



Christian

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ITEMS AND IDEAS.

*** CHRISTIAN is all right!

*** The fight made against it, while all the other New Thought papers go free, is proof that there is something in it.

*** The responses coming in are glorious. Thanks to all who are sending money, and yet it is your own money spent for your own paper.

*** CHRISTIAN has just as much right to pound rate postage as any other paper in the United States. Many people do not understand the difference in the pound rate and what is called third class postage.

*** Let me explain. Postage on your paper at pound rates would cost you less than four cents a year, while the third class postage is fifty-two cents a year. I am now paying more for postage than I am for printing, folding, mailing and delivery of the papers at the postoffice.

*** You can easily see that third class postage spells ruin for CHRISTIAN. Third class postage is for circulars and other advertising matter. It places an eight page, illustrated weekly paper on a par with patent medicine circulars. Are you ready to submit to any such unjust discrimination? There isn't power enough on this earth to keep CHRISTIAN in any such list.

*** You will notice that the higher the vibrations the more opposition you call out from Institutionalism. When CHRISTIAN was in the vibrations of the earth and the stars, mud and money, there was little opposition. But since moving to Denver and ascending into the higher vibrations of Truth and righteousness, the Institution has undertaken to suppress it. It can't be suppressed!

*** What is the matter with CHRISTIAN? Nothing in the world. Christian Science, with the help of a few other "scientists," have undertaken to suppress the publication. All who know anything about Christian Science know that it is more Jesuitical than the Jesuits. It can out-Herod the Herodians. They believe in malicious animal magnetism and practice it with a vengeance. I have made a few enemies among the New Thought people who are ready to aid in every effort to suppress CHRISTIAN. Why haven't I mentioned this before? Because I did not want to bore you with these side issues. But it has taught us all what Institutionalism means. It has given CHRISTIAN a definite place and position in the world. It has taught us the truth about organizations. The tyranny of the new sect is always greater than that of the old.

*** I have been in the newspaper business off and on for thirty years, and I am frank to say that any other paper passing the ordeal of CHRISTIAN would have suspended two years ago. My readers were called on to pay in advance after they had been taught that they could pay whenever they got ready. Every year, and sometimes twice a year, they had been called on for written certificates. This has been going on for three years. You may get a man to sit down and write one certificate, but to ask him to write two in the same year and to keep it up right along every year is too much. Did all of my subscribers stick to me? No, not by ten thousand! Do you think any other paper in the United States could stand the loss of ten thousand dollars in one year?

*** CHRISTIAN is yet to have one hundred thousand subscribers as a basis for operations. Then from this hundred thousand subscribers we are to cover the whole earth. CHRISTIAN will yet be sold in every book store, news stand and on every train in the United States. It will be sold on the streets and you will hear it called on every corner. The three witnesses have testified to these things. Just at this time there is almost a united effort to Institutionalize the New Thought. All the eastern periodicals, with the exception of *The Nautilus*, are in favor of organization. They are making strenuous efforts to repeat the blunders of Christian Science. CHRISTIAN is not opposing this movement for organization. CHRISTIAN is not in opposition to anything. It is simply here to affirm the truth of Individualism. "Up with the Individual!" is the watchword of CHRISTIAN.

*** American Press Censorship will continue to grow worse and worse until the printing business will be a gigantic Trust and individual expression will be suppressed. This is what would be true if the Almighty did not intend to exalt the Individual to such place and power that Institutionalism will meet with destruction. But for a few years the oppression and suppression will proceed along the lines which Institutionalism is now following. God sometimes makes things detestable in order to compass their destruction. Institutionalism must first be made detestable in the eyes of the people. Let the trusts, the unions, the combinations, the organizations and the corporations go on their mad way until the people demand a halt. You can't change Institutionalism by changing your party or your church. All political parties look alike to the Individualist. They will all administer the "water

cure" and then lie out of it. Some little man, without sense or judgment, but full of spite and spleen, gets into a position like the Third Assistant Postmaster General and the whole Institution will back him up until the people make such a clamor that, for fear of losing votes, a temporary change is made. Every old soldier knows how shoulder straps used to change a meek man into a tyrant. A little brief authority will cause the average man to puff and swell like Esop's frog. This is Institutionalism. The government of the United States is by the party and not by the people.

*** I want money, not for myself, but for CHRISTIAN. I have spent more money on the weekly since the first of the year than I spent on the monthly in four years. It is all on account of the fight made against the entry of CHRISTIAN at pound rates. I had no idea when I started the weekly but what it would be entered before the first issue was ready to mail. You had all sent your proofs and there was nothing in the way. It is the work of Individuals; therefore, you are all free to do just as you please about it. I don't want something for nothing. Read my offers on the eighth page and you will see that I am ready to give you value received for your money. I offer both my books for the price of one. I offer either one of my books as a premium for every new subscriber at a dollar a year. Yes, I will give either of my books for every renewal of subscription. I will also give either of my books with the first dollar sent for every new patient. It makes me sick to have to get down and talk this way about money. I hope I will never have to do it again. If possible I will make this the very last time that I mention the subject. When I strike gold in the mines CHRISTIAN will be made the peer of any periodical on earth. You who have been with me from the beginning and are now joining in this crusade for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness will rejoice in that day. It is sure to come! The mighty men and women who are backing CHRISTIAN are not of the slipshod, wishy-washy, goody-goody kind.

I have already discovered spiritual gold. I know the difference between common dirt among people and the pure gold of genuine friendship. I had to learn this in the smelting furnace of Individualization. I found that men and women who were supposed to be my friends would lie for the Institution and die for the Institution when it came to a test between the Individual and the Institution. I went out into the wilderness and found my own soul. It was a great find!

EYE TO EYE TALKS.

