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A JOURNAL OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Christianian

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Thomas J. Shelton, 2222 Chester St., Little Rock, Ark.

THE HONEYSUCKLE.

"The clover," said the humming-bird,
"Was fashioned for the bee;
But ne'er a flower, as I have heard,
Was ever made for me."

A passing zephyr paused, and stirred
Some moonlit drops of dew
To earth; and for the humming-bird
The honeysuckle grew.

—Harper's Weekly.

ITEMS AND IDEAS.

*** March!

*** Fishes!

*** Last month of the zodiacal year.

*** CHRISTIAN is only 50 cents a year with several dollars worth of books going through it. I give the very best.

*** Mrs. Eddy's *Christian Science Weekly* is a very interesting paper. Eight pages, one dollar a year. 95 Falmouth street, Boston, Mass.

*** I give treatment for health, happiness and prosperity; terms, from one to ten dollars per month. Send money any way that suits you.

*** Mrs. Beynon and Mrs. Boehme are both left out this month to make room for questions which have been accumulating for many months.

*** If the answer to your questions, or the notice of your books, is two or three months behind, don't blame me. This is a monthly and holds just so much.

*** "The Law of Vibrations" is a booklet containing my twelve lessons on the I Am Science. Sent by mail for 25 cents in silver or thirteen 2-cent stamps.

*** In December's paper you said that the Bible never said Adam fell. How do you explain that? My Bible surely says different.

Where? Give us chapter and verse.

*** You will always receive a direct or indirect answer to your questions if they are worth answering. I have a hundred thousand readers, therefore you must wait your turn.

*** "Sexual Law and the Philosophy of Perfect Health," by Charles W. Close; pamphlet, 16 pp., 10 cents silver, 12 cents in stamps. Address the author, 124 Birch street, Bangor, Me.

*** Do you consider theosophy a higher view of Divine Life than Mental Science?

No. Theosophy is not a science; it is a religion. There is no science in religion and no religion in science.

*** Frank Meller's suggestion about increasing the circulation of CHRISTIAN by a voluntary uprising of individuals is meeting with a unanimous response; but, my puny forty thousand has been changed by the I Am to one hundred thousand!

*** "Scientific Lessons in Being," by Edith A. Martin. First Booklet, Three Lessons, price 25 cents, or \$1 per year. Unity Tract Society, 1315 McGee street, Kansas City, Mo. I have read this booklet and pronounce Miss Martin sound and scientific in her statements.

*** CHRISTIAN is endeavoring to perfect its subscription list; therefore, if you do not wish the paper continued, drop a postal card to that effect. I consider that silence gives consent, and will send the paper until otherwise ordered.

*** My editorial signature to items is ***; all articles unsigned, or without credit by quotation marks or otherwise, are by the editor. Don't accuse me of saying things which I am ashamed to father. I'm not that kind of a scribbler.

*** A photograph of one of my sweethearts, all the way from London, England, adorns the mantel in my office. Edna claims her, as her name is Edna. The Ednas are all right. It is a great name for success. Sometimes I wish I had named all my girls Edna and all my boys Ed!

*** "CHRISTIAN for January came promptly to hand, and I did not want to lay it aside until I read it through. I saw much in it which I knew to be the Truth by my own experience. That 'Sunlight Sermon' hit me exactly. To keep the 'warm face' with me always is my desire."

*** Some time will you preach an "I Am" Sermon from these texts: Proverbs xvii, 22; xv, 13-15; xii, 25?

Not this year, unless CHRISTIAN is changed to a weekly, for all the I Am Sermons for 1899 are in manuscript. But these texts preach a first class sermon in themselves without comment.

*** What do you mean by sending out vibrations from the sun? What has the sun got to do with it if God is the I Am?

The sun is the abiding place, the Center of the I Am. God "dwelleth in light which no man (mortal) can approach unto." God, the I Am, has a dwelling place. He is not scattered all over creation. He is omnipresent by His Word, which is His thought; but His dwelling place, His thought-center, is the sun. How do I know? Because He told me so.

*** She was a little English girl, and she remarked that she could not understand why Satan turned out so bad when he had no devil to put him up to it. Perhaps some theologian hereabouts will kindly solve the problem.

The above was clipped and sent to me and I pass it around for luck.

*** Don't forget that the Spirit has fixed my terms for treatments at from one to ten dollars per month for each patient. These treatments are spoken in the Silence every day for all manner of sickness of body and mind. I treat for success in business, love, and everything you desire for health, happiness and prosperity.

*** What do you think of the Lord's Prayer? I want to read your idea.

It is sublime; the most perfect expression of Truth ever spoken in so few words. Some day I will give you a full exposition of this wonderful statement of the Spirit. It is not a prayer to be used, but a statement of Truth on the subject of prayer.

*** Why do you use the name "Christian Science" when Mrs. Eddy claims the exclusive right to the title?

Because the I Am gave this name to the New Thought and not to Mrs. Eddy's version of it. I Am Christian Science; therefore, when Mrs. Eddy talks about Christian Science she is talking about Me. Before Mary Baker Eddy was I Am. See?

*** Your Word of supply still goes on! My daughter's awful anxiety during the summer prevented manifestation; but, within the last four months, she has had the offer of no less than five positions—two of them better than she dared hoped for.

When the Word is sown give it time to "come up," to sprout, to grow. It never returns empty, but sometimes there is a long waiting for a welcome, an open door.

*** Where are our dead? In what condition do they now exist?

They are immortals and live in an immortal sphere, the sun. Mortals are surrounded by water and earth; their bodies are composed of water and earth, hence they are "of the earth, earthy." Immortals are spirit, in body and thought, and they live in pure light, which corresponds to their illuminated bodies. They take no more interest in this earth than you take in the life you had before you were born. The idea that free spirits are loafing around in the atmosphere of this planet, trying to communicate with you through the physical body of a mortal, is not true. The only communication is from mind to mind through telepathy.

** Is it necessary to diagnose a case for you to treat it? Please answer through CHRISTIAN.

Yes. I want to know what the patient thinks is the matter, and then the Spirit will tell the Truth in the Silence so as to get that thought out of the mind of the patient. It is the mind of the patient, and not the body, that the mental healer heals.

** Why is it that I do not as yet remove the tumor from my shoulder when I know the power is latent within me?

Because you do not know and recognize the power as active within you. What good can come of latent power? It is active power that you need to throw off abnormal conditions. "Arise, take up thy bed and walk," is the exercise of active power; life is activity.

** Love, Vol. 1, No. 1, weekly, \$1 a year, appeared January 3, 1899. It is a new journal of Mental Science, edited by Dr. Geo. W. Carey and Lucia Tanner Carey, San Diego, California. They also give lessons and treatments to present students and patients. They call their place of meeting "Truthania Hall, Home of Love." Home of Love is all right but "Truthania" is tough! Say, George and Lucy, speak United States!

** The seventh chapter of Hebrews is giving me a jolt from some cause. Give me a match and I can light it. You can carry the light until I get out of the dark.

The seventh chapter of Hebrews carries its own light. The I Am is Melchisedec, or any one whom He inspires for the time being. He makes choice and assumes the name of any one He wants to use. The I Am is "He who will be whom He wills to be."

