

THE GOOD SIDE OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

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The Good Side of Christian Science by Christian D. Larson

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CHRISTIAN D. LARSON

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The Good Side of Christian Science

By

Christian D. Larson

*Author of "What Right Thinking Will Do," "Steps in
Human Progress," "Poise and Power," etc.*

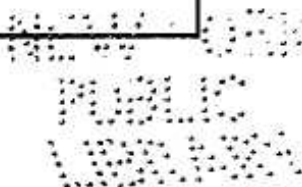


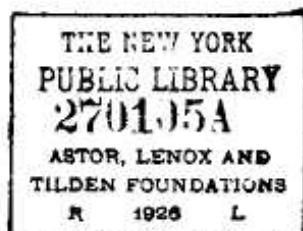
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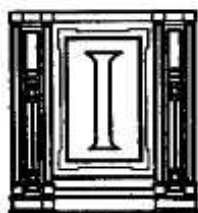




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The
Good Side of Christian Science



IN taking up this subject, a subject that is attracting world-wide attention at the present time, I wish to say that I have the greatest regard and the highest admiration for the Christian Science movement as a movement, and for the principles upon which the movement is based; and the principal cause of my regard and admiration is this, that I admire everybody and everything that has a great purpose in view, and that works for it with all the power that life can give.

This is something that we all feel and, therefore, whenever we meet an individual with a lofty ideal, someone who knows what he wants, and works for it and lives

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for it under all sorts of circumstances, we cannot help admiring that individual. We may not always agree with him in every respect; and under certain circumstances it may be unwise to try to agree with him; still, we are bound to admire him to the very highest degree, even though he may not take as broad a view of some things as we would like.

It is the same with institutions and movements. If they have a great object, a great purpose, and a lofty goal, and not only live for their convictions, but actually make good in practical life, we are bound to admire them; especially where we realize that they are inspired with the highest form of sincerity.

In all departments of life it is the weaklings that we sometimes lose patience with, although we ought to be patient with everybody, knowing that it is difficult to find anyone who is not doing his best under the circumstances; still, where we

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find individuals or institutions that have no purpose in view and that are vacillating and uncertain in connection with everything that has real value in life, we cannot bestow upon them any great degree of admiration; in fact, we are liable to think of them as obstacles to the welfare of the world. This they may be in a sense; nevertheless, they need our sympathy instead of our criticism; but when we meet people who live for something — or institutions that work for something definite — something of extraordinary importance to human welfare, and actually make good in their purpose, we invariably give them our admiration; and in this age this spirit of admiration for the successful, for the true, for the sincere and the genuine is growing rapidly; and there is a psychological reason for this fact — something that we shall find it important to respect and admire if we have greater success or higher attainment in view.

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In this connection we should remember that we never find successful people among those who are constantly criticising or antagonizing, or who live in the spirit of destruction. The reason is, those people are not living or working in that vital current of life that is moving toward greater things. They are at war with themselves because at war with others; and no mind that is living in continual warfare can ever develop or produce anything of great worth in the world. We cannot afford, therefore, to live in the critical spirit under any circumstances; but when we enter the opposite spirit, that is, when we begin to admire and respect both individuals and institutions that are moving forward, that are successful, that are working for great things — it is then that we get into the great constructive current of life and begin to move with that current into the larger, the higher, the finer and the richer in all the domains of existence.

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The best advice that we could give to any young man or woman would be this: "Look at those who have succeeded greatly and achieved largely; then find their secret and apply it in your own life, or improve upon it if you can; but pay no attention to the weakness of those who have failed or lost, because it is the ways of success and not the ways of failure that should be imitated or selected as ideals."

If all young men would take this advice they would place their minds in a strong, constructive current; and this current would gradually gain force and power so that in the course of time their mental capacity would be increased to a very large degree. In consequence, they would not only enter the pathway that invariably leads to success, but they would constantly increase all those elements of mind and talent that make for still greater success.

The spirit of the age is entering more