The divine right of kings—*Old Thought.*

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. * * * And are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord.—*Paul.*

Neither give place to the devil * * * Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil

* * * The prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.—*Paul.*

Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Mary Baker G. Eddy.—*Christian Science.*

The history of the institution is the same from the beginning of the time when men ruled over other men up to the present hour. It is the same old argument and the same hypnotism which has characterized all ages and all nations. It is the best effort of mortal mind. Paul is the founder of the institution called Christianity. He had two distinct kingdoms in his mind. Jesus Christ was the king of one kingdom and Satan the king of the other kingdom. He uses the words "Satan" and "Devil" as synonymous terms when speaking of the king of darkness. He warns his readers and hearers against Satan as a real person reigning over a kingdom. He tells of times when this Satan hindered his work for the Lord. In fact, Paul's writings are honeycombed with devil and satan. The kingdom of Darkness is just as much a fact in his mind as the kingdom of Light. Satan was just as much of a person in the mind of Paul as Jesus Christ. He exhorts his readers to buckle on the armour of God and go forth to battle against Satan. An unruly member of the Church is turned over to Satan. He declares that the atmosphere of the earth is filled full of devils who are under the control of a monarch called The Prince of the Power of the Air.

* * *

This man Paul also speaks of the foundations of the world. The earth in his mind rested on a foundation about as imaginary as his institutions called the kingdom of Jesus and the kingdom of Satan. The earth was four cornered and rested on a foundation, but he does not tell us what the foundation rested on. The whole of the universe was centered in this earth and its heavens. The same idea holds good in mortal mind theology of the present day. The Almighty God is concerned for the people of this planet; and almost all of His time is given to the inhabitants of this little sphere called the earth. Paul was a prophet on the psychic plane. Jesus was a prophet on the psychic plane. Every man who has passed through this plane of being knows how unreliable are its revelations. There are only half-truths revealed to the mind on the psychic plane. Jesus was puzzled to understand His own prophecy. Neither Paul nor Jesus would now endorse all of their own utterances. When the Spirit came to me, after I had passed out of the psychic, He said in most emphatic words: "The past is nothing, the past is nothing. The future is every-

thing, the future is everything." Of course He was talking about the past of this planet. Spirit goes forward and repudiates the whole history of mortal men. When you get done sifting the chaff from the wheat of psychic prophecy, there is very little wheat left. It is nearly all chaff and straw with a few grains of wheat. * * *

Mrs. Eddy comes along with her Christian Science and repeats the same blunder made by Paul. She finds an institution with a kingdom of Light and a kingdom of Darkness. It would have been impossible to found a kingdom in the objective without having a devil as well as a God. The people must have something to fight. The element of fear must be introduced in some way. Therefore, the doctrine of Black Magic and Malicious Animal Magnetism was invented to take the place of the orthodox and New Testament idea of Satan and a kingdom of Darkness. Mrs. Eddy is strictly orthodox according to Paul, who is the head of the institution called Christianity. Thus, you see, the latest sect comes along and repeats the same old story. It has been the destruction of Mrs. Eddy, but the salvation of the institution called the Christian Science Church. There is a Mother Church in Boston with a "mother's room," furnished with costly furniture. What good is that "mother's room," or the temple of stone, to the feeble old woman who can not occupy it? If she had repudiated leadership in the objective and declared that her own body was the only temple, or a room in her own soul the only room for her, things would have been different. The individual is always crushed out and destroyed, save in memory, by the institutions. If this old woman should die, Christian Science, as an Institution, would continue to prosper. Mrs. Eddy dead would be revered as a saint; but as a spiritual movement Christian Science would die with her. It would be better for the Institution if she should die, for all institutions worship the dead and venerate the relics of the past. If you want to die, put yourself into an institution and you will only live as a memory, as a picture on the wall. * * *

All these institutions, from the first to the last one, are only pictures of the past. All sects are founded on the Bible, and the Bible itself is an institution of mortal mind. Spirit repudiates all of the past, for there is nothing that belongs to the past in the way of truth. Truth is never a relic. It is never a part of the past. It is never left behind. Suppose I admit that the Bible was written, every word and every line, by the Almighty. Is there no other Bible in the Almighty, or did he exhaust himself in the publication of one book? If I cut down the tree which God has grown, can He not grow another tree? God never writes books, but if He did, He could keep right on writing books. Spirit comes along and repudiates all books and all institutions. Why? Because Spirit is omnipresent, and therefore, never needs to communicate with the individual Spirit by the written word. It is just as much sense talking about God writing a book about the sunshine and then withdrawing the sun. What good would the book about sunshine

do in the absence of the sun? Every independent thinker would reject the whole book unless it was proved by real sunshine, and then you would not need the book. Of course you could organize many institutions on your book "Sunshine," even though you had to read it by lamplight. There are always adherents who will become followers and devotees of an institution, no matter how ridiculous its tenets. It would make no difference whether they ever saw a ray of light or not, they would quote from their book and argue and even cut throats over it. There is no trouble about establishing an institution. * * *

I happen to know Jesus Christ. He is the last person in this universe who would wear the title of King over His fellows. He is an individual among individuals, and He knows there never could be such a thing as primacy in Spirit. I used to have a book Jesus, but when the real Jesus came He was just as much of a "private" individual as myself. He tells me that Spirit is the Supreme Sovereign not only of the Universe, but of the individual. How can you have a foundation of apostles and prophets in the kingdom of Spirit where each man is a foundation of Spirit in himself? Great Jerusalem! You had just as well acknowledge the primacy of the Pope. All Roman Catholics think that Jesus is the head of the Roman Catholic Church. The same is true of the Greek Church and of the Protestants. Paul declares that the body of Jesus Christ is a kind of monstrosity, made up of individuals built onto each other like stones in a wall. It is a body with one individual as the head, and other individuals making up legs, arms, hands, and other parts of the body. It is unscientific, unnatural, and fantastic. I want you to understand that I am the head of myself. I do not reign over any other individual, and no other individual under the heavens, or on the earth, shall reign over me. This same "rot" is running riot in the world to-day. It is coming to the point where the individual can hardly hold his place in the business world. He must either join a trust, or labor union, or get off the earth. The greatest lawyers in this country advised me to organize a company for the publication of CHRISTIAN, even though it was a sham company, and I held all the stock. Why? Because combination is the order of the day. The individual has no rights which unions and trusts will respect.

