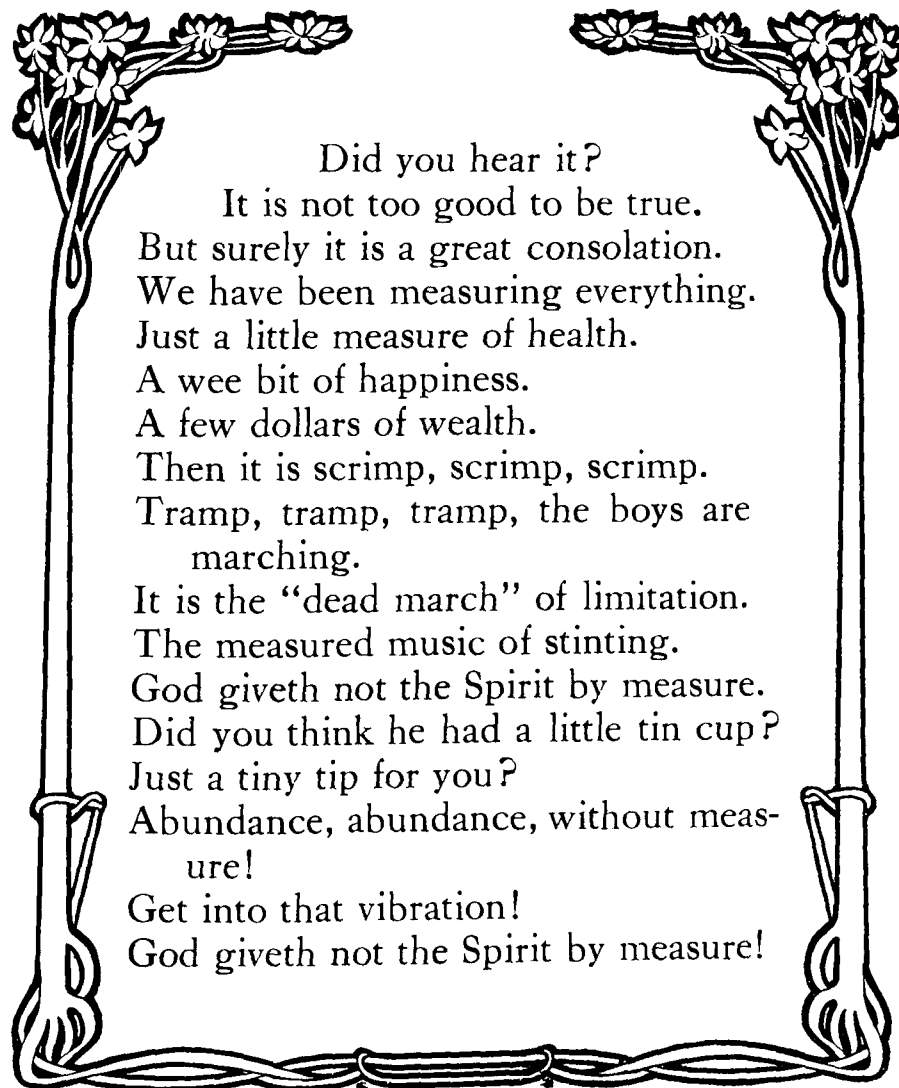


GIVING

"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure."—John.



Did you hear it?
It is not too good to be true.
But surely it is a great consolation.
We have been measuring everything.
Just a little measure of health.
A wee bit of happiness.
A few dollars of wealth.
Then it is scrimp, scrimp, scrimp.
Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are
marching.
It is the "dead march" of limitation.
The measured music of stinting.
God giveth not the Spirit by measure.
Did you think he had a little tin cup?
Just a tiny tip for you?
Abundance, abundance, without meas-
ure!
Get into that vibration!
God giveth not the Spirit by measure!



ITEMS AND IDEAS.

*** Hello!

*** You liked October CHRISTIAN.

*** You threw up your hands and shouted for joy.

*** We are coming right down to practical application of principle.

*** There is no use in reading books or any other kind of printed matter unless you get the vibrations of Spirit.

*** I read books and preached and prayed and sung, and then did some more reading and some more preaching and some more praying and some more singing.

*** I kept this up right along for a quarter of a century; and I never got out of this world of mortal mind, this world of disease and death, this foolish world of sin and sickness.

*** Do you suppose that this is God's world, and that we are under any obligations to give thanks for such a world? Did anybody up there in the sky ever talk back to you when you were praying? Or answer your prayers in any other way?

*** If a man had asked me that question when I was in that thought I would have affirmed over and over that I had been answered in my prayers, but I now know that nobody ever answered me. I didn't know that I had double hearing and double seeing.

*** It takes a different kind of sight and another kind of hearing to see and hear God. You have double sight and double hearing for the express purpose of holding communication with two distinct worlds. Jesus Christ said: Having eyes, you see not; and having ears, you hear not; neither do you understand.

*** It is utterly impossible for the things of the Spirit to be understood by the mind of mortality. You can't know that world that is called the invisible except by the revelation of the Spirit. You have heard that statement over and over, and yet you do not come into a consciousness of the truth. You can't come into that consciousness by reading books.

*** The world is being flooded with books. The printing presses are turning out periodicals and books as fast as steam can print words. It is the day when the daily newspaper and the bulky Sunday papers are filled full of talk about the occult, mental science and kindred subjects. You can buy printed advice by the ton—yes, by the carload. It is just so much waste paper unless you are taught by the Spirit.

*** How does the Spirit teach? The old thought is that the Spirit inspired men to write a book, and then quit his job and retired from the field of thought. The same nonsense is claimed in regard to creation. God created the universe and then left it. Where did he go? If he wrote one book, why didn't he write others? If he inspired some men, why not keep on inspiring men? Let us get away from this kindergarten class.

