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# The Daily Record

and THE DRESDEN DAILY.

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## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

One of the most remarkable phenomena of the latter 19th century was the sudden genesis and rapid growth of the Christian Science movement. Like most of the latter-day creeds the faith—in its modern form at least—originated in the United States, and has there found the majority of its adherents. Although the name of Mary Baker G. Eddy can never be dissociated from the movement as long as it continues to exist, she cannot justly assume credit for its inception; nor, as we understand, does she make this assumption. Throughout history we come across traces of several theosophic-therapeutic doctrines all more or less allied to that which finds lucid exposition in *Retrospection and Introspection*, and Mrs. Eddy herself argues that the Saviour was the first real exponent of the great truth that there is but one Mind, one God, one Christ, and nothing real but Mind. To pursue the argument: Matter and sickness are subjective states of error, delusions which can be dispelled by the mental process of a true knowledge of God and Christ, or Christian science. The so-called miracles performed by the Saviour were not, therefore, miraculous, but supremely natural, and He promised that those who believed should do curative works like his. It is difficult to pick holes in an argument such as this, based as it is on essentially logical foundations. The whole question resolves itself into a query as to whether the average human mind can so far relinquish its fleshly influences, can so far detach itself from mundane weaknesses as to attain the necessary spiritualised condition in which it assumes complete control of the body and all its functions. We are not aware that the actual ascendancy of mind over matter has ever seriously been denied. The cardinal tenet of most faiths is that while the body is mortal, the mind is immortal. Manifestly, then, if we are able to discover and practically regulate a system of mental training designed to refine and strengthen the mind, in due time we should arrive at a condition of mental supremacy, after which, theoretically at least, we should rise above pain or any form of physical discomfort. That many individuals have so trained their mental faculties and arrived at this wished-for consummation, it would be idle to deny. The rock upon which Christian Science splits, in our opinion, is the inherent disability of the majority to achieve this spiritual victory.

Christian Scientists claim for their faith a complete absence of creed and dogma, while in the same breath they deny all actual healing power to medical and surgical sciences and the drugs employed. They claim that in no case of sickness is material aid requisite, not even in the case of a compound fracture or a distinctly organic disease. It is here that many people, willing and eager to accept the basic argument of Christian Science and to employ the divine mental force as a safeguard and remedy against many of the ills to which flesh is heir, cannot reconcile the entire dogma with the dictates of reason. All or nothing, is the only consolation they obtain from the leaders of the movement. And yet this dogma, pursued to its logical conclusion, would and must mean that man could attain immortality, since the fatal wear and tear of bodily tissues, apart from the ravages of disease, would cease as soon as the mind had gained the mastery. These be deep waters, and they are not to be bridged by trite quotations or parrot-like platitudes. The great mistake made by many opponents of Christian Science is superficiality and overweening prejudice. They might pause in their vociferous objurgations and reflect upon the unquestionable fact that throughout the world today there are hundreds and thousands of sane men and women living in buoyant health and spirits, practically free from sickness and never having recourse to the physician or his drugs. We may and do take strong exception to the methods employed by Christian Science propagandists and their system of healing—personally, we see no excuse for mental healers accepting remuneration for their services and making a sordid profession of gifts which, on their own confession, are of divine origin—but we cannot refuse to recognise as a blessing of incomparable value that immunity from many of the world's greatest curses which is enjoyed by no inconsiderable section of our fellow men. Christian Science has glorious possibilities, but they can never wholly be realised as long as sacred truths are exploited for mundane, mercenary ends.

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Bed-

Ladies' and Gentlemen's

# LINEN

## Joseph Meyer

(au petit Bazar)

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## DISASTROUS FLOODS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The brief notice we published yesterday of the disastrous floods in parts of Great Britain is supplemented by the following details just to hand:—

Heavy rain has fallen in South Wales and parts of the midlands and west of England, and disastrous floods are reported. Several lives have been lost. The rainfall was very heavy at Merthyr, and floods have occurred. Mr. Rex Harvey, of Cefn, has disappeared, and it is feared that he has been drowned. Mr. Harvey is clerk of the works at Cefncoed bridge, which is now in course of construction over the River Taff, on the northern boundary of Merthyr. Extensive timbering, which is to carry the superstructure, has been put across the river some yards below the old bridge, and Tuesday night, at about half-past eleven, Mr. Harvey and a ganger went to the base of the woodwork to see if everything was all right. The river was rushing down in a great flood, and when the ganger returned he thought Mr. Harvey was following him, but found he had disappeared, presumably in the torrent. A search is being made for the body, but so far nothing has been seen. Mr. Harvey is well known, and is a son of Mr. T. F. Harvey, the Merthyr borough engineer and surveyor.