You raised a great groan because I made a statement that whole races of men were born in mortality. Let me tell you that the Bible gives out the thought, from Genesis to Revelation, that Adam and Eve were the parents of the chosen people, and these were represented by the white race. It is only a half-truth. I have presented it before you as a whole truth, so you will stop and think. Mortal mind acts upon the principle that only the good are saved; the "good" always means "our" own people, whether white or black, red or yellow. The tribes of the earth are at war with each other. In our so-called civilization, we have saints and sinners, good society and the common people. It is not only the classes against the

masses, but the smart set against those who are not so smart. The religionists are divided up into sects, and the politicians into parties. It is even getting to be sex against sex. Then you want me to recognize a kingdom of Spirit as a kingdom in which some are superiors and others inferiors. You want me to advocate this kind of socialism and communism in the name of Spirit. But, of course, you want the select and the rulers to be called by some other name. I reply in the name of the Spirit. I am an apostle, a prophet, a lord, a God myself! My spirit calls out to all of you and declares "I AM the Lord thy God and besides Me there is none else." The law of the Spirit is government of the individual by the individual. Of course the individual will grant the same liberty to all other individuals. While he refuses to be ruled, he refuses to rule. He recognizes his sovereignty over himself, but refuses to rule over others. He is just as much opposed to being served as he is to being a servant. The battle royal to-day is between the individual and the institution. It is between the reign of Spirit in the individual and the reign of mortal mind in the institution.

The inspiration of the past is not infallible. It is almost utterly unreliable. It is unscientific as to its geography, history and philosophy. Its physical world is not any more unscientific than its mental world. The curse of all attempts at reformation has been looking backwards to the past for authority. This has caused men to repeat the blunders of the past in their efforts to go forward. Each sect quotes Scripture to uphold its position. You can string out scraps of Scripture and establish almost any kind of an institution. It would not be so bad if these scraps of Scripture were infallibly inspired, but they are not. Paul had flashes of light in the darkness. He talks nonsense right along with his sense. And yet the preachers and religionists would hang me for calling into question the infallibility of the Bible. I tell you it is not only fallible, but it is full of errors, which every sect in Christendom has repeated. There is just as much truth in Paul's Satanic kingdom as there is in his Jesus kingdom. I heard "Faust" the other night. Mephisto represented the Biblical and theological Satan. He has no more existence in reality than has Santa Claus. The legend that he was once an angel in heaven adds much to his prestige on earth. Mortal mind is fond of hobnobbing with celebrities, no matter how low they have fallen.

You come forward with your New Thought and say: "Certainly, there is no reality in Satan." Then you want me to put up his opposite and call it by the name of Jesus and ascribe the same kind of honors and bow the knee in homage. Paul tells us in so many words that every knee shall bow and every tongue confess Jesus as Lord of lords and King of kings. As I told you before, I happen to know Jesus Christ, and he laughs at the idea of any knee bowing to Him as a king. He not only repudiates this kingship, but He would run a blue pencil through much of the stuff in the New Testament that

has been reported as His sayings. In the newspaper office the running of a blue pencil through a line means that it is "killed;" or, in other words, thrown out. Jesus Christ would "kill" many of the so-called sayings of Jesus in the book called the New Testament. He would not have use for any of them, whether true or false.

On the psychic plane you read books and use type. In the plane of Spirit all these things are done away. In the world of Spirit all things are made new. Why should Spirit refer you to a book, even though Spirit had ever written a book? It is silly to speak of Spirit as having exhausted knowledge by putting it into a book. Bless you, that Eternal Fountain of truth and knowledge is forever open to the mind. You don't have to take anything second-hand. Inspiration is always and forever present with you. This is what I have been trying to give to you by the fire of Spirit. There are not two kingdoms, one of good and the other of evil; there are not two leaders, one Spirit and the other Satan. It is all One—both Serpent and Spirit. Out of the world of the physical and psychic we are to grow into the life of Spirit. The physical and psychic are both transitional periods. Spirit is the place of rest, peace and perfection.

You can never get into Spirit by looking backwards to the prophets of the past, or looking around you at the psychic mediums of the present. If ever you find the kingdom of Spirit it will be within you. It can't be found in any other place or in any other person. Jesus Christ never organized a church and never authorized any one else to do so. He repudiated all of the institutions and claimed to be in conjunction with Spirit. After He went away men came along and founded an institution out of scraps culled from His sayings, with other scraps added from the sayings of others. But it doesn't make any difference what He did or what He didn't do, as far as the past is concerned. Our authority and information must not come from the past, or from books, but directly from Spirit. There must be a new heaven and a new earth. You can't have a new body without having a new mind out and out, and a new mind is not a patchwork from the minds of the past.

Before closing this article, let me call your attention to the fact that Paul's work was a success. The Roman Catholic Church is just such an institution as Paul describes in his letters. It has an infallible head and fallible heels. It is just such "a body fitly joined together" as Paul calls the body of Christ. As an objective institution, the Roman Catholic Church is perfect. While they claim the primacy of Peter, it was Paul who founded the institution. His dream of empire is complete. Thrones have fallen and crowns have crumbled, but the Roman Catholic Church stands as Paul pictured it. It has had many imitators, but no successor. It is called the Holy Mother Church, just as Mrs. Eddy calls her Boston church the Mother Church. As a counterfeit of the Roman Catholic Church the Christian Science Institution is a success. Mother Eddy

says that her successor will be a man. I object! An institution founded by a woman should not be put into the hands of a common man. This is one reason why I am going to keep Mrs. Eddy here on the earth.

There is no room in the New Thought for any kind of an institution, whether composed of two or millions. There is no need of institutions, for the work of Paul is perfect. If the Spirit ever recognizes an institution it will endorse the Roman Catholic Church. Spirit will never recognize an institution. Spirit organizes in the natural way by growing plants, trees and men. The institution is artificial and unnatural. On the plane of Spirit it is useless.

