

attend your children, and wife, if necessary, until they get well. I'll bring her in'; and before he could raise any objections or acquiesce I slipped on my coat and cap, went out, tied and blanketed the horses, and brought in Miss Christie.

"I was fearful now that Miss Christie might make a blunder and give it all away; but I was determined on trying to pass her off as a Christian Scientist, and trust to luck and their illiteracy in helping me out.

"Upon my re-entering he seemed a different man. The mother was again crouching her knees at the side of her children. Mead came forward and shook hands with Miss Christie and said:

" 'And so you're one of us?' questioningly.

"Miss Christie scarcely knew what he meant, except, perhaps, that she was to live with them for a week or two, and so gave the best possible answer under the circumstances, by simply inclining her head and replying 'Yes.'

"All going along well, so far, I renewed my efforts for an examination of the children.

" 'Well now, Mead, as health officer, I must examine these children and then I will leave them to the nurse. I suspect they have all got diphtheria, and if so your house must be quarantined. It'll never do to allow neighbors to come in here—and they're not likely to anyways.'

"He looked appealingly at the nurse, who, having divested herself of cap and coat, quietly conducted the mother to her room and then simply went and got the lamp and held it for me; and I awoke them all, one after the other, and found a regular nest of it—all had it—and one, I knew, was dying.

"While examining the throats I was saying nothing, but thinking, and I had come to the conclusion that I would take the nurse to a corner of the room and tell her what to do, in a whisper; not to talk any more than she could help, but just give them all anti-toxin and attend to them all in the regular way; also, even going so far as to give immunizing doses to the father and mother, if she could. I did this before I left; told her also, in my opinion, the eldest girl—there were two, and three boys—would probably die through the night, I felt sure, but to give her a dose first and wait to see. Then I hurried off home to my office, after getting a stone from the shed where I had tied the horses, and with tacks from my pocket, tacking up the big red card.

"The next morning I drove out to see the nurse. Miss Christie had had a trying time of it, but she was there and proved herself a