



Christianian

Monthly: 50 Cents a year. NOVEMBER, 1899. New Series, Vol. 5, No. 11.
Thomas J. Shelton, 2222 Chester St., Little Rock, Ark.

OPTIMIST AND PESSIMIST.

The optimist is jolly,
And he's always feeling well;
From a famous fund of folly
He draws funny jokes to tell.
The pessimist is gloomy,
And he's grumbling all the while;
He wears an air that's tomboy,
And he's never known to smile.

The optimist is happy,
Never seems to have a care;
His remarks are always snappy,
And he's floating in the air.
The pessimist is doleful,
And he views the world with doubt;
He has troubles by the bowlful,
And he always hands them out.

The optimist is cheery,
Looks the future in the face;
Never seems to have a fear he
May be beaten in the race.
The pessimist is groaning,
Never sees the bright blue skies;
Just devotes his time to moaning
And formulating sighs.

L'ENVOI.

But the optimist will go
To the theater and blow
His last red cent for laughter
When the
Rent is
Due!
While the pessimist he stays
Home from theaters and pays
The bill the man comes after
When the
Rent is
Due!

—HOBART, in Baltimore Herald.

ITEMS AND IDEAS.

- ** November.
- ** Scorpio, the Scorpion!
- ** The Devil, the Old Serpent.
- ** Don't wait, but renew now for next year.
- ** Great is the mystery of Sex, the Tree of Life!
- ** Thanks for prompt renewals for the year 1900.
- ** CHRISTIAN is 50 cents a year, payable at the beginning, middle or end of the year; but always to be paid within the year.
- ** I make no promises, but from present indications CHRISTIAN for next year will surpass anything we have ever yet issued.
- ** *Inspiration*, Vol. 1, No. 1, August, 1899. Published monthly by Beatrice A. Johnson, "clairvoyant and inspiration medium." 50 cents a year. Daytona, Florida.
- ** I give treatments for all kinds of sickness and trouble, including poverty; terms, from one to ten dollars per month, according to financial ability of applicant.

** Please answer some time if we are committing a sin and inflaming passions by eating meat.

No.

** "A Conquest of Poverty," by Helen Wilmans. Pp. 171; paper; 50 cents. Sold by subscription. Agents wanted. Address The International Scientific Association, Seabreeze, Florida.

** Thanks to the kind friend who has been sending me that charmingly unique magazine, *The Philistine*, published in East Aurora, N. Y. I enjoy every word, even the advertisements.

** I have no more copies of "The Law of Vibrations," but will reissue the booklet as soon as possible. Accordingly, all orders sent in from now on will be filed away until the booklet is ready.

** Explain the spiritual meaning of Deuteronomy, twenty-third chapter, first and second verses.

It means that sex is life, and that a dead man shall not stand in the congregation of the Lord.

** What is the meaning of "Do unto others as you would they should do unto you?"

It means that you are a law unto yourself, and your own conscience should be the guide in your treatment of others.

** Elizabeth Lois Struble has removed *The Nautilus* from Portland, Oregon, to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. This is the land of cyclones and blizzards, but if a cyclone ever catches up with Betsy Lois it will have to start early and work overtime.

** Mrs. Laura Randall writes me that she is closing out her stock of books, many of them below cost. "A Look at God," by Geo. E. Burnell, is reduced from \$1 to 25 cents; "Studies and Treatments in C. S.," by E. J. Castle, from \$1.25 to 25 cents; and other books in proportion. Better send to her for a reduced price list. Her address is 17 Van Buren street, Chicago, Illinois.

** Five is the number of the covenant. This year closes volume five of CHRISTIAN. I have carried thousands of people on my list for the whole five years without receiving anything, not even postage which I pay every month. Volume six begins with January, and I am going to drop every one who has not paid up to 1900 or signified their willingness to do so. I want you if you want me. The year 1900 is the beginning of a wonderful unfoldment in humanity, and I am going to keep CHRISTIAN right up close to the bandwagon. It will pay you to join my company, for I am going to speak right out in meeting anything I hear from the Spirit of Truth.

** What do you mean when you speak of doing things in the Truth; and unless they are done in the Truth they are worse than not at all?

I mean what I say. Lying is not in the truth; deceit is not in the truth; gambling is not in the truth; there is the Way, the Truth and the Life. When you do things in error you are not walking in the Truth.

** What are you? Are you a Christian Scientist?

In my spiritual being I Am God; in my personal being I am an individual known by the name of Thomas Jefferson Shelton. I think Christianity is scientific, therefore I like the name Christian Science, but I do not belong to any sect, school or party. I am not a member of any kind of an organization.

** In your answer to Florence D. you say that if there is any mistake at all about her son's death it is through God. Do you not think God all wise and incapable of making mistakes?

Forty or more people have written me about the above statement. I said "if," and then went on to say that there had not been a mistake; but that all things work together for good, therefore all things are Good.

** Please state if the passage of Scripture that says, "What knowest thou, oh wife, but that thou mayst save thy husband?" does not refer to the regenerate life being led by the wife.

The original statement was made in reference to a Christian wife living with a heathen husband; but the principle will apply to regeneration. The wife or husband who is seeking regeneration should not forsake the other, but live in harmony and peace and wait for the Silent Word to bring in the kingdom of Truth.

** Please tell us what to teach our little ones about prayer. Shall we have them repeat the Lord's Prayer? Shall we ask "grace" before each meal? I am in doubt on this subject.

I have answered these questions over and over. When you say grace or repeat prayers you are mystifying the minds of children. They are like savages, and can see only an idol or the image of something or someone. It is time for us to train children to know the principle of being, and teach them that God is the Light, the Life and the Truth. The following story illustrates the tendency of the old thought. A little girl, whose mother left her alone at night, telling her the room was full of angels, was heard saying to her doll: "Now, dollie, you mustn't be afraid—the room is all full of angels. It beats the devil how afraid I am of angels."

* * Please state in next CHRISTIAN if you can treat a member of one's family for freedom from the use of tobacco, and without the knowledge of the patient.

For the sake of getting patients of this kind I could say yes, and make thousands of dollars every year; but in the long run I think I will make more money and be happier by telling the truth. The tobacco habit comes from the choice of the individual, and no power on earth can cure it without the co-operation of the individual's will.

* * In answer to many questions I will say that true healing is always done by a man and woman working in unison. It may be husband and wife, but not often; it may be mother and son. In my case it is father and daughter. The harmonious working of my daughter's mind with my word grows more and more perfect every day. But the masculine element in your work may be invisible and altogether in the subjective, and vice versa; therefore, don't get discouraged because you do not see your helper. You may have an invisible "Julia," like W. T. Stead, who is ever at your elbow giving you strength for your work.

* * "Idols Dethroned and Dominion over the Animal Kingdom." Second edition, revised. By Flora Parris Howard, Los Angeles, California. Cloth, \$1; paper, 50 cents. This second edition of "Idols Dethroned" is enlarged, revised and improved, with an excellent picture of the author. Her face is a "good treatment," and shows the gentleness of the Spirit of Truth. St. Paul says, "We know that an idol is nothing." Flora knows as much about idols as Paul did, and proceeds to knock nothing off the throne where something should always reign. She also publishes a little booklet entitled, "Experience the Growth of the Soul," price 15 cents. Her writings are strong and thoroughly scientific.