*** God is forever creating the heavens and the earth. He is bringing forth all kinds of creeping things and keeping the birds in the air, the beasts in the field, and the

suns and moons and stars forever in motion. He wrote books up to a certain point in the unfoldment of man. He then said he would send the Spirit of Truth to do the teaching, and that this Spirit would be with us forever. There is no going away. I will be with you always, even unto the end of the ages.

*** How did I get into this vibration and so pass from one world into the other? By mental healing. I heard Helen Wilmans in her classes and I read her magazine and her books without ever passing from one world into the other. I left the woman and her books and went on my way. I got down sick in body and in mind. I wrote her for mental treatments. I didn't believe in it, but it was the last straw. Before I got the answer to my letter the treatments came to me full of power.

*** The woman with her physical body was more than a thousand miles away, but the Silent Word was right with me and took hold of my mind and body. It was a miracle! It was the key which unlocked the door leading into the other world, the mental world. Your so-called mental world is simply a world of suggestion. It is objective vision, and you see things that you have been taught to call by certain names. This is not the mental world at all, but the material world. There is a world in the Silence that knows nothing of sickness, accidents, sorrows or any of the miserable things we have here in the objective world.

*** This woman coming into my mentality with her silent Word without the physical presence was a miracle. It is just exactly what the New Testament calls a miracle. The transference of thought from one mind to another mind without wires or words is positive proof of a spiritual world. It is better proof than all the ghosts and all the mediums of mortal mentality. There was nothing on this earth used as a medium between Helen Wilmans and myself except her own thought. It was an eyeopener to the reverend gentleman, who had been preaching for a quarter of a century. It opened my eyes so wide that I threw away the institution and began work as an individual.

*** The mind of Helen Wilmans was dark in many spots, but she knew how to give mental treatments. She and Mrs. Eddy went to extremes. Mrs. Eddy taught the extremes of spirituality and Helen Wilmans the extremes in materiality. The one looked into the invisible to the exclusion of the visible, and the other did the very reverse. But the point I am making is that Helen Wilmans knew how to give mental treatments by the transference of thought. There was no mistake about it, for she gave me treatments every day for three months and was present with me, much more so than when I was in her physical presence.

*** This is the keynote in the music of the spheres. It is the one lost Word in the study of the New Testament. If thought can be sent a mile it can be sent a million miles. If you can transfer thought from one mind to another mind without wires or words over a space of one thousand miles

you can tap the skies and get thoughts from the suns. Jesus Christ was speaking scientifically when he said he would send the Spirit of Truth to guide his disciples into all truth. He made it pretty plain that this Spirit of Truth was himself. "I will come unto you. I will not leave you comfortless." He came to these men by telepathy. It was the transference of thought. He has kept up communication with all who will open the door. The Spirit of Truth is another name for the Spirit of Thought.

*** There are two distinct worlds, and, in fact, this is a threefold universe. There is a world of minute objects and living things below you. This world has been made known to us through the microscope. There is a world of objective life around you of which you are a part. There is a whole universe of thought which is invisible to mortal vision or mortal mind. All healing and the very energy of the universe is in this invisible mental world. It is an omnipresent principle of being. You can't understand it except through it. It reveals itself. It is made known to you by its own elements. You can't know it from this mortal world any more than a blind man can distinguish colors. This modern metaphysical movement is looking in the wrong direction. Helen Wilmans was looking at the brain and thought it was a gland. I read a conspicuous article by the editor of a New Thought magazine in which he made the grossest of blunders in regard to the human body; and yet, he was teaching people how to eat and telling them all about digestion and assimilation of foods.

*** You are ready to say that this man and others who make such mistakes are ignorant. They have not studied anatomy and physiology and are liable to make just such blunders. Helen Wilmans never would have said that the brain secretes thought the same as the liver secretes bile if she had known anything about the brain. She would have known that it was not a gland, and therefore does not secrete anything. But, my beloved, right here is where this invisible world of mentality comes into the light. You don't have to study anatomy, physiology, digestion, assimilation or any of these things if you are led by the Spirit. Spirit will keep you from making any such blunders, for Spirit knows. Men who did not know language spoke in all the dialects of the earth by the inspiration of Spirit. Spirit knows. Jesus was speaking scientifically when he said that he would be the guide into all truth. How under the sun are these men and women going to lead unless they are led? In healing it is the same way. I do not have to get a drug doctor to diagnose a case. The preachers are very foolish when they take up mental healing and call on medical doctors for a diagnosis.

*** Many of the preachers are taking up mental healing and they are trying to stand in with the drug doctors. They do not call it mental healing, but by some big name like "Christian Therapy," "Psycho-

Therapeutics," and I did read where one big preacher called it "Christo-Psycho-Therapeutics." This is all done to show that they are scientific. They are not going to treat any kind of disease until they have the case given over to the drug doctors for a diagnosis. If old blind Bartimeus comes along crying out for light he will have to remain in darkness until he gets a diagnosis from a regular physician. This is a dead giveaway on the part of the preachers. It is saying in so many words that Spirit does not know, or else that God has quit healing. I declare to you that the diagnosis made by the Spirit is certain and sure. Spirit examines the spirit of a man and not his diseased body. Peter and John at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple saw that the lame man had faith and could be healed. "And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us." This is the way Spirit diagnosed the case, and the Word of healing was spoken without calling on the doctors.

