

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

A BRAND NEW AMERICAN RELIGION.

Christian Scientists are spreading over the country, building churches in towns and cities, gathering in people of no religion and making converts among the other denominations. The new product of our restless age shows where the mind of man will end when not directed by the Church Christ established to teach religion to the world.

The founder of this sect claims to have "discovered" new principles for us. But every clerical student sees them in his course of studies. They were followed and practiced by pagans from time immemorial. Christian Science errors were the groundwork of paganism. Let us give a rapid glance at the great religious errors which afflicted mankind before we pass to this pagan revival.

From far beyond history, in Asia, Egypt and in all the world of old, came down teachings that the world we see is not real; that matter, movement and life are God showing Himself. All there is they believed was God. That was the pantheism of all pagan religions. That was the reason they worshipped the gods, the souls of dead heroes, the heavenly bodies, earth, air, fire and sky.

To-day you find Brahmanism, Buddhism, Shintoism, and Asiatic religions founded on the idea that all there is God. That was why the Egyptians worshipped animals and embalmed beasts after they died. That was why in Greece and Rome they worshipped the gods, for they thought all that lives is God.

These teachings mixed with Judaism and Christianity developed into Mohammedanism, called by its followers Islamism. For all things, they think take place by changeless divine direction. All that happens is allotted by divine decree. Sergius, a Nestorian monk from Constantinople, wandered down into Arabia, where he met Mohammed, who could neither read nor write, and composed the Koran, their Bible which teaches that Christ was only a man, not God; but one of the prophets, and that Mohammed is the last and greatest of the seers inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Two hundred millions follow this religion, the greatest foe of Christianity and curse of mankind. We hoped the New World would be saved from religious errors which afflict the old countries, but it was not to be. Let us see the first of these scourges. A Rev. Spaulding, at Palmyra, N. Y., wrote a novel giving the imaginary history of the ten tribes of Israel after the Babylonian captivity till he makes them land on the American shores, where their children became the Indian tribes. After his death, in 1823, Joseph Smith, a worthless farmer's son, got hold of the manuscript, found many religious teachings in it, and began to preach that the angel Moroni told him where to find copper plates buried on the hill having the story of the lost Hebrews engraved on them. It was, he found, easy to induce ignorant people to believe. He claimed they were written in an unknown language which he alone could read with a lens found with them. A farmer he converted mortgaged his land and raised the money to get out the novel they called the "Book of Mormon."

We have mentioned those religions to show that Mrs. Eddy did not "discover" new religious principles, to prove how easy it is to deceive the ignorant and how all followers of man-made religions become fanatics. But in depth of evil and far-reaching consequences these religions cannot be compared to Christian Science. Let the reader might think we exaggerate, we lay before him the following, taken from her book, "Science and Health with a Key to the Scriptures" of 700 pages, of which 375,000 copies have been disposed of within a few years. This work written by Mrs. Eddy, gives the theory and practice, the faith and morals of the new religion. As a literary work it is about worthless and shows a crude, ignorant mind, filled with one idea, but with a cunning which misleads the simple, uneducated people. Truth and error are so woefully mixed that the learned only can unravel them. To make people believe she is a learned person she manufactures words found in no language ever spoken by man.

Early in her life Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy, a farmer's daughter, began to make a study of the Bible, and about 1826 she started out as a "quack" doctor, tending the sick and suffering that they were not sick; that pain and disease were not real, but imaginary. As people often think they are much sicker than we are, as when they let the mind dwell on sufferings they feel more acutely the pain, it was easy to convince the ignorant.

Soon her system became a mania with her. She mixed religion with healing. In 1827 she opened her first "School of Christian Science Mind Healing" in Lynn, Mass., with one student. In 1831 she founded a "Metaphysical School" in Boston, which the State incorporated. She says: "During seven years over four thousand students were taught by the author in this college." Mrs. Eddy still lives, has followers all over the country, who are building churches in almost every city and town of importance; her votaries look on her as a kind of goddess. Some even say she will never die.

As early as 1832 she says in her book she began to write down and give to friends the results of her Scriptural study, for the Bible was her sole teacher, but these compositions were crude—"the first steps of a child in the newly discovered world of spirit." But let us see this book in detail.

Every page shows the most absolute ignorance of the natural sciences. She never mentions the twelve powers of man's soul, but continually harps on the "mind." Treating in every page on medicine, she seems never to have opened a medical book. Her education ended in a country school, yet she treats questions of soul and science which the most learned men of our race never claimed to fathom. We do not know whether to laugh at her crudities,

feel disgusted at her pride and presumption or be amazed at the whole thing.

Physicians and druggists come in for a lot of abuse, yet it is evident from her book that she never saw Gray's "Anatomy," which every medical student must read, or Flint's Physiology, Materia Medica, a Pharmacopoeia, or any work on the art of healing, a science coming down from the Greeks which has been perfected by some of the greatest men of our race. We could fill pages of your paper with quotations showing her utter ignorance. A child of our common schools could write more correctly on the sciences. But when we look into the religious teachings of this founder of a new sect we can hardly believe it possible a person in her right mind would hold such views. We ask is she crazy? How can people in their right minds follow her?

