

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

What It Is—Prevailing Prejudices of the Old Churches—False Ideas as to Power of Healing.

Abstract of a lecture delivered by Judge W. G. Ewing, of Chicago, in the opera house on May 16th:

It is no part of my purpose to proselytize you, or make Christian Scientists out of you. That is something you will have to do for yourselves, if it is ever accomplished. My simple mission is to give you something respecting Christian Science to think about and invite your full examination of the whole subject. I shall have fulfilled my whole mission when I have stated to you some palpable facts and your duty will be performed only when you shall have honestly investigated and considered these facts.

We live in a practical age and are satisfied only with facts. The world is weary of theories, long for facts; it is surfeited with arguments, dogmas and platitudes, and cries out for facts. Christian Science is

THE RELIGION OF JESUS CHRIST the religion that He preached, taught and practiced; or it is not anything worthy of your thought or mine. If Christian Science is not this, we want to know it at the earliest possible moment; and if it is this, the good people of the old churches want to know it. I am sure, tonight, if it may be. The greatest difficulty that confronts me in presenting to you any new phase of religion, or new thought of God, is our inherited religious beliefs, and the thought of God. In our pride of ancestry we have accepted, without investigation, our fathers' belief as our own.

It is a humiliating confession, and yet it is doubtless true, that less than 5 per cent. of the millions of professed believers in the Christian religion are what they are, not by reason of any conviction resulting from personal investigation of their relationship to God; they are Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Methodists, Baptists, Episcopalians or Catholics because their fathers were. No one thinks it strange that we should discard our fathers' thought respecting dress, habitation, civil or religious government, or the inherent rights of men, and yet the thought seems to be almost universal that the child should think of God as his father, think of God as its fathers thought, or not think at all. And yet we know, indeed, that our fathers questioned the religious beliefs of their fathers, and made us happier by it; that their fathers questioned the religious beliefs of their own fathers and made the world brighter by it. John Calvin questioned the religious beliefs of his fathers, and out of the controversy sprang the Presbyterian church and all of its multiplied offshoots that have made the world better; Martin Luther raised his mighty voice against the religious beliefs and religious practices of his fathers, and the Reformation gladdened the world; the great Wesleys controverted the religious tenets of their fathers, and the heroic Methodist cult rider bore his task of making sweeter and happier and holier the humble homes of England and America. Why should we not have the independence, the intellectual integrity, to think of God in the splendid light of today rather than in the bonds of ancestral thought?

As one means of clearing your minds of the prevailing prejudices of the old churches against Christian Science, let me remind you that there are many religious beliefs and religious practices, respecting which you of the old churches and Christian Scientists are in perfect accord. For instance, you and they are in favor of whatever makes men and women better, happier, more loving and lovable; you and they will aid to the utmost whatever will lessen the burdens and sorrows of men, banish superstition, minimize fear, and add sweetness and holiness to the home and home relations; you and they believe in the one everlasting God, and Father of all, infinite in power, wisdom, truth and love, a divine, incorporeal spirit, of intelligence; you and Christian Scientists alike believe in Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God, born of the virgin mother, who taught in the temple, preached the gospel, healed the sick, made the lame to walk, gave sight to the blind, healing to the deaf and purity to the sinful; and with equal fervor we worship and glorify this dear, compassionate, healing Christ, as Lord, Savior and Exemplar. You also believe, as we do, that the Bible is the divinely inspired revelation of God to man; that the ten commandments are God's laws of requirement and restriction, to be resolutely and absolutely obeyed, one not less than the other; that prayer is both a privilege and a duty; and with equal loyalty you and Christian Scientists accept the great commandment, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy mind and with all thy strength, and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." So it appears that whatever you may have thought before, you know now that you and Christian Scientists are in absolute accord respecting the essential requirements of the Christian religion, as you understand that religion.

MRS. EDDY'S BOOK.

Now let me tell you something of what Christian Science is, in the hope that upon conscientious investigation we may also agree upon the essentials of Christ's religion, as Christian Scientists understand, believe and practice it.

