

read on for two or three paragraphs, endeavoring to understand it myself, yet thinking that the purer thought of the babe might grasp the underlying meaning sooner than I. So it proved," and the baby was healed.

FUNDAMENTAL PROPOSITIONS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

Page 7: "The fundamental propositions of Christian Science are summarized in the four following, to me self-evident propositions:

- "1. God is All in All.
- "2. God is good.
- "3. God, Spirit, being All in All, nothing is matter.
- "4. Life, God, one omnipotent good, deny death, evil, sin, disease, and *vice versa*."

Although these propositions are self-evident to Mrs. Eddy, she proceeds to prove them by inspired logic. Page 292: "It should be understood that error is nothing, and that its nothingness must be demonstrated in order to prove the somethingness—nay, the allness of truth." Page 183: "We call the absence of truth error. Truth and error are opposites. Truth has no opposite. Therefore error is unreal."

I hope your morals are pure enough to enable you to appreciate the force of this powerful argument. It is very simple. We must prove error to be nothing in order to *prove* truth to be something, and we do so by *assuming* truth to be something—nay, everything.

Mrs. Eddy's logic seems to be a sort of patent, reversible, double-back-action kind. It will take you anywhere you desire to go to, round and round, backwards or forwards; all depends upon how you start.

For instance; you wish to prove the nothingness of good:

- 1. Poverty is real, poverty is evil.
- 2. Evil is the opposite of good.
- 3. Therefore good is unreal.

Here is another specimen of Mrs. Eddy's inspired horse-chestnut, chestnut horse logic. Page 7: The metaphysics of Christian Science prove the rule by inversion. For example:

"There is no pain in truth, no truth in pain.

"No matter in good, no good in matter."

According to which logic by inversion

There is no porridge in good, and no good in porridge; or

There is good in porridge, and therefore no porridge in good.

Once more. Page 385: "A blundering dispatch, mistakenly announcing the death of a friend, occasions the same grief that his real death would bring. You think your anguish is caused by your loss. Another dispatch correcting that mistake heals that grief, and you learn that your suffering was merely the result of your belief. Thus it is with all sorrow, sickness, and death. You will learn at length that there is no cause for grief, and Divine wisdom will then be understood."