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Original Contributions.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AND MORTAL MIND.

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IN one of my articles on Christian Science, published in your Journal, I expressed the opinion that the believers in "Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures," had become incapable of reasoning, that they had, in fact, become hypnotized by poring over the contents of the book, in an endeavor to understand its meaning.

In reading to-day in the December number of *The Fortnightly Review*, an article entitled, "Christian Science and Mortal Mind," by Mrs. Stobart, I find the same opinion expressed. In the beginning of the article Mrs. Stobart characterizes the book as "a maelstrom of jumbled and chaotic thought," and afterwards says: "It is to the total eradication of the conscious mind . . . that Christian Science devotes its forces. . . . This it seeks to accomplish by expedients, such as the denial of the very existence of the conscious mind itself, as also by the hocus-pocus of a superimposed faith in Mrs. Eddy's own inspired person, hypnotically induced, by the reading and re-reading of the tangled maze of nonsensical sophistries, sufficient in themselves to cause mental coma in her victims."

Mrs. Stobart throughout her article pours contempt upon the claim, made by Mrs. Eddy, that diseases can be, and have been in numerous cases, cured by merely reading her book, which she calls "sanitive leafage," and says this "is but a pitiable exhibition of traits which would, by Max Nordau, be described as typical of megalomania and mental degeneracy."