*** I have never had any trouble in diagnosing a case, no matter what the symptoms were. Spirit can see through the earth. There is nothing hidden from the sight of God. I remember walking into my office one evening and picking up two telegrams. One was from a man who had been injured in a mill. His back had been hurt in some way. I read the telegram and heard the words: "He is already dead." I opened the other telegram and it was from the father of a young man who had just been dragged out of a railroad wreck. Both eyes were on his cheeks, and his body fearfully mangled. I heard the words: "He is all right." My stenographer picked up the telegrams and read them and said she thought I was wrong, and that the cases ought to be reversed. The man injured in the mill would live, and the man in the railroad wreck was dead. I knew better. The facts were just as I had heard in the Silence. Some of you old readers will remember that I printed a letter from the man who was hurt in the wreck, and made comments on it. He not only recovered, but his eyes were put back into their sockets and healed. I stood by him in treatments and paid no more attention to the dead man. I tell you this because I know that Spirit knows. It is the Only Way. All this nonsense about calling on God in the invisible world of mentality, and then turning around and asking questions from materiality, shows not only a want of faith, but a lack of spiritual knowledge. Healing is by the Word spoken in the vibrations of thought. Spirit knows all about the patient.

*** The whole thought in this metaphysical movement must be changed from materiality to Christianity. Not knowing the Spirit they must fill up their teaching with something, and so they begin to talk about foods. They are looking right straight at the material body and pretending to talk science. Why, bless your soul, Spirit does not know anything about materiality. Listen to these words from one who knows:

"Then answered Peter and said unto him, Declare unto us this parable. And Jesus

said, Are ye also yet without understanding? Do not ye yet understand that whatever entereth into at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: these are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man."

This was as great an insult to these men as it would be for you to take the wafers and wine from the hands of a priest and throw them into his face. The whole religion of the Jews at that time was just like the New Thoughters of the present. They were giving their whole attention to cleansing the body. The prophet Jesus said: "Take no thought for the body, what ye shall eat, what ye shall drink, or wherewithal ye shall be clothed." Take no thought for the body! He was speaking from the real mental world, from whence all bodies are created. He saw real substance, and these men were looking at the pictures.

*** Jesus not only insulted these men by making light of their religion, and telling them that they were hypocrites, but he startled them by this kind of a saying:

"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever."

Do any of these men and women who are writing on diet understand these words? For centuries we have been throwing up our hands in helpless stupidity over these plain words of Jesus Christ. The religionists have made a great mystery out of these words and turned them into a sacrament. They handle wafers and wine with great reverence, calling these the body and blood of God. Gross ignorance or wilful hypocrisy! Jesus was speaking by the Spirit. The only way for you to live forever is to eat what the Spirit eats and drink what the Spirit drinks. Spirit lives and breathes in the body of the universe. All matter is the flesh of the Spirit. All materiality is the food of Spirit. This is scripturally and scientifically true.

*** How can you discern the Spirit while looking in the opposite direction? How can you understand that food is to be eaten by the Spirit while you are all the time being influenced by objective vision? You can't do it. The things of the Spirit are discerned by the Spirit. All the things in the universe are discerned by the Spirit when you are in that world of real mentality. Just as long as you look at cabbage as cabbage and meat as meat, you will be eating "dead matter," and you will go on with disease and death. The only way that

you can make this stuff that you call matter, this material that you call food, alive, is to quicken it by the Spirit. Therefore you are to turn around and face the other way. When Jesus Christ picked up a piece of bread and said in so many words, "This is my body," he meant for you to do the same when you pick up a piece of bread. Is not my Spirit the Son of God and the savior of my world? Is not this whole material world my body broken for me? Certainly, if I am in the world of substance. Substance is not visible and is never visible. Substance is Spirit, and "the things that are seen were not made of things which do appear." The things which do appear are not substantial. They get all of their substance from Spirit. Therefore you see that the eucharist is just like the psycho-therapy of the modern preachers. It is a plain statement turned into a mystery.

*** This material world is but a reflection and not the substance. It is like the moving pictures you see at the theatre. There is no real substance in what you see with the objective eye. You know it. I don't have to argue about it. If this world should catch on fire it would be consumed. It would be returned to the invisible. All of its so-called substance would disappear. How can you know God while you are continually looking at moving pictures? You talk about faith and say that you believe such and such things. But faith itself is substance. It is a consciousness of Spirit. How can you believe such words as these?

"If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Do you believe it? Not unless you enter into cosmic consciousness. I beg your pardon for using that expression, for I mean mental consciousness. Mental consciousness is a consciousness of the whole. It is not mental consciousness for you to see a horse, a cat, a house or your own body. All of these objects come to you by suggestion, and you have been taught to call them by certain names.

*** In mental consciousness you are not only conscious of your own mind, but that it is in conjunction with all mind. Last summer I went to the top of Pike's Peak for the first time in my life. We walked out and took in the whole scene. I felt oppressed by the very weight of the world. I felt like a speck. My wife went into the hotel to buy souvenirs and left me alone. I was above the clouds, and while I looked down at the earth I felt the littleness of my own life. The mountains were heavy. I stood perfectly still and looked up into the blue sky. Presently I was in the presence of the Almighty. Not the Almighty located, but the Almighty everywhere. As I passed into mental consciousness everything changed. I was floating on an island in the ether. I felt like I could move Pike's Peak with a kick of my foot. It felt so easy to throw it into the valley below. This is mental consciousness, and this little globe

is floating in it. There isn't anything to hold up the world except mind. Jesus was speaking of this mental consciousness when he talked about the faith of God. It was a very simple statement. It would be a small matter to pluck up a mountain by words when we know that the mountains were made by the Word. All these objective things were not only created by the Word, but they are upheld by the same Word. It is easy to believe the truth when you are in the truth.

