

# CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE ADVOCATED

DAVID B. OGDEN INSISTS THAT FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST SHOULD OBEY HIS PRECEPTS—RECENT ATTACKS OF REV. BRBETT SHOWN UP TO BE MISREPRESENTATIONS.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 11, 1905.—To the Editor: Christian Scientists sincerely respect the lawful right to every man to his own opinion, and they have no desire to trespass upon this right nor to involve the public in wearisome newspaper controversy. However, the continued sermon assaults on Christian Science and its Leader from the pulpit of the Christian church of your city, extracts of which have been reported in your columns, lead me to ask further indulgence of your valued space for correction and defense, as a matter of truth and common justice.

### To Correct Mis-statements.

The unkind and discourteous remarks which have of late been made relative to Mrs. Eddy, whether by quotation or as personal opinion, not only betray the bitter animus of a biased and intolerant attitude, but to any unprejudiced mind such remarks must undoubtedly neutralize any conviction which the words of the zealous speaker might otherwise have carried. As has been stated formerly, the motives, life and refinement of character of this noble and venerable woman are so generally known today by reason of the good she has made possible in the lives of unnumbered fellow-men and women that she now needs but little defense, for the public to discredit and reject such statements. However, as a matter of common courtesy to Mrs. Eddy, as well as to those of the public yet uninformed of her life and teaching, some specific consideration of these recent mis-statements seems advisable.

### Attack Based Upon Malicious Slander.

The volume of violent invective against Mrs. Eddy and Christian Science which has been given largely as quotation from the distorted utterances from a chagrined Boston attorney seems at least inconsistent in one who by reason of his righteous calling naturally advocates charity and compassion rather than slander and abuse. This man, in whom our critic has such confidence and so freely quotes throughout his recent sermons, was the opposing counsel in a case in Boston several years ago in which Mrs. Eddy was interested, and after dismissal of the case in Mrs. Eddy's favor when this attorney had failed to obtain judicial recognition of his false and misleading personal charges, he then attempted to justify his unenviable position by giving utterance in public to these statements which the Massachusetts Court had refused to sustain. His personal attack on Mrs. Eddy from the lecture platform resulted, however, in miserable failure to himself and in as emphatic disapproval by the people of Boston as from the court of justice. This lecture in pamphlet form has since been circulated and occasionally quoted from by those of the pulpit who have deemed it their Christian duty to assail Mrs. Eddy, but it has done little harm, except to those unfortunate enough to be self-deceived and incensed thereby.

### Lawyer's Statements Denounced.

Following the initial appearance of the statements of this attorney relative to the life and character of Mrs. Eddy, which included the quoted statement of our critic "that she began her career as a spiritualistic medium," the following emphatic and unquestioned counter-statement was voluntarily made by Mrs. Mary A. Baker, a much honored citizen of Boston, and a member of the American Board of Foreign Missions, in a letter to the Rev. Irving C. Tomlinson of Concord, which completely refutes the slanderous assertion of this attorney. In this letter Mrs. Baker writes:

"At this time, when so much is being said in public most appreciatively of the Rev. Mary Baker G. Eddy, discoverer and founder of Christian Science, and also somewhat that is untruthful, absurd and wholly unchristian, I desire to make the following statement: First, I will say that I am not a Christian Scientist, but am of the Orthodox faith, and for more than half a century have been a member of the Park street Congregational church in Boston. My beloved husband, long since passed to his rest, was Mrs. Eddy's oldest brother, and I know the facts of her life as no one can know them, who is not thus allied in kinship and family history. The church and faith that were ours were hers also until the year 1866.

"Mrs. Eddy's character is above reproach. No libelous words can touch it; no foe assail it. Hidden in God it shall shine, and, reflecting him, its brilliancy will be seen long after she who labors ceases her work for ultimate rest. Her large and exten-

sive work, with her unprecedented following, has called forth malignant utterances so utterly false they should go unchallenged.

