

# Chapter II

## THE EXTENSION OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST: ITS INCEPTION, CONSTRUCTION, AND DEDICATION

1 MRS. EDDY'S MESSAGE TO THE MOTHER CHURCH,  
JUNE 15, 1902

3 [Extract]

Here allow me to interpolate some matters of busi-  
ness that ordinarily find no place in my Message.

6 It is a privilege to acquaint communicants with the  
financial transactions of this church, so far as I know  
them, and especially before making another united effort  
9 to purchase more land and enlarge our church edifice so  
as to seat the large number who annually favor us with  
their presence on Communion Sunday.

12 THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MOTHER CHURCH, JUNE  
18, 1902 — TWO MILLION DOLLARS PLEDGED

Edward A. Kimball, C.S.D., offered the following  
15 motion: —

"Recognizing the necessity for providing an auditorium  
for The Mother Church that will seat four or five thou-  
18 sand persons, and acting in behalf of ourselves and the  
Christian Scientists of the world, we agree to contribute

1 any portion of two million dollars that may be necessary  
for this purpose."

3 In support of the motion, Mr. Kimball said in part:  
"Our denomination is palpably outgrowing the institu-  
tional end thereof. We need to keep pace with our own  
6 growth and progress. The necessity here indicated is be-  
yond cavil; beyond resistance in your thought."

Judge William G. Ewing, in seconding the motion, said: —  
9 "As we have the best church in the world, and as we  
have the best expression of the religion of Jesus Christ,  
let us have the best material symbol of both of these, and  
12 in the best city in the world.

"Now I am sure that I have but expressed the universal  
voice of Christian Scientists, that there should be some-  
15 thing done, and done immediately, to make reasonable  
accommodation for the regular business of the Christian  
Science church, and I believe really, with my faint  
18 knowledge of arithmetic and the relationship of figures,  
that a church of twenty-four thousand members should  
have a seating capacity of more than nine hundred, if  
21 they are all to get in."

The motion was carried unanimously.

*Greeting from the Church to Mrs. Eddy*

24 "Ten thousand Christian Scientists from throughout  
the world, convened in annual business meeting in  
Boston, send our greeting to you, whom we recognize  
27 as logically the natural and indispensable Leader of our  
religious denomination and its activity.

"Since the last report, in 1900, one hundred and five  
30 new churches or congregations have been added, and

1 those previously established have had large accessions  
to their membership. In recognition of the necessity for  
3 providing an audience-room in The Mother Church which  
will seat four or five thousand persons, we have agreed to  
contribute any portion of two million dollars that may  
6 be needed for that purpose.

"The instinctive gratitude which not only impels the  
Christian to turn in loving thankfulness to his heavenly  
9 Father, but induces him to glory in every good deed and  
thought on the part of every man — this would be scant  
indeed if it did not continually move us to utter our grati-  
12 tude to you and declare the depth of our affection and  
esteem.

"To you, who are standing in the forefront of the effort  
15 for righteous reform, we modestly renew the hope and  
desire that we may worthily follow with you in the way  
of salvation through Christ."

18 OUR LEADER'S THANKS

*To the Members of The Mother Church:* — I am bankrupt  
in thanks to you, my beloved brethren, who at our last  
21 annual meeting pledged yourselves with startling grace  
to contribute any part of two millions of dollars towards  
the purchase of more land for its site, and to enlarge  
24 our church edifice in Boston. I never before felt poor  
in thanks, but I do now, and will draw on God for  
the amount I owe you, till I am satisfied with what my  
27 heart gives to balance accounts.

MARY BAKER EDDY

Pleasant View, Concord, N. H.,  
30 July 21, 1902

1            [*Christian Science Sentinel*, May 16, 1903]

          It is inevitable that the transforming influence of  
3 Christian Science should improve the thought, enlarge the  
favorable expectation, and augment the achievements of  
its followers. It was inevitable that this mighty impulse  
6 for good should have externalized itself, ten years ago,  
in an edifice for The Mother Church. It is inevitable  
that this same impulsion should now manifest itself in a  
9 beautiful, ample building, embodying the best of design,  
material, and situation.

          Some money has been paid in towards the fund, and  
12 some of the churches and other organizations have taken  
steps in this direction, but the time is at hand, now, for  
this entire donation to be specifically subscribed as to  
15 amount and date of payment. No appeal has ever been  
made in this behalf, and it is probable that none will be  
made or ever be needed. It is doubtful if the Cause of  
18 Christian Science could prosper, in any particular, on the  
basis of fretful or reluctant sacrifice on the part of its  
people. Christian Scientists are not expected to contrib-  
21 ute money against their will or as the result of impor-  
tunity or entreaty on the part of some one else.

          They will provide the money necessary to this end,  
24 because they recognize the importance of The Mother  
Church to the Cause. They realize that there must be  
a prosperous parent church, in order to insure the pros-  
27 perity of the branch churches; indeed, they know that  
it is the prosperous growth of this movement which  
now necessitates this onward step. They know that  
30 their own individual welfare is closely interwoven with  
the general welfare of the Cause.

1 Notwithstanding the fact that as Christian Scientists  
we are as yet but imperfect followers of the perfect Christ,  
3 and although we may falter or stumble or loiter by the  
way, we know that the Leader of this movement, Mrs.  
Eddy, has been constantly at her post during all the  
6 storms that have surged against her for a generation.  
She has been the one of all the world who has encountered  
the full force of antagonism. We know, too, that during  
9 these years she has not tried to guide us by means of  
forced marches, but has waited for us to grow into readi-  
ness for each step, and we know that in all this time she  
12 has never urged upon us a step that did not result in our  
welfare.

A year ago she quietly alluded to the need of our  
15 Mother Church. She knew that we were ready; the re-  
sponse was instant, spontaneous. Later on she expressed  
much gratification because of prompt and liberal action,  
18 and it needs no special insight to predict that she will be  
cheered and encouraged to know that, having seized upon  
this privilege and opportunity, we have also made good  
21 the pledge.

[Editorial in *Christian Science Sentinel*, May 16, 1903]

Our readers have been informed of the purchase of the  
24 land upon which the new building will be erected, and  
that this land has been paid for. The location is, there-  
fore, determined. The size of the building was decided  
27 last June, but there still remained for definite decision  
the amount to be expended and the date for commen-  
cing building operations. The pledge of the annual  
30 meeting was "any portion of two million dollars that

1 may be necessary for this purpose," and this of course  
 carried the implication that work should be commenced  
 3 as soon as the money in hand justified the letting of  
 contracts.

The spontaneous and liberal donations which enabled  
 6 those having the work in charge to secure the large  
 parcel of land adjoining The Mother Church, gives  
 promise of the speedy accumulation of a sum sufficient  
 9 to justify the decision of these remaining problems.  
 Each person interested must remember, however, that  
 his individual desires, both as to the amount to be  
 12 expended and the date of commencing work, will be best  
 evidenced by the liberality and promptness of his own  
 contribution.

15 [Mrs. Eddy in *Christian Science Sentinel*, May 30, 1903]

#### NOW AND THEN

This was an emphatic rule of St. Paul: "Behold, now  
 18 is the accepted time." A lost opportunity is the great-  
 est of losses. Whittier mourned it as what "might  
 have been." We own no past, no future, we pos-  
 21 sess only *now*. If the reliable *now* is carelessly lost in  
 speaking or in acting, it comes not back again. What-  
 ever needs to be done which cannot be done now,  
 24 God prepares the way for doing; while that which can  
 be done now, but is not, increases our indebtedness to  
 God. Faith in divine Love supplies the ever-present  
 27 help and *now*, and gives the power to "act in the living  
 present."

The dear children's good deeds are gems in the settings  
 30 of manhood and womanhood. The good they desire to

1 do, they insist upon doing now. They speculate neither  
on the past, present, nor future, but, taking no thought  
3 for the morrow, act in God's time.

A book by Benjamin Wills Newton, called "Thoughts  
on the Apocalypse," published in London, England, in  
6 1853, was presented to me in 1903 by Mr. Marcus  
Holmes. This was the first that I had even heard of  
it. When scanning its interesting pages, my attention  
9 was arrested by the following: "The church at Jerusalem,  
like a sun in the centre of its system, had other churches,  
like so many planets, revolving around it. It was  
12 strictly a *mother* and a ruling church." According to  
his description, the church of Jerusalem seems to pre-  
figure The Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, in  
15 Boston.

I understand that the members of The Mother Church,  
out of loving hearts, pledged to this church in Boston  
18 any part of two millions of money with which to build  
an ample temple dedicate to God, to Him "who forgiveth  
all thine iniquities; *who healeth all thy diseases*; who  
21 redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee  
with lovingkindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth  
thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed  
24 like the eagle's," — to build a temple the spiritual spire  
of which will reach the stars with divine overtures, holy  
harmony, reverberating through all cycles of systems and  
27 spheres.

Because Christian Scientists virtually pledged this  
munificent sum not only to my church but to Him who  
30 returns it unto them after many days, their loving giving  
has been blessed. It has crystallized into a foundation  
for our temple, and it will continue to "prosper in the

1 thing whereto [God, Spirit] sent it." In the *now* they  
brought their tithes into His storehouse. *Then*, when  
3 this bringing is consummated, God will pour them out a  
blessing above the song of angels, beyond the ken of  
mortals — a blessing that two millions of love currency  
6 will bring to be discerned in the near future as a gleam  
of reality; not a madness and nothing, but a sanity  
and something from the individual, stupendous, Godlike  
9 agency of man.

[Editorial in *Christian Science Sentinel*, January 2, 1904]

12 A few days ago we received a letter from a friend in  
another city, saying that he had just been informed —  
and his informant claimed to have good authority for the  
statement — that the entire amount required to complete  
15 The Mother Church building fund had been paid in;  
consequently further payments or subscriptions were not  
desired.