*** Truth is the same in every age and in all times. I have been practicing mental healing for seventeen years and the principle is just as practical now as it was two thousand years ago. I not only send my thought to people, but very often project my person into their presence. They not only hear the mental Word, but they see and feel the presence of the person who is speaking. I have thrown away my foolish modesty and will give you facts and figures from now on hence and forever. A letter just received from a practical business man, who is well balanced and has only been my patient for a few weeks, reads:

"After reading your paper this Saturday morning I became so in harmony with you and Mrs. Shelton that I very plainly saw both of you at your home. I saw you both at your writing table. Part of the time you were standing up and were talking. Mrs. Shelton was sitting at the table. I know that I was at your home and in your office and that what I saw was transmitted to my conscious mind. I also felt the contact of my mind with yours. This is not the first time that I have had such an experience, but the first time I was able to see you, although I have been conscious of your mind."

Is not this worth more to a man than all the books on earth? It opens the door into the mental world. He knows that world is a reality. "The letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life." How true!

*** I will give you another instance of a letter written last month. Hereafter I shall give you fresh statements every month and let you see how the principle works. I have been afraid to say things, for fear that it would look like I was advertising. Suppressing the very Word of God through a foolish fancy! Everyone who can feel the truth knows that I am speaking the truth:

"Friend: Last night I sat reading your last message to us in CHRISTIAN. Your face rose before me as plainly as day. I felt comforted. I knew you were with me in Spirit. I knew you would help me and help is coming to me."

The gentleman in his statement gave an actual description of our office. Our desks are side by side, and Mrs. Shelton is about the only one who ever sits at the table where the books and papers are put up for the mail. I also have the habit of standing while dictating, and often walk the floor. The point is that mentality is omnipresent. We are getting out of the old thought of materiality so rapidly that it takes a swift mind to keep up with the procession. The old thought of matter is being ruled out of the universe. Electricity is clearing the mental atmosphere. The universe is com-

posed of atoms and these atoms are points of intelligence. Where the Word carries the vibration and it is received by the patient healing is sure and certain. But no man can heal in mortal thought. There is no possible chance of you recovering your health by swallowing words spoken in the noise.

*** You had just as well swallow pills, for all of this drug doctoring and dieting and breathing and everything of the kind is mortal. It is all in this world of noise and confusion, where disease and death reigns. Healing comes out of the Silence and the man who does healing must go into the Silence to get his substance. Can't you see that this entire objective universe is made out of subjective substance? You can't lift yourself by the straps of your boots, can you? No more can you heal your mind by ministering to your body. But when you turn to the mind you are dealing with the eternal forces. Listen:

"Several years ago I sent to you for treatments for prosperity. After a time my mouth became very sore and a bunch that had enlarged the lower part of one side of the face disappeared and has never reappeared."

She was being treated for prosperity, but Spirit removed the bunch from her face. The principle is practical, for it is God. God is not a theory. God is the substance of the universe. Now can you grab this substance with your hand? Can you roll it up as a pill? You must take hold of this eternal substance with the mind.

*** I want you to get at the fact that I am not dealing in mere words. There isn't anything in my shop but mind. I put these vibrations into CHRISTIAN and into my letters. You don't have to get them by suggestion from some other person. If you picked CHRISTIAN up in the street it would tell its own story by the living vibration. Here is a case in point:

"This is a dear friend of mine who insists on having stomach trouble. I have been giving her the paper to read, and such a funny thing happened the first time she took a paper. I must tell you about it. She took several papers, or numbers, of CHRISTIAN up to her room to read and she told me that she laid down on the bed to read and laid them on her stomach, where she could reach them readily, and she says she had a regular electric shock, tingled to the tips of her toes and her fingers. She told me about it afterwards and of course she has read in CHRISTIAN of the same thing happening to others since then, but she had not read a word in the paper when this happened to her."

This is only one instance of a thousand that have been reported. It is the healing Word and the healing Word is not a word at all. It is a vibration, a mental movement. There is nothing in the printed Word of CHRISTIAN that will produce such an effect. It is the Silent Word that is forever going out from this center. Men and women are coming into contact with it. It is worth more than all the periodicals and letters that could possibly be written. I could carry on an immense "business" by hiring girls to play on the typewriter. It would be like standing up in the pulpit saying over words. Healing is done in the Silence and I can't do it on the typewriter.

*** People who get the vibrations in CHRISTIAN often think I am doing fine writing. I use the plainest words and often am very awkward in my expressions. It is not the writing, but the spirit in the writing. Here is what a very intelligent lady in Philadelphia wrote me:

"CHRISTIAN is superb! I wonder if you are conscious of how well you write? It is the most wonderful language that has graced the press, to my mind, for many centuries. I so actually reverence it that I have caressed it."

She felt the vibration. Did you know that the vibrations of the Spirit are love? How we have misused that word until it has lost its meaning. Love vibrations are life vibrations. God is alive. God is love. God is light. God in action is love in action. Life is activity. When the vibrations of the Spirit come to you they are full of what we are in the habit of calling love. In giving the copy of CHRISTIAN treatments I often involuntarily lift it to my lips. Does that sound silly? I often kiss passages in the New Testament by lifting the book to my lips without thinking of what I am doing. It is the mental movement at work. When the real healing comes the Spirit vibrates through your whole body.

*** In speaking of mental consciousness I mean the consciousness that you have a mind. Did you know that you had a mind? I don't mean the thing that you call your mind. You are conscious that you have lungs, arms, a body, and that it occupies a certain space. You walk and talk and sleep and eat. But that is not mental consciousness. It is mortal consciousness. It is the biggest kind of a falsehood when you bring it down to analysis. How could you have something to-day and lose it to-morrow? You could have a shadow this morning and a shorter shadow in the afternoon. But that is not anything. It has no reality in being. Listen to this cultured woman crying in the night:

"Oh, friend! I am dying. It is no use. I've tried so hard to find the way of life; but it has been too awful a life; there's too much to overcome. Oh, God, God! The only way out of this is to die."