** The Destiny of America, the Vision of Johnathan Erskine Hollingsworth, "seen in the heavens at high noon on the 24th day of second month (commonly called February), in the year of our Lord, 1892—the same being transcribed with my own hand in the eleventh month (November) of the same year, and completed by the grace of God on the 10th day thereof."

This is a remarkable production of psychic vision and well worth reading. Price 25c in paper, 75c in cloth. Eldorado Publishing Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

** "The law of the direction of mind is fundamental in every event of human life," so says Mr. Horatio Dresser, of Boston. "A breath of Will blows eternally through the Universe of souls in the direction of the right and necessary," Mr. Emerson says. "Astrology predicts events to a certainty—is an exact science," so says Col. G., an eminent astrologer of New York City. Now please explain or harmonize these statements for me. If any one can, you are the one. Does that vague phrase, "the unity of nature," explain it?

Mind controls matter. I have had the so called "exact science" of astrology to predict things for me, and I went to work and upset the stars and changed the law of the zodiac. Man is not a mere bubble on the bosom of life's ocean. He is the boss of life itself. Time and again I have had my horoscope written by astrology and then changed it to suit myself. At first I folded my hands and waited for the events to arrive on schedule time; but I soon found out that I Am God.

** Dear Shelton: I saw in my dream a cyclone coming toward my house; I had not time to warn the woman inside, but fled out of its path. When I turned and looked I saw it snatch up the house like a feather, heard one cry from the woman, and all was over. Then it seemed as if it was my mother who passed out long ago. How do you translate this dream?

I think the cyclone ought to have blown you to kingdom come for running away and leaving the woman to perish. Your mother returned to rebuke you. Examine and see if you are not on the run from some obligation to some one who needs you.

** Please give me your opinion on I. Cor., 3 Chap., 11-18 verses. I anxiously asked an orthodox if that did not mean that no one should be lost. The reply was that it referred only to those who were converted.

If your orthodox friend would take the advice given in the 18th verse and become a fool he would learn wisdom. There is no more beautiful statement of universal blessedness than the one contained in these verses. The error, the dross, the perishable, is consumed in the fire, and the truth, the pure gold, the real spiritual man, comes forth in the image and likeness of God.

** For two years I have had (at times when I was not thinking about it) a bright light like the sun shining above me. I knew it was there, but when I look directly at it, it goes. It is as bright as the sun, not all around me, but above me. It comes often, at times; then again I will not see it for some time. I'd rather see it than not, for I feel it is good.

These things are a part of psychic phenomena, and simply mean that you are having the inner sense opened. I was, for several years, able to see in the sky a beautiful gate open and shut, and I waited long after the vision ceased to appear before I knew that it meant an open door to me. Wait and watch!

** "Dear Old Chatterbox: Your paper has been sent me, and the reading prompts me to say hello! once more. You are not a parrot if you do chatter; and your chatter, chatter, gets nearer and nearer the great heart of truth; echoing and re-echoing, arousing sleepers throughout the land. The note from "Just a Friendly Suggestion" is correct. There is only room for Thomas Jefferson to write in the little CHRISTIAN. The Spirit reveals more than there is space for printing each month. The SILENT ones are those who care for the things DIRECT from the Spirit. Let these "empty wagons" rattle in some other place, and the whispers of the Spirit only be printed in CHRISTIAN. I receive the CHRISTIAN occasionally. I would like it again if the Spirit will vibrate extra change this way soon enough. I KNOW plenty is on the way. Please fire away some more at those people who want error exposed. "Christian Science" wants error uncovered, and then say "There is no error." How are they going to uncover what isn't there? I am STILL in the vibrations of the spirit of love. Hope I'll stay there 2000 years. My envelope marked "personal" is probably one of thousands, but the possibility that the Spirit spoke first will insure a perusal anyhow. ANNIE."

** Please explain what you mean by saying "CHRISTIAN has had ten years of suffering." We were led to suppose that in that harmony of vibrations all was peace and prosperity.

Well, if you had been present ten years ago when the editor of CHRISTIAN began to shuffle off the theological coil and to slay the Dragon of Superstition and Ignorance you would have thought the vibrations anything but harmonious! I am he who was crucified, dead and buried; and I am he who was made perfect through suffering. I have conquered conditions!

** The Seven Essays on the Attainment of Human Happiness, by Kate Atkinson Boehme, are sent postpaid for \$1. I seldom commend a book or writer, for each one must judge for themselves. What is one man's meat is another man's poison. Mrs. Boehme, Mrs. Beynon and Miss Herendeen, each have their admirers and critics among the readers of CHRISTIAN. I have read Mrs. Boehme's essays, and think they are full of good Science expressed in chaste and elegant language. Address A. M. Cheney, 1528 Corcoran street, Washington, D. C.

** A little six year old girl was asked in Sunday school one morning what she remembered about the story of Samson and the Philistines, whereupon she promptly replied: "He sailed into the bay at night and at daylight opened fire on them and sunk eleven of their vessels with the jawbone of an ass. He then took some prisoners who had never seen a razor, bombarded the town and took up five baskets of fragments. He then told them he would set his bow on the bay so that when they saw it they could remember the Maine."

The above clipping shows how a six-year-old got things mixed; but, ah, me! teach metaphysics awhile and you will find sixty-year-olds in the same mental muddle.

** Brigham H. Roberts, congressman from Utah, has called out questions of opinion on the sex question from all the religionists in the United States. Many good things have been said, but the very best was from Hon. Joseph Cannon, of Illinois. Old Joe said: "If this man Roberts supports his three wives I'm in favor of giving him his seat. I know many men who haven't but one wife and yet they don't support her; if Roberts belonged to this class I would be in favor of unseating him." It is amusing to see the thin hypocrisy of modern mortal mind morals. Roberts may have three wives but the average congressman has three times three concubines. "What fools these mortals be." Here is a clipping from a comic paper:

Ike—Women is funny things.

Zeke—I allow they air. I bet that among them women who has been runnin' in gangs to kiss Hobson they's any number of 'em that's fightin' this here Utah congressman with three wives.

Yes, women are funny, but it is the way they have been raised; and, as ignorant man raised 'em, you can't expect anything better. Then, you see, her God has always been an old granddaddy in the skies, and therefore woman has never had courage to consult her own mind. The dear thing didn't know she had a mind until a few years ago.

*** I am solicited by many readers for a photograph of myself in CHRISTIAN. It has been here all the time; but as you don't seem to recognize it, I have had it all done over and made clearer. You will find it at the left of the heading. There are two pictures. My friends will know that I am the gentleman on top with the plumes and banner; my orthodox admirers will declare that the other fellow, known as the dragon, is the likeness of the editor. "You pays your money and you takes your choice."

*** All being good, how did mortal mind in its manifest train of evil and sufferings come on us?

In the same way that vapors and mists surround a planet in its formative period. Knowledge can be gained by experience only; therefore, the All Good in the individual must be put before the eyes of his mind, written on the scroll of mortality, so that he may individually know it. The mistakes are written on the blackboard of mortality so that they may be corrected and rubbed off, and "remembered no more forever." Mortal mind is not the permanent mind but the forerunner of that which is perfect.