18 Our friend very promptly and emphatically pro-  
nounced the story a fabrication of the evil one, and he  
was entirely right in doing so. If the devil were really  
21 an entity, endowed with genius and inspiration, he could  
not have invented a more subtle lie with which to en-  
snare a generous and loyal people.

24 As a matter of fact, the building fund is not complete,  
but it is in such a healthy state that building operations  
have been commenced, and they will be carried on without  
27 interruption until the church is finished. The rapidity  
with which the work will be pushed forward necessitates  
large payments of money, and it is desirable that the con-  
30 tributions to the building fund keep pace with the dis-  
bursements.



1 [Christian Science Sentinel, March 5, 1904]

### AMENDMENT TO BY-LAW

3 Section 3 of Article XLI (XXXIV in revised edition) of  
 the Church By-laws has been amended to read as follows: —  
 6 THE MOTHER CHURCH BUILDING. — SECTION 3. The  
 edifice erected in 1894 for The First Church of Christ,  
 9 Scientist, in Boston, Mass., shall neither be demolished  
 nor removed from the site where it was built, without the  
 written consent of the Pastor Emeritus, Mary Baker  
 Eddy.

### COMMUNION, 1904

12 *My Beloved Brethren:* — My heart goes out to you as  
 ever in daily desire that the Giver of all good transform  
 you into His own image and likeness. Already I have  
 15 said to you all that you are able to bear now, and thanking  
 you for your gracious reception of it I close with Kate  
 Hankey's excellent hymn, —

18 I love to tell the story,  
 Of unseen things above,  
 Of Jesus and his glory,  
 21 Of Jesus and his love.  
 I love to tell the story,  
 Because I know 'tis true;  
 24 It satisfies my longings,  
 As nothing else can do.

I love to tell the story;  
 27 For those who know it best  
 Seem hungering and thirsting  
 To hear it like the rest.  
 30 And when, in scenes of glory,  
 I sing the NEW, NEW SONG,  
 'Twill be the OLD, OLD STORY  
 33 That I have loved so long.

1 EXTRACT FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT, JUNE 14, 1904

2 The report of Mr. Stephen A. Chase, treasurer of the  
3 building fund of The Mother Church, made to the  
annual meeting, showed that a total of \$425,893.66 had  
4 been received up to and including May 31, 1904, and that  
5 there was a balance of \$226,285.73 on hand on that date,  
6 after paying out the sum of \$199,607.93, which included  
the purchase price of the land for the site of the new  
7 building.  
8  
9

#### THE CORNER-STONE LAID

10 The corner-stone of the new auditorium for The Mother  
11 Church in Boston was laid Saturday, July 16, 1904, at  
12 eight o'clock in the forenoon. In addition to the members  
of the Christian Science Board of Directors, who have  
13 the work directly in charge, there were present on this  
14 occasion: Mr. Alfred Farlow, President of The Mother  
Church; Prof. Hermann S. Hering, First Reader; Mrs.  
15 Ella E. Williams, Second Reader; Mr. Charles Brigham  
and Mr. E. Noyes Whitcomb, respectively the architect  
16 and the builder of the new edifice.

17 The order of the services, which were conducted by the  
18 First Reader, was as follows: —  
19 Scripture reading, Isaiah 28 : 16, 17, —

20 "Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I lay in  
21 Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious  
corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall  
22 not make haste.

23 "Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteous-  
24 ness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the

1 refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding  
place."

3 Also, 1 Peter 2 : 1-6, —

"Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and  
hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

6 "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word,  
that ye may grow thereby:

"If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

9 "To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed  
indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

12 "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house,  
an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, accept-  
able to God by Jesus Christ.

"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture,

15 Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious:  
and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded."

18 The reading of selections from "Science and Health  
with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy, —

Page 241, lines 13-30

	" 136,	" 1-5, 9-14
21	" 137,	" 16-5
	" 583,	" 12-19
	" 35,	" 20-25

24 This was followed by a few moments of silent prayer  
and the audible repetition of the Lord's Prayer with its  
spiritual interpretation, as given in the Christian Science  
27 textbook, after which the following extracts from Mrs.  
Eddy's writings were read: —

30 "Hitherto, I have observed that in proportion as this  
church has smiled on His 'little ones,' He has blessed  
her. Throughout my entire connection with The Mother

1 Church, I have seen, that in the ratio of her love for  
others, hath His love been bestowed upon her; water-  
3 ing her waste places, and enlarging her borders.

"One thing I have greatly desired, and again earnestly  
request, namely, that Christian Scientists, here and else-  
6 where, pray daily for themselves; not verbally, nor on  
bended knee, but mentally, meekly, and importunately.  
When a hungry heart petitions the divine Father-Mother  
9 God for bread, it is not given a stone, — but more grace,  
obedience, and love. If this heart, humble and trustful,  
faithfully asks divine Love to feed it with the bread of  
12 heaven, health, holiness, it will be conformed to a fitness  
to receive the answer to its desire; then will flow into it  
the 'river of His pleasure,' the tributary of divine Love,  
15 and great growth in Christian Science will follow, — even  
that joy which finds one's own in another's good." (Mis-  
cellaneous Writings, p. 127.)

18 "Beloved brethren, the love of our loving Lord was  
never more manifest than in its stern condemnation of all  
error, wherever found. I counsel thee, rebuke and exhort  
21 one another. Love all Christian churches for the gospel's  
sake; and be exceedingly glad that the churches are united  
in purpose, if not in method, to close the war between  
24 flesh and Spirit, and to fight the good fight till God's will  
be witnessed and done on earth as in heaven." (Christian  
Science *versus* Pantheism, p. 13.)

27 The corner-stone was then laid by the members of the  
Christian Science Board of Directors. It contained the  
following articles: The Holy Bible; "Science and Health  
30 with Key to the Scriptures" and all other published  
writings of the Rev. Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer

1 and Founder of Christian Science; Christian Science  
 Hymnal; "The Mother Church;" the current numbers of  
 3 *The Christian Science Journal, Christian Science Sentinel,*  
*Der Herold der Christian Science,* and the *Christian Science*  
*Quarterly.*

6 The ceremony concluded with the repetition of "the  
 scientific statement of being," from Science and Health  
 (p. 468), and the benediction, 2 Corinthians 13 : 14:  
 9 "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of  
 God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you  
 all. Amen."

12 UNSELFISH LOYALTY

To one of the many branch churches which contributed  
 their local church building funds to The Mother Church  
 15 building fund, Mrs. Eddy wrote as follows: —

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST,  
 Colorado Springs, Col.

18 *Beloved Brethren:* — It is conceded that our shadows  
 follow us in the sunlight wherever we go; but I ask for  
 more, even this: That this dear church shall be pursued  
 21 by her *substance*, the immortal fruition of her unselfed  
 love, and that her charity, which "seeketh not her  
 own" but another's good, shall reap richly the reward of  
 24 goodness.

Those words of our holy Way-shower, vibrant through  
 time and eternity with acknowledgment of exemplary  
 27 giving, no doubt fill the memory and swell the hearts of  
 the members of The Mother Church, because of that gift  
 which you so sacredly bestowed towards its church build-  
 30 ing fund. These are applicable words: "Verily I say  
 unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached

1 throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done  
shall be spoken of for a memorial of her." (Mark 14 : 9.)

3 Gratefully yours in Christ,

MARY BAKER EDDY

PLEASANT VIEW, CONCORD, N. H.,

6 September 1, 1904

### HOLIDAY GIFTS

*Beloved Students:* — The holidays are coming, and I  
9 trow you are awaiting on behalf of your Leader the  
loving liberty of their license. May I relieve you of  
selecting, and name your gifts to her, in advance?  
12 Send her only what God gives to His church. Bring  
all your tithes into His storehouse, and what you would  
expend for presents to her, please add to your givings  
15 to The Mother Church building fund, and let this  
suffice for her rich portion in due season. Send no gifts  
to her the ensuing season, but the evidences of glorious  
18 growth in Christian Science.

MARY BAKER EDDY

PLEASANT VIEW, CONCORD, N. H.,

21 October 31, 1904

### A WORD FROM THE DIRECTORS, MAY, 1905

In view of the fact that a general attendance of the  
24 members of The Mother Church at the communion  
and annual meeting in Boston entails the expenditure  
of a large amount of money, and the further fact that  
27 it is important that the building fund of The Mother  
Church should be completed as early as possible, it has  
been decided to omit this year the usual large gathering  
30 in Boston, and to ask the members to contribute to

1 the building fund the amount which they would have  
expended in such an event.

3 We all know of the loving self-sacrifices which have been  
made by many of the branch churches in transferring to  
6 this fund the money which had been collected for the  
purpose of building church homes of their own, and it will  
thus be seen that the course suggested will not only  
hasten the completion of The Mother Church, but will  
9 also advance the erection of many branch churches.  
We therefore feel sure that all Christian Scientists will  
gladly forego a visit to Boston at this time, in order to  
12 contribute more liberally to the building fund and thereby  
aid the progress of our Cause throughout the world.

Christian Scientists have learned from experience that  
15 divine Love more than compensates for every seeming  
trial and deprivation in our loyalty to Truth, and it is  
but right to expect that those who are willing to forego  
18 their anticipated visit this year will receive a greater  
blessing — "good measure, pressed down, and shaken  
together, and running over." The local members, who  
21 have always experienced much pleasure in welcoming  
their brethren from far and near, and who have antici-  
pated much joy in meeting very many of them this year,  
24 will feel that they have been called upon to make no less  
sacrifice than have others; but we are confident that  
they too will be blessed, and that all will rejoice in the  
27 glad reunion upon the completion of the new edifice in  
Boston.

