has been out of print for two or three years, and it will not pay me to republish it. Twelve thousand copies were sold and that is about the limit. I will make a restatement in the columns of CHRISTIAN from time to time in 1907. The book is a statement of Being. I can't improve on the little book, and all of you who have a copy can count yourselves fortunate. It was a statement of Being made to me by the Spirit, and my own being is unfolding according to that pattern. I often read the little book with profit and pleasure. I will rewrite the statements for the new readers of CHRISTIAN.

\*\*\* "Yes, it's ME. Do you know that everything I have tackled the past two years have proven failures? I haven't made a cent in all that time. I have just awoke to the fact that I need *you*. I was always successful when in touch with you, and I want back into the fold. I have just taken hold of a proposition, selling lands, and with your kind thoughts I'll succeed, and will go back to the old habit of monthly inclosures and your once-a-month letters. I only wish I could send you a larger draft, but you'll get 'em regular hereafter. I'm hungry for you, so here's for health, happiness and business success."

I'm glad to welcome you home after two years of absence, and would kill the fatted calf and give a big party—but this is my busy month. You ought not to have lost money for my Word is quick and powerful. There is a screw loose somewhere else, my dear man, and I will proceed to use the mental screw driver and put things in shape. No business man can afford to stay out of the Circle of Christians.

## CHRISTIAN

\*\*\* "You remember of healing my husband of so-called cancer some years ago, and that it was done so quickly. Now I want you to heal him of deafness, just in the same manner and I know that you can do it although he can scarcely hear at all. I think it has been about two weeks since he was taken with an earache, and Spirit told him to call on you. He is the man who asked you for a new body, and all last winter he was very feeble, and several times I laid his clothing aside for his burial, judging from appearances that he could not remain with us long in his state. But all the time he would talk of how he would work our land in the spring and summer, and sure enough he has hoed and plowed all day long, and seemed to gain flesh and health all the time, and is now well except this."

A man who can be healed of a cancer, and then lifted up from the very brink of death can be cured of deafness. The earache is a sign that the quickening Word is at work. Praise God and go on with your affairs.

\*\*\* "Why do you call your patients by the first name? Are you a Quaker?"

I'm not exactly a Quaker, but I'm a Christian. I call you by your home name, your child name, in giving treatments because your inner self will respond to that name quicker than to any other. Even if it is a pet name or a nickname, all the better. By the way, a few years ago *Unity* came out without any names of editors or publishers. Everything was to be impersonal. I remarked at the time that it wouldn't do. I am now glad to see the names at the masthead: Charles Fillmore, Myrtle Fillmore, Jennie H. Croft and Charles E. Prather, each in their proper department. *My Word* has dropped the names of Evelyn Arthur See and Agnes Chester See from the magazine, and it is now published without any responsible name at the head of it. It will not do. Your name is yourself. It is the sign of you. Don't be ashamed of it.

\*\*\* "Can't you help me? Won't you you give me such a boost towards health that the family can no longer quibble over me, or sneer at my faith and expectations? I am not alarmed or uneasy about my recovery. But it is hard to be made an object of fear to my friends and family."

I used to want to heal "just to show 'em," but that spirit couldn't heal a sick grasshopper. I soon had to get out of it. Part of your mental healing is to get where you haven't any family and friends. It is isolation and then individualization. Jesus put it much stronger when he said, "Except you hate father, mother, brother, sister, wife, children, yea and your own life ye can not be my disciple." Just let 'em go on with their racket. Give them to understand, in a mental way, that this is your funeral. When you can command your mind in regard to your environment you will begin to issue orders to your body. It is up to you to rule the roost. Don't argue. Don't dispute. Let them have their own way outwardly while you have your own way inwardly.

\*\*\* "I was visiting in New York, and one of your Christians told me about you. I want to join you and be with the Christians."

One of my Christians you are right now if you have joined yourself. Just give yourself the right hand of fellowship. That's

all. Christianity is the illumination of the individual. Christians have no religion of any kind, no form of worship, ritual, ceremony, grip, password, signs, oaths, vows, titles, rules, regulations, laws or any sort of organization. You join yourself. You organize yourself. You baptize yourself. You forgive your own sins. You have fellowship with all who are seeking the truth. Are you a Christian? If so, hail fellow Christian! It is all so easy. It is mental and spiritual. There never was such frank and open fellowship as that which is unfolding in the Circle of Christians. Each one is the center of his own circle and radiates his own light. I belong in the Circle and so does my wife and baby, but we are not the Circle. It is as wide as the universe and includes all intelligent beings. Are you in it?