* * This year, 1899, closes nine years of my unfoldment under the movements of the Spirit. In January, 1891, I threw away all creeds and opinions and became a student of the Spirit. In all my theological and Biblical training I had only heard of the Spirit as a power in other men ages ago. When I started out to investigate for myself and claim the personal inspiration which I knew belonged to each one, I was a veritable babe in the woods. Everything had to be learned from the first vibrations in the psychic to the full inspiration of the sun. I don't know it all, but I know more than I knew in January, 1891. I am still a close student of the Spirit; but the "open door" is before me. I can see and hear as naturally in the subjective as I do in the objective. "More light!"

* * Yes, my beloved, let individuals cooperate under the general government and not in little colonies, parties, unions or sects. I am for a paternal government. We now have our letters, books and packages mailed by the general government. Let us keep on until railroads, telegraphs, steamships, etc., are all under the control of the postoffice department of the general government. Put a postage stamp on your valise and go where you will at Uncle Sam's expense. It

is all coming just as fast as we are ready for it. Look at what we have already accomplished? You may rest assured that what can't be accomplished through the general government cannot be realized in a local government. All colonies, societies, churches and associations are made up of human beings, and humanity is about the same on an average anywhere and everywhere. You may think you are one of the elect and that you can select a few more of the elect and go off somewhere and form an ideal society, but you can't. As a general thing the very persons whom you do not want will come. Why, the cranks, the dissatisfied, the restless, are the ones who join colonies and attempt to live an ideal life in a real world of flesh and blood, of likes and dislikes.

* * Dear Sir: I realize that "I am that I am," but I feel that I have no right to presume to ask favors of the "great I Am," as the feeling has for years been gradually creeping over me that I am given or have inherent in my being all that it was ever intended that this Ego should have to enable it to work out a comfortable existence and satisfaction. For some reason a feeling of despairing helplessness has been forcing a recognition of fate, as competitive life forces one to meet deception and fraud on every side, and it seems to be a case of go hungry or go and do likewise. I dare not pray for special favors, as it seems to me to be casting an indignity upon the Great Intelligence, but I would like to know how to secure a comfortable, happy, independent and honest life for myself and mine. Perhaps my brain is clouded, but I cannot determine what I shall do. I am standing at the verging of many roads. I don't know why I write this, except that I have faith (no knowledge) of enough of the Silent forces to know that man does not begin to know all there is in the universe, and that there must be more than I have ever experienced, and perhaps this may be the means of clearing up the atmosphere and enabling me to start on the road that will bring most satisfactory results. I am not going to sign my name, as it makes no difference to you what it is. Call me UPOC.

"Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you." In other words, get out and hustle. Even the cow bites the grass, the bird picks for its living, and man must get a move on him if he wants to live. You have a great kingdom within, but it must be called into activity. Of course you have within you all that you need when the within is applied to the without. You have a right to demand health, happiness and prosperity from the Universal Supply. If your own does not come to you, call for it; and keep on calling until it comes to you. Breathing the universal air is a prayer for breath! Calmly command your own. But, my dear, "your own" means more than a mere existence in physical comfort. A hog can be comfortable in his wallow in the mire; but a man should seek "for glory, honor and immortality." He should aspire to the noblest and best there is in him. You can sometimes live longer in one hour in a certain vibration than you would live in a century of mere comfortable mind. The law is that you must lose your life in order to gain it. The paradox of truth is that the man who cuts off the mortal life gains both the mortal and immortal. The science of mind explains the paradox in this, that a man who has no higher aim than mortality is not in a position to enjoy even that much of life. Therefore when you call for your own include all of it, from bread and butter up to the song of an archangel and the vibrations of All Good.

TARRY IN JERUSALEM.

"And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.—Luke 24:49.

It is well to profit by the past and gain wisdom from the history of others. Too many of us go off half-cocked, to use common language, and fail to do the work we wish to do. We start out before we are ready; desire to do wonders leads us ahead of judgment and deliberation. I mention one case in modern times which illustrates the idea. It is Francis Schlatter, who was ushered into the work of healing and teaching before he was ready to carry the burden. The opportunity was given him to do the greatest work of the age, but he was not ready for it. The great inflow of psychic vibrations lifted him off his feet; the great mass of correspondence was left untouched. If he had tarried in Jerusalem until he was endued with power to deal with all this influx of prayer and thanksgiving, all this clamor for healing, he would now be in Denver giving health, happiness and prosperity to millions of people. He would have had stenographers and typewriters, and the mass of letters would not have been dumped into a heap and left unheeded; a steady, regular work, at regular hours, would have been maintained. Instead of this, he was carried by the waves of psychic influence and stood in the open streets in his shirt sleeves, trying to heal the sick as a wood chopper chops wood. He was soon drained of power, and saw his mistake. The only thing left for him to do was to run away—escape into the wilderness. I am not criticizing Schlatter. He was sincere and honest. I only say that he did not tarry in Jerusalem long enough. He should have been able to walk the waves of psychic vibrations instead of being overwhelmed by the flood. It takes a man full of the Holy Spirit, with a constant supply flowing into him all the time, to stand up against the multitude. I know that I have power to heal the sick, cast out devils and raise the dead, but I wouldn't face the clamoring mob now for anything. I'm not ready. I must heal in the Silence until I am ready to go into the Noise "with power from on high." I am going, but not until I am more powerful than the mob. The multitude is ready to devour any man who comes out before his time. They are seeking the kingdom of God; but in their hands "the kingdom of God suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force." They mean well, but even a president is in danger of being crushed by their eagerness. Therefore, the man who comes before the people to heal and teach by word of mouth must be able to command men and to speak the Word to all the elements of psychic force. I can do it in the Silence, but I am not ready to risk it in the Noise. I am waiting for orders.

Now don't be shocked when I give Jesus of Nazareth as another instance of one who began teaching and healing before he was ready. He was a young man, in fact you may say extreme youth, just entering the age of the rabbinical order. His forerunner,

John the Baptist, remained in the desert until he was ready to begin his work. It is said of him: "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the desert until the day of his shewing unto Israel." John was calm and serene and could only be arrested in his career when his head was cut off by the ax of Herod. Jesus seems to have been rushed into his work by the revival of John. I know he was baptized by the Spirit and tempted in the wilderness; yet he seems to have been borne along by the waves of popular feeling. I verily believe that he was sustained by women, and kept from falling by the power of woman's love; yet he did more wonderful works than all the other prophets put together. It was three years of fitful, feverish work, full of sighings and suffering. He finally fell down in Gethsemane, and was borne to the cross by the mob, the very mob who were looking, even then, for him to assert his power and come down from the cross. It is all right! There are no failures. The weakness of Jesus has been a source of strength to the weary ones of earth. Christianity has been characterized by the same uncertainty, the same ebbing and flowing of the psychic tide, which characterized the career of its Founder. It is yet uncertain of its bearings, and is divided into sects and parties of bitter sectarians. Jesus is an ideal! It is the cross of Jesus which stands out as the prominent feature in his life; and the church knows him as a "Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief." I suppose this was necessary to soften the heart of the barbarian and teach humanity to be gentle, kind and forbearing. The cross of Christ has served its purpose.