You must forever and eternally disabuse your mind of the idea of infallibility. Nature is not built that way. Infallibility means that quality or state of mind which is exempt from error. There is no such state of mind. Nature is never perfect in everything. She makes mistakes in both matter and mind. The Ecumenical Council in the Vatican, July 18, 1870, decreed that the Pope can not, when acting in his official character of supreme pontiff, err in defining a doctrine of Christian faith or rule of morals, to be held by the Church. Of course, this decree would make old man Leo infallible! It is silly. Spirit is not infallible. God is not infallible. God speaks the truth, but it comes to us mixed with error. God is the Almighty, which simply means the Mighty All. Take a walk through the forest and see the Mighty All. Do you see any infallible trees, animals, plants or anything exempt from error in the Mighty All? You have been in the habit of looking at an imaginary person called the "Almighty." Get this imaginary picture out of your mind.

You can't change the plan. Let it alone. Dr. Dewey said, in a private letter the other day, that he thought I was trying to raise myself by the straps of my boots. He meant this for my own eyes, but it is too good to keep. I broke the straps! There is no use in trying to raise yourself by the straps of your boots or the straps of any other fellow's boots. Just let the universe alone, and it will take care of itself, and you, too. You can't change the plan! Men and women will never cease to be men and women. The plan upon which we started will continue forever. My wife will always be the only woman in the Universe, and the husband of my wife the only man in the Universe. This is the plan. There is only one woman and one man duplicated over and over. You must go right on improving the plan. Let the man become more and more of a man. Let the woman become more and more of a woman. The man is Spirit and the woman is Spirit. Let them make their environment just as glorious as their thought. Instead of soaring into the ether as ghosts let them walk the earth as a man and a woman. Ghosts don't have near as much fun as men and women. Spooks are not in it. Let us increase and develop and magnify the plan. The Universe is here and it is going to stay. The thing for us to do is to make the most of it.

HEALING HINTS.

BY HELEN MODENA.

This department of CHRISTIAN has been crowded out so long that I have so much on hand I don't know where to begin.

The responses to my last article were so great that it has convinced the editor that the people want just such encouragement from others. The fight against CHRISTIAN has kept us very busy. When I say "us" I mean Mrs. Shelton and myself, for the boss is never busy about anything. He goes upstairs and turns all the troubles over to us. He says he has enough to do to attend to his patients.

There is no justice in the fight against CHRISTIAN for pound rate postage. I have handled the subscription list for all these years and ought to know. The subscribers of CHRISTIAN not only pay, but many of them sent an extra dollar since the weekly started. Thousands and thousands responded to the call in September, October and November, and paid in advance for 1902.

Many of those who write tell us to use their names and postoffice address, but this would only be filling up space, for what we want are the good words without reference to the personality. These items are not testimonials, but congratulations.

Here is a letter from a business man in the former home of CHRISTIAN, Little Rock, Ark.:

"Enclosed is one dollar for CHRISTIAN. I read every number and expect to have them bound. You certainly have spoken the word of success for me. I have never succeeded financially until I got into your vibrations. Now everything is coming my way."

This letter is from a lady who lives in Denver. She is an old-time friend of CHRISTIAN, but has never called at the house, and we have never seen her face. She says:

"I returned early in March and meant to write you for treatments, but have been too busy. I think I received it, however, so here are five dollars—two for March and April and one for next month. The other two are for CHRISTIAN. You know CHRISTIAN belongs to us all, and it is a pity if we can not pay the postage. There is nothing the matter with me. I am well, happy and prosperous, but I want to keep in touch. I know I am beginning to be led by the Spirit and am awakening to the Truth that immortality is possible here."

This letter is from the pastor of a popular church in one of the large cities of the East:

"Last issue of CHRISTIAN has some great thoughts powerfully expressed. It matters nothing to me whether you care for my opinion or not; I shall feel better to follow the promptings of the Spirit and say 'Thank you.' You have often seemed to me a great fool, but I am quite sure there are two of us, and yet we are one."

This from way down in South Carolina:

"Our business is improving and I hope you will continue sending out vibrations for success. I am so anxious to get out of debt and be my own man. I enclose \$1.50 for treatments and postage for CHRISTIAN. Would feel lost if I did not receive CHRISTIAN regularly."

Here is a postal card from a man whom Dr. Shelton has been treating for success. It is from a postoffice in Texas:

"Please change CHRISTIAN from ——— to the above address. Have just been appointed

postmaster here. Quite a change from walking the streets hunting work. Your vibrations are wonderful. Please let me know how much I owe you."

Well, we have made one postmaster in spite of the opposition from the Postoffice Department.

This is from California:

"Please find enclosed two dollars. One dollar for your time and attention in treating me and the other for a year's subscription to CHRISTIAN. I am realizing repose and peace of mind that I never have known before. Keep on with the good work!"

Now, let us jump to Pennsylvania:

"In enclosed envelope you will find two dollars for another month's treatment for my husband, also fifty-two cents in stamps for postage on CHRISTIAN. I should have to be very poor in this world's goods to want such a paper at a price that paid the editor only forty-eight cents. I am happy to say my husband keeps on improving."

Let me say that forty-eight cents is nothing. There is absolutely no profit in CHRISTIAN at one dollar a year, even at pound rates of postage. It takes every cent of subscription money to pay the printers. The weekly was not started for profit. After we reach the fifty thousand mark there will be a profit. Even then all the profits would be put into the paper to make it that much better.

Let us leave for the green mountains of Vermont:

"Enclosed please find one dollar to help you to pay postage. I am sure your readers will all be glad at least to pay postage on their own paper. I would not have the paper stopped for many times the price of the postage. I enjoy the weekly very much. I think it is right for Helen to give us the 'Healing Hints' occasionally, for, as she says, how are we going to get the proof unless you publish it? Sometime I am going to send you pay for some of the treatments I have had through reading CHRISTIAN. I feel the vibrations of life strongly when reading it. I wonder if the treatments you give your patients are any different or better than what I get in that way?"

Now, this is Massachusetts: "Here is my dollar again. I want you to keep right on sending out the Word for me. I am getting along splendidly but feel that I want to keep in touch with you right along, as everything seems to go along better when I do. I am beginning to realize health such as I have never known before. I also find other things working for my good, thanks to you."