\*\*\* "It is a co-operative fraternity built on business lines and run by honest and capable business men, so as to provide every member a competence in a few years. Each share costing you ten dollars cash, and a few monthly installments of one dollar each is matured to its full value of \$1,000 in a few years out of the profits arising from cultivating the lands. Two crops a year are obtained right along in this banner trucking and small fruit section, and money doubled with each crop. Having put my money into this safe and profitable investment, and having every confidence in the management, I want to make it known to my friends."

Well, you can't make it known through CHRISTIAN. I advise all Christians to steer clear of such visionary schemes. The woods are full of such adventurers. Each failure brings a fresh crop of fools. Do you remember Conable's great scheme of ten thousand acres in Arkansas? He was perfectly honest and actually moved down there, but he soon recovered from his pipe dream and skipped out to California where he invested his own money in a private enterprise. There are plenty of places where you can make money by investing small or large sums in land—but go it alone. The individual is a Success. My mother-in-law invested a small sum in California by following her own judgment, and made such a success that she is going there to live. There is no sense in putting your affairs into the hands of visionaries. Trust your own God and your God will trust you. I AM speaking the Word for individual independence. As a general thing the men who undertake to manage companies are the ones who have failed as individuals. Private failure is not a good platform for public success.

\*\*\* "In CHRISTIAN you quote and endorse the statement of Jesus Christ in the 10th chapter of Matthew: 'Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give. Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass in your purses, nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves; for the workman is worthy of his meat.' Why don't you practice the principle laid down in this statement?"

I do practice the principle. The great success of the Circle of Christians has resulted from the fact that we observe every fundamental principle of Christianity. This is the foundation of my faith in ultimately reaching the fullness of regeneration and

the resurrection. Let us get at this principle of support. These missionaries of the Messiah were not mendicants. They are not to go as beggars. They were to give freely and receive freely. They were to serve people, and in return to receive their sustenance. The principle is that they were to receive their support from the very people to whom they ministered. A missionary to China should receive his support from the Chinese, and not from a foreign board. He should go among the people as one of them, and not as a salaried agent of a society. And if the missionary carried out his part of the commission by healing the sick, etc., he would have no trouble about his support. He has in himself the power to support himself from any people on the face of the earth. He makes himself of use to the people. He is a messenger of health to the afflicted, of life to the dead, and of sanity to those possessed of the devils. All power on earth and in heaven is back of the evangel of Christianity. Paul mentions the principle in these words: "If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" Does that sound like mendicancy? In my work, the healing, the real work, is virtually free as I give two copies of my book, or a year's subscription for every dollar received for treatments. And even if nothing were given for the dollar, except the treatments, it would be in accord with the principle. "The workman is worthy of his meat." It is a fair exchange. I started in the principle for when CHRISTIAN (with first edition) was ready to mail I did not have even one penny for postage. A good Christian gave me a dollar and a half to pay the 150 pounds of postage. I had at that time pound rates. That edition paid its own way from the people who read it. And now, at the end of the thirteenth year, it is paying third class postage, excluding all advertisements, and is growing in power as an independent advocate of Christianity. *Unity*, of Kansas City, has worked on the same principle, and I knew them when each day had to provide for itself. They were struggling for a foothold, but never lost faith. Now they are a mighty power, and have just dedicated a magnificent building. Remember we are in a world dominated by commercialism, and have only had a few years of practice in demonstrating the principle. We are yet to lift the world to a higher vibration. I am astonished at the success of CHRISTIAN for Spirit made me violate all my preconceived notions of "business" in publishing a periodical. I now see that Spirit was true to the principles of Christianity. My support must come, not from advertisements, but from the people who read and receive the mental message in the Silence and in print. Christianity does not depend on questionable patent medicine advertisements for its support. *It is its own support!* I have something to give you people and you in return gladly buy my bread. It is a glorious principle. Christianity is not a hobo, a beggar, or a deadhead. It lifts its head high and gives freely from its own Infinite Supply. Religion is a miserable mendicant, always begging.