"I also desire to say most emphatically that my sister, Mrs. Eddy, was never a spiritualist. She never had a spiritualistic seance in Boston nor anywhere else. I have known her for 50 years, and I know that all the charges brought against her are the work of ignorance and malice, and wholly devoid of any semblance of facts. Her kindness to me can never be forgotten. I pray God to sustain and keep her from all harm. A difference in theological views does not call for any such treatment that she has received from some who disagree with her. My standing in the Orthodox church will vouch for the truth of every word I have written in this letter."

### Mrs. Eddy's Marriage Doctrines.

Again, in refutation of the erroneous concept and assertion relative to what Christian Science teaches in regard to marriage let me reaffirm the statement of my former letter, that anyone in the least familiar with the teaching of "Science and Health" on this subject should not be guilty of saying that "Mrs. Eddy does not believe in marriage for others," and of kindred statements. The following few extracts from the chapter on "Marriage" in this book well illustrate the chastity and simplicity of its teaching on the subject: "Infidelity to the marriage covenant is the social scourge of all races." (P. 56.) "Chastity is the cement of civilization and progress. Without it there is no stability in society, and without it it would be impossible to attain the Science of Life." (P. 57.)

"Matrimony should never be entered into without a full recognition of its enduring obligations on both sides. There should be most tender solicitude for each other's happiness and mutual attention and approbation should wait on all the years of married life." (59.)

"Marriage should improve the human species, becoming a barrier against vice, a protection to woman, strength to man and a center for the affections." (P. 60.)

"Marriage should be the school of virtue and human happiness should proceed from man's highest nature. May Christ, Truth, be present at every bridal altar to turn the water into wine; and give to human life an inspiration whereby man's spiritual and eternal existence may be discerned." (P. 65.)

### Advocates Pure Mind and Body.

The silly assertion that Mrs. Eddy "has no use for bath tubs" is but another echo of an oft-repeated attempt to purposely destroy this author's advice relative to excessive dependence for health upon bathing externally to the indifferent sacrifice of that which promotes the purity of thought and action. Mrs. Eddy writes: "We need a clean body and a clean mind—a body rendered pure by Mind as well as washed by water." (S. and H. P. 383.) and this well expresses her teaching on the subject of cleanliness.

### Teaching Remains Unchanged.

The writer has been an earnest student of the book "Science and Health" by Mrs. Eddy for a number of years and is familiar with the text of its numerous editions, from that of the first published in 1875 to that of the 320th edition now in use, and by reason of this familiarity can state that the same unchanged teaching is to be found in all editions. The author has changed the form of expression in her book from time to time to more clearly present her meaning, and of recent years has revised the order of its chapters and valuably added to its volume, but the original teaching of Christian Science has remained unchanged.

### Plagiarism Denied.

Our critic quotes further from the Boston lawyer in reference to some "Wayside Hints" which he claims has been appropriated by Mrs. Eddy from the writings of a Mr. Wiggin. The writer is familiar with this also time-worn falsity, and can state the facts to be as follows: The Rev. Mr. J. A. Wiggin's "Wayside Hints" with Mrs. Eddy's comments appeared in some of the early numbers of the Christian Science Journal, but she never preached a sermon of his, nor claimed his writings as her own. In the early years of this movement Mr. Wiggin often attended the Christian Science church and for a short time edited the Christian Science Journal, and was proof reader for some of Mrs. Eddy's writings. She has spoken of

Mr. Wiggin, who was a Unitarian clergyman, as a grand man.

### Mrs. Eddy Not a Feminine Christ.

The continued assertion either as personal opinion, or by quotation, by the pastor of the Christian church to the effect that Mrs. Eddy claims to be "a feminine Christ" or to be "the successor of Jesus Christ" makes it necessary for me to again emphatically deny this misrepresentation by saying that Mrs. Eddy claims nothing more for herself than that of being the rightful leader of this Christian Science movement, which she has so wisely established and directed for nearly 40 years. The following quotation from the preface of her book, "Science and Health," well expresses her modest and unpretentious attitude: "Today, though rejoicing in some progress, she finds herself a willing disciple at the heavenly gate, waiting for the mind of Christ." (P. IX.)