New Mexico: "I sent you a dollar to speak the Word for my husband about getting water in the well he was going to dig and for him to get it somewhere near thirty feet. You see, this was a desirable piece of land, but the people who join us had to go sixty feet, and they all told my husband he would have to go that deep or more. The morning he was going to start he took up the stake he had driven and moved it because you had by that time received my letter. He got water at thirty feet and it came from the east, contrary from the course he expected it. Everyone is astonished but me. The water was a surprise to my husband, although he knows how much good you have done for me. It has led to a chance for me to talk with him now. We are on our own land, but I am living in a tent house and we want to build. He says if he can keep at work we will soon get out all right. I told him I would ask you to speak the Word for him. It is such a paltry sum to send you; but money never would pay you, anyway."

New Hampshire: "Please keep right on with the treatments. The pains are fewer and I am better in every way."

New York: "Enclosed please find one dollar as a kind of praise offering. You have helped me in the spiritual life more than I can tell you. My subscription to CHRISTIAN runs out some time in August, 1902. Will send you the dollar about that time. Hope you will keep me in your thoughts. Sincerely your friend."

Kansas: "Enclosed please find one dollar, for which please place me on your prosperity list for one month. I wish to sell my farm and city property, but feel that I can not get the proper vibrations, and as I have passed the point of faith in treatments and have attained to positive knowledge, I write you in this matter. This is not my first effort along this line with you. This is why I am so positive in the matter. I once sent you my last big dollar, and oh, how I did need it! but it was not long before a man wrote me he could pay the fifteen hundred dollars he owed me, which was not then due for two years. I paid my debts and had money in the bank. I laughed and grew fat. Now let the chariot roll! As ever, your friend, comrade and brother."

From Minnesota: "Find enclosed one dollar for one month's treatment for Mrs. C—, who is ill at home with something near pneumonia. You treated her seven consecutive months three years ago, before the birth of her first child, with such excellent results that I am sure you can help her now with good results. I shall write her to-day that you are going to treat her; so write her personally when you acknowledge receipt of this letter. You have saved more than one friend of mine when given up by physicians, and I think that I shall write some testimonials for Helen Modena's use. Have just finished CHRISTIAN of to-day's date. Thank you for the 'speaking likeness' of Helen and thank her for these practical 'Healing Hints.'"

Another from Minnesota: "I wrote you to treat my husband for the liquor habit and to help me to help him to self-confidence and mastery. The result has been so good that I am strongly inclined to gush in acknowledging benefits received. He has quit of his own accord—he does not know why, and I never mean to let on that he has been helped by mental treatments alone. He is just splendid when himself. We have been married over thirty-six years and I am still enough in love with him to rejoice over the change and to feel the deepest gratitude to you and to the Divine Feminine for the help you have given. Find enclosed one dollar, for which treat him for courage and success. With a heart full of loving gratitude to you and yours, I am, very sincerely."

The mention of the Divine Feminine is very appropriate. Dr. Shelton declares that the principle of the Divine Feminine is the only thing that will cure the liquor habit. A man becomes manly when the spirit of the Divine Feminine enters into his life.

Another from New York: "I want you to know that your prophecy has been fulfilled. My sister is up again a second time, against the doctor's positive verdict of impossible. I confess my courage oozed out, but I thank you for your confidence in the hour of need. The glory of the Lord is being manifested in our case and the miraculous triumphs to those who do not see the Invisible Spirit as all in all. May your work continue to flourish."

This is from an ex-congressman who is mining in Arizona. He is the president of a great mining company:

"You don't need commendations from me. I wish every thinking person in the universe could read your wonderful journal. Death would soon be abolished, spiritual law would replace material law, perfection would be universal, then the millennium."

Here is a strong word from New Jersey: "I felt the vibrations as soon as you received my letter. The old trouble began to leave me and I do not feel those old trembling sensations. My stomach is in good condition. Went out on business last week and met with success. Your letter has given me strength. You know just what I need. When I read CHRISTIAN I am very much impressed with the great work you are doing. What you are doing now proves you are just what you claim to be. Many thanks for the comfort you have given me."

Florida: "Many thanks for your treatments which enabled my husband to regain his health. We are both in our sixties, but I feel strong and vigorous after reading CHRISTIAN. I hope to remain in this body and to have dominion over it until I am electrified. I enjoy everything that leads to that age. I believe in perfect individuality, but I long to witness the union of all churches until they are all of one mind. I expect to enjoy CHRISTIAN as long as it lives."

Illinois: "Enclosed please find one dollar for a month's treatment for my husband for prosperity. You have already given our little family health, and now our happiness will be complete with the coming of prosperity."

Another from California: "Enclosed find money order for \$10. We are feeling fine!"

So are we! The longest letters are those which, as a rule, contain no money at all, and the shortest ones generally contain the largest checks. Maybe the readers accept the saying, "Money talks."

Boston: "The treatments you have been giving my sister for the success of her house and table have been very successful. The business is improving and the house is full and the dining room filling up. Now she sends another dollar for continued treatments and wishes you would treat her for success in selling her house in Rochester, New York. She wishes to sell it so that she may have more capital for her business. We feel that the treatments you have given us have been most gratifying in their results."

Here comes a good letter from a good friend in Texas: "I had some money come to me this morning that I was not looking for, and the first thing I thought of was you, and how faithful you had been in keeping up the treatments for my daughter and myself. Enclosed you will find eleven dollars. I will send more as soon as I can. Don't get discouraged with me because I am so slow in remitting. I will do better some day. The thought just came to me that I had not paid my subscription to CHRISTIAN, so I send a dollar for that. Excuse me for not sending sooner. With love and best wishes to you and yours."

I have made these selections at random. I didn't know they covered such a wide territory until after they were typewritten. If I had known that I was going to get space in CHRISTIAN, I could have made selections from a thousand good letters that have gone into the waste basket. Hereafter, I will save the very best for these "Hints," although I don't know that even these will get into CHRISTIAN. Maybe the big articles of Mr. Burnell or Dr. Dewey will crowd me out, but I think that it would aid your mental digestion to get a little salt and sauce of the practical work. These hints show exactly what the Truth is doing.