30 IRA O. KNAPP, JOSEPH ARMSTRONG,  
WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, STEPHEN A. CHASE,  
ARCHIBALD McLELLAN,  
*The Christian Science Board of Directors*

## 1 THE ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 13, 1905

*Extract from the Clerk's Report*

3 In the year 1902 our Leader saw the need of a larger  
edifice for the home of The Mother Church, one that  
would accommodate the constantly increasing attendance  
6 at all the services, and the large gatherings at the annual  
meeting; and, at the annual meeting in June, 1902, a  
sum of money adequate to erect such a building was  
9 pledged. Christian Scientists have contributed already  
for this grand and noble purpose, but let us not be uncon-  
sciously blind to the further needs of the building fund,  
12 in order to complete this great work, nor wait to be urged  
or to be shown the absolute necessity of giving.

Since 1866, almost forty years ago, — almost forty  
15 years in the wilderness, — our beloved Leader and teacher,  
Mrs. Eddy, the Founder of Christian Science, has labored  
for the regeneration of mankind; and time has put its  
18 seal of affirmation upon every purpose she has set in  
motion, and the justification of her labors is the fruit.  
In these years of work she has shown wisdom, faith, and  
21 a spiritual discernment of the needs of the present and of  
the future that is nothing less than God-bestowed.

In years to come the moral and the physical effects  
24 produced by The Mother Church, and by the advanced  
position taken by our Pastor Emeritus and Leader, will  
appear in their proper perspective. Is it not therefore  
27 the duty of all who have touched the healing hem of  
Christian Science, to get immediately into the proper  
perspective of the meaning of the erection of the new  
30 edifice of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in  
Boston?



1 It is not necessary for us to delay our contributions in  
order to find out how much our neighbor has given, or to  
3 compute by the total membership of The Mother Church  
what amount each shall send the Treasurer. The divine  
Love that prompted the desire, and supplied the means to  
6 consummate the erection of the present edifice in 1894, is  
still with us, and will bless us so long as we follow His  
commands.

9 *Extract from the Treasurer's Report*

*Building Fund:* — Amount on hand June 1, 1905,  
\$303,189.41; expenditures June 1, 1904 to May 31, 1905,  
12 \$388,663.15; total receipts June 19, 1902 to June 1,  
1905, \$891,460.49.

Amount necessary to complete the sum of \$2,000,000  
15 pledged at the annual meeting, 1902, \$1,108,539.51.

*Greeting to Mrs. Eddy from the Annual Meeting*

*Beloved Teacher and Leader:* — The members of your  
18 church, The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ,  
Scientist, in Boston, Mass., in annual business meeting  
assembled, send their loyal and loving greetings to you,  
21 the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science and  
author of its textbook.

We rejoice greatly that the walls of our new edifice are  
24 rising, not only to faith but also to sight; that this temple,  
which represents the worship of Spirit, with its inseparable  
accompaniment, the Christ-healing, is being built in our  
27 day; and that we have the privilege of participating  
in the work of its erection. As the stately structure  
grows, and stone is laid upon stone, those who pass by are

1 impelled to ask, What means this edifice? and they learn  
that the truth which Christ Jesus revealed — the truth  
3 which makes free — is to-day being proven and is ready  
to heal all who accept its divine ministry. We congratu-  
6 luate you that the building is to express in its ample audi-  
torium something of the vastness of the truth it represents,  
and also to symbolize your unmeasured love for humanity,  
9 which inspires you to welcome all mankind to the privi-  
leges of this healing and saving gospel. As the walls are  
12 bullded by the prayers and offerings of the thousands  
who have been healed through Christian Science, we know  
that you rejoice in the unity of thought and purpose  
which is thus expressed, showing that The Mother Church  
"fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the  
15 Lord."

[Editorial in *Christian Science Sentinel*, November 25, 1905]

18 We are prompted to state, for the benefit of those who  
have inquired about the progress of the work on the  
extension to The Mother Church, that the erection of the  
building is proceeding rapidly; in fact, it is being pushed  
21 with the utmost energy, and at the present time there  
are no less than fifteen different trades represented. The  
beauty of the building, and the substantial and enduring  
24 character of its construction, have been remarked by the  
many visitors who have recently inspected the work, and  
they have gone away with the conviction that the structure  
27 is worthy of our Cause and that it will meet the needs of  
The Mother Church as well as this can be done by a  
building with a seating capacity of five thousand.  
30 It therefore occurs to us that there could be no more  
appropriate time for completing the building fund than

1 the present Thanksgiving season; and it is suggested to our  
 2 readers that there would be great propriety in making a  
 3 special effort during the coming week to dispose fully and  
 finally of this feature of the demonstration.

[*Christian Science Sentinel*, March 17, 1906]

6 GIFTS FROM THE CHILDREN

The great interest exhibited by the children who attend  
 the Sunday School of The Mother Church is shown by  
 9 their contributions to the building fund. The following  
 figures are taken from the report of the secretary of the  
 Sunday School and are most gratifying:

12 March 1, 1903 to February 29, 1904, \$621.10; March 1,  
 1904 to February 28, 1905, \$845.96; March 1, 1905 to  
 February 28, 1906, \$1,112.13; total, \$2,579.19.

15 CARD

Will one and all of my dear correspondents accept this,  
 my answer to their fervid question: Owing to the time  
 18 consumed in travel, *et cetera*, I cannot be present *in*  
*propria persona* at our annual communion and the dedi-  
 cation in June next of The Mother Church of Christ,  
 21 Scientist. But I shall be with my blessed church "in  
 spirit and in truth."

I have faith in the givers and in the builders of this  
 24 church edifice, — admiration for and faith in the grandeur  
 and sublimity of this superb superstructure, wherein all  
 vanity of victory disappears and the glory of divinity  
 27 appears in all its promise.

MARY BAKER EDDY

30 PLEASANT VIEW, CONCORD, N. H.,  
 April 8, 1906

1                   [*Christian Science Sentinel*, April 14, 1906]  
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEDICATION

3       The Christian Science Board of Directors takes pleasure  
in announcing that the extension of The Mother Church  
will be dedicated on the date of the annual communion,  
6       Sunday, June 10, 1906.

                  [*Christian Science Sentinel*, April 28, 1906]  
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

9       *My Beloved Students:* — Your generous check of five  
thousand dollars, April 23, 1906, is duly received. You  
can imagine my gratitude and emotion at the touch of  
12       memory. Your beneficent gift is the largest sum of money  
that I have ever received from my church, and quite  
unexpected at this juncture, but not the less appreciated.  
15       My Message for June 10 is ready for you. It is too  
short to be printed in book form, for I thought it better  
to be brief on this rare occasion. This communion and  
18       dedication include enough of their own.

              The enclosed notice I submit to you, and trust that you  
will see, as I foresee, the need of it. Now is the time to  
21       *throttle the lie* that students worship me or that I claim  
their homage. This historical dedication should date  
some special reform, and this notice is requisite to give  
24       the true animus of our church and denomination.

                                  Lovingly yours,

                                  MARY BAKER EDDY

27       PLEASANT VIEW, CONCORD, N. H.,  
              April 23, 1906

1

## NOTICE

3     *To the Beloved Members of my Church, The Mother Church,*  
 3     *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston: —* Divine  
 Love bids me say: Assemble not at the residence of your  
 Pastor Emeritus at or about the time of our annual  
 6     meeting and communion service, for the divine and not  
 the human should engage our attention at this sacred  
 season of prayer and praise.

9

MARY BAKER EDDY

## NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BUILDING FUND

12     The contributors to the building fund for the extension  
 of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ,  
 Scientist, in Boston, Mass., are hereby notified that  
 sufficient funds have been received for the completion of  
 15     the church building, and the friends are requested to send  
 no more money to this fund.

18

STEPHEN A. CHASE,  
*Treasurer of the Building Fund*

BOSTON, MASS., JUNE 2, 1906

[Editorial in *Christian Science Sentinel*, June 9, 1906]

21     Christian Scientists will read with much joy and  
 thanksgiving the announcement made by Mr. Chase in  
 this issue of the *Sentinel* that sufficient funds have been  
 24     received by him, as treasurer of the building fund, to  
 pay all bills in connection with the extension of The  
 Mother Church, and to most of them the fact that he

1 has been able to make this announcement coincident  
with the completion of the building will be deeply  
3 significant. Our Leader has said in Science and Health  
(p. 494), "Divine Love always has met and always  
will meet every human need," and this has been proved  
6 true in the experience of many who have contributed  
to the building fund.

The treasurer's books will show the dollars and cents  
9 received by him, but they can give no more than a hint of  
the unselfish efforts, and in many instances the loving  
self-sacrifice, of those who have given so generously to the  
12 building of this church. Suffice it to say, however, that  
the giving to this fund has stimulated those gentle  
qualities which mark the true Christian, and its influence  
15 upon the lives of thousands has been of immense value to  
them.

The significance of this building is not to be found in  
18 the material structure, but in the lives of those who, under  
the consecrated leadership of Mrs. Eddy, and following  
her example, are doing the works which Jesus said should  
21 mark the lives of his followers. It stands as the visible  
symbol of a religion which heals the sick and reforms  
the sinful as our Master healed and reformed them. It  
24 proclaims to the world that Jesus' gospel was for all time  
and for all men; that it is as effective to-day as it was  
when he preached the Word of God to the multitudes of  
27 Judea and healed them of their diseases and their sins.  
It speaks for the successful labors of one divinely guided  
woman, who has brought to the world the spiritual under-  
30 standing of the Scriptures, and whose ministry has revealed  
the one true Science and changed the whole aspect of  
medicine and theology.



1 Falmouth and Norway Streets held large crowds of people,  
either coming from a service or awaiting admission to  
3 one. As all the services were precisely the same in every  
respect, nobody attended more than one, so that there  
were well over thirty thousand people who witnessed  
6 the opening. Not only did these include Scientists from  
all over the world, and nearly all the local Scientists,  
but many hundreds of other faiths, drawn to the church  
9 from curiosity, and from sympathy, too.

It spoke much for the devotion of the members to their  
faith, the character of the attendance. In those huge  
12 congregations were business men come from far distant  
points at personal sacrifices of no mean order; profes-  
sional men, devoted women members, visitors from  
15 Australia, from India, from England, from Germany,  
from Switzerland, from South Africa, from Hawaii, from  
the coast States.

