

we sure that thou knowest all things" (John 16:30). "God . . . hath determined the times before appointed" (Acts 17:24, 26).

It may be said: How can you obtain a greater knowledge of that which does not exist? You cannot. All that you gain is a further and better (less
5 bad) knowledge of God and God's ideas, the reality, which is hidden by the mist of matter.

"He hath given me certain knowledge of the things that are, namely, to know how the world was made, and the operation of the elements: The beginning, ending, and midst of the times: . . . And all such things as are
10 either secret or manifest, them I know. For wisdom, which is the worker of all things, taught me: for in her is an understanding spirit, holy, one only, manifold, subtil, lively, clear, undefiled, plain, not subject to hurt, . . . She is the breath of the power of God, and a pure influence flowing from the glory of the Almighty: . . . I perceived that I could not other-
15 wise obtain her,¹ except God gave her me; and that was a point of wisdom also to know whose gift she was; I prayed unto the Lord, and besought him" (Wisdom of Solomon 7:17, 18, 21, 22, 25, and 8:21).

PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS

The Ether and Matter.—"Knowledge may enter the human mind
20 without being communicated in any hitherto known or recognised ways"² (Sir William Crookes). "Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets" (Dan. 2:47).

It has already been stated that material knowledge not only sometimes flashes into one's consciousness, but comes in all sorts of ways, and a few
25 instances may be given. "Let the specimen suffice to those who have ears. For it is not required to unfold the mystery, but only to indicate what is sufficient" (St. Clement of Alexandria).

I had been satisfied that matter is electricity and a non-reality, and that the ether—only another name for material or universal consciousness,³ or
30 mortal "mind," the basic false mentality—consists of lines of force, high-tension electrical currents at right angles to each other, and that matter can be caused to appear and disappear instantly in two ways, scientifically different. In one of these the electrical tension in the ether is increased or released, in the other the lines of force are short-circuited and so destroyed,
35 leaving better thoughts to be manifested.⁴ The "riddle of the ether" and

¹ "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. . . . All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you"
40 (John 16:13, 15).

² Presidential Address, British Association, 1898.

³ "Electricity is not a vital fluid, but the least material form of illusive consciousness" (*Science and Health*, p. 293, Mary Baker Eddy). Illusive consciousness, the ether, devil, mortal mind, cosmic consciousness, unconscious mind, sub-
45 conscious mind, subjective mind, subliminal self, better consciousness, communal soul and basic false mentality, are all different names for the same thing.

⁴ "This so-called mind is self-destroyed. The manifestations of evil . . . show the self-destruction of error or matter and point to matter's opposite, the strength and permanency of Spirit" (*Ibid.*, p. 293).

the relationship between the ether and matter had still to be solved. I accordingly one day prayed, realising that in the real world, God, being the Principle of all true knowledge, man, the divine man, is instantly conscious of what he needs to know. Immediately afterwards a scientific man came for advice on an interesting point. He said that, amongst the ultra rays of light, there were some which, thrown upon an object, would cause it to disappear from sight, although it was still in its position, and asked how he could best localise the rays. 5

Disappearance of Matter.—In the course of conversation he told me of an important experiment. He had taken 1 lb. of oxygen and 1 lb. of potassium, and placed them in an exhausted glass tube, which was then hermetically sealed. On passing a high-tension current through the tube, $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of the contents instantly disappeared, the chemical balance upon which the apparatus stood registering the loss of weight as the current was turned on. He then told me that he had proved mathematically (200 pages of 15 equations were required) that the electron was created by the action at right angles of two lines of force of definite length upon each other, and he thought that the action of the high-tension current had resolved the electrons into the original lines of force, which then passed easily through the glass and disappeared. As a matter of fact, these lines of force are not 20 finite in length, but, as beliefs, extend indefinitely in false space. It took two years before Dr. Romocki, then the chemist on my staff, was able to confirm the mathematical proof.

A few days afterwards, a friend of mine, one of the leading chemical authorities in England, confidentially gave me details of somewhat similar 25 chemical experiments which had just been carried out under test conditions before a selected body of leading scientific men, and had been pronounced by them as wholly inconsistent with any conceivable theory of matter. These experiments were shown to them, to establish priority of date for the discoverer, who did not care to publish them until he had 30 found the reason for the results.

“**The Earth Helped the Woman.**”—It was then that I recognised that we were on the eve of the great intellectual revolution that must attend the scientific recognition of the non-reality of matter, and I understood the meaning of the words in Revelation 12, verse 16,¹ “And the earth [the 35 leading scientific thought of the day] helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth [by stating the truth], and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth” [the wrong use of this newly gained mental freedom].