I don't say, for one moment, that these martyrs of ancient and modern times are unnecessary. They were and are all right as far as they go; but the martyr is a man who comes out before he is ready for the work. The people destroy the martyr. I am not ready for martyrdom. I don't want to die for my country. I am not so patriotic as to believe that my death is necessary. I had rather live for the world than to die for it. Therefore, I don't intend to wear out my life, nor let myself be killed by the multitude. I will not come forth from my hiding place until I am endued with power.

Let me now call your attention to a man who waited until he was ready for his work. The man, Moses, who gave us our moral law, founded the Jewish nation, and laid the foundations of civilization, was not in a hurry even after his young blood had been stirred by the wrongs of his people. He went away into the wilderness and waited forty years. Forty years! It is hard for some of us to go into the Silence for forty days; yet here is a man who kept still for a long forty years. It was not the silence of ignorance. It was not because he was a stupid shepherd and didn't know enough to be awakened. He was, at the time of his self imposed exile, a prince in the royal house of Egypt. This is what is said of him in the Acts, 7:20-24:

"In which time Moses was born, and was exceedingly fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months: and when he

was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son. And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds. And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel."

The record shows that at this time he knew that God had chosen him to free the Israelites. It is written: "For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not." You see this man at forty years of age had heard the call of God and was ready to leave all for the sake of redeeming his people. Paul speaks of this time and says:

"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing Him who is invisible."

This word "faith," you understand, must be translated "consciousness." Seeing Him who is invisible is not, so called, blind faith; it is clear seeing, a consciousness of God's presence. What I want you to get, in this lesson, is the fact that this prince, this man of learning, after hearing the call from God, quietly went into the wilderness and waited, in patience, for forty years! When he came forth he was more powerful than Pharaoh and his army, more powerful than the mob, more powerful than millions of slaves whom he set free. He was not only able to command men, but was the master of all the elements and all the forces in earth, air, fire and water. There was no giving way before the psychic waves in men or the elements. He didn't exhaust himself in giving forth power. In all the long march in the wilderness he was always ruler of the rebellious Israelites and able to meet their every demand. And when in the wisdom of God it came time for him to pass out into the unseen it was not because he was old or infirm. It is said: "And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated." The work was not felt by his nerves; there was no anguish, no tears, no anxiety. He was ready for what he had to do. The result was a permanent work. The laws given by Moses are today the basis and foundation of all civil law. The Jews, as a people, remain steadfast and firm after thousands of years of exile and persecution. Jesus was the flower, but Moses was the stem and root of the tree. There could never have been a Jesus if there had not been a Moses. And Christianity could not have survived if it had not been for the rock foundation of immovable Judaism. The New Testament rests on the Old Testament. These forty years of growth in Egypt, then forty years of Silence in the wilderness, prepared the way for the forty years of work which will abide forever. Three figures meet in the Mount of Transfiguration: Moses, Elijah and Jesus. Moses, the solid rock of the Law; Elijah, the prophet of Fire; and Jesus, the Spirit of Truth.

Do you know the reason why it is necessary for you to wait until you are ready? Because the psychic vibration is force, but it is what you may call blind force. It must be controlled by you or it will destroy you. Your boat must ride on the waves or you will be drowned. I know many healers. Hundreds of them have come to me for treatments. They had given out all their strength, they had continued to overdraw their resources until they were bankrupt. This desire to give to others, this anxiety to heal, had drained the last drop of their energy. I have had hundreds of cases of nervous prostration among public teachers and healers. Now this is unscientific and unnatural. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." This being true, each one should be blessed in giving; they should gain more and more power as the years roll on, instead of becoming physical wrecks. What shall we do? Don't begin until you are ready. Don't carry any burdens when you do begin. "Cast all your care on Him who careth for you." In other words, let the Word of the I Am do all of the work, while you stand still and see the effects. This is the only true healing. "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power."

It will pay you to wait. But how can I wait? By coming into the consciousness of eternity. What? Coming into the consciousness of the everlasting. Get where you know there is no such thing as time. Quit counting the coming and going of shadows. What is time? The revolutions of this little star around the sun. This is all there is of time. In the sun there are no shadows, and hence no time. It is said that an angel is to come down to the earth, and put one foot on the sea and the other on the land, and declare that time was, time is, but time shall be no more. Blessed day for all of us who have been watching the clock!

We do not know the times and the seasons, therefore it is useless for us to anticipate the future and worry ourselves over what may never come to pass. The Spirit knows the future, therefore leave it with the Almighty and keep your soul in peace. The pent up power which comes from silent waiting will all be needed when the call to action comes. The Spirit will use all your force, and nothing will be lost. Then, O, man, you are not a child of the moon and the earth. The sun is your Father and you are an heir of eternity. You are not going or coming; you are here. This is the center; let things revolve around you. You do not have to

"Hush your breath to hear,
Or strain your eyes to see,
If thy shores are drawing near—
Eternity!"

There is no time! The shores of eternity are all around you. This sense of the everlasting will make you very patient in your waiting. "From everlasting to everlasting Thou art God."

Jesus said that men do not put new wine into old wine skins, lest in fermentation the skins would burst and the wine be lost. Thus it is with this New Thought. The old bodies we have been building are not fit to hold this new wine of Truth. The new thought brings new vibrations, and your nerves begin to quake, your old bones rattle, and you think your old house is about to tumble down. Sometimes it does tumble down. Go slow! Your old body was built in error, in foolishness, and your nerves are not used to such joyful tidings, such good news of Truth and Love. There must be a new body, and it takes time to build it. Don't revolutionize things. Evolution is better. If it takes forty years to reconstruct your body and adapt it to the New Thought, why, take it. It is not the work for a temporary abode, but for a permanent residence in which you are to abide forever. Men pitch a tent for the night, but a house of granite takes time and steady work. Tarry in Jerusalem!

AN I AM SERMON.

Inspiration!

"There is a spirit in man; and, the Breath of the Almighty giveth him understanding."

These words were used, by a young man, as an excuse for putting his own word into a controversy carried on by his seniors. He claimed that inspiration from his own spirit and the Breath (or inspiration) of the Almighty gave him the right to speak, and stamped his words with authority. If his premises are true his conclusions are bound to be true. First, there is a spirit in man. Is this true? I know it to be the truth, for by my own spirit I have had the future revealed to me in thousands of instances where no one could have surmised or guessed what was to be. The word spirit is used for the immortal, divine principle of being. God is Spirit. The substance of all things is Spirit. The unchangeable, incorruptible principle of being is spirit. That man is eternal, immortal and incorruptible in his essential being is a truth known to the consciousness of every awakened soul. Immortality is a part of man's conscious being. He knows he is immortal. He also knows that he is omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient in his spiritual being. This sense of power, of presence, of vision, is inherent in man. In his dreams he is all and everywhere without the interference or limitations of time or space. In his waking thoughts he crosses oceans, sails the air, climbs mountains, goes from pole to pole, and accomplishes any and all kinds of wonderful things. There are no limitations to man in his mental realm. In our childhood we accept all the fairy stories as true. There isn't a single objection offered in our mind against Aladdin's lamp! We believed it without a doubt, and only wished that we could find it. All the wonderful works of fairies, genii and others were believed by the child spirit as the truth. It would have grieved us to have had these things called in question. Why? Because there is a spirit in man, and there is no wonder in fiction equal to the real wonders of the spirit. The fairy stories are all true; the genii and magi all exist in the world of spirit. "All things are possible with God," and, therefore, all things are possible with the child mind, for its judgment is from the spirit within.