### Untrue in Every Respect.

The statement that Mrs. Eddy's "students are made to sell her books, and if they do not do so are liable to lose their membership in the church" is untrue in every respect. That to which, no doubt, our critic makes reference is a printed notice from Mrs. Eddy relative to personal teaching which was published some eight years ago in the Christian Science Journal by which Mrs. Eddy made request of all Christian Scientists to suspend personal teaching for one year, that the Bible and the textbook, "Science and Health," might be the sole source of instruction during this period, and it was in this connection that Christian Scientists were asked to put these books in circulation in lieu of personal teaching, but the liability to church discipline applied solely to those who persisted in continuing personal teaching in violation of this request. The teaching was resumed again after this year of impersonal study and has continued with Mrs. Eddy's approval since that time, and while it is quite naturally deemed advisable under any circumstances for the investigator of Christian Science to become familiar with its teachings through a study of its text-book in connection with the Bible, there is not and never has been any more effort to force the sale of this book for financial gain than there is by members of other denominations to sell their necessary church literature, prayer books, etc. This book, "Science and Health," is adhered to and endorsed by Christian Scientists because of the physical, mental and moral benefits derived from its sincere and unbiased study, but no church applicant, nor anyone else, is compelled to purchase the volume.

### Justly Entitled to Her Income.

I am informed that in concluding the last of his four discourses on the subject of Christian Science that the earnest pastor of the Christian church outlined his special antipathy to this doctrine in six special objections: The first, that "its founder is sharer in the great income made through the sale of her literary productions," and this objection seems strangely inappropriate from one who receives proper compensation for his literary and clerical labors and who should for this reason not begrudge another the natural reward of like faithful labor. Mrs. Eddy's just and generous income from the sale of her writings is made good use of by her for the benefit of humanity, as is attested by those who have felt her many charities and good deeds, and it is significant that Christian Scientists who have voluntarily purchased her writings and learned their true worth through unprejudiced perusal, offer no objection to the well-earned compensation of its worthy author.

### Critic Not Truly Informed.

Our critic's second and third objections are said to be that Christian Science is "narrow and selfish" and that it "holds Mrs. Eddy and her 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures' above Jesus Christ and the Bible." This charge is well refuted in the following religious tenets of the Church of Christ, Scientist, which appear in the text-book in question, and which every church member accepts and would strive to make a part of his life.

1. As adherents of Truth, we take the inspired Word of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal Life.
2. We acknowledge and adore one supreme and infinite God; we acknowledge one Christ—His Son, Christ Jesus; the Holy Ghost or divine Comforter; and man as His image and likeness.
3. We acknowledge God's forgive-

ness of sin, and the destruction of sin and the spiritual understanding that evil is unreal, hence not eternal. But the belief in sin is punished so long as it lasts.

"We acknowledge Jesus' atonement as the evidence of divine, efficacious Love, unfolding man's unity with God through Christ Jesus the Way-shower.

"5. We acknowledge that man is saved through Christ, through Truth, Life and Love as demonstrated by the Galilean Prophet in the healing of the sick and the overcoming of sin and death. Also that the crucifixion of Jesus and his resurrection served to elevate faith and understanding to perceive eternal Life—the allness of Spirit and the nothingness of matter.

"6. We solemnly promise to strive, watch and pray for that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to love one another; and to be meek, merciful, just and pure."

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### Bible Students.

In reply to the question, "Did you ever hear of a Christian Scientist going to the Bible to be cured?" let me say that the whole purpose of this commentary, "Science and Health" is to turn the student thereof reverently, trustfully and understandingly to the Scriptures, and it is proverbial that Christian Scientists as a people study their Bible and depend upon its promises as do no other body of Christians, and the signs which follow convince them that their dependence is not in vain.