All through the book runs the principle that the world we see is not real—it is only an appearance and deception. Earth, air, plant and animal, sun and stars are God. All that is God, eternal Mind. All life is God living in beings. Sin and evil, pain and suffering do not exist; they are only imaginary. Adam did not sin; man cannot sin, for he is God, and the Eternal, who is our life, cannot do wrong. As man was not born in original sin, no Redeemer came. Christ was the first Christian Scientist. He healed by that cult and taught mankind how to unite with God. His Apostles she calls His "students." His statement did not take away sin. In the statement with God, as she says (page 19), Christ did not die, but was buried alive, and came forth from the tomb to show that all souls are one and identical with God. "Thou shalt have no other gods before me," which may be rendered, "Thou shalt have no belief of life as mortal, thou shalt not know evil, for there is one life, even God, good."

The work is filled with texts of the Bible, but twisted into her meanings. Not a single reference is given so far as the reader could find them to see if her quotations are correct. God's revelations are distorted to prove Christian Science, and the reader must use a concordance to find them, and then he is horrified at the corruption of meanings and the tricks played on the simple people. Every Bible text is given with the meaning read into it; not one is as in the original Bible.

Never before did human or demonic mind propose such a system. Pantheism and paganism are left far behind in this religion "discovered" by this ignorant woman in the bible and proved by thousands of texts of Scripture into which she reads the meanings of her diseased brain. This new religion will lead to utter anarchy or insanity. Luther laid down the principles of the "private interpretation of the Bible"—that is, each one can read the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit will enlighten him to know the meanings of the sacred text. This woman, following his doctrine, fancies that she alone, after nineteen centuries, has found the truth. The world was left without the true religion till she "discovered" it. But let us see her theories in practice.

Reader, neither you nor any human being has a soul. God lives in you and in all men, giving life. You have no body—all the world is God eternal—Mind appearing. The life of every animal and plant is God. When your dog meets you God wags his tail with joy. When you eat a beefsteak you enjoy a part of a cow in which God lived; a pork chop was once part of a pig which God animated. Be careful not to kill a bug or insect, for you will destroy the life of God in it. Follow her principles to their conclusions and see where they will lead you.

Reader, do you practice your religion. Do you subscribe for a Catholic paper. Do you send your children to Sunday school? If not, perhaps your children's children will be followers of Christian Science, because their parents failed in their duties. Human minds, even the brightest, seem to drift into religious insanity when not properly instructed.

JAMES L. MEAGHER, President of Christian Press Association.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE.

During the very early days it was entirely at the discretion of every priest whether he said daily a plurality of Masses or not. It was quite usual to say two Masses, one of the occurring feast, the other for the benefit of the faithful departed. A plurality of Masses, however, was soon restricted to occasions upon which a greater concourse of people than ordinary was gathered by reason of some solemnity. Then in order to afford all an opportunity of assisting at the Holy Sacrifice as many Masses as were deemed necessary could be said, and these even by the same priest. Pope Leo III. (ninth century), we are told, said as many as nine Masses on a single day to meet an exigency of this kind. This practice, however kept gradually falling into desuetude until the time of Pope Alexander II. (A. D. 1061 to 1075), when that Pontiff decreed that no priest should say more than one Mass on the same day. The decree was thus worded: "It is sufficient for a priest to say one Mass the same day, because Christ suffered once and redeemed the whole world. The celebration of one Mass is no small matter, and very happy is the man who can celebrate one Mass worthily." This is the present discipline of the Church in the matter. Facilities, however, are granted to priests in charge of two churches to say Mass in each church on Sunday, in order to give the people an opportunity of complying with the precept requiring them to assist on that day at the Holy Sacrifice. But under no circumstances can more than two Masses be said by the same priest on these occasions. Permission to duplicate may be also had for one church where two Masses are required (There is however, an exception to this generally). Christmas Day is now the only day of the year upon which a

plurality of Masses may be said. On this great feast the Church extends to every priest the privilege of celebrating the Holy Sacrifice three times the same morning, without, however, binding him to celebrate any more than one if he does not wish to do so. According to Darandac this privilege was granted by Pope Theophorus, A. D. 142. Liturgical writers assign to these three Masses the following mystic meaning: First, the Eternal birth of the Son of God in the bosom of His Father; secondly, His birth in time in the womb of His Immaculate Mother; thirdly, His spiritual birth in the hearts of the faithful by a worthy reception of His sacraments; but, above all, by the reception of Himself in the adorable Sacrament of the Altar.—Father O'Brien's History of the Mass.

CURES FOR UNREST OF MASSES.

In a sermon preached by Coadjutor Archbishop O'Connell, of Boston, at the dedication of St. Patrick's Church, in Lowell, Mass., there were some timely observations regarding growing unrest of the masses, the cause thereof and the remedies that must be applied to prevent threatened disorders. Referring to the condition of things as regards capital and labor, the Archbishop declared that the Catholic Church is the great solvent of the problem. So long as her voice is heard harmony reigns. The employer and the employed are both her children. To the one she inculcates generosity and justice, to the other patience and forbearance; and she reminds both that the rich and poor alike shall be held responsible one day each according to his state of life to that God Who gives prosperity and blesses poverty.