Elihu, it is true, was angry when he began his speech in answer to Job; but his logic is all right. He had waited patiently for the old fogies to speak the truth, but he finally couldn't hold in any longer. He based his right to speak on personal inspiration, and not on his years or learning. He remarked: "Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment." All young men find this out before they are very old. Inspiration is not a respecter of persons, and it does not wait on the almanac. Youth may teach age. The boy, Jesus, asked questions and answered questions where his wise teachers were dumb with amazement. The cobbler, the blacksmith, the tramp, has often received

the credentials of the Spirit and breathed wisdom from Almighty Breath. Truth gives its own endorsement, and wisdom carries its own authority.

There has been much said and written about inspiration. The children of men have been held in bondage by the priests who claimed the "divine right of kings" under the cloak of inspiration. The Bible is inspired; and we understand the Bible; therefore you must submit to our judgment, and put aside your own personal opinion. We speak by the Book, and the Book is Divine Authority; therefore when we quote Scripture it is the voice of God speaking in us. Thus have we been made to bow our heads in submission and surrender our judgments to this juggernaut called inspiration. It is the rut worn so deep that the sunshine never enters its subterranean depths. It is the weapon of all creeds and churches, all sects and cults. No matter how diametrically the sects are opposed to each other in doctrine, they each and all appeal to the same inspired authority to confirm their creeds. The same words of Scripture are used to teach contrary opinions. It is a war of words, and yet God is supposed to be the author of it all. Now, I have often said that it takes just as much inspiration to understand the Bible as it did to write it. Inspired readers are essential to the understanding of an inspired book. This is self-evident. If the information came from a source inaccessible to man in his ordinary mind, then it must be interpreted to man from the same source. You can't gather grapes from thistles, nor figs from thorns. It is impossible for inspired writings to be read and understood by an uninspired reader. The Catholic church understood and met this logic by declaring the infallibility of the pope when he spoke in his official capacity. This is the only position to maintain unless you affirm individual inspiration. Either the pope must speak by inspiration and interpret the inspired Bible, or else God must inspire us all with an understanding of the Truth. The institution must hold the authority of inspiration, or it must be given to the individual. There is no middle ground. It is the inspiration of the individual, or the inspiration of the institution. Which is it? Shall the institution hold the keys of knowledge, and lock in or lock out the individual at its own sweet will, or shall God maintain His position as no respecter of persons, and give to each individual the keys of the kingdom of heaven? In the one case the institution is everything and the individual is nothing. In the exaltation of the institution the individual is humiliated; in the freedom of the individual the institution is destroyed. There is no use for a divine institution where you have divine individuals. Under the present order the institution is God; under the natural order the individual is God. I say natural order, for the institution is arbitrary, artificial, unnatural. It is of man, and belongs to the realm of mortality. No man's destiny is in the keeping of any man or sect of men. God has made all men free and equal under the law. Each individual is free to breathe the breath of God Almighty.

Now let us see if the Bible maintains the natural order. If it doesn't, all the worse for the Bible; for it will prove that the institution made the book to serve its own purposes. The word inspiration, about which so much noise is made, occurs but twice in the whole Bible, and not even once in the revised version; once in the common version of Job and once in Paul. It occurs but once in the Old Testament and once in the New Testament. Jesus Christ never uses the word. In Job, Elihu, the Buzzite, gets angry and applies the word to the Almighty. Since his day many Buzzites have applied the term and ascribed its authority to the institution; but Elihu stands for the individual. He claims authority to speak from his own spirit. "There is a spirit in man; and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." He sets aside the authority of old age, the institution, the usages of society, and appeals to the Almighty through the spirit within him. He is heard. He speaks the truth. He answers the sophistry of Job. God speaks from the whirlwind and confirms the word of Elihu. This first use of the word inspiration confirms the rights of the individual, and shows the Bible to be a book of nature and not a compilation of the institution.

Let us turn to the New Testament. Paul is the only one who uses the word inspiration, and he applies it to certain Scriptures, not all Scriptures (the institution makes him say that), but to inspired Scripture. He doesn't say that all Scripture is inspired of God, but: "Every Scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work." This is all right. It is scientific. Every writing inspired of God, whether ancient or modern, is profitable for teaching. It is not for the institution to dole out to men, but for "the man of God," wherever he may be. It is for the individual without regard to race, creed or condition. The Bible is the book for individuals; it is on the side of the natural order. God gives to man as man. There never was and never will be an inspired institution. Inspiration belongs to the individual. Inspired writings are from the pen of inspired individuals, many of whom were condemned and crucified by the institution. Even the reformers, who attempted to reclaim the Bible from the institution and restore it to the individual, were condemned, ostracised and slaughtered by the institution.

The institution is any organization instituted by mortal man. Organized religion is the wickedest thing in the world, for from it all other organizations have sprung. The divine right of kings came from man's acknowledgement of the divine right of priests and preachers. From organized religion, with the keys of heaven and hell, it is but a step to organized government, with the keys of earth. The individual is shut out or in, as it may please the men who run the institution. Many a man trembles and obeys because the priest has the keys of the cemetery, and he is afraid to have his precious bones buried in unconsecrated ground, as if

any part of God's earth was unconsecrated! Then the face of the dying is darkened with fear when the "sacraments" of the church are withheld because of some neglect or disobedience while in health. "What fools these mortals be." Then the so called Protestant sneaks around and patronizes the institution for fear he will lose its trade, or his family will lose cast in society. He buys what he wants and gets it. Such is the history of mortal man. It is the institution in the form of political parties, labor unions, clubs, secret societies, churches, etc., to which men have surrendered their individual freedom for the sake of personal benefits. Ask any honest man why he joined the lodge, the club, or the church, and he will tell you that it was for personal gain. He expected to get the benefit of the institution in his business, his social life, or his eternal salvation. This is where the institution hypnotizes the individual. A man gets down on his knees, or on his face, and takes horrid oaths, thinking it will benefit him in this life and the life to come. It is a great delusion. "The kingdom of God is within you." The salvation of the individual is the dominion in himself. The Lord God of Nature gives life to the individual tree, and if it gets too close to other trees all are weakened and hindered in their development. It is only when the tree stands out by itself that its roots sink into the earth and its branches ascend towards heaven.