\*\*\* "I don't see how you can treat so many patients."

I have no more mental work than I can do carefully and conscientiously. I am not a wholesale healer. The New Thinkers have gone in for wholesale healing. I am still a retailer. At one time I had four desks and four typewriters in my office and was rapidly getting into the wholesale healing. I found that I was losing ground in my own body. It came to me that it would not profit to gain the whole world and lose my own soul. I could not afford to increase the number of "healers" by hiring more clerks and stenographers, so, to save my own soul, I dismissed the whole outfit. I sold my desks and machines, put my wife's desk alongside of my own, quit sending out samples of CHRISTIAN by wholesale, and began paying third-class postage. The result has been just what I expected, less money and better work. My own soul is saved. I give individual and personal attention to each and every one who comes to me for treatment, and treat them as separate individuals and not by wholesale. I read every letter, answer every letter, read the answer, give it my blessing, put it into the envelope and seal it with my own lips. I tell you just how much it will cost you, so you know what you are paying. If I took "free will" offerings the postoffice would subsidize CHRISTIAN and give me one cent a pound postage, instead of one cent a paper. The wholesalers are subsidized. CHRISTIAN is free. This is personal and selfish, for I AM looking after my own soul. My own mind and body are more to me than money.

\*\*\* "The *Living Church*, the official organ of the Episcopal church in America, has in its issue of yesterday formally declared in favor of war on Christian Science, by the use of similar methods of healing, the anointing with oil.

"This, it is believed, will be an effective remedy in many cases for the loss of support which the Episcopal church has sustained in common with other denominations whose members have been won away by the creed of Mrs. Eddy.

"The *Living Church* says that the ancient unction ceremony has never been formally discontinued or abolished, and that any rector is at liberty to take up the practice at once.

"The argument in favor of Science treatment in this form with church authorization is found in the desire of the sick for a combined religious and medical treatment. This, it is believed, is where Mrs. Eddy's treatment has its great strength.

"The ceremony of unction, therefore, is urged as a proper method of preventing the conversion of Episcopalians to the Science faith.

"The *Living Church* in the same issue has many letters from rectors in all parts of the country, which approve the proposition, which was first advanced at a meeting of the Los Angeles diocese, though it escaped general attention."—*Associated Press*.

Why, certainly, the institution will try to head off the herd and prevent a stampede; but, like all imitators, they only catch the weakness, the non-essentials, in a movement. It may have been all right to use oil in the days of James. John didn't use it and Paul let the people use napkins and handkerchiefs. My good friends of *Unity* use a red leaf in their magazine. My wife

occasionally uses a red word on the typewriter. There is no healing in any of these things. I think the more we cater to the mortal mind by these material mascots the farther we get from true healing. Mental movement is essential to Health of mind and body. But we can start this mental movement without the use of relics, oils, red ink or any other jugglery. Certainly the Spirit of Thought will lead us out of the material wilderness into the place of Rest. In the meantime, God bless the oily Episcopalians!

\*\*\* "What kind of a new birth was Jesus talking about?"

What kind of a new birth is needed? So far as that which is born of woman is concerned, there is no new thing about it. A mortal body is a temporary affair and they are being born every minute. They last about as long as a gourd, and not anywhere as long as a tree. A good, sound gourd, if properly cared for, will last as long as the body of an average man. Mother used to have an old gourd that grandmother used. It was hung in the kitchen as a depository for odds and ends. Man plants the seed of an apple and his grandchildren may eat the fruit thereof when he has long since been gathered to his fathers. The mortal body is made of as uncertain stuff as the mind that dwells in it. Mortal body and mortal mind are Siamese twins. It must be a mental birth. Jesus was talking about the coming forth of a new mind. Not the creation of a new mind, but the birth of one. The new mind is in us, and only needs to be quickened and brought into activity. If your mortal body is deformed and not to your liking you can enter the second time, or the hundredth time, into a mother's womb and be born into a better shape. But you must have been awakened to a new mind before you can overcome death and retain your body in immortality. As for me, my body suits me, and so I am transforming it into a perpetual abode, and shall renew it day by day, and make it conform to the pattern shown to me by the new mind. I have been growing steadily into direct conjunction with Spirit and gradually coming into a resurrection of the mind. This is all that most of us need. A new mind brings a new body, not by magic, not suddenly, but by an unfolding into a consciousness of the truth of being. It is a mental movement.