Helen Schley writes in her own hand from New York City, saying: "Would you please make me a happy little girl and well? I am not happy every day. I don't always feel like saying my prayers. Can you help me to say them? Baby brother is getting his

teeth and has such a fever. He does not want to play with me at all. Can you help him?"

Helen is a little tot and we have taken up her case and will see that the prayers come easy and that baby brother gets over his fever and makes a good playmate. The walls above my desk are covered with baby pictures, some of them real cunning. Maybe I can get to put some of them in CHRISTIAN. The faith of these little ones is something wonderful, and they bring their little troubles to Mr. Shelton with the utmost confidence that he can do anything from curing a sore thumb to helping them in their lessons.

Here is a wail: "Your last CHRISTIAN, dated about the 30th, containing Burnell's picture, has been destroyed by my bulldog. Please send me two more copies. I had read about half of it. I did not blame the dog for eating it, as I had myself worked up to about the same point when I laid it down. However, when he looked upon the face of Mr. Burnell, and saw so much reality, he slunk away to avoid trouble. How that fellow Burnell talks! Let him keep it up—he is a high stepper. The force behind this great movement is no less than omnipotence. Something is bound to drop soon, and I say, let it drop. I have been keeping very quiet of late, but my powder is dry and my bomb will be set off shortly."

Several have sent in copies of the letters sent to the Third Assistant Postmaster General. They are rich! Here are a few samples:

"To the Third Assistant Postmaster General: Sir—I am a paid-up subscriber to CHRISTIAN, published at 1657 Clarkson street, Denver, Colorado, by T. J. Shelton, and I believe in the truths taught by the same; and more, I will read CHRISTIAN after the world has forgotten that such a man as you ever lived. Do you think that you could for one minute check the flow of the New Thought? You might as well try to stop the flow of the Mississippi and try to make it flow back into Lake Itasca. You will find the latter much the lighter job."

Here is another: "On receipt of CHRISTIAN I immediately wrote to Washington, as directed, stating that I was a paying subscriber to CHRISTIAN, and added that I held its editor, T. J. Shelton, in high esteem, and considered CHRISTIAN as more necessary as food to the soul than bread to sustain the body. Since CHRISTIAN became a weekly it has become a power for spiritual exaltation. I watch for its coming. I read the articles over and over. It is the same spirit that speaks through editor and contributors and approves in the readers. I want to be one of those who meet in that 'Upper Room.' If it is necessary, as Dr. Dewey asserts, to have the co-operation of two or more minds to bring in the inspiration of the power we are seeking and longing for, by all means let us unite understandingly in a movement that shall open the heavens to our interior vision and bring us in touch with the impersonal Centre. May our work grow and prosper!"

"I have just written the Third Assistant Postmaster General, according to your orders in CHRISTIAN. I hope to see this persecution cease. It is a shame. Enclosed find stamps for my postage. I think you ought to have mentioned about postage at the commencement of the new year. All would be only too glad to pay it if they knew. I am delighted with the weekly."

Yes, but why should subscribers be compelled to pay third class postage when they are entitled to second class? Third class postage is ten dollars a thousand, while second class would be less than one dollar a

thousand. CHRISTIAN would not be published as a third class circular or advertisement. It stands too high in the estimation of the world to be consigned to the third class. Every subscriber to CHRISTIAN has a right to bring suit to compel the delivery of their paper as second class mail, which amounts to about three cents and a half a year.

Mr. Burnell's article didn't get here in the morning mail, so there is a chance for me. However, I know you will all miss his lesson, as everybody seems to be pleased with this new writer for CHRISTIAN. A Chicago business man, in this mail, says: "Mr. Burnell strikes the octave note in me. He knocks them all out."

The editor has just read this, and he said maybe he had better turn the whole paper over to me! What do you suppose he meant? Do you think it was "sarkasm?"

THE LIVING CHRIST.

JOHN HAMLIN DEWEY.

I am the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman. . . Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch can not bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye except ye abide in Me. I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without Me ye can do nothing. . . If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.—*Jesus the Christ.*

There is one body, and one Spirit. . . One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. And He gave some, Apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. . . For through Him we both [Jew and Gentile] have access by one Spirit unto the Father. . . And are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone. In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are built together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.—*Paul to the Ephesians.*

Therefore, let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.—*Peter at Pentecost.*

I have made these quotations from the Master, and two of His foremost Apostles, not as Divine authority for anything I have to offer, but simply to call attention to the Master's understanding of His own position and relation to the life of humanity, and the work of its exaltation and perfection; and also to the corresponding convictions of the Apostles after His ascension, and their subsequent direct communication with Him from the heavens.

The only use by way of argument I would make of these Christ and Apostolic convictions, is the fact that they were the convictions of men who had attained a degree of spiritual realization and mastery of being,

vastly transcending our own, and were likely, therefore, to have a clearer understanding and deeper insight than ours as to the nature of their own experience, and of the conditions and means of its attainment. It would be strange indeed if such men could labor under so great a delusion—if this was a delusion. They undoubtedly spoke what they knew and testified of what they had seen, and that testimony, by way of suggestion, at least, is of the utmost value, and can not safely be ignored nor lightly set aside. ❧

We may imagine that we stand on a vantage ground vastly above that of the Master and His Apostles, because of the near two thousand years of intellectual progress and development of the race life since their time, and in the egoism of our free and independent thinking, dispute the correctness of their insight and understanding. We may say that "Jesus is not the head of anything but Himself," and that "there is no foundation of Apostles and prophets with Jesus as the chief corner stone, etc. But we must remember that Jesus was a divinely illumined teacher and Master of life, in contrast with whom the mightiest one of our moderns becomes the veriest pigmy; and He claimed this Headship for Himself.

We should remember, too, that Peter and Paul had their commission from this divinely anointed Master, and that they were in direct communication with and received revelations from Him, after His ascent into the heavens, and therefore had corresponding authority for their testimony. ❧

While the Apostles did not unfold to the level of the transcendent life exemplified by the Master, they underwent a marvelous transformation from their living touch and direct communication with Him and His sphere of life in the higher world, and, in the power of its inspiration, lived the life of spiritual realization and supremacy, and did the mighty works of healing and other ministries of service that we are now seeking to achieve, with but comparatively meager results.