18 They gave generously of their means in gratitude for the  
epoch-making event. The six collections were large, and  
when the plates were returned after having been through  
21 the congregations, they were heaped high with bills, with  
silver, and with gold. Some of these contributions were  
one-hundred-dollar bills. Without ostentation and quite  
24 voluntarily the Scientists gave a sum surpassing some of  
the record collections secured by evangelists for the work  
of Christianity.

27 Though the church was filled for the service at half  
past seven, and hundreds had to be turned away, by far  
the largest crowd of the day applied for admission at the  
30 ten o'clock service, and it was representative of the entire  
body of the Christian Science church.

Before half past seven the chimes of the new church



1 began to play, first the "Communion Hymn," succeeded  
by the following hymns throughout the day: "The  
3 morning light is breaking;" "Shepherd, show me how  
to go;" "Just as I am, without one plea;" "I need  
Thee every hour;" "Blest Christmas morn;" "Abide  
6 with me;" "Day by day the manna fell;" "Oh, the  
clanging bells of time;" "Still, still with Thee;" "O'er  
waiting harpstrings of the mind;" Doxology.

9 Promptly at half past six the numerous doors of the  
church were thrown open and the public had its first  
glimpse of the great structure, the cost of which approxi-  
12 mates two millions of dollars, contributed from over the  
entire world. The first impression was of vastness, then  
of light and cheerfulness, and when the vanguard of the  
15 thousands had been seated, expressions of surprise and of  
admiration were heard on every hand for the beauty and  
the grace of the architecture. The new home for worship  
18 that was opened by the Scientists in Boston yesterday  
can take a place in the front rank of the world's houses  
of worship, and it is no wonder that the first sight which  
21 the visitors caught of its interior should have impressed  
them as one of the events of their lives.

First Reader William D. McCrackan, accompanied by  
24 the Second Reader, Mrs. Laura Carey Conant, and the  
soloist for the services, Mrs. Hunt, was on the Readers'  
platform. Stepping to the front of the platform, when  
27 the congregation had taken their seats, the First Reader  
announced simply that they would sing Hymn 161,  
written by Mrs. Eddy, as the opening of the dedicatory  
30 service. And what singing it was! As though trained  
carefully under one leader, the great body of Scientists  
joined in the song of praise.

1 Spontaneous unanimity and repetition in unison were  
 two of the most striking features of the services. When,  
 3 after five minutes of silent communion at the end of the  
 service, the congregation began to repeat the Lord's  
 Prayer, they began all together, and their voices rose as  
 6 one in a heartfelt appeal to the creator.

So good are the acoustic properties of the new structure  
 that Mr. McCrackan and Mrs. Conant could be heard  
 9 perfectly in every part of it, and they did not have to lift  
 their voices above the usual platform tone.

Following the organ voluntary — Fantasia in E minor,  
 12 Merkel — the order of service was as follows: —

Hymn 161, from the Hymnal. Words by the Rev.  
 Mary Baker Eddy.<sup>1</sup>

15 Reading from the Scriptures: Deuteronomy 26 : 1, 2,  
 5-10 (first sentence).

Silent prayer, followed by the audible repetition of the  
 18 Lord's Prayer with its spiritual interpretation as given in  
 the Christian Science textbook.

Hymn 166, from the Hymnal.<sup>2</sup>

21 Reading of notices.

Reading of Tenets of The Mother Church.  
 Collection.

24 Solo, "Communion Hymn," words by the Rev. Mary  
 Baker Eddy, music by William Lyman Johnson.

Reading of annual Message from the Pastor Emeritus,  
 27 the Rev. Mary Baker Eddy.

Reading the specially prepared Lesson-Sermon.

After the reading of the Lesson-Sermon, silent com-  
 30 munion, which concluded with the audible repetition of  
 the Lord's Prayer.

<sup>1</sup> Hymn 306, <sup>2</sup> Hymn 108, in Revised Hymnal

- 1 Singing the Communion Doxology.  
Reading of a despatch from the members of the church  
3 to Mrs. Eddy.  
Reading of "the scientific statement of being" (Sci-  
ence and Health, p. 468), and the correlative Scripture,  
6 1 John 3 : 1-3.  
The benediction.

The subject of the special Lesson-Sermon was "Adam,  
9 Where Art Thou?" the Golden Text: "Search me, O  
God, and know my heart: try me, and know my  
thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me,  
12 and lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalms 139 : 23,  
24.) The responsive reading was from Psalms 15 : 1-5;  
24 : 1-6, 9, 10.

15 1 Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall  
dwell in thy holy hill?

18 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteous-  
ness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

21 3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth  
evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his  
neighbor.

24 4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he  
honoreth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to  
his own hurt, and changeth not.

27 5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor  
taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these  
things shall never be moved.

30 1 The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof;  
the world, and they that dwell therein.

2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established  
it upon the floods.

1     3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place?

3     4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

6     5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

9     6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob.

12    9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

12    10 Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

15    The Lesson-Sermon consisted of the following citations from the Bible and "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by the Rev. Mary Baker Eddy, and was read by Mr. McCrackan and Mrs. Conant: —

18	I	
	The Bible	Science and Health <sup>1</sup>
	Genesis 3:9-11	224:22
21	Proverbs 8:1, 4, 7	559:8-10, 19
	Mark 2:15-17	181:21-25
		307:31-8

24	II	
	Psalms 51:1-3, 6, 10, 12, 13, 17	308:8, 16-28 <i>This;</i> <i>Jacob</i>
27		323:19-24, 28-32 <i>When; The effects</i>

30    <sup>1</sup> The Science and Health references in this lesson are according to the 1913 edition.

1		III	
	The Bible		Science and Health
3	Hebrews 11:1, 3, 6		297:20 <i>Faith</i>
	Proverbs 3:5, 6		241:23-27
	Job 28:20, 23, 28		275:25
6	1 Corinthians 14:20		505:21-28 <i>Under- standing</i>
			536:8
9		IV	
	Psalms 86:15, 16		345:31
	Matthew 9:2-8		337:10
12			525:4
			494:30-2 <i>Our Master</i>
			476:32-4
15			171:4
		V	
	Mark 12:30, 31		9:17-21 <i>Dost thou</i>
18	John 21:1 (first clause), 14-17		53:8-11
	1 John 4:21		54:29-1
21			560:11-19, 22 <i>The great; Abuse</i>
			565:18-22
		VI	
24	John 21:4-6, 9, 12, 13		34:29-29
	Revelation 3:20		
	Revelation 7:13, 14, 16, 17		
27	During the progress of each service, First Reader William D. McCrackan read to the congregation the		

1 dedicatory Message from their teacher and Leader, Mrs.  
Mary Baker Eddy.

3 The telegram from the church to Mrs. Eddy was read  
by Mr. Edward A. Kimball of Chicago, and the five  
thousand present rose as one to indicate their approval  
6 of it.

REV. MARY BAKER EDDY, *Pastor Emeritus*

*Beloved Teacher and Leader.* — The members of your  
9 church have assembled at this sacred time to commune  
with our infinite heavenly Father and again to consecrate  
all that we are or hope to be to a holy Christian service  
12 that shall be acceptable unto God.

Most of us are here because we have been delivered from  
beds of sickness or withheld from open graves or reclaimed  
15 from vice or redeemed from obdurate sin. We have ex-  
changed the tears of sorrow for the joy of repentance and  
the peace of a more righteous living, and now with blessed  
18 accord we are come, in humility, to pour out our gratitude  
to God and to bear witness to the abundance of salvation  
through His divine Christ.

21 At this altar, dedicated to the only true God, we who  
have been delivered from the depths increase the measure  
of our devotion to the daily life and purpose which are in  
24 the image and likeness of God.

By these stately walls; by this sheltering dome; by  
all the beauty of color and design, the Christian Scientists  
27 of the world, in tender affection for the cause of human  
weal, have fulfilled a high resolve and set up this taber-  
nacle, which is to stand as an enduring monument, a sign  
30 of your understanding and proof that our Supreme  
God, through His power and law, is the natural healer

1 of all our diseases and hath ordained the way of salva-  
tion of all men from all evil. No vainglorious boast,  
3 no pride of circumstances has place within the sacred  
confines of this sanctuary. Naught else than the gran-  
deur of humility and the incense of gratitude and com-  
6 passionate love can acceptably ascend heavenward from  
this house of God.

It is from the depths of tenderest gratitude, respect,  
9 and affection that we declare again our high appreciation  
of all that you have done and continue to do for the ever-  
lasting advantage of this race. Through you has been  
12 revealed the verity and rule of the Christianity of Christ  
which has ever healed the sick. By your fidelity and the  
constancy of your obedience during forty years you have  
15 demonstrated this Science before the gaze of universal  
humanity. By reason of your spiritual achievement the  
Cause of Christian Science has been organized and main-  
18 tained, its followers have been prospered, and the philos-  
ophy of the ages transformed. Recognizing the grand  
truth that God is the supreme cause of all the activities of  
21 legitimate existence, we also recognize that He has made  
known through your spiritual perception the substance  
of Christian Science, and that this church owes itself and  
24 its prosperity to the unbroken activity of your labors,  
which have been and will still be the pretext for our  
confident and favorable expectation.

27 We have read your annual Message to this church.  
We are deeply touched by its sweet entreaty, its ineffable  
loving-kindness, its wise counsel and admonition.

30 With sacred resolution do we pray that we may give  
heed and ponder and obey. We would be glad if our  
prayers, our rejoicing, and our love could recompense your

1 long sacrifice and bestow upon you the balm of heavenly  
 joy, but knowing that every perfect gift cometh from  
 3 above, and that in God is all consolation and comfort,  
 we rest in this satisfying assurance, while we thank you  
 and renew the story of our love for you and for all that  
 6 you are and all that you have done for us.

WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, *Clerk*

By means of a carefully trained corps of ushers, num-  
 9 bering two hundred, there was no confusion in finding  
 seats, and when all seating space had been filled no more  
 were admitted until the next service. The church was  
 12 filled for each service in about twenty minutes, and was  
 emptied in twelve, in spite of the fact that many of  
 the visitors showed a tendency to tarry to examine the  
 15 church.

It was "children's day" at noon, for the service at half  
 past twelve was specially reserved for them. They filled  
 18 all the seats in the body of the church, and when it came  
 to the singing, the little ones were not a whit behind their  
 elders, their shrill trebles rising with the roll of the organ  
 21 in almost perfect time. In every respect their service was  
 the same as all the others.

There was no more impressive feature of the dedication  
 24 than the silent communion. Devout Scientists said after  
 the service that they would ever carry with them the  
 memory of it.

27 THE ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 12, 1906

The annual meeting of The First Church of Christ,  
 Scientist, in Boston, was held in the extension of The  
 30 Mother Church, Tuesday, June 12, at ten o'clock in the



1 forenoon, and in order to accommodate those who could  
 not gain admittance at that hour a second session was held  
 3 at two o'clock in the afternoon. The meeting was opened  
 by the President, Rev. William P. McKenzie, who read  
 from the Bible and Science and Health as follows: —

6	The Bible	Science and Health
	Isaiah 54:1-5, 10-15,	571:22
	17	574:3-16, 27 <i>The Revela-</i>
9	Revelation 19:1, 6-9	<i>tor; The very</i>
		577:4

Then followed a short silent prayer and the audible  
 12 repetition of the Lord's Prayer, in which all joined. The  
 following list of officers for the ensuing year was read by  
 the Clerk: —

15 President, Willis F. Gross, C.S.B.; Treasurer, Stephen  
 A. Chase, C.S.D.; Clerk, William B. Johnson, C.S.D.

In introducing the new President, Mr. McKenzie said: —

18 When I introduce the incoming President, my modest  
 task will be ended. You will allow me, however, the  
 privilege of saying a few words of reminder and prophecy.  
 21 My thoughts revert to a former occasion, when it was my  
 pleasant duty to preside at an annual meeting when our  
 Pastor Emeritus, Mrs. Eddy, was present. We remember  
 24 her graciousness and dignity. We recall the harmonious  
 tones of her gentle voice. Our hearts were thrilled by her  
 compassion, and the memory lives with us. But even more  
 27 distinctly may we realize her presence with us to-day.  
 Why? Because our own growth in love and unity enables  
 us to comprehend better the strength and beauty of her  
 30 character.

1       Moreover, this completed extension of The Mother  
2       Church is an evidence to us of her hospitable love. She  
3       has desired for years to have her church able to give  
4       more adequate reception to those who hunger and thirst  
5       after practical righteousness; and we are sure that now  
6       the branch churches of The Mother Church will also en-  
7       large their hospitality, so that these seekers everywhere  
8       may be satisfied. This will imply the subsidence of criti-  
9       cism among workers. It may even imply that some who  
10      have been peacebreakers shall willingly enter into the  
11      blessedness of peacemakers. Nothing will be lost, how-  
12     ever, by those who relinquish their cherished resentments,  
13     forsake animosity, and abandon their strongholds of  
14     rivalry. Through rivalries among leaders Christendom  
15     became divided into warring sects; but the demand  
16     of this age is for peacemaking, so that Christianity  
17     may more widely reassert its pristine power to bring  
18     health and a cure to pain-racked and sorrow-worn hu-  
19     manity. "The wisdom that is from above is first  
20     pure, then peaceable, . . . And the fruit of righteous-  
21     ness is sown in peace of them that make peace."  
22     "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called  
23     the children of God."  
24     Our Leader, Mrs. Eddy, has presented to the world the  
25     ideal of Christianity, because she is an exact metaphysi-  
26     cian. She has illustrated what the poet perceived when he  
27     said, "All's love, but all's law." She has obeyed the divine  
28     Principle, Love, without regrets and without resistance.  
29     Human sense often rebels against law, hence the proverb:  
30     *Dura lex, sed lex* (Hard is the law, nevertheless it is  
31     the law). But by her own blameless and happy life,  
32     as well as by her teachings, our Leader has induced a

1 multitude — how great no man can number — to be-  
2 come gladly obedient to law, so that they think rightly  
3 or righteously.

4 No one can change the law of Christian metaphysics,  
5 the law of right thinking, nor in any wise alter its  
6 effects. It is a forever fact that the meek and lowly in  
7 heart are blessed and comforted by divine Love. If the  
8 proud are lonely and un comforted, it is because they  
9 have thoughts adverse to the law of love. Pride, arro-  
10 gance, and self-will are unmerciful, and so receive judg-  
11 ment without mercy; but the law of metaphysics says,  
12 "Blessed are the merciful," and will allow no one to  
13 escape that blessedness, howsoever far he may stray,  
14 whatsoever lawlessness of hatred he may practise and  
15 suffer from.

16 So we see that Christian Science makes no compromise  
17 with evil, sin, wrong, or imperfection, but maintains the  
18 perfect standard of truth and righteousness and joy. It  
19 teaches us to rise from sentimental affection which ad-  
20 mires friends and hates enemies, into brotherly love which  
21 is just and kind to all and unable to cherish any enmity.  
22 It brings into present and hourly application what Paul  
23 termed "the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus," and  
24 shows man that his real estate is one of blessedness. Why  
25 should any one postpone his legitimate joy, and disregard  
26 his lawful inheritance, which is "incorruptible and unde-  
27 filed"? Our Leader and teacher not only discovered  
28 Christian Science, but through long years of consecration  
29 has obeyed its every demand, for our sakes as well as  
30 for her own; and we begin to understand how illim-  
31 itable is the Love which supports such selfless devotion,  
32 we begin to comprehend the "beauty of holiness," and

1 to be truly grateful to her who has depicted its form  
and comeliness. We have found it true that "she  
3 openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is  
the law of kindness."

It is my pleasure to introduce to you a faithful follower  
6 of this Leader as the President for the coming year, Willis  
F. Gross, C.S.B., one who has for many years "witnessed  
a good confession" in the practice of Christian Science.  
9 You are no doubt already acquainted with him as one of  
the helpful contributors to our periodicals, so that any  
further words of mine are unnecessary.

12 Mr. Gross, on assuming office, said: —

*Beloved Friends:* — Most unexpectedly to me came the  
call to serve you in this capacity, and I desire to improve  
15 this opportunity to express my thanks for the honor con-  
ferred upon me. With a heart filled with gratitude for the  
countless blessings which have come into my life through  
18 Christian Science, I shall endeavor to perform this service  
to the best of my ability.

It affords me great pleasure to welcome you to our first  
21 annual meeting held in the extension of The Mother  
Church. I shall not attempt to speak of the deep signifi-  
cance of this momentous occasion. I realize that only as  
24 infinite good unfolds in each individual consciousness can  
we begin to comprehend, even in small degree, how great  
is the work that has been inaugurated by our beloved  
27 Leader, how faithful is her allegiance to God, how untiring  
are her efforts, and how successful she is in the performance  
of her daily tasks.

30 "With a mighty hand, and with an outstretched arm"  
were the children of Israel delivered from the bondage of

1 the Egyptians, but this deliverance did not put them in  
possession of the promised land. An unknown wilder-  
3 ness was before them, and that wilderness must be con-  
quered. The law was given that they might know what  
was required of them, that they might have a definite rule  
6 of action whereby to order aright the affairs of daily life.  
Obedience to the demands of the law revealed the God  
of their fathers, and they learned to know Him. During  
9 their sojourn in the wilderness they suffered defeats and  
met with disappointments, but they learned from experi-  
ence and finally became willingly obedient to the voice of  
12 their leader. The crossing of the Jordan brought them  
into the promised land, and this experience was almost  
as marvellous as had been the passage of the Red Sea  
15 forty years before. In obedience to the command of  
Joshua, twelve stones taken from the midst of the river  
were set up on the other side for a memorial. In future  
18 generations when it was asked, "What mean ye by these  
stones?" it was told them: Israel came over this Jordan  
on dry ground.

21 Forty years ago the Science of Christian healing was  
revealed to our beloved Leader, the Rev. Mary Baker  
Eddy. A few years later she gave us our textbook,  
24 "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures." Obedi-  
ence to the teachings of this book has brought us to this  
hour. We have learned from experience, and to-day we  
27 rejoice that we have found in Christian Science that  
which heals and saves.

The world looks with wonder upon this grand achieve-  
30 ment, — the completion and dedication of our magnificent  
temple, — and many are asking, "What mean ye by these  
stones?" The answer is, The way out of the wilderness

1 of human beliefs has been revealed. Through the under-  
 2 standing of God as an ever-present help, the sick are being  
 3 healed, the shackles of sin are being broken, heavy burdens  
 are being laid down, tears are being wiped away, and  
 4 Israel is going up to possess the promised land of eternal,  
 5 harmonious existence.

6 Friends, our progress may be fast or it may be slow,  
 but one thing is certain, it will be sure, if we are obe-  
 7 dient to the loving counsel of our ever faithful Leader.  
 The Christ is here, has come to individual conscious-  
 8 ness; and the faithful disciple rejoices in prophecy ful-  
 9 filled, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of  
 10 the world."

*Telegram to Mrs. Eddy*

11 Judge Septimus J. Hanna then advanced to the  
 12 front of the platform, read the following despatch, and  
 moved that it be forwarded at once to our Leader,  
 13 Mrs. Eddy. The motion was carried unanimously by a  
 14 rising vote.

The despatch was as follows: —

15 TO THE REV. MARY BAKER EDDY,  
 16 Pleasant View, Concord, N. H.

17 *Beloved Teacher and Leader.* — The members of The  
 18 Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist,  
 in Boston, Mass., in annual meeting assembled, hereby  
 19 convey to you their sincere greetings and their deep  
 20 love.