Christian Science was discovered and revealed to the world some thirty odd years ago, by the Rev. Mary Baker Eddy, a native of New Hampshire and still a resident of that state. The whole philosophy and practice of Christian Science is published to the world in Mrs. Eddy's book, entitled "Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures." The latter part of the title of this marvelous book, "With Key to the Scriptures," is very significant; for a chief value of Mrs. Eddy's gift to the world is the light she has thrown on the long, demonstrable meaning of the Holy Scriptures. In the great effort of her devoted and beautiful life, as she declares herself, she took the Bible as her only guide, and God as her only counsel, and she does not announce any principle, doctrine or practice of Christian Science that she did not find, and that each one of you, whether you grace a pulpit or adorn a pew, may not find in the Bible. Wherefore, I announce to you so distinctly, that there will be no room for misunderstanding, that Christian Science offers to the world no new Bible, or any mythical construction of the old one; it enthrones no new divinity, proclaims no new God; but rather re-enthrones the living God, whom all our fathers worshipped. Indeed the substratum of Christian Science, its initial principle, the premise of all its reasoning, is the persistent declaration of and insistence upon the patent fact of God's unity. His Aloneness, if, therefore, you would destroy Christian Science, you must first destroy the omniscience and omnipresence of God, for, with these remaining, all the logic in the world cannot imperil for an instant Mrs. Eddy's

deduction from the Bible, Christian Science.

GOD'S HEALING POWER.

The most potent objection urged by the older churches against their own concept of Christian Science is that it is sheer impiety for any man or woman to assert that he or she is clothed with the power of God to heal the sick. The striking weakness of this objection is that Christian Scientists do not profess, in any degree, any such power. Christian Scientists simply assert, as it was declared in the time of Jesus, that the power that heals the sick is the power of God. Now if it is true that the health-giving power is of God, and it is also true that God's power and love are as great now as they were in the morning of the Christian era, then, tell me, is there anything strange in the fact that the lame do walk and the blind do see, today, as they did walk and see nineteen hundred years ago? On the contrary, would it not strike your human senses, if it were passing strange, with God's power and love for men unchanged, that He should not manifest that power and love to His children as He did in the time of Jesus? But, really, about the only difference between our thought respecting the power and willingness of God to heal the sick, so far as I can discern it, is about this: You say you believe it, and we believe it; you say you believe it, and do not trust it; we believe it, and do trust it; you say you believe with Paul that in God we have life, health and immortality, and go to God, and God only, for life and health. I assert that there is not a Christian religious organization in the world today, and never has been one, whether Protestant, Catholic or Jewish, that does not hold and teach the doctrine of God's power and willingness to heal the sick. You must believe, as a mere matter of might, that God has the power to heal the sick; for you say that by the word of His power He created all the worlds and all that is in them; you say that He fashioned the eye, and the ear, and if this is true, then you must believe that God can heal the little film from the eye He created; that the power that fashioned the ear can remove a little thickness from its drum. It is very apparent that you believe that God has the physical and mental welfare of His children in His keeping, and is willing to make them well, because every Sabbath in your churches, you openly and sometimes elaborately, pray to God "for the sick and the afflicted," "the poor and the distressed," "the widow and the orphan," and you would not, I trust, go to God with a petition for relief, where you doubted either His power or willingness to grant your petition. Really, do you not think that your professed belief and your practice should keep company with each other? And may you not wisely leave tonight, if you have never realized it before, that a declared moral belief that is not supplemented by what you do, is simply an assault upon your intellectual integrity? I submit to you this simple proposition: If you really believe that you "live and move in God," then should you not, as a mere act of keeping faith with yourselves, trust your life and your health to their Infinite Keeper?

ANCESTRAL OPINION.

To my mind your lack of trust in God's healing power and love is not very strange. It is the natural result of ancestral opinion. Your fathers believed, and therefore taught you to believe, that God makes you sick, deaf and lame; and so it is not hard to understand that one who regards God as the fruitful source of every sorrow, heart-ache and heart-break, would reluctantly go to Him with a petition for relief from the very woes His own hand had wrought. And right here is the marked distinction between the old churches' thought of God, and our thought of Him. Christian Scientists utterly repudiate the idea that God is the author of disease and disaster; they hold Him rather as the open fountain of peace and health, of song and gladness.

