

WHAT OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE?

Under this title *Zion's Herald*, one of the ablest of the Methodist papers of the United States, discusses the recent gathering of some thirty thousand Christian Scientists in Boston, the Mecca of their faith, not only from all parts of this continent, but from foreign lands as well, including titled adherents from England, and men of judicial positions in the United States. The dedication of the new two-million-dollar temple in Boston was the loadstone that drew them from so far. In view of this event we devote some space in this number to a discussion of Christian Science, and quote still further from our Boston confrere: "Great earnestness," says the *Herald*, "intense fervor, no little spirituality, and a deep desire for the best results in conduct and character, were to be seen and felt.

"Our common Christianity, it seems to us, has not a little to learn from this phenomenon. Its main hold is in its buoyancy and brightness, its cheerfulness and courage, its contentment and faith and love. Through this means blessedness and health have been brought to many who were previously peevish and fretful, soured, ailing, and sad. They have been delivered from fear and doubt and worry, from formalism and materialism. They have been brought nearer to God, 'the All,' and led to a complete consecration, which has evidently included their property, for this two-million-dollar temple was dedicated free of debt as the result of superabundant free-will offerings.

"It seems to us that most of those who have become infatuated with Christian Science are the ones who, either through their own fault or the fault of the churches to which they have belonged, have hitherto missed the real deep joys there are in Jesus. They have, in various ways not easily accounted for, come to some perception of them by this means. Therein they have been the gainers, and we can rejoice with them. Their services, so far as they are made up mainly from Mrs. Eddy, cannot be really helpful to mind or soul. Some of them are finding it out, and are returning to the folds whence they departed. The philosophy of the movement cannot be accepted. Its view of the universe is false. Its treatment of disease is fraught with imminent peril. It will have its day and pass, having taught its lessons to the world. It will the more quickly pass in proportion as the Churches gen-

erally put in practice their theories, rise to the level of their opportunities, and really live out the glorious Gospel with which they have been entrusted and which needs no supplement from the Rev. Mary Baker G. Eddy."

THE JUBILEE IN INDIA.

Rev. J. Sumner Stone writes: "Fifty years of work are ending in a pentecostal revival; 16,434 souls were added to the Church last year. If the first-fruits of this year suggest the coming harvest fully a score of thousands will be won for Christ when the *Jubilate Deo* is sung in December under the shadow of the Himalayas, where William Butler, fifty years ago, opened his evangel, and Dr. Humphreys, still living, baptized the first convert.

"There is an average of 3,000 converts a year for fifty successive years. William Butler's mantle is on the shoulders of apostolic successors. Bishop Thoburn, with faith's vision undimmed, and spiritual strength unabated, summons the Church to larger gifts and more heroic deeds. He says: 'I believe if the Church would take the lesson to heart that God is teaching us, within ten years we might have ten millions in India who are worshipping idols to-day, either within the pale of the Christian Church, or inquiring the way thither. But if my own poor life is spared till I see a millian gathered within our native Church, in India, then I shall thank God, and these poor feet, which shrink and falter now, with unutterable joy shall walk through the gates of day.'

"Ye men of business, do missions pay? In 1856 the Church sent one missionary and his wife to the field. To-day we have 4,731 American and native workers in India. In 1856 the property of the mission was reported as valued at \$112.02. Now the valuation is \$2,000,000. In 1857 three members and three probationers were reported. In 1906 there is a membership of 160,000, and a Christian community of 200,000. The church-membership is being increased at the rate of nearly 20,000 a year as the flying years of the new century carry us on. From their poverty the Indian Church proposes to lay on the Lord's altar this jubilee year the sum of \$50,000 as a thank-offering. The home Church is asked to give \$200,000 that a quarter of a million dollars may be devoted as a special fund for the pushing of the campaign for Christ in Hindustan.