\*\*\* "I can not yet see any improvement in my condition. I had hoped I might by this time. Ought I not be getting better? You reminded me in your last that I had been a long time in the wrong thought or way. I realize that, but, oh, I want to get well and be rid of this burden. Don't think I sit down and brood over my ills. No, I occupy my time and thoughts in other things and think about myself as little as possible, and though pain brings remembrance. I wish I could see you, perhaps that would be better."

Bless your heart, there is nothing for you to do in a positive way, but everything in a negative. I can write all day telling you what not to do. I dare not sympathize with you, for that would nullify my treatments. If I can not afford to pity you or sympathize with your sufferings, how much more so

should it be with your own mind. Never do you for one moment compromise the truth by sympathizing with yourself. Self-pity, self-sympathy is a disease within itself, and aggravates all other diseases. It will keep you in bed longer, and do more to retard your growth in grace than any other tendency of mind. I did not begin to improve until I got indifferent and didn't care a dime whether I lived or died. I had disease of heart, spine and lungs. It was what my father had before me. I finally said to consumption, "Let her rip!" And she ripped for awhile and then I began to climb. I have no respect for the old man and will not coddle his complaints. Out with all surrender or compromise with mortality. The powerful resistance of nonresistance will make your mind rise to a higher vibration. As soon as I quit coddling consumption it slunk away and left me. Diseases are like children—the more you humor them the worse they are spoiled. A good spanking or absolute indifference is what they need. You know in Denver it is so hard for consumptives to get employment that they lie about it and hide it, and so are helped to recovery. That is one place where lying leads to health. They are known out here as "lungers," and are shut out from rooming houses and made outcasts on every hand. It is working wonders toward their recovery.

\*\*\* "Did Christ ask that we believe in him as an essential, or what does he mean?"

Why don't you ask him? He is still speaking. All the ages can't silence the Voice of this Son of God. Listen: "Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear my words and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world." There! Your question is answered by Jesus Christ himself. He couldn't answer it any better if he stood before you. Truth is always spoken when once spoken. You are not believing on the person but in the principle,—the one who sent me—when you believe the truth. I am come a light into the world. What for? To found an institution? What is a light for? That you "should not abide in darkness." That is what a light is for—to put out the darkness. If you believe on me, you don't believe on me, but go back to the Eternal Truth of being. In other words you go to the kingdom within you. To believe on Christ is to believe in yourself. When I try to switch away the Christ thunders in my ears "I AM T. J. Shelton." There is no hiding in the bushes. I can't even hide behind my wife and make the excuse that Adam made when the Christ, in the cool of the evening, said, "Adam, where art thou?" I can no longer make excuses for my being. In the still small voice and in the mighty volume of the universe I hear the words, "I AM T. J. Shelton." My own Christ will not say to me "I AM Jesus of Nazareth." No, no, I AM Yourself, and not another. Come forth!

## THE IMMORTAL INDIVIDUAL.

"The interviewers saw in Mrs. Eddy an emaciated, tottering old woman, who had to cling to the doorjamb to keep herself in an upright position during the brief time she looked into the front parlor, where her callers were assembled, and they saw a woman whose voice was straining and wavering and whose dimmed eyes, about which there were deep circles and wrinkles, wandered over the assemblage without giving evidence of distinguishing one person from another."—*Associated Press*.

## Publicity!

The Kingdom of God may come as a thief in the night, but the next morning the *Associated Press* will tell us all about it.

I have received bundles of newspapers and many letters about Mrs. Eddy since I sent out my Silent Word for the facts. The quotation at the head of this article sums up the whole matter.

It was a ghastly interview by eleven reporters and I'm glad it is all over and hope they will now let her die in peace.

A sad spectacle was that of a man of intelligence dressed in the livery of a servant. It does seem that Christian Science could have gone to its grave without the chief man in it wearing conspicuously the garb of servitude. The right hand of Mrs. Eddy lays aside the pen and publicly dons the livery of a footman. He even prides himself on the possession of several suits of livery, green being the every-day color. God pity!