If souls with equal inspiration and power lived and wrought among us to-day, the eager and hungering multitudes would throng from every quarter to learn of them and gladly accept their inspired teaching and ministry. ❧

Not having such with us in the body, can we do better than follow the Apostolic example in seeking a like touch and communion with the transcendent sphere of the living Christ in the heavens, and receive thereby a like, yea a fuller, baptism of inspiration and "power from on high" than came to them, and thus bring forth an Apostolic ministry worthy of the name, to the advanced life of this restless seeking age?

This suggestion I would emphasize by calling special attention to the facts of the Christ and Apostolic experience as exemplifying the true ideal, and the means also of bringing it to realization. If we recognize these recorded experiences as facts, we should certainly seek to understand them,

and the ideal and conditions also that made them possible. ❧

Independent of these considerations, however, or in addition to them, I wish to show that a true insight into the nature and constitution of things, especially of the human soul and its relations, justifies the claim for the Messiahship of Jesus and His divinely anointed and perpetual ministry as the Christ and Mediator of a new and higher order of life to His race.

I wish to show that the life and power exemplified by Jesus was a distinctly new and higher order of life than that which characterizes our common humanity; a new and higher kingdom of organic life, as much transcending in consciousness and experience that of the natural man as it transcends in that respect the animal kingdom.

I wish to show, also, that while our common humanity has the inherent capacity to rise into the full realization of that higher kingdom and level of conscious life and power, it can do so only through a complete transformation of its present organic conditions, and that by this transformation a spiritual emancipation from its present sense limitations is necessarily effected. This process of transformation constitutes a new and higher cycle of organic evolution. This advanced and more abundant life the Christ called "the Kingdom of God," which means the God-nature enthroned in the life and consciousness of man as the Son of God. ❧

The transformation insisted upon by the Christ and His Apostles as necessary to this realization constituted what they called spiritual regeneration of the natural man, and through it birth into the higher consciousness and organic conditions of the spiritual or God man.

Our thinkers of to-day who have not personally reached the level of the Christ, or even Apostolic experience, may think they understand and can interpret that higher life better than the ones who experienced it; but while listening to their suggestions the original testimony of those who led and exemplified the way to the higher realization will stand supreme in importance and value, until some one has demonstrated an experience beyond them. ❧

The one transcendent spiritual genius, the only one of all the great spiritual teachers of our race, that the enlightened mentality of our age can accept as the Typical man or representative of the ideal and perfected humanity, was Jesus of Nazareth.

The New Testament claim that He was the Christ or God-Anointed One does not in the least militate against the fact, nor the recognition of the fact, of other and many exalted and spiritually enlightened teachers of different peoples and times—truly sent or inspired of God—but simply that He was the first to attain the fully illuminated state and live the perfected life of spiritual freedom, insight and mastery in and over the flesh, and all related material conditions.

Being the first to enter permanently into the full orb'd perfection of the personal life,

the complete realization of divine sonship and deific supremacy, He became thereby the beginning and living Head of the new, emancipated and perfected humanity. Could it be shown that any other inspired soul had preceded Him in this realization, that soul would legitimately hold this position, not by any arbitrary appointment, but by the spontaneous law of the fitness of things. ❧

I have spoken of a new psychology, or soul science, now in process of development, which will give a verifiable explanation of the Christ life and experience. Permit me here to give some of the points of that coming psychology.

The natural or unregenerate man is to be regarded as a duality, having both a physical and psychic nature. Through his physical organism and its senses, he holds vital organic relations with the outward material world, and is dependent upon sense communication with it for all his knowledge of material things, and for his consciousness of personal existence on the physical plane of life.

By his inner soul or psychic organism he holds still more vitally organic relations with the inner and higher psychic realm or soul world, the home of earth's arisen ones, and also with the soul or psychic side of men and things in this world.

By the cultivation and normal exercise of the inner and higher psychic senses he may, while in the body, hold as familiar intercourse and be as conscious of the people and things of this inner realm as he now does with the material world on the sense plane. ❧

All this is legitimate and may be made the normal and common experience of the unregenerate man, without reference to any spiritual experience; because, as I have said, the natural man is both a physical and psychic being, and by virtue of the latter continues his personal existence and identity in the higher world after severing his connection with the outward world by separation from the physical body. He is, however, in his psychic nature and inner ethereal body, as much in the higher world and a part of it now, while in physical embodiment, as he will be after complete separation from it. ❧

The sole purpose of man's transitory existence in the material world and the physical body in organic relations with that world is for the individualization of his spiritual being and its differentiation from Universal Being, as a self-conscious personal identity in an indestructible soul organism or ethereal body, for the accomplishment of which the physical body and the individualizing experiences under the limitations of sense relations to the material world were a necessity.

Birth through this process into individualized existence and the consciousness of personal identity as distinct from other identities, is the beginning of a human soul as the offspring or child of God, the beginning of an endless career of unfolding individual life and progress in the image and likeness of the Father.

This personal or egoistic consciousness, however, being awakened by sense impressions and psychic contact with other identities, can not of itself expand beyond or rise above the knowledge of them, and of his own individual identity in relation to them, the influence of which is individualizing, and tends only to intensify the self-consciousness or the I am of the personal ego, the ego of the natural man—"the first man Adam." "There is a natural [physical] body, and there is a spiritual [ethereal] body, and so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit."

This natural man, with an indestructible self-conscious personal identity, holding vital organic relationship with both the inner and the outer world through corresponding inner ethereal and outer physical organisms, is, nevertheless, an individualized deific being, the offspring of God, with all the attributes of the Father's nature potential within him.

While, however, the deific nature is the birthright inheritance of every man, and he has thereby the inherent capacity to unfold through the evolution of these deific potentialities in organic function, into the full conscious, embodied realization of the deific nature, in its absoluteness and supremacy of being, in the natural man, it is potential only; but when thus evolved or brought to organic expression in the individualized functions of the soul and body, the psychic and sense man become thereby transformed into a spiritual or deific man.