You remember that Jesus went into the synagogue on one occasion and read from the prophecy of Isaiah, respecting the office of Christ where it is written: "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised;" and closing the book, Jesus said to the congregation that His presence on earth was a fulfillment of that prophecy. Christian Scientists assert that these words of Jesus are His proclamation to all the world, of His God-sealed ambassadorship, not only to preach the gospel, but to heal the sick; and He demonstrated by constant ministrations to weary, suffering men His fidelity to His high commission. What did Jesus mean when, near the close of His ministry, He told His disciples that the works which He did they should do also? His healing was without the aid of any drug, manipulation, diet, change of climate, mechanical contrivance, mesmerism or hypnotism; and in the same way, Jesus' way of healing, the disciples were clearly told they should do similar works. Certainly no one in the old churches will assert that Jesus did not make the declaration to His disciples that they should do the works He did, and no one, I am sure, in the old churches, will say that Jesus did not mean the words He spoke. Now, these words of Jesus were spoken to you and to me as certainly as they were to His disciples of olden time. It was to you and to me as truly as to the eleven that Jesus said, "If you believe in my name you shall cast out devils; in my name you shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Christian Scientists accept this call to duty as addressed to them, and by the most crucial tests; by thousands upon thousands of absolute cures, covering the whole range of mortal afflictions, they have demonstrated the efficacy of metaphysical healing, and therefore the absolute truth of Christian Science.

PAYS A JOYFUL TRIBUTE.

I will not offend your sense of fair play, of warfare "in the open," by entering upon a seriatim defense of the various assaults made upon Christian Science and upon the beneficent woman who, in hope and prayer and love, has given immunity to the world from the dominion of fear and superstition and disease. As one of the tens of thousands of beneficiaries of metaphysical healing, I joyfully pay my tribute of love to this lofty woman. Her life of devotion to God and humanity, her sacrifice of self for others, her ministrations to weary, suffering, dying man, her long years of fearless and faultless association with perfect good, are her invincible panoply against every shaft of envy, ingratitude and malice. Of Christian Science, it is enough for me to say, and for you to know, that it is true, all the powers of earth and hell cannot prevail against it; no detractor can mar it; and no envious enemy can pass the sum of its infinite greatness.

At last the world has learned that its great need is not a more intimate acquaintance with microbes and germs; nor a science that will more accurately measure the sun and weigh the stars; nor a loftier walk with the muse, or a more exquisite touch of brush or chisel; but rather a knowledge of the true God, to be worshipped, loved and adored, but not feared.

Christian Science is indeed a "key" to God's revelation of Himself to men; a comprehension of its truth enlarges the moral status of man; quickens the kinder sentiments of his nature; makes the husband and father more devoted and affectionate; the wife and mother more tender and loving; works the negation of self and the development of love for our kind; moves the heart to pity; spreads the mantle of charity; and lifts the weary children of earth nearer to the great, loving heart of God.

GOLDSBORO GOSSIP.

A Heavy Rain Storm Sunday Night and the City in Darkness—Great Need of a Passenger Depot—Death of Miss Mary Prince.

(Correspondence of the Messenger.)

Goldsboro, N. C., May 20. The rains descended, the flood came and the city was wrapped in darkness. This was the condition here last night, as many pedestrians are ready to testify. When the Atlantic and North Carolina train rolled into the magnificent union depot the downpour was heavy and the water was of that soaking kind, which takes a fellow from head to foot leaving him the spectacle of a drowned rat. The worst feature of it was the fact that several ladies and children, residents of the city, all diked out in pretty patterns of white and flower bedecked headgear and not a hack on the streets to shelter them home. Result—they remained on the cars and were taken to the car "sheds" where shelter is the same as that of the depot—dark and dreary. They remained until the rains held up and out in to the mud and slush amid its darkness they paddled their own canoe for their respective homes. Oh when will the travelling public be freed from such scenes and experiences by the erection of a passenger depot in keeping with the progress of the city.

Saturday night there was a cloud burst and hail storm in Brodgen township. The growing crops of Tom Sutton and Bob Davis, were beaten into shape. A bright beautiful flower has been plucked from the home of Mr. A. M. Prince, in the taking off yesterday afternoon by the death angel of his daughter, Miss Mary. For several months Miss Prince has borne with Christian fortitude the ravages of a dread disease consumption and while her death at any hour, would not have caused a surprise, yet her passing away does cast a gloom over the community whose people deeply sympathize with the loved one left behind in the sad visitation. Her passing again is sad when we take to mind the fact that but a few short months since her marriage to her betrothed was postponed indefinitely owing to her feeble condition. Her loved one lingered here waiting at her bedside hoping and trusting for the returning strength that never came and to him too the hearts of our people go out.