Crookes’s Berlin Lecture.—The following finale in Sir William 40 Crookes’s Berlin lecture, which was shortly afterwards delivered, then showed me that already the leaven was at work: “This fatal quality of atomic dissociation appears to be universal . . . the whole range of human experience is all too short to afford a parallax whereby the date of the

¹ Rotherham’s translation of verse 15 is significant. It is as follows: “And the 45 serpent cast out of his mouth, *behind* the woman, water as a river, that he might cause her to be river-borne” (see *Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 373, Mary Baker Eddy).

extinction of matter can be calculated.”¹ This knowledge is now available. “For we know in part, and we prophesy in part” (I Cor. 13:9).

“We are living in an extraordinary age . . . it is a time for the open mind and the open vision in all departments of thought” (Sir Oliver Lodge).

“The whole history of science shows us that, whenever the educated and scientific men of any age have denied the facts of other investigators on *a priori* grounds of absurdity or impossibility, the deniers have always been wrong”² (Professor Alfred Russel Wallace).

10 **Non-Reality of Matter.**—Another case of knowledge gained inspirationally in a seemingly indirect manner may be given. I tried for some time by ordinary means, during the first eighteen months of my examination into “mental” phenomena for the *Daily Express*, to obtain mathematical proof of the non-reality of electricity, but without success. Although in the
15 application of the method of scientific and true prayer I had as yet experienced practically no failure of any importance, doubt seized hold of me in this matter of obtaining knowledge that apparently must include abstruse mathematical calculations. I shrank from possible failure, but gained some courage through remembering that it was equally scientific for
20 the information to reach me through the channel of my head engineer or chemist, both of whom were first-class mathematicians. Recognising that hesitation was not reliance on Principle, and that fear had the upper hand, I prayed five times during two days for the required knowledge so requisite for the clearing up of the mystery of evil. The following morning I
25 received from Mr. Wake-Cook a copy of the Rede Lecture given by Professor Osborne Reynolds, referring to his mathematical proof of the non-reality of matter already mentioned. “And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their
30 labours” (John 4:37, 38). Mr. Wake-Cook wrote: “Here he has proved mathematically what you have been telling us for some time”. In this way the twenty years’ life-work of one of the most advanced mathematicians of the day, until then entirely unknown to me, was rendered available by a few minutes’ prayer.

35 This instance also illustrates the necessity of keeping an open mind as to the channel through which information may reach you. To look for help through any special channel is more or less to close the door to all others. We must leave Principle to decide what is best. God’s way is always perfect, the way of good (see Ps. 18:30).

40 A third example may be given. Having found that the ether consists of lines of force, high-tension electrical currents, I had the same difficulty as other investigators in not being able to find out what was believed to exist,³ namely, the positive electron, although the negative electron was easily

¹ “Modern Views of Matter.” An Address delivered before the Congress of Applied Chemistry at Berlin, June 5, 1903.

² Speech at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, June 25, 1910.

³ “In the chemical theory of electricity, over and above the known elements there should be two others—the positive and negative electrons” (Dr. Nernst, Professor of Chemistry, Göttingen University).

discoverable. Neither was it clear how these lines of force or material thoughts were destroyed by the action of God. I therefore prayed for knowledge two or three times in two days. The next day a well-known inventor called upon me for advice with regard to a system of wireless telephony. In the course of conversation a remark of his led me to put my difficulty before him. He at once gave me two solutions, one of which I knew must be accurate because it fitted in with all the other basic theories of the material universe already found to be correct. 5

“Correct” and “Accurate.”—The words “correct” and “accurate” do not mean “true” when applied to the theories of matter now advanced. 10 They merely denote accordance with the final beliefs of material so-called science. The only true statement that can be made with reference to matter is that it has no reality. Reality means permanence.

Short-circuiting.—The inventor then explained that each seeming line of force or so-called thought consisted of innumerable adjacent small 15 particles, oval or egg-shaped, not touching each other, and lying with the longer axis at right angles to the general trend of the line of force. The greatest diameter is just equal to the distance apart of their centres. One of their ends is positive and the other negative. Now, when a man denies the reality of sin or sickness in heaven the action of God causes the seeming 20 sin or sickness to disappear. What then takes place, from a theoretical point of view, is that one of these particles, or thought-germs, is slightly turned. The positive ends of adjacent particles then repel each other, and the dissimilar ends attract each other until each adjacent particle is slightly 25 turned. The positive end of each particle having thus come nearer the negative end of the adjacent particle, the turning action is increased by these portions attracting each other until each particle has been turned at right angles. Being oval, the positive end of each particle then touches the negative end of the adjacent particle, and the whole line of force is short-circuited and finally ceases to have even its temporal or material sense of 30 existence, and there is in its place what even material scientists admit to be NOTHING¹—nothing cognisable under any circumstances by the

¹ “The only power of evil is to destroy itself” (*Science and Health*, p. 186, Mary Baker Eddy).