The Bible is full of mighty inspiration to the individual. Abraham, the father of the Hebrew race, and the father of the Bible, hears the voice of the I Am within him saying, "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee." It is this kind of commandment which always precedes the promise of great things to the individual. Millions of young men would amount to something if they would only get away from their kindreds. Get out! "Go west, young man, go west." These are the words of inspiration to the individual who would make himself a place among men. Get away from thy kindred, and from thy father's house. The history of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the record of individual calling. It is to the man God speaks. Moses, a shepherd in the wilderness, leaves his sheep and goes forward to shepherd men. He is called of God to arrest the institution and deliver a race of individuals who had been more than four hundred years in bondage. The only weapon he is called upon to wield is the crooked stick used for herding sheep. God in the individual is more than all institutions combined. What are armies and navies before an individual clothed with divine power? Take your crooked stick and tell Pharaoh, king of Egypt, to let my people go. Then Moses asked a reasonable question: "What is thy name?" I have received my orders and credentials, but the name signed is what I wish explained. Who is it? The answer is for all generations: "I Am that I Am is my memorial Name unto all generations." It is the name of the Universal linked to the identity of the individual. It is the I Am of the individual in conjunction with the I Am

of the Universal. This is the natural order. God be praised for the open door to His own power and glory. No trust, no monopoly, no institution can shut the individual away from God. The door is wide open, and he that runs may read. Men may monopolize the earth, control the water, and even the air, but the spirit of man is free, and the Breath of the Almighty giveth him understanding.

The Breath of the Almighty! It causes man to "forget the things that are behind, and press forward to the high calling of God."

"I fling my past behind me, like a robe
Worn threadbare in the seams, and out of date.
I have outgrown it."

The old passes away; and, behold! all things are made new. Inspiration is God growing in you, or God growing you. There is no limit. Life everlasting is before you and in you. The inspiration of God includes all things. It is the power and glory and majesty of the Infinite. It is for man to begin to grow alone with God. "Except a man hate (cut off) his own father, mother, brother, sister, wife, children, houses, lands; yes, and his own life, he cannot be my disciple."

See how the Spirit of Truth pulls up by the roots from the garden of mortality and plants us, as individuals, in the garden of Life everlasting! A free soul has said: "I am not bound by any past. I am not limited by any future. I am now and forever eternally free."

"I sent my soul through the Invisible,
Some secret of that after-life to spell;
And by and by my soul returned to me,
And answered, 'I myself am Heaven and Hell.'"

Emerson says, "It is only as a man puts off from himself all external support, and stands alone, that I see him to be strong and to prevail." It is in this way that the internal support asserts itself, and man is lifted up by the Breath of the Almighty. Personal inspiration, power to partake of the divine nature, freedom to ask, seek and knock at the door of all Life is the heritage of man.

"A man who desires to live must eat his food himself,—this is the simple law of nature which applies also to the higher life. A man who would live and act in it cannot be fed like a babe with a spoon. He must eat for himself."

"Every man," says Emerson, "is a divinity in disguise—a god playing the fool." But man can also play the wise man and throw off the mask of mortality. This he is learning to do.

That men are divine beings, and not mere children of the dust, is the thought of the hour which is being made practical. A far off divinity, an immortality in some distant heaven of the future, no longer satisfies man. He wants to live now and here. He wants life in himself and not by proxy. This is the kind of divinity which stirs within the thoughtful men of this age. This is what Sam Walter Foss calls "The Yeast of Evolution."

"Then the yeast of evolution works its great amelioration,
And the World Tree sheds its blossoms through the gloom,
Till it flowers into Moses, Homer, Plato, Dante, Shakespeare—

Flowers prophecies of flowers that are yet to burst in bloom.

"For the yeast of evolution works, as hitherto, forever;
We are in the morning hours of our day;
Down the ever widening vista, whose long stretches end
in twilight,
We shall come on new perfections, meet new music on
the way."

THE NEW TESTAMENT TREATMENTS.

VI.—AIDS TO FAITH.

After all, men and women are but babes in the woods. It is only in the last quarter of the nineteenth century that we are beginning to walk as men. The childish imagination in all ages has been appealed to by all kinds of "graven images" and other material means to awaken consciousness. Here are a few words from the New Testament:

"Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them."

Now we would call this superstition, fanaticism, blind faith, etc. If such a thing were published in the papers about Mrs. Eddy, Mrs. Wilmans, or any other Mental Healer, we would all exclaim: "Poor, silly people! What superstition!" Yet the apostle Peter went on his way without rebuking this manifestation of childlike trust in his power to heal. He didn't tell them that his shadow could not heal, or that they were foolish in supposing there was virtue in his shadow. The true teacher deals gently with mental children, and knows that the kingdom of God is entered by those who become as little children.

And of Paul it is said:

"And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: so that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them."

Paul, like Peter, does not rebuke the "fanaticism," but receives the handkerchiefs and aprons. Diseases depart and devils are cast out by this method. While this kind of healing is not encouraged, it is not rebuked or rejected. It is soon given up for something better. We find the shadow cure in only one place, and the handkerchief cure never gets any further than this city of Ephesus, and was soon discontinued here for a more intelligent understanding of the Principle of Being.

This tendency to call for an objective aid to faith is a universal trait of human nature. It is idolatry; but it is also the natural demand of childhood. Jesus Christ did not hesitate in using mud as a cure for blindness, and in many cases his hand was reached out as a help to the faith of the little ones struggling for light. But the many cures wrought by word of commandment, even when the patient was absent, proves that the healing was not in the handkerchief, the shadow, or the mud, but in the Word of God. But what shall we do with the people who cannot see that which is invisible? Shall we tell them to drop all means, all medicines, everything, and depend solely on the Word of Truth? No. Let them lean on anything which seems

stable in their eyes. I don't take away a man's crutches; I wait until he of his own accord throws them away. The Silent Word will cause all objective means to disappear, as the warm sun melts the snow.

After all, what is medicine but another form of the idol, the handkerchief, the shadow, and the spittle and clay? One of the most popular schools uses medicines in such high potencies and triturations that even the shadow of the drug is eliminated. Yet people who laugh at Mental Healing will open their lips and take, every half hour, the 100,000th potency, with a look of faith and calm intelligence in their eyes. The idol is worshipped now, the same as ever, but we have refined his shape and made him beautiful instead of hideous. Our tastes have changed, hence the change in the idol. The principle is the same, whether it is mud on a blind man's eyes or a homeopathic dose of medicine.

Then here comes the Mental Healer who "lays hands" on the sick, or sits by the bedside with closed eyes and a dying-calf expression of countenance! It is all the same. What good is there in your physical presence? The same good that was in Peter's shadow, Paul's handkerchief, the doctor's drugs, etc. Well, did not people receive benefits through all of these methods? Certainly. Diseases depart, devils are cast out, and lepers are cleansed by all forms of idolatry. Drug doctors heal people, magnetic manipulators heal people, mental healers who sit by the sickbed and look solemn heal people. I am not disputing the fact that people are healed by all these methods. Bless you! there isn't a patent medicine in the world but has a long list of testimonials proving its merits as a healer.

Besides, you can go back in history and find authentic data to prove that Roman Catholic relics have healed all manner of diseases. The bones of saints, the wood of the cross, the beads of dead priests, have all been the means of healing the sick. But then, none of these relics had any more power than Paul's handkerchief, and Paul's handkerchief didn't have any more power than Dr. Puff's purgative pills! So there you are!