The remains of Mr. W. T. Lewis, who died at the hospital in Raleigh yesterday reached the city this afternoon for interment in Willow Dale cemetery. Captain D. J. Broadhurst and Mrs. Broadhurst left today on a visit to their son Walter Broadhurst at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Isaac Powell, aged 80 years, and his wife, of Jones county, passed through on a visit to friends in Duplin county. The wedded life of this sprightly couple dates back 60 years. They have ten children, seventy-five grand children and fifteen great grand children.

Sheriff J. W. Edwards of Green county passed through with five prisoners today, three for the penitentiary and two for road service in New Hanover county.

T. C. Wooten, of Kinston, passed through for Red Springs where he tomorrow delivers an address at the closing exercises of the school there. Large shipments of soft shell crabs are passing through daily from Morehead.

Goldsboro's graded school closes on Friday next. Dr. Hume, of Chapel Hill, is expected to deliver an address. Bean shipments will begin in a few days. I notice specimens of this year crop two inches long, from the farm of L. D. Guley.

The Funeral of Father Phillips

Pittston, Pa. May 20.—Father Edward S. Phillips, the miners' friend, who met death in New York so mysteriously, was buried in the Catholic cemetery in this city today with impressive ceremonies. Here, thousands of Catholics gathered at the entrance to St. John's church to participate in the services. At the altar of the edifice where Father Phillips had served as altar boy and priest, clergy from every section of the state were gathered to assist in the celebration of a solemn mass for the dead. Thirty minutes after the doors of St. John's, which is the largest Catholic edifice in northeastern Pennsylvania, were opened, 6,000 people filled all the available space and it is said that 15,000 were in and about the church.

To Endow Biddle University

Philadelphia, May 20.—At the morning session of the Presbyterian general assembly the report of the standing committee on missions for freedmen was read by Rev. Dr. Henry W. Hulbert of Cleveland, chairman. The committee recommended the endorsement of Biddle university, Charlotte, N. C., \$250,000 being the amount needed, and that the raising of the money be part of the twentieth century fund movement. The report was unanimously adopted.

"Our little girl was unconscious from strangulation during a sudden and terrible attack of croup. I quickly secured a bottle of One Minute Cough Cure, giving her three doses. The croup was mastered and our little darling speedily recovered." So writes A. L. Spafford, Chester, Mich. R. R. Bellamy.

Esther Cleveland has Diphtheria. Princeton, N. J., May 20.—Esther Cleveland, the 9-year-old daughter of the former president, is suffering from diphtheria. The physician in attendance says the child is not in a dangerous condition and he expects no serious development in the case.

Mr. Cleveland, who has been on a fishing trip to Middlebars Island, near Toledo, O., is expected here tomorrow.

Skin affections will readily disappear by using DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. Look out for counterfeits. If you get DeWitt's you will get good results. It is the quick and positive cure for piles. R. R. Bellamy.

Geo. O. Gaylord's Big Clothing Sale!

I find that I have about 2,000 Suits of Clothes that I want my money out of, and I have put the knife into the price and chooped off all the profit and part of the cost

Men's Clothing

I will sell 50 Black Worsted Suits I sold at \$3.25, for \$2.25.

50 Rowland Worsted, assorted colors, warranted to wear well, we sold for \$4.50 and \$5.00, now \$3.21.

About 100 All Wool Suits for men that I sold from \$5.00 to \$11.00—now your choice at \$7.50 per suit.

50 all wool Blue Serge Coats at \$2.50, we sold at \$3.25.

25 Coats and Vests, we sell, all wool, at \$3.50.

40 Alpaca coats, at 95c, \$1.48, \$2.00 and \$3.00.

100 Men's odd Vests, to sell from 50c to \$1.50 each.

A fine line of light Spring Suits as low as \$5.00, all wool, nicely made, up-to-date styles. We want to fit you up to a nice stylish suit and would be glad to have you look over my lines.