In the year 1901 I made a prophecy on first page of *CHRISTIAN* predicting the immortality of Mrs. Eddy and Mrs. Wilmans and giving particulars as to how it was to be accomplished. Mrs. Wilmans was, at that time, the head of a movement to organize Mental Science into an institution.

I did not understand my own statement and, of course, did not believe it, but was forced to print it. The statement put the claims of the two women in the strongest light possible. It was really in the form of a syllogism. Many friends wrote me asking if I were not afraid to make such a prophecy. I didn't make it and it was not prophecy. It was the mightiest statement of truth that has ever appeared in *CHRISTIAN*.

## What was it?

It was the arraignment of the institution with its utter weakness and wickedness. These women represented institutions, powerful hierarchies, ready to swallow and enslave the individual. Christian Science is arrogant, autocratic and despotic. Mental Science would soon be more so, if its leaders were immortal. The only thing that holds the institution in check is death. Death is the only way to curb the ambitions of the institution. Thank God that death can stop the scheme of the tyrant. Death is indeed the king of terrors and the terror of kings. Let liberty praise death, for without it the institution would trample all rights and subdue the minds of men.

*No individual will ever attain immortality in the flesh while assuming authority over other individuals.*

You may put that statement in the front part of your mind.

Think where Christian Science would land if Mrs. Eddy could live even fifty years longer. It would be the curse and scourge of the earth. Death will snuff the candle of an arrogant institution.

I AM the resurrection and the life does not mean that we are the resurrection and the life. The immortality of the individual is assured on certain conditions.

## What are these conditions?

They are stated in many places, but this quotation from Luke puts the matter in strong language: "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he can not be my disciple."

This is plain enough. The man who who claims immortality must not claim anything else. Isn't that all? Then why should you claim to own other people and other things besides yourself? The only thing that can set individuals free from other individuals is the voluntary relinquishment of authority or the forcible intervention of death.

Ownership by the individual of other individuals is the curse of the human race. Mrs. Eddy is the absolute owner of thousands of other individuals, body and mind. And many of these poor mental slaves will continue in this bondage long after their idol has gone to dust and ashes. It is fearful to see how even intelligent people will surrender their minds and wills to others. And there are whole races like India and China that could not be made free though one rose from the dead to proclaim liberty.

Mrs. Eddy tried to throw off this Old Man of the Sea, but he clung to her and sucked away her substance. Christian Science left out the most important plank in the Science of Christianity and that is the Science of the Individual. It is the essence of Christianity. Jesus Christ was an outlaw and his commentary on the law made way for liberty. He refused to be the head of an institution and would not even so much as write a book or authorize any one else to write down His sayings. He left everything to Spirit. He practiced his own preaching, refusing to recognize any kind of an institution from the family to the nation or church. All the prophets did the same.

It was no new thought in Jesus. He followed the Way of all the prophets who had gone before. "The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Think of an immortal Napoleon, an immortal Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, an immortal John Calvin, or an immortal Mary Baker Eddy! God is too good to let such a thing occur. The institution is bad enough, God knows, even in the hands of the dead.

Immortality is for the individual, detached from the institutions, and letting every other individual run his own affairs. Nothing short of this can bring peace on earth and good will to men.

That startling statement in *CHRISTIAN* about Mary Baker Eddy and Helen Wilmans (just what they had virtually been saying of themselves) kept me from attaching myself to any kind of an organization. As soon as I got the meaning through my head I was at once cut off from all connection with anybody or anything. Day by day I see the deep things of the Spirit and know what individual immortality will mean to me. It will mean my freedom by granting in my mind freedom to every other individual. "Let us save the world," is the cry of the institution whether religious or political. It has always meant enslave the world. Jesus let the world alone and left the salvation of the individual in the hands of Spirit.

Mrs. Eddy was afraid to trust the individual in the hands of even her chosen leaders. They must not teach, for fear they would get in a new thought occasionally, but read over and over her book as the final and only word of wisdom. I suppose she herself stopped all mental movement after writing that book. If she had kept on reading and thinking she would have come into the knowledge of that truth which sets the individual free from all other individuals.

The kingdom of God is within you or it isn't anywhere. Jesus Christ ought to know something about his own Science and he advised us not to look for the kingdom anywhere on the outside. "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or lo there! for, behold the kingdom of God is within you." That is the reason men have not seen it. They have been too busy looking at the mob outside. Saving the world is such a hypnotism that the human race has gone to sleep under it.

