

### Young Woman Talks of Heaven

(Continued from first page.)

meet the needs of the race in overcoming its varied ills; that this Science is the knowledge of God and His eternal laws; and that coincident with her discovery Mrs. Eddy founded a system of practice, teaching and preaching, which is calculated to bring this knowledge within the reach of all who wish to avail themselves of its beneficent offices.

Christian Science teaches that the two Christian offices of preaching the gospel and healing the sick are so inseparable, so equal in importance, and so identified in purpose and method that one's Christian life is incomplete if either one is admitted. In a system wherein science and religion are one, the theology must be curative.

Christian Scientists have been called a prayerless people, but like many of the statements concerning them, this one is quite the opposite of the fact. Indeed, it is only through the teaching of this Science that we have found it possible to obey the scriptural injunction: "Pray without ceasing." While no one can be continually in the physical attitude of prayer, nor forever repeating its words or formulae, one can always be in silent spiritual communion with his God.

Through the peculiar method of our church service, in which the entire congregation is privileged to participate, our people are turned to closer and more general study of the Holy Scriptures. It would be impossible to find any class of people more devoted to the study of the Bible than the Christian Scientists are, for they have learned to regard it, not so much a history of the past nor a prophecy of the future as a revelation of eternal truth, which is "the same yesterday, today and forever," and which consequently applies with full force to the needs of the present time.

So this Science that is religious because it is of God, and this religion that is scientific because it is founded upon eternal fact, instead of fancy or blind faith, are welded into one sound and demonstrable doctrine, whose verity is attested by "signs following." "My doctrine is not mine," said Jesus, "but His that sent me. If any man will do His will he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself."

As a direct result of the advent of Christian Science more unity of purpose and more concerted action are in evidence along all higher lines of human progress. The teaching reveals one fundamental principle named Life, Truth, Mind, Love, Spirit, God, Infinite Being, hence the only One. In this profoundly simple doctrine of the oneness of Mind, of Spirit, of Life, of Power, is found a basis of action that precludes friction and insures harmony.

The claim has been made by those who believe in minds many, that influence for good may be exerted by one human mind acting upon another human mind through mesmerism, or hypnotism, or mental suggestion.

But the one divine Mind that is Omnipotent must include within itself all the power there is. Hence there is no agency nor potency for good that is not involved within it. Why look for more than the all? Or why expect to find something outside of or beyond the Infinite?

Science eliminates the false supposition of an element of evil that cannot exist in the Omnipotence and Omnipotence of God who is good; and restores the primitive and unadulterated knowledge of the real creation, pronounced by divine wisdom "very good." That Truth, rightly understood and separated from illusion, demonstrates harmonious and unending Life, is being daily attested by countless proofs, and "by their fruits ye shall know them." A noted physician states that 90 per cent of all known diseases are the result of fear. Then a religion whose fundamental principle and only acknowledged power is Love, that is capable of casting out all fear, surely has strong claims to recognition as a factor in the realm of therapeutics.

Christian Scientists have no quarrel with the medical fraternity. We appreciate and honor the sincerity and self-sacrificing love of human-kind, that has ever characterized that profession as a whole, and we would not underrate the honest endeavors of hosts of Christian physicians to serve and help the race.

To our friends in the other churches we say: We have not come into the field of religious labor for the purpose of multiplying denominations or to intrude in any way upon your well-earned domain. An untold volume of holy seal and consecrated activity have been exercised in the upbuilding of God's cause as you have understood it. To both of these churches we say: "Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us?" Christian Scientists

are not your enemies, with all respect and honor due to your devoted efforts and worthy achievements. Christian Science comes as a later message from the All-Father, looking toward the fuller establishment of His Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

Now we believe Christian Science is a rediscovery of what Jesus taught and demonstrated as to what God is and what God does. It is man's discovery of himself in the image, the character of God, Spirit, Mind, instead of the selfish matter, that physical sense testimony would have fastened upon him.

The only evidence we have of matter is the testimony of the physical senses, which take no cognizance whatever of God. All will admit that God is Truth as the Scriptures declare. It is plain that the physical senses do cognize matter and all its apparent conditions. But, as they know nothing of God, Truth, then it cannot be that matter is Truth, but quite the opposite must be unreal, and that is just what Christian Science says of matter.

Again, spiritual sense, through which we do apprehend and love God, Truth, reality, reports absolutely nothing in regard to matter; another very good reason for placing matter outside the pale of reality.

It must be remembered that this movement has been inaugurated but a short time comparatively, but all things being considered, the rate of its advancement is, beyond question, without precedent since the apostolic times. If we were to look back beyond the beginning of the last quarter century, we should not see a single Christian Science church on the face of the earth, for the original one, the Mother Church of the denomination was organized in 1879. Now there are not less than 896 organizations, many of which are suitably housed in beautiful and costly buildings, dedicated free of all financial encumbrances and filled at services with hosts of earnest, devoted people, bent on knowing more of God, and on doing more of good. The Christian Science textbook, published first in 1875, has reached more than 335 editions of 1,000 copies each, and the sale of Bibles has correspondingly increased. What does it all mean? It means that deep down in the human consciousness is being laid the foundation of that eternal Truth, the knowledge of which was promised to make us free and that upon this firm substructure is being reared with solid masonry of Spirit the superstructure of purer thinking, of more righteous living. It means that there is a large and rapidly increasing body (a peculiar people indeed) who are really learning how to become as a little child and walk in willing, implicit trust and obedience wherever, through their divinely appointed Guide, God is pointing out the way. It means that this way of righteousness is providing to be exemption, not only from the snares of sin, but from the pains and frailties of the body as well; a way of salvation in the fullest sense to health, wholeness or holiness, harmony, heaven.

Of course it would be useless at attempt to set forth in one evening anything like a full exposition of so vast a theme; one can but point out some of its virtues and possibilities, sufficiently to commend it to your favorable esteem and to incite you to further investigation. If any ray of hope, or comfort, or inspiration has come to you from this hour's discussion, its object will have been attained. For, if remembered and followed, this ray will become the day star, to lead you to the haven of a practical, provable knowledge of God.

Finally we who have had experimental knowledge of the value of this advice do not hesitate to recommend most earnest study of this vital subject and association with those who have made some progress in its lore. We especially advocate the daily perusal of the textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," in connection with the Bible, pondering deeply and applying as far as possible its wonderful precepts, thus coming into closer acquaintance and fellowship with its inspired author. Then you will find that you, too, can demonstrate the spiritual power of the undaunted thought of Truth, to supplant any and every suggestion of evil; can prove that Divine Mind is Omnipotent, to heal and save to the uttermost.

Progression is the inevitable outcome of all honest endeavor. So if we are sincerely seeking Truth for Truth's own sake, we must all move along under this impartial ruling, gaining continually a greater sense of peace and of power, "till we all come into the unity of faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

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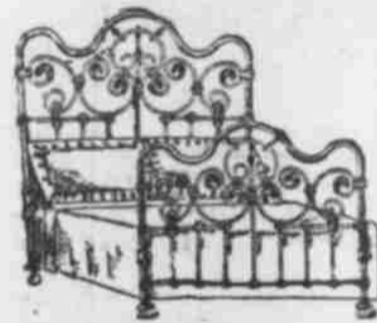
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