But what of all these things? Nothing; they are all right! Relics, bones, shadows, handkerchiefs, pills, anything which will help the child along until it is able to walk. True healing, of course, comes from the Word of Truth, and does its work without externals of any kind whatever; but it has taken us centuries to find it out. I know that my Word has healed all manner of sickness when the patient was hundreds and thousands of miles away. This word spoken in the Silence is omnipresent, and does not depend even on the patient's faith. The Spirit speaks where it pleases, and the mighty work is done in the Silence. I do not need to be present with my physical body; aye, healing is often accomplished in spite of the doubts and unbelief of my own mortal mind. But the mortal is always wanting to do something, to make an effort, to see some objective manifestation. It has been so all along the road of progress. When we invented the telegraph the Spirit

had to use wires and poles to aid our faith. At first the only way to get the message was to have a long strip of paper with dots on it; but soon the operator dispensed with the dots and listened to the sounds. Now we are getting ready to pull down the poles and dispense with the wires! What! do you mean to say that all these wires and poles have been of no more use than Paul's handkerchief or Peter's shadow? That is what Science is saying, my love, and Science is the Truth. The message was not in the wire but in the vibrations, therefore we will dispense with the wire just like we did with the dots on the paper. The telephone has demonstrated that hearing is not in the ear but in the vibrations, therefore I have long since dispensed with the telephone and use telepathy.

I have gone still further and proved to my own satisfaction that I can not only dispense with the material poles and wires, but with this material body, and yet live, move and have intelligent being. If I am dependent on mud for my existence, then the universe is a sham and a fraud. I know many intelligent beings whose physical bodies have long since dissolved into dust. These people are alive and happy, and can talk to me through the ether vibrations; therefore I know that I am not dependent on mortality for my existence. I don't give this to you as proof, for it isn't proof to you, but it is to me.

It is time for us to get up and get out of materiality. The body and its mortal environment must obey the voice of mind. It is very common now for one to ring up a telephone and hold conversation with a man five thousand miles away. The voice is recognized and the distance of five thousand miles is obliterated. This is taken as a matter of course. Why? Because it has been practically demonstrated. Even so, and the time is at hand when all space will be obliterated and the omnipresence of Spirit will be recognized. I know that I send health vibrations to thousands of people every day. They are all present with me, although thousands of miles seem to separate us. The very best healing I have ever done has been from Little Rock to California and Massachusetts. I have also had wonderful success with people in England and France. Therefore, I say unto you that the day of material means, objective agencies in healing, is passing away. The new heavens and the new earth are beginning to appear in the light of truth. Old things are passing away, and all things are being made New. The Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword, dividing joints and marrow and discerning the thoughts.

There isn't anything so penetrating as thought. It doesn't need mud, handkerchiefs, shadows or pills. It will enter into the system and do more damage or more good than any other element in the universe. It can cause the heart to stand still with fear or break with the fullness of joy. Thought will purify the blood or cause it to stagnate with impurity. Thought will increase the circulation and fill the eyes with the brightness of health. It is the power of God unto salvation to every one who understands the laws of its vibrations, and who will obey its commandments.

IS THE SUN OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN?

The following letter is a good text for a kind of prayer meeting talk on the above subject. I will not call it a sermon but an informal talk.

Dear Sir: I am not in Madge's luck, as no one has sent me a copy of your booklet on "Vibrations." Finding myself in possession of a dollar, thought I would send it to you and ask for a copy, and that balance be credited on my subscription to CHRISTIAN. No one in possession of a normal mind can help but like to read your paper. While I take no stock in your "healing" racket, your working it does not interfere with me, so "go it for all there is in it." I am a newspaper man myself and know how an editor loves to be advised on how to run his paper, but as I am making my observations from a great distance I have little fear of the "shooting stick," and will venture the suggestion that you steer clear of the sun as the center of life. Every time you hit that theme I can see you wobble from here. Better stick to the Son in whom there is life, and that life the light of the world. I do not intend this as a criticism, but brotherly advice. I don't pretend to know but a fraction of what you do. You write twelve papers a year, either one of which I could not write in twelve years, but in the matter referred to it is my opinion you are wrong, and that you are about half of that opinion yourself. So long.

G. L. K.

I like newspaper men for their frankness and sincerity. Yes, I mean sincerity; for even when they are writing what they know is not true, they are sincere. When they make a "scoop" in order to get ahead of a rival they are sincere; when they get up a fake, or a canard, for the same reason, they are sincere. I've been all along the road, from devil to managing editor of a daily, and I know of no more sincere and honest profession on earth than that of the newspaper man.

But I am not healing for what there is in it in the way of financial remuneration; and yet I will not heal without it. Why? Because I have learned in life's hard school that if you do something for nothing, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the recipient will kick you in return for your gratuitous offerings! This is one of the hard facts, that the persons you put yourself out to serve are the first ones to curse you. Very few kicks ever come to this office from persons who pay for what they get. I heal because I can, and because I know that mental healing will take the place of all other methods and be the salvation of humanity.

As for the sun, there is no wobbling; there would never have been a son if it had not have been for the sun. When Jesus speaks of the "Father" he is talking about the sun; and so is St. James when he says that all good gifts come down from "the Father of lights, in whom there is no variability or shadow that is cast by turning." Individual life did not come from an individual or a person, but from the principle of being which is focused in the suns of each solar system.

The idea that all life is focused in an individual is nonsense, and I am astonished that I or any one else should have so interpreted Jesus Christ. The man who said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life," had no idea that anyone would interpret him as saying that he, individually, was the Way.

the Truth and the Life. It was the Spirit speaking in him, the same Spirit which said, "Before Abraham was I Am." This same Jesus said to his disciples, "For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you." This "Spirit" is an emanation from the Sun and is the Life of all things and all being. Jesus Christ was a son of the sun and a prophet of light. The purest and cleanest religion that was ever given to men is the ancient sun worship. It is older than any other form of religion, and was once the only religion on earth. The Indian chief Black Hawk said to General Harrison, "The sun is my Father and the earth is my Mother." A sublime statement of an eternal truth. The Indian meant the same thing that Jesus Christ taught. Idolatry focused all life in an individual, and religion made this individual a God; and yet, this individual God had an individual man on the earth as vicegerent! All this time "Our Father who art in Heaven" was looking down on the just and the unjust without regard to creed or condition.

The following facts and figures have been going the rounds of the daily press:

A scientist has attempted to calculate how soon we may expect the judgment day, and he has prepared a paper on the subject which he expects to read before the American Association for the Advancement of Science when it meets next month in Columbus. Starting with the total amount of energy stored in the sun, and the fact that the orb of day is continuously distributing energy equivalent to the work of seven men for each area of the earth's surface of the size of the human body, our statistician calculates that it will require 3,375,000,000 years of outpouring before a sensible diminution of the quantity of energy given out can be detected, says the *New York Herald*. Up to this distant period mountains will stand, rivers will run, plants will grow, and animal life will exist very much as it does today.

If you realize that solar energy as soon as used reasserts itself in some other form, either as sound, electricity or simple motion, it is easy to see that this estimate is too small rather than too great. At any rate the world is not liable to stop going for a few years yet, according to his reasoning.