What is the matter with humanity to-day? Soulsavers and reformers! Not men and women who are saving their own souls, but the busy-bodies who are minding other people's business. The cross and the fagot, the jail and the dungeon are the outcome of seeking the souls of others.

## Publicity is awake!

Why should the public press uncover the secrets of this sect of Christian Science? Why should this old lady be forced to come into the light of publicity? Because she has claimed so many things. In the face of the public she has said that sickness was sin, and disease and death were delusions. Prove it in your own person! This is the verdict of public opinion. It is a just verdict. I am the First Apostle, Elijah the prophet of fire reincarnated, saith Dowie. Prove it in your own person! The tottering old man goes down before the light of publicity. His screeching and prayers are of no avail. *God is good*, and disease and death are his beneficent angels.

Man is made in the image and likeness of God, saith Mrs. Eddy, and as God is not sick or sinful the image should not reflect these things. True, but you do not state it right. Man is being made in the image and likeness of God, but the likeness is not finished. Man reflects *all* as any mirror, but in his first steps he reflects the natural and after-

wards the spiritual. Mrs. Eddy is in the process of making and may be back here in a few years teaching the science of immortality in the individual and warning people against the institution. "Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is psychical; and afterward that which is spiritual." The New Testament is the biggest book in the world.

Christian Science and all of modern new thought is psychical and belongs in the world of phenomena. Such thought can never permanently heal disease and overcome death. The spiritual is the resurrection and the regeneration. It is the final. The image and likeness reflects God. In the psychical we are full of wonders and afraid that others will not see it all. In the spiritual we are free from fears and we know there is only God. What has the world's thought done for these thousands of years but go round and round in a circle! It is psychic.

While in the psychic I saw the same old visions and heard the same old sayings. When I began to get even into the borderland of Spirit all things were made new, and I began to leave the wilderness of the psychic. In the very nature of the case one can not have any connections with the psychical while ascending into the spiritual. "Tell no man." You have no father, mother, wife, husband, children, and no life of your own. These things are in the psychic, the place of sounds and shadows. You are leaving these things and coming into immortality. How can you carry any one through the straight and narrow way? You are not born into the world in a group. You came alone. Your new birth is alone. Your very name is one which no man knows save he who receives it.

My God! but individualism is a bigger thing than any of us have ever guessed it to be. Immortality depends upon it. Health of mind and body hinges on it. We came naked into the physical world of diseases and death, and will go naked and alone into the spiritual realm of immortality. No man will go at the head of other individuals. In writing Christian Science the author left out one essential feature, the fundamental principle of all Science, the new birth of the individual, and the fall of the old Babylon, the Institution.

Where are we, anyway?

In hell. I am not trying to use strong language, but speaking according to both Scripture and Science. Why mince matters? This plane of being is hell. Every child born in mortality is born into hell. Pain is hell. Disease is hell. Old age is hell. Death is hell. As soon as a man's mind opens into cosmic consciousness he recognizes the disorder and damnation in this mortal life. The whole history of mortal man is the history of hell. Jesus Christ was born into cosmic consciousness, and at twelve years of age he was found in the temple teaching the teachers. When it is said that Christ descended into hell and preached to the spirits in prison it has reference to his preaching here on earth. This is the prison, and we are the prisoners.

Do you know the reason why eleven reporters went to Mrs. Eddy's home to interview her? The thinking men of this planet are trying to find a way out of hell and

Mrs. Eddy and her followers have, for more than a quarter of a century, professed to have found the Way. Men of the public press demand that people know the truth. The teaching of Mrs. Eddy offers immortality here and now and declares that disease, death and the devil are unreal. The hungry and thirsty prisoners in this spiritual prison caught at the shadow and poured millions of money into the Christian Science sect. Immortality, escape from the prison of spirits, is cheap at any price. Millions and billions of money, the whole world with sun and moon and stars, would be a small price to pay for the escape of one soul from this prison. Have you got it? That is the only question asked by the prisoners.

It is not in the institution.

