THE CANADA LANCET.

and investigation. Hippocrates, Galen, Morgagni, Paré, Larrey, Harvey, Hunter, Chareot, Sydenham, Lister, Vesalius, Virchow and hosts of others did not reach the great truths they did reach by any other route than that laid down by the late Sir William Osler in his master word "work." Research, research, research; work, work, work; thought, thought, thought. Throught doubts and gropings they arrived at the truth. This was the *ikmas phrontidos*, or "mental sap", of the ancient Greeks that has ran down through centuries and has raised the science of medicine to the glorious position it now occupies.

But the case is quite different when we turn to such cults as Christian Science, osteopathy and chiropraxy. They are not imbued with a spirit of research. The very reverse is the fact—they are dominated by the spirit of reaction against progress.

Christian Science is a crude traversity on religion, and a gross misrepresentation of disease and treatment. It is the very negation of the spirit of progress and reason, by openly declaring there is no such a thing as disease; and that to say there is only creates trouble. Mrs. Eddy was the embodiment of impudence when she said that she was greater than Christ, as she completed when He had left incomplete. The only thing to be found in Christian Science is the inculcation of the notion of suggestion and faith, and this can be done a million times better without the cant, ignorance, and mercenary humbug of Christian Science. We do not object to Christian Scientists holding to their religious opinion; but we do object to them treating disease, when they say such is a delusion, and that the poison is in opium only because we think it is there, and that if a majority of the people said the plant did not contain poison, one could make a dinner of it

In osteopathy and chiropraxy there is absolutely nothing except a very crude system of rubbing and manipulation, based upon a wholly wrong conception of disease, pathology, anatomy, physiology, diagnosis, and therapeutics. Any system of treatment that is founded on the view that 95 per cent. of all our ailments arise from some displacement of the spinal bones cannot end anywhere but in disaster. There may be some hysterics, neurasthenics, and mental oddities who can be made believe that twisting and punching at their spines will cure them. This does not remove such treatment from the domain of humbug, with which the reputable physician will not countenance.

This does not for one moment say that he should not examine thoroughly, and if he finds a tender spot in the spinal column, treat it as he would a tender spot on the knee, or in the liver, on sound and proper methods. This is miles and miles away from the position of the osteopath