*** Patients come to me deprecating the fact that they can only send one dollar for treatments. Bless you, the same treatment goes for one dollar as for ten; there is a difference in financial conditions which I did not make, but I try to meet these conditions by giving just as much for one dollar as I do for ten. All I ask of you is to give freely what you do give. If you give grudgingly, if you tie a string to your gift, no matter how large it is, you will pull it back to yourself without any increase. Sow your gift as you would sow seed and it will return you an hundredfold.

*** I did not see answer in this month's CHRISTIAN to my question, "Are our acts predestined?" I would like to get a yes or no answer. If yes, do the planets, etc., govern?

I answered your question as soon as I could get to it. Our acts are not predestined, but the law is predestined. The law was never known to change of itself, but you can by thought and act change the course of the law. The planets do not govern unless you want to sit still and let 'em run over you. The hogs may eat you if you are too lazy to say soo-ey! You can't blame the hogs or the planets.

*** Trust your God, put confidence in yourself; not the mortal self but the divine self. The whole history and doctrine of faith is a profound regard for your own intentions. It is consciousness of the inner voice, the motions of the living God within you. It is what is called egotism. Egotism is the exaltation of your own I. This is not vanity. Vanity is weakness; egotism is strength. The man who respects himself, believes in himself, is the one who conquers. Now faith in yourself is faith in God, faith in your own God. This is essential to the salvation of men and nations. Look at the freeborn American! He thinks he can lick the whole earth, and I expect he could if he got at it in earnest. Then look at the millions of Chinese who are no more than a swarm of grasshoppers.

*** Come to think of it, that movement for one hundred thousand subscribers to CHRISTIAN is not so great a thing for individuals to do. It means less than five names for each one now on the list. It will be the biggest thing ever yet accomplished in the New Thought. Go it, Boots! It will make CHRISTIAN an illustrated weekly. Wouldn't it be grand to make CHRISTIAN equal to *Puck* or *Judge*, in style and makeup, to shoot folly as it flies in religion, politics, law and medicine? An independent, individualistic journal proclaiming Truth and the freedom of the individual. Well, I'm interested enough to treat the situation and await results.

*** What is meant by the baptism of WATER and Spirit?

Baptism of water is a symbol of the cleansing from supposed defilements of mortal birth; baptism of the Spirit is the anointing which follows spiritual birth. Birth, or the begetting, of water and Spirit have reference to the mortal and immortal begetting; generation and regeneration. Water baptism is, in symbol, water or mortal birth; Spirit baptism is Spirit birth. Everyone, who has passed through both births, knows that water is the one element of mortality which must be eliminated in the process of regeneration. Blood and water will give place to the Spirit and fire.

*** In reading papers I always dislike to come across a dun or a solicitation for subscribers; but, there has been a kind of spontaneous effort of individuals to increase the circulation of CHRISTIAN. At the close of last year our list was an even 24,000; counting five readers for each paper this makes over one hundred thousand readers. But the Spirit is moving for 100,000 bona fide subscribers—this looks great, these six figures! Let every one who feels the vibration of this movement send in names of persons who would be likely to appreciate CHRISTIAN, and also keep your own subscription paid up to date. I don't belong to any kind of organization, but when individuals rise up and do a thing I say, Amen!

*** I'm afraid you are going to spoil CHRISTIAN by filling it with long articles from contributors. Don't make this mistake; preserve for us our old time friend CHRISTIAN, as it used to be, divested of long drawn out arguments and with its brief-to-the-point remarks, extracts, etc., made such delightful, restful reading. It rested the mind just to think of the little paper, let alone reading it. But present CHRISTIAN, with its no-end-to-come articles—well, it gives one that tired feeling just to think of it. The truth is, you don't need anyone to help you make your paper; you can make a better one without any help from contributors. But I won't complain. I'll just live in hope that CHRISTIAN won't wander far out of the way—get to be too much like everybody else.

CARRIE.

Carrie is one of the thousands who are raising the same warning voice. You see I knew that CHRISTIAN was unique, but, as I am stuck on myself, I thought I would find out what you all thought about it. I can edit a daily and have "copy" to spare, for I have tried it for years at a time. CHRISTIAN must be the two edged Sword of Spirit and not a shotgun. See! I have not even numbered the "Sermons" in this issue.

*** If immortality in our present bodies can be attained, how can this earth planet afford room?

Do you suppose that an immortal is going to beget or bear children? The only way we make room now is by burying 'em as fast as we born 'em; the cradle and the coffin are kept about even, hence we can say "still there is room" for more babies and more coffins. But in the Regeneration mortality is swallowed up of life and there are no more births and no more deaths. Instead of begetting a likeness of himself, man will beget himself and renew his own life and the life of his helpmeet, in the perpetual vibrations of sexual love. The immortals here will come into conjunction with the immortals elsewhere, and be free to go from planet to planet and from sun to sun.

*** You say in one of the CHRISTIANS that God is neither male nor female; then how can you account for the verse in first chapter of Genesis: "And God created man in his own image; in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them."

This is just exactly the way I account for it. The ELOHIM (God) is male and female, but neither male nor female. When the man and woman—the male and female—were in one flesh—twain in one flesh—the image and likeness of God was complete. This will be again in Regeneration; the woman will be in the man and the man in the woman. There are many hundreds of women now on the earth with whom I hold direct telepathic communication. This is only a sign of the blending of mind and mind in the marriage of Regeneration. Look at the Living God as the union of the masculine and feminine in perpetual vibration.

*** Here is something I do not understand. On the first page of the January CHRISTIAN you say, "The law requires a giving before receiving; therefore, I do not treat people for nothing." Then I turn to the next page, and J. M. Caviness says he simply wrote a letter to you and put it in his pocket to mail, never mailed it, but the patient recovered, and has remained well ever since. On that same principle of giving before receiving, why would it not work both ways?

It is a poor rule which does not work both ways; but, in this instance, Caviness gave before he received. He had been giving and receiving until he and his wife were in conjunction with the Word of the I Am in me. He had the blessing of direct communion, atonement, at-one-ment, and where I Am there he is. If I had been on a ship in the middle of the ocean he would have been with me and ready to receive the vibrations of the Word. When one comes into such fellowship with the Spirit in me I never leave him nor forsake him. Do you say that such could go on forever receiving blessings without compensating me for my services? No, they couldn't, nor wouldn't; God has no disposition to rob God. He could not gain anything by robbing himself. It is like Edna said to me the other day, "Papa, our receipts are chiefly from those who have been giving, giving, giving every month for years and years." Yes, the ones who have been with me longest are the strongest in their friendship.

** "My Ideal World," by Clarence J. Selby, is a neat little folder containing some really beautiful verses. The author is a young man both blind and deaf and is the son of one of my friends. The youth has no other means of gaining money and offers this little leaflet at ten cents per copy. This is not charity, for it is genuine poetry. Here is the first verse:

"I live in an ideal world all my own,
No mortal can share it with me;
Its mysteries to all will be ever unknown,
No eye its rare beauties can see."

The verses grow in beauty, and this ideal seeing and hearing is a good mental treatment. Send Clarence a dime. Mrs. Kate Selby, 225 E. Twenty-Sixth street, Chicago, Ill. There is not a word in the leaflet to indicate the author's physical condition. This is excellent taste.