She had a very acute consciousness of a body, but didn't know that she had a mind. I told her to die. I said to her in the Silence that she was a coward and that this was no place for cowards to live. If she was going to be a quitter the sooner she quit the better. She was taking fits over a little old fool body that didn't amount to anything. I told her that dying was not much of a job. Any fool could die. There was no more in it than there was in being born. Many other things I told her about that consciousness of death. She didn't die. Not a bit of it. She kicked the covers off and got out of bed.

*** What is mental healing? It is bringing the patient into mental consciousness. I do not give "treatments" by talking. I don't keep up a chatter with you or repeat any form of words. There comes to me in the Silence a thought for you, and I speak this as if I never expected to give you another treatment. This must be done day after day and year after year if necessary. When the right word gets into your consciousness you are filled full of healing. You know this Word of God is being spoken forever. God does not say a Word and then go away

and leave it. It is an eternal mental consciousness. I couldn't do healing in any other way than to speak my Word each day as if it were a final word. I never know what I AM going to say until it is said, for I am a listener. Here is a criticism which I heartily indorse:

"You still write of healing disease as if you had reduced it to a fine art. I have taken treatments a large per cent of the time for more than sixteen years from various doctors and have failed to find one whose ability to heal would stand any favorable comparison whatever to the healing credited to Christ and Paul. Aside from very temporary ailments they are entirely at sea. Some day a real healer may rise up out of this wilderness and cure people instead of treating them by the year."

Mental healing is an unfoldment, and the time is coming when it will be much greater in manifestation than the work of Jesus Christ. He said so himself. The apostles and prophets were planting seed and we are reaping the harvest. We will not only destroy disease, but death will be wiped out. It will be the last enemy to go.

*** Helen Wilmans and Eleanor Kirk are dead and we are lamenting their loss to us. Why? Let me repeat the question and ask you why? Is it a strange thing for an old woman to die? Millions and millions of people have died. Every minute some one is born into the world and some one dies out of the world. Why then should we be startled at the death of these two women? They had both reached three score years and ten. Why? Because they had faced Death and questioned his authority. Bless you, my friends, if we had done nothing more than to stand up and question the authority of disease and death we would have done more than all the centuries this side of Christ. These women, like all others in mortality, were moving pictures. They came on the scene of action and suddenly disappeared. But they had said their say; they had spoken their Word and made us sit up and take notice that disease and death were usurpers. What does it mean? It means that the Word spoken by the apostles and prophets is just now coming into a resurrection. It means that the whole of humanity will come into mental consciousness. The regeneration of the body by the resurrection of the mind. The resurrection of the mind does not mean coming up out of the grave. It means coming into the consciousness that you are a mind. That you are a mental being and not a mere body. It is in the air. Just now I read in the newspapers about a London doctor who was healing people by putting the idea of cure into their minds. He substitutes the idea of healing, the thought of cure, for the idea of disease. The two thoughts change places in the mind of the patient. This is given out as something new. But I have been practicing it for seventeen years, and there were many before me.

*** The personal application of the principle is all that is needed for a full and complete rejuvenation. It is expressed very forcibly in the following statement made by one of my students. I call her student because she is beyond the stage of being a patient. Getting hold of the principle, she is going ahead:

"I simply must write to you and tell you that everything that I have longed for all my life is headed my way. Some of the

things are right here. More are looming up large just ahead, and the entire atmosphere and environment have changed. I won't inflict you with details, but it seems almost like miracles, and the greatest one of all is the change in me. The old shell is more than cracked. It is falling away, and the thing which I have always wanted to be is emerging from the ruins of the old environment, and the opportunities and the people that I want are beginning to come. Don't you rejoice with me? If I keep in your vibrations for a while longer I won't know myself, and I want to keep there. I don't know how you manage it, but in some way you have accelerated the movement which I was trying so hard to start, and now it is just going lickety-brindle. I know I could not have done it alone. I had been trying so long."

You didn't know you could do these things, did you? We have known all along that we could do things with other things, but we didn't know we could do things with ourselves. We built houses and boats and monuments and bored tunnels and made many beautiful things out of other things. This is what we men have been doing and wearing ourselves out while doing it. Women have been doing housework, making gowns, making hats, running typewriters, keeping books, selling goods and doing many other things. In fact, we have been killing ourselves making a living. Now we are coming into mental consciousness and doing things in our minds. This is changing the whole environment. How glorious it is to be a creator! We thought God would not let us do anything except play with his things. We cut down his trees and quarried his stones, mined for his gold and silver and dug up his coal. Just now he is letting us create conditions and bring things out of the invisible. "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work." This is real spiritual fellowship. God is letting us help in the creation of our world. Are you learning the trick?

*** Christianity is practical. It is not a mere theory. It is not a doctrine. It is not a law. It is not a religion. It is a principle. It is the Principle. Everything that Jesus Christ did and said is practical. We have been taught that everything was to be fulfilled in a far-off age, or on the other side of death. He did not talk that way. He opened the eyes of the blind so that they might see this world. He unstopped the ears of the deaf so that they could hear. He made the lame man whole so that he could walk. He raised the dead to show us that death has no authority in the universe. There is a new system of science called Pragmatism. The root of the word means practical. Anything that works is science or truth. If it does not work it is not true. Christianity is Pragmatism. It works. Take this wonderful statement:

"Freely ye have received, freely give."