The institution was hatched in hell. All the institutions of this planet, including the so-called Christian Religion, have been established by murder. Millions of individuals, armed and drilled and licensed to kill other individuals. In so-called Christendom there are millions of men standing idle with loaded guns ready to murder their fellowmen. And on this infernal foundation rests our institutions! They even ring in Jesus Christ and prate about the Christian religion. The idea! Christianity is not a religion. It never was a religion, and there can never be a Christian religion. Jesus attacked all religions and declared that the kingdom of God was within the individual. Religion is the wickedest thing in this world. It upholds kingcraft, priestcraft, political graft and everything that keeps the individual in irons.

God has damned every religion and every man who founded one. Was there not a Jewish religion? Yes, but God did not organize it. Every prophet from Abraham to Jesus has proclaimed the illumination of the individual. God has never had anything to do with any kind of religion. God is spirit and all who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. Jesus Christ absolutely refused to have anything to do with human governments and religions. He suffered his disciples to baptize people, but He would not baptize anybody. He let others offer sacrifices and gifts in the temple, but He would not do it. Then men talk about Jesus Christ supporting governments and religions! He preached to the spirits in prison and told us to get out by looking within and listening to the Spirit of Truth.

There are three stages of being.

The physical, the psychical and the spiritual. We pass the physical plane very early. As soon as we think, by forming pictures in the mind, we pass into the psychical or mental, and, consequently, into hell. It is the plane of phenomena. It is all right. It is the great gulf between the physical and spiritual. Thought opens our eyes in hell. Even when your vision is blurred by human hypnotism you see it. But, oh, the horrors of it when you come into cosmic or spiritual consciousness! Think of Buddha viewing a world of disorder, of misshapen men, of crippled children, of disease in all its hideous forms, of that awful thing called death. And men killing each other, tormenting women and children, and thus volun-

tarily adding to the tortures of the dying and the damned!

Think of Jesus Christ, who was in heaven, seeing the misery and horror of this prison among the tombs. Is it God's world? Certainly not. It is a penal colony. Jesus went about setting things in order by doing things contrary to the "natural" law of this land. Do you suppose He could have upset the laws of God. No indeed. Sickness and sin, disease and death, are not laws of God. I command sickness every day of my life. I have opened blind eyes, unstopped deaf ears, and caused the lame to walk. Why? How? By leaving the psychical plane of phenomena and speaking the Word of God in the Silence of the Spirit. I AM the resurrection and the life. There is no disorder in the Spirit.

O Christians I tell you the truth! A few minutes in the Silence will show the perfect order, harmony, peace, and happiness in the kingdom of Spirit. Mrs. Eddy did stir the stagnant minds of men and start us in the search for the kingdom. God bless her for the words of Science she got into her book! It is a mustard seed of mental science. It opened my New Testament and made me walk down from the pulpit and challenge religion to mortal combat. I have won out. The victory is mine. Christianity is a science and not a religion. Love and wisdom is not a woman but is embodied in Woman. Glory to the Spirit in Woman and homage to all our Madonnas with their babes in their arms! Unto us a Child is born and unto us a Son is given.

Let the withered body of Mrs. Eddy go to the grave. Her spirit is marching on. Christians we are not here to worship heroes, found sects, publish books, build up magazines, or become leaders in any mental movement. Let others do these things if they wish. Our business is to get out of prison. Beat down the walls, blow up the battlements, get a door open to liberty. How? By fighting disease, death and the devil. The prison walls are your own diseased and disordered mind and body. Call for redemption here and now. I confess to you that I work for the redemption of my body. No man works with enthusiasm for *postmortem* immortality. I want it now.

There are seven thousand people treating me to win. They are not my adherents. They are not my followers, they are my friends. It is a fellowship. In all parts of the civilized world there is, here and there, a Christian silently speaking the Word for me. Cablegrams come from across the ocean, and every day letters are received breathing the Word of God for me. The Silent Word from mighty men and women comes to me in my sleep. Did you think I was doing all the treating? It is mutual. Those whom I treat are treating me. It is the door of hope to the individual. These men and women know if one prisoner escapes there will be a Way for the others.

Personally, these people do not care a straw for me. They never saw me. They never expect to see me. Many of them wouldn't go across the street to see me. Why, then, are they treating me? Why are they interested in me? Because they are interested in themselves. I represent a personal principle, not an institution.

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