** "How do you treat so many people?" keeps coming to the front as a question. How does the sun shine on so many seeds? I am treating the whole earth in general and those who apply to me in particular. The more patients I have the better I treat; it is a giving and receiving. You send your thought to me and it returns to you with blessings, but it also leaves with me your own blessing. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." It must be so, for I give, and give, yet I always receive more than I can give. It is an inflowing and an outflowing; yet when I have spent hours in treating, I find myself full and running over with healing power. Then, treating is a great pleasure in itself. There is no sensation of the flesh comparable to it. There is love from the Central Sun flowing into one and out again; action and reaction of the creative forces of the Universe.

** In one of your papers you say, "Distance has no effect upon telepathy." And again Mrs. James said: "If any soul is thinking directly of you they will come right into your consciousness. Your soul recognizes that soul as infallibly as you recognize any presence in the physical." Does that mean that I could project my thought so that any person of whom I thought a great deal could realize my presence? Could you make your thought reach a person who had disappeared out of your life and whom you did not know to be living or dead? I wish you would answer these questions in CHRISTIAN.

The individual will is the will of God. You can't project your thought into the mind of another unless you get permission to do so. This is the reason why, in healing, we ask for an open door. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man will hear my voice and open the door I will come in unto him and sup with him." This is true science. God does not break down doors or pick locks. All this talk about "malicious animal magnetism," and the fear of "evil spirits," is bosh. You cannot be invaded or imposed upon by God, man or devil, unless you open your door and invite them inside. You are safe as long as you keep yourself to yourself and respect your own rights. You have no right to go about sticking your nose into other people's affairs. When you want to enter the domain of another mind be polite enough to ask permission.

** I will tell you some of my experiences. Perhaps you can explain what they mean. The whole atmosphere, indoors and out, is moving all the time around me. When the room is darkened I see blue and yellow clouds, full of yellow, silver and blue stars; and sometimes faces, and bright, sparkling stones will shoot out and disappear. Sometimes I see persons.

It is the opening of the inner sense, the gaining of the subjective vision. You will find that the sun, moon and stars, all signs, colors, objects, sounds, etc., are in you as well as outside of you. It is a wonderful world! Just keep calm and maintain your equilibrium between the two worlds and you are all right. When you lose your balance the inner sense is insanity. See with both sides of your eyes, and don't get scared because you can see with your eyes shut. There are many things in heaven and earth which cannot be seen "with the naked eye."

** I like your last paper better than any you have ever published. I like particularly the "Sunlight Sermons." I notice a name is attached to them—Marie Edith Beynon; but I think you wrote them. It sounds so like your writing that I think the name is a myth.

This is saying that I am a fraud, practicing deceit. I am the Truth. I will not so much as publish articles under a *nom de plume*. The nearest I came to this was in publishing Mrs. Beynon's reply to Densie under the heading "To the Rescue," with only her first name, Marie; but, as I had introduced her to my readers and put in an editorial item in same issue, I let it go. No, Marie Edith Beynon is the author of several books and a well known writer in Canada. Her home is in Manitoba. She is true to the truth, but her style is her own, and she is not a bit like me. I wish I had her literary smoothness. I'm too blunt.

** Tell us how to overcome grip. Whole families here are stricken with it. One Mental Healer in this city—New York—was struck as by a blow with the dire disease, and had to remain in bed two days, although a strong and resolute character. I speak my word—but alas!!

Overcoming grip is like overcoming a cyclone. The only way to overcome a cyclone is to take to the cellar until the wind quits blowing. Epidemics, like grip, are mental cyclones. I have been blown down by grip several times; and when it comes, and everybody is talking about it, I get into my mental cellar and shut the door. In this way I escaped this year with a few shivers down the spine. Men are going to die like flies, and you might as well get used to it and walk the waves like a God-man. As the vibrations become stronger and quicker the mortal man will drop dead in the streets, in his house, in his office; the sun vibrations are the very fires of hell through which mortality is now passing. "The fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is." Fear is the one element which you must overcome. Look upon mortality as already dead; then, you will not be surprised, or panic stricken, when an epidemic cuts down men and women like the harvester cuts wheat. What is death? A shadow flitting on the wall, a mere shutting of the eyes in sleep!

** Would like to ask you if you find clairvoyant power under control of the will?

No. Genuine subject vision controls the individual will. In seeing and hearing from the Spirit the very first thing you must learn is not to call up, or desire to know things. Your own anxiety to know will cause you to hear and see falsehood, and lies will be constantly conjured up by your own childish eagerness. Let the One who is talking to you, in words and visions, tell you what is best for you to know, and you will find that you hear and see only Truth. But above all things don't take lessons from those who profess to teach clairvoyance and to "develope" mediumship. When God wants to use you He will have no trouble in making you understand His message. He will recognize your intelligence and honor your individuality. You will not become a medium of "spirits," but your own divinity will be recognized and you will know from your own spirit.

** Will you tell me how to treat myself, or what thoughts to hold for suspicion and distrust? If one is unhappy will the thought "I am happy and have perfect trust in every one" manage the person you think is off the track, or will keeping silent do the work?

Separate yourself, become individualized; cut off father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, children, houses, lands, and your own life. Then keep silent, and wait for the New Life to grow in you. Don't try to control anybody, not even yourself. Cast all care on the I Am and let God run your world and all the other worlds. Hold the thought that God is in you, that God is you, and that you are an eternal and unchangeable being. Let yesterday go, let today go, let tomorrow go. Let everything go or stay or do as it pleases. Don't anticipate anything; don't cross the river until you get to it. Don't load yourself down with some possible future which may never arrive. And by all means don't carry a big bundle of the past strapped to your back. Let the dead past bury its dead. Be still and know.

** Explain the meaning of Luke xxiii, 28 and 29.

The words were spoken while Jesus was on the way to the cross, and were simply a prophecy of what was to come after his crucifixion. The sufferings of the Jews following for many years after the crucifixion of Jesus are the most horrible chapters of human history. In fact the persecution of the Jews has never ceased. The disgraceful Dreyfus case in France is an example. Capt. Dreyfus is a Jew. It was written over the cross, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." The Jews tried to get Pilate to change the writing, but he declined, saying that it must remain as he had written it in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. The cross of suffering is still bearing its victims among the Hebrews, Latins and Greeks. The whole Latin race will yet be crucified. "Whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" is true of races and nations as well as individuals. It is now and has been more blessed to be barren than to be a mother in many parts of the earth where children are born to ignorance, squalor and suffering. All this is in the psychic, the plane of mortality. The only escape is to be "born from above" and into the realm of sunshine.

*** The book on "Vibrations" came, and I read it daily, but do not comprehend all you say. If there is only God (and that term is unscientific and misleading) why dwell upon the horrors which attend upon the journey from sense to soul?

The word God is scientific both in Hebrew and English. Elohim in Hebrew means the Supreme Powers or Forces, and the word God signifies the same thing. Because the word stands for a person, in the minds of many, is no sign it is not a scientific term. Uncle Sam stands for all the persons and property in the United States, but this is no reason why it should mislead any one. God is the Uncle Sam of the Universe. In the little booklet on "Vibrations" I am not dwelling on the horrors of the journey from sense to soul, but simply pointing them out, so that the pilgrim will not be alarmed. It is only a dream, a nightmare; it seems horrible while it lasts, but when it is over we laugh at it. "Our light afflictions," saith Paul, "which are but for a season, work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." It is only for a day and an hour, then eternal joy.