Some idea of the vastness of the force that is meted out to us from the physical source of earthly life may be gained, he says, by considering that if the energy that the sun gives to earth in a single day could be bottled up and directed against Niagara Falls, it would cause that body of water to dash back again up hill for 4000 years. If turned into a single blast of heat it would cause every living creature instantaneously to blight and wither; the ice around the poles would be melted in one and three-quarter minutes, and in another eleven seconds all the oceans would be turned into steam.

If transmitted into electricity a spark would flash from the earth as far as the planet Jupiter. If collected into a single sound the vibration thereof would not only break every ear drum in the world, but would uproot the giant trees of the forest and even level mountains. If changed into a momentary flash of light its burst would be so blinding as to penetrate the walls of the deepest dungeons and destroy the sight of every living creature. In brilliancy this flash would exceed the brightness of the sun itself over a million times.

For one man to expend an amount of energy equivalent to that which the earth receives from the sun in the tenth part of a

second he would have to work hard continuously for 87,000,000 years.

This calculation is remarkable in that its result differs by more than 3,374,000,000 years from the period when scientists generally believe that the world will come to an end. Such experts as Darwin and Huxley believed that it could not sustain life 2,000,000 years hence.

The gentleman's facts are all right, but his conclusions are wrong. The sun is unchangeable, immortal, and invisible to the human eye. What we see in objective vision is not the real sun, but only a reflection; the moon is a reflection of a reflection. The Father in Heaven, back of the objective sun, dwells "in light which no man (mortal) can approach unto, whom no man (mortal) hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting. Amen."

Here is another scientist who comes much nearer the truth than the old theory:

From the *Boston Transcript*: Henry Raymond Rogers, M. D., of Dunkirk, N. Y., has evolved a new theory of the universe, which, if adopted generally, will revolutionize astronomical science, or at least that part of it relating to the sun. From the days of the star-gazers of Palestine almost the popular notion regarding this central ruler of our family of planets has been that it is a great whirling globe of molten material in a constant and perpetual state of combustion. Now comes the man from western New York with the information that this idea is false, and that the conventional picture representing the sun with bright lines radiating in all directions into space, thus implying that actual heat and light are produced within, and of the body itself, is an utter absurdity. "This view of the sun," he says, "is strangely inconsistent with and antagonistic to certain well known cosmical facts. Science teaches and demonstrates to be true that the universal space is inconceivably cold and utter darkness. A 'burning,' 'fire ball' sun thus becomes an impossibility, an absurdity." Rather should the sun be represented, the philosopher maintains, as a huge planet, like unto the earth, only many times larger, perhaps even fit for habitation, surrounded by darkness and the stars, not on fire but tremendously electrical in its activities; in other words, a vast celestial dynamo producing currents of electricity which pass invisible and free through all the ninety-odd millions of miles of cold and darkness, until they meet their resistance at the earth and its atmosphere. Such resistance is all that is needed, in the mind of this twentieth century scientist, to develop the so called sun heat and sun light, just as light and heat are produced in the electric current by the resistance offered by carbon or other material. Arc lights, such as stud our streets, are in effect the planets fed by the sun.

There is one thing certain, and that is the sun was not made by a two-legged individual in the skies. Men, animals, trees, plants and worlds all take a spherical form because the Creator is a sphere. Why don't trees grow square? Why isn't the human form as flat as a board? Because everything is in the image and likeness of the sun.

*** Back numbers of CHRISTIAN cannot be supplied after one or two months. I am asked to reprint April, June and August. I do not think it would be wise. However I may rewrite some of the articles or discuss the subjects afresh with new articles. I am also urged to put my "I Am Sermons" in book form. I will see about it.

AN EDDY STUDENT'S VIEW OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

The following article was sent to me by a student of Mrs. Eddy. I give it to you as an up to date statement of "orthodox" Christian Science.

Christian Science^{***} is a new name for everlasting Truth. Old as the hills and deep as the sea, it abounds in crystals and pearls of a spiritual nature. It is inexhaustible. Serene and mild as the moon it glides in lonely triumph through the night. Clear as the stars and warm as the sun it gives Life in Love divine. This Life is not chimerical but practical. It is a sacred Life—the only Life, because it abides in Truth, in Love, in Christ, in God. Jesus was the first to reveal true Christian Science, to show the way, to apply the power, which God grants to everybody who yields to his will with a pure and loving heart. Whoever obeys God our Father's commandments, as set forth by his son Jesus Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, is a Christian Scientist. The greater the love with which he does the will of God, with which he follows the teaching of Jesus, the nearer does he approach the Kingdom of Heaven. Every true Christian Scientist helps to build it up. There is no other authority in it than God and his son, the Christ, or Love. Christian Science acknowledges no other sovereignty but the supreme rule of God, or Good, which is Spirit, because it is divine Truth and Love reflected in Man. Such Man is not subject to any human law, but spiritual law only, which is far more exacting than the most stringent law made by man, because spiritual law is of God. God, the only Spirit, animates His book, His Word—the Bible. It reflects all Truth as did Jesus Christ in the flesh. His flesh was as pure as his thoughts, which qualified him for a model of God's idea.

The purer the glass of the mirror the more perfect will the image be. God manifested in Jesus what He would do through man, for Jesus himself said that men would come after him doing greater works than he did, since he was going to his Father. Holy Spirit was bestowed upon his disciples after he had prepared these vessels for its reception. Christian Science teaches as Jesus did, that we can do the same works which he or his disciples accomplished, if we become as pure and as loving as Christ, God doing His work through us, we giving the glory to Him. It says that Jesus or the Christ character is the type of Man which God creates. Whatever he creates is Good, is Mind; so is man originally. Godly woman and man, which means Man, was free in the beginning, since free from sin. Nobody is free unless unfettered by sin. Free man is a world in himself, and was given this world to attend him. He was created in divine Love, but being deceived forsook his own, then idolized flesh instead of avowing mind, and fell into worldly love, out of which he must rise again to divine Love, made possible through Christ or the spirit of his teaching in Christian Science. We should not *fall* in love, but *rise* into Love; this is the Truth in a nutshell.

God created Man in His image, which is Mind, pure, good and all powerful. The body is the substance of Mind, remaining pure as long as the thoughts do, or God is reflected therein. God crowned His creation with the perfection of Man, consisting of man and woman, who are to be One in God. They are to reflect divine Mind in miniature, which makes them beautiful, because it is beautifully done. We may be compared to a drop of dew, in which the light of the sun reflects itself—we being like the dewdrop and God as the sun. The difference between perfect Man and God will remain as great as between the dewdrop and the sun, although Man be as pure as light itself. God is the only creator, and all he creates is Good, which is His likeness.