You can turn that statement all around and it is the truth. Freely give and you will freely receive. I tried it. Seven years ago CHRISTIAN was denied pound rates of postage because I advertised healing. I could not give up the healing, so I put a penny on each paper and went ahead. The mortal man worried for a little while. The mental man came into the consciousness of the Principle. I said, To hell with all limitations and restrictions. Some of you older readers remember how you were shocked at

that statement. It was rough, but scientific, for all limitations and restrictions have gone into the bottomless pit. I had about fifteen thousand cloth-bound books in the house. I offered two copies of the book for every dollar sent for treatments. I offered, and am still offering, one subscription to CHRISTIAN for every dollar sent for treatment. I have given freely and have received freely, and there is no commercial vibration connected with CHRISTIAN.

*** The principle works in everything, for it is the universal principle. You don't want to foolishly give away money to people. That is not the principle. The modern notion of charity is pauperism. I knew I had the principle of healing, and therefore I could afford to give with the treatment a book or a subscription until they got started. The result is that the people want the healing and do not care anything about the so-called material gift. It works because I had something of the invisible which was worth more to the people than all of the books and subscriptions on earth. I knew it. Now they know it. I had faith in myself. That simply means that I had faith in the principle of being. Don't pauperize anybody and don't let anybody pauperize you. Debt is the devil. Don't put yourself under obligations to anybody on earth or in heaven. You are not even under obligations to God. If he is, so are you. This idea that we are under obligations and have to get down on our knees to some other fellow has made paupers out of the people. Here is another letter from the woman who was going to die. You will find a little item from her in some other part of this paper:

"Find postoffice order for ten dollars inclosed. I've been realizing the Christ consciousness of late, the consciousness that Life is health and strength. Disease is in the mortal mind, and it is this ignorant mind which fills the blood with disease. In short, we are hypnotized by the ignorant world mind. When the real mind comes I shall arise and walk. Glory! the relief. Well, sweethearts, keep on and on. I shall get there in spite of hell and high water, as T. J. said."

Of course she made paragraphs in her letter, but I always print it without paragraphs to save space. She calls it Christ consciousness. But you must not mistake the word. "The head of every man is the Christ." What you want is mental consciousness. The consciousness of yourself. Every man is the Christ and every woman the Church. All you need is to come into the consciousness of it. Call it devil consciousness, if you want a name for it. You want the goods delivered, no matter by what name. You are not in bondage. You are a free spirit. Pray to yourself. Stick to yourself.

*** I mean just what I say when I tell you that the whole thing is in yourself. If you go out seeking the kingdom in some other fellow, whether you call him God or devil, you will never find it. How can you be in the kingdom of your own mind while some other mind rules your mind? You get scared over the devil, and get emotional over the other fellow. Now both fellows are in you and the devil is about the best friend you ever had in mortality. He is the negative force that keeps prodding you with his pitchfork. Blessed old snake! Blessed old pitchfork! Praise God for the

fires of hell. They are just as holy as any other kind of fires. "Our God is a consuming fire." The devil seems to be his fireman. Listen to this tale of woe:

"I am far from being happy. In fact, for the past month, I have felt rather bitter in my heart. I don't want to get in that condition, for that is hell sure. The longer I live, the more I am inclined to believe that there is no such thing as happiness. I have felt as if everything was against me, and I could find no rest or peace anywhere."

Men and women are getting into that pitiful thought. It causes insanity and suicide on every hand. It is silly. It is self pity. It is cringing cowardice. How can everything be against you? If the very devil himself is against you stand in with him and make him your friend. I mean it. "Agree with thine adversary quickly." Jesus Christ stated a principle. The principle works. If you agree with your adversary, your adversary will turn into an advocate. The devil has no grudge against you. He is only helping you to understand the truth. You must not look at the adversary as a fallen angel. Angels can't fall. Satan is called a spirit and a prince. He is called the prince of the power of the air. He is not bad. A spirit can't be bad. He only has an evil occupation. Like the undertaker, he is not very popular. But we could not very well get along without undertakers while death reigns. Fools can't get along without the devil. Ignorance always calls for the services of Satan. Don't let anybody be against you. Stand in with the whole bunch!

*** I will close Items and Ideas with one more emphasis on the idea of mental consciousness. I am not giving you advice, for the world is filled up chuck full of advice. I heartily indorse this statement of Charles Battell Loomis: "There's a lot of people to give you advice, but, if you take my advice, you won't take it." Men and women are actually going crazy trying to digest the different kinds of teaching. I want you to get hold of the principle, and then you will be independent of men, gods and devils. You will be all three yourself. Mental consciousness means the consciousness of your own mind. You now have body consciousness. You count your fingers and move your toes. You look into the mirror and damn your wrinkles. All this is body consciousness, and it is the very worst thing for your body. You can ruin your body by thinking about it. You can upset your stomach and cause indigestion by thinking about it. You can go blind by concentrating your thought on the thought of blindness.

"Isn't it too bad that old Dr. Tanner didn't have a conception of your dynamic body idea? Perhaps you will try a fast one of these days. I am not poking fun. I would like to know if you have any theory for developing white corpuscles or electrodes in the blood?"

If Dr. Tanner had been in the vibrations of Christianity he would not have made a spectacular ass of himself by public fasting. Men of vision who fast go into the Silence, like Jesus went into the wilderness. No, I have no theory about developing electrodes in the blood. You can find plenty of theories on that subject. I am developing mind and bringing men and women into mental consciousness. This will regulate the electrodes and bring substance out of the invisible.

THE UNFOLDING OF THE MIND.

Mental culture!