*** Writers on mental science often make conflicting statements, viz: Desire is life. Desire is evil. Denials are injurious. Thought tension is advised and condemned; altogether a babel of statements, so that the mind is rendered nugatory of understanding. How does anyone know which is the right way?

You will have to move out of the City of Babylon and rent a room in the City of New Jerusalem. Babylon is the outside of you; Jerusalem (the New) is inside of you. Truth is always paradoxical. Desire is right and wrong, good and evil, darkness and light; all these seeming contradictions are in the Babylon of mortality. In the New Jerusalem there is no darkness and no night, no evil, no wrong; all is right and all is good. The right way is the I Am, for I Am the way. Decide for yourself as to desire, thought tension, and everything else. What is one man's meat is another man's poison. Select for yourself according to your own taste. There are many teachers who are simply the echoes of others who have passed on before; there are many parrots and monkeys who are using borrowed words and ideas. Get into your own kingdom and issue edicts from your own throne. Follow your own spirit.

*** Is not clear seeing and clear hearing direct from the Universal Source of All Good rather than through the medium of departed Spirits? Clairvoyants—many of them—claimed to be controlled by those who have made the change called death.

It all depends on the mind of the seer. He can be spoken to by Balaam's ass, an Indian chief, or anything or anybody he desires, or admits, into the sanctuary of his soul. I had to politely show a lot of negroes and "injuns" the door before I could see straight. I even gave the grand bounce to a "spirit" who claimed to be one of my departed sweethearts. I now speak as the medium of my own Spirit and voice the mind of my own Divinity. I am not cultivating the acquaintance of departed fathers, mothers, uncles or aunts, much less niggers and "injuns." And, as for being under "con-

trol"—well! I would like to see any one control me. If I am to be forever toddling at the leading strings of some other fellow I will resign, abdicate, and turn insurgent. Someone has made the devil say, "I would rather reign in hell than serve in heaven." I admire the sentiment; but, no one can serve in heaven. Freedom is one of the essential elements of heaven. The walls of jasper are not the walls of a penitentiary.

*** Explain the difference between finite and infinite.

The finite is personal; the infinite is impersonal; the finite is the individual; the infinite is the universal. No individual is infinite; Being is infinite, but a being is finite. Jesus Christ was not an infinite being; there never was and never can be an infinite being, although Being itself is infinite. The individualization of being makes the finite, for the individual is dependent on the universal. For this reason Jesus said, "Of myself I can do nothing, the Father doeth the work." The finite works in the infinite; the individual lives, moves and has his being in the universal. Get this definition fixed in your mind; and then remember that the infinite acts only in the finite. Infinite activity is infinite repose; the one is a perfect balance to the other. Therefore, activity, other than repose, is through the finite. This is metaphysics, but you must see it before you can be it. Infinite activity is expressed in the varied actions of the finite. Therefore know of a certainty that the I Am in you is backed up by all the power of the infinite and universal. Just as far as you are capable of using it, all power belongs to you.

*** In CHRISTIAN you say, "The immortality of the flesh, or incorruptible body, is to come through sex vibrations." That "the new begetting is by water and the Spirit." I should like to know the meaning of the above, and no doubt most, if not all, of the readers of your paper would like an explanation. Truth is what we are all after, and, if there is a way to conquer Death, we all want to know it. AMELIA.

Well, Amelia, you may rest assured that I will give you the truth on this subject as fast as it comes to me. I have made a covenant with the readers of CHRISTIAN to give them all I receive as rapidly as possible. I am getting more and more light every day. I can only say now that the third and fourth chapters of John deal with the sex question and that Jesus Christ was talking about a literal begetting, by the Spirit, of actual flesh and a real body. Born of water has reference to mortal birth, and born (the word is begotten) of the Spirit is immortal birth. He was talking to Nicodemus about "things of the flesh" and was not using figures of speech. He was talking to the woman of Samaria about real, physical husbands and a real life. Jesus was not trying to mystify the mind of this inquiring soul by high sounding statements in figurative language. I will tell you more when I know more. Hints will be given all along this line of thought.

*** I would like for you to explain to me through your paper (if possible) the cause of certain apparitions which appear to me at different times in the form of ghostlike

bodies having no really distinctive features. They invariably appear in the night time and vanish at any sound made for the purpose of disturbing them. I have watched these and made them a study for a great while, but cannot as yet explain from whence they came or whither they went. I would be greatly obliged to you if you could solve this mystery for me.

It is caused by introverted vision. You see objects with the subjective vision; the ideas or objects are really in the subjective and have no existence in the objective, but they appear to be in the objective because your vision is introverted. The drinking men can see live snakes because the snakes are in the nerves and the vision is turned around. I never saw any snakes, but I used to see Brownies by the wholesale. The vision is double and can be used in a natural way, as I use it now. I see men, women, animals and other objects as clearly with my eyes shut as I do with them open. These visions come to me at night when I retire and just before going to sleep. They are, as a general rule, patients whom I am treating, or persons whom I am going to meet next day. The world of vision is not half explored yet; the northpole of mental vision has not yet been discovered. There is a vast world yet to open before us.

*** "Vibrations" says I descended into mortal form that I "might gain the experience of mortality." What does God want with this experience? Did I not know just as much before I descended as I will know when I have ascended? What is the purpose of soul or individuality? I am eternally in God. If so, what is the difference in me before God gave individuality and after? God is changeless. Will I know any more about God after I have ascended than before I descended?

You fail to make the discrimination between God individualized, imaged, formed, and God the formless substance Spirit. I Am is God manifest, the Logos, the Reason, the Work of that Almighty in whom we live, move, and have our being. I, the individual, cannot know anything except through experience. You may talk about music, but no one can know music except by experience. Experience is the only road to knowledge. There is another glory of the individual: as knowledge is infinite, the individual will never get done knowing. There will always be new worlds, new experiences, new joys opening before the individual. You, as an individual, are living and moving and being in God as the bird lives and moves and has its being in the air. The immensity of space is always around you, for the finite individual can never take cognizance of infinite space and endless time. "From everlasting to everlasting thou art God."

*** Dear Dr. Shelton: I see in CHRISTIAN where a Mr. Caviness received an answer to a letter in his pocket, and his child was healed. I could tell a more wonderful thing than that, and tell the truth. I had never heard of you; had never even heard of your paper. A lady loaned me one to read an article in it. I was taken with the paper. I saw you treated for business success; I decided to write you. I wrote the letter, and laid it up on the shelf, waiting for a dollar to materialize. The answer commenced coming, and it came and came; and, when business brightened, the dollar came, was

put in the letter, and forwarded to you; as I had never had a more prosperous month. This may seem strange to many, but I knew it was in answer to that letter that lay on the cold marble shelf, and was never even in my pocket. I EXPECTED help, and it came.