The living touch, or contact with something more than the individual beings and things of the sense and psychic realms, is needed to awaken this higher spiritual evolutionary process and bring to organic enthronement and activity in the personal life the deific nature and consciousness.

That something must transcend all individualities and egoistic activities, nothing less than the quickening influence and deific energy which proceeds directly and only from the transcendent sphere of the Divine, Impersonal and Absolute, the Being and Kingdom of God. Into this kingdom all enter and become identified with it in realization and consciousness through this evolution and transformation, and become thereby impersonal and altruistic.

This influence was called by the Christ and the Apostles the Holy Ghost, which is the radiant energy proceeding from the Father through the combined activities of the spiritually emancipated, illuminated and divinely glorified life of the heavens, and which can awaken and sustain in activity in the life of those into whom it vitally enters, only that which corresponds with itself.



To this influence we open the door only by earnest prayer or intense focused desire for conscious union and fellowship with the Father and the active life of those now in actual realization of this fellowship with Him, which is the life of the heavenly world and which constituted the realized life of the Christ on earth, the influence of which,

therefore, comes to us in His name, because He was its first complete earthly embodied representative, and is now the living Head and center of its activities and ministries in and from the heavens.

We read that Jesus, at His baptism by John at Jordan, on coming up out of the water, prayed, and as He prayed the heavens were opened unto Him and the Spirit descended and abode upon Him.

Under the quickening, illuminating and sustaining power of this direct influence of the heavens, to which He had opened and united Himself by prayer, in forty days of retirement and seclusion, He succeeded in effecting the entire transformation of the personal ego of the natural man into the impersonal ego of the God man and man God, after which he "returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of God," into the realization of which He had fully entered and become its living embodiment and representative.

The Apostles after Him, obedient to His parting injunction as He ascended into the glorified life of the heavenly world, of which He had become a conscious participant while on earth, also prayed until the heavens were opened into them, and its spirit and power as a quickening and sustaining energy descended into and abode upon them, by which they were transformed into the men of marvelous inspiration and power they thus became. "Except ye receive the Kingdom of God as a little child, ye shall in no wise enter therein."

117 W 84th street, New York.

MY PET SNAKE.

The following private letter is too good to be lost. The writer is eighty-two years young and is growing younger and stronger and mightier every day. I think I will drop Grandma Eddy and Grandma Post and take up this ex-preacher and land him in the kingdom of Regeneration. It would be an easier job.

"Brother Shelton: I have received and read *CHRISTIAN* of May 11. It is a wonderful issue! Is the ancient saying to come true again: 'These that have turned the world upside down, have come hither, also?' It certainly needs turning; 'I 'spizes the flat that's over done brown by the blowings'.

"But the Scriptures, Oh my! what is to become of them? Are they to be laid by like a last year's almanac? True, they, or their interpreters, have reduced God to a first class devil! but my love of life is stronger than my fear of fire.

"Do we owe this new departure to your 'Pet Snake'? Indeed, he stood as the emblem of wisdom, with the Bible writers; and on further consideration, I have come to the conclusion that, in his flirtation with EVE, he told the truth. He said, 'Thou shalt not surely die, etc.' How can an immortal being die? The Creator, therefore, must have had reference to the animal man.

"As a rule, I notice that the daughters of Eve are on your side. That's good. Where friends are needed one woman is worth a hundred men. They are more constant, forbearing, gentle, and true to Truth.

"We admit that the church has warped their minds for the most part, but the woman, free from this curse, is an angel. By-the-way, Miss Carrie Peoples, of Forest Lake, Minn., called here last Tuesday, and in the course of conversation your name came up, and I learned that she takes *CHRISTIAN*. Among other things she said: 'I like Shelton; he has a brilliant, rollicking way of writing, and is always interesting, hopeful and happy. He is an individualist, and so am I. He regards the churches as back numbers and repudiates organizations of all kinds.'

"She's a bright little woman, well educated and beautiful, which makes her opinion of importance to you, or any one else.

"But look here, T. J.; you said, 'I had been out of my grave just twelve years too long, according to the Bible. That's the old 'three score years and ten' business; but from the beginning it was not so. 'And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years.' Gen. vi, 3. True, 'The good die young,' when in the way of matured ambition; but length of days is promised to the meek. I have lived long enough to discover that a loving man outlives his hating neighbor.

"That's a thoughtful letter you publish from 126 Third street, Portland, Ore., and you bravely let yourself out in commenting upon it. Both are intensely interesting.

"Next comes our Minneapolis brother, Burnell, who is a host when it comes to ancient lore, and sifting the chaff from the wheat. He claims 'The Christ as the grandest Rebel in the universe!' That's the style of writing which lifts *CHRISTIAN* above all other 'New Thought' publications. Such broadsides of grapeshot, thrown at 'The old ship of Zion,' cut her stays and back-stays, topple her masts by the board, and douse her flag in the sea of oblivion. Let her go, for death and hell go with her.

"From this point of view, Shelton and Burnell are twins—the Moses and Aaron of the new dispensation; and their 'crooked stick' is bound to swallow up all the snakes that have cursed the world. All tears are wiped away; fear gives place to confidence; death is swallowed up of Life; Love fills all hearts and the anthem of joyous peace swells louder, clearer, more thrilling from earth to heaven!

"I have not overlooked our friend Dewey. He is a beautiful writer, and strong in argument. As between yourself and your correspondents, he appears like the great balance wheel, keeping the entire machine in harmonious action. Our God, and immortality; and our Christ, as the Way, the Truth, and the Life, are always safe in his hands.

"Your earnest request, under the head of 'IMPORTANT,' has been attended to most cheerfully. I like *CHRISTIAN*, and love its fearless Editor. Yours fraternally, E. A. Hodsdon, Minneapolis, Minn., Cedar avenue and Boulevard."

"The Call to the Marriage Feast," a poem by Jennie Rhind. This is a well written poem on the New Time by a woman who is in the procession of progress; price not given. It is well printed and neatly bound. Address the author, 1064 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

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