

Evidence of date changes; April 19<sup>th</sup> versus April 12<sup>th</sup>

*The Church Manual-Historical Sketch*

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*88<sup>th</sup> Edition—1910—final authorized edition*

Manual of the Mother Church

The First Church of Christ

Scientist

*In Boston, Massachusetts*

By

Mary Baker Eddy

Eighty-eighth Edition

BOSTON, U.S.A.

Published by Allison V. Stewart

FALMOUTH AND ST. PAUL STREETS

1910

EIGHTY-NINTH EDITION

MANUAL OF THE  
MOTHER CHURCH  
THE FIRST CHURCH OF  
CHRIST, SCIENTIST, IN  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

by

MARY BAKER EDDY

*Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science and  
Author of Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*



MADE IN U.S.A.



Published by

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST  
in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Historical Sketch.

IN the spring of 1879, a little band of earnest seekers after Truth went into deliberations over forming a church without creeds, to be called the "CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST." They were members of evangelical churches, and students of Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy in Christian Science, and were known as "Christian Scientists."

At a meeting of the Christian Scientist Association, April 19, 1879, on motion of Mrs. Eddy, it was voted, — To organize a church designed to commemorate the word and works of our Master, which should reinstate primitive Christianity and its lost element of healing.

Mrs. Eddy was appointed on the committee to draft the Tenets of the Mother Church — the chief corner-stone whereof is, that Christian Science, as taught and demonstrated by our Master, casts out error, heals the sick, and restores the lost Israel:

2

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*Current Edition*

HISTORICAL SKETCH

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# Retrospection and Introspection

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51<sup>st</sup> Edition—1910—final authorized edition

## RETROSPECTION AND INTROSPECTION

BY  
MARY BAKER EDDY  
AUTHOR OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH WITH KEY TO THE  
SCRIPTURES

*Fifty-first Thousand*

BOSTON, U.S.A.  
Published by Allison V. Stewart  
FALMOUTH AND ST. PAUL STREETS  
1910

## Retrospection and Introspection

by  
Mary Baker Eddy  
Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science  
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Key to the Scriptures



Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.  
Marked Registrable

*Mary Baker Eddy*

Published by the  
Trustees under the Will of Mary Baker G. Eddy  
Boston, U. S. A.

### COLLEGE AND CHURCH

IN 1867 I introduced the first purely metaphysical system of healing since the apostolic days. I began by teaching one student Christian Science Mind-healing. From this seed grew the Massachusetts Metaphysical College in Boston, chartered in 1881. No charter was granted for similar purposes after 1883. It is the only College, hitherto, for teaching the pathology of spiritual power, *alias* the Science of Mind-healing.

My husband, Asa G. Eddy, taught two terms in my College. After I gave up teaching, my adopted son, Ebenezer J. Foster-Eddy, a graduate of the Hahneman Medical College of Philadelphia, and who also received a certificate from Dr. W. W. Keen's (allopathic) Philadelphia School of Anatomy and Surgery, — having renounced his material method of practice and embraced the teachings of Christian Science, taught the Primary, Normal, and Obstetric class one term. Gen. Erastus N. Bates taught one Primary class, in 1889, after which I judged it best to close the institution. These students of mine were the only assistant teachers in the College.

The first Christian Scientist Association was organized by myself and six of my students in 1876, on the Centennial Day of our nation's freedom. At a meeting of the Christian Scientist Association, on April 19, 1879, it was

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*Mind - Healing:*  
*Historical Sketch*  
1886

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MIND-HEALING :  
  
HISTORICAL SKETCH.

BY

MARY BAKER G. EDDY,

PRESIDENT OF MASSACHUSETTS METAPHYSICAL COLLEGE.

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BOSTON, 571 COLUMBUS AVENUE:  
PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.  
1886.

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MIND-HEALING :

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE was the term I employed to express the Divine Science of Mind-healing, that I had discovered, and which I was sure must bring to human conception a more spiritual Christianity. The first Christian Scientist Association was organized by me, and six of my students, in 1876, on the Centennial Day of our Nation's freedom. At a meeting of the C. S. A. April 19, 1879, on motion of mine, it was voted to organize a Church designed to commemorate the words and works of our Master, a Mind-healing Church, without creeds, called the "Church of Christ" (Scientist), the first one that was ever organized. The charter for this Church was obtained June, 1879, and the same month the members, twenty-six in number, extended a call to me to become their pastor. I accepted the call, and was ordained A. D. 1881.

The first official organ of the Christian Scientist Association, was called, Journal of Christian Science, I started it, April, 1883, as Editor and Publisher. To meet the broader wants of humanity and provide folds for the sheep that were without shepherds, I suggested to my students in 1886 the propriety of forming a NATIONAL CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST ASSOCIATION, which was immediately done, and delegations from the C. S. A. of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College, and from branch Associations in other States, met in general convention, at New York City, February 11, 1886.

For the last twenty years I have endeavored to find new ways and means for the promotion and expansion of Mind-healing. I have sought to broaden its channels, and, if possible, to build a hedge round about it that should shelter its pure perfections from the contaminating influences of those who have a portion of the letter, and less of the Spirit, of Christian Science. At the same time, I have worked to provide a home for every true seeker, and honest worker, in the vineyard of Truth.

## Comment:

The reason given for this change of date is that the records of the Christian Scientist Association show that there was no meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>, it was actually held on April 12<sup>th</sup>. However, have you ever thought of why April 19<sup>th</sup> could have been a significant date for Mrs. Eddy to use? Was the symbolism of the date her reason for choosing it?

April 19, 1775, was immortalized by Ralph Waldo Emerson in his "Concord Hymn":

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,  
Here once the embattled farmers stood,  
And fired the shot heard round the world."

By recording the date April 19, 1879, was Mrs. Eddy hinting that the motion voted on that day would affect the whole world?