21 They desire to express their continued loyalty to your  
 22 teachings, their unshaken confidence in the unerring wis-  
 23 dom of your leadership, and their confident assurance  
 24

1 that strict and intelligent recognition of and obedience to  
the comprehensive means by you provided for the further-  
3 ance of our Cause, will result in its perpetuity as well  
as in the ultimate regeneration of its adherents and of  
mankind.

6 We are witnessing with joy and gratitude the significant  
events associated with this, one of the greatest and most  
important gatherings of Christian Scientists in the annals  
9 of our history. Yet the upwards of thirty thousand who  
are physically present at the dedication represent only a  
small part of the entire body who are of us and with us  
12 in the animus and spirit of our movement.

The great temple is finished! That which you have long  
prophetically seen has been accomplished. The magnifi-  
15 cent edifice stands a fitting monument of your obedience  
and fidelity to the divine Principle revealed to you in that  
momentous hour when purblind mortal sense declared you  
18 to be *in extremis*. You followed unswervingly the guid-  
ance of Him who went before you by day in a pillar of  
cloud to lead you in the way, and by night in a pillar  
21 of fire to give you light, and the results of such following  
have been marvellous beyond human ken. As clearly  
as in retrospect we see the earlier leading, we now discern  
24 the fulfilment of the later prophecy, that "He took not  
away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by  
night," for each advancing step has logically followed  
27 the preceding one.

The great temple is finished! This massive pile of New  
Hampshire granite and Bedford stone, rising to a height  
30 of two hundred and twenty-four feet, one foot loftier than  
the Bunker Hill monument, stands a material type of  
Truth's permanence. In solid foundation, in symmetrical

1 arches, in generous hallways, in commodious foyer and  
broad stairways, in exquisite and expansive auditorium,  
3 and in towering, overshadowing dome, the great structure  
stands, silently but eloquently beckoning us on towards  
a higher and more spiritual plane of living, for we know  
6 that without this spiritual significance it were but a pass-  
ing dream.

In the best sense it stands in prophetic verity of the  
9 primary declaration of this church in its original organiza-  
tion; namely, "To organize a church designed to com-  
memorate the word and works of our Master, which should  
12 reinstate primitive Christianity and its lost element  
of healing." (Church Manual, p. 17.) To rise to the  
demands of this early pronouncement is the work of true  
15 Christian Scientists.

To preach the gospel and heal the sick on the Christ-  
basis is the essential requirement of a reinstated Chris-  
18 tianity. Only as we pledge ourselves anew to this demand,  
and then fulfil the pledge in righteous living, are we faith-  
ful, obedient, deserving disciples.

21 On this solemn occasion, and in the presence of this  
assembled host, we do hereby pledge ourselves to a deeper  
consecration, a more sincere and Christly love of God and  
24 our brother, and a more implicit obedience to the sacred  
teachings of the Bible and our textbook, as well as to the  
all-inclusive instructions and admonitions of our Church  
27 Manual in its spiritual import, that we may indeed reach  
"unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem,  
and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general  
30 assembly and church of the firstborn."

WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, *Clerk*

BOSTON, MASS., June 12, 1906



1

*Report of the Clerk*

3 *Beloved Brethren of The First Church of Christ, Scientist,*  
4 *in Boston, Mass.:* — It seems meet at this time, when  
5 thousands of Christian Scientists have gathered here  
6 from all parts of the world, many of whom have not had  
7 the means of knowing the steps by which this church has  
8 reached its present growth, to present in this report a few  
9 of the stages of its progress, as gleaned from the pages of  
10 its history.

11 After a work has been established, has grown to great  
12 magnitude, and people the world over have been touched  
13 by its influence for good, it is with joy that those who have  
14 labored unceasingly for the work look back to the pictur-  
15 esque, interesting, and epoch-marking stages of its growth,  
16 and recall memories of trials, progress, and victories that  
17 are precious each and all. To-day we look back over the  
18 years that have passed since the inception of this great  
19 Cause, and we cannot help being touched by each land-  
20 mark of progress that showed a forward effort into the  
21 well-earned joy that is with us now. For a Cause that  
22 has rooted itself in so many distant lands, and inspired so  
23 many of different races and tongues into the demonstration  
24 of the knowledge of God, the years that have passed since  
25 Mrs. Eddy founded her first church seem but a short  
26 time. And this little church, God's word in the wilder-  
27 ness of dogma and creed, opened an era of Christian  
28 worship founded on the commands of Jesus: "Go ye  
29 into all the world, and preach the gospel to every  
30 creature. . . . And these signs shall follow them that  
31 believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they  
32 shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up ser-

1 pents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not  
hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they  
3 shall recover."

Not until nineteen centuries had passed was there one  
ready to receive the inspiration, to restore to human con-  
sciousness the stone that had been rejected, and which  
6 Mrs. Eddy made "the head of the corner" of The Church  
of Christ, Scientist.

9 With the reading of her textbook, "Science and  
Health with Key to the Scriptures," Mrs. Eddy insisted  
that her students make, every day, a prayerful study of  
12 the Bible, and obtain the spiritual understanding of its  
promises. Upon this she founded the future growth of  
her church, and twenty-six years later the following  
15 splendid appreciation of her efforts appeared in the  
*Methodist Review* from the pen of the late Frederick  
Lawrence Knowles: —

18 "Mrs. Eddy . . . in her insistence upon the constant  
daily reading of the Bible and her own writings, . . .  
has given to her disciples a means of spiritual development  
21 which . . . will certainly build such truth as they do gain  
into the marrow of their characters. The scorn of the  
gross and sensual, and the subordination of merely material  
24 to spiritual values, together with the discouragement of  
care and worry, are all forces that make for righteousness.  
And they are burned indelibly upon the mind of the  
27 neophyte every day through its reading. The intellects  
of these people are not drugged by scandal, drowned in  
frivolity, or paralyzed by sentimental fiction. . . . They  
30 feed the higher nature through the mind, and I am bound  
as an observer of them to say, in all fairness, that the  
result is already manifest in their faces, their conversation,

1 and their bearing, both in public and private. What  
wonder that when these smiling people say, 'Come thou  
3 with us, and we will do thee good,' the hitherto half-  
persuaded one is wholly drawn over, as by an irresistible  
attraction. The religious body which can direct, and con-  
6 trol, in no arbitrary sense, but through sane counsel, the  
reading of its membership, stands a great chance of sweep-  
ing the world within a generation."

9 The charter of this little church was obtained August  
23, 1879, and in the same month the members extended a  
unanimous invitation to Mrs. Eddy to become its pastor.  
12 At a meeting of those who were interested in forming the  
church, Mrs. Eddy was appointed on the committee to  
formulate the rules and by-laws, also the tenets and church  
15 covenant. The first business meeting of the church was  
held August 16, 1879, in Charlestown, Mass., for the pur-  
pose of electing officers. August 22 the Clerk, by instruc-  
18 tions received at the previous meeting, sent an invitation  
to Mrs. Eddy to become pastor of the church. August 27  
the church held a meeting, with Mrs. Eddy in the chair.  
21 An interesting record of this meeting reads: "The minutes  
of the previous meeting were read and approved. Then  
Mrs. Eddy proceeded to instruct those present as to their  
24 duties in the Church of Christ, giving some useful hints as  
to the mode of conducting the church."

At a meeting held October 19, 1879, it was unanimously  
27 voted that "Dr. and Mrs. Eddy merited the thanks of the  
society for their devoted labors in the cause of Truth,"  
and at the annual meeting, December 1 of the same year,  
30 it was voted to instruct the Clerk to call Mrs. Eddy  
to the pastorate of the church, and at this meeting Mrs.  
Eddy accepted the call. The first meeting of this little

1 church for deliberation before a Communion Sabbath  
was held at the home of the pastor, Mrs. Eddy, Jan-  
3 uary 2, 1880.

Most of those present had left their former church  
homes, in which they had labored faithfully and ardently,  
6 and had united themselves into a little band of prayerful  
workers. As the Pilgrims felt the strangeness of their  
new home, the vast gloom of the mysterious forests, and  
9 knew not the trials before them, so this little band of  
pioneers, guided by their dauntless Leader and teacher,  
starting out on their labors against the currents of dogma,  
12 creed, sickness, and sin, must have felt a peculiar sense of  
isolation, for their records state, "The tone of this meeting  
for deliberation before Communion Sabbath was rather  
15 sorrowful;" but as they turned steadfastly from the mor-  
tal side, and looked towards the spiritual, as the records  
further relate, "yet there was a feeling of trust in the  
18 great Father, of Love prevailing over the apparently dis-  
couraging outlook of the Church of Christ." The Com-  
munion Sunday, however, brought fresh courage to the  
21 earnest band, and the records contain these simple but  
suggestive words, — "Sunday, January 4, 1880. The  
church celebrated her Communion Sabbath as a church,  
24 and it was a very inspiring season to us all, and two new  
members were added to the church." This was indeed  
the little church in the wilderness, and few knew of its  
27 teachings, but those few saw the grandeur of its work  
and were willing to labor for the Cause.

The record of May 23, 1880, more than twenty-six years  
30 ago, states: "Our pastor, Mrs. Eddy, preached her fare-  
well sermon to the church. The business committee met  
after the services to call a general meeting of the church

1 to devise means to pay our pastor, so as to keep her with  
us, as there is no one in the world who could take her place  
3 in teaching us the Science of Life." May 26 of the same  
year the following resolutions were passed: "That the  
members of the Church of Christ, and all others now in-  
6 terested in said church, do most sincerely regret that our  
pastor, Mrs. Eddy, feels it her duty to tender her resigna-  
tion, and while we feel that she has not met with the  
9 support that she should have reason to expect, we venture  
to hope she will remain with us. That it would be a  
serious blow to her Cause to have the public services  
12 discontinued at a time when there is such an interest  
manifested on the part of the people, and we know of no  
one who is so able as she to lead us to the higher under-  
15 standing of Christianity, whereby to heal the sick and  
reform the sinner. It was moved to instruct the Clerk to  
have our pastor remain with us for a few Sundays if not  
18 permanently."