Christian Science teaches, in harmony with Christ and his apostles, that Man is the Temple of God, His feminine idea (woman) being the Most Holy Place, and His masculine idea (man) the Holy Place therein, as symbolized in the tabernacle of the children of Israel. This temple for feminine and masculine divine Mind, wherein God is to be worshipped in Spirit and in Truth, is to be kept clean and holy. It is the home of chastity and not cupidity. The more free it is from moral impurity, the more of God will dwell therein. The house of God, the consciousness of Man, should not be desecrated, should not be made a den of robbers, but be held immaculate in Christ. Woman and man, or Man as God made him, is pure; but the fallen man, the counterfeit, abuses God's gifts, making them base for himself only, in his corrupted mind. The Spirit, Christ or God alone can resurrect him from the grave of sensuality. Christ is the resurrection and the life. Whoever lives apart from God or Good is really dead, because he is dead to Love and Truth. He is like a berry of wheat buried in dry dust. Only the water of Heaven, the Spirit, can give it life, can turn the dust to mind, in which life is implanted. This is the new birth. Dust, mortal mind, material or physical sense needs resurrection, but divine Mind never does. Divine Mind is the feeling, the understanding and the doing in harmony with God; it is the Life in Truth and Love. God is made manifest in His temple, in man and woman, as husband and wife, forming a spiritual union, both knowing the wide difference between marriage in the human sense and the union in God. They complete the at-one-ment with God, our Father, who creates through them in Holy Spirit. It never descends into those whose flesh is not sanctified by Christ. His Science—Christian Science—begins at home. As our miniature consciousness mirrors God, so does marriage in the Lord, the family life of husband, wife and children reflect (in miniature) the life in His kingdom, in which he is greatest who serves most lovingly.

This makes us understand the fatherhood of God. He creates continually by reflecting His idea, Truth and Love, or man and woman in miniature individual consciousness, and never in a bodily likeness, because God is infinite or boundless and cannot be confined in human form or in finite body, lim-

ited as to expansion, but only reflected therein. Like begets like, and by their fruits you shall know them. Parents whose life is in accordance with a mind as pure as that of Jesus will find favor before God, and be given children with a Christ character. Be as innocent of baseness or as pure in heart as a child and you can enter God's kingdom. Understand the sacredness of sex, know that its intercourse should be in God, and to multiply His idea only. Life has only one purpose, which is moral, to make men and women as noble as Christ. Adore the fatherhood of God by having His divine Mind reflected in all you do, immolate your will in His, and you will be a true Christian Scientist. Let not the adversary, the devil or evil, be the father of your thoughts and acts. God is Truth and the devil is the lie. The latter would make you believe that Man is material and not spiritual, that matter has sensation, could see, feel and hear. What is called matter by the lie is an untruth, is error, for so called matter is the substance of Mind, and Mind rules the body, sees, feels and hears. The invisible (Mind) and the visible (body) are One, the former being the cause and the latter the effect. Material sense would reverse this fact, which effort makes a lie if you know better, but an untruth or error if you do it with honest intent.

In material sense Truth is on the scaffold and Wrong is on the throne. The belief in material sense is the tree of knowledge of good and evil—is the serpent, the testimony of forbidden fruit, making mind tributary to body, trying to turn Truth into a lie. The latter is dust and must return to its own. It is a murderer like Cain, begotten of Adam and Eve—the matter thought. As the lie is exposed by the appearance of Truth, so men and women lose consciousness of matter by the approach of divine Truth. Life has only one base—the principle of purity—which is Truth, the rock of Christ. You cannot serve two masters, mind and matter, else you will be a house divided against itself, which must fall, must die. Whoever dies before he dies, does not die when he dies. Ponder over this paradox. Die to sin for the love of God, for Love, and win eternal life. Man as God made him can never die, because he is His image, divine Mind or Spirit. He has dominion over sin and death, is conscious of his life and power in God, by keeping himself mentally pure. If he falls away from his creator, from wisdom, sinks to be like Adam and Eve, he deserts from paradise into the wilderness, joins the ranks of the adversary, where sin, disease and death hold sway.

Disease is inherent in sin. Heal yourself of sin by following Christ and every disease will be healed. It will never reappear, unless sinful thoughts creep into your mind. Make your mind divine through God, as it was in the beginning, and let no bad thought enter. If you debar even the least one of bad thoughts from your mind, nothing but good deeds will be planned therein. If you are not susceptible to an evil thought you will not be capable of a bad act, and will be a true Christian Scientist. You cannot make progress towards Christian Science by sinning and repenting; you must stop sinning. God never pardons sin till it is destroyed; you cannot destroy sin through repentance, if the latter be not sincere enough to keep you from sinning again. Be pure in mind and you will be healthy. God is Mind, and if yours lives in His—as it

should—you would not be sick any more than God can be. Reconcile yourself to Him and all will be well.

Christian Science teaches that every disease can be healed through God, through Mind alone, which is All that really is. We need no medicine made by human hands. Believers in material sense, ordinary physicians, can cure but never heal, for nobody is healed unless a change of heart has taken place within him. You must be healed of sin to be healed of dis-ease, and should be just as willing to be rid of sin as of disease. You should loathe both, as they are cause and effect. Men and women must be converted, renewed in Spirit, regenerated, to regain bodily health, because the latter depends upon a healthy mind. Children who become sick reflect the belief and fears of their parents, till they have grown self-determinative. We should not be the slaves of fear, which is disease, but be possessed of divine Love instead, which casteth out all fear. We are not to fear God, but to love Him. We ought to remain as near to nature as possible, which is spiritual and not material, although misinterpreted by men in the same way as their own being. Turn to the light as the flower does, to the light which is spiritual, which is Christ. He says with Christian Science that anybody can heal who understands Him, who sacrifices his will to that of God with a loving heart.

The greater your purity and compassion, or Love, the sooner will you convert man or woman, and the quicker will you heal disease. Regeneration is the only proof of healing in Christian Science. If a Christian Scientist fails to heal or even to cure, the Science is never at fault, but he who represents it, and partly those who asked relief. Faith in the omnipotence of God should be supreme in the healer and at least sprouting in the patient. A true Christian Scientist is not hostile to conscientious physicians; he considers their motive, which is perhaps as good as his. He is charitable if anything. He does not weigh their deeds so much in his mind as the motives which prompted them. Whoever sees the Truth in Christian Science, and labors faithfully to demonstrate it, is a far better healer than the most learned physician enthralled by the belief in matter and drugs. The little good we have we ought to give to the worthy, and not bury the treasure. If the Truth lives within us, we perceive that each one is his own physician, for God is the universal panacea, the relief for all affliction.

Whoever inspires conviction in the supremacy of Mind mends a broken heart with eternal hope and helps to carry a cross, and is as much of a divine healer as he who effects instantaneous cures. Without compassion, without the most tender, selfless love—the Love which is divine and which many a woman knows—we are nothing but "sounding brass or a clanging cymbal." Love lives by giving, as does Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy, who unveiled the Truth as taught by Jesus Christ in her book, "Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures," calling it "Christian Science." Being a storehouse of Love, she discerned the Truth, searched it out and demonstrated through many years of practice that her ideas are of God and the essence of facts. Christian Science is her life work, centered in the Church established by her, bringing mankind back to harmony, to God on this earth, whereby health, happiness and immortality are attained. She has thousands of followers or pupils, especially among women, who are, as a rule, more pure and spiritual than men, and therefore less in bondage to material sense. As woman was first at the resurrection on Calvary, just so is she first at the resurrection of mankind from physical sense or error. Let us help her make room for Truth by cleansing the Temple, or our body, from every untruth, to convert it into a living house of God, or divine Love, with Peace indwelling. E. B.