This is a whole lecture on the Science of Mental Healing. I am a Center and my Name has been adopted by the I Am; therefore, a prayer to me is a petition to the I Am that I Am. The first letter I ever wrote to a patient was signed, "I Am, T. J. Shelton." I wanted to scratch out the "I Am," for it seemed blasphemous to me. But the Spirit said, "If you scratch out my name I will scratch out your name." I saw the Truth at once, and now the name I gave up for the I Am is one of the names of God; and, wherever I go, healing goes with me. I have encompassed the earth. My students in Paris, London, Vienna, and Rome, are as near me as those who live in the same block with me. I Am Money, and the wealth now coming to me is beyond computation. It is not theory; it is fact. I AM GOD!

* We claim there is but one Mind—that, the Divine or Universal Mind. Then again, we talk about mortal mind as inferior to and opposed to the Divine mind. Now, if there be two minds, can we not find some more fitting term to apply to this undeveloped or immature state of consciousness? For, as I understand it, that is what Scientists mean by mortal mind. Perhaps I am mistaken. If I am, will you please make it clear to me? If there is only the I Am, the Divine Mind, what is this mortal mind that we are constantly crediting with such mighty power? It sounds very like the old story of God and His Satanic Majesty.

It not only sounds like the old story of God and the devil, but it is God and the devil, or Satan. Mortality is hell and the mortal mind is the devil. Satan means adversary; one who opposes; hence, mortal mind being the mind of the mortal, the ignorant, man is the adversary of knowledge. It is a law of creation that ignorance precedes knowledge; the mortal mind is necessary to the unfolding spirit. But ignorance is not permanent; when the light enters the darkness disappears, it goes out of existence; so it is when the mind of the spirit unfolds, the mortal mirror is taken away. There is confusion in the use of terms. Spirit is divine, eternal, unchangeable; but mind can be changed, it is transient, it comes and goes before the light of the unfolding spirit. The mind you have today is not the same mind you had in childhood; but your spirit is the same. You are not of the same mind you were yesterday. You say truly, "I have changed my mind."

* In November number of CHRISTIAN Marie says, "You are the sound in my life at present, and I am your echo." Then in December number she says, "We must first of all give up the echo habit." I should certainly think—from the general tone of her writing—that she was your echo. Now of course the I Am in you and the I Am in her is the same, as far as you both are One with the Universal, but it seems to me that to strictly follow your own teachings, she ought not to even be your I Am's echo; for each individual I Am, although One in the Universal, ought to have its own distinct tone. However much nearer the truth Marie is than Densie, Densie seems to be conscientiously telling what she thinks—she is

certainly not anyone's echo; and I should judge from her last letter that you will have to change her name again to "Out of the Mud."

ALICE.

Alice will observe that Marie is ready to acknowledge the echo. It was almost a perfect example of telepathy, as Marie had been my patient for only a few months. She was very near a collapse from nervous prostration and I commanded her, in the Silence, to open her door to me and give her own mind rest. This she did so beautifully that she heard my thoughts and felt my vibrations. She heard me calling her name, and as a little child she received the kingdom of God from the I Am in me. But she was quick to see that she must seek her own kingdom, hence the articles on "Play Your Own Music" and the "Sunlight Sermons." Marie is a remarkable medium of Spirit. I printed "To the Rescue" because it was good reading. Densie is not an echo; she blows her own horn and blows it with her own breath.

* Dr. Shelton: In CHRISTIAN you say, "At least one man or one woman must be born again," etc. This leads me to ask, as did Nicodemus, "Can a man enter the second time into his mother's womb and be born?" If you should say "Yes," and then repeat the reply of Jesus, I could understand you, for I believe the question of Nicodemus implied a great truth, and that as the womb was the starting point of generation man must return to it for regeneration. From the knowledge I have of my own being I am convinced that regeneration will be a fact when man becomes still enough to permit automatic, or, rather, spontaneous action in the sexual relation. At this point there must be practical demonstration of the Spirit—"God manifest in the flesh." As you have said, the people have had theories enough. Now we need facts. You say one man or one woman must be first. May it not be two ones, the male and female? Is there not a lost art to be regained in the sexual relation before we can be born again? If so, who ever had it? You tell. I see the importance of not permitting callers or patients to come into your physical presence. It is well for you to hold this position—a Divine provision—but few there are who thus see it.

F. M. C., M. D.

The above is from a doctor of medicine and a man who comes in daily contact with life as it is on the physical plane. He is very near the Truth. Yes, doctor, a man can enter the second time into a mother's womb and be born; if he does not he will never be "born again." It is not a lost art, for knowing it would mean eternal life in the incorruptible flesh of the "new birth." It is an unfoldment into a higher life. Humanity will learn that all the organs of the body have a higher use than the mere existence of a mortal. The stomach is something more than a "bread basket"; the brain is more than a blackboard; the womb is more than the temporary home of a mortal infant. I have many things to say on this subject, but not yet. I am healing the sick, casting out devils, and raising the dead. When I know more on this subject I will say more. "There is a rest for the people of God." Births and deaths are a source of unrest; as a man emerges from the womb he is ready to enter the tomb. Woman must bring forth seed which will bruise this serpent's head. I'm glad you see "a Divine provision" in my excluding patients and

students from my physical presence. It would stop my work. Many have been offended because I will not receive visitors and callers. Each one thinks THEY should be made an exception to the rule and be admitted. It cannot be; all are alike to me.

* Dear Sir: Please tell me if times came in your experience of this New Thought, when you were first trying to grasp it, when it seemed words, words, words? Please do not tell me, as a theosophist did, to whom I went for instruction, because I did not believe in Re-incarnation. "O, you are not ready for Truth!" If the God-nature in me asks questions I cannot answer, I want some one else to do so. I am not satisfied with your explanation of the sharp snaps, as they come all hours, day and night, even when thinking mechanically or waking out of sound sleep. Will you please explain auto-suggestion? If you do not concentrate on Health, Strength, Life, Love, how do you send the healing vibration to your patients? Seems to me you are making a distinction without a difference. Why are so few people capable of putting into tangible, definite words this New Thought religion? Have they really the Truth when they cannot explain it? Many times a day I hear my name called emphatically. It is a new experience. Can you explain this? Also, hear passage after passage of Scripture. Have patience with me, for I am bound to have the Truth. Yours, truly,

JOSEPHINE.

Yes, often there is a Babylon of words, words, words. A voice from the whirlwind said to Job, "Who is this that darkeneth counsel with words without wisdom." Words without wisdom are a weariness to the flesh, "and of the making of many books there is no end."

You are a medium; at present you generate more electricity than you throw off, and hence the snaps and raps. I could tell you many things in a half hour's face to face talk which I cannot put on paper.

Auto-suggestion is self-hypnotism. It is talking to yourself, a kind of mental somnambulism.

I don't have to concentrate on the idea of breathing in order to breathe, neither do I have to concentrate on health, strength, life, and love, in order to send the vibrations to my patients. I Am all these things; therefore my words are life and spirit. "Let your light shine" doesn't mean for you to make it shine by blowing and puffing at it.

It is hard to put new thoughts into old words.

In giving treatments or sending thoughts I always use the first name. In calling you I say, "Josephine." Your own Spirit in speaking to you would use your first name. Passages of Scripture may come from your subconscious memory which is just now being awakened. Go slow. Your own Spirit is your true Teacher. You are becoming clairvoyant and clairaudient—seeing and hearing in the subjective. It is the opening of the inner sense, and you must learn to separate the subjective from the objective. You are ready for the Truth.