At a meeting of the church, December 15, 1880, an invi-  
tation was extended to Mrs. Eddy to accept the pastorate  
21 for the ensuing year; but, as the records state, "she gave  
no definite answer, believing that it was for the interest  
of the Cause, and her duty, to go into new fields to  
24 teach and preach."

An interesting record relative to this very early work of  
the church, and its appreciation of Mrs. Eddy's tireless  
27 labors, is that of July 20, 1881, which reads, "That we,  
the members of The Church of Christ, Scientist, tender to  
our beloved pastor, Mrs. Eddy, the heartfelt thanks and  
30 gratitude shared by all who have attended the services, in  
appreciation of her earnest endeavors, her arduous labors,  
and successful instructions to heal the sick, and reform

1 the sinner, by metaphysical truth or Christian Science, dur-  
ing the past year. Resolved: That while she had many  
3 obstacles to overcome, many mental hardships to endure,  
she has borne them bravely, blessing them that curse her,  
loving them that despitefully use her, thereby giving in  
6 her Christian example, as well as her instructions, the  
highest type of womanhood, or the love that heals. And  
while we sincerely acknowledge our indebtedness to her,  
9 and to God, for these blessings, we, each and all, will make  
greater efforts more faithfully to sustain her in her work.  
Resolved: That while we realize the rapid growth, and  
12 welcome the fact of the spreading world wide of this great  
truth, that Mind, Truth, Life, and Love, as taught and  
expressed by our pastor, does heal the sick, and, when  
15 understood, does bring out the perfection of all things, we  
also realize we must use more energy and unselfish labor  
to establish these our Master's commands and our pastor's  
18 teachings, namely, heal the sick, and preach the gospel,  
and love our neighbor as ourselves."

Eighteen years ago, the Rev. James Henry Wiggin, who  
21 was not a Christian Scientist, wrote as follows: "What-  
ever is to be Mrs. Eddy's future reputation, time will  
show. Little cares she, if only through her work Truth  
24 may be glorified. More than once, in her earnestness, she  
has reached her bottom dollar, but the interest of the  
world to hear her word has always filled her coffers anew.  
27 Within a few months she has made sacrifices from which  
most authors would have shrunk, to insure the moral  
rightness of her book." This statement "Phare Pleigh"  
30 [the *nom de plume* of the Rev. James Henry Wiggin]  
makes out of his own peculiar knowledge of the circum-  
stances. "Day after day flew by, and weeks lengthened

1 into months; from every quarter came important mis-  
sives of inquiry and mercantile reproach; hundreds of  
3 dollars were sunk into a bottomless sea of corrections;  
yet not until the authoress was satisfied that her duty  
was wholly done, would she allow printer and binder to  
6 send forth her book to the world." This book has now  
reached its four hundredth edition, each of one thousand  
copies.

9 On September 8, 1882, it was voted that the church  
hold its meetings of worship in the parlors of Mrs. Eddy's  
home, 569 Columbus Avenue, Boston. The services were  
12 held there until November, 1883, and then in the Haw-  
thorne Rooms, at No. 3 Park Street, the seating capacity  
of which place was about two hundred and twenty-  
15 five. At a meeting October 22, 1883, the church voted  
to wait upon Mrs. Eddy, to ascertain if she would  
preach for the society for ten dollars a Sunday, which  
18 invitation she accepted. After establishing itself as a  
church in the Hawthorne Rooms, the number of atten-  
dants steadily increased. The pulpit was supplied by  
21 Mrs. Eddy, when she could give the time to preach,  
and by her students and by clergymen of different  
denominations, among whom was the Rev. A. J. Pea-  
24 body, D.D., of Cambridge, Mass.

The annual report of the business committee of the  
church, for the year ending December 7, 1885, contains  
27 some very interesting statements, among which is this:  
"There was a steadily increasing interest in Christian  
Science among the people, even though the continuity  
30 of thought must have been very much broken by having  
so many different ones address them on the subject.  
When our pastor preached for us it was found that the

1 Hawthorne Rooms were inadequate for the occasion,  
hundreds going away who could not obtain entrance;  
3 those present enduring the inconvenience that comes  
from crowding, for the sake of the eternal truth she  
taught them." The *Boston Traveler* contained the fol-  
6 lowing item: "The Church of Christ, Scientist, had their  
meeting Easter Sunday at Hawthorne Rooms, which  
were crowded one hour before the service commenced,  
9 and half an hour before the arrival of the pastor, the  
Rev. Mary Baker Eddy, the tide of men and women  
was turned from the door with the information, 'No  
12 more standing-room.' "

On February 8, 1885, communion was held at Odd  
Fellows Hall, and there were present about eight hundred  
15 people. At this time the Hawthorne Rooms, which had  
been regarded as the church home, were outgrown. Dur-  
ing the summer vacation, different places were considered,  
18 but no place suitable could be found that was available,  
and the Sunday services were postponed. There was an  
expectation that some place would be obtained, but the  
21 desire for services was so great that the Hawthorne Rooms  
were again secured. A record of this period reads, "It  
should be here stated that from the first of September to  
24 our opening, crowds had besieged the doors at the Haw-  
thorne Rooms, Sunday after Sunday." On October 18,  
1885, the rooms were opened and a large congregation  
27 was present. It was then concluded to engage Chickering  
Hall on Tremont Street. In the previous consideration  
of places for meeting it had been decided that this hall  
30 was too large, as it seated four hundred and sixty-four.  
The first Sunday service held in Chickering Hall was on  
October 25, 1885. Mrs. Eddy preached at this service



1 and the hall was crowded. This date is memorable as  
the one upon which the Sunday School was formed.

3       Meanwhile it was felt that the church needed a place of  
its own, and efforts were made to obtain by purchase some  
building, or church, in a suitable location. Several places  
6 were considered, but were not satisfactory; yet the  
thought of obtaining a church edifice, although given up  
for a time, was not forgotten. In the mean time, not  
9 only was the attendance rapidly growing in this church in  
Chickering Hall, but the Cause itself was spreading over  
the land. September 1, 1892, Mrs. Eddy gave the plot of  
12 ground on which The Mother Church now stands. On  
the twenty-third day of September, 1892, twelve of the  
members of the church met, and, upon Mrs. Eddy's  
15 counsel, reorganized the church, and named it The First  
Church of Christ, Scientist. This effort of Mrs. Eddy  
was an inspiration to Christian Scientists, and plans were  
18 made for a church home.

In the mean time Sunday services were held in Chickering  
Hall, and continued there until March, 1894, and  
21 during the last year the hall was crowded to overflowing.  
In March, however, the church was obliged to seek other  
quarters, as Chickering Hall was to be remodelled. At this  
24 time the church removed to Copley Hall on Clarendon  
Street, which had a seating capacity of six hundred and  
twenty-five, and in that place Sunday services were held  
27 until The Mother Church edifice was ready for occupancy,  
December 30, 1894. During the months that the con-  
gregation worshipped in Copley Hall there was a steady  
30 increase in attendance.

Twelve years ago the twenty-first of last month, the  
corner-stone of The Mother Church edifice was laid, and

1 at that time it was thought the seating capacity would be  
adequate for years to come. Attendance at the Sunday  
3 service gradually increased, until every seat was filled and  
many stood in the aisles, and in consequence two services  
were held, morning and afternoon, the latter a repetition  
6 of the morning service. The date of the inauguration of  
two Sunday services was April 26, 1896. It was soon  
evident that even this provision was inadequate to meet  
9 the need, and it was found necessary to organize branch  
churches in such suburbs of Boston as would relieve  
the overcrowded condition of The Mother Church; there-  
12 fore three branch churches were organized, one in each of  
the following named places: Cambridge, Chelsea, and  
Roxbury.

15 For a while it seemed that there would be ample room  
for growth of attendance in The Mother Church, but not-  
withstanding the relief that the organization of branch  
18 churches had given, the number of attendants increased  
faster than ever. From the time that the three foregoing  
named churches were established, the membership and the  
21 attendance at them and at The Mother Church steadily  
grew, and more branch churches were established in other  
suburbs, members of which had formerly been attendants  
24 at The Mother Church. In the spring of 1905 the over-  
crowded condition of the morning service showed that  
still further provision must be made, as many were obliged  
27 to leave the church for the reason that there was not even  
standing-room. Therefore, beginning October 1, 1905,  
three services were held each Sunday, the second and  
30 third being repetitions of the first service.

This continued growth, this continued overcrowding,  
proved the need of a larger edifice. Our communion ser-

1 vices and annual meetings were overcrowded in The  
Mother Church, they were overcrowded in Tremont  
3 Temple, in Symphony Hall, and in the Mechanics Build-  
ing, and the need was felt of an auditorium that would  
be of great seating capacity, and one that would have the  
6 sacred atmosphere of a church home.

In Mrs. Eddy's Message to the church in 1902 she sug-  
gested the need of a larger church edifice, and at the  
9 annual meeting of the same year the church voted to  
raise any part of two millions of dollars for the purpose of  
building a suitable edifice. The labor of clearing the land  
12 was begun in October, 1903, and the corner-stone was  
laid July 16, 1904.

The first annual meeting of the church was held in  
15 Chickering Hall, October 3, 1893, and the membership  
at that date was 1,545. The membership of this  
church to-day is 40,011. The number of candidates  
18 admitted June 5 of this year is the largest in the his-  
tory of the church and numbers 4,889, which is 2,194  
more than the hitherto largest admission, that of June,  
21 1903. The total number admitted during the last  
year is 6,181. The total number of branch churches  
advertised in *The Christian Science Journal* of this  
24 June is 682, 614 of which show a membership of  
41,944. The number of societies advertised in the  
*Journal* is 267.

27 Shortly before the dedication of The Mother Church in  
1895, the *Boston Evening Transcript* said: "Wonders will  
never cease. Here is a church whose Treasurer has sent  
30 out word that no sums except those already subscribed  
can be received. The Christian Scientists have a faith  
of the mustard-seed variety. What a pity some of our

1 practical Christian folk have not a faith approximate to  
that of these impractical Christian Scientists."