### Advocates of Prayer.

To the fourth reported objection that Christian Science "destroys prayer and communion with God," the Christian Scientist cannot do better than point to the results of his daily prayer and desire, which are made evident in happier, purer and more satisfactory living, and better physical as well as spiritual health for which he has deep gratitude to God and greater love for fellow-man. The opening paragraph of the Christian Science textbook is pertinent to this subject: "The prayer that reclaims the sinner and heals the sick is an absolute faith that all things are possible to God—a spiritual understanding of Him—an unselfish love. Regardless of what another may say or think on this subject, I speak from experience. Prayer, watching and working, combined with self-immolation, are God's gracious means for accomplishing whatever has been done successfully for the Christianization and health of mankind."

### Only a Misconception.

The fifth objection is said to have been made as a charge that Christian Science "teaches falsehood and teaches people to be false." Christian Scientists can thoroughly appreciate that their earnest critic is here struggling with his own sense of what he deems the inconsistencies of this doctrine, and they are perfectly willing to let their lives bear witness to the truth or falsity of that to which they adhere, firmly believing that in due season even this good Christian antagonist may change his estimate of them.

### Judge Not.

As to the sixth and last objection, our critic is grossly mistaken if he assumes Christian Science to be devoid of "sympathy with the sorrowful and sad." Surely the loving effort to quietly and peacefully turn the contemplation of the distressed in mind or body from their misfortunes to a brighter and more confident hope in the eternal goodness of God is true sympathy, and the happy results of this course have already brightened the path and lightened the burden of many a sorrow-laden friend. In connection with this point it is reported that the reverend gentleman made reference to the Master's "memorable sermon" and concluded his remarks by urging his hearers to "brand Christian Science with disgrace and the contempt it deserves and demands." May we not further recall another portion of that same "memorable sermon" in which the wise counsel runs: "Judge not that ye be not judged," and the Master's further comparison of the "mote and the beam."

### Don't Stifle Criticism.

In conclusion let me say that it is not the desire of Christian Scientists to avoid nor to stifle criticism, for they claim not to have reached that stage of infallible perfection which insures faultless action; however, it is believed they may justly insist in the demand that those who constitute themselves their critics shall at least establish their competence through a true knowledge of the subject, and that the criticisms made by assertion, or by quotation, be in accord with fact rather than falsehood.

### Should Be Doers of the Word.

No doubt the worthy pastor of the Christian church is sincerely conscientious in his sense of duty in attacking that which he thinks Christian Science to be, and thereby he expects to benefit and protect those over whom he holds spiritual guard; however, it may be well to reflect that history does not yet record the upbuilding and prosperity of any cause, or organiza-



## What Came of a Letter.

BY VALENTINE MOTT

### MY DEAR JOHN:

In answer to your dear letter of last Sunday I wish to say, that Dr. North does call here about once a week. He used to be anxious about my health, and then too he seemed to like to discuss music and art with me. We are very good friends.

Now, John, you ask me point blank if I am in love with the doctor. There is no sense in running on in this fashion. I write merely to tell you that you needn't be afraid. He says I am an inspiration to him. The goodness only knows what he sees in me! I am such a humbug musically, intellectually and artistically that a man of his calibre should see right through me. He never suspects that I have not taken his medicine for months. The fact is John I am getting better day by day. You know the world is full of tired women. Some are tired mentally, some tired physically, and a few unfortunate ones suffer from both mental and physical fatigue. The society woman is worn out by a continual round of social duties. A working woman is worn out by real bodily fatigue and dull routine. Something more than that is the matter with me John. You know for years I have suffered from nervousness, lack of sleep at night, backache, and when the social season was over I was almost dead, but, thank goodness, John, I am a much stronger woman now, and I feel that I can take care of that cute, little cottage which you and I are going to occupy next fall. With much love,