I mean that refinement which comes through mental unfoldment. The carnal mind never unfolds. There is nothing in it to unfold. The spiritual mind unfolds, for it is the divinity within you. The carnal mind is on the surface and has no deeper or more permanent existence than the mortal body. The mind of the Spirit is life and life everlasting, therefore it is forever unfolding and refining the personality.

Mary Eddy and Sarah Bernhardt are examples of what I mean by the unfolding mentality. I do not speak of morals, but of minds. Mary Eddy is refined in her mentality until she is almost a spirit. Her vibrations are of the mind. There is nothing gross or sensual about her thought. She lives on mind and there is no danger of her dying of disease. It is not in her blood. She has very little blood. If she is taken away it will be a peaceful sleep in the thought of Spirit and there will not be much left to bury. Such is the founder of Christian Science. Her thought is lifting men and women out of physical culture into mental culture. It is only a beginning, but it is bearing good fruit.

I heard Sarah Bernhardt, and, as dramatic power is always based on sex magnetism, I expected to see an old woman living on a past reputation. Nothing of the kind, for the mind of the artist, the mind of Spirit, was there and wide awake. She was magnetic! The old woman was lost in the mind of the artist. Matchless womanhood to stir the very center of your being and make you see a vibrant young woman! She did it. It was mentality of the refining kind and not the mind of carnality. Sarah Bernhardt has lived for her art and not for her stomach. Her mentality has not been drowned in wine and dissipation, hence she lives on as mind.

I saw and heard Alexander Stevens when he was nothing much but a head full of high thoughts. His body had faded away into almost nothing, but he was all there in the might of his mentality, the glory of thought.

I heard Edwin Booth. In his slender form and white face there was a mighty contrast to some of the sensualists of his time. I was a boy and Booth lifted me into the very clouds with his wonderfully magnetic interpretation of Shakespeare's mental characters. It was all the work of a refined mind.

It is not a question of bulk and blood, my mental brothers, but of refined thought. Thought is a substance, a finer substance than what we call matter, therefore it has power to refine matter. The mind transforms the flesh and brings it into a more rapid rate of vibration. It is a resurrection, and we are just now learning the first lessons in the power of mind.

This refiner's fire called spirituality is changing from religious emotionalism to that calmness and repose of science which will give us the victory. It is mentality, the mind of the Christ, and the medium is

electricity, which gives you a mental conjunction with the mental center in our sun. Christ is made unto us wisdom, righteousness and redemption.

Don't get the idea of literal fire as we see it. The tongues of flame on Pentecost were "like as of fire," and when I come out of the Silence after giving treatments there is a flame from the tips of my fingers if I touch any piece of furniture or turn on the electric lights. You all know how Volta and Tesla can handle this flame. It is not a power you are to get. It is already in you. It only needs to be understood and cultivated in the truth. It will consume your food, eat up your diseases, cast out your devils, and raise you from the dead. It will change the circulation of blood into the circulation of electricity.

There will be no more poison in the blood, for men and women cease making blood. They will learn that much blood means corruption. The mind is even now beginning to learn that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of mind, and that corruption and incorruption cannot be joint heirs in the same kingdom. One or the other must vacate the premises.

The old thought is that you are to be saved from the body. The new thought is that you are to be saved in your body. That old way was a cheat and a fraud practiced by the priests. You got into heaven by the door of death and on the principle of forgiveness. The forgiveness is all right, provided you are forgiven, but the only One who can forgive is able to heal the body. And without the healing of the body there is no forgiveness. You will have to come back and try it all over again and again until you are made every whit whole.

Here is a fine illustration of the principle of forgiveness:

"And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four. And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

"When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

"But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God only?"

"And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins (he saith to the sick of the palsy), I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

"And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; inasmuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion."

There is your principle of forgiveness. It heals the hurt. You can also see the principle of mental healing. The power that heals is the Divine Logos, the Word of God. He created new conditions by the Word of the I AM. It was a spoken word addressed to the consciousness of the man.

The dynamic body of the paralytic responded to the spoken Word and obeyed the commandment, "Arise, take up thy bed and walk." It was a mental movement followed by an objective manifestation. "God said, Let there be light, and there was Light."

It is all mind.

There is no other power in the universe. It is all intelligent. Every atom is full of light. Mind is divided into two divisions—mortal and spiritual. It is like a grain of wheat in the dark earth and a grain of wheat in the sunlight. Mortal mind is the mind in the darkness. Spirit mind is the same mind in the light of truth. That is all. The mind of the flesh travels in a circle. It is governed by suggestion and periodicity. At certain periods the mind of the flesh will do so and so because the impression was made on the brain at that period. It travels the same road all the time.

The mind of the Spirit comes into the consciousness of eternity. It is the same mind emerging from darkness into light and from the power of Satan unto God. It is forever unfolding, for there is eternal progress in the realm of truth. Therefore the mind of the Spirit is always new, fresh and young. It could not be otherwise, for it is forever coming into more and more light.

Your mortal mind cannot unfold, for movement would remove mortality and it would cease to be mortal mind. This mind of the flesh observes time and is therefore concerned with days, months and years.

There is no greater mental folly than to observe the passing of time. It will bring wrinkles, gray hairs and the feeling of old age faster than any other method of thinking. It soon turns the mind backward and causes you to live in the past. You are soon a has-been, and that means disease and death.

In spite of this principle, each mother begins teaching her children to observe time by noting birthdays. This is all very well until there is a turn in the road, and then the woman wants to forget her age. The man begins to feel the weight of years. How can you forget when each year is burned into your brain? It would require a new brain, and this means a new birth of the Spirit of reincarnation in mortality. You speak of feeling the weight of years. It is an apt expression, for each year has been piled into your mind like rubbish in an attic. At a certain time you take up your residence in the attic of your mind and never come down. The undertaker finds you there and carts you to the dump where dead things belong.