3 The fact that a notice was published in the *Christian  
Science Sentinel* of last Saturday that no more funds  
are needed to complete the extension of The Mother  
6 Church, proves the truth of the axiom, "History re-  
peats itself." These are the evidences of the magnifi-  
cent growth of this Cause, and are sufficient refutation  
9 of the statements that have been made that "Christian  
Science is dying out."

The majesty and the dignity of this church edifice not  
12 only shows the growth of this Cause, but proclaims the  
trust, the willingness of those who have contributed to  
the erection of these mighty walls.

15 This magnificent structure, this fitting testimonial in  
stone, speaks more than words can picture of the love and  
gratitude of a great multitude that has been healed and  
18 purified through the labor and sacrifice of our revered  
Leader and teacher, Mary Baker Eddy, the one through  
whom God has revealed a demonstrable way of salvation.  
21 May her example inspire us to follow her in preaching,  
"The kingdom of heaven is at hand," by healing the  
sick and reforming the sinful, and, as she has done, ver-  
24 ifying Jesus' words, "Lo, I am with you alway."

## LETTERS AND EDITORIAL

MRS. MARY BAKER EDDY,  
27 Pleasant View, Concord, N. H.

*My Dear Teacher.* — Of the many thousands who  
attended the dedicatory services at the Christian Science  
30 church last Sunday it is doubtful if there was one so deeply

1 impressed with the grandeur and magnitude of your work  
as was the writer, whom you will recall as a member of  
3 your *first* class in Lynn, Mass., nearly forty years ago.  
When you told us that the truth you expounded was  
the little leaven that should leaven the whole lump, we  
6 thought this might be true in some far distant day  
beyond our mortal vision. It was above conception  
that in less than forty years a new system of faith and  
9 worship, as well as of healing, should number its adher-  
ents by the hundreds of thousands and its tenets be  
accepted wholly or in part by nearly every religious and  
12 scientific body in the civilized world.

Seated in the gallery of that magnificent temple, which  
has been reared by you, gazing across that sea of heads,  
15 listening again to your words explaining the Scriptures,  
my mind was carried back to that first public meeting in  
the little hall on Market Street, Lynn, where you preached  
18 to a handful of people that would scarce fill a couple of  
pews in this grand amphitheatre; and as I heard the sono-  
rous tones of the powerful organ and the mighty chorus of  
21 five thousand voices, I thought of the little melodeon on  
which my wife played, and of my own feeble attempts  
to lead the singing.

24 In years gone by I have been asked, "Did Mrs. Eddy  
really write *Science and Health*? Some say she did not."  
My answer has invariably been, "Send those who say  
27 she did not to me. I heard her talk it before it was  
ever written. I read it in manuscript before it was ever  
printed." Now my testimony is not needed. No human  
30 being in this generation has accomplished such a work or  
been so thoroughly endorsed or so completely vindicated.  
It is marvellous beyond all imagining to one who knew of

1 your early struggles. I have been solicited by many of  
 2 your followers to say something about the early history  
 3 of Christian Science. I have replied that if Mrs. Eddy  
 thought it wise to instruct them on the subject she would  
 doubtless do so.

6 Possibly you may remember the words of my uncle, the  
 good old deacon of the First Congregational Church of  
 Lynn, when told that I had studied with you. "My boy,  
 9 you will be ruined for life; it is the work of the devil."  
 He only expressed the thought of all the Christian (?)  
 people at that time. What a change in the Christian  
 12 world! "The stone which the builders rejected" has  
 become the corner-stone of this wonderful temple of  
 "wisdom, Truth, and Love." (Science and Health, p.  
 15 495.) I have yet the little Bible which you gave me  
 as a reward for the best paper on the spiritual sig-  
 nificance of the first chapter of Genesis. It has this  
 18 inscription on the fly-leaf in your handwriting, "With  
 all thy getting get understanding."

Respectfully and faithfully yours,

21 S. P. BANCROFT

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., June 12, 1906

MRS. MARY BAKER EDDY,  
 24 Pleasant View, Concord, N. H.

*Dear Leader and Guide:* — Now that the great event,  
 the dedication of our new church building, is over, may  
 27 I ask a little of your time to tell you of the interesting  
 part I had to perform in this wonderful consummation.  
 On the twenty-fifth of last March I was asked by one  
 30 of the Directors if I would care to do a little watching

1 at the church. I gladly answered in the affirmative, and  
have been in the building part of every night since that  
3 time. To watch the transformation has been very in-  
teresting indeed, and the lessons I have learned of the  
power of divine Mind to remove human obstructions  
6 have been very precious. At first I thought that, since  
it seemed impossible for the building to be completed  
before the end of summer, the communion would likely  
9 be postponed until that time. Then came the announce-  
ment that the services would be held in the new exten-  
sion on June 10. I saw at once that somebody had to  
12 wake up. I fought hard with the evidence of mortal  
sense for a time; but after a while, in the night, as  
I was climbing over stones and planks and plaster,  
15 I raised my eyes, and the conviction that the work  
would be accomplished came to me so clearly, I said  
aloud, "Why, there is no fear; this house will be ready  
18 for the service, June 10." I bowed my head before  
the might of divine Love, and never more did I have  
any doubt.

21 One feature about the work interested me. I noticed  
that as soon as the workmen began to admit that the work  
could be done, everything seemed to move as by magic;  
24 the human mind was giving its consent. This taught me  
that I should be willing to let God work. I have often  
stood under the great dome, in the dark stillness of the  
27 night, and thought, "What cannot God do?" (Science  
and Health, p. 135.)

30 As I discovered the many intricate problems which must  
necessarily present themselves in such an immense under-  
taking, I appreciated as never before the faithful, earnest  
work of our noble Board of Directors. With unflinching

1 faith and unfailing fidelity they have stood at the breast-  
works in the battle, and won the reward, "Well done,  
3 good and faithful servant; . . . enter thou into the joy  
of thy lord."

But what of this magnificent structure? Whence did it  
6 come? To me it is the result of the love that trembled  
in one human heart when it whispered: "Dear God, may  
I not take this precious truth and give it to my brothers  
9 and sisters?" How can we ever thank God enough for  
such an one, — ever thank you enough for your unselfed  
love. May the glory which crowns the completion of this  
12 structure shed its brightest beams on your pathway, and  
fill your heart with the joy of Love's victory.

Your sincere follower,  
15 JAMES J. ROME

BOSTON, MASS., June 30, 1906

18 REV. MARY BAKER EDDY,  
Pleasant Vie w, Concord, N. H.

*Beloved Leader and Teacher.* — We, the Directors of  
your church, send you loving greetings and congratulations  
21 upon the completion of the magnificent extension of The  
Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, and we again express  
our thankful appreciation of your wise counsel, timely  
24 instruction, and words of encouragement when they were  
so much needed.

We acknowledge with many thanks the valuable services  
27 rendered to this Board by the members of the business  
committee, who were ever ready to assist us in every way  
possible; also the services of other members of the church,  
30 who gave freely of their time and efforts when there was  
urgent need of both.



1 We do not forget that it was through you we were en-  
2 abled to secure the services of Mr. Whitcomb as builder  
3 in the early days of the construction of the church, and of  
4 Mr. Beman in an advisory capacity in the later days; for  
5 this, and for their valuable services, we are grateful.

6 Lovingly and gratefully your students,

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

By WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, *Secretary*

9 BOSTON, MASS., July 10, 1906

[Editorial in *Christian Science Sentinel*, June 23, 1906]

12 Our annual communion and the dedication of the exten-  
13 sion of The Mother Church are over, and this happy and  
14 holy experience has become a part of our expanding con-  
15 sciousness of Truth, to abide with us and enable us better  
16 to work out the purposes of divine Love. It was scarcely  
17 possible to repress a feeling of exultation as friend met  
18 friend at every turn with words of rejoicing; and even the  
19 greetings and congratulations of those not of our faith  
20 seemed to say that all the world was in some degree sharing  
21 in our joy. But within our sacred edifice there came a  
22 deeper feeling, a feeling of awe and of reverence beyond  
23 words, — a new sense of the magnitude of Christian  
24 Science, this revelation of divinity which has come to the  
25 present age. Grandly does our temple symbolize this  
26 revelation, in its purity, stateliness, and vastness; but  
27 even more impressive than this was the presence of the  
28 thousands who had come, as the Master predicted, "from  
29 the east, and from the west, and from the north, and  
30 from the south," to tell by their presence that they had  
31 been healed by Christ, Truth, and had found the kingdom  
32 of God.

1 As one thought upon the significance of the occasion,  
the achievements of our beloved Leader and her relation  
3 to the experiences of the hour took on a larger and truer  
meaning. The glories of the realm of infinite Mind,  
revealed to us through her spiritual attainments and her  
6 years of toil, encompassed us, and hearts were thrilled  
with tender gratitude and love for all that she has done.  
If to-day we feel a pardonable pride in being known as  
9 Christian Scientists, it is because our Leader has made the  
name an honored one before the world.

In her dedicatory Message to The Mother Church,  
12 Mrs. Eddy says, "The First Commandment of the Hebrew  
Decalogue, 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me,'  
and the Golden Rule are the all-in-all of Christian Science."  
15 In all her writings, through all the years of her leadership,  
she has been teaching her followers both by precept and  
example how to obey this commandment and rule, and  
18 her success in so doing is what constitutes the high stand-  
ing of Christian Science before the world. Fearlessly does  
she warn all her followers against the indulgence of the  
21 sins which would prevent the realization of ideal manhood  
— the reign of the Christ — and now it is ours to address  
ourselves with renewed faith and love to the high and holy  
24 task of overcoming all that is unlike God, and thus prove  
our worthiness to be "living stones" in the universal  
temple of Spirit, and worthy members of The Mother  
27 Church before men.