

ted to us by one of the exponents of this cult. The reply is fair in every detail and refutes every contention advanced by Mr. Fielding. When a child is hurt and its mother runs off and reads *Science and Health*, or sings a Christian science hymn, she does not act with any more intelligence than does the ignorant Indian who beats a drum, or shouts and dances around the tent of his sick companion with the object of scaring away the evil spirit of disease, and the result in both cases will be the same. Nature may effect a cure. There is nothing in Christian science from the healing point of view, but suggestion. This is a tender spot with the Christian scientists. It is a mixture of Quimbyism plus superstition plus metaphysics plus some Platonism plus some Orientalism plus some Biblicism plus some Eddyism plus a good deal of Berkeleyism to make up the requisite number of ingredients found in the famous Spanish pudding, and yet Mrs. Eddy said she got it direct from heaven.

Let me close with a few words from Stephen Paget, an eminent surgeon: "If Christian science be not suggestion, what is she? Can we call her an 'intellectual conversion,' so long as she treats hens and Pekin ducks? Can we call her Christian, while she spends millions of dollars, and gives nothing to charities? Can we call her science, while she says that Dan means animal magnetism, and Gihon means votes for women? Or a philosophy, when she says that mind is the only I, or us? Or ethics, when she speaks of the real powerlessness of the will? Or psychology, when she cannot say what she means by mortal mind? Or a system of healing, when she does not attempt to distinguish functional paralysis from degeneration of the cord, and sits four days by a woman in labor with an abnormal presentation? She is suggestion; and all suggestion is as old as the hills."

May God save the Christian scientists from themselves, and have mercy on their children who have to struggle through their sicknesses and accidents under a system that states that sickness is only a delusion of mortal mind. Or, as Mrs. Eddy says: "The daily ablutions of an infant are no more natural or necessary than would be the process of taking a fish out of water every day and covering it with dirt, in order to make it more vigorous thereafter in its native element." Or, again, as she says, "A Christian scientist never recommends hygiene." From this we may infer that the well child may be allowed to play with one ill with diphtheria or scarlet fever; because there is no need for hygiene and disease is a delusion. We have now arrived at the door of the mad house, and Dante says in his Divine Comedy, "Abandon hope all ye who enter here."

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