* "My Dear Sir: Three or four years ago, when I occasionally received a copy of your paper, it contained scarcely anything to prove and substantiate its theory and doctrine but bible quotations, double back action authority and hoary with age so called miracles. You have progressed wonderfully since

then. Keep on, my friend; you will get there if you set free a few more brakes that still clog your wheels to some extent. The red rag business, or illustration that enrages a certain ferocious animal, and that you applied to me at one time in the past, I sometimes think is needed to get us in a fighting condition and up where we feel the courage and strength to hit the enemy between the eyes. All is well that ends well; but remember that humanity is still living and struggling in a world where conditions and environments are gross and material and so hard, rigid and oppressive that the brain of man is absolutely incapable of generating any thought force or will power that will stimulate any other growth or needs than that of the material body and so called tangible things. Material poverty, hunger and want, pain and suffering, is the supreme and all prevailing hinderance and obstacle to progress and a higher climb. Is the world ready, or is it possible, and is the present prepared to abolish material poverty, want and bodily suffering? I say yes; and when the masses are freed from priestcraft, political and religious ignorance and superstition, they will rid the world of an indolent blighting wealth aristocracy and set free the resources, tools and machinery of an enslaved people, both mentally and physically. The present existing material order and conditions of things must be changed, but I doubt very much that it can be done by ignoring so called material, tangible things and environments and depend upon purely mental force and power and the subjective and silent forces. Why not devote part of the columns of your paper to the material and so called tangible instead of all to the mental and the subjective which is so dark and far away to the grasp of the masses. For information and a better understanding allow me to ask what you mean in CHRISTIAN of December when you say: "How is the flesh to be made incorruptible? In the same way that it is now made corruptible, *i. e.*, by sex vibrations. The new begetting is by water and Spirit. Great is the mystery!" The mystery and understanding of it I would like to know more about. I believe I know what thought vibration means, but am not fully clear as to what you mean by sex vibration. If you prefer, address me by letter. Some day, when I have plenty of change, will send you subscription price. Yours, etc., E. P. H."

* "Your book on Vibrations came to hand last month, and I have been reading it every day since, and find it very helpful."

* "I now weigh 170 pounds. When I first wrote you (December, 1897) I weighed 130 pounds! My health is excellent. I use no beer, liquors or tobacco."

* "Dear Doctor Shelton: You certainly struck exactly the right Word for me this time. I felt the results of your treatment almost immediately. I am calmer, happier and easier in mind and body than I have been for ever and ever so long. In fact, I feel remarkably like myself. Everything seems to be working for my good. This month has been such a glorious change, and I want you to continue to treat me."

AN I AM SERMON.

Power!

Think we had better continue the discussion of this subject.

"Let them have dominion."

It reads "them," not "him" or "her." But it does not say "they" or "we;" it means the twain in one flesh, the man and the woman. There is no disturbance of individuality in putting the man and woman together as individuals. There can be no success to either apart from the other. Marriage may be a failure, but the partnership between man and woman is a necessity. It is the law, and the law must be fulfilled. It cannot be avoided in any way. It requires the union of man and woman to perpetuate life on the animal plane; and it is equally essential that man and woman should work together for the Regeneration of Life. The contentions and strife between man and woman are all important indications that their harmony is essential to the full development of all their powers. In coming into his kingdom man will have his helpmeet right along by his side. For this reason man's artificial life will give place to "natural selection" in the choosing of partners. There will be no more cat-and-dog unions, and no rules and regulations which try to bind two opposites together "until death do us part." But all these things will adjust themselves in due time. When you are ready for the step from the conscious mortal to the conscious-immortal the way will be open.

At present man and woman are trying to clear up the rough places and get ready for a life of leisure. The sweating process is still going on, but it will not last much longer. There is a time coming when the wealth of the world will be so adjusted to the needs of the inhabitants of the earth that no one will have to toil. Once more we will enter the Eden, the garden of delights. It will be an intellectual and spiritual Eden, and we will go out no more forever. The earth is exceedingly generous in its supply of all things needed for our comfort, and we will learn, after awhile, to use all these things righteously and for the good of all. Then no one will want for anything. No one will watch—or be afraid of—anyone else, and therefore we will have time to think. At present nearly all of our time is spent in watching one another. What—with our soldiers, sailors, policemen, sheriffs, detectives and so forth—are we doing but standing guard over each other? Even in the family there is a strict surveillance kept over each member of the household; especially is there a sharp lookout kept by husband and wife over the movements of each other. Then there is a constant drain on our strength in our efforts to appear well before each other; a monster, called Public Opinion, keeps us struggling to keep up with the leaders of fashion and the molders of What-they-say. How can we expect to enter into all power in heaven and in earth while we are frittering away our strength and exhausting our resources in such a frivolous way?

While man is exercising dominion over cattle, horses, and the material earth, he has been neglecting himself. The mind has run

away from the body and left it to perish. This is more foolish than the destruction of the seals and whales, for when man exhausts his body there is no longer a fulcrum for his lever, a repository for his power. The body is the temple of the God, and without a God, man is nothing. It is the image and likeness of the I Am which gave man the title to all power. The body is man's earth and his moon and stars. When the sun in him has dominion over the body he will hear the music of the spheres and go onward as peaceful and happy as the angels of God. This he is just now beginning to learn. What is it to govern the earth, if you can't govern the body which binds you to the earth? Why should you bow down in obedience to the stomach, liver, lungs, or even the brain? Who made the body? It was woven by your own spirit, and it is by the unconscious action of your spirit that the elements of your body are held together. Did I make myself? You certainly did, on the unconscious, or vegetable plane of your being; and, it is on the same plane that you have been growing, like a cabbage, ever since you began to unfold. You were begotten without thought, and grew up in the womb, and afterwards in the world, without thought. This is like a vegetable, or an animal; and an animal is nothing more than an animated vegetable. How beautiful are some of us who have grown like a cabbage-head, or cornstalk, without taking thought as to how we wanted to grow! And how ugly and ungainly are some of us who have come up from this unconscious plane of our being! It looks like chance, or accident, that we are here. Like so many dice, we have been shaken up in a box and spilt out on the earth. It is not accident, or chance. It is law; but, law working without reason or thought.

Now, when we begin to see rotten specks in this unconscious work, when we see sickness, pain and death coming to this, our work, or growth, on the unconscious plane of being, we begin to take thought. What is the use? This is our first question in the realm of thought. What is the use of growing such a beautiful body for the worms to devour? Why should we come here into this world just to have our eyes open to pain, suffering, sorrow and death? Why should we pass from the womb, full of throbbing life, and then enter the tomb a mass of stinking dirt? Why should we find so many spots of decay in the living body so that we die daily before the final relief comes in an all over death? Alas! saith man, all my work crumbles in my hands. The monuments I build of marble and stone outlast my body, which I have built, as the flint outlasts the snowflake. The weakest of all my work is this tabernacle of clay. I must think about it and study it so that I may repair it, or reconstruct it, before it falls to pieces. I can not accomplish my work in such a shortlived body. I hardly get time to turn around before the house I inhabit falls in ruins about me. Just as I begin my work of conquest, that I may have dominion, lo! I am dead. There must be some mistake. I will examine my heart, lungs, liver, stomach, brain, and see if I can't adjust the machinery so

that it will last longer. If I could only live, and retain my faculties in active operation, for even one hundred years I could accomplish something. And, bless me, if I could remain here an active, thinking being for a thousand years I would begin to have dominion in real earnest. But this short stay is discouraging. The half of my time here is spent on the unthinking plane of animal life; part of the other half is in second childhood, or the senility of old age. Bless me, I have no time for anything but the grave. Such is the life of man as he is now living it. Is he not a caricature on the image and likeness of God? He does not seem any more like God than a butterfly seems like man. He is a weed, a turnip, a cabbagehead. No wonder he is a weakling in the presence of storms, floods, drought, or the wild beasts of the wood. Put him in his little coffin and let him sleep.