As in the case of the healing of sin and disease, results are not always obtained 35 immediately, especially when trying to find out details in connection with the spiritual world. For instance, Mrs. Eddy says: “Few persons comprehend what Christian Science means by the word *reflection*” (*Ibid.*, p. 301). Seeing that here was some important knowledge to be gained, I set to work to find the real meaning. To do this took me two-and-a-half years, and I had to pray specifically over 20,000 40 times for it, more than twenty times a day, before I found it out. The information was well worth obtaining. It opened up to me through reversal a knowledge of the spiritual world that was wonderful, indicating that which is happening in heaven, and showing how to work out logically the details indicative of what is there taking place. These logical deductions have been demonstrated by thousands of results in 45 the so-called material world, and can be proved by anyone with sufficient understanding and enough humility to subordinate material so-called knowledge.

I once lost a pair of gloves, and in order to find out whether I had properly understood the Principle that underlay the action of good in the materialisation of what is called matter, I treated every day for over a year before they were found, 50 and the right understanding of Truth demonstrated. In one important case I

material senses with any aid whatever, and nothing that can even be logically made apparent to the so-called intellect. God's real and perfect world, is, however, present everywhere and always discernible by the true senses.

PROPHESYING,¹ PREDESTINATION, FATALISM

5 "And every course of self-discipline thus steadily and honestly pursued tends, not merely to clear the mental vision of the individual, but to enable the race, by developing that power of immediate insight which, in man's highest phase of existence, will not only supersede the laborious operations of his intellect, but will reveal to him truths and glories of the unseen, which the
10 intellect alone can see but as through a glass darkly" (Dr. W. B. Carpenter).

One of the facts that have made it a little difficult to understand the prophecies in the Bible is that each recorded stage of human experience, in obedience to the action of material thought, imitating the reality, foreshadows what is to appear in subsequent ages. This continues until the
15 material counterfeit is destroyed by the action of Truth. Consequently each prophecy may foretell a series of events liable to happen in their pre-determined order at different periods throughout the Bible history, each series of events being simply a repetition of what has happened before, but conforming in details to the improved normal conditions of each period.
20 Further, a prophecy often refers to entirely different events, such as the history of a certain period, and events in the life of an individual. The importance of scientific and therefore accurate interpretation of prophecy is that we can begin sooner to destroy the groups of thoughts that might later give trouble if left to be dealt with at any given moment. So we purify
25 and lift up the remaining human experience, and ensure painless instead of painful progress.

Value of Historical Evidence.—What we call history is merely an apparently periodical repetition of events happening all at the same time,

30 treated every day for three-and-a-half years before succeeding in my demonstration, and destroying aggressive evil that was a menace to humanity. Treatment is the name given to true prayer, in order to differentiate it from the old limited method of prayer by asking. Mrs. Eddy says: "Self-denial, sincerity, Christianity, and persistence alone win the prize" (*Ibid.*, p. 462).

In working for material knowledge I realise that God being the Principle of all
35 knowledge, man—the spiritual man—knows instantly anything he needs. When trying to obtain a better knowledge of God and the spiritual world, I found that my most efficient method was simply to try and realise God as Truth to the best of my ability. It seemed then to be easier to lose the false sense of self in the realisation of God. You must remember, however, that you can build up in your own consciousness
40 mistaken ideas as to the best method of working, which then become so-called laws, as far as you are concerned. No difficulties on this point can possibly happen, however, to the consistent worker who obtains his knowledge from the right source as all true knowledge is demonstrable here and now.

¹ It must not be forgotten that prophesying is only reading thought. Although
45 those in the past who lived in thought close to God, and did not limit their powers by wrong thinking, were able often to prophesy accurately, in most cases they were liable to make mistakes and only partially to read the thoughts that later were about to act. It is through want of knowledge of the material world that lovers of God and the Bible have claimed too much, and so alienated scientific men, who should have
50 been, and now will be, their strongest supporters.