The local rivers rose with great rapidity, and the water, rushing down from the mountain sides, affected numerous houses. Much inconvenience was experienced in the lower part of the town by surpluses of water, and owing to the mud siltage on the line of the local colliery trains bringing back the night men were unable to proceed. The River Afon overflowed its banks at Aberavon owing to the excessively heavy rain. Several bridges were washed away, and at the bottom part of the town of Aberavon hundreds of people have been rendered homeless and their habitations swamped. Cellars of the principal establishments have been filled with water, and damage of thousands of pounds has been done.

A phenomenal rainfall in the Neath district caused serious floods, and great damage has been done. In some of the biggest shops there is a mud deposit two feet deep. A rumour gained currency that the Gnoil reservoir had burst, and many inhabitants contemplated flight. They were reassured, however, by the announcement that the flood was due to the failure of the culverts to carry the abnormal volume of water.

A bridge was washed away on the Rhondda and Swansea Bay Railway at a point between Aberavon and Cwmavon. A considerable portion of the line has been destroyed, all traffic being suspended in consequence. A collier named Thomas Hickey was swept off the bridge in Rhondda Valley and was drowned, and at Aberdare Edward Bellingham, a cab driver, was swept away by the flooded river. Some houses were flooded in Georgetown. A woman named Sarah Edwards, 55, whose house was flooded, was much frightened, and retired to bed, where she was afterwards found dead. At Aberavon five children, two women, and two men were rescued from the roof of a house, a hole being cut in the roof. At Cardiff the rainfall measured two inches, and was the heaviest since 1903.

## NEWS OF THE WORLD.

Mr. Sidney Buxton, Postmaster-General, on Thursday made an announcement in the House of Commons to the effect that an agreement had been reached with the Marconi Company, according to which all coastal stations hitherto in possession of the company will be handed over to the Imperial British Post Office. In conformity with the regulations of the International Radio-Telegraphic Convention, all these stations will be open to receive messages from ships equipped with the same system. The Marconi Company reserves to itself only the concession for their stations at Poldhu, in Cornwall, and Clifden, in Ireland, which were originally intended to maintain news communication with America. A similar agreement has also been reached with Lloyd's Shipping Agency in regard to their wireless stations. From commercial-political and from strategical points of view it is in the public interest that coastal stations for the maintenance of communication with ships should be in the hands of the Government and administered as a section of the general British telegraphic system.

A cablegram from New York states that bluejackets and marines from the foreign warships lying in the Hudson river took part on Thursday in a grand military parade held in Manhattan Borough.

British National Revenue for the quarter just elapsed amounted to £29,721,194, representing a net increase of £421,187 over the corresponding period of last year.

Miners to the number of 4,000 have struck work at Cardiff owing to a dispute in connection with the eight-hour day.

A St. Petersburg message states that the nervous condition of the Tsarina is so serious that the Imperial court will probably spend the entire winter in the Crimea.

The following telegram reached us from St. Petersburg yesterday: The official telegraphic agency circulates a communication received by the Foreign Ministry from Chabrin, giving details of a serious incident resulting from an attempt by a Russian sheriff's officer to forcibly dispose of by auction the property of the Chabrin Brewery Company. Among the owners were two German subjects named Rubl'sky and Rötger, who protested against the sale of their property. When the sheriff's officer arrived at the brewery, he found the door closed and the German flag hoisted. He was therefore compelled to invoke the aid of the police and make a forcible entry. Thereupon two Russian policemen were assaulted by the German subjects. The police re-established order without further incident, and the sale of the brewery proceeded unchecked. The Russian authorities have made complaints of the behaviour of the Germans, while the German Consul has responded with a protest against the Russian infringement of the extrajudicial rights of the German subjects.

According to a telegram from Buenos Ayres, the revolution that has been latent for some weeks past in Paraguay has broken out in earnest. Bands of insurrectionists have seized various points on the frontier; among them Villa Franca, Villa Oliva, Pedro Gonzales, Itacora, and Itapiru. The Colorado party, with General Cabalero at its head, is in the forefront of the movement, and it may be joined by some of the Liberal party. The Paraguayan Government has placed the telegraphs under censorship, but its position is said to be insecure.

The London Standard of yesterday published the following paragraph: "An important petition, raising protests against certain of the Budget proposals, and signed by 36 banking representatives, including Lord Rothschild, Messrs. Baring Brothers, Lord Avebury, Sir Felix Shuster, and Viscount Goschen, was presented to the Premier on May 15th last. As this petition has thus far remained without result, another petition is being circulated for signature in which the House of Lords are asked not to accept the Finance Bill, until the nation has been granted an opportunity of giving expression to its approval or disapproval of the Bill."