"Flitting away, flitting away!
All that we cherish most dear.
There's nothing on earth that will stay;
Roses must die with the year."

What a miserable moth is man! It would not be so very bad to be a moth if you didn't think. It is the thinking, the discussing, the planning, the hoping for immortality, which makes death an everlasting surprise. It is an everlasting surprise, for no matter when death comes it is always a surprise. We were not looking for it, did not expect it. Man is immortal, else he could not think immortality. He goes on thinking and planning like an immortal being; and, as I said, death is always an unwelcome and unexpected visitor. I am speaking of the general rule and not of the exceptions. Even in battle men do not, as a rule, expect to get killed. Each man expects someone else will get killed, but they never think it will be themselves. This is why men face dangers fearlessly; it is hope, the anchor of the soul. Hope is born of the consciousness of immortality; but how this dormant consciousness ever came into such a transient being can be accounted for only on the principle that man is an imperishable, incorruptible being. For man, the cabbagehead, man the mortal, is as transient as a mushroom. Everything in all his environment is ready to kill him; earth, air, fire and water all conspire to slay him at any moment without giving him the slightest warning. A rusty nail is sufficient to cause him to die in an agony of pain; a limb may fall on him while he is on his way to do a work of mercy and love; the food he is eating to sustain life may contain the poison of death. Millions of ways are open to entrap him and carry him to the tomb. There is no place of safety. A pilgrim and stranger in his dominions, he hath no abiding place.

"As shadows cast, by cloud and sun,
Flit o'er the summer's grass;
So, in thy sight, Almighty One,
Earth's generations pass."

We have tried to keep man here longer by perpetuating his memory. Monuments of marble, books of biography, even the embalming of his dust, have been resorted to in order to keep him on the earth; but, sooner or later, he is not even a memory. The

place which knew him knows him no more forever. This is man the vegetable, the animal.

What if man should construct a body consciously, knowing just how he did it? It would be as imperishable as the Spirit; it would be incorruptible, undefiled, and as eternal as the light. This is just what man is learning how to do. The first dwelling places which man prepared for himself were rude huts, made to keep out cold and rain; but they also kept out the light. Then man went to work to make something that would keep out cold and rain but let the light shine in, and he succeeded. He has gone on improving his abode until it is now able to endure the ravages of time and abide, like the everlasting hills, throughout the ages. His dwelling place is perfect within and without, a thing of beauty, and would be a joy forever if it were not for the transient being who inhabits it for a day, and then passes on to the narrow limits of the grave. But this being is studying and thinking. Some day he will have a body which will live forever. The house of marble will be as a mushroom compared to the body of incorruptible flesh which man will grow for himself on the conscious plane of his being. This is as sure as thought, as certain as the light. The child cuts a set of temporary teeth, then another set, and, as has often been the case, a third set of teeth. These are but signs showing that the entire body is but temporary and will make way for the permanent body. As St. Paul has said, "That is not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural, and afterwards that which is spiritual." The natural (or mortal) is temporal; the spiritual is eternal. The coming forth of the natural is on the plane of unthinking, unconscious life; the spiritual is on the thinking, conscious plane of being. The one is the forerunner of the other; the sign and symbol of that which is to be.

Jesus is a photograph of the spiritual man active in the flesh. He exercised power enough, and no more, to show us the way. All kinds of sickness obeyed his commandment; or, rather, life responded to His word and all abnormal conditions disappeared. The blind were made to see, to teach us that sight is not of the eye but of the spirit. The deaf were made to hear, to teach us that hearing is not of the ear but of the spirit. The dead were raised, in different stages of decomposition, to show us that life is independent of material organisms and can reconstruct and rebuild the body. The loaves and fishes were multiplied, to teach us that we have dominion, not only over wheat and fish, but over the very elements out of which they are made. The figtree withered to show us that the tree is not the life, but that life is in the tree through the will of the Spirit. The winds and waves were made to be obedient to the Word, to show that man is the master of all his environment. Everything in nature, seen and unseen, obeyed the commandments of Jesus Christ to teach us that the Son of Man hath "all power in heaven and in earth." It was not a mere accident that Jesus only raised three persons from the dead. His work, all of it, was from design—"the work Thou gavest me to do." There were

no men on earth wise enough to invent the character of Jesus and make Him do and say things as they are written in the Gospels; there are no men wise enough to invent such a character and such a story now, even with this model to help them out. Don't let the folly of religionists cause you to reject the beautiful story of Jesus. There are scrawls in the background, and scratches by the hand of mortals, but the main picture is the work of the Spirit of Truth. All men are to be like Jesus in the dominion over matter. The model had to be given, to get us used to looking at a real man. Of course, instead of imitating His example, learning from His sayings and doings, our first impulse was to fall down, like children, or savages, and worship Him. This was perfectly natural, for ignorance always worships that which it does not understand. Ignorance has great reverence for mysteries. Like a child in the dark, it is afraid and helpless, because it can't see.

But when we understand Jesus, when the mystery is cleared up, when we know how he did these things, and can invoke the same power ourselves, the worship will cease and fellowship will take its place. All men and women are to have dominion as Jesus had it. The very leaves of the trees will speak a language which we will understand. The winds will know what we mean when we say, "Peace, be still!" Jesus did not say these things for dramatic effect, but because He knew the Word had made itself heard in creation and could be heard, again and again, in all the movements in matter. What a mighty being is Man, the God! He rises from the dust of the earth into the image and likeness of the Almighty. "My Father worketh hitherto: and, I work." The work done in the Universal is now duplicated in the individual. God made wine out of water, and so did man. God did it, and is doing it, in creation; man in recreation. The substance spirit in the Universal awakens and becomes manifest at the Word spoken by the I Am in man. The healing of the body in the present day, by mental treatment, is only the beginning of miracles. As we go on entering the dominion of thought we will do more wonderful, greater things, than Jesus did; because we will be able to explain how the law works. We can tell how it is done. Man is just now getting out of the alphabet of knowledge; just now learning to put letters together and form words. There is a great day coming to the earth. They, the man and the woman, will have dominion over all the earth and its environment; and, above all else, they will have dominion over their own bodies, and will fashion them "like unto the glorious body of the Son of God." It is only a question of knowing how to put the atoms together under the quickening vibrations of the Spirit. This knowledge is being slowly unfolded to those who are in search of it.

*** "I wish to express my gratitude for the help I have received. I have improved physically and am more free from anxiety and fear. My business affairs are also improving. I thank you sincerely for your help."