I have a big line of Boys' Suits to sell cheap.

I bought a few days ago a line of Boys' Suits at a low price to close out. I will have suits as low as \$1.00, \$1.48, \$1.75, \$2.00 and \$4.00 in this line.

A big line of nice Suits for Boys, up-to-date styles, and Pants, from 15c up.

Straw Hats

Palmetto Hats at 10c each.

Large banded Straw Hats at 10c each.

Nice clean stiff white brim Hats at 25 cents.

Elegant style of Boys' and Men's Hats at 50c.

A job in old Men's fine Panama Hats all small sizes, from 6 1/2 to 7, for 50c.

Hats sold from \$1.50 to \$2.50 each.

A job sample for men. You can get a nice hat cheap, stylish and new, up-to-date, at wholesale cost.

Millinery Sale

We have thousands of Hats and thousands of Flowers—and thousands of yards of Chiffon Moulines, Mulls, Dotted Red Draping Silks, Draping Nets

Gold Gause and Gold and Silver Spangle Net, at almost half.

Chiffons and Moulines we sold at 75c are now 50c. Moulines we sold at 50c are now 35c.

Silk Mull, all colors, at 22c per yard.

Taffeta ribbons, all widths, for belts and ties, No. 16, 22 and 40, all colors, are 10, 15 and 20c per yard.

1,000 yards of Straw Braid from 3c to 50c per yard.

Dress Goods

I have something to say about my Dress Goods Department and pretty dress and white goods at the lowest possible price.

New dotted Mulls at 45c per yard.

Lace work goods at 15 and 25c.

New style crushed goods in white and Blue at 15 and 20c per yard, worth 35c per yard.

27-inches wide finest China Silk at 48c per yard.

Fine Demimilly worth 15c—my special price 12 1/2c.

Mullhous Organdie at 12 1/2c, worth 25 cents.

40-inch White Lawn at 10c.

15c quality in White Lawn for 10c.

All colors in solid Organdie white Cream, Light Blue, Navy Blue, Orange and Lilac, at 5c per yard.

Lawns in Black and Brown and assorted color dots, at 5c. Goods were sold at 15c now 5c per yard.

Allover Laces and embroideries are all the go, and we have just received a big stock from 25c per yard to \$1.00.

Nice embroideries, 4 inches deep, lots of work on it for 5c yard.

We are after you and keep after you. We want to sell you some goods.

We have had a splendid trade this spring, but we want to fill your memorandum.

We have almost everything you can call for, and at the lowest possible price.

We have the goods to sell if you want them; they are yours with a very small profit.

P. S.—We will have in our window each day through the coming week Mr. C. A. Alexander, of Butte City, Montana. He was awarded First Prize at the Chicago Columbian Exposition for making artistic Paper Designs—Lambrequins, Tidies, Pillow Shams, and a thousand other things. We will give FREE, to each lady who visits our store this week, one of these Designs. Mr. Alexander will be at work in our window, where every one may see him. Everybody invited.

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Molasses, Domestic and Imported.

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POTATO BUG SPRAYER

A little machine worth many times the price we are selling them for!

Lawn Mowers and Garden Hose

OF ALL KINDS

WATER COOLERS, STONE, PORCELAIN & CHARCOAL LINED

WHITE MOUNTAIN, OHIO, ARCTIC

Ice Cream Freezers

Three of the Best Machines on the market today. See our new line of

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75 Boxes 360's

Fancy Lemons,
Martin's Butter,
Martin's Cheese,
Ham Roll,
Vinegars and

Phosphates,
Saboroso Cigars,
Cigarettes,
Cakes and Crackers

All Kinds of
Canned Goods,
And Everything Else in Our Line.

J. C. STEVENSON CO.—
Jobbers to DEALERS only.

Southern Baking Powder

We are sole agents for these goods in this territory.

We have it packed in—

8-oz. Tumblers, 4 doz. Cases,

20-oz. Jars, 2 doz. Cases,

Glass Assorted, 6 doz. in each

Barrel,

8-oz. Cans, 4 doz. Cases,

The lots of 15 to 25 cases. We have special inducements to offer the trade. Ask us for Prices.

Don't forget us.

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