

doses of a high attenuation of sulphur. She improved perceptibly. Believing then somewhat in the ordinary theories of medical practice, and learning that her former physician had prescribed these remedies, I began to fear an aggravation of symptoms from their prolonged use, and told the patient so; but she was unwilling to give up the medicine when she was recovering. It then occurred to me to give her unmedicated pellets, and watch the result. I did so, and she continued to gain. Finally, she said she would give up her medicine for one day, and risk the effects. After trying this, she informed me that she could get along two days without the globules; but on the third day she again suffered, and was relieved by taking them. She went on in this way, taking the unmedicated pellets, and receiving occasional visits from me, but employing no other means, and was cured."

According to Christian Science, there was really nothing the matter with this poor woman. A "realizer" would say to her, as we have seen, "You have no disease, what you call your disease is a fixed mode of thought arising from the absence of positive belief in absolute good; I am looking at you and see you a beautiful strong spirit, perfectly sound, not at all like a barrel." But here is the difficulty—she looked like a barrel to Mrs. Eddy herself. Is this an evidence of the potency of mind that this woman's belief made her barrel-like, not only to herself, but to all who saw her? It is evident that Mrs. Eddy has ideas of the potency of mind that only a mind diseased could entertain. This is very strikingly manifested in what she says about death by poisoning. It is not the poison that kills, but the belief that it is deadly. To meet the ready objection that an unconscious infant or an idiot would die from poison, she advances the insane notion that "the vast majority of mankind believe the arsenic, the strychnine, or whatever the drug used, to be poisonous, for it has been set down as a poison by mortal mind. The consequence is, that the result is controlled by the majority of opinions outside, not by the infinitesimal minority of opinions in the sick chamber"—that is, of the patient who has taken poison inadvertently. In the case supposed which is too long to quote, the patient's bedside is surrounded by a few faithful ones who believe that poisons won't kill, and the insinuation is, that, if all the world were converted to Christian Science, arsenic and strychnine might be taken with impunity.

Some Christian Scientists have been known to designate that peculiar function of theirs called "realizing" by the name *silent prayer*, when, with the view of disarming or propitiating the nemesis of the law, a case of unsuccessful practice happened to get into the courts; but this is of the nature of an *equivoque*, that deserves to be exposed. Prayer, it is true, has even in the most orthodox acceptance of the term, a wide latitude of meaning. It may either be, as in Montgomery's well-known hymn,

"The soul's sincere desire,
Uttered or unexpressed,
The motion of a hidden fire
That slumbers in the breast."