Sincerely yours,  
JEWEL

### MY DEAR AUNT KATE:

I must tell you the good news. Right after receiving your letter, the day before New Year's I started in with new resolutions on the first of the year. I wrote to Dr. R. V. Pierce, at Buffalo, N. Y., as you requested me to do. I gave him all my symptoms, which were that I was tired—so tired—all the time and did not care to go anywhere, depressed and sad, and all ambition gone, backache and a dragged-out feeling, could not sleep, limbs feeling sore and aching. I followed the doctor's advice, which he went to considerable pains to make plain to me—to rest every day—a nap after lunch—complete relaxation—cultivate repose of mind, try not to worry and get as much outdoor air as possible, and practice long, deep breathing, expanding the lungs. Then for a uterine tonic, Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription, coupled with a wash he told me of. I must say that after taking his advice for four months I feel perfectly cured and like a new woman.

Yours affectionately,  
JEWEL

The above letters are not unusual as witness what the following women say: "I am more than willing to state that Dr. Pierce's valuable medicine has cured me of a very disagreeable complaint."

tion, through the denunciation or attack of another. Despite the unkind words which our critic has seen fit to hurl at this doctrine and its respected leader, in his recent sermons, Christian Scientists in their present attitude and reply earnestly desire to accord him only the same treatment in sincerity which they would desire to receive from him. The loving Master whom we all would serve has well said to every professing follower: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another." Let us strive to be worthy followers.

Again thanking you for your courtesy and extended space, I am, yours respectfully,

DAVID B. OGDEN,  
Publication Committee.

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writes Mrs. John Kooman, of 832 Grant Ave., Schenectady, N. Y. "I suffered from female weakness, dull headaches, and distressing gas in stomach which caused me much pain. The pains in my stomach were dreadful while so much gas remained. I suffered most at night. The physician who attended me said he thought the trouble was floating kidney and he treated me for same. Not receiving any benefit from him, I changed doctors. The second one said I had womb trouble. I took treatments from him but kept getting worse. It was then that I applied to Dr. Pierce for advice, describing my symptoms. He quickly replied, directing me to take his 'Favorite Prescription' and 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I did so, and after taking one bottle of each I was very much better. Continued with the medicine until I had taken five bottles of each, also two vials of the 'Pleasant Pellets,' and I was cured. I always recommend Dr. Pierce's medicines to my friends when they are not well."

"I will write a few lines in praise of your wonderful medicine," says Mrs. Elizabeth McConell, of Rochester, Ind. "They have done wonderful work in my family for both male and female. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery is the best lung medicine I ever heard of. It works like magic. It has done good work for us in every case where we have tried it. I believe that by the help of God, it saved my life. The 'Favorite Prescription' is a boon to females; it has done wonders for both of my daughters in their sicknesses. I advise all women who are afflicted to try it, and if they do they will never regret the price paid for it."

"My daughter is in quite good health, thanks to Dr. Pierce's medicine. My wishes are that all who are afflicted will try them and see what good can be done for the sick."

\$3,000 forfeit will be paid in lawful money of the United States, by the officers of the World's Dispensary Medical Association, if they cannot show the original signature of each individual volunteering the testimonials herewith and also of the writers of every testimonial among the thousands which they are constantly publishing, thus proving their genuineness and the superiority of these medicines.

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Indigestion, insomnia, overwork, may be the possible cause of your headache, but Wright's Paragon Headache Cure is as certain as the sun rises. No scientific truth more wonderful than the amount of positive relief contained in one small wafer or tablet. Down goes the cure, away goes the headache, up go your spirits. That is the process. The most desirable feature of this medicine is in its immediate action, as it will generally relieve the most severe pain in five minutes, while at the same time it is harmless, tasteless, will not purge or disturb the stomach, and has no unpleasant after-effects. Wright's Paragon Headache Cure may be relied upon as being free from anything of an injurious nature, and is absolutely without a rival.

### Removed.

The Parvin Music Rooms have been removed from the old location on Commercial street, to room No. 9, in the Opera House. 1-9-31