In later years, with the growth of industry, wealth has grown, and the evils concomitant upon new conditions have grown with it. The sturdy simplicity of those early days is fast passing, and the greed of money, whose appetite grows with indulgence, is admittedly a danger to peace and order. If with increased wealth, if with the prosperity which flooded the land, as if God were showering His blessings upon the nation, hand in hand went a corresponding gratitude to God, a corresponding generous response to the higher duties imposed by better conditions, all would yet be well. But when men's hearts grow only the harder when the blessings of heaven fall on stony ground, thorns and thistles grow up instead of wholesome grain. The dangers which are now confronting us and which, if men do not have a care, will assume alarming proportions, are in reality nothing new; they are but the repetition of the evils of paganism which Christ came to heal.

"The Church has confronted them in the past, and to-day, if men will but hear her voice, she can restore health and tranquility in spite of threatened disorder. Out of the babel of voices, each clamoring to be heard, each proclaiming his own nostrum and panacea, each combating the principles of the others, and only succeeding in adding to the strife and increasing suspicion, distrust and even hatred, there is no hope of a true settlement of the social evil.

"It is easy to point out evils which all admit to exist; it is easier still to lay the blame all round the vicious circle of mutual distrust. It is harder to make each man realize that upon him in part lies some of the blame and to persuade him to do his share in the righting of wrong conditions. That the Church alone can do, for she deals on either side, but especially with the individual conscience, and by that tremendous moral force which turns man's judgment in upon his own deeds, forcing him, by the fear of just God, to make his actions tally with the eternal principles of God's justice, she brings order out of chaos.

"She puts aside the lens which magnifies the evils which others do, and in its place holds up the mirror before each man's own individual soul; for men forget that the complicated evils of society are but the massing up of irregularities and the sense of individuals.

"If each man in the State or city were absolutely faithful to his own individual duty, to God, to himself and to his fellowman, there would be no wrongs clamoring to the nation for settlement, no national ills crying for legislative remedies, remedies which, after all, are mostly like the ointment upon a sore—purely eternal, not the true medicine which the Gospel of Christ alone ministers, attacking the evil at the very roots of the disease. Envy, jealousy, hatred, avarice, indolence, luxury—these are all more than visible sores upon the body corporate of society; they are deep-rooted spiritual diseases flowing from the invisible sources in the mind and heart of the people.

"The lessening of labor and the increase of wages will never in them selves settle the eternal unrest of humanity. Even the multi-millionaire if his greed and avarice are unquenched by his possessions, remains as restless and unsatisfied as the humblest laborer in his employ. The blame, therefore, is not with any one class; the fault is general, and is daily growing. Prosperity will do little to appease the

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ravages of a spiritual disease. Indeed, it seems only to aggravate them. The disease is not material; that is, the common mistake of all so-called reformers. It is deeper than food or clothing; it is spiritual. It is not the body, but is the soul that is unhappy."

Open, then, thy heart to Jesus. When, without reserve, thou shalt have made over thy heart to Jesus, for Him to keep and to dwell therein forever, then shall great peace be thine, nor shalt thou be easily put out, or distressed by the troubles of thy daily life.

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CHATS WITH HELPS AND SUCCESS

By Denis A. Good advice, according to some, is something which everybody takes, and which nobody stands especially in for. Yet they are the ones who do not take it. There are exceptions; as, for instance, the aviator who just starting out in his vice irascence, and the suspect of wanting as possible. Experience is a sad thing, but fools will not learn. Every young man who grows very old is of experience. He that would keep his mistakes, but if he makes mistakes upon his mind then ever do.

Some men go on mistakes, over and over. If they drinking too much wine in their youth, that same wine Such men are come not learn even in their experience.

Older people will must always follow to the smallest details in one way as possible. Every body is gifted. Things seem different from different states of action that seem not seen so, and for me. If men sick with someone new thing, no every, no invention. Boys therefore, by older people manner of life. There should be essentials, but should be liberty allowed to follow that but is not in choosing a boy, some attention to the lad's own not be forced to cheer, or a tailor, for him was one who has a long and splendid life. injustice. Conviction, farming or trade crack with tools of mind in the very wrong. Wasted utterly by wrong groove. career, is an important thing. Given by parents matter.

But boys are judges of what is up. Some like this to do and something. Such young fellows they will not ought to have. They usually have to stick at an ought to select them to it, and when a youth is a wishy-washy what is termed work along any, is to be strenuous power development. For young fellows, this habit is one of the rolling stone young man somewhere else confidence on the virtue of what is needed. It is not the world. At a thing long impression upon America appears in boy to day and past; but there is must be paid. Very few fortune, and as for desired the reputation for that is not in a week, only by years of fair deal open, in all and reproach. Anything boy's will, another should be his scheme of Cigarettes, dropped, because beyond the arrete smoking and that it is the mind. So one may not counts of being insane by thing.

The drink habit which should be evil habit is evil whose character, but leads to around the whole host body. Avoidance insure the and a clear to him not and nerves. ant when cigarette nerves or those false clearer, work. His