

Science and Health, by Mrs. Eddy. It is a compound of undigested biblical lore, crude metaphysics, disgusting egotism, blasphemous ravings, weird superstitions, shameless plagiarism from Quimby, and crass ignorance of science. But to put the seal of confirmation on all this, let us quote from Judge Clifford P. Smith as we find his words on page 147 of Justice Hodgins' report. Here they are:

"While the various schools of medicine differ from each other as to the nature and cure of disease, Christian Science differs from them all by regarding it as primarily and essentially mental (as a product of false belief, an image of material sense, a state of mortal thought), and by curing it with a method that is at once mental and spiritual—that is, with the power of truth, in accordance with the law of mind, through the prayer of spiritual understanding." Then, again, he says: "In the final analysis, sin and disease consist alike in a lack of mental rightness."

To people holding such preposterous views about disease no concessions whatever should be granted. Every medical man should take the stand that the Christian Scientists be placed in exactly the same position as all other religious bodies, namely, the right to minister spiritually to their followers; but to enjoy no other privileges in the treatment of disease and injuries than those enjoyed by any citizen or member of any other religious body, namely, to render such aid as a non-skilled person may be able to give, and without fee. There is no justification for granting them even a certificate under the Provincial Board of Health to comply with the clamor for recognition.

This would be going further in limiting the operations of these people than is laid down in the report on page 149 in these words: "Upon the whole, my solution of this particular difficulty would be to leave the matter in the hands of the law, exacting a penalty sufficiently onerous to compel the use of common sense in dealing with each case, and deterring those who affect the methods of Christian Science from ignoring the requirements which have been determined to be necessary for insuring the public against the spread of preventible disease."

Let the Christian Scientists spread their religious beliefs with all their energy and money; but holding the monstrous views they do upon disease, when it comes to their being allowed to treat it, then we say most decidedly—Hands off! To the man on the street the follw of regarding disease as merely an error of mortal mind is quite apparent. He knows better, and will have none of this false teaching. The Christian Scientist should not be granted the limited privileges of practice set forth in the report. It would be a terrible misfortune to have anyone of this cult treating a case of smallpox, even though he could recognize it and comply with the law by reporting the case. There would be a real danger to the public.