It is not my thought, but was stated centuries ago by Paul, the interpreter of Spirit:

"Howbeit, then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods. But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage. Ye observe days and months and times and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain."

There is no doubt about the principle and you know it. Then why do you not obey

the truth? You say that your environment will not permit it? Let your associates do as they please, but your mind is your own. I let people in my own house and everywhere else celebrate all the holidays and observe all times and seasons. I do not. My time is one whole, and I refuse to break it up into pieces. I will not even divide it into years, much less subdivide the year into broken parts. I never was born, so why should I observe the date of my present incarnation. There is no weight of years on me, for I do not mark time.

This observance of times and seasons not only makes you old before your time, but it keeps you living in the past or the future, with no present time. The mind looks forward to a holiday to come and backward to a holiday gone. The child is thus made to swing backward and forward, with no time for rest. A consciousness of the present is all that child or man should ever know. Life of to-morrow never comes, and the life of yesterday is no more. To-day is the day, and the delusion of time should be put out of your consciousness.

But how we do build monuments and observe times and seasons! It is an old race thought. The Jews were very much taken up with the dead past. Jesus said:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, and say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?"

Did you ever read these words with the full force of their significance?

"And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: and he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth, and cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices. And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.

"And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth, lifted up his hand to heaven, and swore by him that liveth forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that therein are, and the earth and the things that therein are, and the sea and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer: but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets."

That rainbow upon his head, and his face as the sun, are very significant symbols, for he was clothed with a cloud. The sun of his face cast the rainbow in the cloud.

There is a time when there will be no time, therefore time is not a reality. It is a creation of mortal mind made by counting shadows cast in the evolution of the earth around the sun. The mystery of God is to be finished and time shall be no more.

You can come into this consciousness by the birth of the new mind.

No man can give it to you. It must come in your own mental unfoldment. Others may help you as I am now doing, but that is all. It is your own birth and you must go into the new life alone. It is in you and you will come into a knowledge of your own. There is no power that can keep you out of your kingdom. It is destiny. The mystery of God will be finished in you, and to you time will be no more. There is a peace of God which passeth understanding. It belongs to you. It is part of your own and it will come to you.

Don't try to run away from times and seasons, days and years. Just get them out of your own mind. That is all you can do. It will not help you to scold others or talk about your knowledge of the truth. Keep it to yourself and let it unfold in the silence of your own mind. The things of God are known only to those who know. It is useless to talk to those who do not know. Mental culture will bring you out of your old thought and lift you into a new world.

But you must not leave the world of noise and confusion and hide away, expecting to find peace. Conquer where you are. I am overcoming right here at this desk, where the weary and troubled, the diseased and dying, are bringing all their mortal misery to me. I will not desert my post, for I have peace and poise and am ready to help others. The unfolding mind of the Spirit is a well of living water springing up into everlasting life.

Time shall be no more!

Isn't that good news! Can you realize what that means? Hardly, as we have been marking time for all these thousands of years. And how little time we have, after all! The swift moving of the shadows and our time is ended and we are no more.

But, blessed be the Word, the ending of time is also the end of death. There will be no dead men and no need of times and seasons, days and years. The unfolding mind comes into life and immortality, and the mystery of God is finished. This is too high a thought for words. Let us contemplate it in the silence.

Do you think the thought of mind as an independent individuality is merely a metaphysical problem? Listen to this account of the death of a noted midget, John Harding, of Norwalk, Connecticut:

"Harding was 43 years old, but he was no bigger than a normal two-year-old baby. His arms and legs were gnarled and twisted and from the moment of his birth they were in unceasing motion. He never walked and never even crept. Nevertheless he had a fine brain and a wonderful memory. He taught himself to read and write and read good books constantly."

A man no larger than a two-year-old baby, and yet a mind capable of high thought! *There is only mind.* The house of clay is a temporary abode of the mind. The mind is the Son of God and has no beginning of days or end of life. When did mind begin, seeing it is the beginning of all beginning and the end of all ending? It had no beginning, but is from everlasting to everlasting.

HEALING LETTER

My Dear Everybody:

You liked this letter last month. You gave it a warm welcome. Let me tell you some of the secrets of the Silence.

All summer things were under a weight of depression. There was not a panic, but the effects of the panic were still evident. All of us were waiting until after the election for times to get better.

I got red hot and threw off the weight. I had to work against the hot air of the politicians and the general depression in the minds of the people. About the first of September I began treating the whole situation. I took up the list of Christians and gave wholesale treatments to everybody on my list. I sent out wave after wave of success vibrations.

It worked. The principle always works. Everybody began to pick up and come into financial freedom. I kept this up right along in October and the result is that the persons who were scrimping to send one dollar are now sending five and feeling good over it.

I don't intend to let anything under the sun interfere with you people. It is a fellowship for mental, physical and financial freedom. The vibrations are getting stronger every day. There are more of us and we are coming closer and closer together. I will not leave out anything that belongs to you. The principle will work for money just as well as it will for health. Just get into the vibrations of the first page of this issue.

New readers must be told all about my terms in every paper. The Circle of Christians is composed of persons who take treatments by the year, at one dollar a month or twelve dollars a year.

Special treatments are given to these persons and all others for five dollars a month. It is a financial fellowship as well as a mental fellowship.

A subscription to CHRISTIAN will be given for every dollar sent for treatments. Send the names of your friends, but let them know that the subscription is with your compliments. Send money, gold, silver or paper, in registered letter, or money orders, postal or express, in the common mail. Write once a month, enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Come of your own free will. I AM,

T. J. SHELTON,
1657 Clarkson St., Denver, Colo.